Adams, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

29 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 14
   - No: 15

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 11
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
   - I hunt in this unit: 26
   - General interest in this unit: 5

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 24
   - Bow: 15
   - Crossbow: 11
   - Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 18
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 21
   - Mostly Private Land: 0
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 1
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 0
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 9
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 12
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 3
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

**Scale:** 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.72</td>
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<td>3.54</td>
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<td>3.19</td>
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<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Adams, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

The deer seasons in Wisconsin are still a mystery to me. The buck to doe ratio I see is about 20 does to 1 antlered buck. This needs to change. Also the work on habitat that is open to the public is sorely lacking. Cut, burn and clear more area. Predator control would help also. IMHO the DNR is run by politics and not sound wildlife management. Money talks and this how most decisions are made regarding anything in this state. It doesn't matter if Democrats or Republicans are in charge of Wisconsin it's still a FUBAR!

In 35 plus years of hunting in this area the numbers I see are slightly better than in the worst years but nowhere near what they have been in average years. The doe population is down and the buck population is higher than the doe which isn’t saying much. I see more turkey and crane each time out than deer.

I don't like online registration of deer, I understand it's faster, cheaper however there is a chance to falsify the information submitted. Please don't have a Holiday antlerless hunt in Adams County. Please publish true information about CWD in all areas of the state. Thank You for looking at my input.

I believe the deer population is currently slightly too high based on my observations of both numbers of deer in Ag fields over the winter and browsing effect seen over this relatively mild winter. The lack of acorns in fall 2016 was a big factor of the deer needing to browse so heavily over winter.

I hunt and live in town of dell prairie in southern adams county. I observed the deer herd in this township the whole year. Watching movements and what they eat. The last 3 years quotas have been accurate to keep the deer herd about the same. Keep quotas on deer license the same for this deer unit

To much after hours shooting. To much after hours shooting by land owners hires to prevent crop damage. Not right! And that shouldn't be legal or allowed!!! Land owners are already compensate for crop damage!

Stop trying to reinvent the wheel WI DNR, let the hunter have an enjoyable hunt. Stop allowing the politicians and the insurance companies make the rules and control the herd populations.

There are a few too many deer at this time. Too many deer vehicle accidents, wasted carcasses on the highways. I would not want to see an increase of the deer population.

Antlerless tags, should be 2 with each license, there are a few too many deer. Ample sporting opportunities, but would not want the population to be any higher.

Don't like new paper tags, against self registration.
Adams, Central Forest

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91 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 50
   - No: 41

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 20
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
   - I hunt in this unit: 81
   - General interest in this unit: 19

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 73
   - Bow: 61
   - Crossbow: 24
   - Muzzleloader: 28

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 21.59
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 51
   - Mostly Private Land: 9
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
   - Mostly Public Land: 5
   - Exclusively Public Land: 10
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 7
   - Not too crowded: 12
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 5
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 25
   - Fewer: 28
   - Same: 25
   - More: 8
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 22
   - Fewer: 28
   - Same: 23
   - More: 10
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 4

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Adams, Central Forest
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- **Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:**
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- **Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:**
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I own 40 Acres in the town of Rome in Adams Cty. I hunt private and public property in this DMU. Since 1973 I have hunted deer, Back in those days We never saw a lot of deer but enough to stay on stand and have patience that a buck would pass by! Since the Wolves, Bear, Bobcats And cougars... Yes cougars were brought back into the area, the deer numbers have dropped substantially. I would like to see the doe harvest eliminated for 4 Years. Public property brings all the doe hunters that have private land on public lands, Me included. lets go back to the either choice tags, you will build the herd and a hunter that hunts for meat can shoot a doe or a buck not both, if he draws the tag. Those were the good old days as far as I am concerned! We have 4 hunters on 40 acres, We rifle hunted opening weekend down to Dark we saw 1 Buck and 5 Doe nothing after that. (2015 1 buck 2 doe) total harvest was 2 Buck 1 Doe in 2 years Every year it gets worse with predators and too many doe tags. When we had the free doe tags given with our purchased tags the shooters decimated the deer herd. Lets not let the insurance companies buy the dnr. out! thanks for letting me vent!

Deer numbers are to low. Since the early 2000's when to many doe tags were made available the deer numbers have not been given a chance to rebound. Who ever makes the decisions must not be able to understand the effect this has on the young hunters of today. Hunting today def. teaches kids patience. I feel sorry for kids today when i ask them how their hunting season was because i all ready know the answer, " i didnt get one and i only saw 2 deer all season”. How long do you think this can go on before they give up on hunting? I would guess the number hours spent in the woods hunting by the young hunters of today decreases every year until they give up and decide playing video games is alot more fun. Just because their dad buys them a license doesn't mean their putting time in the woods. During the 90's we had a good number of deer and hunting was fun and i didnt notice a unhealthy deer and the young hunters were having a blast knowing if they put their time in they would get a shot at a buck now they hope just to see a deer. I dont see the future being very bright unless they have access to major acres of private land to hunt

been hunting the same pieces of property for 34 plus years and the last few years remind me of the first few years - saw very few deer! On one of the properties I saw the same doe and her fawns during the 8 days I was out bow hunting! On my property where the neighbor shoots every deer that walks by regardless of size, saw no deer. Kinda frustrating to the point that my son and I won't shoot doe in an effort to bring some deer back into the area. Very few on the trail cam. Food plots untouched. Where r all the doe's to warrant the number of doe tags and bonus tags. Don't see the numbers to warrant that. Still enjoy deer hunting but it's getting harder and harder to get excited about it. My nephew who has hunted with me for 15plus has all but given up.Hopefully the numbers of permits will be adjusted down to allow the heard to come back. Realizing it's difficult to come up with numbers for doe tags I just think with not seeing does running aimlessly through the woods 4000 tags is way too many!

I have hunted the same large block of public land for over 30 years. I have never seen as much habitat, food, cover etc as the previous couple of seasons. It would be a deer heaven, if there were any deer. The wolf scat and trails far outnumber the deer scat and trails. The population is so decimated by predators that to kill any does will only further delay the return of the herd. I understand that many of the predators are protected so we need to save the few deer left. Private land is different, I can only report on the land I hunt which is strictly public, and is but a shadow of what it was. I am sure glad my kids hunted this same property when 20 or so deer were seen opening weekend rather than like a lifelong property hunter which saw 4 deer total is the last 2 opening weekends(used to be 20+ per day) No wonder deer hunters are leaving.
I believe that there should be more permits available to the Private Landowners! The CDAC is taking the rights away from the private landowners in trying to create a productive forest. In too many areas around our county (Richfield, Colburn, Monroe, Eason, Dell Prairie, Strong Prairie, Adams, Preston, Leola, Springville, Easton, Jackson and Quincy Townships) the forestry resource is suffering. Deer are literally removing Oak out of our young forests. Income from a healthy forest resource brings way more to our private forest owners than deer . . . Please give the rights back to the private landowners and release more harvest tags so the forestry resource doesn't have to suffer anymore. Adams County has a great oak resource and it is being drastically reduced. Leave it up to the private forest owners to decide what they want to harvest.

I see many wolves present on trail cameras and by personal observation. I do not believe increased antlerless licenses will diminish wolf population in my area. I am concerned about herd health and illegal baiting in my area. I heard they may allow baiting which I feel will increase CWD. I plant food plots for deer and many farms in my area are either corn or potatoes and do not seem to be affected by deer population to a great extent. The natural browses present are supplemented by my food plots. In conclusion I feel the vast increase in antlerless tags will harm sustaining a vibrant herd which has natural predators such as wolves and coyotes. Although I don't live there I am not far from my land and go there frequently.

There are a ton of deer around this area (Leola Township, mostly private lands) which is making it ripe for herd health concerns. Not enough land owners are managing the local antlerless herds. It may be beneficial if there was advertising for programs for meat donations for the hungry or homeless, etc., to target such areas. People like to hunt but don't always need the meat of more than one deer. If there was an easy way for people to donate or if they knew the options then they would feel more inclined knowing they did a good thing for the herd and community. Another thing that may help is some sort of news print/brochure to targeted areas that educate the public on healthy herd sizes etc.

Please allow the placement of Tree Stands on Public Land to be kept up the whole season for Bow and Gun. It is safer because you are shooting down, easier to see target and anyone beyond, better chance of getting a deer. The woods are not that crowded there are plenty of spots to have tree stands. I am losing interest because of the lack of deer and eventually I will give up. Private lands have most of the deer and little hunting pressure and they can have permanent stands and we can't? This is a ridiculous rule and needs to be changed to keep us interested in hunting.

I heard the DNR estimated a 26% increase in the deer population for the Adams County Central Forest zone. I would like to know how they made that determination. Last fall, we saw the fewest deer since 2010. Increasing the bonus antlerless tags from 5150 to 13,825 doesn't make any sense. I heard the success rate to fill antlerless tags in this DMU was about 25% and is normally about 40%. To me, this means the deer numbers are down. If there was an increase, the hunter success rate should be much higher.

My brother and I bowhunted the first week in nov.,typically a good week for the rut and usually more deer activity.I only saw 3 deer and my brother saw 2 deer. We have several food plots, water and bedding areas. That was the worst year ever in 50 years for seeing deer. A number of our neighbors reported deer being chased and killed by wolves. If the wolf population doesn't get under control, deer populations will reduce like the pheasant populations. Time to reduce wolf numbers before its too late.

Why would you be recommending an increase in Antlerless permits and bonus tags when the the stated goal is to increase the deer population? Someone needs to look at this and leave the permit numbers the same or lower than they have been...I have gun deer hunted the last three years and have seen a total of 7 deer over the three years...I am on private land and was in the woods over the three years and average of 7 hours per day 7 days each season. Something needs to change
I'd like to see an increase in the deer heard in my area. Sometimes days will go by where I do not even see any deer while hunting, and I pay out of state fees to hunt Wisconsin. I remember years ago when you could drive down the road and see 20-30 deer grazing in a field, now you are lucky to see 2 or 3. If we don't increase the heard, hunter will get discouraged by not seeing deer, and may stop hunting Wisconsin.

Each year it seems to get worse not seeing many deer during hunting or about the same. I can see why kids do not want to hunt at all when they see no deer at all. The future of hunting is in all of our hands. Can't believe you want to increase the doe permits but that's just me I and my grand kids to come want to see more deer in the woods or they will not hunt just play video games and not bother to hunt. My 2 cents.

I feel the hunting ethics have gone down due to the lack of deer. I've heard many times "if you have a tag shoot it" and that includes yearling deer that should be left alone till the following season. I hear it the most from non resident hunters that don't seem to care about the population! I have kids and have taught them to chose the right deer for the right purposes, and hope to see them hunt for years to come.

There seems to be an increase in predators, to include wolves. This past year on trail camera, we had numerous wolves spotted. Definitely a factor in the deer population. Also, with what appears to be a lack of acorns in the area over the past two years, perhaps the DNR would consider selling at a discounted rate some for of nutritional plant/crop to landowners could plant to assist survival in the winter.

I am very pleased with the separation of public and private land. It is my opinion that deer numbers on private land are controlled by the land owners per their desires for deer population. It is public land that gets hit hard. Also, many land owners move to public land when they are looking for a doe. I hope you will continue to provide protection for does on public land.

Some of the recommended numbers seemed strangely high considering the two previous years number of tags available. If the objective is to increase the deer herd, then why would the DNR offer almost three times more bonus antlerless tags unless it was only interested in taking in more money? On the surface, I don't understand how that would work to increase the deer herd.

There are too many properties of 20 acres or less that the hunters are blasting away at anything that moves and they don't care whose property they are shooting on. Way way to many private property antlerless tags being proposed. Why? The antlerless kill was down because of lack of deer last year, why offer three times as many? I would like an 8 point minimum on bucks.

There are way fewer deer in this unit then I have ever seen! Less tags for public and private land! If you want to increase the deer heard why would you increase the quota on antlerless tags? Maybe get rid of the antlerless only late season hunt! And if you make a zero doe quota you should make youth tags invalid because there are adults that will fill the tag themselves!

Predators are at a all time HIGH is this AREA !!!! How can they be trimmed back, the groups doing the hunting has dropped at a great amount due to hide prices and lack of interest ? The youth of our state doesn't seem to be interested in such activities, so what has this area have for future deer populations if the few hunters can't keep the predators in check ?

The wolf population needs to be controlled and lowered immediately. Between the coyotes, wolves, bear, bobcats, etc., the whitetail deer is struggling to maintain their population. If we ever get a harsh winter, this would devastate population numbers just like it did to the northwoods recently. We have to do our part and limit female deer from being shot.

If your goal in this DMU is to increase the antlerless population, then how could you justify tripling the number of antlerless permits? That makes no sense. It should be the opposite. Based on many years of steadily decreasing deer sightings AND VISUAL PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, I strongly feel that this DMU should go to ZERO antlerless permits.
There is no deer they need a couple of years to rebound. There is to many predators and you keep letting them be shot. There are 1000's of deer that are shot but not found. So you should be including deer that are hit but not recovered. And that also doesn't include deer hit by a car that are wounded and run into the woods to die.

I have been hunting in Adams county 6 years, and grew up with herds of deer running around. I experienced the thinned out population following CWD, and have watched the population steadily grow as I did. I believe the number of deer in the population is rising, but it is still essential to protect the herd.

If that many antlerless tags are given out we will be back to five years ago when you didn't even see a deer. Along with the fact Adams county central forest has lost thousands of acres of public land to the golf course and ag fields it is getting very crowded and unsafe during the firearms season.

I do not like the paper tag system. I think the on-line registration system opens the door to violators for instance they shoot a buck and register it as a doe. there is no way to no for sure to no if it is right. I have not heard of anybody doing this but as hunters this has been talked about.

Our hunting group spends considerable time in the zone for recreation. We practice quality deer management and try to provide an environment for healthy deer. I feel any increase in the quota is a huge mistake. Our observations (which we keep track of) this year were down dramatically.

I'm very concerned about the wolf and coyote predation in my area. on a regular basis I have photos wolf and coyote and bobcat. Last year had a picture of seven wolves pups eating a deer. I feel the Predators keep our population at Bay by themselves.

Eliminate the wildlife damage program. Damage can be controlled by land owners if they would allow adequate numbers of hunters to hunt on their land instead of denying access to stay in the program and get every penney of compensation they can get.

The number of deer in our area is no where near where we were in early 2000's or earlier. Gun season opener is one of the quietest days in the woods! I don't think fawn mortality from predators like wolf or coyotes are really taken into account.

As a private land owner we are seeing less and less deer every year. Many of the antlerless permits are bought by one individual who goes out hoping to fill every one on a small parcel of land which results in fewer deer every year.

I would like to see a bow/crossbow licence go back to one deer buck or doe.I feel the time spent in the woods you only get one or two good shots and it should be the hunters choice what to use his tag on.

Deer are free roaming animals, unless your property is fenced in all around with a height that deer are unable to leap over, why the different antlerless permit numbers for private versus public land?

Seems that the DNR are slanting towards another "eliminate deer" policy which caused so much hunter dissatisfaction in the recent past and relates to the decreasing interest in hunting in general.

Quick question, if the stated objective is to "increase deer in the unit" then why would the WI DNR propose an increase in alloted tags as well?? Isn't that counterintuitive?

I really believe the wolf population has a lot to do with what I am and am not seeing.....last year was very difficult to see deer. When the wolves move in the deer move out.

get rid of these dumb gun hunts during the bow season daily in december no need for it if you can't get it done in the 9 day season with a gun than it aint going to get done

if trying to increase deer numbers, why have the number of antlerless tags at the level given ? why not DECREASE them ??

Too many deer in this area.
9 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 4
   - No: 5

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 2
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
   - I hunt in this unit: 7
   - General interest in this unit: 2

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 7
   - Bow: 4
   - Crossbow: 2
   - Muzzleloader: 3

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 27.14
   - Maximum: 49

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 2
   - Mostly Private Land: 1
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 0
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 0
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 0

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 2
   - Same: 3
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 2
   - Same: 3
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antlerless Quota:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support Oppose Unsure  
Not applicable in this DMU

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support Oppose Unsure  
Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID NOT VALID Unsure  
6 2 1

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Ashland, Madeline Island

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I have been a property owner and have deer hunted Madeline Island since 2013. I previously worked and lived on the Island, from 2002-2006. I have witnessed the ups and downs of the deer herd there. I typically make approximately 20 trips to Madeline Island per year, I spend a lot of my time in woods and swamps(scouting and observing deer behaviors). This is mostly Public lands through out the year, all seasons. From my observations the Island has a good balance of habitat, browse, and mast crop(when available). I do notice obvious browsing, but it doesn't appear to be ever browsed. There appears to be fair to adequate natural food sources through out the seasons, depending on winter severity, mast crop, etc. I also run approximately 5-10 trail cameras on many different locations of the island. I see good fawn recruitment on my camera with some obvious loss. I also see a great distribution of bucks and a variety of ages. Based on my observations over the last five years the Island herd is in good shape, I feel the Island could carry a higher number of deer, but currently it is a good balance. My concern with Bonus Antlerless Tags: I feel the local hunters do a good job of NOT "over harvesting" antlerless deer. I feel as if the number of bonus antlerless tags made available is absurdly high! I feel local hunters practice good restraint, but if the "local" practices were to change, serious over harvest could happen in one season. Secondly, the decline in the deer herd and lack of Antlerless tags made available on the MAINLAND zones near the Island could eventually add hunting pressure to the Island population(primarily antlerless). This is not intended to be a point about exclusivity, but rather that an abnormally high harvest could easily take place and abnormally high number of new hunters decided to utilize the Madeline Island zone for hunting. I feel an absurdly high number of antlerless tags could encourage this. It would be my recommendation that the Private Land antlerless tag recommendation be limited to 100 or less. I know that many "local" hunters purchase antlerless and bonus tags with NO intent to use them, not understanding that is ultimately skews the data. Therefore, antlerless tags are not filled due to a lack of opportunity, but due to hunters choosing not harvest. I would never choose to do this, but with the current number of antlerless tags made available I could easily harvest 5 or more antlerless deer in one season very easily(if legal, which I understand it is). A limit to the number of antlerless tags made available to each hunter per weapon would also be an effective tool. Thank you for providing an opportunity to voice my observations, it is a privilege that I value greatly!

I personally think the deer herd on Madeline Island is average to slightly below average. But the most important factor is hunting pressure, which has steadily declined in the last 10-12 years. We hear far less shooting on the island during gun season than we used to. The majority of the gun hunting, I think, is done at the lower (southwest) end of the island.

I have hunted on private land for 3 years now, and I have seen a small decline in numbers last year. For the most part, there are strong numbers of does, and I strongly believe that the amount of doe tags are good, and I think that the junior antlerless tag should be valid.

The Ashland County-Madeline Island DMA varies significantly from it's Southern border, to it's Northern end. I believe the deer herd would be better managed, if this DMA were split into at least two management zones (Northern, and Southern).

I appreciate that this unit is being managed separate from the county mainland. This is a unique management situation and despite the move to simplify somethings do not lend themselves to that. Well done!
81 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 56
   - No: 25

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 22
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 27
   - I hunt in this unit: 72
   - General interest in this unit: 23

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 69
   - Bow: 49
   - Crossbow: 20
   - Muzzleloader: 32

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 26.76
   - Maximum: 58

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 23
   - Mostly Private Land: 11
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 18
   - Mostly Public Land: 10
   - Exclusively Public Land: 9
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 7
   - Somewhat crowded: 9
   - Very crowded: 25
   - Not applicable: 1

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 15
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 26
   - More: 24
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 13
   - Fewer: 12
   - Same: 21
   - More: 21
   - Many More: 12
   - Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  |                               |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:        | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Not applicable in this DMU

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Not applicable in this DMU

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?  
    | VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
    |-------|-----------|--------|
    | 28    | 49        | 4      |

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have bow hunted and rifle hunted this region for really over 30 years. It was fun in the 1990s when we had deer and just got to see and watch deer. Since the many T zone hunts destroyed our deer management, I am lucky to see a deer when hunting. I have 4 siblings, 1 parent and 2 nephews that hunted in the 1990s when the deer numbers were fun. Now when the deer management numbers are so poor, I can only talk my wife into hunting with me. And when she gets tired of seeing no animals, I am the only hunter remaining out in the woods on our property. I think that we owe it to the animals, to slow down the harvest of does and fawns. Allow the northern deer herd to grow. I think if we manage these next 2-3 years correctly, we could rebuild that deer population up north and get some interest back into this wonderful hobby/sport. I had12 hunts/sits in a row with my bow this past fall (2016) and never saw one deer. My wife asks why do I keep trying. Because I have a passion for the sport. Plus I was spoiled in the 90s when hunting was so awesome. In the 90s I would see 12-18 different bucks in the first 2-3 weeks of the bow season. This year, I passed on a 2 1/2 year old 6 point buck hoping that he could meet up with some does during the rut. That is how poorly managed our area has gotten. We own 40 acres and know the land owners within a 2 mile radius of our house. We thought there were 6 young bucks in this 2 mile radius and by the end of the hunting seasons, we know of 5 that were killed (legally). That is not very promising for our future. I think by having zero antlerless tags, we may have a chance for some buck fawns and then hope that they can survive 2-4 years and bring back some genetics. I keep a hunting journal every hunting season so as to always be able to reference my hunts. We have been in tough times since those T zone hunt seasons and we are in tough times as I speak. In this region if we allow youth to get an antlerless tag, I know of many situations where that tag is being filled by an adult. So the idea of drawing interest to our youth is not what ends up as the result in a number of cases. Thank you for taking the time to read my findings. Greatly appreciated. I consider myself more of a deer enthusiast and want to help the herd compared to wanting to harvest a deer. Once our deer management gets back to a "safe" management number, I think hunting will become fun again and bring back more hunting enthusiasm for all ages.
I have my cabin in the town of agenda on the Roddis line Iron county on the east property line, North property line, Ashland county on the west. I have two to three trail cameras up all the time. Lots of wolves. In the spring I see one adult wolf with two young wolves for the last three years. Wolf skat frequently when I walk the logging trails. At night we hear them also. Lots of dog deprivations less than one mile, north east of my cabin. We saw no deer this last season. Three of us. some track but no sighting 6 hunters in a cabin south of us less than a half mile from my cabin, saw nothing for the days we were there. Four days for us, they may have stayed longer. Don’t know. Will be back up for Memorial day week to go fishing on the Turtle Flambeau flowage. This is a true wilderness area and very few deer. We have had one buck and two doe during Early June last year, but not the rest of the summer, just the Wolves, raccoons, porcupines, rabbits (1). The snow shoe population also has disappeared, loved to make some Hare stew during the hunt, been ten or more years since that has occurred. One turkey last summer on the trail camera. Thanks for letting me say something. I blame the wolves. Lots of skeletons in the woods, that says something also. Full skeltons. Head to tail, mostly doe, no bucks that I can recall. Our cabin was built in the early thirtys by a person, hauled the wood out from butternut, Park falls by hoarse and slay, before the put the Roddis line all the way through from Highway F. Cabin is just about ready to die, may build a new one but apprehensive because of break ins. Cabin north of us one half mile burnt down to the ground. Expensive improvement. I don’t know why it burnt down though. We have had unwanted visitors. Not much to do about that. Thanks for listening. We love Ashland County. Do something about the wolves, please. A wolf hunt would once again do well. One of my friends got one two years ago chasing two doe, on the run. From Chicago, during the deer hunt, got fined for registering it wrong some how. Beautiful mount

if 3/4states units are under no baiting, why then to deer farms have a feeding system for, or to grow trophy style deer with major supplements. the deer mingle as they do in their natural state. I have seen 50 or more deer in a logging operation eating the browse on downed trees 6-10 at a time on one tree. Point being if baiting or feeding is discontinued, for public personnel, then it should be banned for Tribal members as well, and the deer farms should be regulated better, fences should be maintained, so these deer cannot escape. There has been reports that infected deer have escaped into the wild now. it should be investigated where the deer escaped and if the fence was not maintained in accordance to the regulations, the farm should be fined in accordance to feeding deer. This would maybe set a precedence, to maintain fence so the deer cannot escape. if the deer were purposely let go so the rest of he or she’s herd does not get infected the a stiffer penalty should be enforced, with fines and possible jail time. CWD has been with us for years before it was discovered and a major concern. I commend all of you for trying to find a cure, but how would you administer any cure to the numbers in the herd. I have been hunting since I was 9, more than 45 yrs. Seen the deer herd whered you could drive and see hundreds of deer in a day, now I drive to my property, there are days on end I do not see anything. Sincerely a Northern Hunter

glad there's a survey and I hope the WI DNR is listening. Continue the zero quota of doe tags and 0 quota of the youth hunt. Sorry youths but this Northern Forest Unit cannot afford to lose any doe to a dad filling the family freezer. I wasn’t allowed to shoot does when I was a kid so you’ll live. ZERO QUOTA OR ANY AND ALL DOE FOR THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS. The wolves are still killing them off and the coyotes are getting the fawns in May/June. Please start to consider a point limit on these bucks. Too many spikes and forks are being harvested in this unit and now we need to start looking into this problem as well. I have seen too many of these young immature bucks being harvested. Point limit should be 3 on one side so we can reload on some genetics up here. It’s still pretty bad. Thanks! Continue the zero quota for all hunters and youths I cannot stress this enough!
Between the federal protection of the wolves, a lower harvest rate and quotas for black bears and the difficult survival rates for fawns that impacts recruitment, there is no need to be issuing antlerless permits in Ashland County for a few years. Thankfully, the winter severity was mild the past couple years and that will help regeneration of a huntable population. The other major issue that needs to be addressed is habitat improvement in the form of additional timber harvest on federal and state lands. I see that beginning to change, especially with the federal-state partnerships for the timber harvest. As the forest matures, it is difficult to sustain large numbers of deer and other wildlife that depend on the browse and plants growing near the ground in reach of the deer. I think this is every bit as important as managing a growing predator population.

Based on personal observations and the population numbers I have seen I feel that Ashland County is being grossly negligent in the management of the deer herd in the county. I hunted near Butternut last year and saw entirely too many does. I enjoy seeing deer when I hunt but I would also like to see a well managed population and a healthy buck to doe ratio. I was seeing 10-15 does a day and never saw a buck. I am not only a deer hunter but also a meat hunter. If I am seeing that many animals with out horns I feel I should be able to take one to feed my family. I feel that the CDAC council in Ashland County is allowing their personal opinions on how people should hunt make their decisions instead of the health of the herd and the possibility that some people might actually want to shoot a deer for food and don’t care if it has horns on its head or not.

Please ban baiting: I scouted for weeks last summer and fall prior to bow opener, and every time I found a decent place to hunt (good sign, trails, actual deer sightings, etc.) I also ended up coming across some messy, ugly piles of bait-often associated with illegal cross country trail construction via ATVs and usually a stand (either illegal-placed or permanent) in the vicinity. It makes it very difficult to try to hunt a new area when people are being territorial on publicly accessible lands and putting up messy permanent stands/blinds and bait piles in areas (MFL open lands) where they are not supposed to do so. The bait piles also seemed to make the deer more nocturnal...I’d see plenty driving at night after scouting, but few during legal hunting hours.

Please consider strongly putting a restriction on size of BUCKS that are harvested. I understand that we do not "eat the horns" and that harvesting antlerless deer will be inevitable. Although, many hunters and NON-hunters enjoy seeing antlered BUCKS. Please put a restriction for harvesting young BUCKS. Unfortunately this season I witnessed many young bucks being harvested because it was encouraged. I wish the WI DNR could do like many other states have done and recommend or legally limit the harvesting of small BUCKS. My recommendation is at least 4 points on one side. It does not matter to me if it is 3 points or 4 points but limit it so spikes and forks are given the same courtesy as antlerless deer. Thanks for asking my opinion.

I'd like to see the herd increase for a couple more years as long as we have good winters maybe longer if we have a sever winter I would also like to see one buck tag for the year the hunter may use what ever weapon they want (not specifying at time of purchase). I still think that not having local registration is a big mistake I'd like to see the plastic tags and registration stations come back If we have doe tags in the future why can’t we have a closure on the doe tags when the quota is met similar to the wolf hunt. I understand why certain individuals think we should have doe tags there are area where there are high doe populations on private land and I would like to see those areas managed differently.

I was again pleased and glad to see a zero doe quota this season. We need to make that a 5-10 year plan in Ashland Co. However we need to eliminate the youth hunt!!! This is just dads filling freezers. Furthermore, these "youths" need to learn the sport the way other generations have in that not everyone always gets a deer or the opportunity to shoot a deer. I believe this will help better teach conservation of a natural resource. We have taken the Whitetail for granted in the northern Forrest unit. We need to continue a zero quota in all season and possibly implement a point limit on these immature bucks.
I spend most of my time in the woods working and enjoying the outdoors. In my opinion the deer herd is the lowest it's been since the 1960s. I've been hunting for 48 years. I would like to see no antlerless permits for at least another five years. I would also like to see steps made to reduce the number of predators mainly bear and wolves. I also believe we have lost the large antlered buck genetics in the northern part of the state. I also believe that the deer estimates for the Northern Forest Area are way out of line. I believe the population in our area is 5 - 6 deer per square mile.

DNR admission to your failure of the 5 years of antlerless hunts in the unit 6,13 and 14 that absolutely anialated the herd. Approximately 1600 antlerless were slaughtered, close to half being nobby Bucks. Now the DNR has a plan. It is called starting over because you instituted a plan that had destroyed the herd. I have spent 7-9 days in the woods for 50 years. The last 5 remind me of the 1960's where you never heard a shot on opening day. Very very sad and DNR previous policies are 100% to blame. This is without talking about the ridiculous wolf issue! Dan Sedlock

In the area of southern Ashland County I believe the deer numbers were very similar to the year before. There may have been a few more yearling bucks, however a huge percentage of these were harvested during season. There are very few older age class bucks. The age structure is way out of order! No antlerless harvest is much needed in this area! Fawn mortality is still very high due to predation! Possibly a (1) buck limit would be good to allow some bucks to reach the next year! Sacrifice is required by ALL hunters to improve our deer herd!!

I support CDAC's management plan for the 2017 season. Maintaining the quota of zero antlerless tags and junior antlerless tags is a great way to bring the population back. Way to go, and I appreciate you taking the hunter's opinion into consideration. That being said, until the wolf population is under control, the deer herd population in Ashland county and the surrounding areas will never return to the numbers recorded in the past. I saw half as many wolves as I saw deer this year during the gun season.

I think Ashland County CDAC is on the right track not to recomend issuance of any antlerless tags for 2016/2017 and the foreseeable future. I also think we need a Wolf season where 50% of the estimated wolves are harvested every year until the problem of the Wolves resolves itself. Which to me would mean a remaining population of Wolves after several hunts of not more than 20% of current estimates, or 20% of what USFWS wanted when they were first introduced to Wisconsin or however they got to Wisconsin.

The deer population has increased steadily over the last few years, which should be expected after three years of no doe harvest and two mild winters. The land can sustain some more deer, however not as many as most hunters might want to see. The population should start to be controlled with some antlerless harvest, otherwise next year it could be beyond control. Private lands should have have more tags available than public lands though, as there are considerably more deer on private.

I am confused on why there is no doe quota when the herd has grown over 50% in the last two years with a projected double digit growth rate this year. Those are big numbers, too big to ignore. When I hunted on private land south of Ashland last season I saw lots of does and I never saw a buck. I am interested in harvesting meat for the freezer and it is frustrating to see lots of does without the opportunity to harvest one.

There are way more wolves in this area than the WDNR is willing to admit publically. Something needs to be done about the wolves. The deer numbers in recent years are generally down and I firmly believe that a large part of that is that the wolves are killing a large number of deer. I ask for the WDNR's consideration of this and encourage a wolf hunting season be implemented for this year.

As seen on my trail cameras, there are still too many wolves in this area. For some reason, the deer seem to vanish during gun season. I have not hunted with gun in 2015 or 2016 because of so few deer. I do crossbow hunt as more deer are present during October. I have seen a recovery in deer numbers in Price County, but still have not seen a large jump in Ashland County.
would like to see doe tags at 0 for a couple of years yet, also public in saywer cnty. population is just starting to come back from almost decimation a couple of years ago. youth doe tags are great, but most dads take there sons or grandsons off there private land and go shoot doe on public. have been hunting that area for over 20 yrs, it's a fact. thank you

I am disappointed that biological information and projections were not a part of this survey. We were told what the CDAC recommendation is, but not the recommendation from the biologist. The input from the biologist should be included in the survey so that the public knows whether the CDAC recommendation is similar to the scientific recommendation.

I think an increase in predator populations have had a big effect on deer herd numbers. Wolf, coyote, bear probably in that order have reduced the number severely. I would also comment that the deer number remain low in Ashland county due to off reservation hunting and ability to hunt at night have also had an impact on the deer numbers.

We need to provide a better environment for deer to thrive. By not managing public forests or natural predators to deer we are watching a valuable commodity to the state and more importantly region suffer. This inherently leads to economic downturn in the regions negatively effected.

The 2 biggest reasons that deer numbers are down in the National Forest (where I hunt) in Ashland County is predators (Wolves are the most common that I have encountered) and no logging. Until these 2 things change not much else will matter. That is why I support 0 antlerless tags.

the recommendations i feel important is allow only three points or more on one side to be harvested. what i see in the last three years no doe harvest bucks only ,this resulted in harvesting bucks that were year and a half old.this don't leave many for breeders for following year.

Youth hunters should be allowed to harvest antlerless deer in Ashland county, especially on privately owned land. Wolf population is too high and is creating too much damage if we can't allow our kids a rewarding experience. Land owners should get some preference.

WDNR admits bears kill fawns more than any other predator. Yes, reduce wolves. Absolutely depopulate bears. I want one 2017 tag that includes only one buck, one bear, one wolf. No upcharging, straight forward sense to end this BEAR problem.

I'm seeing a lot more deer in my areas I hunt, but that doesn't mean that is everywhere. Lots of does compared to the last three years. We could probably have a few doe tags or at least for the kids in the youth hunt?

Wolves and bear are a big problem. No doe, spike or fork horn bucks should be harvest. I would trade my deer hunting opportunities for a bear harvest permit opportunities. There is more bear than deer in my area.

Protect our does and fawns like you are. Consider a point restriction to rebuild and protect our buck quality (size and genetics ). The quality of our herd is not what it was ten years ago.

I saw deer for the first time in 5 years, yet not so many I want to harvest does. I feel we need another year of bucks only (except for Jr hunters) to bring the herd back to full strength.

Please eliminate all Wolves. Until you solve the Wolf problem the deer and elk herd will suffer. There is no need for wolves in Wisconsin. Put a bounty on them and eliminate them 100%.

The deer numbers are finally starting to recover a little, don't destroy the herd again by putting out doe tags! One bad winter and we'll be right back to where we started.

Predator numbers, specifically wolves, are way too high in this area. I had more sightings of wolves this past season than I have had in the previous 10 seasons combined.

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  Ashland, Northern Forest
I saw more deer on private land last year. Still nothing on public land. When the time comes to allow antlerless harvest, please restrict it to private land.

I really like to see a minimum of 3 points on one side enforcement when the deer numbers increase. To reduce the risk of shooting small bucks letting them grow

I am pleased to know the recommendation for antlerless in Ashland County northern forest is 0. I believe it should remain at 0 for a few more years.

I am extremely frustrated with a proposal for zero antlerless tags in 2017. The herd has recovered. It's time to start taking some does!

some antlerless deer should be harvested to take pressure off the young bucks (spikes and fork horns), some of us up here want the meat.

I feel that we should have youth hunters follow the same guidelines as everyone else. Buck only should mean buck only for everyone!

Continue a zero antlerless quota for another five years, at minimum. Expel the youth hunt. Allow hunting of wolves.

Two things need to be done to improve hunting state wide. Control wolf population and get rid of baiting all together.

Agree to no harvest of does. Predators are killing off the herd. Maybe no harvest of any deer.

deer herd has been decimated and impacted the economy of the Northern forest.

I think baiting deer should be banned.

Please ban all baiting and feeding.

Do something about the wolves

On right track thanks!
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Barron, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

96 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 55
   No: 41

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 52
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 79
   - General interest in this unit: 20
   
   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 71
   - Bow: 51
   - Crossbow: 18
   - Muzzleloader: 29

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 28.16
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 39
   - Mostly Private Land: 20
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 9
   - Mostly Public Land: 5
   - Exclusively Public Land: 6
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 5
   - Not too crowded: 16
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 12
   - Somewhat crowded: 5
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 13
   - Fewer: 28
   - Same: 33
   - More: 18
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 29
   - Same: 26
   - More: 18
   - Many More: 7
   - Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: Not applicable in this DMU

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

- **Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT**
  - **Support**: 25
  - **Oppose**: 60
  - **Unsure**: 5

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

- **Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons**
  - **Support**: 11
  - **Oppose**: 79
  - **Unsure**: 5

#### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

- **Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?**
  - **VALID**: Not applicable in this DMU
  - **NOT VALID**: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest trees</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017**

*Barron, Central Farmland*
Comments for  Barron, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

To all, First of all, I am very disappointed with the recommendations that have been put out for the next season. Two free permits, additional bonus tags, and a Holiday hunt will devastate the doe herd on the eastern half of the county. The numbers from last year should show that the herd is first making a comeback. Tripling the amount of does shot will only knock down interest in hunting. Until last year I had purchased a bow license for 40 years. After prehunting prior to the deer season, I did not see a large increase in the deer population. I did not go bowhunting, did not want to waste my time. I did go gun hunting and was disappointed in the amount of deer seen. When will you see that with declining deer herd also loses hunter interest. People like to see them while hunting. Just remember, when you lose the hunters, it is extremely hard to get them back. Why have public meetings? Everything is cut and dried prior to the meeting. When a few people do speak, they are ignored because they are unprofessional. I thought what these meetings were for. As for Oak regeneration, is Barron county the only one having this issue, I bet not. Landowners will continue continue to get the deer herd where it is reasonable for people to want to hunt and see enough deer to satisfy them. I will continue to promote a lower doe kill in my area, so hunters will want to hunt without your help. A Holiday hunt does not help. There is already a bowhunt, youth hunt, regular hunt, Muzzle hunt, December Doe hunt after Muzzle. Why ????????????? ASK the people not the 6-8 members on the board.

