

DEER PERMIT AREA 646 HUNTING INFORMATION

2025 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: Five-deer limit - Early Antlerless

Firearm Options: Shotgun using slugs, muzzleloaders and handguns legal for big game

Special Regulations: Special CWD related regulations in this area. See mndnr.gov/cwd for details

Seasons:

Archery: Sept. 13 - Dec. 31

Youth: Oct. 16-19

Early Antlerless: Oct. 16-19

Statewide Firearms: Nov. 8 - 16

Late SE Firearms: Nov. 22 – 30

Muzzleloader: Nov. 29 - Dec. 14

Late CWD: Dec. 19-21

Land Cover Types % Tot.

Woody Cover	55
Grassland and Wetlands	25
Annual Row Crops	10
Open Water	3
Developed	7

Total Land Area in 2024 (Non-water)

319 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Access Hunting

Publicly Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	2
State Forest	6
Misc. State Land	3
County Managed Land	0
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	7
USFS Land (National Forest)	0
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	0
Walk-In Access	0
Total for Public Hunting	18

Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 646 is located in the heart of the driftless area, a rugged region of bluffs and valleys that contains some of the state's best deer habitat. Most of DPA 646 is privately owned, but there are numerous large tracts of State Forest land available for public hunting in addition to a few State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). DPA 646 is a designated CWD Disease Management DPA. However, deer populations in DPA 646 appear to be above the goal set in 2021 to reduce the population by 25% based on buck harvest and hunter success rates. Thus, a 5-Deer limit with an Early Antlerless season designation will be implemented in 2025 in an effort to curb additional population growth and ultimately bring the population down to the intended goal. Hunters may tag up to three bucks in this DPA - one each with an archery, firearms, and/or muzzleloader license. Please refer to the hunting regulations for details regarding carcass movement restrictions, CWD sampling protocols, and DNR-provided carcass dumpsters and quartering stations.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Ryan Tebo, 507-206-2858

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information
Mandatory CWD testing Nov. 8-9

Carcass movement restrictions in effect

A deer feeding and attractant ban is in effect for Fillmore, Houston and Winona Counties. See mndnr.gov/cwd/feedban.html for details

2024 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

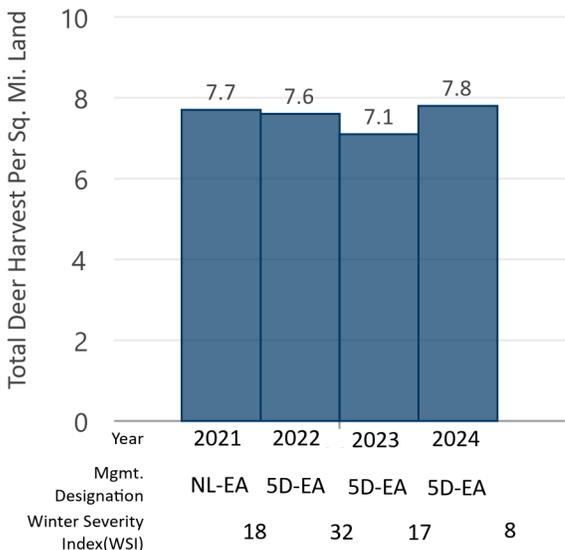
Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 11

Hunter Success: 57%

2024 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	925	197	623	193	1938
Archery	242	27	159	25	453
Muzzleloader	38	9	52	14	113
Total Harvest	1205	233	834	232	2504

Harvest, Designation and Winter Severity Index (WSI)



2025 Designations

