

Moose Observations 2018

By Kevin Wallenfang and Matthew Gross

Forty-two observation occurrences of 41 moose were received by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) in 2018. Observations are comprised of reports by WDNR staff and members of the public utilizing the large mammal observation form available through the WDNR website. These observations were comprised of 39 adults and 2 calves in 13 counties (Table 1, Figure 1). In 2017, there were 30 observations reported, comprised of 35 total moose. Iron County recorded the highest number of reports (n=10) followed by Price and Vilas Counties (n=6). Given the descriptions provided by the public coupled with the location and timing of these reports, some observations are likely of the same animal(s). Attempts are made to eliminate duplicates whenever it seems most likely.

Verified observations from Sept-17 through Oct-5 allowed the department to monitor the movement of a bull moose that was known since 2013. In 2018, during this period, he was observed multiple times over approximately 45 linear miles until he displayed aggressive behavior towards domestic livestock and was relocated from a farm near Fairchild to a location 12 miles north in the Clark County Forest.

Cows with calves have been reported in Wisconsin each year since 2008 with the exception of 2014.

Table 1. *Reported probable and confirmed observations of moose in Wisconsin in 2018.*

Date seen	Number	Age	Sex	Township	Range	Section	County	Nearest Town
4/12/2018	1	Adult	Unknown	32N	10W	27	Barron	New Auburn
4/30/2018	3	Adult, 2 calves	Female, 2 unknown calves	42N	4E	16	Iron	Manitowish
5/2/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	5E	19	Vilas	Powell
5/2/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	4E	9	Iron	Manitowish
5/22/2018	1	Adult	Unknown	40N	10E	10	Vilas	Eagle River
5/23/2018	1	Adult	Female	39N	9E	14	Oneida	Eagle River
5/26/2018	1	Adult	Male	36N	3E	24	Price	Clifford
7/4/2018	1	Adult	Male	37N	12E	10	Forest	Hiles
7/6/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	4E	4	Iron	Powell
7/9/2018	1	Adult	Male	38N	3E	25	Price	Dover
7/30/2018	1	Adult	Male	35N	15E	16	Forest	Blackwell
8/14/2018	1	Adult	Male	40N	9E	35	Vilas	Eagle River
9/8/2018	1	Adult	Male	44N	3E	7	Iron	Pine Lake
9/11/2018	1	Adult	Male	25N	2E	30	Price	Prentice
9/12/2018	1	Adult	Male	41N	1W	21	Ashland	Butternut
9/12/2018	1	Adult	Male	40N	17W	29	Burnett	Oakland
9/14/2018	1	Adult	Male	43N	7E	27	Vilas	Boulder Junction
9/15/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	4E	10	Iron	Manitowish
9/16/2018	1	Adult	Male	38N	15E	25	Florence	Fence

Date seen	Number	Age	Sex	Township	Range	Section	County	Nearest Town
9/17/2018	1	Adult	Male	36N	1E	22	Price	Prentice
9/18/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	5E	6	Vilas	Manitowish Waters
9/18/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	7E	11	Vilas	Boulder Junction
9/20/2018	1	Adult	Female	39N	16E	24	Florence	Fern
9/21/2018	1	Adult	Male	39N	17E	20	Florence	Fern
9/30/2018	1	Adult	Male	44N	5E	36	Vilas	Winchester
10/1/2018	1	Adult	Male	45N	3E	34	Iron	Pine Lake
10/2/2018	3	Adults	Male	42N	4E	32	Iron	Powell
10/21/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	14W	14	Burnett	Webb Lake
10/24/2018	1	Adult	Female	41N	12W	5	Washburn	Minong
10/26/2018	1	Adult	Female	39N	16W	17	Burnett	Webster
10/26/2018	1	Adult	Male	44N	3E	6	Iron	Pine Lake
11/3/2018	1	Adult	Male	39N	3E	1	Price	Fifield
11/10/2018	1	Adult	Male	37N	1E	18	Price	Phillips
12/23/2018	1	Adult	Male	46N	1W	16	Iron	Gurney
12/31/2018	1	Adult	Male	42N	4E	16	Iron	Manitowish
9/17/2018	1	Adult	Male	31N	4W	16	Taylor	Gillman
9/17/2018	-	-	-	30N	3W	27	Taylor	Lublin
9/18/2018	-	-	-	29N	3W	33	Clark	Thorp
9/24/2018	-	-	-	25N	5W	34	Eau Claire	Fairchild
10/2/2018	-	-	-	25N	5W	34	Eau Claire	Fairchild
10/5/2018	-	-	-	27N	5W	25	Eau Claire	Wilson