I felt that eliminating the free tags last season was good move by the committee. Hunters that wanted to harvest a doe were able to purchase a tag. When free tags are thrown at the hunters in handfuls, they are often abused and misused. Hunters kill because they can not because of a need! Its absurd that the committee would suggest to triple the amount of tags given in one season. Yes, the winter was fairly mild, but it was also mild for the predators that feast on whitetails. Until something is done about our out of control predator numbers (especially bear), I feel that the committee would be doing a huge disservice to the hunters in Barron Co. by allowing or herd to be wiped out again. In addition, the committee needs to take a serious look at splitting the county into 2 halves (west/east). A Hwy 25 or Hwy 53 split would work great. It has been widely reported at meetings in the past that there is a great discrepancy in the numbers between the west side and the east sign of the county.

I am a land owner and I am in full support of the sun setting the baiting ban in if no deer has been found with CWD in the county in 24 months. I also hunt in a county where baiting is legal, and do not see an issue of following the rules on a 2 gal limit of baiting. I work in the hunting industry and have hunted many states, its all about getting more hunters more chances out in the timber. Hunters are leaving the state to hunt elsewhere for better opportunities and WI is losing the reputation of being the best Deer state in the country. Regulating land owners on what they can do or not is not the way we should be looking at it. I still support limiting it to 2 gal and increasing the penalty for excessive baiting. Thanks again for the work you are doing, but over regulating to fit into certain individuals personal agenda is not something I am in support of. I do support Bill AB-61.

I have hunted the same area of north eastern quarter of Barron county for 43 years. In those 43 years I have never seen our herd get this small as it has the past 5 years. We have got to stop shooting antlerless deer. If you give out this many tags this year, there won't be no deer left for anyone to shoot come the next year. I am hunting private land with private landowners to the next to me, neither one of us have harvested an answer this deer ever. Yet the numbers of deer in our area keep getting smaller. We are losing I heard to predators there ardmore predators out there now than there has my 43 years. Please reconsider the number of antler less tags that you are proposing. Please reduce that number of antler less tags.
I hunt the NE portion of Barron CO and through the years I have watched our deer numbers Fall to 1 Doe and her last years 2 fawns. Last fall there were a couple bucks along with a few does and fawns. now all winter and so far this year I am only seeing 1 doe and 2 yearlings. I am very concerned about the future for my grand children to have the same opportunity's I had. I fell we should have been bucks only NO antlerless at all for at least the last 3 years in my area the population has to improve I agree that the more south west you go in this area there could be an abundance of deer. So maybe this zone should be reevaluated rather than just put in a box.

I feel that putting in small food plots is no different from baiting and that the cwd can be transmitted that way also and I think banning baiting from a surrounded county that has never had a deer test positive should be changed to only restrict baiting in that county. I truly believe that we have gotten away from the real reason we hunt and that is to provide food for our family's and that more and more are only interested in the big racks if we truly want to hang on to our haretige of why we hunt in the first place we not only need to look at it as a sport but also a way we feed our family.

I understand the current CDAC system. It does not allow for management of uneven deer distribution in Barron County. The current herd level was stable until the 2016 season, last years antlerless quota disrupted things, increasing herd size to nearly 40% over goal. Forest regeneration, i.e.. oak, is unacceptably low and in some areas non existent. Both of these facts leave the committee little choice in trying to meet the quota goal of maintain herd size. I see no other choice under the Deer Czar's system...

Two areas of concern. 1. The number of proposed tags to be issued. Less does were taken in 2016 than 2015, but this year the number of tags to be given out has tripled. Wouldn't this be an indication of where the heard is at. With a 20 -25% success rate in 2016, wouldn't this be an indication of realistically the herd is at. The state herd has been declining for 5 years now. Yet more tags are issued. I know why, less hunters. 2) Holiday hunt cuts into other recreational activities.

Please keep the bonus tags allotments similar to 2016. It does not make much sense to decide to hold a Holiday Hunt and not have enough antlerless tags in the pockets of hunters. There are many hunters who travel to Barron County to hunt, but hunt other counties as well, and choose to make their free Farmland Zone tags good for those areas. Please give us a chance to harvest antlerless deer in Barron County by increasing the amount of bonus tags.

I feel eastern side of county has less deer there is more hunters per square mile .i feel county must be split . The resources and technology are there to do this anyway. Yes there are to many deer near urban areas can't hunt their anyway .by raising tags will not help one bit .it. Will hurt deer no.on land in and around land open to public land .thers not much open now I now land owners around my land will pull out of Mfl.open that's a fact.

We used to have a decent herd. Too many bonus tags have depleted the herd to almost nothing in some areas. Having hinted the same ridges for 30 years you get to know the patterns well. When you go an entire gun season and only see two deer you know there are problems and over hunting. Everyone should get one buck and one does tag. No bonus tags. This would help to not only maintain the herd but prevent areas from being over hunted.

I have never seen so many people gun hunting and so little shots fired. I did not see a deer all gun season as well as many others. This will be the 7th year i have not got a buck. I as well as my hunting group will not be hunting next year because of this. There is way to many hunters in the woods for what little deer population we have expecially on the public. There should be zero bonus tags givin and no extra otc tags also

I would only support the holiday hunt if the archery season is extended to January 31. If the CDAC does not recommend the extended archery season, I oppose the Holiday hunt. As a working citizen that loves to Archery hunt. Adding the Holiday Hunt takes away from the time of buck hunting after the Gun season which can be a vary effective time to fill your tag. Thanks again for the work you have done.
I generally believe that there are not as many deer as there were several years ago but I do know that the DNR thought those years were over years of over population. I did not think so but I am not a trained biologist. It does seem to me that we could support more deer and the hunting would be better. I am guessing the farmers would not agree.

Private Land maintains the most deer population due to having the most deer habitat. The public forests need to be harvested to create more browse for these areas to become better deer habitat. The private land near these public forest areas are still struggling to see deer. This is mostly on the north and north eastern part of the county.

Deer numbers in northern Barron Co. Have really plummeted after all the extra doe tags issue in past years. I believe hunters are finally taking this into their own hands because of what they have experienced in the past and will only shoot what they feel appropriate. Tell me again why baiting has not been prohibited???

We hunt in the northern part of Barron County and I know the numbers are vastly different than in the southern half of Barron County. In my opinion allowing the antlerless harvest that you have proposed and a holiday hunt would be very detrimental to the deer population in the northern half of the county.

Deer populations vary throughout the county. Wouldn't it make sense to try and manage low populations areas differently from high population areas? It doesn't seem that there is an easy way for discouraged hunters to hunt in high population areas.

I am concerned at the significant decrease in deer population (especially doe/fawn) observed on my own and neighboring properties while at the same time seeing a significant increase in predator numbers including black bears, wolves and coyotes.

I will usually always support one antlerless tag per license purchased. Two tags is overkill and diminishes the value of the deer resource. Hunters will gladly and easily pay $12 for the privilege of harvesting an additional deer if needed.

Get rid of the private land and public land tag system. This is an unfair practice. Public land hunters pay the same price for license put do not get the same rights as private land owners. Private land owners own the land not the deer.

I think giving out two antlerless deer tags with each license is a gross devaluation of perhaps our most valuable natural resource. The high number of antlerless tags overall, I believe, is an over-reaction to the mild winter we had.

I think that a no baiting ban should continue. A sunset of these restrictions is a huge mistake. Once CWD is in an area, it is there till all the deer are gone. It is too important to our economy to lose deer hunting to disease.

Black bear and timberwolves are having an impact on our deer population...there should be more bear harvest permits available to control bear populations and predation on the deer herd...particularly the spring fawn crop.

I would like to see a herd size of the 90's that was much more plentiful than now. I have two boys and a daughter that would love not only to see a deer in the stand, but I would love to give them a chance at one also.

I would like to see more deer than what I have been seeing the last 3 or 4 years. I would like to see more predator control and a buck only season to boost the deer herd up in numbers.

NE Barron County has been suffering since going to the County Unit vs previous unit alignment that included the blue hills. Population is far too low in this part of the county.

If Chippewa county is 0 tags what are we thinking in Barron county!! Please just reduce the number of tags. We have the smallest deer herd we have had in a very long time.

I would like to see the antlerless quota reduced to zero for private and public lands in any zones where maintainable populations are attained.
Unit wide antler restriction minimum of 3 points per side not including brow tine. Or bucks only for a few years to help doe population.

You will need to focus on ducks season next. The proposal for our Friendly natives night hunting netting and snaring is absurd.

I have seen many more deer in the area this spring. I would highly recommend the 2 extra tags for antlerless deer in 2017.

I think 1 antlerless tag included per deer hunting license would be enough plus bonus tags for sale.

we cant allow to have free tags on public lands there are no deer on public lands

Don't charge for antlerless tags. Give free with purchased gun and bow license

To many deer in the area, should have a doe only season for 2017

I think one free tag per license would be appropriate.

Get rid of the youth hunt!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Too many bears!

Plenty of deer.
Bayfield, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

275 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 147
   No: 128

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 80
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 64
   I hunt in this unit: 231
   General interest in this unit: 66

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 223
   Bow: 128
   Crossbow: 62
   Muzzleloader: 77

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 26.27
   Maximum: 65

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 35
   Mostly Private Land: 33
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 48
   Mostly Public Land: 47
   Exclusively Public Land: 59
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 9

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 4
   Not too crowded: 26
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 43
   Somewhat crowded: 49
   Very crowded: 63
   Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 46
   Fewer: 59
   Same: 84
   More: 61
   Many More: 20
   Unsure: 5

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 49
   Fewer: 48
   Same: 62
   More: 72
   Many More: 39
   Unsure: 5
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  
    | Support | Oppose | Unsure |
    |---------|--------|-------|
    | Not applicable in this DMU |

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:  
    | Support | Oppose | Unsure |
    |---------|--------|-------|
    | Not applicable in this DMU |

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?  
    | VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
    |-------|-----------|-------|
    | 135   | 124       | 15    |

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**  
Bayfield, Northern Forest
Comments for Bayfield, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.
I’m really glad you are offering this webpage to hear the voices in the hunting community. I have been hunting Ashland and Bayfield Counties for over 30 years and we've always had good deer numbers up until around 2007. I started to see a serious decline every year since that time. The numbers have not come back and I do not believe this last years higher registration numbers. I believe that those numbers were falsely reported for unknown reasons. I know that I did not hear much shooting the entire season. I know several big hunting gangs in my area, friends of my family, and general word of mouth have always been a good measure of the deer herd. These hunting gangs etc., reported very slim success. These are gangs like mine who in years past would have anywhere from 8-15 bucks hanging from the buck pole. All of these gangs reported 1, 2, 3 bucks hanging out of 15-20 deer hunters. What I’m trying to say is these gangs are serious hunting groups who work hard and usually have success. These aren’t the lazy beer drinking gangs of hunters. In my opinion there are three reasons for the decline in the deer population. They are over issuance of antlerless permits; over selling of bonus tags; and over population of the predators. Something has to change, and it did a couple of years ago when the DNR stopped issuing antlerless tags. That was good, but the herd is still on the rebound, and now they are proposing 3800 antlerless tags again! That is ridiculous in my opinion. Let the herd try to come back. The wolves and bears are killing them 365 days a year. We need to bring those populations in check. There are too many bears/wolves/coyotes/bobcats. Too many predators! I think that we should keep the antlerless quota at zero until we get the predator population in check. The deer herd cannot rebound with that many predators. The deer herd is still way down in Bayfield and Ashland counties. The Bear population is way too high as are the wolves and coyotes. I would suggest getting the bears under control by allowing three to five years of over the counter bear kill tags. This would go a long ways towards getting those numbers in check. Then the DNR could go back to the lottery system. I would even support charging more money for an over the counter kill tag to make up for the lost years of lottery. Bears kill a lot of fawns in the spring time. I spend a lot of time in the woods, and I see bears everywhere I go up there no matter in Bayfield or Ashland County. We had good deer numbers back when bear tags were bought over the counter. The lottery system turned a lot of guys away from bear hunting. It makes it hard to plan the future so far in advance for a bear hunt. When we could get a tag over the counter there were many hunters who would say, I'm going to take a couple days off next week and try to kill a bear. You can't do that anymore with this lottery system. That is just a money making scream..not good for hunters. Sell tags over the counter like it used to be. You'd get more people hunting bears. The population of bears is outrageous in Ashland and Bayfield Counties. The wolf population is way too high as well. During deer season I see more wolf tracks than deer tracks. One day after a fresh snow fall I drove a fire lane in Bayfield county and followed 4 wolf tracks for miles trotting down the fire lane. One deer track crossed the road and the wolves left the fire lane on that track. That deer probably didn't live much longer. There are complete sections that my hunting party used to hunt, and we don't waste our time in there anymore because the wolves have moved in and the deer are gone! The wolf population has caused the hunting pressure to change. The hunters are congregated in smaller tracks of land because the deer are in pockets. So where there is a pocket of deer there are more hunters. It used to be more spread out throughout Bayfield County, but in recent years, there are less hunters overall but hunters that are there are hunting the same areas. So it seems like there is more hunting pressure. It's deceiving because you can drive for 30 miles and not see a truck parked on the fire lane. Then all of sudden within a couple of mile stretch you will see 10 trucks parked. It never used to be like that. One other topic of discussion. Please do not change the laws/regulations regarding knocked arrows in the bow after dark. I heard that someone has proposed a change that would allow for hunters to legally sit in their stands after dark with an arrow nocked. There is no reason for that and it would definitely endanger the wardens lives. If they were to walk up on a hunter in their stand after dark they already risk being shot. I feel that if they catch someone in their stands after dark it should be an automatic ticket. Arrow nocked or not! There is no reason for that other than poaching. We have a terrible poaching problem state wide. I can't even believe that the DNR would consider such a regulation. That is simply stupid. It's already hard enough for the wardens to catch someone poaching after hours. Now you want them to catch them in the act. If they have an arrow nocked after hours that is poaching! Thank you for listening. If we really care about our deer herd we will let them come back before killing off the does
and fawns. We need does and fawns to make big bucks! Big bucks bring hunters, and hunters bring the money. Let us get the predators population in check before we worry about the antlerless quota. Mother nature will take care of herself without any help from us. The predators are eating 365 days a year. That’s a lot of dead deer, and elk for that matter. I think that’s comical…let’s plant elk…let’s have wolves…oh wait the elk herd can’t get to a population for hunting. hmmm..wonder why. They have harder winters out west in the mountains than we have around here in Wisconsin so that is not the cause. Thanks again sorry for rambling at the end there..

I spoke at the March hearing and voiced my opinion against any antlerless quota. I am a member of one of at least six hunting camps who have cabins in the northern part of the Village of Drummond. Each of these used to have 6-8 hunters, now they have 3-4. I’ve hunted out of our camp for nearly 50 years and have seen deer numbers rise and fall, but still we would see deer, even after a bad winter. After the slaughter via way too many bonus tags of the last decade, deer numbers are maybe just barely beginning to come back in the National Forest area where we hunt. Still, in the last two years over seven full days of hunting I’ve seen a total of two deer, and have not fired my gun at a deer since 2009. The quality of hunting has diminished and it’s frankly very frustrating. It is difficult to invite a friend or a young person to join our camp, as they will likely become similarly disappointed. My opinion is that it is short-sighted to offer antlerless tags, which will further reduce deer (buck) numbers. Another frustration I must voice is that it was very apparent that the March meeting was orchestrated. Mr. Nass used the statistics of the latter part of the previous decade to convince the committee to accept a lower buck kill, whereas the first half of the decade produced a higher buck kill. Why purposely offer fewer bucks for hunters? The forester (didn’t catch his name) brought props of deer browsed saplings, carrying the implication that every tree in the forest is subject to intensive browsing and if a bunch of antlerless deer weren’t killed no tree would grow past that stage. This certainly isn’t the case in the forest south of Drummond as the forest undergrowth is becoming thicker and because of no/poor management mature oaks are dying on the stump. I believe the committee was given inaccurate and spurious information and not only made the wrong decision to have an antlerless season, but set a quota that is inappropriately high for the National Forest. I would respectively request that the Bayfield County CDAD reconsider their recommendation an eliminate or significantly reduce the antlerless quota on public land.

I have been hunting in this area for 41 years. I have never seen as few deer as I had seen in the last 5-10 years. In fact from the 2009 to 2015 seasons I saw 11 total deer in 7 years. My wife saw 14 deer in that same time period. She did see 7 deer last year. but had 2 does and a fawn that came through twice. So really only 4 deer. And of my four deer 3 were those same two does and a fawn. From 2009 to 2015 it was extremly rare to see any fawns even on trail cameras. In fact the fall of 2016 was the first year in probably 7-8 years that we had seen any twin fawns. Last year we had one set of twin fawns. We also had at least one single fawn. Prior to that we typically seen what seemed to be one single fawn each year on trail cameras. If it weren’t for trail cameras I probably would have given up hunting in the area. At least using them throughout the year at our cabin let us know that that we had a few deer in the area. But without them we saw very very few deer. Even in past years when we hadn’t seen many deer while hunting we had at least seen them in the off-season. I just got back from a weekend at the cabin and even with no foliage on the trees and a lot of driving through the Chequamegon Forest area near our cabin we only saw one deer. With the amount of deer we are seeing and the amount of predators in the area, bear, coyote and wolf, now is not the time to be giving out anterless tags. Give the population a chance to come back up before we start giving out tags. The only anterless tags I would support and even then grudgingly would be for youth and handicapped hunters. And for perspective prior to the year the area had an earn-a-buck season our family of 4-5 hunters almost always took a doe each year. However that year was the last year we did so. Since then we just have not seen enough deer to feel right about taking an anterless deer. But unfortunately many hunters don’t care about sustaining a quality heard if it means they can’t shoot a deer. So even though we saw a few more deer last year it was not enough to justify anterless tags!!! I am not against shooting anterless deer but not with the numbers we still have.
The past couple years have been great. The deer numbers are finally starting to climb, unfortunately the number of predators is getting out of hand. I do see a positive trend in bear permits being handed out, 3-4 years seems more reasonable than 6-7 considering the numbers i am seeing and getting on cams. The elephant in the room is the number of wolves. They are alarmingly getting out of control, i have been running cams hard this past winter (Dec 16-now of 17). I have 2 packs of wolves on the same camera (one 7 and the other 8 members), and not 6 miles from this spot i am getting 4-6 single wolves on cam. Typically in the past i have only seen 3-4 in a pack, but a pack of 7 and a pack of 8 in the same area is getting out of hand. I see an exponential growth in coming years if the numbers are not kept in check. The deep county land of the far Northern WI area just does not hold deer like it used to, there might be a few here and there, but there is so little chance for them to survive with the number of wolves ( I can't imagine if we have another 13-14 winter). I have walked the West fork of a particular river a couple times this spring, I am shocked at the number of wolf-deer kills along that area not many people travel. There seems to be deer hair and bones about every .25-.5 mile. Now i do not claim to be a predator expert or a biologist of any sort, but what i am is an AVID deer hunter and outdoors man who lives to spend as much time in the woods as possible either hunting/scouting or running cams. What i can tell you is my findings between either seeing dead deer, tracks, or having wolves on camera are very real, and have been getting worse and worse over the past couple years. Thank you

My family has hunted in Bayfield County for over 60 years and it has been family tradition to go to the Buck Shack for Deer Season, even though we come from the central farmland zone where I can see up to 20 deer just on my 5 mile drive home from work. For all of those 60 years we have been a buck only camp until we were forced to harvest does during the earn a buck season, which I believe was the start of the decline in population, which has led to my 2015 season where I saw 2 deer one buck and one doe during 8 days that I hunted. I hunt from sun up to sundown and put on many miles doing drives and still hunting. So I was extremely happy to see another no doe tags in 2016, which I was able to see 7 deer one buck, 2 does and 4 fawns in the 8 days I hunting once again many miles and many hours in the field. I feel another two years of no does will bring the population back to where it will bring people back up north to hunt the big woods with success of killing a decent northwoods buck. I look at it this way a farmer who makes a living from selling beef does not harvest his Cows for meat, he harvest the steers to leave the cows to reproduce, which I believe needs to be done to further increase the population, because the population in no where near the levels that we need to worry about lack of food, disease or damage caused by over population of deer. Once the population gets to 90% of what "science" says the land can support then we can look at a doe quota, but until then let them live. Thanks for your time and consideration of my comments. A conservation patron that hopes to continue a tradition that is over 60 years old for another 60 plus years.

I have been increasingly frustrated with the deer management in the northern forest areas. I have seen my hunting camp dwindle from 14 hunters 7 years ago to last year when we had 6. Even more frustrating is the fact that the younger members of our party have totally lost interest, breaking a family tradition in the sport. This is largely due to having gone through 3 seasons where not only were no deer harvested, but rarely were any deer even seen. It is sad to see the next generation of hunters being turned away from the sport through poor management. This is largely due to over harvesting in areas where, unlike in the agricultural areas, it takes years for the population to come back. And now proposing a large antlerless kill for 2017 will again deplete an already poor population. In all honesty I don't need to harvest an animal to have a successful season. But to sit in a stand for 5 straight days and not only not see a deer, but also rarely a track, leaves one wondering what is the goal of management. Visiting local camps we hear the same story over and over. I'm sure if you polled the hunters in my area 9 out of 10 (at least) would be in favor of continuing the buck only season until numbers improve. Then at that point, rather than having bonus (meat) tags, go back to the old party system where a group of 3-5 hunters could harvest an antlerless deer. We've already seen a declining number of hunters in recent years and I think the trend will continue. The Wisconsin DNR needs to take responsibility for revitalizing a great Wisconsin tradition.
I am concerned that the current definition of "enough deer" is based on the opinion hunters who would like to be guaranteed seeing dozens of deer on opening morning of gun season. Especially in the age of baiting and more nocturnal deer activity, the deer population needed to satisfy this small but vocal group will impose serious costs on everyone else in terms of car accidents, browse damage, and the health of the herd. Having doe tags and antlerless only seasons increases the likelihood of a successful hunt which is good for the sport and the economy. I am much less likely to buy a license when doe tags aren't available, and I have quite a few friends and relatives that would visit the area and hunt if their chance of success was doubled. And if I'm not hunting, my kids aren't either, and I'd like to pass this important Wisconsin tradition along to them. I think one thing we can all agree on is that we like seeing large, healthy bucks. Many of us hate shooting a little buck, but for those who want vension that's been our only option the last few years. We may not be the most vocal group, but after a few years of seeing many antlerless deer during the season but nothing legal to shoot, many of us are drifting away from deer hunting altogether. But in the meantime we're dodging them with our cars and watching our gardens and trees mowed to the ground. I ask the Bayfield CDAC to put the brakes on this herd increase and provide at least 10,000 antlerless tags. Thanks for your consideration.

In the years 2013-2015 I saw a total of 3 deer while hunting (Saturday- Wednesday each year). Last year I saw 2. While this is improved, I think over-predation (be it by animals or humans) has largely devastated the deer population in an area I have hunted for over 25 years. Two seasons ago in visiting 12 local deer camps- with over 80 hunters- there were only two deer total to be registered. Don't get me wrong, I do not judge a seasons success solely on shooting a deer, but hunting in fresh snow and not even seeing a track over 3 days leaves one with little hope. This drives away younger hunters, and I think statistics support this. While I felt there were more deer last year, the numbers are still dismal. And while there might be a modest (at best) upswing, it is far too early to propose handing out antlerless tags. I think we've seen the results of limitless antlerless tags and are still trying to recover from this irresponsible herd management. Yes I also blame other factors such as wolf predation, but far and away the bigger issue is over hunting and too many antlerless tags. I would much prefer a couple more seasons of buck only to let the herd recover. I can't think of anyone in the area I hunt who would say anything different. Maybe a couple of the younger hunters in our party who have lost interest due to consecutive seasons of seeing absolutely nothing might generate some interest in hunting and come back to deer camp with us.

The deer population needs to grow, bottom line. In recent years, deer herds have shrunk noticeably. Throughout the 90s and early 00s, you could have dozens of beautiful, harvestable bucks with enough does and young bucks to repopulate herds. Now, you're lucky if you get a couple good bucks showing up every few years. Many fawns are lost to predators. On that note of predators, it seems the predator population only continues to increase. Wolves are rampant, coyotes, cougars (you know, those animals that are "non-existent"), bears, and others have undoubtedly contributed to the declining numbers in deer population. I do not ever remember a time in my life where these predators were as high in number. By not allowing doe tags, I think it will continue to help for a few more years. I didn't hunt with the rifle in 2015 or 2016 because prospects of the deer were so measly. I will not go out and just shoot a spike or fork horn to get meat. (Another problem with people who do this.) Why aren't there any big bucks? Well, if you pop off the little ones and don't let them grow, I wonder why. Why not enforce a rule for immature bucks as well? I want to see more mature males and plentiful females to ensure that there will be a healthy and populous herd for the future. You might not harvest a deer every year with these rules in place, but that's life, and that's hunting for you.
My family and relatives have been hunting the town of Barnes area for over 70 years. Myself for over 44 years. It's a shame that the tradition that has been built over many years has been jeopardized by poor management practices. It's tough to keep my kids interested in traveling many miles and spending the money whether on licensing, gear, gas or into the local economy, to see two, three, or four deer in four or five days of hard hunting. Please consider buck only for years to try and establish a herd that can keep the interest alive. We get around, we listen to the locals and visitors. Businesses are struggling, traditions are breaking up. You guys are outdoorsman, you know how hard it is to keep kids interested in hunting when you sit out in the cold for hours and hours day in and day out and see very few deer. I used to see 40, 50 deer during the season. Bear, wolves, bobcats, etc are doing most of the damage. Bayfield county is big. Maybe in the northern farm areas have a few more deer than by us but I don't think a lot more. Get out there and talk to us. Stop at the local establishments. Listen. Any antlerless permits are too many. I personally sat on my stand dark to dark Saturday through Tuesday and saw seven deer this past Gun season and have not bow hunted up on our land for over eight years, and I am one of many. Thanks

I am very concerned about the growing population of Wolves in Bayfield county. We here them most mornings while hunting on or near our land. My understanding is that one wolf may feed on 40-60 deer per year. That would make sense given the size of the animal. We have seen the Flag River wolf pack on our property a few years back but by now, I am sure that there are several packs in the area. Livestock have been taken near by as well. How does the DNR view this situation as it is rarely publicized as a problem? Rather, it is normally described as a positive for the resurgence of wolves in the area. Deer hunters do not think so. I have hunted in the national forest, Delta area since 1981. Last year was the worst year for our hunting party. We have 8 hunters and we had no harvest the entire season. The year before that we got one buck. Two years in a row before that, we were skunked again. Enough said. Seems like our area has been forgotten about from a deer management perspective. Lack of hunters due to the lack of deer population is also affecting the deer movement during the season. Anyway, you've probably had enough of these emails from other hunters and land owners. I hope that my comments helps to formulate a different plan for our county. Maybe fishing is a better bet. Thanks for listening.

We hunt in a forested part of southern Bayfield County. Ever since the Earn-a-Buck we have experienced a decline in our deer hunting success. In that time, we have also had two bad winters; one especially so. We have also noticed an increase in the number of bears and wolves, that we monitor on cameras. We have not made an empirical study of these numbers, however. There are also bobcats and coyotes, of course, but I would not say that there numbers have increased. I very much enjoy seeing the predators, but do worry about their proliferation as it relates to the deer count. The fawn recruitment on our land was low last year(spring 16) despite the mild winter (15 / 16). When the fawns drop in late May, the bears begin to appear on camera more regularly. I am sure they are actively hunting fawns and that that accounts for some sightings, but the number of them seems to keep increasing. We are members of DMAP. Our DMAP specialist reported to us no appreciable evidence of deer browse problems. For all of these reasons, I do not support a doe harvest. I believe a recovery is beginning. But the deer herd in our area needs more protection. One bad winter will destroy the modest gains that began.

Deer hunting in Bayfield County is so bad that after 35 years, I have elected not to come up and hunt until or unless the deer population improves CONSIDERABLY. Therefore, I and my $500 or so dollars will stay home and or/not get spent, or at least not get spent in Bayfield County or at any of the gas stations and restaurants along the way. The situation in Bayfield County has taken a few years to develop and is due in part to: the gross over harvest of antlerless deer, 2 very bad winters, a large bear population, a large wolf population, a significant coyote population, and a lack of logging. It is truly a shame what has come of the deer herd in Bayfield County. My dad has deer hunted up there since 1964 and I since 1982. I will not take our 11 year old son up there because there is not a huntable population of deer. He will never like deer hunting if he does not see a few deer. This was once my favorite activity of the entire year. To gather at the hunting camp with friends I may only see once per year. I could take to the woods knowing I would have a quality hunt and a good shot at a trophy. Now, I have no desire to even go up there because there are so few deer.
OMG, Really you must be kidding. I have no idea where you are coming up with this information to support such actions. I really thought you were acting very prudent by not allowing Antlerless harvest in 2016. I will be honest we actually saw a couple of fawns outside of the lakes and villages which leads me to believe we can rebound despite the elevated predator numbers. I spend about 20 days per year in the national forest and there is not enough deer there period. I would really hope you would understand that the population is nowhere near recovery from the sins of the past. I know there are deer around the lakes and municipalities that have moved there to avoid predators but we need all of them to help populate the national forest where the deer population is in terrible condition. I will also concede there are some deer in the minor agricultural areas. Still we need all of them to help the herd grow. I live in Polk County there is elevated deer numbers there. I really hope you will reconsider your position. Allow the youth to harvest a few but Please for the sake of the resource give them a chance to rebuild for at least a couple more years.

Bayfield counties deer population has suffered greatly over the past 10 years do to over hunting, and that is a direct effect from making too many harvest tags available to the public. Going to a "buck only" season over the past few years in the northern forest unit was a great idea, and has shown good improvement to the deer population in this area. But, I believe it will take a minimum of a couple more years of "buck only" hunting seasons in the northern forest unit, specifically Bayfield county, to get the deer herd back to where it should be. I am the father of two young children, who I am raising and exposing to the family tradition of deer hunting. In 5 years when my kids are old enough to hunt, I want them to be able to experience and enjoy what Northern Wisconsin is known for nation wide, some of the most beautiful country that provides a great opportunity for a successful deer hunt. It should not be about the money coming in from the extra tags that are sold for antlerless harvest. It should be about preserving the northern Wisconsin tradition for the young kids growing up, that are looking forward to carrying on this tradition.

Based on the past several winters we have had and no doe harvest for the past several years as well, the deer herd in Bayfield County has been increasing rapidly. I think the recommended quota of 3800 antlerless for this year is much to low. Hunters can't expect to see deer everytime they go hunting or even harvest a deer every year. However, I believe that is the vision for the average hunter. If that were to be the case, the deer herd would be much too high for the land to handle. There would be a major lack of food supply and space for each deer. It seems that most hunters want the deer numbers to grow to this level though. I think they remember years in the past when the deer numbers were extremely high and their hunting success was extremely high too. At that point we are maintaining an unhealthy deer herd for high hunting success. I don't think most people realize the impact even the current deer herd has on the forest and the land in Bayfield County. I think more hunters should spend more time walking around in the woods all year long rather than just a few weeks in November, before saying the current herd should increase by even 1%.

We need to improve the age structure of our adult buck population in the entire northern forest units. With two years of antlered only much of the yearling bucks have been taken leaving a void in the 2+ year old population. Last years numbers for buck harvest confirm this with above average yearling bucks in the harvest which tells us two things. The population is recovering but the quality of bucks is not there. Spring shed hunting also confirms this. Very few sheds of the 2+ year olds. (yearling spike and forks are hard to find regardless of population.) Having a point restriction on these northern units is a must to improve the age structure. I would suggest a 3 point on one antler restriction. Who really wants to come north anymore to shoot a spike? This in turns affects the tourism dollars as well. In fact, now days if you want to harvest a mature buck you go to the southern part of the State. Quite opposite of historical actions. And the obvious WE NEED TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE PREDETORS! Wolf and bear densities are to high! Enough said on that, as i think it falls on deaf ears......
after hunting near Drummond, grand view, and cable for the past 12 seasons and vacationing at our cabin between Drummond and Grand View I feel like the Deer herd is finally starting to show signs that it is coming back after its prolonged and significant decline. the past two season of bucks only has helped along with two rather mild winters. To propose several thousand antlerless and bonus tags at this point seems too soon. I sincerely hope the herd is given the opportunity to grow before we get back to extra seasons and thousands of antlerless tags. I'm all for getting young kids into hunting and having them harvest a deer, which would be significantly easier to do with more of them around. My two boys will begin hunting in the next few years and I pray they have a different experience than my brothers kids did over the past 6-7 years in the northern forest. I do not believe the herd is ready for antlerless harvest or is near objective for the area. PLEASE CONSIDER HAVING ONE MORE SEASON OF ANTLERED HARVEST ONLY. thank you for the opportunity to give feedback.

Really low deer numbers been around for last 40 years and its absolutely safe to drive from Barnes to Hayward at night never could do that 15 years ago. Now lucky to see a single deer, The doe hunters are not hunters there out there to kill and the businesses are just pushing for it for their own bank account without no concern of the deer. Only place to guarantee to see deer are north hwy 27 by jct. B .to cedar island. Times have changed not many left that actually hunt very few in woods scouting preparing and hunting, But bring back the doe killing and the road hunters will be busy killing off the future with little to no regard of the deer. Numbers are no where near where anyone could prove to me or anyone in my family or friends that would justify a doe hunt. Go back to the old way send in for a chance and 1 every few years somebody in your party got a tag. Honest answer is Last year I heard 5 shots total and thats in Barnes and thats counting ones I think might have been a shot just too far away to tell. Friend in Highland heard 0. seen more road hunters than deer.

Looking back on several years of hunting in Bayfield Co I watched the deer population steadily decline to the point that two years ago I saw one deer in 5 days of hunting. I attribute the decline to over harvesting of antlerless deer for several years, a couple bad winters and increased predation(wolves). We are now seeing an increase in the deer population due to the recent decrease in antlerless permits. I believe the continued practice of severely limiting antlerless permits for a couple more years will bring the population back to what should be expected. I believe that my opinion is shared by many hunters. unfortunately there are always people that are simply concerned with harvesting a deer and will continue to buy these permits regardless of the impact it has on the population. with each antlerless permit that is filled potentially 3 deer are taken out of the population, I have also seen way too many nubin bucks harvested with the antlerless permits. We are heading in the right direction we're just not there yet to start issuing the antlerless permits

I believe the northern forest is highly sensitive to antlerless harvest. In past years before the series of harsh winters we saw a dramatic decline in deer population due to overharvest. This was to the point of no longer seeing a single deer in multiple days of hunting. Then the bad winters arrived and hunting went from bad to terrible. I would like to get the deer population back to a huntable level for non-baiters. I would understand a limited antlerless harvest on private lands. On public lands I am strongly opposed to any antlerless permits. Over-browsing and plant diversity can be overcome with logging at the populations I would like to see. My opinion is it will be highly unlikely to overpopulate the northland with deer. If you provide antlerless permits, people will fill them. I am also opposed to providing the special antlerless permits for any groups (youth). The tradition of hunting is hard to maintain for the youngest, oldest and lesser skilled in the group with low populations. Thank you for your consideration.
There is not just a disparity in deer numbers from private land vs. public land. The disparity exists on only public land also. Where the county is actively managing the county forests, and where harvest is taking place on the industrial forest the density of deer is probably 3 times greater or more compared to when one moves east into the National Forest where it is mostly mature timber. There are wolves found in young forests and mature forests, but probably more wolves in the young forests where there are more deer. If the habitat is right for deer, they can survive wolf predation, but in the mature forests where deer numbers are low due to poor habitat the wolves do have a greater impact on the herd. The deer population level is not at the late 1990's level yet and we can not and do not want to sustain that level. From my observations hunting and traveling the highways I would say we ate at about 60 percent of where we were in the late 90's. Time to start shooting some antlerless deer.

I really think it is time to give the people who have hunted all their lives a break in getting some of the benefits our years of buying a license has provided to all hunters. The under 18 hunters choice is a great program, and makes it easier to get the younger generations interested in hunting, make sure that continues. I think it would be a great idea to give older hunters the same benefit of a hunters choice. After 55 years of buying a license and loving the sport, I brought both of my kids into the sport and now my 4 grandkids have all hunted. I find myself with a body that doesn't let me go and stalk the deer anymore. 7 leg surgeries and 3 back surgeries have taken their toll. I still hunt because my wife and I like and eat the venison we get, nothing gets wasted. I have never been a big horn hunter as the horns don't cook up well and my wife doesn't like gamy venison. I think it is time to give the hunters that have been faithful over the years a little thank you.

Dear Sirs, The deer population in southern Bayfield County is just beginning to rebound from the years of the DNR trying to kill everything out there. I do understand that in the farm country in northern Bayfield there is a higher population of deer on private land. If you and the DNR must have antlerless tags to supplement the amount of money the DNR has lost due to poor management than have it only on private land. The public land is just now starting to see a recovery, don't delete this recovery for money. If the public land once again gets hunted as hard as it did 12 to 15 years ago and we get a hard winter you will be right back to where you started from with this CDAC. Yes, the deer population has increased in southern Bayfield, (National Forest Area) let this increase continue so my grandchildren will know what it is like to hunt deer, see deer and harvest a deer. Shooting a doe or nub buck is not always the answer to increase revenue. Thank you.

I’ve hunted with my family near Pease Road and Mulligan Creek for 35 years. My grandparents hunted that same land the 35 years prior. The number of deer our group sees used to ebb and flow (as expected) but there was always something to look at. For the last 10 years it’s been abysmal. I personally sit sun up to sun down Saturday-Tuesday. I’d say that for 6 or 7 of the last 10 years I’ve seen nothing. Not one deer. It has not been uncommon for our whole group to see zero deer. Last year was more depressing than most because not only did nobody see deer but with the snow, we couldn’t find tracks. Our group of 9 covers a lot of ground and we couldn’t find tracks. That’s bad. We are losing long time members of our group because they haven’t seen deer in years. Don’t shoot doe in Bayfield County. Not for a while. The years of earn a buck slaughter and a few bad winters really killed that herd. Let it go.

