

DEER PERMIT AREA 297 HUNTING INFORMATION

2025 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: One-deer limit: antlerless permit lottery (25)

Firearm Options: All Legal Firearms

Special Regulations: N/A

Seasons:

Archery: Sept. 13 - Dec. 31

Youth: Oct. 16-19

Early Antlerless: N/A

Statewide Firearms: Nov. 8 - 16

Late SE Firearms: N/A

Muzzleloader: Nov. 29 - Dec. 14

Late CWD: N/A

Land Cover Types % Tot.

Woody Cover	8
Grassland and Wetlands	20
Annual Row Crops	66
Open Water	3
Developed	4

Total Land Area in 2024 (Non-water)

438 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Access Hunting

Publicly Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	20
State Forest	0
Misc. State Land	2
County Managed Land	0.6
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	18
USFS Land (National Forest)	0
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	0
Walk-In Access	0.9
Total for Public Hunting	41.5

Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 297 includes western Mahanomen and a sliver of NW Becker County. The entire DPA is located within the boundary of the White Earth Indian Reservation. The majority of this DPA is agricultural, but a good base of grasslands, wetlands and woodlands are present. The DPA has ample public land hunting opportunities. The deer population remains well below goal levels, but easy winters in 2024 and 2025 have allowed the herd to grow. Buck harvest increased 43% in 2024, which was great to see after it bottomed out in 2023. Early indications in 2025 point to a growing deer herd. An Antlerless Permit Lottery with 25 permits will be used again in 2025 to continue to help the population increase.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Rob Baden, 218-846-8476

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information
Optional CWD testing

2024 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

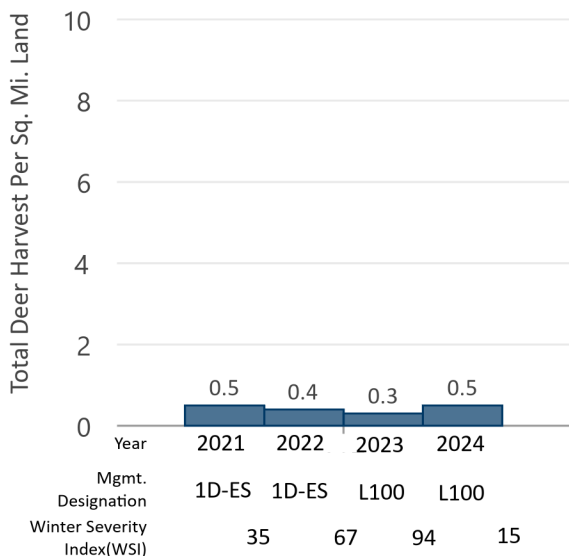
Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 2

Hunter Success: 20%

2024 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	156	5	24	1	186
Archery	11	1	3	1	16
Muzzleloader	2	0	0	0	2
Total Harvest	169	6	27	2	204

Harvest, Designation and Winter Severity Index (WSI)



2025 Designations

