

DEER PERMIT AREA 131 HUNTING INFORMATION

2025 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: One-deer limit: bucks only
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 - 23
 Late SE Firearms: N/A
 Muzzleloader: Nov. 29 - Dec. 14
 Late CWD: N/A

Land Cover Types

	% Tot.
Woody Cover	94
Grassland and Wetlands	1
Annual Row Crops	0
Open Water	3
Developed	2

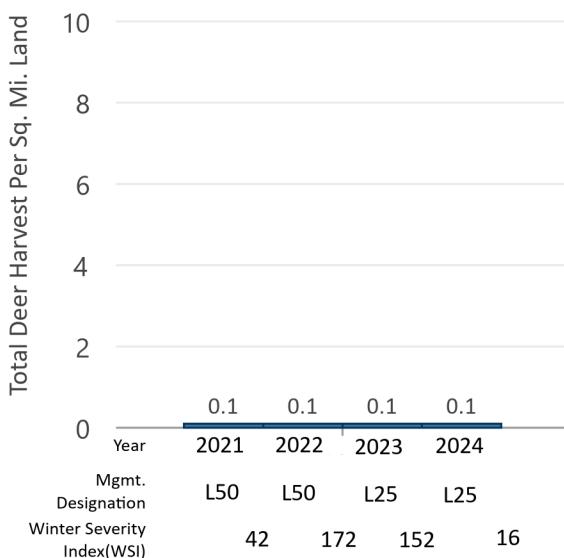
Total Land Area in 2024 (Non-water)

899 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Access Hunting

Publicly Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	0
State Forest	115
Misc. State Land	30
County Managed Land	100
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	0
USFS Land (National Forest)	479
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	24
Walk-In Access	0
Total for Public Hunting	748

Harvest, Designation and Winter Severity Index (WSI)



Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 131 is largely in Lake County on forested public lands south of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and east of Highway 2. Its northeast corner includes a small amount of land in Cook County. It is located well away from the Lake Superior shoreline, so winter severity and quality of habitat have the most impact on the deer population. The current spruce budworm outbreak has caused extensive damage and mortality to fir and spruce forests across much of this DPA which further limits the quality of winter cover for deer and both winter and summer cover for moose. DPA 131 is large in size but has very low deer densities. Since DPA 131 is in primary moose range, the 2022 population goal was to keep the deer population low but stable. Despite conservative hunting regulations, the deer population remains below goal. One more year of a Bucks-Only strategy is recommended to determine if low hunter numbers or low deer numbers are having the biggest impact to a low harvest rate. No antlerless permits will be offered in 2025.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Nancy Hansen, 218-834-1452

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information

Optional CWD testing

2024 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 0

Hunter Success: 10%

2024 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	40	0	2	1	43
Archery	2	0	0	0	2
Muzzleloader	1	0	0	0	1
Total Harvest	43	0	2	1	46

2025 Designations