The number of deer hunters in the southern half of this unit continue to decrease due to the lack of deer. Youth numbers, during the regular season, continue to diminish due to the lack of deer. The hunting experience in southern Bayfield County is not going to improve if you continue to over harvest your breeding stock. Our deer population has not rebounded sufficiently to bring back antler less permits. The number of permits available in 2017 should be zero. The herd is being controlled sufficiently by the predators, i.e. bears, bobcats, coyotes, and wolves. If there is excessive deer in the northern half of this unit, than split Bayfield County in half, and issue permits for the northern half. Antler less permits will not bring our hunters back. We need a larger, older, deer herd. Lets manage for quality and quantity. We need creative deer management to bring hunters back. Antler less tags will not help.
The deer population is going up at a higher rate right now than it should be. It needs to be kept in check. We had another easy winter. We are already dodging deer on the highway if we do not keep this population in check it will be out of control again like it was years ago. Do not listen to the people who want a deer behind every tree that is being totally ignorant about deer and the environment as well as nothing to say about the biology/metrics of deer management. Keep the quota as set. It would be nice to have the chance after this many years to get some venison in the freezer from around here--a person can not eat antlers. Good job CDAC members for taking the time to understand the biology and the impacts of what an overpopulation of deer can do. Stick to your guns on this one--if they would have given out some antlerless tags last year this would not have been such an issue this year.

I have hunted, with my family, on public land for all 8 years of my deer hunting career. In my first 4 years of hunting in Bayfield County I saw a total of 0 deer. I saw a combined total of 5 wolves, 2 foxes, a coyote, and one denned bear. We hunt the entire week of deer season. This has continued for many members of our group until the past few years. Numbers are beginning to come back a little, I would contribute it to the 0 quota of antlerless kills. Prior to my hunting experience in Northern Wisconsin, our group produced a large amount of deer for the family. Since, the introduction to more predators those populations went down, and the 0 quota for antlerless deer is beginning to counteract the abundance of predators. I believe strongly that to preserve deer herd populations we need to continue to have a 0 quota of antlerless tags and increase the tags given on predators.

This quota is insane. The deer population in the forested southern and northern portions of the county is still very low. The population in the central agricultural area the deer population has recovered from the lows of 2013. However in our frequent drives through the Mason farm country we still see very few deer. There is a resolution working through the WCC to divide the county into Southern Forest, Northern Forest and Central Farmland. This proposal has been discussed with DNR Wildlife Management since 2014 but nothing has been done. This would allow antlerless tags to be issued where they are justified without damaging the population in the forested area where it is still very low. There should be no antlerless tags until this is implemented. There are other methods of controlling deer damage including damage tags, Antlerless tags on private land only and DMAP.

In addition to the population size we should also consider the size of the animal we harvest. It is my opinion that far too many immature or adolescent males are taken with our current system. Antlerless tags allow way too many adolescent bucks to be harvested. Additionally, the antlered deer are very often very young bucks (1.5 to 2.5 years of age). Therefore, I propose a mandatory minimum of 4 legal points or antlers on one side of the rack as a way to ensure our males are able to mature. Thus enhancing the entire population as well as providing hunters an opportunity to shoot that buck of a lifetime! This method has been successfully implemented in several states (Missouri, Arkansas, Pennsylvania to name a few). It is time for Wisconsin to embrace antler restrictions as an additional technique to increase our meaningful population of whitetailed deer.

I was fortunate to harvest a buck during the 2016 season in Bayfield County- that was the only deer I saw and I spent 4 days in the woods from sun up to sun down- and I don't bait- I hunt- I look for sign and I move around- the way I was taught. I hunt north of US 2 in the National Forest and the sign in 2016 wasn't any better than 2015. My suggestion is- no antlerless tags- I believe the herd is recovering but needs some time- hard winters a few years back and predators have decimated the herd- remember: you can't control the weather, you can't control the predators- the least you can do is control the number of antlerless tags you give out. Have you ever considered splitting this unit- north of US2 and south of US2? As a hunter we like to see a few deer- I've gone years not seeing deer so being lucky enough to harvest one was great!
I monitor 16-20 game cameras Noth of Washburn year round. Last year was a little better for deer numbers than the previous year, but still significantly down from previous years. I spend 3 weeks bow hunting in this area annually, and the deer numbers have continued to decline. Last year I did have two sets of fawns survive until fall, compared to 2015 I didn't have a single picture of a fawn beyond September. This management area needs to be divided from forested to farmland in order to properly manage the deer herd. The number of predators I capture on camera continue to escalate annually, bear, wolf, coyote and bobcat. Until the predators are brought into check, I feel we will continue struggle to maintain fawn survival. Therefore it is my opinion we should not have after less tags available for another year or two.

I have hunted in southern Bayfield Co, Barnes, for 37 years, my father for 60 plus years. If the heard remains at the currently low numbers, I'm afraid my son may not continue the tradition. We hunt very hard, sit all day opening WE, and see 1-2 deer. This is very disheartening. I know of many hunting groups that have decided to not hunt our area. This not only makes my experience less enjoyable, but certainly hurts the area economy. The local taverns used to be a place to meet other hunters and share in the stories of the day's hunt. These days the taverns are empty and close at 10PM, not that there are many hunting stories to be shared anymore. Please allow the heard to recover so my children and future grandchildren can have the same hunting experiences I did in years past and business owners can make a living.

The amount of tags that you are proposing is ridiculous. The goal that was set was to increase the herd. With the number of permits that are being proposed it will reduce the herd. You as a committee voted to increase the herd, stick to the status you voted for and then next year if the herd continues to grow than set a maintain status and issue permits accordingly. If you allow this many antlerless permits it will set the deer herd growth back to the levels from 2 years ago or maybe even lower. As far as the County forester saying that there isn't enough regeneration, I am in the woods over the entire county of Bayfield county the month of September. There is really good regeneration as has been the case for several years. in closing PLEASE honor what the people asked for and you as a committee voted for.

Overall the herd seems to be low in the area. Our long lived deer season traditions are taking a toll with young hunters not seeing the deer and rewarding them with either a harvest or deer sightings. We hunt private land that we manage and still see the numbers relatively low in the area. Although they have increased from 2014 (Rock Bottom!!) A separate topic would be the change in the tagging system. An increase to the license's fee a few years back, I thought was to cover the cost of the newer equipment, paper and ink (game registration station talk). We now print on copier paper and don't lose it, or you'll receive a fine. Just like anything else in this country...Once you have it, its hard to give it back. Some of us are still strong on traditions!! Sincerely, Paperless in Wisconsin

From my observation and discussion with others it is very apparent that the deer herd has not come close to recovering from the severe losses suffered during the winter of 2013/14. I had the strong sense that even before that year the numbers of antlerless deer being taken was too high. Couple that with the high wolf population and you have a situation where a poorly thought-out antlerless quota can have a major negative effect on the herd. It seems adjoining counties have a much better grasp of the situation and are for the most part making sensible harvest recommendations. When an obvious anomaly arises in a group of counties like this, maybe the DNR should step in to reconcile the aberrance. Too many people stand to be negatively affected by the proposed harvest to let it proceed unchallenged.

While I do not reside in Bayfield County, our cabin is just across the boundary in Douglas County. After more than 30 years of hunting there I believe that there should be one more year without an antlerless quota. I spend a lot of time fishing, bird hunting in Bayfield and I believe the herd has increased more in the north than in the southern part of the county. I hunted 6 days and saw four deer. Two years ago the population was similar to deer numbers in Iron county in the 60's where I started deer hunting. This mild winter should really help but I think waiting one more year without anterless would be beneficial. It is clear on my property that deer numbers are still down as there are many small oak trees that have gotten a good start during the past several years.
I feel the 3800 harvest number is good. The only question I have is the success rate. I feel hunter success will be higher than the 35% presented. Rather than 10,000 tags, I would suggest around 6,600 tags. I think the success rate will be around 50% this first year of antlerless hunting. Like science lead our herd. If antlerless deer were allowed to harvested tourism would increase. All my hunting group will not come back until they can harvest a doe for the freezer. Most complaint I hear are that there are no mature bucks. That is because the common hunter is shooting the first legal spike or fork that comes in view. Let us shoot a doe and we'll let the small bucks go. Common sense. Please allow for the harvest of antlerless deer.

Your amont of antlerless deer set 3800 is not correct----considering a doe is going to have an average of two fawns that will not be born and the fawns from the last year will not totally survive the actual harvest number is more around 12,500. Is this how we build a herd----I do not think so. Shoot last years fawns and the year before that and leave the does alone---it is getting to be a meat hunt rather than a sport hunt. I feed deer all the time and watch very carefully what is going on-----legal feed-----and you folks are on the wrong path to improve deer hunting. First---No tree stands or no elevated stands on public land---consider private too----shoot younger deer----no does----a 4 point rack for a couple of years there is more

I hunted most of the season. Saw 4 deer. I think actually three with one repeat. I did have a couple of young bucks on games cameras for the first time in several years. This herd was virtually wiped out. It is going to need at least a couple of more years to recover and provide at least some decent experience for the hunt. Please, please find another way to fund your department. I have hunted for 58 years and do not really care if I harvest a deer or not. I do very much like to experience the hunt and have a chance to actually believe there are animals there to hunt. I have never seen a herd as mismanaged as this one is. Please find someone to look at this factually and not just as an accountant. PLEASE stop trying to kill them all.

I hunt with a group of 14. The hunting group first started hunting this area in 1966. We stay up the entire season and log over 800 hours in the woods every season. Since 2013 we have seen the population drop significantly. In 2014 and 2015, as a group, we saw a grand total of 5 doe and 0 bucks. This past year we did manage to harvest one fork buck and saw slightly more doe. There may be areas of the county that have a higher population, but to pass out this many antlerless tags that can be used county wide seems a bit reckless. Trying to manage the herd on a county wide basis seems like a bad idea. We used to be in management unit 9 and by having smaller zones it would seem one would better allocate and manage the resource.

I have been a Wisconsin taxidermist for many years. We need to set a precedence and create an eight point or four on one side ruling. With this, bonus antlerless can be given out and meat hunters will be satisfied. Sportsman going after trophy bucks could have the chance of harvesting a buck that is mountable. Hunters under 18 and first time hunters are exempt and can shoot any antlered buck, to help instill their love to hunt. Also, allowing bucks to reach maturity and allowing does to be shot would make the 1-1 buck to doe ratio more attainable and the population more sustainable. It's upsetting that residents in my state have to travel to other states to deer hunt, we should be the place where hunters want to go hunt.

I am very happy to hear that the Bayfield County CDAC voted to have antlerless tags on both public and private lands this year. Given the number of deer in the county it would have been good to have a small quota last year, but that is history. Stick to your recommendations and do not listen to the whiners and complainers who cannot find deer. They are out there. This past year I saw more deer and more sign than in the past several years. With the mild winters we had the last several years this herd will continue to grow. All hunters deserve an opportunity to harvest an antlerless deer if they choose with the population where it is now. Thank you for your efforts to establish a quota in Bayfield County for 2017.
As a forester I understand the issues with forest regeneration and understand the impact of a large deer herd. It does seem strange however to jump to a goal of 3800 kills from zero doe tags. Also, I know you have research on kills/tags but 10000 tags seems like a LOT! I fear that the many hunters who stopped coming up over the last few years when the population was so low may return... with a vengeance... and we may end up filling more of those 10000 doe tags than would be expected. It just FEELS like a goal of 2000 kills with maybe 5000 tags is a better balance. Less damage done to the herd if more tags are filled than expected and then a hard winter follows.

We have to manage the deer herd for Bayfield county, not for individual landowners and/or hunters and their 10 acres of forest near their family's hunting cabin. As such, the deer population numbers for Bayfield county clearly indicate that the herd is growing at a very aggressive rate. I also would like to see increased opportunities in the form of doe tags for hunters during the gun deer season. People need to keep in mind that even with the current proposal the deer herd is projected to increase by nearly 9%. The DNR and CDAC is not forcing anyone to actually shoot a doe, they are merely providing an opportunity for those that would like to harvest venison.

I'm writing to please try and save our deer heard. With the introduction of doe tags we will see the heard continue to thin out because of the high predator rate and tough winters these animals encounter. I am part of a century old old fashion hunting camp and through our records we have continued to see a record low of deer numbers in recent years. It has led to individuals not purchasing tags and not hunting and has also discouraged the young people in our group from hunting. I have hunted every day of the last two seasons and have seen 5 deer total. I want to see our sport grow and with the application of this quota we will continue to see fewer deer.

I have hunted NORTHERN Bayfield County for over 50 years. The number of deer there was drastically low a few years ago and SEEMS to be increasing a bit but nowhere near the numbers of deer that were there (for the most part) in the past. I have hunted at least 5 days each deer season for all those years and the last five years I think I have seen maybe 10-12 deer total in those 5 years and I am in the woods from 630 until 430 each day. There may be more deer in agricultural or southern Bayfield but the population in the North is down from historic levels. I would give it another year to recover before trying to harvest too many does.

I have been hunting Bayfield county for years i've seen the deer heard when it was good and i've seen it when it has been bad but i feel by these past few years of not being able to shoot does we are moving in the right direction and will see the deer numbers continue to grow until we get to a healthy number of deer. I can only talk about the area i am in which is surrounded by public land and i do realize there is a lot of private land the may have healthier deer heard on there land and may be seeing crop damage so i am find with private land tags but think the public land needs to hold off on antlerless tags for another year or two.

Having an antlerless quota in Bayfield County is a good step forward. However, the number of ~3000 is not enough. The herd is rebounding dramatically the past few years partially due to no antlerless quota but mostly due to mild winters. Going back to densities of deer in the early to mid 2000's would not be good for deer or deer habitat as well as other species and people who drive vehicles every day in the county. The herd needs to be kept in check. Additionally, issuing plenty of antlerless permits is a good thing for families who rely on this source of non-steroid/non-antibiotic source of protein. Thank you for your efforts!

Please focus on CWD threats, deer farms, and overall commercialization of white-tailed deer. CWD has a strong link to movement of deer between deer farms and needs to be stopped. DATCP must take a more serious role in protecting the health of penned deer and the DNR needs to develop more strict fencing requirements and enforce them. Deer baiting and deer feeding needs to be curtailed if we hope to raise a new generation of ethical, highly interested/involved hunters. Sitting in a blind over a pile of corn teaches little and reduces the opportunity for citizens to learn and/or retain basic observation and hunting skills.
The county is divided into three areas and there is no information on where the tags are to be distributed. Also the whole deer seasons are way to long. They hunt deer from 2nd week of sept all the way to the first of the year. Predators are way to many. Bears, wolves coyotes cats and etc. Also a request should be made to the county for a more accurate car deer accident information in the county. This info could be greatly used in showing high deer traffic areas as well as deer mortality. Last limit only how many deer a person can shoot. No matter how and what you hunt with. Two deer a person a year is more than fair.

Some antlerless tags make sense, but going from zero to ten thousand will not be supported by the hunting community. Ease into this and you will have long term mgmt success. Start with 1000 to 2000 tags which would be acceptable to most. There are still large areas of the cty that have very low deer numbers, particularly on large tracts of public lands such as moquah Barrens. Go with 1500 private land tags and 500 public land tags. I am a Forester and own farmland and get that we need to control the population. But we need to balance the social desires of hunters with the need to control the herd.

The deer population is still too low in this area to have the DNR issue any antlerless tags. I hunt on my own property and on Open Forrest that just opened this past year. This property has been hunted only a few times during the past 15 years. The many hunters that I talked to indicated the same frustration to low deer numbers. Sure you are going to have some pockets of larger amounts of deer, but this is few and far between. When you used to see 25 to 30 a night (2003 to 2006) then are happy to see one or two a night is all the proof I need. Make Bayfield County a BUCK ONLY area for ALL!!!!

Seeing the herd starting to grow after coming off record low levels is encouraging; however, I'm not sure that it is appropriate to go from 0 antlerless tags to over 10,000 tags available to meet the 3,800 quota. I would support a more conservative approach that would include a much smaller antlerless harvest quota to encourage further herd growth. In my mind a quota of 1,000-1,500 would be a more reasonable starting point, with the majority of those being allocated to private lands. After seeing how the herd responds to that harvest, we can then reevaluate the recommendations for next year.

The unit is so diverse between the ag areas of the north and the forest of the south. You can't look at the population numbers or harvest numbers for the county as a whole. The northern ag areas may indeed have more deer. But there are still minimal deer in the southern forest. Making 3600 permits available would take the southern forest right back to zero. The county should be managed as 2 dmu's. For that matter, with GPS technology, you should be able to micromanage a county down to many dmu's. Make the dmu's smaller based on habitat. Not bigger based on county lines.

My family has been deer hunting Bayfield county for 4 generations. The past ten years of hunting from sun up to sun down several days of each year's gun deer hunt have been very disappointing in regards to number of deer seen. It is not uncommon to see zero deer all day. We absolutely CAN NOT have antlerless permits for at least three more years. The population came up a small amount and right away the DNR thinks it's ok to sell several thousand antlerless permits. The herd needs several years to get back to healthy numbers. Please do not allow antlerless permits in 2017.

I'm 71 yrs old have hunted private land and mostly national forest land in this time. The number of deer is very low. There are way to many wolves. I own 14 acres of private land deer numbers have dropped, and there have been no fawns, so if this keeps up I will no longer continue to hunt wisc as other states have more animals. This has also hurt hunters from hunting northern wisc, which also hurts business from making money. I have hunted same woods area for close to 40 years and there is more food for the deer then when I started so over eating is not an issue.
I agree with the CDAC in that the county should strive to increase slightly. I like the fact that an antlerless quota was proposed. Over the past few seasons hunting in the national forest I have seen a dramatic increase in the number of deer and deer sign. I attribute this to mild winters and no antlerless harvest. If people don't want to believe that, I would say to get off their four-wheeler, quit sitting over a pile of bait and start hunting. I feel that the deer population can support some antlerless harvest in 2017 based on the past mild winter.

There is too many wolves in northern Wisconsin for you to think about giving away that many antlerless tags. With the wolf population that high you get one bad winter and the deer herd will plummet. In the past years when we didn't have the wolves and had a harsh winter the deer could come back to regular numbers but with the wolf population as high as it is it can't sustain the numbers. You've got to listen to the people and do something with the wolf population, the people who live here and hunt here. Don't listen to the people who work in offices.

I am extremely disappointed to hear the recommendation for 3800 antlerless tags in Bayfield County northern forest. I've hunted in this county for 45 years and the last 2 years have been the absolute worst for deer sightings (4 in 2015 and 5 in 2016). I personally believe the recommendation should be 0 for a couple of more years. While we cannot predict the severity of the winter for 2017, if it is a bad one on top of 3800 antlerless tags, we will be back to square one again. Please leave the antlerless quota at 0 for a couple of more years.

I live in far north Bayfield Co.. My personal observations are deer numbers have declined every year for the last few years, even with the last couple of easy winters. I believe it is mainly do to high predator numbers primarily wolves. I'm aware that deer numbers have grown in the southern half of the county in the agriculture areas. I believe antlerless permits could be justified in the southern half (south of hwy 2), but the deer need additional time to recover in the northern half, along with delisting the wolf and a season on them.

Deer population is still way down in the Northern forest. Predator population is still way up. Hunter population is also down. Young people have no interest because of fewer Deer sightings. People in Northern zones still rely on venison as a staple to carry them through the winter. Not everyone can afford beef @ 12$ a pound. Been hunting since 1974, these past couple years have been the worst Deer #s ever. You don't even see the Deer sign after putting on a lot of miles. Your greed, counts and #'s are destroying a great family tradition.

Deer population appears to be up SLIGHTLY over last two years but still very low, even with mild winters for last two years. Way too soon to start offering antlerless tags again. I don't have to shoot a deer to have a successful hunt but I would sure like to at least see some deer. Have seen very few deer, have seen a total of 5 deer in last two gun seasons. Also seeing very few deer throughout the year. Have cabin in Chequamegon Forest area. Not the time to start shooting antlerless deer again, other than possibly youth, and military.

I have been exclusively hunting Public lands in Bayfield County for the past 40 years. I have seen the deer numbers rise and fall many times, especially after a hard winter. The deer herd would always bounce back after a year or two after an easy winter and limited antlerless harvest. Due to the high predator population, the deer herd on public land has not bounced back like it has in the past. The herd on public land is still fragile and susceptible to overharvest. I feel there should be 0 antlerless harvest on public lands.

My concern of raising the antlerless tags to such a high number for 2017 it could have a huge impact to the deer herd that has only slightly improved in Northern Bayfield County. The unit needs to be split. The deer numbers are not very high in the northern part of the county. We can not afford to go back to what is was like 3-4 years ago. Zero tags to 3800 is too much. What happens if you hand out 10,000 tags hoping to kill 3800 and you kill 5,000? Please lets get a healthy deer herd back one mild winter no need to panic.

The herd where we hunt is just barely starting to come back from the over harvest and bad winters of the past. The predator situation has gotten worse with time with the over abundance of wolves, coyotes and bears in the area. There were very few hunters in the area last season because there are very few deer. Business at a local cafe/bar was down dramatically from prior years due to this. We need to have at least one more season with zero antlerless shot in order for the herd to have a reasonable chance at recovery.
We hunt public land near Cable. Deer sightings have diminished to almost none. 2004-2009 were pretty good years. Wolves are definitely impacting the deer herd, along with all the does that were shot in past years...there is no need to take out more does. The health of the deer herd and forests cannot be a concern at this time...there aren't enough deer to make an impact on the forests or the health of the deer herd. If a youth, veteran or disabled hunter wants to shoot a doe...I'm totally on board with that.

As much as hunting is very traditional with my family, I still think the number of antlerless deer should be improved and little if any permits available. I have young grandchildren that would like to shoot does. But at the same time I want them to see why our efforts are necessary and they need to be part of the restraint. I would like to see something similar to the party tags we had for years. Don't take any chances on reducing the availability of the antlerless herd till the numbers are better understood.

Another easy winter, deer are plentiful if people would get off of their asses and stop hunting the same spot for 40 years!!! I have moved several times to keep up with the deer moving because of timber stands growing up, houses being built and folks getting out of farming. The forest regeneration is not occurring cause of high deer densities in the central and southern part of the county. Not happy with the general public setting goals for deer mgmt., half of them can't manage their own sorry lives!!

I was with a group that hunted the same area for 58 years. We currently have a nice cabin within the Federal lands. Our group size has reduced to I only with the others quitting deer hunting and others hunting the southern zones. Reason being there are so few deer that no one enjoys spending a day in the woods when they know they won't see any deer. Good old days our group of 7 would see a total of 100 deer on opening day of rifle season. Now odds are good that you won't see a deer. Not exaggerated!!

No antlerless tags, deer herd still recovering from severe winter a few years ago. Repeating no antlerless tags period. Let the herd recover. Fewer does fewer deer. No extra hunts such as youth hunts, these need to go. No military antlerless tags, need to be done with. Get back to hunting, no bait etc. its no longer hunting its really deer shooting with elevated-heated stands etc. Were losing ground fast and we need a change back to traditional hunting not making it easier with technology.

We have had 3 very mild winters. This has allowed an above average over winter survival of deer and above average fawn crops. The deer herd has substantially increased and there will be a substantial fawn production in 2017. The deer population is large enough to allow for an antlerless harvest while maintaining or slightly increasing the population. I support CDAC's preliminary recommendation for antlerless quota of 3,800 deer, split 62% private lands and 38% public lands.

I am very glad to see a more thoughtful approach to increasing the deer harvest. While I think deer management should be left in the capable hands of scientists and wildlife biologists, it is refreshing to see the CDAC board using science and data to make informed decisions. I only hope that board members don't bow to what will no doubt be pressure from an uninformed and reactionary minority of the public to back down on the proposed doe harvest. Stand strong CDAC board!

Mother nature was good to the deer again this winter. We were lucky in upper northern Wisconsin for a mild winter because we had almost a zero acorn crop this fall to see the deer through winter. We have way to many wolves and bear now in my area of upper northern Bayfield county that has to be considered in reduced fawn survival. We still have a low deer population in the northern Bayfield county area. I recommend one more year of a zero doe harvest for 2017.

Thanks to the CDAC for raising the quota to a level which may begin to control the deer numbers on private lands and also for giving out a good number of tags for public lands. The public lands will never have the deer population that the private lands do no matter how much some hunters want that to be the case. That being said, we still need to control the population on public lands and this decision is a step in the right direction.
Three years of no doe harvest and two successive mild winters has resulted in an big increase to the herd, as planned, but I’m afraid this increase was brought on too suddenly, and the population will escalate beyond control like in the early 2000s. I believe the herd is at the point where it should now be maintained, which requires a high annual doe harvest. The land cannot sustain the high populations that many hunters seem to want.

By my observations the deer herd in the northern portion of the state is completely decimated. The fact that you are even considering making doe tags available for the 2017 season is completely absurd. Years ago it would be nothing to see 10 to 15 deer while driving home at night, now you’re lucky if you see a single deer. The deer herd needs major help and harvesting any doe in 2017 is defiantly not going to help the heard recover.

My property is in Barnes. My problem with doe tags is that because of the high hunting pressure in Barnes, we get a higher proportion of the kill in our area. Two years of no tags has helped, but I think the population is just holding its own against the high predator population. If someone thinks there are too many deer in their orchard in Bayfield, can’t that be dealt with without a blanket issue of tags for the whole county?

4125 public land tags is way too high and overly aggressive. The deer population is just starting to recover and hunting on public land has improved some but still not great like it once was. I would support a very limited number of antlerless tags available on public lands (1000 or less) recognizing the deer herd had improved but their is no need to aggressively hit the deer and create poor hunting again on public lands.

I am a non-resident hunter and think something needs to be done to bring back hunters. The business owners do not have any customers any more, it is sad to see all the places that have closed. While the above statement might go against my own interests I have formed relationships with people in that area that is very dependant on hunters for their livelihood and I believe that the business owners have been done a disservice.

Based on the number of deer we saw in 2016 during the gun deer season, the deer population seems to be increasing slightly. Still, where we hunt between 4 hunters we saw 6 deer opening weekend. That is not much. I do not believe that there is an over abundance of deer in the wood. I would not recommend issuing bonus tags for antlerless deer. I would encourage allowing the youth hunters to harvest an antlerless deer.

Please consider hunters printing their own back tag and displaying their back tag number as in the past for identification purposes. (Similar to the ATV identification except paper) Also, because of the new deer tagging process the CDAC and DNR should factor in on the deer quota that MORE hunters are NOT tagging but taking more deer. So the quota each year should reflect less than the actual amount to account for this!

This winter may have been mild, which I fear has helped the predators as well. With 10 trail cameras covering roughly 600 acres for the past two years, I have seen more wolf and bear than deer. The 2016 hunting season we had 3 bucks 3 does and 5 unknowns. At the end of the season we had 3 does and 4 unknowns. As winter continued we had 2 does and 3 unknowns. With the early warm weather we have 1 doe and 3 unknowns.

When I started hunting on public land in this area as a teenager (1980), it was common to see 75 deer per day. The towns were jam packed with hunters. The past several years, there are few hunters and seeing 3 deer per day is considered a good day. I haven’t heard more than 15 gunshots on a single day in years. Just sad how the poor management has ruined the experience and created the negative financial impact.

The number of deer in Bayfield county is slim. Allowing antlerless tags to be bought would hurt he ability of this population to come back. The past few years have helped the population with no anterograde tags, however we need to continue to do this so we are able to stablize the population. Anyone who puts in good time in the woods in bayfield county will tell you there is no abundance of deer, there is a shortage.

Get rid of the unfair practice of private and public land tags. Public land hunters pay the same license fees but don't seem to have the same rights. DNR give land owners the tool to keep deer on there land (like baiting) and then give them majority of the antlerless tags. The baiting is also a CWD spreader. I not seeing common sense in the management of the deer herd. Land owners own the land not the deer.
I have hunted this unit for 52 years. Seen up years and down years. Some years I did not harvest a deer but always saw some deer. I hunt hard and am a good hunter. The past 2 years I have not seen a deer during gun season. That never happened in the prior 50 years. I absolutely cannot fathom how you could come up with a recommendation for any antlerless tags in this unit. It should remain bucks only.

It seems like the herd is slowly recovering. a couple more mild winters and good fawn production may produce a good buck population for my out of state friends and myself in a few years, they are not willing to shoot small bucks and don't see the bigger one's anymore. it seems like a larger bear and wolf population takes its toll on fawns also. would be nice to see bear permits increased up here

The Bayfield northern zone is way to large. maybe some areas have a lot of deer but where I hunt in the Town of Barnes there are few deer. The are no crop lands in this area like the northern part of Bayfield County. My feeling the zone should be split to a northern and southern zone. Everyone I have talked to in this area has been saying how the deer population has been decreasing.

After spending the 2016 season enjoying the outdoors I observed very few deer on public land. Most of the deer I observed I saw while driving around and they were on private land. I also have to state, that 2016 was the first deer season in many years that I have not seen a buck. I also observed that very few mature bucks were taken in the immediate area around where I hunt.

Bucks only season have worked on public land. This needs a few more years. Hound hunters haze deer constantly on public land. They do not pattern and they have ruined the archery season on the National Forest. Private land hunting is better.. a lot better no hounds but this only accommodates those with the means to access or own good private lands for deer hunting.

The deer hear in the area of the national forests and county land are just starting to rebound I have also not seen any sign of over browsing of trees or plants in this area. Please do not increase the antlerless permits this county for at least another year. There are still far fewer deer than 10 years ago. No one wants to hunt if they do not see animals!

I spend a lot of time walking public land in and out of season. In my opinion, I do not think the deer population is back to where it should be. I would recommend another season of zero antlerless tags. I know a lot of hunters who are already boycotting deer licenses. I don't see them coming back to the sport or area until the deer population increases.

It is tough to interest young hunters to hunt when they don't see any deer. I'm 65 and it is so sad to see what has happened to our deer herd. The unlimited antler less tags and bonus tags a few years ago turned hunters into killers without appreciation of the wildlife. I am not against a doe tag but let's wait a few years to build our herd back.

I appreciate being able to harvest healthy bucks during the deer season. The wolves have become a serious problem Bayfield Co. I also appreciate being able to teach my Grand children the value of harvesting deer, using firearms safely etc. Please don't open the antlerless deer permits to all hunters just to the youth. Thank you for your time.

Please keep Bayfield County Buck only. The numbers are not what they once were and I would love for my children to be able to enjoy hunting in the north woods as much as my family and I have for years now. Unfortunately the number of deer in this area is simply not high enough to warrant allowing antlerless deer tags. Thank you, Nick Spartz.

The deer numbers in my area are significantly lower than they have been in my lifetime. We need at least another two years of no does being shot to hopefully achieve some kind of rebalanced herd. I have heard but not yet confirmed that many agricultural tags are still issued in Bayfield County. In my opinion this is a ridiculous practice!
please do not sell over 10,000 bonus and antlerless tags this year. There are more deer in bayfield county than there were three years ago, following several years of over harvest and a couple bad winters, but the herd is not any where near where if was 10 -12 years ago or where anyone would consider it to be at objective. thank you

The current deer density based on the amount of suitable deer habitat in Bayfield County and the estimated deer population puts the deer density at 22 deer per square mile. That number is higher than what any of the historic Bayfield DMUs had as a healthy carrying capacity number. The herd is far too high and needs to be reduced.

The herd in Bayfield county Zones 2, and 9 is starting to come back slowly). Last year I saw 4 doe/fawns the entire season, Only one buck a day before the opening gun season. To increase the antlerless permits in 2017 is crazy, to early. Let the herd get bigger, more does breed to increase the number of deer (does and bucks)!

Dont listen to the Deer Freaks. I love seeing deer, but I also want to see a MASSIVE diversity in plant and animal life. A balanced, diverse ecosystem is more valuable than seeing extra deer. Lots of these guys go up for less than 2 weeks out of the year and are mad they dont see deer. Protect the resources great and small.

The herd is just starting to recover!! The quota is way too high!! I feel we should have a zero quota again. Please reduce the number of antlerless tags and put more pressure on the private (agriculture areas) with an 80/20 split. Do not allow this many antlerless tags!! Most of us are still seeing very few deer.

Stop ALL baiting it attracts deer and the wolves follow. If cannot ban all baiting, at least prohibit during the month of November. Too many hunters sit on bait all day. This concentrates deer and brings in the wolves. Kids sitting on bait all day is not a good way to promote the sport of hunting for the future.

The deer herd seems to be increasing very fast given the last two relatively mild winters. I think we need to harvest a moderate number of does or the herd will be too large in another year and causing crop and forest damage. Please, at the very least, allow jr hunters and bow hunters a choice between a buck or doe.

As I said in the survey I have hunted in this area for 52 years and the deer population remains very low compared to previous years. It hasn't been this low since the 1970's and early 1980's. I live just north of Bayfield and this past winter I could count the deer I have seen on one hand! I live in the woods!

Need to control the wolf population and coyote population better. Takes a lot of deer out in the winter and nothing to protect them. Humans can control what they harvest. Predator like wolves kills to kill not to eat everything they kill. Getting to many packs established. Need to keep them in check.

Based on my observations and the numbers I have seen on deer population, damage and other issues I feel that the doe quota for Bayfield County is too low. I feel that the county could support a much larger harvest that would be beneficial to the forests, agriculture, tourism, and public safety.

Doe tags must be made available in order to actively manage and control the deer herd. If no doe tags are available then we will only be reacting to the peaks and valleys in the deer population, over the years, and not really ever controlling their numbers. It will be feast or famine.

I believe you need to separate the forested land from the agricultural land. There are a lot more deer in some areas versus others, so trying to manage the herd responsibly is impossible. If we split the unit up we can do a better job of managing both the land and the animals.

Spoke with a number of other hunters/hunter groups at the end of each day during dinner. The vast majority of groups saw very few/no deer. Anecdotally the number of deer to be seen grazing at dusk pre-season has declined year over year for a decade or more. Please help.

Antler point restrictions should be a consideration. The does and fawns are there but not the mature bucks. Three years with no doe harvesting took a toll on yearling bucks. Baiting should be banned statewide. IMO hunting over bait is not hunting. Just shooting.
This area needs time to return to previous levels. Deers sightings have dropped significantly in past 5 years compared to when I first started. Antlerless tags should not be valid in this zone for the next few years to be able to preserve the zone for the future.

Going from zero to 3800 I think is extreme. We did see a lot more Doe's last year and we are seeing a lot of deer so far this spring. But, I don't want to over harvest like we did before. I would cut that 3800 down to 2000. Just my opinion. Thanks for the survey.

this unit could use another year of bucks only to get herd back up, bad thing about youth hunts, lot of the youth is not the one that actually shots the deer. Wolf season needs to be opened back up to control them. It is nice to see an elk once in a while.

the deer are just starting to come back. If there are too many antlerless tags filled and the 2017-2018 winter is bad you'll be right back where you started from. There are too many young nubin bucks killed with a high amount of antlerless tags.

I'd like to see one more year of no quota for this unit. I would support Junior and disabled and military tags. I have seen an increase but the wolf population is way to hi to support a huge antlerless quota. Also the bear population is high too.

No doe tags for at least two more years. Minimum 3 points on one antler for buck harvest. My cameras that are out year around show almost every yearling buck harvested in my area in 2016. Crossbows are wiping out the deer before rifle season.

From what I'm seeing the deer herd has not bounced back from the devastating winter and over harvests of several years ago. For this reason I feel we should refrain, or at the very least, lower the number of antlerless tags for public lands.

I feel the the proposed antlerless quota recommendation is too high. Mostly for the northern half of the unit which I feel needs to grow more. The southern part of the unit can handle more antlerless tags especially the farm country.

This questionnaire is missing the recommendation from the biologist. For the public to give reasonable feedback on the CDAC recommendation, we need to know whether they are deviating significantly from the scientific recommendations.

PLEASE give the deer heard one more year of recovery and keep the antlerless permits to ZERO. The heard is just starting to recover from the devastation of winter and wolf kills a couple years ago!!!! ZERO antlerless permits PLEASE!

My husband and I have property in this county and used to have a fair amount of deer but for the last 5 or 6 yrs there have been few deer. Please keep it a buck only county for a few more yrs and give the heard a chance to come back

I would be more comfortable with a quota of 2500-2800. Also would figure a higher success rate due to no recent quotas. This would lower available tags. 6000 tags would be easier to believe with dividing 62% private, 38% public.

Strongly support the option of antlerless harvest in Bayfield county during 2017 deer seasons, preferably as a single bonus antlerless tag available, but even hunter's choice would be a nice option over bucks only.

I stopped hunting here in once the antlerless quota was abandoned. We hunt in public land adjacent homes. Deer are plentiful in these areas. Current management policies are unsuccessful for this phenomena.

Baiting is the primary proponent for spreading disease, also known as "squalor". Natural habitat is worthless once bating occurs, the only habitat that matters to the wild life is finding sufficient food.

Not enough does being seen. Reduce doe harvest for another year. Consider using hunters choice instead of doe tags. Eliminate the requirement of Hunter designating private or public land hunting.
I am very concerned about the negative effects of excessive deer browsing in my area. This impacts tree growth, native perennial plants, etc. And the problem appears to worsen every year.

Do not hammer this herd!! zero to 11,000 tags is asinine. Lets make sure we are recovering. My vote is zero tags and if you have to have a few go 90/10 split with private the 90

My two boys finally saw deer and had a fun bow season. I thought our plan was to keep our kids enjoying the outdoors, if you wipe the herd out again they will quit hunting!!

10000 plus antlerless tags....... That is crazy ridiculous. Zero antlerless and let this unit's herd recover. In many areas of the public forest there are very few Deer!!!

I would recommend at least one more year of bucks only for this unit. I think the unit should be separated into two units, one for north of Hwy 2 and one for south of Hwy 2.