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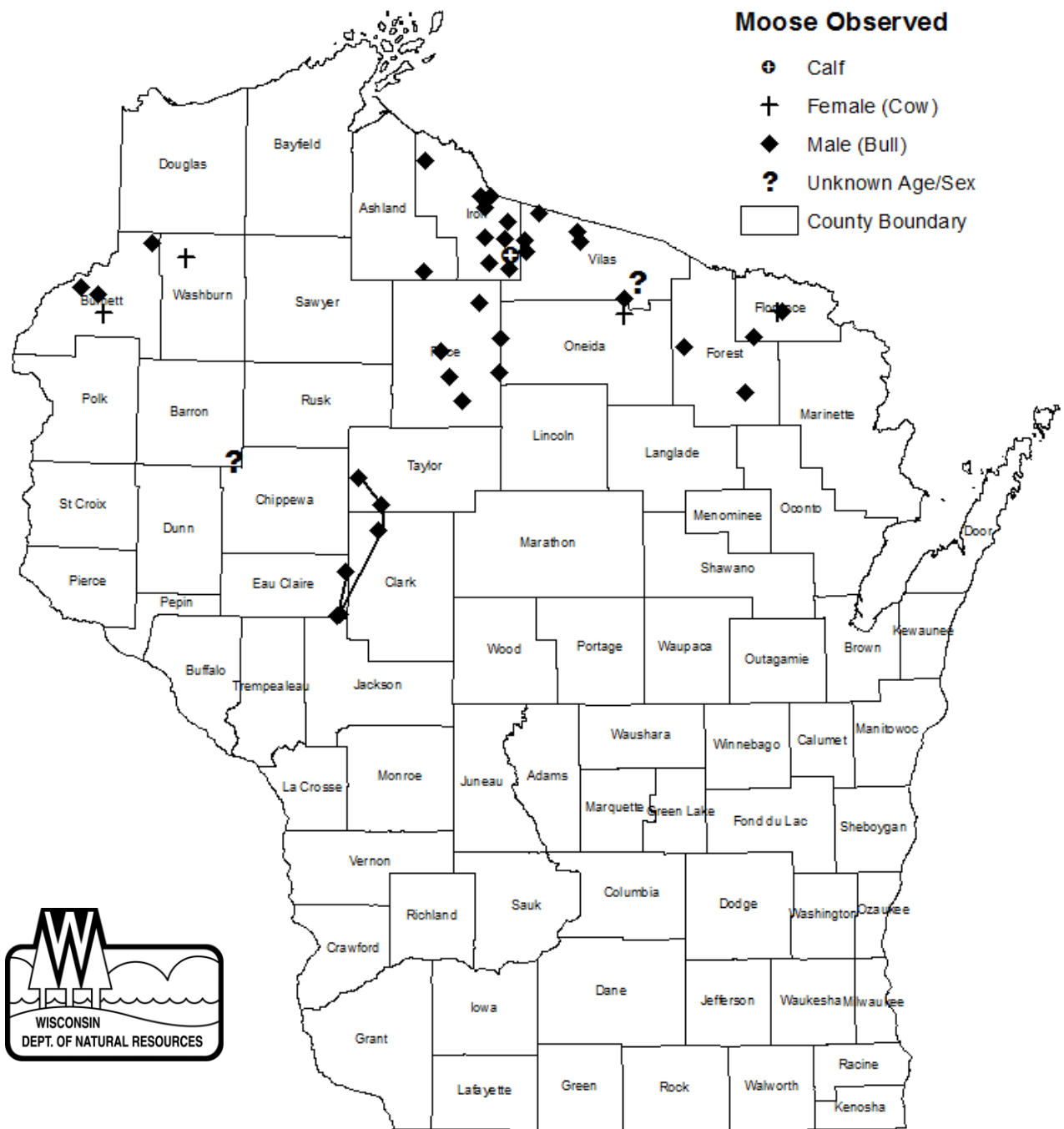


Figure 1. Reported probable and confirmed moose observations in Wisconsin during 2018.