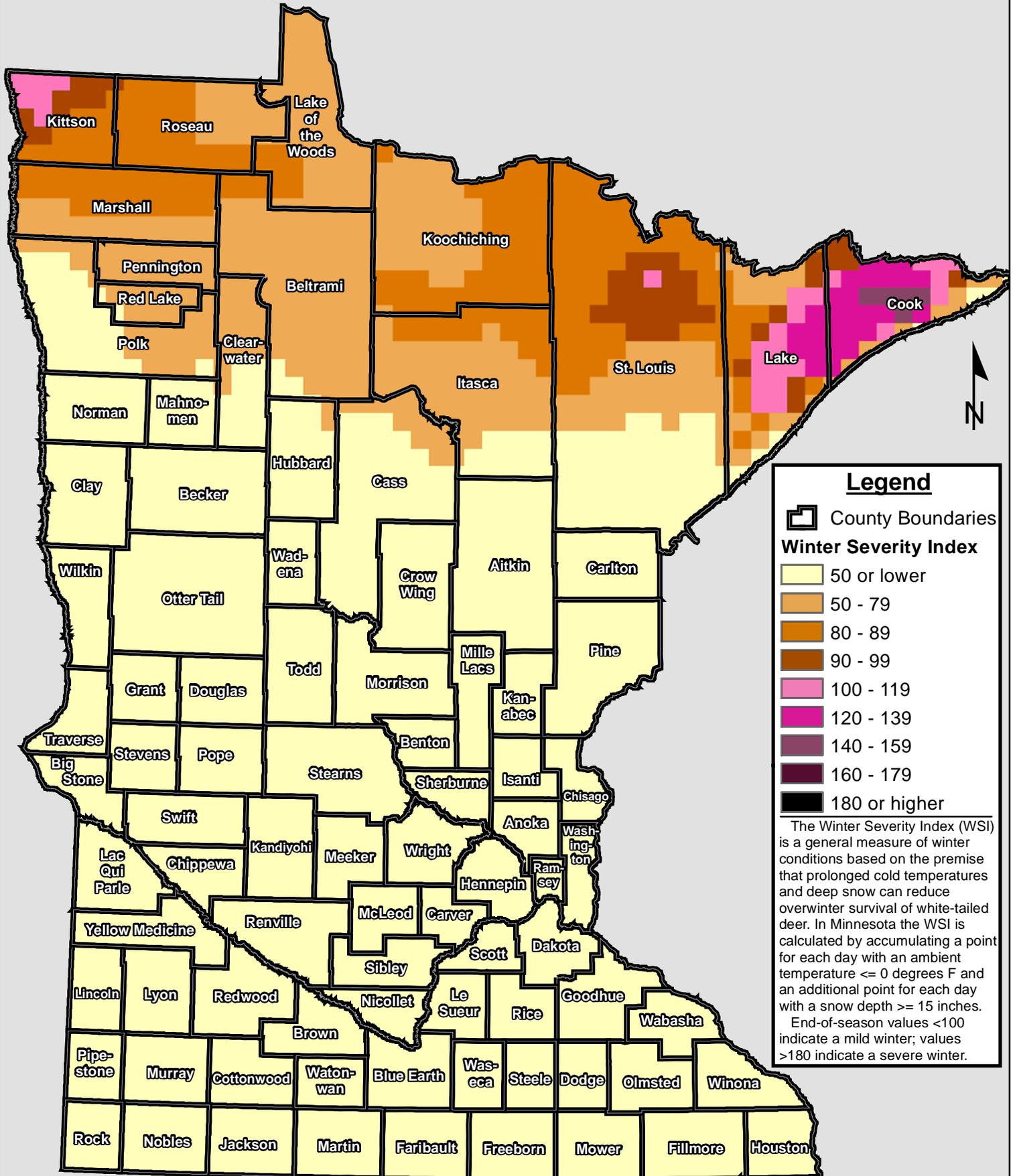


# Winter Severity Index (WSI) for White-tailed Deer

November 1st, 2016 - April 5th, 2017



**Legend**

County Boundaries

**Winter Severity Index**

- 50 or lower
- 50 - 79
- 80 - 89
- 90 - 99
- 100 - 119
- 120 - 139
- 140 - 159
- 160 - 179
- 180 or higher

The Winter Severity Index (WSI) is a general measure of winter conditions based on the premise that prolonged cold temperatures and deep snow can reduce overwinter survival of white-tailed deer. In Minnesota the WSI is calculated by accumulating a point for each day with an ambient temperature  $\leq 0$  degrees F and an additional point for each day with a snow depth  $\geq 15$  inches. End-of-season values  $< 100$  indicate a mild winter; values  $> 180$  indicate a severe winter.