The herd is finally showing signs of coming back. Slaughtering the does will not be a popular thing to do. The wolves and the bear take plenty !!! 3800 !?! Is crazy !!!!

Totally against antlerless tags being issued for this unit until the DNR is willing to admit the effect of predators on the population and develops a plan to control them.

Deer numbers are just starting to come back. Start shooting more deer and it will go back to no deer very quickly. We need to hold off on does for a few more years yet

I would be happy to see bucks that have at least a forked horns or more for legal harvest. That would help to allow the buck population more mature and larger bucks.

We do not have enough deer in Bayfield County, management unit 9. We need buck only harvest for several more years and need to increase predator hunting.

Deer has been poor for many years. I have shifted my interest to snowmobiling. I will nit hunt deer beyond first bow season and 9 day riffle hunt

One more year of no Doe tags would sure help the overall Deer population. We continue to have massive deer kills related to Timber Wolves!!!!!!

I think is irresponsible to issue doe tags for this unit. We have seen very few deer in the last several years. All we see is wolves. Nice going

I seen a doe with a fawn that was great. Hopefully she can produce another one this spring. I spend alot of time in southern Bayfield county.

I believe what is being proposed for antlerless deer tags in Bayfield County is beyond extreme. I would recommend something closer to zero.

Wolves are impacting numbers more than any other factor in our area, especially mature animals. Mortality is high due to wolf depredation.

Come on people. This herd is way down. It might take years for this herd to recover. Zero antlerless is the only option at this point.

I would like to see the deer herd increased on the public land to where it was before the bad winter we had several years ago.

Seeing a lot more antlerless deer than bucks. By having no season on antlerless deer sted has reduced the buck numbers a lot!

Hoping to continue the no antlerless tags for a few more years. WAnt to see hunting like it was 15 years ago when I started!
Deer counts are slowly coming back, but Wolves are still major issue. Need a few more years of bucks only at a minimum.

Do not ever ban baiting in this unit esp, for archery season. Many will quit and your kill will drastically decrease

Way too many antlerless tags. Why?? This herd has not recovered!!!!!!!!! Zero tags like the other units near by

I would agree with a small harvest of antlerless deer other than youth military and disabled not to exceed 500

I think everyone gives one more chance to no does one more year we can have a better deer heard for the future

Shoot all wolves on the spot. Be able to shoot a bear or a buck. There is no deer in the bayfield county

So stupid to have that many antlerless tags. Makes no sense. The deer numbers are way down!!!!!!!!!

I was a landowner of 120 acres in this area for ten years ending in 2015. Still hunt the same land.

I have property in MFL and the deer are destroying any regeneration and have been for years.

PLEEEEEEEESE ban baiting. If not, It will continue to diminish the hunter/hunting experience.

There should be an antlerless quota, but it should be closer to 1000 than the proposed 3800.

Would like to see antlerless tags given out just thought the number was a little high

Wolf numbers are way up. Wolfs seen every day of the hunting 9 day gun season.

In my opinion the deer numbers are still way lower than I would like to see.

This herd is very low. NO antlerless permits please. Let the herd grow!!!!

You've got to get the wolves under control before you start shooting does.

Too much of an emphasis on forestry and on new tree growth survival.

Keep buck only for a few more yrs, give them a chance to rebound

Stop the baiting and you will change the herd dynamic

Bayfield needs to remain bucks only for more years

3800 deer quota for Bayfield is way to high

Please lower the antlerless number to zero

5-6000 permits would be more appropriate.

Outright ban on baiting the entire state

Maybe 1200 at the most does to be taken!

Maintain Buck only status

Eliminate the wolves

Eliminate baiting.

Eliminate baiting

Ban baiting!
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

26 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 9
   - No: 17

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 13
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 0
   - I hunt in this unit: 20
   - General interest in this unit: 6

   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 20
   - Bow: 15
   - Crossbow: 7
   - Muzzleloader: 8

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 20.05
   - Maximum: 43

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 11
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 4
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

   6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 5
   - Same: 12
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 4
   - Fewer: 7
   - Same: 9
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FARMLAND ZONE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO ZONE</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
    - Support: 12
    - Oppose: 14
    - Unsure: 2

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
    - Support: 0
    - Oppose: 24
    - Unsure: 2

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
    - VALID: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>1.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>2.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Brown, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I hunt brown county metro unit, i am 10 miles from the so called metro area and still the area is zoned in the metro. the dnr has killed the deer population at the north end cause of the 21 day gun season and the bow season which goes to the end of january and unlimited tags that have been issued over the last 10 years. now i do know that even though the dnr wants to sell these tags cause it generates $ money, has nothing to do with population control. how can you include deer count from metro areas and say the whole brown county area is the same. my opinion on who designed the metro unit areas SHOULD be fired. Now as a hunter even though the permits are issued we as hunter need to realise that even though the tags are available does not mean we have to buy and fill them. the only reason for learn to hunt programs, youth hunts programs are to generate more dallors. i sure didnt need a special season to learn. also minumum age should be raised. pretty funny watching a 10 year old trying to shoulder a shotgun for turkey. one last thing as you will see my spell check is not working lmao thanks for reading jason

I approve the issuance of 2 tags per license. Last year I believe the number of tags issued was too low. If 2 tags is not a viable option and the holiday hunt is to continue I would like to see the CDAC have the ability to release additional tags for purchase before the holiday hunt if the harvest quota does not appear to be reached. I really enjoyed hunting during the holiday hunt but unfortunately were unable to purchase additional tags since they were sold out by the end of the extended season. I would think with real time registration a set number of additional tags could be offered to provide additional opportunity to hunters and also achieve the ability to approach the quota target harvest. Much less participation occurs after the regular deer season so over harvest above quota is unlikely. I agree with the maintain quota even though much fewer deer were seen this year. I believe this is more a function of hunting pressure on public lands than deer population. I would continue to suggest that options to open additional acres of private land to the public is needed in the county.

You can raise the number of antlerless tags all you want, but the only thing that will get more people to shoot antlerless deer (if that is what you want), is to have an earn a buck season. It is the only thing that really works. Unfortunately, people that are not very good hunters are against it, because they are not able to harvest an antlerless deer to get their buck tag. If people want to shoot more and bigger bucks, earn a buck is the program that will do that. I am also, opposed to the holiday hunt, because it penalizes hunter who still have a bow buck tag to fill by reducing the number of days they can hunt. Also, interferes with late turkey and bow season by requiring fluorescent orange clothing to be worn. In Brown County, most of the unit is considered Metro, so the gun season is already extended to the middle of December. Isn’t that enough?

In the area I hunt, and the surrounding area, our antlerless population is very high. While our group has shot 17 antlerless deer in the last 2 years on 160 acres, not alot of people are willing to do this. I also understand in a 10 sq mile area we have lots of deer, other people only a few miles away have much less. I am not sure how to control the deer in our area while not getting the numbers too low in others. Good luck trying to keep everybody happy! I think earn a buck would really help, if only used every few years, but with the new registration system that’s probably not an option. Again good luck.

As a very involved snowmobiler I think this season is not needed as our season would over lap this holiday hunt. We have a very short season now and this hunt could impact it even more. Hunting season runs from the middle of Sept to the first part of Dec. Our snow season if we are lucky will run from end of Dec to maybe the first part of Feb. I feel that hunters have ample time to harvest deer in the regular season without this added time. I am a hunter and I do hunt Brown County, but also I am a snowmobiler and I do enjoy both sports.
Brown County CDAC Committee, Thank you for your efforts to manage this important resource. I would urge you to continue using every avenue possible to control the deer population on private lands in the Metro unit. Last year I shot nine deer on my farm and the deer population seems even higher this spring. Within the next two months the deer population will increase by another 30-40% resulting from the new fawn crop. Please try to give us the tools to get the deer population back down where it belongs.

Maintaining the Wisconsin DNR wild livestock pertaining to deer is a joke. It all involves budget supporting fees and has nothing to do with the wild livestock. Individual property owners do a better job of maintaining the DNR's wild livestock and are given no consideration to their provisions of food, habitat and protection. We pay thousands per year and are required to pay the same fees as the consumers.

I thank you for the work you are doing. My personnel observations for opening day of gun season the last three years hunting on private land near Denmark. 2014, saw 15 deer. 2015, saw 2 deer. 2016, saw 1 deer. I hunt in a tower blind over field and food plots. No circumstances have changed in the way or area I hunt. Thank you

My wife missed out on a chance at the buck of a lifetime because of the antlerless holiday hunt. Pictures of a dandy buck by her stand. Please do away with the unnecessary hunt or allow bucks to be harvested with a bow during this time period.

Stop the deer drives let hunters hunt and I'm talking about groups of 20. I've complained before about violations never got no feedback (people riding in back of pickup with weapons not in cases) deer drives need to be stopped.

I think the state would benefit greatly from having a point restriction rule such as the state of Missouri uses. At least four points on one side would greatly help the quality of our mature bucks!

The number of public land antlerless tags should be much higher and I fully support a holiday hunt and other antlerless seasons not only for herd reduction but for recreation also.

I have two thoughts. 1. eliminate baiting to help control CWD. 2. monitor game farms more closely and reduce the number whenever you can for the same reason.

Wisconsin needs to charge a higher tag rate fee for out of state or even lottery system. Shadow off what Iowa does.
Buffalo, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

156 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes:</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No:</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I live in this unit:</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes:</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I hunt in this unit:</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General interest in this unit:</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gun:</td>
<td>131</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bow:</td>
<td>116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbow:</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader:</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average:</td>
<td>21.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum:</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusively Private Land:</td>
<td>121</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mostly Private Land:</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public and Private Land About Equally:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mostly Public Land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusively Public Land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not hunt in this unit in 2016:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all Crowded:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not too crowded:</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither crowded nor un-crowded:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat crowded:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very crowded:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Fewer:</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fewer:</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same:</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More:</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many More:</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Fewer:</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fewer:</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same:</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More:</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many More:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | | |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I do hunt in Buffalo county and have done so for nearly 40 years. The current state of the deer population is as bad as I have ever seen it! Since 2007 we have studied the deer population on two farms in Buffalo County. One more central off hwy 88 near Praag and another down near Fountain City. Both have drastically different deer populations. But both have seen about a 2/3 drop in deer population since 2007. Now the farm near Fountain City you can go hunting and not see a single deer for many days in a row when in 2007 you would generally always see deer, weather permitting. The Praag farm has always had more deer but now we are see much fewer deer per sitting! Years ago we would see 10 deer per hunt, now we might be lucky to see 2 and on some occasions none. I think most of these problems are associated with over harvesting of the doe population.... especially down in Fountain City area. Please stop giving out so many doe tags. I would be in favor of stopping doe tags for a year or maybe once every four years. I would be remised to say the doe tags are all the problem but it certainly is the biggest. We have had some pretty bad winters a few years back that caused quite a kill of on our two farms and the predators do seem to be taking more fawns in the spring than I can remember years past. Hope this is helpful for your needs!

The issue with trying to control the herd numbers in Buffalo County is the fact that you have to many Outfitters buying and leasing land where they are only after that monster buck. They pick out certain bucks on each property for their Hit List and that is all that will be shot on that property. The other issue is guys that by up large tracts of land 200-500+ acres of land, and only 3-4 guys hunt it. If you drive around areas of Buffalo County before dark in the evenings you will have areas where there is a few deer in a field, and then a mile or two down the road you can count 100+ in one field. Everybody knows the areas that actually get pressured during hunting season, and the areas that get no pressure. Nobody moves deer like they use to with deer drives anymore because they don't want to push "THEIR DEER" to somebody else. It use to be a family event (TRADITION) to get together with friends, family, and neighbors to make the drives; and everybody seen deer and harvested deer. This is something that doesn't happen much anymore because of the fact somebody else might shoot their deer, or Outfitters can't make money off of. Higher cost for outfitters, eliminate MFL tax breaks ( if you have your land in government program then you shouldn't be allowed to lease it out), and support higher predator control are my thoughts.

Buffalo county would benefit from an antlerless Holiday Hunt for the following reasons: 1- quantitative data shows an increase in total and anterless population in Buffalo county 2- nearby county Pepin was able to harvest around 10% of their total deer kill during this period last year 3- deer are easier to pattern in December months making it easier to harvest anterless deer in some ways 4- with regards to showmobile concerns: it is rare that there is enough snow in late December to snowmobile, I have been able to go 1 time over the last ten years during the dates of the proposed hunt 5- with regards to outfitters opposing a hunt: their clients can still harvest does with a bow. Let's also not forget the bow season was extended after t zone was introduced. T zone is gone and the season didn’t shrink accordingly 6- most of all, it increases time for youth to begin hunting and/or start hunting. They have time off. It makes beautiful sense to have a hunt during this period.
I feel if you impose an antlerless only season you will have far less hunters and your harvest numbers will be even less. I feel many hunters of Buffalo County are out for "mature bucks" but will harvest a doe while hunting for a buck. I don't feel as many would go out hunting only for a doe. Also I question the harvest numbers and feel with the call in system and not having to go to registered influxed actual numbers. It also hurt local gas stations and restaurants where hunters would stop and get some food, drinks and tell stories of how they harvested the deer. So much land in Buffalo County is privately owned and hunted by few hunters that will self preserve their numbers. We have done that on our 500 acre farm where we've self imposed no doe for a year or taken as many as 30 does a year in the past depending on our specific numbers seen on the farm. I believe the individual hunters will self regulate the population.

I believe if you made people harvest a doe, and put a point restriction on antlered bucks as many other states have you would correct the problem so people would be made to shoot an antlerless deer instead of harvesting a small buck then never returning to the woods. Also this state has a huge predator problem so the deer numbers I believe are far less then years past and those numbers never get put into any equations. This deer unit it 95% private property so people will manage the deer how they want in order to change that you will have to enact laws and seasons, don't have an antlerless only season and not draw hunters to the woods. Consider a point restriction to antlered deer, predator control, there are so many extra antlerless tags now people don't fill them, giving and extra tag will not help out the big picture.

This constant change of the deer hunting in my DMU is ridiculous. We are still trying to bound back from the earn a buck. In the meantime there are people shooting every antlerless does the can and buying more tags. Once the big bang goes on with opener of gun season the fawns come back and then get shot. They are killing generation after generation of young deer. The gun season is ridiculous. Deer are getting shot at for three weeks straight just to be followed up with a late season bow hunt. Gap out the gun seasons and shorten them. Also get rid of rifles. There are too many unsafe people out there and also people not even knowing they hit a deer. Then they lay to rot. Waste is very harsh in my opinion because I love venison and the wildlife. Quit trying to dominate our deer season.

There is limited public land to hunt in this unit and attempts to acquire more and/or open more to hunting should be made. It would help local economies to have others besides wealthy land owners filtering dollars into the region. I am strongly opposed to the Holiday Antlerless hunt. My family has been in the region since the beginning, being one of the first families to settle in Fountain City. I have never seen deer as spooked as I did the weekend of the holiday hunt while bow-hunting. There is no need for people to be shooting large amounts of pregnant does, but the season is set-up to promote this. 9 days with a firearm and another 9 days with a muzzelloader is more than enough opportunity to provide meat for anyone who doesn't enjoy the slow pace of bow-hunting.

A couple of comments...first, we have to do something about the predators in this state. The Wolf, Bear, and Coyote population have taken its toll. 15 years ago, it was news if someone saw a Bear...now we see Bear on a weekly basis. We have also seen Wolves way down here in Buffalo county and even trail cam pics of a few mountain lions. Very fearful of the central and southern parts of the state ending up like the northern portion where there are more bear and wolves than there are deer. It doesn't do a lot for the younger generation to either be scared to go in the woods -or- sit for long periods of time without seeing deer numbers. That will make less hunters ...not more hunters.

I am a farmer in Nelson area. U can give as many tags away as u want, but it is hard to have change the mind set of the private land hunters or land owners. We shoot what we want to eat and then we are done. You could give us 20 tags and we will still shoot only what we want to eat for that season. An Holiday Hunt will change nothing on public land, with the season structure the way it is now you should have plenty of time to shoot a doe or two. 40 percent of the land is leased for hunting by someone, and many of them lease to shoot a buck, and only a buck. There lies most of your problem. Lots more to say, but I feel it falls on defl ears.
I am a non-resident hunter but own 55 acres of hunting/at land plus a home in the state of Wisconsin. I find it very unfair that I hardly use WI roads, water, resources but have to still pay an astronomical amount for an out of state license. I could understand if I was only purchasing a deer hunt lease from someone but I am contributing to the state of WI through both real estate tax and home tax. There should be ‘resident’, ‘non-resident (landowner)’ and non-resident (non-landowner) license fee rates. When all of us out of state landowners don't show up for deer hunting in the future your communities lose tourism dollars!

Privately controlled property takes antlerless harvest efforts out of the control of the DNR. Without EAB, many private areas won't see any/or very little antlerless kill. I don't think that three extra tags is going to make much difference in increased antlerless kill, but a Holiday Hunt may help. Many thousands of acres of private property in this county are under the control of outfitters. Their business is selling BUCKS! I believe their outfitter licenses should require them to make a responsible antlerless harvest on the properties where they have exclusive control. Ban baiting & feeding. CWD is coming here soon!

During the 2015 season, a large quantity of antlerless deer were removed on a neighboring property utilizing crop damage tags. This has severely degraded the hunting in my area. I do not have a problem with crop damage tags, however, when a large farm is given so many tags, the removal of these animals should be done throughout their property, not just on one edge. I am willing to guess this was done primarily to preserve the excellent hunting on their remaining property (&gt;1000 acres). I'm not sure how a change could be made to better balance the removal of problem deer, but something needs to change.

The number of deer in Buffalo County has decreased drastically in the last few years. This is based upon my observations through the county. We are in danger of damaging the herd and local economies by continuing on this path. First was the removal of registration stations. I think factors into the number of deer actually reported. People may not call in a deer because it is easy to harvest and process a deer without reporting it. This leads to a large harvest number than is reported. Further, I have yet to see convincing data that shows that the herd size in Buffalo County is too large.

neighbors plant acres of corn and beans and leave stand, the late seasons like muzzle and holiday hunt all the deer arte yared on their farms, and they shoot all the bucks and does, that is why im not in favor of late holiday hunt plus the does are pregnant, really come on guys, show respect for our wildlife, we don't want the 16 day season so quit jamming these special hunts down our throats, the farmers with all the food they leave stand for hunting are the ones that benefit every year while we watch our bucks get slotted on their property.

Too many hunters in this county are currently unwilling to harvest an antler less deer. This causes deer to head to areas where there is little or no hunting pressure by the nine day gun season. As it is now even hunters willing to harvest multiple antler less deer don't have many opportunities to do so. There are plenty of deer around but they are not seen in areas with any hunting pressure during the gun season. The harvest by our party and on neighboring properties is WAY down.

U can not manage private land. Buffalo County is all private land. Start taxing wood land like it should be and stop letting people hide behind MFL land tax breaks. Also why in the hell do we let landowners get MFL break then turn around and lease to outfitters that do not shoot any deer. Nobody pays my taxes on my house and land and turns around and gives me more money. This is just retarded.

To preserve heritage value of the hunt, and to protect the resource long term, eliminate baiting and feeding, statewide. Baiting is bad, feeding is even worse. Keep the deer population in check, compatible with the winter carrying capacity of the habitat; and with appropriate consideration to all other wildlife. The legislature needs to put EAB back in the deer management tool box.

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Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Buffalo, Central Farmland
To many predators and way to many antlerless tags. I saw 6 does from September through November. For every antlerless tag you should give 1 bobcat tag, to wait 5 years for a bobcat tag is senseless I saw 12 bobcats on 3 different sites. Multiple groups of coyotes. But you don’t see a predator problem. Also what about the 2 cougars we have seen on our trail camera?

Instead of giving out free antlerless tags to people why not make people buy them to raise money and actually getting them to the people that will use them. Also, why does WI not raise the out of state cost of a tag or at least make it law that out of state hunters pay the same price as what a WI resident would pay in their state. Other states do this.

If you want deer numbers lowered tax the farmers higher that are leasing land for trophy hunting. The public hunting land is hit to hard there is not many deer left on public land. it has become a money game in Buffalo county because of the outfitters. When earn a buck was in place they would shoot does off public land to get the buck tags for private land.

A Holiday Hunt will produce a minimal increase in the antlerless kill. This season will be uneffective at reducing herd numbers. What could we realistically expect as additional kill due to this season? A hundred or two? What’s the point? Lack of hunting season length has nothing to do with the amount of antlerless killed.

While a delicate topic to balance, I do not see the number of deer as realized in years past. This county is capable of holding far more numbers than recommended. Sitting on stands multiple times and not seeing a single deer each year repeatedly makes the experience less valued as a wildlife and hunting enthusiast.

Each year I see less and less deer in the heart of farm country. I have no idea how the proposed numbers could be so high? My fellow hunters all say the same thing. Very few deer are spotted in a day’s Hunt now. Some are now exclusively hunting in MN because of this. My family will do the same if the trends continue.

Many people that i know including myself would like the muzzle loader season before the regular opener for a chance to harvest a buck or doe our decision because it gets harder after the opener because they are drove around so much with our tags only using traditional muzzle loaders side lock flashpan no inline

Thank you for releasing the survey as it helps if offer a voice for those of us who are not able to attend other sessions. While a difficult dynamic to balance, general trends for me have realized a steady decline in numbers and quality of deer numbers and experience the past seemingly 15-20 years or so.

How about giving landowners who own a specific amount of acres (200 or more or some other amount) an additional landowner buck tag or tags. We could and would shoot more bucks to help keep populations down in addition to all the does we currently harvest.

Love the on line deer registration! How about rewarding land owners who leave crops standing over winter to support deer, turkeys and many other species of small game and non game animals. Maybe free seed, free trees to promote wild game?????

We need to make baiting illegal! Many property owners AND outfitters are going over board on baiting. With the increase of predators the deer sightings have gone down noticeably. The holiday hunt NEEDS to go, period... thanks for listening

I have not seen a single deer the last 3 years during gun season. I saw a total of 7 deer last year bow hunting. Pretty sad. I will not hunt wi until the dnr does something about this. I will not give them anymore money

I don’t agree with the county specific DMU’s as I live in Trempealeau county, but hunt in both Trempealeau and Buffalo county, so to have to pick where to have antler less permits for is difficult.

Since I started hunting in Buffalo county I have noticed the deer population has dropped dramatically. Many of the farmers in my area of Buffalo county do not even register the deer they harvest.
Holiday hunt is needed badly. Antlerless only for one year could be the best option if earn a buck doesn't come back and holiday hunt is not used

I've stopped gun hunting as there are just too few deer compared to years gone by. The idea there are deer behind every tree is a blind belief.

A holiday hunt in this unit is unnessecary. There is no reason to put added pressure on the herd going into the toughest part of the year.

Good population of deer leave it alone. Deer population varies a lot with big chunks of land and few hunter on it only trophy hunting.

I would enjoy seeing more deer - they are the biggest resource in this county. Seeing more coyotes and wolves which I do not enjoy.

Whitetail deer population control effects more than just the hunting aspect. Population control effects all aspects of nature.

We should pursue reinstating earn a buck to help reduce our deer herd. A smaller healthier deer herd is what we should have.

The only way into get this population in check is to start with a holiday hunt, then re-evaluate the herd after one year

We viewed or had less opportunity to shoot buck and antlerless deer this last season but not of great concern.

With larger farms becoming fragmented and sold off, it becomes more difficult to manage numbers of wildlife.

Way to many buck hunters only.I thought the take a doe before one could shoot a buck was a good idea

Antlerless only for one year! This is the answer. Holiday hunt would be the next best thing

Bring back some form of earn a buck. Let's get our population down so CWD doesn't spread.

Get rid of baiting! CWD will become a problem if they don't.

In our area numbers have been down for the past 10-12 years.

Deer population in my area of Buffalo County is way down.

What about a 4 pt side rule for Gun or Bow season

Numbers are just not the way they used to be.

One antlerless tag per license

Still have too many deer!

We need earn a buck back.
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 67
   - No: 41

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 43
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 31
   - I hunt in this unit: 97
   - General interest in this unit: 30

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 85
   - Bow: 55
   - Crossbow: 22
   - Muzzleloader: 33

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 26.94
   - Maximum: 65

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 30
   - Mostly Private Land: 19
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 11
   - Mostly Public Land: 15
   - Exclusively Public Land: 20
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 7
   - Not too crowded: 4
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 15
   - Somewhat crowded: 18
   - Very crowded: 20
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 9
   - Fewer: 21
   - Same: 36
   - More: 31
   - Many More: 9
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 17
   - Same: 28
   - More: 36
   - Many More: 15
   - Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

   **Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

   **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
   - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
     - Support
     - Oppose
     - Unsure
     - Not applicable in this DMU

   **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
   - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
     - Support
     - Oppose
     - Unsure
     - Not applicable in this DMU

   **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
   - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
     - VALID
     - NOT VALID
     - Unsure
     - 65
     - 35
     - 8

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Burnett, Northern Forest
Comments for  Burnett, Northern Forest

| 2017 County % habitat public land Proposed % of antlerless tags for public lands Burnett | 35 8.2 |
| Washburn | 35 | 20.2 Douglas | 40 | 40 Sawyer | 57 | 30.3 Rusk | 33 | 15 Polk | 9 | 13.3 |
| Bayfield | 58 | 38 | 8500 antlerless tags % public # public # private total 8.2 | 700 | 7800 8500 20 |
| 1700 | 6800 8500 27 | 2295 | 6205 | 8500 32 | 2720 | 5780 | 8500 35 | 2975 | 5525 | 8500 20 |

The preliminary percentage of antlerless tag to be offer in Washburn county for public lands. 27 is the percentage of bucks shot on public land in 2016. 32 is the percentage of bucks shot on public land over the past ten years. 35 is the percentage of deer habitat that is public. In 2016 Burnett county offered 11.1 % of antlerless tags for public land, now proposing a reduction to 8.2 %. Fewer antlerless tags on public land drives hunters to private lands or other counties, reducing the hunting pressure and buck harvest on public lands. The percentage of bucks killed on public lands is at least 27 percent. If the bucks are there so are the antlerless deer.

Why not give every hunter a Hunter's Choice tag and let the individual decide whether or not to harvest an antlerless deer. Allowing an individual hunter the opportunity to purchase and fill multiple antlerless tags is too much. Once license, one deer. Leave the choice up to each hunter. As for the effect deer have on the forests give me a break. The DNR is clear cutting state owned forests in Burnett County faster than they will grow back in my lifetime leaving little behind but dirt. This practice MUST STOP. And as for the baiting ban, everyone knows that CWD is not a problem in our area and that the miracle CWD deer found in the corner of 4 counties was a plant, a fake, a phony. I hope that new legislation is passed forcing the DNR to end baiting bans and PROVE that any deer found to have CWD is really from the area they say it is. I believe the DNR performs a critical function in managing Wisconsin's land and wildlife but because the DNR has no accountability to the citizens of Wisconsin the DNR's actions have gotten out of control. Unfortunately legislation is now the only answer.

7800 antlerless permits on private land vs 700 on public land is an invitation to a public land over harvest with little or no control. Hunters are evolving based on the DNR's management plans and quotas. Hunters that see 7800 permits available have the notion that there is a healthy herd available for harvest. As a public land hunter, I know this is NOT true. There is an imbalance between a dwindling public deer population and a robust private land deer population. Thus, hunters do and will go out of their way to fill their tag on private land, so they can "save" their does on their own property. This is how we got into this situation in the first place. When the antlerless tags were very liberal much of these were filled on public land and this trend will continue, no matter how it's regulated. Hunters can be compared to dogs: Why crap in my own yard, when I can crap in the neighbors. Regulating private and public land is a challenge, but inflating the antlerless permits on one will not solve the imbalance.

In my opinion doubling the number of antlerless tags will not help in the previous efforts to build the deer population as antlerless tags will be filled first. If antlerless tags are going to be sold in those proposed volumes it would be nice to hear they will be regulated to where residents and non residents both could only buy one antlerless tag with the purchase of a buck tag until season opens then make them available over the counter for purchase only if you filled your buck tag. (Earn a doe type of a tag). One more thing is I think calling in the deer instead of going to a check in station might be making it easier for people to lie about their harvest. If maybe more detailed information was required over the phone about number of points length of nose etc were required it would be better. But also maintaining the check in station rule versus over the phone would help boost sales at those locations.
I personally do not see where the CDAC are getting their deer numbers from in this unit. The last two years I as well as the rest of my party are not seeing deer. I believe last year with a party of eight in 5 days maybe two deer were seen, this was to include drives which we saw zero deer. I have heard that antlerless permits are given on private land, why when the herd is so small for this unit. I also believe that the issue of antlerless permits to children is not the way to go. As a young man we might have had buck and doe for the first two days and then buck only for the rest of the season. We might have had only buck for the whole season. It's time that we start getting the herd built up and not trying to satisfy certain groups or individuals. Get the herd built and the economy, tourism etc. will come into play.

I'm sure this won't be read anyhow... Two things I'd like to express. The number of tags proposed to be issued is twice what it was last year. Yes, let's go ahead and kill off all the deer. Great plan. I already know many people who don't buy licenses anymore as there are few deer left as is. But I suppose that's due to CWD, the horrible disease which has never hurt a person in the history of the disease. But the decreased number of deer is actually from your exploding wolf population, coyotes, bears, mountain lions, bobcats....All great things to have around our children. Oh wait, we "don't have issues with those animals" The old timers had it right by eradicating those animals. The DNR is a business. And deer tags are profitable. You won't be selling many as you continue to dwindle down the number of deer. Great job.

In my opinion this unit needs one more year of no doe tags. My other observation is that the little bucks are getting hammered since nobody can shoot does. I would make 2017 a six pointer or bigger before harvesting. I live out of state, however, I follow Webb Lake weather and it appears that the winter has been light so birthing rates should be higher this spring. Give this unit one more year and assuming the 2017 winter is normal we should be in great shaping moving forward. I don't mind letting a deer pass, but I don mind if I sit in the woods for five days and see nothing. We did not hunt in the state of Wisconsin in 2014 and 2015 because this unit was such bad shape. Had a great time in 2016 - as a group we saw a lot more does which is what this area need. Thanks for the survey.

I have owned land (2 forties) in Burnett Co. for over a half century. High deer numbers have essentially prevented any regeneration of white pine (especially), red pine, jack pine, and both red and white oaks for these past fifty years. I'm fed up with feeding a bloated deer herd. Anyone interested in increasing deer numbers should be available for two weeks, or more, of unpaid bud-capping of these tree species on both private and public land. If you want more deer, you be responsible for feeding them. Don't ask forest owners to sacrifice their investments in future forest products just so you can see a two or three dozen deer pass your stand opening day, waiting for "Mr. Big Rack."

At EVERY meeting i have attended all we hear is that if we don't issue doe tags the herd will explode in numbers. Well 3 years ago there were no doe tags in Burnett county, and the herd did not explode, 2 years ago just 500 tags were issued and the herd did not explode, last year 2000 tags and the herd did not explode. and now you want to double it again? What could the possible reasoning be? I understand a small number of doe tags but to run the number way up again seems wrong to me. if you issue 4000 tags the numbers will fall to embarrassing levels again. The economic impact to Burnett county can not continue to take these hits.

Deer populations on private lands appear to be rebounding more quickly than populations on public lands, probably because deer numbers had decreased to much lower levels on public lands than on private lands. I think that it is wise to allow public land population levels to get back closer to parity with private land levels. Maybe this will happen in the next year or two if we continue to go light on the public land antlerless harvest. Maybe special public land permits should be available in areas like Roosevelt Township which seem to have an over-abundance of deer but only 4% of the public land in Burnett County.
The process by which bonus antlerless tags are sold is unconscionable. They should not go on sale at 10am on a workday when working people have no computer access. They should be sold starting in the evening or a weekend and be offered to resident landowners first, then residents, then everyone else. This process needs fixing. There has never been CWD in Burnett county. The baiting and feeding ban should be lifted. The Burnett county CDAC should 100% fully support Senate Bill 68 (SB68) and assembly bill 61, the bills that if made law would sunset the baiting and feeding ban in our county.

In the beginning of CDAC, it was sold as a public input committee. At the last meeting when you set the quota, members made the comment that you did not think that you could sell as many permits as you were wanting to put out, doesn't that mean that it's socially unacceptable to have a quota that high? Listen to the public when you're making these decisions. It's nice to finally see a couple deer in each field driving around. The public land tag number is acceptable, but the private land quota is too high.

I wish that you would bring back baiting in this unit since there hasn't been another case of CWD. Also, I am totally fine if specific private land owners need to apply for some tags because of high crop damage ... I just don't like that anyone that owns private land can have access to an abundance of tags and those of us who hunt on private have to get one of the few tags if we are lucky. So I would ask that you consider people being able to apply based on specific need for private land owners with crops.

I would like to know why we can not bait deer in Burnett County when there were no cases of CWD in the entire Northern Forest area and the only ONE that was ever found just happened to be right by an area where 4 counties come together? Who found that deer and who killed it? There are a lot of us up here that feel there is a little something not right about that whole thing. The area of the county that I live in is a lot different than a lot of the state and even different than Southern Burnett County.

The Deer Heard is very low due to the pulping of the State woods in Burnett County. I've hunted the same area Unit 10 for many years. I started hunting in the same area in 1977. The deer population have changed dramatically due to 3 things. First too many either or permits! 2nd the pulping of woods have given us fewer places to hunt. 3rd is that there are fewer deer in this area to stay in the woods. We need to see better management control and less antler less tags to bring back the deer heard.

The quota proposed by the Burnett County CDAC is very good. There could be a few more permits on public land but overall the CDAC did an excellent job of responding to the growing deer herd by issuing more permits and allowing hunters the chance to harvest an antlerless deer. Given the mild winters the past few years the herd will continue to grow. We have the opportunity to take antlerless deer now to keep the herd from expanding too much.

While some areas of the unit may be under populated, several areas are over populated. This County DMU system does not provide the ability to manage the herd as closely as the old system did. I hunt with a large crew and we see far more deer on the public lands. Given the vast amount of public hunting land in Burnett County, the ratio of public vs private antlerless tags should be more evenly distributed.

Now that you have tested thousands of deer in this area and found zero C.W.D. cases when are you going to allow baiting and feeding again? You've whittled the deer population down to the point I don't think they could spread it if they tried. And if you ever spent any time out in the woods deer are social animals and greet and lick each other all the time. So your accomplishing what exactly?

I have hunted in Burnett county around Grantsburg for 40 years and every year our hunting camp sees fewer deer. Last year was the first time we did not harvest a deer in our camp. I did have an fatherless tag but never had an opportunity to take a deer. I don't know what the reasons are for seeing fewer deer but I would support not providing any antlerless tags for a few years.
I feel the deer population in the county is still way down since the brutal winters of 2013 and 2014. the does need to be left alone so the population can climb back. This winter was a start with not bad weather so keep the trend going. I also believe the DNR needs to open a wolf season and also get more bears out to allow the fawns to grow.

The deer populations are horrible. And if a few fawns actually made it through a winter adding / upping and reinstating antler less permits is poor management. The lack of predator management is pathetic. It takes 8yrs to draw a bear tag!!! Wolves are out of control. One mild winter does not make it OK to shoot all the does.

Would like more studies and data on the impacts of predators while trying to increase the herd in Burnett County. Wolf colonies are still prevalent in the county along with bears impacting newly born fawns. I’d recommend more bear permits issued and continued lobbying at the state/federal level for controlled wolf hunts.

I did see fewer deer last fall hunting, I usually log about 20 hunting days a year, mostly in Nov bowhunting and rifle hunting. I have seen more predators on my game cameras the last four to five years, mostly bears and wolves. I am sure a reduction in these predators would definitely help my hunting area out a lot.

It’s time to lift the baiting ban in Burnett County. For three years I haven’t been able to put feed in a feeder behind my cabin, which was done so only for viewing deer. I read that no CWS deer were tested in the county, so that fear isn't legitimate any more. Please consider getting rid of the ban. Thank you!

I always think there should be a antlerless tag available for youth hunters. It gives them a chance to enjoy the sport. We have not seen deer in our area for a long time. The last 5 years have been terrible. I don't understand why we are allowing antlerless tags if we want to increase the deer pop.

Hunters in the northern part of the county have never been heard, it's all about the southern half of county. If foresters and farmers want the only opinion that's heard it's time they start paying the lump sum of cost for the DNR, if my opinion can't be heard then don't ask me to foot the BILL!

You got it right guys. Slow steady growth of the herd will be achieved this way. The private land hunters in the south need to harvest more deer. I'm still concerned that private land tags will be used on public land where I suspect the herd size is much smaller. Good job overall!

I believe the overall quota for the 2017 antlerless gun season is in the ball park. I am extremely disappointed that the number of the antlerless permits is being restricted on public land. Every hunter does not have the luxury of owning or has permission to hunt private land.

The public land quota is unreasonably low, the public land quota should be at least 2100 which is more comparable to the % public land. There are forest regeneration issues on both public and private land resulting in increased costs and damage.

I'm a avid hunter which means i spend lots of time in the woods and I don't see much for deer sign or deer when hunting or scouting and also when trapping on the trap line so I have a hard time with this recommended quota from our cdac committee.

To many wolves coyotes and bear taking to many deer until predators are under control we need to keep antlerless tags low to bring back the herd. To many 2 dollar tags given out to many years and now we can't get ahead of the predators. Thanks

I feel more time is needed for our deer popular to recover due to previous years of over harvesting and still from winter of 2013-2014. I feel they need more time to reproduce and then for the young to grow to maturity to also reproduce.

We can't keep killing thousands of antler less deer and expect numbers to increase. It is absolutely absurd to think that it would. The only way to create quality hunting again is to totally stop killing antler less deer.

Take Burnett County out of the CWD area. Stop the ban on feeding deer. Increase the quota of antlerless tags, but don't be so drastic as to double it from 2000 to 4000. Be more conservative, something like 2500-3000.
For the last 5 years, the deer population is down. The questions only ask about comparing to the last 2 years. I think too many antlerless tags have been issued in the last decade causing too few deer now.

I don't understand, if the objective is to increase the deer population, how does giving out more antlerless permits enable that to happen? I was always told you couldn't get a calf without a cow!

I would like to see baiting allowed again in Burnett county. No CWD deer has ever tested positive from this county and the county adjacent (Washburn) had just the one case that I am aware of.

With the third fairly mild winter in a row now after two very hard winters, the deer population has seemed to rebound nicely and the increase in antlerless tag availability seems reasonable.

I believe we need to maintain a least a moderate number of antlerless tags on public land to help keep the hunting tradition alive. Traditions are set over time and do not slop on and off.

I believe the ban on feeding should be lifted due to the fact there has never been a case of cwd in this unit or at least allow feeding on private lands.

Antler point restrictions would be great as Wisconsin is still at or around the top for killing 1 1/2 year old bucks. Raise out of state tag prices.

I think the herd is coming back. I feel the current format makes it easier to address bad winters, fires, or other factors that affect the herd.

Too many private land hunters hunting in public lands for archery deer season saving their gun tags for their own land during the gun season.

Would have answered open in 2017 for anterless youth tags, but too many adults take advantage and kill deer on thee tags.

I believe no antlerless tags should be issued to people over 18 in order give the deer population another year to grow.

I am in favor of starting a program to help increase the number of trophy bucks; such as point restrictions.

Keep the Wisconsin outdoor magazine! Great publication to get the information to the public.

Deer numbers are still down in the northern parts of the county compared to the south.

I feel the antlerless and bonus antlerless tags should be issued to RESIDENTS only.

Baiting should be reevaluated/reconsidered for this unit.

The preliminary proposals look good to me.

Get rid of paper tags... bsss

Raise ALL LICENSE $10.00
Calumet, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

32 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 12
   - No: 20

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 19
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 6
   - I hunt in this unit: 31
   - General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 26
   - Bow: 22
   - Crossbow: 10
   - Muzzleloader: 19

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 23.48
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 23
   - Mostly Private Land: 3
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 13
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 7
   - Same: 18
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
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<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLELESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLELESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLELESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
having to chose wether to hunt private or public land has taken away many hunting opportunities for me and others. i have never heard an explanation as to why this was implemented. i have only a few private acres to hunt on and when i only have a couple hours to deer hunt i hunt there and when i had the whole day i would hunt public land. this format forces me to chose the private and i no longer hunt as much as i used to and sometimes consider giving up deer hunting. please consider removing this choice option and letting us hunt wherever we want again. a public question on this would be appreciated and most would probably agree with me. thank you

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, ban all baiting for deer in Wisconsin and emphasize fair chase only. With CWD continuing to grow and hunting being dumb-downed for the lazy hunter, baiting is wrong for Wisconsin. Also, the decision to allow crossbow hunting as an option for all instead of for disabled or age was a very bad decision for those that enjoy serious bow hunting. This has turned bow hunting into a mini-gun season open for amateurs. From an increase in injured animals to reduced populations for gun season, to the homogenization of bow hunting for deer, this decision was a poor decision by our states policy makers.

I make it short and to the point.I have seen less and less deer each year in calumet county.I have been hunting for many years out here and would have to say last year was by far the worst I have seen it.Quit giving out so many foe tags please.My son is starting to hunt know and I would really like to be able to get him to take on the family tradition but the heard population needs to grow.

I believe people want to see more deer on public land and have more access to private land. I think one tag used for either sex per hunter per year should be issued and the hunter chooses their weapon of choice. Not one tag for gun and one tag for bow or extra hunters extra one deer tag and that's all.

There should be more antlerless tags available for public land. Also a holiday hunt should be available for increased antlerless harvest and recreational opportunity. Forest regeneration is difficult if not impossible due to deer browse. There should be at least two free antlerless tags given per license.

Personally, I think we overharvest our public areas in this county and a lot of deer are living more on the private land. There is going to be more of us that hunt public land that will start giving up hunting due to the lack of space to hunt and deer located on public land.

I think that every one should get one tag per liscense to shoot either type of deer than you are done. no bonus tags no statewide tag...... there are people that buy a bow and gun licence and can shoot up to like 6 deer that is ridiculous.

Over the years it has been getting increasingly harder to fill a tag. It takes days what use to take hours. Persistence pays. The number of deer now does not support the interest in hunting of the youth hunters.

I would not spend a dime on deer hunting if an antlerless only hunt was put in place.i feel the number of deer in this unit is fine,as no winterkill.too much pressure on public land to harvest any antlerless,

Bonus tags for antlerless should be available for bow hunting upon completion of online registration. Holiday hunt for limited number of people should be available.

We need to limit the amount of antlerless tags given out in this unit. This unit should also consider an antler restriction.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.
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<td>4</td>
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| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

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**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>82</td>
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**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

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<td>2.38</td>
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<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
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<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Chippewa, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Go back to the unit for deer hunting then the farmland or forest type. With the way this new system is made up, you are losing more hunters, due the fact they cannot go to a different part of the county or state to hunt because of the classification has changed from where they started such farmland to forest. They would need to somehow get another license and that is double dipping for state bank, to screw with the hunters. As for the back tags, bring them back, due the fact you know this person has legally purchased their deer hunting license and you can write down the number if there is a problem, instead of no identification at all. As for registering the deer on line, is for the birds! People love to see what is brought into the deer register station and see the smile, on a young hunter with his first deer is lost. Also, cell coverage sucks in most of the state and who wants to try to get a signal out in the woods. Modern technology is good for certain things, but not hunting. Also, I myself do not have access to an internet via phone, due the fact I can't afford one. The individual from Texas, totally screwed up a good system, that was in place. We are losing individual hunters and family hunters due to this guy that screwed the system up. As for property owners complaining about deer damage, have them open their land, so the deer that are doing the damage could be harvest. If they don't open their land, do not give them money due to deer damage. As for the CWD, people have been feeding deer and other wildlife for many years and if you look at the area that has CWD is areas of the state were the people are feeding the deer. Fined them and educate them why they should not be doing this. Remember "Mother Nature" will take care of her animals either by a harsh winter and then the following 5 years, no deer to found in parts of the state. Also, as for wolves - they are eating more deer then what the DNR and Walker say they are doing. Go and talk to hunters up north - not in Madison and get the real truth!

Thank you for the opportunity to submit input for the 2017 CDAC. I am an avid deer hunter for all seasons. My family and I put in many hours per year scouting, managing, improving habitat, planting food plots and hunting. Our private land is ~250 acres and adjoins with about 2000 acres of Chippewa County forest. We have seen a healthy population of antlerless deer over the past several years, but the buck doe ratio is out of balance (substantially more does than bucks seen and as captured on multiple game cameras). Would the council consider recommending the issuing of one antlerless tag with each license for hunters who designate "private land" when purchasing their licenses? This would allow private landowners (and those who hunt private land with permission) the opportunity to better manage does without having to compete for "leftover" permits when they go on sale in August. Being guaranteed at least one doe tag prevents us from possibly not getting one on the open market should there be a high demand. I recognize the CDAC is offering 4800 this year for private land hunting in our DMU. That should help get more doe tags into the hands of private land hunters. To take it one step further, issuing doe tags to hunters who own over "x" number of acres would also assist landowners in managing does on larger tracts of land where buck/doe ratios are out of balance. I don't know what that "X" number of acres should be, but possibly 50 would be a good starting point.
The committee seemed to have a predetermined direction of action before the meeting, those speaking against that direction, I feel where not listened to. The committee seems to be trying to manage the whole county as if it where all county forest. Where I live and farm (750 acres of crops, and 350 acres of woods), the exploding deer heard is having a significant impact on farm profits in an already highly stressed ag economy. In the spring of 2016 deer killed out a 6.7 acre field of winter rye, when replanted to corn, deer fed on the field bad enough to bring the yield down to 127.58 bu/acre, the next lowest field on the farm yielded 148.93 bu/ac. In dollars deer cost me an estimated $69.38 per acre corn yield in that field along with the cost of $117.68 per acre in inputs for the lost rye crop, for an estimated total loss in that one field of $1254.69. DNR wildlife biologist also saw 80 to 100% browsing up to a height of 4’ around two clear cuts deer where eating berry bushes. Between two sections of road a neighbor and I have counted over 10 car killed deer from May 2016 until into November, the most I have ever saw. At the meeting the DNR predicted a 50% increase in the deer herd from 2014 to 2017 pre hunt to a herd size of over 19,000 deer, the CDAC wants a 15% increase in the county herd to 21,800. Yes the herd is not evenly distributed over the county witch means I will see even a larger deer herd in 2018.

It is a joke that once again Chippewa County doesn't want to give out a free antlerless tag with a hunting license. Three mild winters in a row, an abundance of agriculture in the county and they feel the herd can't support much harvest. Increasing the antlerless quota some is a step in the right direction, but it's pathetic compared to what the deer herd could handle in the county. Only 200 tags on public land is ridiculous. There is plenty of public land and it's unfair to those who don't have their own land but still would like the opportunity to harvest a deer for meat. Not everyone hunts to be able to see as many does/fawns as possible and then selectively pick which big buck they want for their wall. People rely on deer to provide a good source of meat for their family, and harvesting deer keeps the herd at a healthy level.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback. The quality of deer hunting in this unit has increasingly deteriorated. From my experience, the number of deer sightings is down, the number of deer harvest is down. There are far too many loopholes in our system that allow for high mortality rates of deer from hunters. For one, PLEASE do not issue bonus tags in this unit and go BUCK ONLY for at least one year, perhaps two. This needs to be a pure buck only season meaning, no kid hunt in October, no special antlerless-hunts, not doe tags for any season (bow, gun, muzzleloader). Deer hunting in this part of the State is becoming less and less fun due to the lack of sightings and opportunities for harvest. Thank you for making the right decisions to ensure the quality of hunting remains a key tenant to Wisconsin outdoors.

2016 was the worst deer hunt I have ever experienced! Saw a total of four deer in nine days of hunting. I have been hunting in this area for more than fifty years; never has the number of deer sighted been so low. Weather was a factor, but not the over riding factor. My concern centers around the huge gangs of hunter 30-40 guns hunting a bunch. I can only describe them as locusts--they kill everything with hair! To them, if is brown, it is down. This type of deer slaughter has to be stopped. I remember reading an article about a group from Fall Creek that were hunting in Eau Claire and Clark counties who killed in excess of 40 deer one year. The article made them out to be terrific hunters. To me that is not hunting, it is just killing--certainly not something to be proud of or to be held out as an example to others.

I know deer hunting brings in a lot of money in for tourism, but I would like to see a lottery for out of state residents similar to other states like Iowa and Illinois. I went to school in southern Wisconsin and I know of many people from Illinois that come to Wisconsin and buy as many bonus tags as possible and shoot everything in Western Wisconsin. They bragged about the deer they shot at while running and did not pursue them if they didn't fall within sight. When I asked them why they didn't pursue they said tags are cheap and deer are everywhere. I know this is only from personal experience, but it really frustrates me to see other people who aren't from the area wasting the resource. People from other states in my option should take hunting in the state of Wisconsin as a privilege and not a right. Thanks.
Thank you for this opportunity to provide input. I grew up on a dairy farm in Chippewa County. I am so thankful that I have had the opportunity to return to Chippewa County the last 10 or so years to hunt with my brother. Last year was the first year that I did not have the opportunity to purchase a bonus doe tag; wouldn't you know, I saw groups of doe every day I hunted (5 days total). I did have the good fortune of filling my buck tag. I hunt because I love to eat venison. I also enjoy the camaraderie that comes with making venison sausage. I appreciate the proactive efforts that the Wisconsin DNR is taking to ensure that deer populations are managed in a sustainable manner, but also hope I have an opportunity to purchase a bonus doe tag in 2017. Thanks for all you do!

Deer numbers appear to be on the increase in some portions of the county. There appears to be some so called hot spots in various portions of the county. However, we don't have near the deer numbers we had near the turn of the century. Not even close, probably will never see that again! I don't hunt the county forest land, but hear a lot of complaints about seeing no deer there. Is it due to past overharvest or is the environment just that sterile to support the deer population? Over all I think the CDAC for Chippewa Co. is on the right track with their recommendations although some hunters feel they should get a free antlerless permit with their license purchase. Let's get a few more deer on the landscape before going that route!

One thing that needs to be seriously considered is the landowner preference system for doe tags. We used to have this and it went away. We who own a significant chunk of land (in my case 230 acres) should get some preference for a doe tag. It is really a kick in the pants to have to shell out $12.00 to hunt a doe when we have been feeding them off our crops all year!! Please give it some thought to at least give resident landowners with over 80 acres one free antlerless permit with their license. I do not mind paying extra for more permits beyond the one free one, but I do mind having to compete with everyone else for the first one. Thanks much for your consideration, I realize it is a hard thing to make everyone happy.

I feel there needs to be more focus in all units on harvesting healthy age class animals. I hunt in many units and have noticed similar trends in many areas. Over the last 2-3 years I have seen significant decreases of mature animals in my hunting areas, (does and bucks) I feel like that is due to many causes (hunters, weather, predators etc) and would say numbers are down whole but we need build the youth of the deer heard back up. I would like to see a decrease in antler less tags overall due a high percentage being used on young deer. I also would LOVE to see the state start harvest guidelines for bucks. Ie has to be 4 years+ 4 points on a side, etc. I feel we need to do more to maintain the reputation out state holds.

One objective that should be seriously considered is some how limiting the buck kill. Other states do this by either points or spread. I.E. 6 points and under and or under 14” spread is off limits. Combine this with very low antlerless tags and I feel the population could be brought back up but kept in check. This would also provide hunters with a very quality hunt. Try it for one year monitor results and make adjustments. I believe it needs to be done for two years in a row to start. I have hunted this unit which was 23 for 29 years. I have taken many nice bucks but have only taken two doe in 29 years, my choice. In the last two years I have not even seen a deer. More bear tags need to be issued and eliminate the wolves.

My party of five people hunted (bow and gun) on private land that is adjacent to the Chippewa County Forest. We are within a about a mile of Bob Lake. Overall the deer numbers throughout the summer, fall, and winter were very low. I hunted just about every weekend in an 80 acre parcel and saw 12 deer the entire year. My hunting party shot two does for the entire year. We did scout the Chippewa County forest and our land in the spring to make the determination if we are going to lease the property again, and it is really depressing with the amount of deer sign that you see. Compared to Dunn County were my family is thinking of leasing property, it's really not even close.
We hunt on private and public land in Chippewa County very close to Dunn County. We have a what I would consider an overpopulation in this area. When you restrict the hunters ability to harvest deer in the large section of public land located in the are these numbers continue to get worse. I understand in talking with hunters who hunt the east side of the county, our deer population does not reflect that of the rest of Chippewa County. My belief is that the western forth of the County has a population significantly higher that the rest of the county. By splitting Chippewa county into two units I believe the deer population could be managed more effectively.

Our buck harvest in Chippewa County should not be below the antlerless harvest. With last year's mild winter deer numbers are going to be much higher. We need to shoot more does. Otherwise, we’re headed where Waupaca and Door Counties are with overly high populations. It's not all about trying to ensure that the casual hunter (hunts opening weekend during gun season) is satisfied......The majority of hunters who put the time into the sport can undoubtedly find very good hunting opportunities in Chippewa County. People that do not spend an appropriate amount of time in the woods should not be influencing our deer management strategies.

Not offering public doe tags is a shame. Hunting public land is scary enough but this year, people were even worse trying to get the bucks. This policy results in the majority of the 1.5 year old bucks being shot before they have a chance to develop. My private land is being overrun by deer since we were not able to procure doe tags before they sold out. It has also led to an increase in bears and wolves throughout Chippewa County, based on my observations. Private land holders are also increasing their food plots and baiting to keep the deer off of public land and are driving opportunities to have a successful hunt to other counties.

I feel the people hunting on public land are being treated unfairly in the very low amount of antlerless tags, which was 0 in 2016 season and only 200 in 2017 season, compared to 4200 for private land. I saw many antlerless deer while hunting in the county forest and was unable to harvest a deer because of no antlerless deer tags issued. This has our group thinking why hunt, when we can not harvest any deer when all we saw where antlerless and no tags issued we might as well not hunt because we can't harvest anything. 200 tags for 2017 is not much better. I don't think we will be hunting anymore until antlerless quota becomes higher.

I have trail cams out in April for turkey last years fawn crop only seen two fawns in fall with six does lots of predators all deer looked in good shape saw only two 4pt and under bucks and two 8 point or larger not during legal shooting hours with the increase of homes being built I would like to see the banning of deer drives in Chippewa lots of scary moments with good old boys shooting in open fields at running deer across property lines NOT SAFE a lot of other states have banned deer drives maybe WI should wake up can see and have done it for years in northern forests about the only way to find them

I hunt on the west side of Chippewa county and we see many deer. We are not the east side where there is the county forest and a lot of public hunting. Parents own a lot of land and when we have to pay extra or cant even get a doe tag it is ridiculous. We see deer all day long and so does every other hunter around the neighbor hood. Everyone was bitching about no doe tags. Please separate the Chippewa- Dunn county line area from the east side of the county we have MANY deer and need to be able to kill more does. We are way more like the Sand Creek area with large numbers.

I think the Chippewa county CDAC recommendation for 200 tags in public hunting land is too high at this time.I would accept 100 tags. They should consider doing the same as last year considering everything is based on a two year schedule with the NRB board. That would boost the deer herd on public land and give more options for hunting next 3 year term. Northern counties are still struggling with doe numbers and I feel if they give 200 tags to public land they will probably fill close to 100%. If we wait another year maybe they could give free tags out again in the future.
I would like the CDAC to consider issuing the free antlerless tag issued with each license and not issuing any bonus antlerless tags. Landowners need the tools available to manage deer populations and when all antlerless tags are sold out this is not possible. All landowners should be allowed a free antlerless tag. The deer population on the west side of the county is growing rapidly, therefore, creating the potential for deer/human conflicts. (Crop damage, deer vehicle collisions, etc...)

I believe the deer herds are headed in the right direction. Two moderate winters and reduced antlerless tags is helping to increase the herd. If a person wants a tag they should pay at least $20 for it. Increase the amount of tags slowly, 10 to 20% over 2016. It would also help to put a four point minimum on one side to legally shoot a buck. Two many yearlings' are harvested. If we grow our bucks out of state hunters will flock to Wisconsin.

Escaped CWD Positive Deer that were running out in the wild are only ONE county away! You need to control the herd before it gets out of hand. Herds at low numbers are slow to repopulate, herds at normal numbers can get away out of hand faster than you'd expect! I don't want to have to worry what I am eating. Please keep deer at biological healthy levels, not at levels that a few hunters want to see.

If the objective is to increase the herd in this area, then why would you increase the bonus tags. There are very few deer and increasing the tags will just lead to more does being killed. There are already too many wolves and coyotes to that. I really fear that deer hunting in this state is coming to an end as the fun in deer hunting is just about dead.

It would seem that giving one free antlerless private land tag would make sense given the fact that you are increasing the quota to 4000. Having people buy them appears as just another way to increase revenue. I also hope you do not eliminate feeding and baiting deer. There is still no factual biological data to support this change, only theories.

In 2016, I had to pay $12 for an antlerless tag on our own 112 acres. Just a few miles away in Barron County, hunters got two for free! This is not fair at all, as we suffer landscape and other damage and still pay the high taxes! All antler less tags should be charged a nominal fee, say $5.

There are so many deer on private land in Chippewa County it is disturbing. The view of private land numbers greatly skews the perception of public land numbers. Too many people want to see a deer behind every tree and it has impacted the total numbers on concentrated private land lots.

There are hardly any deer in this unit even on private land. So increasing the herd isn't going to increase disease or hurt farm crops or forestry. This management system is killing the youth from hunting for generations to come. Get rid of the wolves.

There are too many predators of the herd. The calculations have to reflect a more accurate numbers of the impact they have. Also some of the wolves in this area should be relocated to the fwd area as they will clean out the herd in two to three years.

OVERALL, I BELIEVE THE DEER POPULATION IS HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THERE IS A FINE LINE THAT NEEDS TO BE MAINTAINED ONCE THE RIGHT BALANCE HAS BEEN REACHED. IF MORE ANTERLESS TAGS ARE ISSUED THEN THERE NEEDS TO BE LESS SPECIAL HUNTS FOR THEM.

I have hunted this unit for gun season for 16 years. I would like to see buck only and have what used to be an antler less tag per group of 6 hunters or youth. There is less deer, more hunters and more predators.

you have to somehow get private land opened up to the public to hunt. until then, trying to manage the deer herd is basically useless. keep trying, i find it amusing to say the least. good luck

Question concerning how crowded hunting lands are is tough to answer. Which season? Archery season is not to crowded to somewhat crowded. Gun season is absolutely ridiculously crowded!
There's not enough deer, or the ability to find the deer to harvest we count on that meat for winter and it was pretty tough to harvest a deer when you do not see anything all season.

I don't understand why I should pay 12.00 to shoot a deer on my land when I pay taxes and should get the free one with my license it isn't rite I hunt deer to eat and feed my family.

What will be done to reduce chronic wasting disease during the 2107 season? This problem will not go away just by ignoring it. We need to be proactive to eliminate it.

We hunt between Hwy 53 and the Dunn Co.line We have seen between 10 to 20 deer on our 1 trail camera we have. The public land needs more tags to be available.

There is a substantial increase of road killed deer in my immediate area and I have had many more issues with deer tearing down fences in the last year.

Public and private land tags are not welcoming to hunters and really limit the hunting opportunity. They should be good anywhere.

Because all bonus tags were purchased during the past few years, be careful that over-selling could lead to over-harvest.

In the area I hunt I have seen more does and bucks last year then I have in the three years before that added together.

I wish the DNR had a larger staff to enforce illegal activities in Chippewa County in regard to deer harvesting.

I do not believe that bonus tags should be sold in units where antlerless tags are not issued with the license.

I think if your trying to get more people out hunting give a free tag with a license don't sell bonus tags.

I would like to see a 6 point minimum restriction on bucks with the less than 3" still going on a doe tag.

I think you should keep the doe kill about the same for one more year. In our area seen no increase.

Quota way too low. There are a lot of deer. Concerned about vehicle collisions on Hwy 53.

Please consider antler point restrictions, for example one side with at least 3 points.

Eliminate the crop damage permits, people are not using them the way they should be.

Move some of the proposed private land doe tags to to public land.

Like to see the banning of all baiting for deer.

Cut down on Doe permits for one more year.

Doe population needs to increase.

We need a wolf season!
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

39 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 23
   - No: 16

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 15
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
   - I hunt in this unit: 32
   - General interest in this unit: 10

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 31
   - Bow: 24
   - Crossbow: 9
   - Muzzleloader: 13

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 20.75
   - Maximum: 54

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 21
   - Mostly Private Land: 11
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 0
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 9
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 11
   - More: 6
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Clark, Central Farmland
I feel overall the deer herd in Clark county is about where isn't should be. There are certain sq miles in that area that are overran with deer due to private land owners not harvesting them, and there are certain sq miles in that unit that you are lucky to ever see a deer on, even during summer months when deer are really spread out. That will never change as long as the ground stays private and I get that. Specifically in the area that I hunt, I feel numbers are decreasing slightly over the last few years, due to neighbors over harvesting during the 9 day gun season and the new law that allows crossbow use. A lot of people feel a crossbow is similar to a gun and take marginal shots, never recover the animal, and that dead deer is never recorded as a kill. I understand that happens with compound bows as well and firearms also, but it just seems much more common since the use of crossbows became legal. Otherwise, I feel that the WI DNR has been doing a great job, not only in this unit but as well as statewide! Northern WI is tough, the predators get a lot of blame for the low numbers of deer, but the number one predator that never gets blamed is the hunter! Thanks for all that you guys do, and keep up the good work!

The stoppage of back tags is one of the worst things you could have done. People trespass and there is no way to identify them. Gun season should include all guns and not separate seasons for muzzleloader guns and regular guns. People should have to pass a bow hunting safety course, just like they have to for guns. We get people coming onto our land they arrowed a deer and it ran our way, and then they say I guess I should have practiced more with the bow. You don't give the deer a break between all your so called seasons, bow, gun, muzzleloader or whatever. They get hunted from the start of bow season into Jan of next year. Are you trying to make the deer go extinct?

Overall last season wasn't bad. I seen deer but friends i have don't have the same experience and live 20 min away. I preach to everyone about habitat, and things they can do to help the deer herd and my hunting opportunities. I've done a lot of research over the past 2 years and overall Michigan DNR website was the most informative on this topic. So I guess overall id like to see Wisconsin display more effort in showing the average person how to get involved with habitat improvement. For starters i cant even find a book online about Wisconsin native plant species. Thank you for reading if this actually gers sent

I started hunting this unit when the Jackson county forest when you started seeing more wolf sign than deer sign. Deer numbers went so low you wouldn't even see a deer. I started hunting Clark county farmland and was seeing deer like I used to in Jackson county 20 years ago. Every year I've hunted Clark county the deer numbers have gotten less and that's with no one in our group shooting does. Pretty hard to get young hunters involved with that few of deer. Thanks

The overall quality of the deer heard is poor. In the past several years, have only been seeing fawns and yearlings. Seems adult deer have become extremely nocturnal. Stop ALL early hunts, including crossbow and youth hunt. I am also a hunter safety instructor for over 25 years. Stop this nonsense of no instructor interface talk. I don't care about how other states teach hunter ed. I will not purchase another license if the current program stops!!!

Clark Co. is still recovering from the highest WSI on record about three years ago. Deer populations are getting better but still have room for growth. Deer populations on public land are far less than they should be. This needs to be addressed with fewer or no antlerless permits. Hunters to see deer even though they may not harvest one. I hunt both private and public lands so I have experience on both. Thanks........
I very much miss the tradition of registration stations. On-line registering is too faceless and doesn’t allow hunters to discuss or see what kind of luck our fellow hunters have had each day. I still have yet to meet anyone out of hundreds of discussions of this topic these last 2 years who does like it. We would rather pay more for our license, if that’s what it takes to offset the cost.

The deer herd has not grown. There constantly seems to be less and less deer on the landscape continually. Let's get back to hunting like there was in the 90's. Where you could see a dozen or more deer a day. 5 or less deer a day is not sufficient hunting for Clark County. Less and less hunters will continue to enjoy the outdoors when hunting is not fun or enjoyable anymore.

I hope the baiting and feeding ban in cwd affected counties gets overturned…..baiting and feeding have been banned for 15+ years in the madison area and in that time the infection rate has gone from 2% in does and 3% in bucks to 30% in does and 40% in bucks...so how exactly has the 15+ year ban helped?? especially when "bait" plots are still allowed.

Because the property I hunt is right on the border of Central Farmland zone 2 and Central Forrest zone1, (Clark / Jackson Counties) I think the deer population more closely resembles the Jackson county Bucks only section than some of the of the Central Farmland zone 2 areas. Just my observations from spending time hunting in these areas.

Every year we are seeing less and less deer. 3 of us hunt on a 160 acres and in the past 10 years none of us had shot a doe in fact the land owner of 20 years has never taken a does off the land. In fact this year I think I only heard about 10 shots opening weekend.

The deer numbers in clark and waukesha county are terribly low. I have never seen hunting soo bad. Enough. No does seasons at all for 5 years or so. We want our state back. Cwd is not an issue and you know it.

Open deer season on white deer also. There is getting to be a lot of them in clark and marathon county

It would be nice to see a 4pt or a 6pt or better rule to take place in the state

Open wolf season
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

103 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 50
   - No: 53

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 22
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 33
   - I hunt in this unit: 99
   - General interest in this unit: 21

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 92
   - Bow: 64
   - Crossbow: 33
   - Muzzleloader: 35

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 25.08
   - Maximum: 66

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 27
   - Mostly Private Land: 16
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 17
   - Mostly Public Land: 8
   - Exclusively Public Land: 30
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 5
   - Not too crowded: 20
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 15
   - Somewhat crowded: 18
   - Very crowded: 12
   - Not applicable: 1

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 19
   - Fewer: 39
   - Same: 25
   - More: 16
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 25
   - Fewer: 31
   - Same: 21
   - More: 17
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 4

Report Generated:  **Friday, April 14, 2017**

Clark, Central Forest
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:** Not applicable in this DMU

**Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:** Not applicable in this DMU

**11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?**

**Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.**

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support Oppose Unsure
    - Not applicable in this DMU

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support Oppose Unsure
    - Not applicable in this DMU

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID NOT VALID Unsure
    - 44 48 11

**14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017*  
*Clark, Central Forest*
Having hunted quite a bit of public land and also talking with many people who do the same in Clark county. I can safely say the deer population on public land is way too low. Obviously I can't cover a large percentage of land by myself to make a broad judgement, but I believe with all the people I've talked with combined with the low deer harvests that deer population is way too low. I also have access to some pretty good pieces of private land that have good hunting but populations I believe are still low or are deer that are crowded to the private lands instead of nearby heavier hunted public. I have heard all the excuses the DNR has for low harvests in the past such as it was too warm, it was windy, it was foggy, it was too cold, hunter participation is down, etc. Year after year the excuses come but the harvest is still down. Bottom line is people can't harvest deer that don't exist and that's why deer harvest is still low. Why would Clark county increase the bonus tags by 5 times last years quota if they're still trying to increase the herd. The quotas need to stay low just like the last few years to get the population back.

Yes, bring the heard back. Difficult to do when antlerless tags are issued at all, as unethical hunters tend to migrate towards public land to fill their antlerless tags for other units...even the private landowners in the same unit go to public lands to fill their tag to protect their own deer. I observed what appeared to be a gentlemen shoot a deer for a youth hunter that was further away than shouting distance...this hunter (young girl) was dolled up (freezing) like she had never hunted before. She was there for the tag only. Also, do something about the wolves. We had more than one hunter in our bow hunting group hear a pack of wolves around them...one heard them take a 10 pt buck down (we found a week later) and heard it growl out it's last breath of air. They torture their food and don't finish their plate before moving onto the next meal. Some of your questions should go into the detail of the type of hunting. Bow hunting I didn't feel crowded at all. Gun hunting was over crowded. Keep up the Good Work, Thank you!!!

There has been no increase in the deer population where I hunt for the last 5-10 years. And as far as wanting feed back from hunters you people lie. We complained years ago about the declining deer population to no avail. We asked you people to take us to the areas that had 20+ deer per square mile and then you became silent. Now that license sale are falling your telling us that the population is on the increase, more lies. The best thing you could do to increase the population of deer in this area is to shut down deer hunting all together for a year or two. I don't think I'm buying a license this year. I become depressed staring into the woods thinking about the old deer seasons and the abundance of deer we used to have. This is the legacy we're leaving for our children. The destruction of a natural resource and tradition because of the influence of money. If you need more money Why don't you go back to the automobile insurance companies they really helped the decline of deer numbers there by increasing their profits.

Been hunting the county forest since I was 12 (now 30) and numbers are not good. Too many T zones and antlerless tags were given and used. Went from 15 to 20 deer opening day to lucky to see any. Our group walks in anywhere from 1 to 1.5 miles in so we're willing to work for them. We used to have many people come from southern areas to hunt by us, now we are the only vehicle in the parking lot, which hurts the local businesses. I think with continued low or no antlerless tags the population can start making a real comeback. I am concerned with the number of private land antlerless tags as well, because I would guess some shoot their antlerless deer on the public but tag them with private land tag. I hope you consider this as I feel like I would have a hard time getting my children into this sport the way it is right now on the public land.
We have seen of 2015 in the deer season 2016. the original plan put forth by CDAC. This was a three year plan to increase the deer herd in the Central Forest. This plan should be allowed to complete its course as there has not been a spike in the deer herd. This was the original guidelines and said guideline should be continued to be followed. The records of how the DNR tried to reduce the herd in the late 40’s and early 50’s would be a good refresher course for anyone involved in managing the deer herd. When the DNR tried shoot buck only in the 1st part of season and anything last 5 days almost destroyed the herd. One question for all. Is this what you are trying to do again? Those who believe in destroying this valuable recourse, do not enjoy deer season as much as the majority of true sportsman both residence and non-residence do.

I feel the proposed number of Bonus permits is basically way too high. Based on the success rate in 2016, if the same success rate was achieved in 2017, the proposed quota would be exceeded by more than 50%. The slight changes in harvest numbers in 2016 compared to the last 2-3 years is not statistically significant, and are not a strong reason to be increasing the Bonus permit numbers. The goal in the Central Forest is to increase the population, but how can you do that by increasing the bonus permits available. Making more bonus permits available also indirectly increases the number of hunters who may come to the area to hunt, thus increasing the likelihood that more deer will be killed. That would not help making the goal of increasing the deer population over the 3 - 5 years this initial program is to be in effect.

I can not see any rational explanation for the suggested quota numbers. I hunt several areas of public land in clark county - central forest and have nearly universally seen a decline in deer over the past 3-5 years. The last two years of limited tags have been good, but it's not enough. It's not even remotely enough. Maybe I'm the only person to hunt areas with heavy wolf populations in the unit, but that seems unlikely. The last few years I have seen nearly as many wolves as deer. I'd like to see another 2-3 year plan with severely limited antlerless tags. I'd almost be happy to see the unit closed completely for a year, because the limited antlerless tags are surely going to result in smaller bucks for a long while. Please lower the quota, especially for public land. Things haven't 'recovered' nearly enough, if at all.

I have been hunting in Clark County Central Forest for the last 25+ years. I feel that the two gallons baiting should be allow back in since many private land owners are growing corns, soy beans, and other agricultural farming that are attracted to deers miles away. Private land owners also have more antlerless tag available to them than public hunters. And many of these land owners put their land for crop damaged hunting opportunities but never answer their phone or said it’s full already when you called them. They get tax relief but unwilling to let hunters hunt in their land by not answering the phone or used lame excuses. Therefore, I believe that baiting should be allow back more public land antlerless tags. With baiting allow, it'll boost local economy too.

Last fall I saw 5 deer and was able to harvest a deer for the first time in 3 years. In 2015, I only saw 1 deer and in 2014, I never saw a single deer after hunting for 6 days. Is that an improvement?? I did not notice on increase of shooting nearby. Seems that the swing in public land turned private has lowered the pressure in the area I hunt. In 2015 antlerless permits in the central forest - public sold out in 10 minutes. In 2016 it took most of the day. Adding 20% more public permits will satisfy more hunters and generate revenue. Adding to the private land by 4x is pure greed!!!! There needs to be a solution to get more private land opened for hunting to spread out the pressure.

Deer mortality in my area was high due to wolf predation. Saw wolves several times, heard wolves most nights, lot of tracks on top of my tracks from the previous day. I can understand having wolves but they have taken over the area. Planted corn plots of 2 acres and most stalks still had their ears this spring. We even had one hunter treed this past fall by wolves and when he tried to leave they approached him forcing him to climb back up in his tree until others came looking for him 2 hours after dark. Normally saw around 20-30 deer per day during rifle season, but has dropped off in recent years to under 8 per day this past season.
Your Forest zone includes way too much crop land. Also I hunt true Forest zone with farm land far away. The cameras That we maintain show about 12 deer per square mile. You already alienated 8 of our hunting group. We are now down to 4. You people are not on my hunting parties Christmas list to say the least. 1st year hunters in these depleted zones should only get doe tag for 1 year. Now I see parents dragging kids out in these depleted areas just to kill a doe. And some of them I personally seen the kid is used just for that tag, Evan If the kids didn't

I believe there is a growing problem between private land and the number of people hunting. Without any pressure on a lot of land, hunters can hunt all day and not see any deer. But an hour after sunset, it easy to see 30-40 deer in a single field. Not to mention the 100 or better that feed out of the silage bag behind the barn. When I started hunting, everybody used to make drives and actually hunt. Now, the hunters are so scared that "their" deer might run across a line fence. No one moves deer anymore, and the deer only move to feed.

I think the proposed quotas are right on. The deer population has really taken off in many areas on private land over the last several years with such limited tag availability. If the low antlerless harvest continued like we have had the past few years populations would get out of control again like they were in the 1990's. On public land I have noticed that the deer population has increased with the low tag availability. I think we can continue to slowly increase tag availability on public land as a result.

The deer population on the county land has gradually increased the last few years which is what we want. In my opinion the forest could support a bigger population which would help the hunting and economy in the area. I think we need a couple more years minimal doe harvest to complete this objective. I live in Rock Dam and travel the county forest a lot and it is nice to see the deer population coming back. I think there is definitely a lot of predator damage (wolf & bear) that needs to be considered.

I hear wolves howling every morning on my way to the deer stand. Have found dead deer that have been ripped to shreds while walking in the woods and have seen plenty of coyotes. Due to the amount of predators in the county having such a high antlerless quota is ridiculous. It has taken more than 10 years, after the last round herd control/bonus tags, for the herd to get back to a place where we finally see more than 5 deer during the 9 day gun season. Please don't mess it up again.

In my opinion the deer herd where I hunt and live has steadily declined since the reintroduction of the wolves. I've hunted the same land for the last 45 years. Used to see 10 to 15 deer on opening weekend of gun deer season, the last 7 or 8 years I've seen 1 to 3 deer and last deer season I hunted 80 hours out of my blind and I did not see even 1 deer. This spring I'm planting 3 acres of clover just for the deer to see if that will bring more deer in and keep them around.

I think the Dept. of NATURAL RESOURCES should remember that they are in charge of maintaining and enhancing the natural resources of the state. You can't be all things to all people which is why the state has a dept. of tourism to watch out for those concerns, a dept of agriculture to address those concerns and many many other departments. When our natural resources are not your primary focus, you abdicate your responsibility and other concerns gain an unfair advantage.

I feel its is important to allow jr hunters to harvest an antlerless deer to keep them interested in hunting. I feel there should be a limit of 1 antlerless permit per hunter, in my area we have groups of individuals that buy as many permits as possible and will shoot any size deer. I wish there was a way to keep hunters from shooting yearling animals, far to many fawn buck are harvested buy individuals that want to shoot as many deer as possible.

I would like to see antler restrictions (example 13" spread). Some or a lot of the deer I have seen are age 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 years old. After 3-5 years the restrictions would allow younger deer to mature and the antlers would be consistently larger. As it stands now, there are only a few mature deer age 5 1/2 to 7 1/2 taken in this area. Overall this would improve the quality of bucks in the area and would be a great advertising for everyone.
I'd like to see you look at the line in SE Clark county that divides the central forest and central crop land zones. There is a abundance of deer in this area. There are a lot of fields and if you drive on the Cty road Z just south of Hwy 73 you would see 30 or more deer in multiple fields on any evening. I drove around the block last Saturday and counted over 150 deer. I believe this area should be part of the central farmland zone.

I would consider having a lot less bonus tags. We see less deer every year. I have 80 acres of mostly hardwoods and even during great acorn years we see very few deer. There is very little sign. Also you hear very few shots on opening day of gun season. I've gotten the same feedback from a lot of my neighbors. My land adjoins public land in southern Clark county. Thank you

I have been hunting in the same general area for the last 11 years, the doe numbers have dropped significantly while the buck numbers have dropped slightly and I keep seeing more and more wolves last year I went 15 days straight without seeing a single deer and only having a few trail cam pictures taken. Something needs to be done NOW about the decline before it's too late.

Something needs to be done about the wolf population in central & northern Wisconsin. I personally know quite a few people that go out hunting and only see deer tracks, few and far between and they end up seeing more wolf & coyote tracks. They're killing too many deer, and if nothing changes fast we will start losing money to deer hunting tourism in those areas

want to keep the baiting ban in effect for clark co. deer are there, but due to reliance on past baiting practices have become nocturnal and do not move during daylight hours, knowing they are being hunted, yet content in knowing they had a place to feed on bait and feeder locations during the night. restoring baiting again would only extend this behavior.

Deforestation of public hunting lands is huge growing concern in this unit. Fewer food sources and shelter and the forest is beginning to look as no forest should, empty. Clear cut lands will likely lead to sales of public lands and further devastating results as mines settle in and take the resources and the animals leave the area.

Given my observations in the past few years, the deer herd seems to be increasing. That is a welcome aspect for both private lands as well as public. I think that the proposed increases in available deer harvesting tags is way over where it should be. I would agree on an increase, but moderation would be the most logical approach.

One thing I would like to give my opinion about is to possible have an antler restriction on the area. Maybe at least 3 points on each side. Also the lowest amount of doe tags possible. Less than 1500!!!!!! It won't increase the herd of u give out that many tags for deer that reproduce other deer.

There is endless habitat to support a much larger and healthier deer here in Wisconsin. I hunt out West and they actually take care of their herd predator control, planting feed, and controlling numbers of tags. I'm happier paying 600 a tag to hunt Kansas public than to hunt my home state for 30$.

There has to be a considerable amount of poaching in this area. Throughout the deer season we would hear single rifle shots throughout the day. With the addition of not having to go register a deer anymore people can shoot a deer with a firearm and claim it as a bow kill.

when you give out over 8000 doe tags to public land how many of those hunters will go to public land and poach a doe a lot. with the wolves and one bad winter we will be right back to the beginning with such low deer numbers and you guys crying about loosing hunters

A good part of the Clark Forest Zone DMU is composed of mixed forest and farmland, which is much better habitat than much of the Clark County Forest and has a higher deer population. Therefore, the higher antlerless quota on private lands in that DMU is justified.
Confusing why increase in deer pop is goal yet allow so many antlerless permits almost seems like double talk with end result of deer population not increasing. Ban any deer unless fork or better for two years than lower the wolf population if that takes off.

In Clark County the boundary separating farmland and forest should change from Hwy 73 to County hwy M. The DNR should go back to having back tags again. Trespassers often can't be identified without them!!!! This is a problem in all deer hunting units!

Allow baiting. It is nearly impossible to see a deer all season without it. Without crops to hunt over like others, it makes it difficult to put meat in the freezer. Limit baiting, but allow it.

My hunting party's observations and those of other hunters I have contact with do not agree with the DNR estimates of deer population in the Forest Zone of Clark County. Where are the deer?

I am concerned that the population is too low. As I continue to get my children involved in hunting, I am continually having to explain why we sit for hours and not see any deer

I have hunted in the Clark county forest for 25 years now and have never seen so few deer. The sign is not ther either, so I know that the deer are not there.

Deer numbers have dropped considerably in the last five years. Neighbor took his son on an October youth hunt, hunted four days and did not see a deer.

We need to aggressively encourage testing for CWD in the unit. We can't depend on the State and the DNR to take CWD seriously.

I've been hunting the same piece of woods for 25 years. Last year I saw more does than I ever saw in my life.

I have hunted this area since 1973 the past few years has been the lowest deer numbers I have ever seen !

Need to get rid of the wolves. Bringing the wolf back in Wis is one of the stupid ideas by the DNR.

Ever since the wolf population grew in the area, the deer population drastically dropped.

why the DRASTIC increase in antlerless tags, the herd has not recovered

Sorry, wouldn't be able to comment under don't offend me guidelines

why so many doe tags if the herd is down and trying to increase

Predator numbers are way too high. We need immediate relief.

the numbers are too low in the county forest
**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?  
   - Yes: 42  
   - No: 54

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?  
   - I live in this unit: 50  
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 19  
   - I hunt in this unit: 77  
   - General interest in this unit: 22

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?  
   - Gun: 74  
   - Bow: 50  
   - Crossbow: 13  
   - Muzzleloader: 23

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?  
   - Minimum: 1  
   - Average: 20.23  
   - Maximum: 52

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?  
   - Exclusively Private Land: 51  
   - Mostly Private Land: 12  
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 3  
   - Mostly Public Land: 3  
   - Exclusively Public Land: 7  
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?  
   - Not at all crowded: 3  
   - Not too crowded: 10  
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2  
   - Somewhat crowded: 4  
   - Very crowded: 6  
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?  
   - Many Fewer: 10  
   - Fewer: 23  
   - Same: 33  
   - More: 18  
   - Many More: 8  
   - Unsure: 4

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?  
   - Many Fewer: 9  
   - Fewer: 31  
   - Same: 21  
   - More: 20  
   - Many More: 8  
   - Unsure: 7
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Land</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Land</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>38</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>9</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Columbia, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

By looking at the harvest data this county is maintaining the population. The harvest rates are steady to declining as are other factors such as car deer accidents and ag damage permits. Therefore additional antlerless seasons are not justified. The entire county and it’s economy is held hostage by a few slob hunters wanting to slaughter doe in December. 194 deer being killed does not warrant an extra season. Meanwhile all other groups like snowmobilers and hikers lose out on winter sports and with it our already suffering economy loses out. 10% success rate on public doe tags? There should be NO public doe tags if our lands are so devoid of antlerless deer. If the goal is maintain and all statistics suggest that has been achieved, then there is no need for so many doe tags. If it was a very successful year for hunters we would stand to decrease the herd substantially. In addition if hit by ehd again we would also decrease the herd too far by over hunting. There is not a need or demand for the holiday hunt due to the herd already being maintained and so few people hunting. The dnr’s population estimate increases are also not justified since our harvest numbers and other factors do not support considerable increases in the population and hunter satisfaction is at an all time low. Using hunter observations on harvest reports is not accurately portraying the deer population. Obviously if you shot a deer you saw a deer. If your neighbor shoots a deer he saw deer too. The same ones counted twice.

The CDAC needs to use the science based data presented to them to help guide decision making. Certain Columbia County CDAC member(s) are taking the comments that support their predetermined mindset and presenting it as the views of the masses then trying to guide policy, while ignoring the views of those views that contradict them and the science presented on the subject. Traditional harvest numbers clearly indicate a large difference from the proposed increased harvest goal. It is more probable than not an increased harvest goal will not be meet and there will be no significant increase in overall harvest. Despite this, it is important to set the quota at the increased level to show the community the deer population is steadily increasing and reasonable management suggest a quota should be set a level much higher than traditional harvest. The public needs to understand their current harvest efforts are not enough and understand to what extent they are not meeting them. Education and information will ultimately be the way the CDAC can have the largest impact on the deer population and that begins by using factual data to create sound policies and then have quality discussions related to those. Spreading urban legend and misinformation under the ruse of “giving the people what the want” while ignoring all our best data and the input from our wild life biologist is not the role of the CDAC.

I lease 220 acres in Columbia county. Only about 60 is timber. When we first leased the farm in 2012, deer numbers were fairly low. We started to see an increase in 2014 and 2015. Deer numbers were low last year, about half of what we saw in 2015. Over all buck numbers were down and doe numbers were down. Where we hunt, our deer numbers go up and down depending on the neighbors. I feel the DNR should control tags but that land owners and hunters need to look around and see what the land will hold and what is holding for deer. With running trail cams, planting food plots and watching the deer herd all year, we know what we can harvest from the land. We took 3 does last year, 2 mature and 1 yearling. So far this year, the deer numbers are down and I am guessing our neighbors increased their harvest as we heard more shots and saw more activity in the neighborhood. Overall deer numbers in our area (I am thinking several square miles) is down. I just don’t see them in the fields like I have in the past. I think your doe permit levels from last year were fine, I think the proposed doe permits are way too high.
The combination of mild winters, excellent food and winter cover habitat, relatively low numbers of antlerless kill, plus elimination of earn-a-buck in this zone has contributed to a dramatic increase in deer numbers. The deer are literally like rats where I live in western Columbia County. I travel through the county extensively for work. I do not recall seeing the number and distribution of deer we have in this county since the 1980s. This overabundance of deer has caused great damage to crops, reduced forest regeneration, damages other habitat through browse, has caused significant property damage through vehicle crashes with deer, increased spread of invasive plants and appears to be impacting health of deer. I have observed sick deer this winter and both deer (doe) my family killed had very poor body condition. Years of "Maintain" herd policies have only resulted in herd INCREASES. This has economic consequences for me as a forest owner. I strongly urge the CDAC to adopt a "Herd Reduction" objective for 2017-2018.

I am happy to harvest a couple deer per season for my own use. Not a big buck hunter but, like to see them and will occasionally take a nice buck. I am willing to harvest more antlerless deer to help reduce population and improve buck/doe ratio. Extra deer I take will be used, either donated or venison given to others who do not hunt or are unsuccessful. I believe the CDAC in Columbia County is doing a good job, listening to the people and voting on their behalf. I only wish more would participate. We need more publicity about CDAC as many who I talk to are not aware of the opportunity to have a say in our deer season. I also believe the only way to maintain or reduce population over all is to use the Earn A Buck option. It is unpopular with horn hunters but, if they don’t step up and take more antlerless deer, it will become necessary. We need to divide this DMU into two parts. Southern part has very few deer, northern part is over populated. Need different quotas for each area.

Why can't we just let the land owners be the judge of the herds? I went to my first DNR spring meeting in nearly 15 years to hear answers and wanted to talk about it. My chance will come next week or perhaps here. Deer numbers have been way down in our area of SE Columbia County and my children’s children have no further interest in deer hunting as they sat for days in our very best stands seeing only 4 deer per day, a very small buck with a doe and a pair of fawns. We have not changed our ag plantings in decades and there was a time we shot almost 5 bucks and 15 doe a season. Now, maybe three. Restore the herds we had, do away with bonus tags, and rid us of a holiday hunt without a buck in it please. I did love the comments of our county chair gave and his request to go on line and tell those in CDAC to leave the herds grow as we who farm the land, feed all our deer. Help us please.

It appears to me that only one member on the Columbia County CDAC group listens/reads and expresses the views and opinions of the local farmers in Columbia County. As he is chair, he has no vote unless to force or break a tie. Lets change that fast as we need his vote to speak out for us as the other two do not hear us. Like that of his late father, he had urged others on that panel to vote not their own personal opinions, but that and those of the people directly affect by the panel vote. As a farmer in this county for over 60 years I came to trust and believe in this man who truly took in all view points and did what was best for the farmers and land owners who always had the greatest say and stake in deer management policies. I hope this newest board member follows in the path of the county chairman and reads our pleas, and hears our comments and then acts on it for us. Thank you

I am against increasing the number of antlerless tags issues in Columbia County. If hunters do not see deer or feel they have a good opportunity to harvest a deer while deer hunting, they will be less likely to purchase licenses in the future. It also discourages younger hunters if they are not successful. The youth is the future of our conservation. For years the DNR said you can't stockpile game which I am in agreement with. I feel there are alternative reasons and influences for wanting the deer herd reduced which are strictly monetary in nature. I am also against increasing the length of the deer hunting season through the end of January and against having a holiday deer hunt. I am a snowmobiler and a hunter and do not want to see the seasons overlap during the holiday season. This is for safety reasons and for landowner conflicts.
The early antler less gun seasons make the deer less willing to move during daylight hours. As much as it trills the youths that go out for one weekend of excitement the youths that want to hunt the archery season are disadvantaged. I think if you start the gun season during the traditional 9 day season and have the extra antler less harvests after that, it will bring back the enthusiasm and anticipation I remember waiting for both openers. This will allow archery youths and the gun youths an equal opportunities. Archers have a longer season and the youth gun hunters will have, undisturbed deer, during the rut, that haven't heard the crack of a rifle. The kids that only hunt because the weather is warm will not hunt as adults when the weather is cold. We get them to hunt when they see greater opportunity to be successful.

I know you cannot confirm numbers, but there has been a tremendous impact in pockets of mortality due to EHD. We have found 58 deer on approximately 200 acres 2 years ago. This past season we didn't find any likely due to the amount of rain we had last year. However, the numbers are struggling in pockets, and these numbers are never considered in harvest totals—so the population may look a lot stronger than it really may be. Personally, I've seen a decrease of almost 90%. I also feel the holiday hunt should remain antlerless. If we are trying to control numbers, it only makes sense, and I enjoy the late hunt with kids and view it as one more opportunity for them. However, let's limit the pressure we put on bucks.

Maintain the herd yet you raise the doe tags by alot again. There should be no public doe tags. You raise the permits even though the deer kill is down or stays about the same. People on public barely see any deer but you want to kill more. Cant kill what doesn't exist. Keep it up pretty soon no one will hunt any more. Then maybe we can snowmobile in December instead of being told the trails are closed due to the holiday hunt. You know we do pay fees too like deer hunters yet snowmobilers are ignored. Bring alot more money in to the local businesses compared to the holiday hunt too. All to kill about 200 deer. If you cant do that in the regular season then there aren't enough deer to have all these tags.

I am a snowmobiler and my opinion that having a holiday hunt will cut into being able to snowmobile in Columbia County. I like to ride in this county and have hundreds of snowmobiling friends that live in that country that will also be affected! Trails usually open at the beginning or mid December till April 1 but we are dependent on snow covered. When we get enough snow and trails are declared open we need to take advantage of the conditions. I feel there're more different options you can provide hunters to hunt deer instead stepping on the snowmobile program. Thank you for letting me speak my opinion!

I love Columbia County and love to come up from Southeastern Wisconsin snowmobiling but I found with this holiday hunt and the lack of being able to harvest a buck deer extremely disappointing and when we had snow I could not snowmobile with my five children. With the lack of deer remaining in Columbia County is there any way we can go back to the party system where four hunters have to apply for one doe tag and go into the lottery system do away with extra doe tags for at least 2017 and then let's reassess and reevaluate where we are into 18 thanks

The holiday hunts must stop!!!! It has an adverse effect on another large recreational sport (snowmobiling) as well as the downturn to the economy when snow is present and trails remain closed due to holiday hunts. The snowseason is marginal at best and we do not need another obstacle to overcome besides weather. The money generated compared to hunting isn't even comparable, bars, gas stations, diners, and powersports dealers all suffer from holiday hunts limiting the ability to open trails when snow is present.

I think a earn a buck rule would be much more realistic and supportive than an antlerless only option. The doe harvest needs to increase. Earn a buck was successful at that. Providing that option in this survey might have allowed a better capture of the opinions of those who hunt in that unit. This is based on my desire of increasing the age structure of the bucks. More mature bucks. The earn a buck rule then would rotate based in harvest numbers to manage the herd size.
Older age structure bucks are what most of the hunters I know want. Maintaining the right amount of doe to buck ratio is and can be changing from one property to another right down the road. I always thought the idea of 1 Buck kill per year, per hunter, no weapons specific would really turn this state into a trophy state in a short few years. There are just too many greedy people in this state to want to ever give something up to gain something better down the road.

Need to control deer herd numbers which are increasing. More permits to shoot doesn't seem to bring more deer harvest. Need to increase the importance of maintaining lower number of deer on landscape. CWD may eventually take care of situation of over poplation, but how will that effect the habitat in regards to browse and tree regeneration for future generations. Deer damage to Agricultural fields is increasing and also to landscaping around homes.

I would like to see restrictions on the capacity for ammunition with firearms used to hunt. Assault rifles wouldn't be so popular if they were restricted to three rounds of ammunition at full legal capacity during the hunting season. Hunters may become better shots if they know they get three shots max. I believe you would get less wounded animals and a safer woods. Thank you for allowing us hunters to record our input.

At the pace we are going there will be very little deer left to hunt. With that will be less hunters which you can already see happening. I personally know a lot of people that don't hint because they didn't see a single deer all season. I'm fortunate enough to hunt at a location that sees enough deer to keep you interested. That doesn't mean I can pick and choose what I want to shoot just that I get a few options.

Vehemently opposed to Holiday Hunt - gun hunt too stressful on deer herd at that time of year (winter). This also takes more days out of the bow season. Also some mature bucks start shedding antlers at this time and may be accidentally shot by gun hunters. 1 doe tag per license is plenty. Make people pay for the extras - I thought the DNR is short on funds, why give more away????

The DNR should reduce the deer population. There are too many of them. Way too many of them. If hunters don't see deer, it's because they don't know how to hunt. Get off your tail and walk around a little and you'll get the deer moving. If the DNR doesn't get the population down all you'll have is a massive population of CWD diseased deer damaging crops and forests.

There are no tools in place for deer management so Im not sure were these guys can help the deer herd, I personally felt the herd was in check when we had earn a buck and now its getting out of hand again. Adding more seasons is not the answer, and that is the only option we seem to have. I hope we are not going to let CWD and EHD control the herd.

Please do not have a holiday hunt. My children have given up deer hunting with the lack of deer in Southeastern Columbia County and Central Columbia County. This was to be my 40th deer season and I think I'm hanging it up because your numbers are sold drastically low I don't see how you can ever bring the herd back with your recommendations.

I own 400 acres in Portage and Briggsville area and have hunted it for 30 years. This Winter I have personally found 9 deer dead by wolf or coyotes. Also have found 3 dead with no marks or indications of attack. Last season all my neighbors and I noticed almost no fawn's. The coyotes and wolf have definitely affected the population.

Columbia County is crawling with deer. I exclusively hunt public and see/harvest plenty of deer. The Wisconsin public is spoiled, thinks dnr bashing is fashionable, and has unrealistic expectations provided by outdoor TV shows. Hopefully you continue the great job. This area has an exceptional deer herd.

Coyote numbers have skyrocketed on our land. We are north of portage and we see coyotes chasing deer. They laydown in fields and watch turkeys. Last year we saw ALOT of different cohotes and we only shot 1. The last 2 years we have seen alot more daylight movement of coyotes. We here them everywhere at night.
I primarily hunt the Grassy Lake area in Rio, deer numbers that I seen during bow season were 4 bucks to 1 doe ratio consistently. County is too large and diverse to have just one group, what may pertain to the area west and north of Portage doesn’t necessarily apply to the lands east of Portage

My comments are focused on my land, which had lower deer usage this year because of a poor mast crop and excessive mosquito crop. In general, I support maintaining deer at current levels as I am not seeing over-browsing and CWD seems to currently being maintained at a low level in the county.

I have been an active snowmobile club member for over 40 years. Mother nature is hard enough on us without possible giving up a week of our season for an additional season of antlerless hunting. The deer kill during this season is not large enough to justify closing the trails for that week.

I am in full support of the Holiday Hunt, as well as having 2 free tags/license. I hunt mostly in Springvale township where it is not uncommon to see 40+ deer in a country block. Not only does this impact agriculture, but also the ability for private landowners to regenerate oak.

DO ALL YOU CAN TO KEEP THE HUNT AS IS. IN THE FIRST YEARS OF THW CWD SCARE HUNTERS BEHAVED AS IF THEY WERE RABBIT HUNTING AND SHOT LARGE NUMBERS OF DEER THAT DIMINISHED THE CHALLENGE AND THRILL OF SHHOTING ONE OR MAYBE TWO DEER.

Two people in Columbia County sole decision makers on the structure of deer hunting in Wis. There were but about 8 others in attendance with all indicating that this was the last DRN meeting his will be atanding

Deer numbers have greatly increased. I would be in favor of an antler less only season or earn a buck. Herd numbers have to come down to help slow the spread of CWD. Metrics should show CWD reports in the County.

I can only speak for public lands, but we are seeing far fewer deer. I believe issuing more antlerless tags would be a mistake and would only further reduce already low deer numbers.

The holiday hunt really ruins the late archery season! Have we asked the question, "CWD is here to stay and what would happen if CWD was found to spread to humans"?

Keep the holiday hunt, great time to get kids out to hunt. Less hunting pressure and they have off school. It is a no brainer. Not all of us like Disney world.

Deer numbers range wildly throughout the county, completely different from east to west. Needs to be broken down into different zones.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to determine where county boundaries are. If a road or roads where used, it would greatly help.

With the amount of private land around my area, not that many deer will be harvested. Antlerless only tags will not be utilized.

I love to hunt the Holiday hunt. Don’t take this opportunity away.

I would like unused buck tags to be valid during the holiday hunt.

A slight increase in deer population would be nice.

There are too many deer in Columbia Co.

I am against the holiday hunt,

Make holiday hunt buck or doe
57 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 30
   No: 27

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 20
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   I hunt in this unit: 54
   General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 54
   Bow: 30
   Crossbow: 18
   Muzzleloader: 20

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 18.17
   Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 39
   Mostly Private Land: 9
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   Mostly Public Land: 2
   Exclusively Public Land: 2
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all Crowded: 1
   Not too crowded: 4
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
   Somewhat crowded: 1
   Very crowded: 2
   Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 8
   Fewer: 13
   Same: 27
   More: 5
   Many More: 1
   Unsure: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 10
   Fewer: 8
   Same: 23
   More: 10
   Many More: 1
   Unsure: 5
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

**Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  
**Support** | **Oppose** | **Unsure**  
---|---|---|
23 | 32 | 1

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:  
**Support** | **Oppose** | **Unsure**  
---|---|---|
8 | 48 | 1

#### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?  
**VALID** | **NOT VALID** | **Unsure**  
---|---|---|
Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all;  2 = Slightly;  3 = Moderately;  4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated:  **Friday, April 14, 2017**  
*Crawford, Southern Farmland*
Things that concern me: 1) very little public land in Crawford if you take away river land that might or might not be suitable for stand hunting. 2) Ridge top subdivisions that have forty or more deer on lawns each evening. These are counted in the deer population but no one can hunt them. These should be subtracted out for goal purposes. 3) In gun season if you don't take a deer 1st or 2nd day you might not get on. I very rarely see and deer in muzzleloader of holiday hunt seasons. But I enjoy being in the woods at these times. 4) Since most of the hunting in Crawford Cty. takes place on private land why not starting with the November gun season let the hunters decide which weapon they will use bow, muzzleloader, firearm. It has been my experience that firearms are the better choice because if I do see a deer it most likely at longer range. And to tell you the truth with the arrival of the modern day muzzleloader they are not much different then a smokeless powder firearm.

I hunted as a non resident in Wisconsin for the first time in 2016. I hunted Wi. 20 plus years ago and kick myself for not returning each year. I have hunted 6 other states and would certainly rank Wisconsin as number 1 overall in the number and quality of deer herd. I would need more information on buck to doe ratios but in the area I hunted (Crawford county) I saw about the same number of Bucks to Does. I have to spend some money and effort to make the season so making a harvest is important but I would agree with any regulation that improved the age structure of the bucks. Many of the deer I saw both in the wild and harvested were 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 year olds. To grow the trophy deer that everyone wants these deer have to be passed up. Unfortunately most people won't do that on their own. That said hats off to the WDNR for their management efforts.

In past years (3-7 years ago) many more deer were observed and subsequently killed. In each of the past two seasons only one buck was harvested (2 total) which appears, at least on this parcel, that the population is in decline. During the past two years all members of our party have reported seeing coyotes while deer hunting, which is a significant increase from 3-7 years ago. During the 2016 hunt a total of six deer (3 bucks, 2 does, 1 fawn) were observed in five days (15 man-days) of hunting. If this matches with other's observations and harvest numbers, it may be worthwhile to limit the number of antlerless tags available in 2017.

I would like to see the holiday hunt taken away as it keeps bow hunters from being able to harvests bucks during only time that I am able to bow hunt. Also I feel that if hunters knew that there was not a holiday hunt they would shoot more does during earlier hunts. What about doing doe only hunt in early October instead of holiday time. I am also against pushing back bow season because it keeps some landowners from allowing predator and small game hunters from accessing their land during anytime a deer season is occurring from fear that push deer they have been hunting to neighboring lands that are still hunting.

I consider the # of deer sightings / day while Bowhunting in Crawford County to be far too low. I am seeing only 1 - 2 deer/day, on average, while hunting on good private land. The population is very low, in my opinion, based on my # of sightings. By comparison, I am seeing an average of 13 - 15 deer / day when Bowhunting in Trempealeau County. The enjoyment for hunting is far higher in Trempealeau County. As such, I recommend reducing the # of bonus antlerless tags from 2 --&gt; 1. I believe we can still maintain a very healthy herd by allowing the population to increase slightly.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Stop any gun seasons beside the regular 9 day and muzzleloader. Make the whole state shotgun only. Have a preference point system for non residents and raise the non resident fees across the board on all game species. This state is becoming a joke to hunt even in areas that are generally great for deer hunting. Change it drastically or expect to lose many hunters over the next five years aka losing ALOT of money. Do what Iowa does and make Wisconsin a sought after destination place for whitetails.

My concern is giving out a lot of free tags. Hunters will not shoot all of the free tags. If they have to buy the tags, then they will shoot deer. I do not want to see the buck season any longer than it is currently. The season to shoot bucks is already too long. The antlerless season should close at the end of December because bucks loose their antler and hunter shoot adult bucks that have already dropped their antlers.

Just would like to say one thing you can not and will not stop cwd and would actually probably be better to let them all get it if they even can and have a stronger deer herd like how nature intended it. Also wouldn't mind an antler point restriction to let more bucks reach maturity. Thanks for letting me have my input and everyone else I hope the state actually considers some on these inputs.

I don't like the late doe only season and the holiday hunt. With those two seasons and the potential of snowmobiles on my land my chances of harvesting a late season buck with a bow or cross bow are basically non-existent. I'm also concerned for snowmobiler's safety and the safety of other people that want to utilize the outdoors with as many rifle season as there are.

Go back to earn a buck, close all seasons including archery on December 31. I own land and I do not want to see any hunters later than Dec 31 Hunters already have all of bow season, 9 day rifle , 10 day rifle muzzle loader season, 4 day dec. antlerless. If hunters do not shoot enough deer it is not because the season is too short. Seasons are too long at present.

I believe predators in my unit play a big role in the number of deer in the unit. It would be nice for the CDAC committees to have the power to vote on either allowing archers to harvest antlered deer during the holiday hunt if there is one during that year or a minimum point rule for all seasons.

I hunt many in public in many different counties. Do the new tag system I must now specific land type tags. By not having bonus public lands antlerless tags I will not be hunting Crawford county this year. Please consider having some additional bonus public land antlerless tags.

2 antlerless tags per license is way too many. Give out one per hunter. I also thing the committee should recommend some sort of antler restrictions in certain areas also. Sw Wisconsin would be a great place to try it. Minnesota does it and it really works well.

The number of does getting shot off around my land has dropped the deer population significantly. We use to have three to four doe fawn family groups. Now we're lucky if we have two. I'd like to see it back to one buck tag and one doe tag.

100% dissatisfied with the new license system and products. Having printed paper tags is a miserable idea. This was the worst decision the DNR could have made.

Stop the youth hunt. There is no need for it since we had to wait until age 12. Also people use it to take big bucks with kids. Have kids shoot only does then.

Make a provision for hunters who hunt multiple counties during bow and gun seasons instead of requiring purchase of tags for each county.

deer are like any other animal you have to break up the gene pool to produce better quality and to control disease

Do not want buck seson any longer than current. Want archery season to close no later than December 31.

Get rid of the county requirement when applying for antlerless tags, use southern farmland instead.
I would like to see attempts to promote the practice of Quality Deer Management.

Damage to agriculture crops is very critical every year.

The Holiday hunt should not be antlerless only.

Boo to an antlerless only season.

too many does, way too many
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

129 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 41
   - No: 88

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 76
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 30
   - I hunt in this unit: 96
   - General interest in this unit: 41

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 90
   - Bow: 68
   - Crossbow: 20
   - Muzzleloader: 36

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.05
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 52
   - Mostly Private Land: 24
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 9
   - Mostly Public Land: 6
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 7
   - Not too crowded: 13
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 4
   - Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 21
   - Fewer: 32
   - Same: 49
   - More: 19
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 6

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 22
   - Fewer: 30
   - Same: 42
   - More: 25
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 7
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
  - Support | Oppose | Unsure |
  - 40 | 85 | 12 |

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
  - Support | Oppose | Unsure |
  - 23 | 94 | 12 |

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
  - VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
  - Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

- Amount of deer mortality during an average year: 2.20
- Amount of damage to backyard plants: 1.76
- The number of deer-vehicle collisions: 2.53
- Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease): 2.68
- Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer: 2.99
- Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer: 2.98
- Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer: 2.39
- Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species: 2.34
- Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy: 2.30
- Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit: 2.62
- Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health): 2.40
I specifically wanted to address the questions posed by the Dane CDAC in the preliminary recommendations: 1. Does Holiday Hunt provide unique opportunities in hunter recruitment and retention? Yes, absolutely. As a hunter safety instructor, I've advocated that this hunt is a great time to take children who are on Christmas break out hunting; especially helpful is that the pressure of hunting the normal gun deer season is off of these hunters. I've used this tactic as recently as last year, taking two newer youth hunters out in a different county which had the Holiday Hunt. 2. Does the Holiday Hunt provide local opportunities for those who gun hunt in other areas? Yes! I spend most of the traditional gun season in Burnett and Grant counties. A Holiday Hunt in Dane Co. provides a fun, easy-to-do hunt on multiple days when many people are not working. 3. Did the lack of a Holiday Hunt provide significantly better archery opportunities? No. My answer is based on my interaction with my nephews who live on the farms we hunt in Dane Co. Each one bow hunted a day or two during what would have been the Holiday Hunt; neither would have spent any more or fewer days afield if gun hunters were in the woods. 4. If the archery season were extended would there be less opposition to the Holiday Hunt? I don't think so. I believe there is a vocal minority of strictly trophy buck archery hunters who want no one else in the woods when they are archery hunting. For the record, I also enjoy bow hunting. This issue long predates the Holiday Hunt, however; one can recall the argument to have a separate muzzleloader season and the anger that stirred in the archery community. The better question is why can't this group of hunters learn to share the resource? Their argument of hunter interference is rather hollow when the following are considered: a.) archery season is one of the longest of all seasons, b.) 90% of more of Dane Co. is private land and therefore competition for use of the specific property is usually very controlled. One method to possibly satisfy the bow hunters would be to allow buck hunting during the Holiday Hunt (as used to be the case). Thanks for recommending implementing the Holiday Hunt this coming season.

I am all for quality deer management. To me quality deer management is making sure the buck:doe ratio is as close 1:1 as you can get it. a 1:3 or 1:4 is too high. All does need to be bred during their first time when they come into heat which may be in late October to mid November. Quality of deer suffers if does are being bred in December or later. Quality deer management is also having the chance to harvest a 2 1/2 year old buck or older. Most deer hunters want to shoot a mature buck, and they end up shooting a spike or 4 pointer. By not allowing the harvest of bucks in Dane County in 2017, the chances are greatly increased of shooting a 2 1/2 year old buck and older. By not allowing the harvest of a buck once every 4 or 5 years, those chances of getting an older more mature buck are greatly increased. I would love to see the question, how do you as a hunter view a quality or successful hunt? Shooting any deer regardless of sex and age, shooting a doe only, shooting a young 1.5 year old buck, shooting a 2.5 year old buck shooting a 3.5+ year old buck. Maybe that question was already asked. As you know in suburban metro area of Dane County, the more houses and small lots, less than 20 acres being sold and built on, the more deer population will increase. So DNR needs to work with every single one of these lot owners to make sure the deer population doesn't get out of hand. What does that mean? in my opinion 1 deer per 2 acres is way too high and the deer are going to have to be harvested out of there.

I am the vice president of a local snowmobile club and have been involved in the snowmobile club since I was 12 years old (45 years) I really enjoy our family sport and work very hard on fundraisers, trail marking and clearing for the opportunity to ride on the trails in our area. Last season our trails were only open about 2 weeks. We have no control of mother nature. (she hasn't been very kind to us lately) If the trails had enough snow to be open but they were kept closed for a week because of the holiday hunt we will lose a large portion of our rideable season in southern Wisconsin. I feel the dnr can manage the deer population without taking away from our family fun.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

I believe that CWD is the number one concern in this deer unit and that the current approach to dealing with it is inadequate. We must let science based data and not knee jerk public reaction dictate the handling of this issue. Please let the wildlife biologists lead the response to this disease. I listed that I do not support an antlerless only season because I don’t think it would result in herd reduction due to a lack of hunter participation. I know it was not popular and would require policy change but I do believe earn a buck has merit in this regard. Thanks for listening and thanks to the hard working and under appreciated staff at the DNR.

I believe there are plenty of hunters out there in a lot of areas that would assist farmers by lowering the deer population. The problem is that there is not a good venue to meet the landowners or to set up some guidelines with the people who would be hunting their land. I think there could be a meet and greet or some sort of vetting process that would allow the landowners to reduce population while allowing access to hunters who would be willing to take deer for personal consumption or to donate. If you want to increase the overall kill for the gun season, reduce the number of days and people won’t pass on many deer.

In the past years I used to see so many deer, but in the 16,17 winter moths haven’t seen any. Crop damage to my corn that is by Indian lake is not as bad as it used to be, but one thing you guys should look into is farmers should have permission to shoot turkeys year round.... they come up to our feed bags and pic holes in them looking for food we just scared them off but they come back and the feed spoils over time making it not edible for our cows. I see 100+ turkeys everyday at my farm somthing needs to be done with the over populations of turkeys not deer.

First I think we need to improve youth chances in harvesting deer. A youth season during the rut?? I also think bow hunting has a large effect on the amount of animals harvested during the gun deer season than in years past because the technology has outgrown the regulations of bow hunting. And even more now with cross bow hunting. I would support a reduced season of bow and crossbow seasons. Possibly removing the post gun hunting season and removing the September and early October season. Which would give more youths opportunity’s.

I live and hunt in the Dane County, last week was the first time I saw a deer in 1/4 mile circle from my house in 3+ years and I am surrounded by woods & fields. The deer population is much higher to the north of my house, but I personally think the problem is that people move to the country and prevent hunting on their property creating pockets of over population while the balance is over controlled due to heavy hunting pressure caused by reduced area available to hunt.

In my opinion, there are FAR too many "gun" seasons for deer. I would love to see more bow/crossbow time without having the deer running scared from all the different gun seasons. I see absolutely NO reason for "holiday" hunts, or youth hunts either, for that matter. There was no such thing as a "youth hunt" when I grew up. You hunted the 9 day season and that was that !! The way it should go back to. One, 9 day gun season and the bow/crossbow season.

The proposed hunt would affect the trail use for recreational snowmobilers from 12-24 to 1-1. This would then affect businesses throughout the hunt zone while snowmobilers would be halted in use. There should not be another hunting season during the Holidays, if more hunting is necessary then an extended regular gun deer hunt should be a better option for all. It is unfair to restrict trail usage to recreational users to benefit hunting purposes.

I think there should be two seasons for youth hunts. One season is not enough time for new comers to get interested in hunting. With the improvement in bows and the legalization of cross bows, the front half of the bow/cross bow season is too long because those hunters are getting more opportunities to shoot bucks. The bow hunters are getting the advantage of choice hunting compared to the gun season hunters.

Why do we need a Holiday hunt? No one hunts anymore in Dane County. Over the last two years I only saw three other hunters out and heard very few gun shots. We need to promote hunting and get more people out in the field. When there are no hunters out moving the deer around the harvest is always going to be low. This is also the snowmobile season at this time and short the way it is. NO LATE HUNT PLEASE...
Deer numbers in the CWD area have yet to rebound since the eradication efforts in the 2000's. I feel that it's hard to introduce new hunters into the sport when it's getting to be a struggle to even see deer anymore. I myself practiced restraint during the years of unlimited tags and only shot what I would eat. However, many did not and the herd still has not rebounded in the area that I hunt.

I would support a shortened December 22-25 holiday hunt for both antlerless AND antlered. Antlerless seasons mainly deplete yearlings and fawns by percentage I'm sure. I worked at a deer registration and it was fawn buck after fawn buck all day, most days. We hunters appreciate the chance to voice our opinions for continuation/improvement of our hunting privilege. Thank you!

Provide earn a buck opportunities. Scientific studies and research has shown a higher prevalence of CWD in mature bucks. Allow hunters to help control the spread by offering additional buck harvest via harvesting antlerless deer. If mature bucks have a higher infection rate, perhaps a point minimum for additional buck harvest could be a requirement.

I was extremely disappointed that our CDAC chose not to have the Holiday Hunt. Also confused, not only is my farm overrun with deer and deer damage, but the Holiday Hunt is the only time of the year that I have free time to hunt and I look forward to and enjoy hunting for deer. Are we an experiment to see how many deer we can cram onto the landscape?

You have a tough job to an emotional subject and a political football. I appreciate the opportunity to have my voice heard. There are two types of EHD, a quick acting disease and a slower lingering disease, both ending in a potentially horrible death. I would like to see more information and control methods published by the DNR. Thank You!

The deer population in Dane is overall lower than pre CWD. It is sickening to see the constant decline in quality of hunting over the last 16 years. I would appreciate a vote NO to the holiday hunt as it only further contributes to the decline of our hunting in Dane county. Less doe tags on both public and private land would also be appreciated.

We (our group) used to harvest a lot more antlerless deer (10-12) and donate the meat to others because you would issue out an extra buck tag for taking antlerless deer. We never used all of the extra buck tags but we did use some. You shot yourself in the foot when you stopped this unless in fact you're trying to increase the deer population.

I would be in support of an antlerless only season, the area I hunt has way to many female deer, and most hunters only focus on getting a buck. We do have deer that have tested for CWD, in order to help prevent it from spreading faster, WE NEED TO decline the doe population. Help educate the hunter on a maintain herd balance of 1 to 1 ratio.

The illegal use for tree stands and tree cutting on public land needs to be addressed. The mis-use of our only resource is sadly abused. The Cherokee marsh is seeing a lot of this. It actually is turning me and my family off from hunting all together. It's like people are claiming spots and fighting in the woods/marsh is happening.

Having a southern holiday hunt would not allow for winter activities such as snowmobiling. It's already hard enough to utilize the great opportunities of enjoying our beautiful country during the winter. There is a very high volume of work that goes into maintaining these trails. Please consider not having a holiday hunt.

There are a lot of deer in the county. My brother in law's dairy farm in SE Dane county is carrying way too many deer. They get herds of 20-30 come to attack the corn cribs every night. I am happy to see the Holiday hunt back. It gives me a chance to enjoy a completely different season, occasionally with my kids.

I walk my dogs on public land but am not comfortable with this during gun deer hunting seasons. I used to have to worry about a 9 day deer season and the muzzleloader season after this. Now it seems like there are gun deer hunting seasons from October through January. Please do away with the holiday hunt.
A holiday hunt could hurt the snowmobiling at that time. Often we only get a few days to ride and if that time frame was the only time we had the snow to ride it could effect most of the riding for the year. The deer hunters would still have there normal seasons to hunt.

The 2016 season structure lead to a result that maintained the deer population(as close as it gets without earn a buck anyway). Due to the success of the 2016 structure, I would not change what worked (the traditional season structure with NO holiday hunt).

If only a few more deer harvested and opportunities to hunt, a Holiday Hunt would be worth it. Last year I went to Sauk county for their Holiday Hunt because Dane County didn't have one. There is no easy way to keep the Dane County herd from expanding.

CWD could be increasing in this zone so more chances to check on the status of the disease is important to me. Second, fewer and fewer hunters seem to be hunting in this zone and it seems permits don't get used. I really worry about car accidents.

I've never been a big fan of the Holiday Hunt. In the Southern Farmland unit there are enough antlerless/antlerless only opportunities already & feel after the early Dec. antlerless hunt it should just go archery until the end of the season.

Late bow season has been ruined by the December antlerless hunts. Do not have a Holiday hunt. Hunters can take up crossbows if they want to hunt around the holidays, cross bows are close to a gun anyway (and cheaper).

There isn't that many deer. It's to hard to hunt public land because the DNR does have enough trails cut to help get the deer out. Cut trails and allow people to drive atv back to pick up the deer.

Stop treating deer and deer hunting like it's the only outdoor recreation enjoyed by WI residents. And start implementing climate change as a variable in planning for future use of state resources.

For bow/ crossbow hunting, why should a person have to purchase a separate permit to hunt the private or public land. Why can't one permit be used for either one?

Oppose the Holiday hunt as very few deer are harvested and it frequently results in landowners closing their land to snowmobile traffic during the Holiday hunt

Cwd efforts seem non existent, and there should be mandatory in person registration with ample locations to take deer for registration and testing.

I believe everyone should be able to harvest one buck and one antler less deer. That is it. No one should need more than two deer a season.

you shoot all the does the deer herd suffers ever since it went to earn a buck and shoot whatever you want the population has gone way down

Raise hunting license fee for out of state hunters to a much higher fee instead of raising then across the board. Get rid of bonus tags.

Do not hold a holiday hunt. The holiday hunt will interfere with the snowmobile season during the heart of this short season.

One antlerless with gun, one antlerless with bow One buck w/gun, one buck bow No one NEEDS more than four deer in a year !

Out of state licenses should be more expensive. Is it possible for antler size restrictions to let younger bucks age.

Incurring more education regarding a balanced heard through antlerless harvest. Holiday hunt is not needed.

I believe there are way to many deer I am against a Holiday hunt as it may limit my ability to snowmoblie

No holiday hunt. The holiday hunt always shortens are snowmobiling time when there is snow to ride on.
Strongly encourage the expansion of public hunting land opportunities in county

Give more Dane County park permits there are lots of deer in them!

There has been a over harvest of deer in Dane Cty for many years.

I believe your deer herd #’s are inaccurate.

I do not wish to have a holiday hunt season

the holiday hunt should be eliminated.

Holiday hunt is too long.

No Holiday Hunt please!
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

64 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 23
   - No: 41

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 37
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 60
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 58
   - Bow: 49
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 27

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 22.98
   - Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 35
   - Mostly Private Land: 10
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 7
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 7
   - Not too crowded: 11
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 3
   - Not applicable: 2

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 16
   - Same: 26
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 18
   - Same: 18
   - More: 15
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 1
**Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations**

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: [Support: 19, Oppose: 40, Unsure:]

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: [Support: Not applicable in this DMU, Oppose:]

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? [VALID: Not applicable in this DMU, NOT VALID:]

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale:** 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Importance Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have traditionally hunted public and private land in multiple counties for 23 of my 25 years. Due to the changes in license structure, I was unable to hunt with a long-time hunting partner because my tags were not good on his land, and he could not use his tags on my land. Additionally, I work one hour away from my home. Now, during bow season and for the second week of gun season, each fall, I must make the choice of either being able to hunt near my home, or on my family land in another DMU, or on land near work in still another DMU. You have eliminated many hunting opportunities for many hunters including myself based on the license structure of this public/private dilemma that did not exist prior to a few years ago. Thanks for merging our hunting licenses to our driver's license, but attaching paper carcass tags in the field is a fool's errand—they rip and become obscured much easier than the green plastic ones did. Removing the back tag requirements is appreciated as a hunter but not as a landowner. It is now much harder to identify potential trespassers on our land because we need to see their face clear enough to identify them. Before the change, we could identify potential trespassers from the front or the back.

To whom it may concern, I think you should receive a hunters choice with bow and firearm. Shoot what you one deer and your permit is filled.. these youth hunts and holiday hunts are rediculous. Having a 9 day firearm season is also rediculous. All those people in the woods at one time kills the tradition. It's a different time. Split the firearm season into 2 separate split 4 day hunts. Buck or doe in November. Than a rest and a buck or doe in December. Much like Iowa. I truly hope my input helps, I feel that so many of are voices are not heard especially the hunters to the north. The zone t hunts of years past and predators as well as the wait for a bear permit have destroyed the up north tradition... something needs to change. It's pretty hard to get kids into hunting when you don't see an animal for 9 days.. I encourage whomever reads this to really think about a split firearm season. Please listen to our voices. The traditions of old are dying and it's a sad realization that the DNR had a hand in it.. listen to we who spend more time outdoors than you.. thank you .. ~Mike Luciani

General opinions expressed by my county wide contacts seem to all fall into the same level of concern. Weather it is a false perception or not, There are not the deer on the landscape that populated the county in years past. I have resided in the county all of my life and have hunted and traveled through out it during all seasons. In fields were deer could be counted in large numbers in the 70"s and 80"s few are now seen.I am talking about post hunt and not pre-hunt observations. I respect the hard work being put into the C.D.A.C. process by department and the volunteers. I would respectfully request that the current bonus tag allotment be reduced even further to allow the Deer numbers to climb to higher levels,

I'm 17 at the moment i've been hunting ever since the age of 12. I was in the woods along time before than. When i was growing up it was nothing to see deer everywhere including on public lands. BUT THESE PAST 5 YEARS OR SO I'VE SEEN LITTLE TO NO DEER!!! ITS A DISAPPOINTMENT. Also the land that used to support the deer is getting torn down. They have no where to go and on public land with all the tourist and bird watchers and dog walkers there is too much activity. There pushing the deer farther away on private lands or deeper in the cattails. There is too much water and not enough high land for the deer. Plus the coyotes in this area are abundant!!!!! YOU GUYS NEED TO DO SOMETHING!!!!!! PLEASE

If give bonus antlerless tags charge $25 a tag ...for the whole state.. You get 1 tag, can shoot buck or doe, an your done... No free anterless tags... Dnr ruined pheasant hunting. Shouldn't need to release birds, just to see some.. Hence why game farms,are so expensive now days.. Dnr ruined trout fishing.. Now they ruined deer hunting over the last 5yrs an it's only getting worse.. Sick of not seeing deer , 15 yrs,ago I could go sit any place on public an see a deer every time I went hunting .. now you don't see any
Though I am able to harvest deer each year, I certainly don’t see the numbers I did when I was a kid. I would love to see that again someday. I feel it helps get our youth involved. When you don't see deer, you get discouraged. It seems like if you don’t shoot what is in front of you, you may not fill the freezer this year. being able to selectively harvest would help deer to reach maturity and allow hunters more opportunity to harvest bigger deer.

After talking with other hunters, my opinion for the unit in which I hunt would be for each hunter to receive one buck and one doe tag per season (gun/bow) with the opportunity to get a bonus tag for either buck or die. There are certain areas in the unit with flip flopped population of does to buck ratio. I feel as though this would help with herd management.

Add more tags to the public lands as the private land tags are way over-abundant. Most land owners won't let a hunter hunt deer on their private property. Find ways to make more private land available for those that don't own land. Or in general make all tags good for any type land. Get rid of the public and private division.

Hi, I’ve been Hunting in this part all my life. I’m only 22 but the deer population from 2007 when I started to just a few years now to has completely decreased. were lucky to see 1 to maybe 3 deer during the season. you have a better chance during early bow hunting there’s alot more to go on but that’s busy a start

I really hope that the recommendation to increase the deer herd in Dodge Co. isn’t to appease those who don’t see 50 deer a day. I believe that the deer numbers in this county are fairly high, given I seem to see them driving around nearly everywhere. Uneven distribution may be the bigger problem.

I think having the holiday hunt being based on whether the unit met its doe quota for that year, (i.e. After 2017 gun season determine whether the doe quota was met or not and that would determine if there is a holiday hunt that same 2017 season)

The deer population has not rebounded from the earn-a-buck years, which decimated the heard. I would like to see one year where there was not any antlerless tags issued. I think hunter satisfaction would increase significantly. Thanks.

Concerned about over harvest on public lands Private Land owners harvesting does only on public lands Allow only 1 antlerless tag per hunter per season not per license to help increase herd.

This is a very difficult situation for the DNR and you have my support. I support an overall approach to land management to achieve a diverse, healthy, balanced ecosystem as possible.

Do away with the baiting restriction. It’s pointless. Deer congregate in natural places just as much as around feeders. No evidence of CWD in the area from many years of DNR checks

Though deer numbers vary from one location to another I think we have a good population of deer in our county. I had many chances to harvest deer last season.

Deer numbers in this unit are good to slightly high. Maintaining the herd that is there should be the focus. I do not see a need to increase the herd.

The Holiday Hunt provides very good opportunities to introduce younger members of families to the hunting tradition.

It was nice to see some does again. Been really scarce since earn a buck. Keep up the good work!

Tags should not be public/private specific…sometimes I hunt private land and sometimes public

I believe the deer population - especially on private lands - is too high in Dodge county.

Plan for the future looks good keep up the good work and thanks for your effort on CDAC!

A buck point restriction might be a good idea in WI. I see very few mature bucks.

Need to provide more public hunting options.
Need more public land
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 129
   - No: 100

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 121
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 41
   - I hunt in this unit: 205
   - General interest in this unit: 65

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 195
   - Bow: 121
   - Crossbow: 77
   - Muzzleloader: 95

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 23.4
   - Maximum: 70

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 126
   - Mostly Private Land: 42
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 19
   - Mostly Public Land: 10
   - Exclusively Public Land: 6
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 24
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 16
   - Somewhat crowded: 9
   - Very crowded: 21
   - Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 31
   - Fewer: 77
   - Same: 86
   - More: 27
   - Many More: 6
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 36
   - Fewer: 71
   - Same: 76
   - More: 30
   - Many More: 9
   - Unsure: 7
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<tr>
<td>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Door, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.
Comment on the notion of a 'no bucks' season. Obviously if no bucks is the rule then all those antlered bucks will be out of the harvest numbers. The number of additional does will not be a one to one replacement, albeit any increase in does harvested will have that impact on fawn production and the population. Total deer harvested will drop. But this is very short term given what likely comes the following years. Perhaps this a northern/southern door thing that needs to be separated into zones. I am not personally aware of anyone (farmer, hunter, landowner, forest owner, etc) anywhere near me that is complaining of too many deer and in fact I was unable to find any crop damage tags to fill last year for lack of their existence/availability. Now I can feel it as you read ... someone out there is just itchin' to come back with such and such problem does exist [at some specific place – not here]. But imposing lame inappropriate restrictions on me here [and all sorts of others wherever] is no kind of solution to NOT A PROBLEM HERE. Deal more precisely with what and where some sort problem might actually be, if it is even so. I used to take extra deer for relatives and friends in addition to those for my family consumption. The local blowback was severe. Even though it is my legal right to harvest many more I choose not to, so as not to give ammunition to those opposed. If the population right here ever got to the point where I felt it was too much I wouldn't hesitate to cull more, and make good use of it with people who want it, at my own trouble and expense. But that day is not visible as far as I can foresee. We have plenty of hunters taking plenty of deer. Reducing the population would only reduce everyone's future harvests, cause more conflict/competition/problems among/between hunters and deny the bounty of peoples own land to themselves and the hunters. Every hunter has a 'poundage point' (how much venison they want). Some want none, just a rack or the experience. Some others range up to several deer to fill their (or someone's) freezer. Any hunter's set poundage point will not change based on any rule changes. The only thing that will change is if they can or cannot take what they want. Wasting deer for ONLY the sake of filling antlerless tags is considered an abhorrence/sin by most hunters. What are the possibilities in a no bucks season? Some folks simply will not hunt the no bucks zone. Either pass the season or hunt elsewhere. Another number will take whatever they otherwise would have but no more, but those guys would take freezer filler anyway, so ... no gain in herd reduction. The guys who pass younger bucks or otherwise go QDMish will take the same or less. I do not see any huge increase in the antlerless harvest. Most will simply take one less ( the missing buck) resulting in the opposite result on overall population. There seems little likelihood that the antlerless harvest will be increased as envisioned by the proponents. So, in addition to screwing all the buck hunters this might just backfire regards population manipulation goals. Then comes the kicker. The year following no bucks will be buck fest, and far fewer does will be taken simply because of the buck contribution to anybody's poundage point. More bucks and bigger bucks will lead to far less antlerless harvest no matter which type of hunter group we look at. What would you suggest then? The real underlying problem here is the numbers in the management goals coupled with the ill conceived concept that the complainers have some right to take from others for their own failure to manage their place in accordance with the realities of nature. HOT SPOT CONTROL IS THE ANSWER. The answer is in what started 2016, hand out free antlerless tags like they are candy. Even create a special $1 license to get just antlerless tags without the requirement to purchase a buck tag, any weapon for the appropriate season. Those predisposed to harvest will do so especially given that tag availability issues will be nonexistent. Possibly special seasons and permits specifically targeting the problem areas would be a more reasonable solution. There is private land and public land. The public land will continue to get pounded (when accessible) given the numbers of hunters and availability issues. Any public land that is not available for full deer hunting seasons and access has no right to complain about populations or have their situation considered in population goals. They have no right to impose on the surrounding lands and hunters for the sake of their own situation which they refuse to address nor allow others to address. The idea that DNR/CDAC/whoever should be trying impose their population goals on private land owners is an insult. These landowners are or are not hunters and do or do not allow others - in either case. When owners/stewards decide that the population is too large for THEIR own particular preference of managing THEIR land they can take action (harvest more themselves or allow others to do it). The idea that DNR/CDAC/whoever/neighbors should impose harvest requirements on some other persons land to meet their own personal goals is an insult. This whole idea that the habitat is suffering is nuts.
Consider who owns that habitat. It is nobody else's business unless invited into the conversation by the owner. Consider the rights that come with ownership. ANY OWNER could clear cut their entire place, but for some reason CDAC et. al. wants to interfere with them allowing deer to live and eat there? How do you feel about those pesky farmers who are using land that could otherwise be productive forest habitat? It is up to the landowner to decide what is the best use for his own purpose and that is not your business. For any particular parcel the tools already exist for the owner to take care of the situation themselves and there is no shortage of hunters who will line up to help THAT parcel or any hotspot, given access. Those problem/complaining owners have no right to impose something like 'no bucks' on the rest of us and deny us our hunt and the natural bounty of our own land. Set up a special tag system for the complainers. One site visit and a quick assessment by your DNR or county Pro and assign an appropriate number of special free tags and license to use same by anyone they assign on that property or adjacent volunteering/cooperating properties – without regard to season, antlerless only. Put that on a website database if the owner needs help recruiting shooters until owner calls it quits. Problem solved. In the case of urban areas (and others) they can either fence themselves off from the surrounding (nature) or allow harvest. It is unreasonable for them to have/impose reach into the adjacent/near rural land owners properties to manipulate/infringe (steal) their private rights and the bounty of their own private land. I wonder if there is a big class action law suit buried somewhere in here? What is an irreplaceable buck hunt worth times how many hunters and land owners? Any problem/complainer owner who doesn’t allow harvest has no gripe with anyone but themselves and no rights to deny anything to others. Any municipality (park etc) that denies the harvesting by landowners in it’s boundaries is solely responsible for the consequences, NOT the rest of us/anyone else. So who does that leave with any standing to be complaining about the populations? NO ONE. There is no shortage of hunters willing to go and harvest in places that need AND WANT assistance. Somebody doesn't like what is happening in someone else's forest? Too bad. Set up/expand a/the program where owners/managers who want deer reduced can be put in touch with hunters who want to do it. Imposing some sort of no bucks season rule or anything like it (i.e. EAB) will further degrade the relationship between hunters and regulators and even divide and negatively impact the hunters relations among themselves, in addition to being a failed concept of a 'management tool' whose actual goal seems to be setting up the hunters for blame as scapegoats for it's inevitable failure on top of past management shortcomings. Does anybody really think disenfranchising the all hunters and the hunting landowners is the way to accomplish population reduction? Or that it is reasonable to force reduction in non problem areas against the wishes of all those stakeholders? County wide reduction is not an appropriate solution to hot spot issues. The answer is to establish realistic goals and focus on reduction ONLY where it is necessary, legitimate AND wanted. Have some respect for land owners and their rights. It is in no way logical/reasonable to reduce herds where it is not necessary, legitimate AND wanted, to accommodate some other area/ideas/peoples. It is in NO WAY legit for someone to build their house/trees/whatever amongst nature and then complain (fully expecting capitulation from others) about the wildlife. Is this different than building along a water front and complaining about water levels? Fault zones? Volcanoes? CDAC wants to reduce over winter browse on the places of complainers? Fine. Allow Post season until May, strictly regulated feeding at properties with willing stewards (not the complainers). Perhaps the complainers can contribute funding to protect their land. Develop strict rules as to the specific feed compositions allowed and how it is used – timing & quantities might be weather related for instance – think rolling WSI based adjustments. Now you have a population of even healthier deer NOT damaging complainer's properties. Problem solved. What does CDAC figure the impact of Global Warming will be on the herd and the ecosystem that supports it? And when? Relative importance of the issues v. what CDAC is doing about it? Gimmie a break. Is this about forcing QDM in a half Azzed fashion? Trying to force the subsequent buck fest ( that idea has been tossed around for many years) at any cost? Or what exactly? The lame notion that the authority exists to force this 'protect' the forest lands idea on private owners of those lands who should actually and rightfully be allowed to manage as they please is abhorrent. Clearly over reach. Stop screwing me and the rest of us under the guise of maybe addressing an unrelated maybe a problem you think someone far away is having. Go away and leave us be. Feel free to tell your problem complainers to open their land to hunting. If a couple years of that
doesn’t work, get back to us. No bucks is a bad bad idea: Ill conceived illogical inappropriate and self defeating. Do not make that obvious mistake.

What will happen if an Antlerless only season is held. (based on hunter type) 1. The Buck hunter: He wants antlers but will take a doe for meat if presented an opportunity. Hunts for horns but will take a doe for meat. His freezer limit won’t change and an antlerless only season will keep him from hunting or have him moving to another county. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed and worse yet even fewer antlerless deer killed. 2. The Meat hunter: He is already killing as many as he wants and is getting cheap tags to do so. His freezer limit won’t change and an antlerless only season won’t do a thing. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 3. The Casual hunter: He comes for the party and the cabin life and the vacation. He doesn’t care if he kills a deer either way. He is already shooting any deer that gives him a shot. Taking away the buck opportunity may have him coming for the party but not buying a license. His freezer limit won’t change. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 4. The Disgruntled hunter: He doesn’t understand why the need for a change. There are very few deer where he hunts. He may likely quit in protest or simply kill the same number of does he would have any way but since he thinks there are too few deer he won’t shoot any extra. His freezer limit won’t change. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed and worse yet even fewer antlerless deer killed... 5. The cheater. He will get lots of tags and phone in a many fake deer hoping it make it appear that the herd was reduced. He will shoot as many does as he has in the past but no more since he too has a freezer limit. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 6. The cheater #2 (and a subset of all of the above hunters) He will see the buck of a lifetime and shoot it regardless of the regulations since in-person registration and phone registration reduces his risk to an acceptable level. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 7. The killer. He just like to kill deer and only gets a few days a year to do it. He shoots every deer in sight every year. He eats what he can, gives away the rest. He is already shooting the place up. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 8. land owner with too many deer. He is already killing as many as he can. Net result: no additional antlerless deer killed. 9. There are also variants of each of these hunter types based on whether they hunt public or private land. Since its likely there will be high numbers or antlerless tags for private land (and that hunter type is already managing the herd to levels he wants since it’s his land and he imposes rules to himself and guests), there will be no increase in kill for the private land hunter since he already gets a ton of doe tags yet only kills a fixed number (not enough according to the DNR). I see no scenario where the antlerless harvest increases for the private land owner and his already controls the lion’s share of the land of every county. Public land will get a limited number of antlerless tags because if too many are issued, all the above hunter types with private lands will go to public and get the meat they want while preserving their honey hole at home so instead of killing a doe at home he would kill a doe on public for no net change. The goal of the hunter and the goal of the DNR are not the same. Since land owners determine harvest quotas for their land and can opt out of a season with no ramifications, the DNR is powerless to make him kill more does. Telling him he cant kill a buck will mean better buck hunting the next year and guys only hunting bucks the next year. This is a flat out fail. I hope against hope you implement this. It’s the only way the DNR will ever learn that this plan is an epic fail. You would do better to issue 20 free antlerless tags with each tag. At least people will be out in the woods rather than sitting out the season in protest or simply not killing a single additional deer out of protest. You need learned you cant compel a hunter to kill that which he does not wish to or thinks needs to and penalties and punishment only breeds resentment. I ve detailed the hunter types and how they would deal with such a stupid and misguided prohibition on killing a buck as a "motivator". I'm wondering what the hunter looks like that will look at an antlerless only season as a motivator to kill a bunch of does out of some sense of obligation to the DNR or the state. If this guy is of the opinion there are far to many deer (regardless if he is a land owner or not) he has long been supplied all the opportunity and tools necessary to take action. Low priced tags, extra hunts, etc. He has been incentivized and still he will only kill as many as he deems appropriate (and still its not enough). How does punitive restriction motivate him? How does telling him that he could always kill as many antlerless deer as he wanted to but punishing him by removing the ability to kill a buck motivate him further?? I beg of you to implement this punitive measure so we can put this failure of a management prescription to bed once and for all.
I am not a trophy hunter. I spend a considerable amount of time hunting. I do not bait, or use trail cameras. I am a boots on the ground hunter and spend many hours through out the year scouting and observing whitetail deer and other wildlife. I hunt primarily with a bow that being a recurve or longbow. I participate in the gun season both rifle and muzzleloader. Except for an occasional out of state bow hunt I hunt everyday of the deer season in Wisconsin. I am a long time hunter education instructor, and have been a delegate in the WCC (Wisconsin Conservation Congress) representing Door County for many years and also serving on the WCC Environmental Committee. I belong to several bow hunting state and national organizations. I consider myself a person deeply concerned with environmental and conservation issues. When I consider environment and habitat I do not just think of deer. I am a science guy and believe in good science based decisions. I understand that too many deer like to many of anything is not good and actually a bigger problem than to few deer. I usually support our Wisconsin DNR a 100% and would rather see decisions based on expert science backed biological evidence rather than back 40 anecdotal observations. That is not to say that hunter observations or experience should not be considered as it is all important to the total picture. What I find most disturbing about the Door County CDAC recommendation to have a antlerless only season in 2017 is that it is not science based. I was told by one of the biologists at this years Spring Hearing that the metrics used to determine antlerless numbers in Door County was the SAK (Sex, Age, Kill) formula. I asked how could that be since that information was not gathered last year because of call in information. I was told they used the information from two years ago. That in my opinion is not good information to make a factual science based decision. I pointed out that my observations of the Northern Door County (North of the 3 bridges) deer numbers were very different. I hunt a lot of land both public and private and have not seen no where near the number of deer in the last two years that the CDAC committee is claiming to have. I believe that the problem is that Northern Door County is very much different than Southern Door County. Southern Door County may have substantially more deer than Northern Door. Basically we are really two different zones. I personally believe that encouraging a large antlerless kill in Northern Door could have disastrous effects on total deer numbers in Northern Door. Your metrics from last year alone do not tell you where those deer harvested in Door County (North or South) were taken. I believe a lot of this is also driven by some sort of trophy madness whereby bucks not shot this year will have a chance to grow to a more mature status. This is not a science based way to manage deer and habitat. I also think the Door County CDAC committee's antlerless plan has a very good chance of backfiring if hunters choose not to participate and shoot those deer. This could be a huge issue if the deer herd numbers are as high in Southern Door as some say. I think a possible solution is educating hunters to harvest antlerless deer in areas where to many deer truly exist. Either hunters will have to do the right thing or the legislature will have to bring earn a buck back or hire sharpshooters to control numbers. I don't think either would be popular. Thank you for considering my concerns Sincerely, Ron Lang rtlang46@gmail.com
Since population levels are nowhere near carrying capacity of the land in northern door, antlerless only seasons should have no place in the cdac recommendation and are absurd. They should be a last resort to manage the health of a deer population which is an issue we don't have. Since this is a social issue instead of biological, if people are worried about car accidents, agricultural damage etc., they should be encouraging hunters and letting them on their land or doing the hunting themselves. If non-hunters think deer populations are too high that should create demand for more hunters including those traveling to the county from other places, which should help decrease or maintain the population without such drastic measures. If car accidents are a concern, since it looks like there were more last year, maybe that has something to do with 200,000 more people visiting the county last year (according to the pen pulse). The deer numbers did not increase in correlation to the number of accidents, so the deer are not the problem, the extra people are. The deer population and hunters should not be punished for an increase in summer tourist traffic. I'm not a trophy hunter (I mostly just want venison in the freezer) and I did my part harvesting last year, shooting a small buck, a doe, and inviting a friend from out of state who shot a doe as well. However if after 17+ years in the woods (since before I was old enough to carry a gun) a trophy does walk by, I better be able to shoot it when there's supposedly an abundance of deer. I know there are some hunters who seem to resist shooting does and maybe because of that, earn a buck, or giving buck tags to those who harvested does last year could be an option as a compromise. The only reason a hunter should really be told they must pass on shooting a deer is if there aren't enough in the population, or the population will exceed the lands' carrying capacity. Otherwise this is a social overreach of the government, where those who don't even usually hunt try to tell the people who directly control the population what to do. Ever hear don't bite the hand that feeds you? The antlerless only idea will only anger the hunters in the county and I would encourage a strong community and social media campaign to boycott deer season altogether if the recommendation becomes reality. This should decrease funding of the dnr from hunters and really mess with the goal of decreasing the population this season. It could be avoided by simply not angering the people who do the hands on managing of the population, and buy licenses, spend money, visit friends and family, clean and process or donate meat. Hunters are the greatest conservationists, spend the most on wildlife, and put more time and work into the sport than non-hunters could fathom. They should have the largest voice in the discussion of the social issues of the deer population. If farmers and people who don't want their auto insurance to go up want less deer they can always start hunting. There is no justification for an antlerless only season, so don't ruin years of tradition, comraderie, the economy, and what may be some hunter's opportunity at a once in a lifetime deer without good reason. Thanks for reading and happy hunting.
Washington, Plum, Detroit & Rock Islands should be their own unit. If 17+ mi2 were fenced off in southern Door would you not look at that fenced in area separately as it is a geographically isolated, separate population subject to population fluctuations above or below surrounding unit with arguably better herd control if yearly data were available to "react" to? The amount of deer swimming between Islands and mainland is statistically irrelevant (6 deer in 20 years - all from mainland to Plum Island!). Additionally, Madeline Island WI is it's own unit with historic harvest levels of 1/3 of Door Islands unit (previously 81) so it appears harvest levels have zero relevance in selecting unit boundaries. I disagreed with "doe only", but mildly. Trusting the Committee used science and data vs. personal or political agendas, the math must be pointing to an imminent deer population explosion. My only disagreement with "doe only" has 2 main points (ranked in order): 1. An enforcement nightmare. I believe poaching is increasing as generally better quality bucks are running around due to formal or informal QDM being practiced. Absent in-person registration, it will be up to the individual ethics of the hunter not to shoot that buck in front of them. On the positive side, every serious QDM deer hunter will become an amateur warden to ensure that "if I can’t do it, no one else should be able to either"! 2. Youth & beginner hunters should be able to shoot what they want. At a time when the push is to encourage participation, put yourselves in the shoes of a parent or mentor with a first time hunter or a first time hunter checking off the months and days until they can hunt with Dad & Grampa, and if doe only is passed please make this exception. I believe Earn A Buck worked before and the gains in quality were impressive after one year. Bringing it back would necessarily have to be hand-in-hand with in-person registration. If this achieves the same or similar results as what you're seeking with doe only, make the recommendation to reinstate as a CDAC tool. It wasn't as polarizing as doe only. Additionally, and a preferred alternate to either doe only or EAB personally would be antler point restrictions. 4 points on a side. Forced elimination of brown & down that doe only would bring I'm afraid. I have hunted in states both before and after restrictions were put in place and the results were amazing. It's not far off from the formal or informal QDM currently taking place generally where I hunt, and it levels the playing field for all - could be considered independently of antlerless goals as well. Great respect for Committee members who by proposing this, have probably painted a big target on themselves for the ire of our less than diplomatic and objective hunting brethren. If greater public interest in Door CDAC was one of the goals, you can probably check that off the list!

First let me compliment your efforts to balance the Door County Deer Herds. While some hunters refuse to harvest does (anterless) deer, especially in Southern Door County, other hunters take the responsibility of balancing the herd very seriously. Our group of hunters practice Quality Deer Management, and always harvest antlerless deer, and occasionally a super mature buck or two. We have been practicing our method of hunting for almost two decades, and it works to keep crop damage under control, hunting pressure under control, and harvest requirements that balance our local private land goals. We have seen a return of very nice numbers of mature bucks, balanced by enough mature does, and an annual fawn renewal that supports our local herd. We used to see many more deer in our area, but in the last two years, the number seen during the hunting season and throughout the year has declined. We imagined it was due to more predators in our area, and more neighbors in our land block harvesting more deer, both anterless and mature bucks. If there is a way to get non-anterless deer hunters to harvest more does, it is through education. You need to train the new, youth hunters to understand the need to balance the herd, all factors included. Any ethical deer harvested is a trophy! This needs to be instilled in our future hunters in Wisconsin! Lower the cost of anterless deer tags, substantially, and encourage that harvest in areas overpopulated, please. Make it mandatory that any landowner who is getting crop damage monetary bennifits has to open his land to hunters who ask permission to harvest anterless deer safely and ethically. Make the buck tags more expensive if necessary, but in either case NEVER DISCOURAGE HUNTERS FROM PERSUISING THIS GREAT SPORT! We need new hunters of all ages in our sport, and in our area of Wisconsin, so recruitment and retention of hunters should be at the top of your list. And please don't penalize those of us who have been practicing Balancing The Heard by following your recommendations and those of Quality Deer Management, by having an Anterless Deer Season only in 2017. Any rule changes should not discourage any hunter. So make it advantageous to harvest does. They taste better than a big old swamp buck, anyway! Good luck and good safe hunting.
I am very aware and understanding of your objective; to reduce the amount of deer in our herd. I think it is shortsighted on several fronts. First of all, Door county is a very geographically divided unit. It is literally divided in half. The population of deer is not evenly distributed throughout. what is good for one area of the county may not be good for the other. I HAVE SEEN NOTHING, that indicates to me that the state has considered this when producing their statistical data. ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL. Get some more substantiated numbers before making critical decisions. Us as citizens are required to do so on a daily basis to survive. why is the Dnr allowed to do differently. Secondly, Say your numbers are justified. Have you considered the impact that removing an antler deer season will do for the sport? If reducing the herd but increasing hunter participation are your goals, how is taking hunters out of the woods going to accomplish either. The solution is quite simple: get accurate deer numbers, set reasonable and realistic harvest goals based on deer populations AS WELL AS hunter participants in those areas. Educate your hunters on these goals. Use tools such as an antlered deer lottery or earn a antlered deer tag. Re evaluate out of state participants. Out of state participants are less likely to care about long term health of the herd, more inclined to be trophy hunting as they will target certain areas due to age structure, buck to doe ratio, etc. Overall, you are not using your resources. Other neighboring states have accomplished deer management incredibly successfully. (iowa,illinois, Kansas) use these as your models. A misinformed public and a government with ulterior motives (insurance industry,Tradition) are poor decision makers. YOU CAN DO BETTER!!! We deserve it

I've lived my whole 30ish years in door county. I own a small parcel I bow hunt on and have family and family friends that allow me to hunt their properties throughout door county as well. I've hunt private land south of sturgeon bay and public and private land north of town regularly. As a hunter with stands that stretch from sturgeon bay to gills rock, I'd like to tell you from my observations and hours put in enjoying one of my favorite hobbies; there are FAR fewer deer in the northern end of our county than the numbers lead to believe. I honestly only take one deer a year for myself and usually one for charity. I'm the only one in my household that eats it and it should never be wasted. Up until 2014 deer seem to be more plentiful. During the 2014 hunt I saw plenty of healthy deer around sturgeon bay but Jacksonport and Gills Rock produced minimal action. 2015 was even worse when I saw very minimal amounts of deer north of sturgeon bay and heard reports of the same. 2016 was so dry to start the bow season I gave up in gills rock and jacksonport and only sat sturgeon bay. North of the canal was still a poor showing with a handful of does and a few small bucks like clockwork all bow season long. Since northern door is lumped in with REAL farmland southern door, it'll always have skewed numbers. Common word on the northern end of the county is if a doe only hunt occurs in 2017, there's $48 from each of them the DNR won't get. Because when they don't have any deer to shoot at, and you take away the sport...there's no reason to play any more.

I own private property in 80B. There are (4) in our group. I personally have not seen a deer while now and Crossbow hunting for (3) years. I have seen ONE doe (too small), in those same three years while gun and muzzleloader hunting. I'm lucky I have land to hunt in the southern farmland, however no archery kills for last two years. Saw nothing. The amount of shooting my party has heRd the last few years especially on opening weekend I would estimate to be about one quarter of what we used to hear. Road kills in our area are also down. Game cameras have far fewer deer photos, and those are 95% nighttime photos. Could be the reason we are not seeing deer during the hunt. I have mentored my grandson for the last four years. He and I together have seen one fawn doe, again in four years. We hunt about 8 hours per day opening weekend. I'm concerned his enthusiasm will plummet if there aren't at least a few sightings even if out of range, just to see something. My group had 17 tags last season for the gun hunt. We burned them, all of them. Zero success. I burned my archery tags in southern farmland the last three years, so unless I was fortunate enough to be gifted some venison, We've had none for three years, the three years you are referencing to in this survey. I would suggest you re-consider your suggestion regarding no buck harvest if for the 14 year old whom comes out in the dark each day with me in anticipation of at least seeing a deer. He is the DNR hunting future and I'm sure will not participate if our groups miserable record continues.
We struggle to create access to private lands that harbor deer in the northern part of the county. Thus creating sanctuaries. Herd age structure is another drastic thing to be considered with many deer in the 3 year old plus category. Predation impacts in the northern 1/3 of the county is greatly different from anywhere else. This is due to the reluctance of private landowners to allow hunting for them. Seriously questioning the herd population estimate as it would be estimated at 54 deer per square mile. It’s hard to see those numbers county wide even with high density areas. Southern Door County has a broad range of deer densities. But are the highest in the county. Impacts of deer on habitat management practices are seen throughout the county. Reforestation efforts are hindered by deer browse. Especially in the South. Timber stand improvement practices prove to be the best chance at natural regeneration but are also seeing impacts from deer browse however not to the extent as reforestation efforts. Vehicle collisions are not an indicator of deer density but are derived more from county tourism activities increasing over the last two years. Public land hunting was fantastic due to low hunter numbers. However due to poor acorn crops deer sightings were down significantly. Mature buck numbers are still high. Especially trophy class animals ages 4 years and up. The county has seen new records in both gun and bow over the last few years.

Need to move to a one (1) buck limit per season just like Pennsylvania... Need to harvest more does and only allow one (1) buck per hunter per entire season... Current "phone in" system with paper tags instituted by DNR is not accurate... Many hunters do not honestly report their kills as they now feel it is voluntary vs. mandatory... Many states like California have a mandatory reporting requirement (you have to report your success to the DFG whether you were successful or not successful for every big game tag issued). Else, go back to mandatory deer registration stations and institute a one (1) buck rule per hunter per season. Encourage more antlerless harvest, but need to educate the public that we are exceeding the carrying capacity of the area with too many deer. Do not want CWD to infect the area from a local captive deer farm (which the DNR still refuses to manage appropriately)... Need to reduce deer population, but an antlerless only season will not accomplish the end goal and many people including myself, will not hunt... I own hundreds of acres of private land and will not hunt deer or allow others to hunt deer on my land if the DNR imposes an antlerless only season. The DNR needs to work closer with private land owners to address their concerns as it issues new mandates... We do need to reduce the deer herd which predominantly inhabits private lands, but an antlerless only season will not accomplish this end goal...

I feel that here in Door County there is a lot of private land that hunting is not allowed. At All! The deer go there when they feel pressure and become nocturnal during the gun hunt. At night you will see 20-30 deer on a field. But see nothing during the day. I hunt a travel corridor to a large woods (500+ acres) that has a limited # of hunters that only shoot bucks and the number of deer I see each year has decreased as they feel safe in the large woods and don't move like they used to. Another landowner that has 600+ acres that for years didn't believe in taking does. Only large bucks. Now these landowners want a doe only hunt. Hum! For years we have been meat hunters. We have taught our children & grandchildren to be meat hunters. The rule in the woods is: You take the first deer you want to shoot that presents a good shot. We have taken our share of does and bucks. We hunt our land mostly because Door county residents don't allow others hunters of any species to use their land anymore for drives and setting up stands or small game hunting. Then there are the crop permits. I know of landowners that have gotten the permits, but not allowed anyone to hunt and use them. If the landowner wants to get the money for crop damage, then the permits should be used. I think more permits would be used if the owner got a percentage of money based on the number pf permits filled.
Southern Door Co has a higher deer population than northern Door Co. I live in central Door and bow hunted 5 days a week until December and only had 2 or 3 opportunities to harvest a deer (only does w/fawns and small bucks). I did not see that many deer in the areas that I hunt, and its not my hunting skills. I always like to harvest at least 2 or 3 deer per season as I have a large family that likes venison. LACK of accessible land is the problem in my area! Territorial hunters, non-hunter land owners, smaller tracts of land are making it difficult to get to the herd. Television doesn't help either. Not many shows on showing hunters taking the big Doe. I work in all of Door Co. and it very obvious that the southern farm areas have many more deer than the northern area. It is very difficult to get permission to hunt on the southern area farms, I’ve tried. When I started to hunt deer in Door Co. in 1969 there was less than 500 deer harvested during the gun season, nobody hunted with a bow back then. We would hunt all week and maybe SEE a deer. Since then I have seen the herd grow many times of what it was and I also saw the houses grow in numbers too. Hunters can’t control the herd if they get to them. I think if you take the Buck off the ticket you will lose hunters as they aren’t shooting Does now in the numbers they should and It isn’t because of the lack of permits.

I observed in the last three years a stable increase in the deer population to a point that I felt comfortable taking a minimum of 2 antlerless deer during the 2017 season. I also observed an extreme increase in the number of antlered deer during the 2016 season. If i had to put a number on it there was 1.5 bucks for every doe on my property, furthermore 2 of the does on my property each had twin bucklings. On my property i observed 8 different bucks all of which ended up with either broken tines or almost complete loss of one side of their rack from over fighting. I understand that the doe population may be heavy in some areas but where I am I have not suffered crop damage out of reason when living in harmony with the natural world. I believe that as a hunters it is our job to be good stewards to our natural world. That being said like I mentioned before I had already chosen to take 2 does during the 2017 season and in addition 2 bucks. Getting ride of the buck hunt completely for the 2017 season in my opinion would be a big mistake. We as hunters need to get out during the 2017 season and do our part and try to meet the antlerless quota. You just cant let theses bucks go into winter 2017 unchecked after waring with eachother during the rut and even worse face a potentially hard winter. I would suggest a longer bow season and a potentially a doe only gun season.

I’m my opinion an antlerless only hunt will only decrease the amount of hunters that will purchase license/ harvest antlerless deer. Another concern is the high risk of violations occurring when large antlered deer are obtainable. In my opinion an antlerless deer season will backfire if there is less people hunting, taking there kids hunting or introducing new people to hunting. In my opinion the damages of earn a buck statewide along with increased numbers of predators on deer have made most ethical hunters aware of the dangers of over harvesting. In my opinion the availability of bonus tags will achieve the goal of reducing the heard to obtainable numbers however it may take time as there needs to be the opportunity for people willing to harvest more antlerless deer. In our particular group of hunters we were trying to harvest more antlerless deer but were not given adequate opportunities. I am concerned how taking away the opportunity of harvesting an antlered deer achieves the goal of reducing the herd? Most opportunities of harvesting a deer with an archery license happen during the rut when most of the deer seen are antlered deer. I am concerned personally how I will get my son to be interested in hunting if there is no opportunity of harvesting a large antlered deer given the opportunity?
I own 350 plus acres of orchard land with some woods and open land. It has been a tough task in years gone by to control the damage caused by deer browsing and buck rubs. I have also hunted deer for 55 years. The past three or four years however, have been the toughest to control the damage done by deer. Thousands of dollars each year are lost both in crop damage and tree losses. Since the elimination of Earn a Buck the problems have sky-rocketed. Fields which would have 6 or 7 deer feeding towards evening now have 50 or 60. Driving to town at dusk or in the evening has become a gauntlet of deer near misses and some not misses. The deer abatement program is certainly helpful, but does not cure the biggest problem. TOO MANY DEER!! Without the best tool of deer management we had... EARN a BUCK...the CDCD has, to their credit, proposed an antler less season for 2017. Sadly, the buck hunter or bust vocal group will probably shut it down. How many of their number own land and crops being wrecked by the overpopulation of deer?? Even if antler less hunt only somehow passes I would suspect hunter numbers will be down enough that the does won't be reduced enough anyway. Isn’t their some way to get back EARN a BUCK?? Thank you to the committee for their courageous stance on this issue.  

Lee Petrina

I own over 100 acres in Door County and strongly oppose the antlerless only deer season. I have been deer hunting for over 30 years and the deer herd estimates are still being estimated wrong by the DNR and CDAC and its been proven the DNR has no way of accurately estimating the herd, these numbers are all wrong right off the bat. The whole formula for estimating the herd is wrong. There are substantially less deer every year where I hunt in Door County and everyone I know and talk to in my area would agree there are not that many does, I observe in both bow & gun seasons 5 bucks to 1 doe. Proposing an antlerless only deer season is a terrible idea. I and the land owners around me will not participate in this years deer season if it is doe only, you will kill many less deer and sell many less licenses if you go doe only, this is a bad idea. If there is an antlerless only deer season I will no longer let the public hunt on my land and the snowmobile trail that comes through my land will no longer be allowed. You wanna make some land owners mad go ahead make it doe only and you can forget about getting more deer shot in these so called sanctuary’s because now were not even gonna let you go in there to turkey hunt, youth hunt, bow hunt, gun hunt or snowmobile. Great plan, not..!

I believe having an antlerless only season will have a negative impact on attracting and retaining hunters. I have spoken to several people whom may not even get a license if it were antlerless only. I know I personally would probably not spend as much time in the woods chasing the elusive buck and therefore would have less opportunities to harvest an antlerless deer as well. I also would find it very difficult to bring young people out to introduce them to hunting and have to try and explain why they could not try to harvest a nice buck if the opportunity presented itself. There are plenty of people who would like to harvest antlerless deer if they could, and working with more crop damage tags, additional public lands being opened up, or additional antlerless seasons would seem a better option to me than going antlerless only. If you are trying to promote an increased antlerless harvest doing earn-a-buck like was done in the past would seem, to me, far more likely to keep hunters in the woods and incentivize them to harvest antlerless deer than going antlerless only. You need the hunters in the woods to meet your quotas and antlerless only wouldn’t seem to be the best way to get them in the woods in my opinion.
The area that is considered to be overbrowsed is the winter herd yard for deer in this unit in the Sevastopol Town. I live 2 miles away and I have cedars in the swamp that I hunt all the way to the ground with no overbrowse. Since neighbors in this one overbrowsed area have planted 2 five area food plots in the middle of this 1000 acre swamp the deer never leave in the summer. Now deer have food plots to eat in summer and stay to herd up in winter never leaving this one swamp. How can they say there land is overbrowsed when they try to keep the deer in their swamp all year. We need to get the deer out of this swamp so others can see them, if not, no matter what you do will ever stop the overbrowse in this one swamp. If we go to an antlerless only hunt the one group hurt will be the WI DNR because, people are not going to hunt or like me I will only bow hunt, why would I pay for a gun license for another $24 to shoot another 3 doe? People that want to hunt bucks will leave Door County and hunt elsewhere, the only way to reduce the herd is a earn a buck hunt. Don't tell us we can not do that, lawmakers passed it last time in a few months to stop it and it would only take one vote to change back.

As I do agree that our herd size is out of control. I am afraid that the doe only will only ultimately show yet a decrease in doe harvest. I feel we need to offer more doe tags to those who are willing to manage the herd, I my self shot all six of my free tags. I feel the extra permits should come back down in price to create the incentive to buy and shoot more does. And I feel that the Earn a Buck should be an available management tool once again, maybe even two does per buck. In the southern part of the county its nothing to see 50+ deer in a field hours before dark, all antlerless. It is unfortunate that so many are still against shooting does, and falsely doing it in the name of quality deer management. I think the best tool we've had up to this point has been Earn a Buck. It has been the only way to force the hand of the already permit holder to shoot a doe he or who would not have.

Greed, selfishness, and Cable TV/hunting shows have distorted the tradition of hunting into "Shooting" (bucks off of food plots), not "Hunting". And most have lost that we as licence holders are participants in deer and land management.

Although I personally do not own more then 5 acres, I do have relatives that own 40+ acres here in Door County, that myself and other family members use for hunting. I am avid bow hunter. I do use the thousands of acres of public land across the county, Land Trust land and State Parks when open after Nov. 15. I hunt on average over 150 hrs a year on public land. All across the county, from north to south. I have an advantage of living in Sturgeon Bay, it doesn't matter which way I go. My own personal opinion on the "Doe only" hunt is you will lose hunters. For a sport and heritage for most family, this is only going to hurt the deer population in the long term. By removing future hunters and hunters who already hunt in the county. WE will hunt other counties. WE may not even buy our annual license. If there is any at all monies coming into the county from tourist who hunt here, they will not visit if there is no opportunity to harvest a buck. If this passes I will not be partaking in 2017 Deer season, or any other deer season in Door County. I have plenty of other opportunities to hunt in this state, outside of this county.

I was born and raised in the area and now live out of state. I have traveled to my parents hunting cabin for over 20 years for the gun deer hunt and it is a great tradition. Deer camp is a great tradition in the state of Wisconsin and I think an antlerless only season is a bad idea. Most hunters go out in the woods to have the opportunity to potentially get a chance at a buck of a lifetime. I would guess that an antlerless only season would cause far fewer hunters to hunt the deer season and would ultimately lead to an increased deer population. As a non-resident I have to fly in at a cost of nearly $400 and buy a $160 non-resident license to hunt on my parent's property. I have no problem doing this for the opportunity to hunt for a buck each year and to carry on the deer cabin tradition. If the season is antlerless only I would not be willing to pay over $500 just to come home and hunt for antlerless deer only. I am guessing that there are alot of hunters in the same situation and I am guessing that the deer kill and deer hunter participation numbers will be much lower in 2017 if the season is antlerless only.
Assume we go antlerless only, here are a few comments.  1) cost of tag for non-residents should go down by half or more. People pay for possibility. If you take that away, hunters won't see value.  2) for a hunter to Get a buck tag in 2018, the hunter would need to harvest two does in 2017. This is earn-a-buck mentality, yes. However, the hunters contributing to herd management should be rewarded.  3) hunter education on doe harvest is really lacking. DNR needs to do a better job of helping land owners and hunters understand the impact. Education on the target herd size per square mile and annual surveys - how to hold them accurately - can help. People need to understand what is in it for them (better hunting - stable healthier herd with a balanced herd).  4) DNR needs to come up with a way to publish harvest by township. When we registered at a central location, we had Year over year counts. I hunt on Washington island where this was particularly true. All deer were registered in one spot. This way, we as hunters could see how well we were impacting Year over year.

Last year I harvested three deer in Door County, one buck and two does. I also wounded and didn't recover another two does during the archery season. So one could assume that I killed 5 deer. As a conservationist in the County, I completely understand the need to reduce deer populations numbers, especially in southern Door County. Northern Door County is a different story though. I'm concerned that turning the deer hunting season to "only does" is going to be counter productive and could potentially increase deer populations. It's very likely that I will hunt in another County, such as Shawano, if it becomes an only doe season in Door County. I realize Earn A Buck is no longer an option, unfortunately. Further, what are the social and economic impacts of making such a move? I would guess that both would be highly impacted. I propose that you liberalize the seasons, not make it an only doe season. I think there are a lot of people that will shoot does when hunting bucks. If one can't shoot a buck, will they even step in the woods?

A doe only hunt will not decrease the overall population. Most hunters will not hunt or will hunt another county in order to harvest a buck. By restricting hunters to antlerless only I believe the harvest numbers will go down and the population will rise. In my opinion there are other options that will work better. First since earn a buck is illegal offer a bonus buck. Every hunter receive their buck tag and 3 antlerless tags and if they shoot 2 antlerless deer in the county they receive a second buck tag that is only good for Door County and the same year. Another option is offering longer gun seasons. An early gun season for antlerless as well an extended regular season. Door County is split into 2 sections, north of Sturgeon Bay and south of the bay. The south portion of the county holds the highest deer densities and inflate the overall numbers for the county. If an atlerless only hunt were to take place(which it shouldn't) it should be for the portion of the county south of Sturgeon Bay.

In all the many hours I spent in the woods over the past three hunting seasons, my deer hunts have been completely unproductive. After spending 84 hours bow and gun hunting in 2014, 76 hours bow and gun hunting in 2015, and 72 hours bow and gun hunting in 2016, I saw a grand total of one yearling buck in 2014, one doe in 2015, and two buck-fawns in 2016. This calculates to four deer in 232 hours of hunting or (0.017 deer seen per hour of hunting). This has been my experience for the past few years and I am done trying to hunt in these conditions. I am giving up on archery and gun hunting for the next 3 to 5 years in Northern Door County, since there is no point in hunting for deer that are not there. Until our CDAC is able to fix this problem, I will not hunt. Unless our CDAC makes Northern Door "Buck Only" for at least the next 3 to 5 years, I do not see conditions improving. I will be focusing my efforts on fishing instead of wasting my time trying to harvest deer that are not there.
Hi, I would strongly suggest that be for antlerless only that we strongly consider raising the size of legal bucks to at least 3 points on a side to be legal, their for that in its self wood harvest more antlerless deer, who ever shoots the spikes and forks may be taken does for their table eats? also would strongly oppose a January archery hunt, as I’m a very active bow hunter as well, as hound hunter for predators such as coyotes, and hunters do not allow us to run hounds till after their bow season now. so we will loose a month of hunting so a very again very little amount of archers will actually be hunting in the harsh January weather, and how many bucks may have dropped antlers by then? Just to be taken by archers, honestly in my 42 years of dedication to rifle archery and muzzle loader, I really don’t see more than a few deer harvested in January! p.s think that holiday hunt may be a good trial, to start thank you, for readin my comment wish could have had a spot too put contact info down thanks

I would be in favor of a Nov. 15th opener, doesn’t matter on what day of the week it falls on. Would hit the rut in full swing, more deer movement, better hunting in general. I know this meets with some disapproval but it’s a better tool for harvesting more deer. I would at least like a trial year to see how it works out. An only antlerless season is a bad way to go, you will have hunters NOT even buying a license, I could be one of them, I would hate to pass up a large buck, I harvested a doe in the past 6 years, so I sure did my duty. But Without a buck tag to fill, I would have to reconsider my thoughts of hunting this fall. My brother’s land, which I hunt on 260 acres is just right in my estimation of the correct deer population, there is 5 of us that hunt this land, probably 1/4 is wooded. We are NOT overrun by deer and the surrounding land is also hunted. Leave it the way it is, don’t screw it up. it’s fun the way it is. and don’t punish the hunters.

The issue with the Door County management unit is that hunters are not shooting does out of choice. Nobody hunting Door County NEEDS meat... most just want a racked buck so pass on does. If you decide to stop issuing buck permits, most people will just not hunt, which will FURTHER increase the deer population. The reluctance to shoot a doe seems to come from landowners, not the guys on public land. Most people on public land seem to be interested in putting meat in the freezer, and you can’t make antler stew. I am a meat hunter. I shoot does on an equal opportunity basis (depends what steps out in front of me)... but at the same time, if a trophy buck walks in front of me I'd like an opportunity to harvest it (last year I shot a dandy 10 pt- but it was 10 years ago the last time I harvested/had an opportunity for a racked buck). Is there a way to encourage hunters to harvest does WITHOUT reinstating the Zone-T or EAB policies... or worse yet, removing the tag altogether?

The solution to this problem is not to punish deer hunters. Hunters can only do so much, the main problem is landowners not allowing hunters as well as development restricting hunting land. Non hunters need to be educated and realize they are causing the problem. Deer will be a nuisance problem to property owners and farmers until hunters are in demand again. The antlerless only season will anger hunters and be a complete failure since it does not address the actual issue. Making extra tags available last season didn’t work because it didn’t increase the number of hunters or improve their access to inaccessable land for hunting. Promoting hunting is the only solution, but the proposed solution will just keep hunters from going afield. The typical hunter only needs 1 or 2 deer for venison and will not be any more motivated to hunt this year without the chance at getting a buck. There will be less hunters and less does shot in 2017 than 2016, I’d bet on it.

Northern Door is not apparently what you are talking about. I left northern central forest area to come harvest does where I live (Door) on Tuesday of gun season and did not see 1 single doe the rest of the season. The DNR did this in Taylor county where I hunt in the late 90’s hammer the does there are too many, we did. Then the wolves came, and the bears, saw a fisher run down a fawn one year, had a couple bad winters winters....now what...??? BUCKS ONLY ON PUBLIC FOREST LAND!!! NO DEER!!! Don’t make the same mistake, we have a few wolves in the Door but more will come. The coyotes are out of control as no one will hunt them with dogs because of private land in northern Door. Rusk County land owner put a camera on a wolf den a few years back and they bought 29 fawns back to the den with other animals in 30 days. I WONDER HOW MANY FAWNS THE COYOTES EAT IN A MONTH????!!!! Does only in northern Door County? I THINK NOT!!!
In regard to a buck only season in Door County I think it would be a terrible mistake. It will in fact increase the herd because of complete lack of hunter participation. This will however be beneficial to the pro-QDMers. Poor hunting conditions opening weekend of 2016 seasoned saved a lot of bucks from being harvested, this essentially will give those bucks an extra 2 years growth before they can be legally harvested. Now they won't have to preach "Let Them Go...Let Them Grow!", it will be mandated county wide. I also believe most QDM land as well as most of the huntable deer range in Door County privately owned. These micro-managed parcels, sometimes rather poorly managed, will never have an antlerless deer harvested on it, or if they do its not nearly enough to get it to a 50/50 ratio...70/30 would even be good. They may shoot 1 or 2 antlerless so one can say, "We shoot does".

The DNR evidently feels there is a deer behind every bush in Door County. We have hunted just south of Sturgeon Bay for the last 4 seasons and while there is deer sign, we just are not seeing the deer. We are doing large drives with a dozen or more people on 20-80 acre tracts of private land and there are nowhere near enough deer up there to warrant a no-bucks season. I definitely oppose this, and in fact, I would argue for lowering the antlerless tags for the 2017 deer season. If you, the DNR, really do believe there are THAT many deer up there, taking away the opportunity for hunters to harvest a buck at all during 2017 is going to do the reverse of your goal: people will shy away from hunting DC at all for this reason, and thus you will have reduced hunter numbers to even shoot all these deer, that I just do not believe are even there in the first place.

Most hunters don't have the access to land as before. Hunters are being more selective in their hunts. Waiting for larger deer, making sure they are not shooting bucks fawns, and making sure of kills shot impacts rates. In my opinion, this prevents more deer from being harvested as hunters are managing the herd by waiting for larger buck, preventing buck fawns from being killed along with ethical kills. One thing I encountered was wet hunting land. Deer are smart and hold up in areas were hunters are not. Shooting a deer in those condition makes you ensure a kill shot so less tracking in wet lands and less dragging through those conditions. Also high school basketball prevents hunting opening day as they have scrimmages that day. Work with WIAA to move start of season. What about allowing hunters extra buck tags with an antlerless or two harvests.

I have grown up with hunting on private and family owned land being a family tradition celebrated between all genders and age. This time of the year is valued more than thanksgiving or x-mas by some of us. As a family we spend more time together in this time period than any other. The thought of an antlerless only hunt would substantially impact our large family. With the thought of taking someone's first buck away, trophy, or even just the guy who doesn't have much time to spend in the woods and he misses out on the opportunity at a buck is hard to swallow. I hope this topic does not push through in 2017 for the sake of our family. This will also drastically affect our states/zones license sales. Not every hunter likes taking does and if he is forced to by the state he simply will not go and nothing will be a loss for both the hunter and the state.

I am a female hunter with limited walking capabilities hunting on public land. The past 3 years I have seen 2 deer rapidly move through my area. No shots able to be taken. I have seen and heard coyotes in the area and the turkey population has dropped significantly. Many private areas do not allow for hunters to go on their land. Why if the area is overpopulated? Can they be required to EARN a Buck on their property? I feel I am being punished for their greed. Are they only taking bucks for their horns? We want the meat. We have a party of 4-6 hunters. 2 are women. Our best year ever was 3 deer. That does not appear like much given the overpopulation per you. We take whatever comes in front of our sites. The culture needs to be changed. What about a women's only hunt earlier in the season to entice more women into the sport?
I am a guy who loves to hunt and knows the game and lives and hunts here and I can almost guarantee what will happen is that no one will hardly hunt these deer if you follow through on the doe only plan because everyone loves the fact of shooting big bucks it just feels better nothing against does they all taste the same but when you spend that kind of money and time planting food plots like I do , getting and buying corn and apples , then checking cameras for months and then sitting you hope you can shoot what you desire and I think there is no need for this doe only and they should at least consider earn a buck if anything but not doe only, the deer have been doing just fine this last 10-20years and if you believe there is "67" deer in a mile I would like you to explain at the meeting where you looked at and found that then.

I have deer hunted here during the entire bow and gun seasons for the past 29 years. I hunt the areas around Jacksonport, Egg Harbor, Ephraim, Sister Bay, and Ellison Bay. Over the years, I have seen deer populations go up and down. I participated in the earn a buck hunts, and although I did not agree, I shot does during that time period. Now I regret all those does during the earn a buck years. We have very few deer up in the north. Last bow season I saw only 2 deer in my 79 hunts last fall. During the gun season I saw one single deer on opening day, but did not see another deer all season. I suggest we split the county so it can be managed more effectively, with a buck only season in the north and you can have your doe only season in the south if that's what you want.

I have hunted in Northern Door County for 12 years. In my opinion, members of the Door County CDAC have formulated their decision on an antlerless-only hunting season based solely on deer populations below the Sturgeon Bay shipping canal. The deer population in Northern Door appears to be far lower than the 67 deer per square mile quoted in numerous news sources. It is my opinion that the Wisconsin DNR severely hurt the deer population over the last decade with the earn-a-buck and T-zone hunting programs, having vastly over-estimated the total number of deer in the state. I am urging you not to further destroy the deer population in Door County, or to at least consider the hunters of Northern Door before making a questionable decision like an antlerless-only hunting season.

I live on Washington Island and have hunted here from 1971 till now. the deer kill has been about 350 to 400 deer per year. I think it is running here just fine. We only have a small area to hunt not like the rest of the county. if we take all the does from here we will not have anything to hunt at all. I have seen this happened with other game. you issued all those extra tags last year and they were not filled. makes me think that people did not want to fill them because they did not want to shoot the does. I am considering not buying a deer tag at all if we are forced to shoot does. This will be the first time sense 1965. If we leave the Island to attend the meeting the cost would be more than 200.00 this is not in my budget as we are on a fix income.JMO

I feel the proposed antlerless only season just will not kill off as many deer as you think. The deer hunter numbers will be greatly reduced in Door county & therefore the antlerless kill will be down. The other issue I have is - after an antlerless season more hunters will show up in Door County because of buck kill having been eliminated. The 2nd year we will overkill the bucks only & will be right back where we started. The private land where I hunt does not have more deer than it did 3 years ago so its hard for me to get behind an antlerless hunt. Why not have the landowners propose a volunteer earn a buck on that persons land. This will bring up the doe kill & keep the buck kill about the same which will be more deer killed in 2017 than your proposal

I am a land owner in Door County and I do not believe that the advisory board should be forming opinions or making recommendations for private landowners to follow. I am a steward of my property and I know best as to the sustainability of the deer population the temporarily live on my property. I have 5 hunters on 80 acres, of which only 30 acres are wooded. The deer do travel through the area and they do make temporary bedding areas. But the deer sightings on this property in the last 3 years have diminished and I only allow 2 doe's taken each year. Now I will have to tell 3 of the 5 hunters that they cant even hunt if its doe's only. And I will for the first time since this property has been in the family 6 decades, I will post NO HUNTING.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Though it makes sense to try and limit the deer population for safety measures, unfortunately there are two separate ecosystems within Door County. In Southern Door County there are a lot more deer, both male and female. In Northern Door County, the number of deer will not increase at all, as the numbers can only be maintained not grown. If a successful hunt is wanted, for both locals and tourists, the deer population of Northern Door will need to grow. Simply put, killing more does will not do anything but force numbers to plummet. As such, the deer populations of Door County need to be treated as two separate regions, that being Northern and Southern Door County, with the dividing point being the Sturgeon Bay Canal.

Northern Door County does not have a deer overpopulation problem. I know that the population is much higher in central and southern Door, where there is agriculture to support the herd. Northern Door herd is probably at the lowest population since WWII. The hard winter several years ago, too many doe permits, and a very high coyote population have decimated the herd here. You do not see many road kill deer here. On the property where I hunt, the owner has asked us for the last 2-3 years not to shoot does, to help rebuild the local population. We have passed on shooting does and smaller (L/T 6pt) bucks. We should have a Northern Door bucks only zone, using Cty E or other landmarks to define the southern border.

In 2016 on my 40 acres, I didn’t see a deer during any of the gun season(s). I was one of 4 hunters. Each of the previous 3 years I have harvested a buck and 2 doe. Unfortunately, the others in my group have not had great success. In 2016 we saw and harvested only one deer, a very nice buck. We all had several doe tags and would have used them had we seen a doe. So, with that in mind, I would support an antlerless only, if we saw any, but would hate to have to pass up a buck especially if it is the only deer we saw. My land is in northern door county in the Liberty Grove area. Not sure if this is an area with high numbers of antlerless being reported, but is definitely not the same as southern door county.

I spent a lot of time reviewing the "Deer Metrics" data for our county and I do not see scientific data to support the recommendation of a doe-only hunt. Another problem with the data being used is that it neglects to facture in the dramatic differences in deer populations that exist from Northern Door (where deer are very scares) to Southern Door (where there are greater deer densities). We need separate data collected so that we can distinguish Southern Door populations from Northern Door populations and apply appropriate management tools to these separate habitats and very different populations. Please split the county so you can properly manage the deer.

Please do not make Door County an antlerless only unit. Implementing an October and/or a Holiday antlerless hunt would be more effective. I know many hunters who will not be going out if they do not have the chance of taking a buck. Three doe tags and one buck tag per license seems right to me. Many of us are happy to manage doe populations when there are separate seasons. I plead with you one last time, please allow buck tags to be filled in Door County. Denying this will likely have an adverse affect on hunting and the deer population. Even Earn-a-Buck would be a better option than denying the chance of filling a buck tag completely. -A concerned hunter

Having a antlerless only unit in Door county would be counter productive. a large amount hunters are looking to trophy hunt. That’s why they spend so much money on land, trail cameras, tree stands. If you make this antlerless only you will eliminate many people hunting. Please keep in mind Northern Door County is very different than Southern Door county. The State lands are older forest areas and do not have the cover or food that southern door has. The State parks also hold a very large population of coyote, and they use these areas as a sanctuary, because they are safe from danger. No hunting is permitted in these areas other than deer.

My concern is the fact that the deer population in Door County is being managed based on generalizations drawn from the County as a whole. However, anyone who lives or hunts in this area can confirm that the number of deer in northern Door is significantly less than that found in southern Door. The problem is hunters will still try to fill all 3 antlerless tags in northern Door, even though the population cannot sustain this level of harvest. My recommendation would be to set the antlerless tags at 2 for the County OR consider breaking the County into distinct management units (north and south) each with its own management goals.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

I think we are at approximately the correct size herd in northern Door County, we have many more acres of crops than we did a few years ago. If you want more deer killed don't charge for any of the doe tags. I still think the worst move you ever made was to allow young hunters to hunt before they have hunter safety. Even worse is to allow the mentor and youth hunter to both carry a gun. It is time you put hunter safety ahead of the all mighty dollar. your first time hunter fee, all that did was have guys buy licenses for their significant others and shoot deer for them (probably bucks) again it was about the almighty dollar

Antlerless Only hunting formats will not serve the intended purpose of reducing the size of the herd. Many hunters interested in shooting bucks will simply hunt in a different unit - reducing the kill in this unit. For all of the changes made to permits, the State has succeeded only in angering and alienating hunters. The best system was the old Doe Tag format...hunters who wanted to shoot does could and those who didn't, didn't even apply. Hunting numbers were up and so were the deer kills. Under that system, I would also support the sale of bonus tags for antlerless deer if it was deemed necessary.

Despite hunting in various types of habitat/land use types (swamp, hardwoods, standing crops, cut crops, crop damage) this past year in Door County during both archery and gun seasons, I only saw a total of 8 deer (3 bucks, 5 does) while hunting 60+ hours. I bagged a small doe on the last day of gun season. Last year was probably the most frustrating season of hunting I have ever had. It is one thing to be picky with what you choose to shoot. It's another to hardly see any deer at all. I strongly do not support a possible doe only season in 2017 for Door County.

I have been in this dmu for my entire life. I do not like earn a buck for the simple fact that people shoot the first one they see often times shooting young deer (nubby bucks) they would not normally shoot. We manage approximately 240 acres with influence on another 500 acres. We have been doing deer management for about 10 years. An antler-less only (not earn a buck) supports allowing bucks to mature and forcing non-deer management neighbors to follow suit for 1 year. We now consistently shoot a couple wall quality bucks per year on our primary

If you go to an antlerless only hunt you will lose 75% of your gun hunters in Door County. Door County hunters will go to a different county to deer hunt. This will result in less antlerless deer being harvested than any other previous year. You are better off having opening day being buck/antlerless hunt. Then make the rest of the year antlerless only. You will have the same problem with archery/crossbow. In order to get people to hunt and purchase licenses in Door County you will need to offer at least a few days of buck hunting.

I have bow hunted and gun hunted the last 12 yrs in Dr cty near the Gardner. In 2014 was the yr I've seen the most deer. Since then there have been less every yr. I think if we stay the course we will be fine in the deer numbers. It is better to be a little over populated then to have the problems we are having in the north woods. I think the best think would be to have an EAB but I know that won't happen. If there is a way to figure it out they should have the people that haven't shot a doe in the last 5 yrs that should be doe only.

The people on this bored should get a clue!!!! Mr. Baudhuin is an wildlife outlaw! And he's your main person. It's a joke, and if there is an doe only season the license sales will go down, and I will never hunt deer in Wisconsin again. You already ruined one tradition with illuminating back tags, don't ruin the 9 day deer season that to some is a the time of the year. And let's think about the taxidermist is the door county area you will literally be talk the food off of their plates by now allowing people to shoot bucks.

I don't trophy hunt I hunt to fill the freezer and so does the rest of my family. Last year was the first year I saw a nice size buck an 11 pointer which I was able to harvest. Having the antlerless only hunt angers me as I would of been unable to shot that buck. I have been hunting for 7 years now and that was my 1st opportunity at a nice size buck. I have shot does all other years and will continue to harvest a doe if given a chance but don't force me to pass up on a buck of a lifetime for someone who hunts to fill the freezer.
I AM VERY INTERESTED IN THE DEER HERD IN DOOR COUNTY. I HAVE HUNTING FOR 48 YEARS NOW. I SHOT 2 DOES IN 2016. I KNOW A LOT OF HUNTERS THAT SAY THEY WILL NOT HUNT IF IT IS A DOE ONLY SEASON. I FELL THE ONLY WAY TO CONTROL THE HERD IS TO GO BACK TO EARN A BUCK. BE IT YOU HAVE TO SHOOT ONE DOE OR TWO. YOU WOULD HAVE TO HAVE SOMEWARE THAT HUNTERS WOULD HAVE TO REGESTER AND PROVE THAT THEY SHOT A DOE BEFORE THEY COULD GET A BUCK TAG. THAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO CONTROL THE HERD!!! I KNOW THIS WILL COST MONEY, BUT IT WOULD BE WELL SPENT.

I hunt on private land, What the CDAC is recomending can not be enforced. They need to explain why, they base their findings to the hunter, before they impose the 2017 hunt. People need to understand why, when they sit in their stands and only see one deer opening morning they should shoot. 91% is private with 9% public, when you apply pressure on your land they move or stay in cover tell dark. How to allow the farmer or land owner to address this is the question? Can't impose their will on the landowner without solid facts.

Hunted for many many years here, I and my family are not about to do a doe only hunt. If this gets passed we will no longer be buying a license and deer hunting any longer. This would be a shame after all the great years and traditions we have here. This is not the answer, I question the data they are using in the first place the Dnr and Cdac have no idea how many deer are in the herd. The formula used for herd estimation is old and outdated and proven unreliable. You will kill less deer if this goes into place, not more.

Antlerless only hunting season would decrease the number of hunters in our County. By decreasing the number of hunters quotas would never be reached. Giving hunters an opportunity for the "T-Zone" multiple weekends before the season starts would be the more beneficial route. Have the "T-Zone" season before the season starts rather than after would also make more sense. By the time December rolls around hunters are either burnt out from the hunting months prior or weather factors into their decision to go out.

The CDAC recommendation seems to mostly look through an unfocused lens. The deer herd perception seems to come from those that hunt/own private land. Look no further than the CDAC chairman. He owns roughly 500 acres of land so his reality is going to be much different than the average hunter.  Secondly, a doe only hunt with have opposite the intended effect. Instead of having more does killed, you will have less deer being killed as hunters will look to places other than Door County to hunt.

I live on Washington Island and don’t think we need a heard control at all we take care of our own heard.each year we take 380 to 400 deer and this is how it has been sense I have been hunting here from 1971 till now . My self I take about 3 deer a year. I we are forced to take only does next season I am considering not getting a deer tag at all . You issued extra tags last year and they weart filled . Maybe it was because no one wanted to shoot a doe. just a thought. JMO

i know a doe only season is the only way to get the herd down you can give me 10 extra tags ill shoot what my family can eat ill wait for a buck shoot a doe if i get a buck and doe im done now if you make us shoot doe ill take 3 doe no presure for a bucksaid 2 years ago DOE ONLY people wont fill extra tags so force it but YOU WONT so i wont !!!the hunters that saythey wont buy a licencse i bet their the first in line next year so LETS DO THIS DOE ONLY get it over with

Traditionally in this unit people oppose taking antlerless deer. If an antlerless only season is enforced it is my belief that even less people will not purchase license. That said, I am not completely opposed to antlerless only season if that is what is deemed necessary. Our hunting party took more antlerless deer than bucks. One cannot eat the antlers. Good luck balancing the wishes of hunters to the needs of the herd. I will choose to hunt regardless of the decision.
Not a good idea, are family has been hunting here my whole life and we have a deer camp here that we all go to 
and enjoy. Nobody in my family or our neighbors familys want a doe only hunt, if this happens no one will 
participate in deer camp by us this year, plus I know lots of others in our area that have said the same thing. This 
would be a sure fire way to get less people in the woods if that's what your looking for, that doesn't seem like a 
recipe for success to me.

Going doe only in my opinion will not work. The land owners that don’t want to shoot does won’t! Giving all the free 
tags just hurts the people hunting public land. My group hunts a mix of private and public after opening day there 
are virtually no deer left on public they just move over to private where there is no pressure . Untill you get the 
private land owners to shoot some does the problem will persist. Education on nutrition and antler growth might 
motivate them.

The deer density number in Door County are vastly different North of Sturgeon Bay compared to South of the bay. 
Judge the whole herd on the South's over populated area will do more harm than good. By passing a antlerless 
season only I believe far fewer people will hunt the county and even less deer will be harvested and it will 
effectively increase the herd sizes. A bonus buck tag given to hunter that shoot 2 antlerless deer would be a much 
more successful practice.

I spend the majority of my time hunting public hunting land because I do not own my own and access to private 
hunting property is very difficult to find- everyone has a 5 acre chunk and it’s posted. I bow and gun hunt on public 
hunting property and you'd starve if you needed to shoot a deer- all the deer are on private property- and I don’t 
bait- I hunt the way it should be done. If you want to do something good for the herd eliminate the baiting.

I'm not sure where all these deer are being seen in Door County? When I do see deer, I don't see more than 3-4 
deer each time I’m in the stand. Most times I sit, I don't see deer at all! I think a doe only hunt in 2017 is probably 
going to lose some hunters. It seems like over-managing when the need isn't really there. That's the way it is now, 
everyone has a different idea or agenda to push. Good luck with it!

This is Unbelievable!! your data that the DNR and CDAC is using to collect data is wrong, wrong, wrong. They cannot 
estimate the population of deer for nothing, its been proven. A doe hunt only will reduce hunters dramatically and 
you will have less license sales immensely. LESS DEER WILL BE SHOT, this is not the answer! Myself and my family of 
8 deer hunters will not buy a license if Door County goes antlerless.

I think it’s absolutely ridiculous to go to an antlerless hunt only. I’ve hunted numerous areas in southern door 
county over the past 10-12 years and there deer population is not that high. 67 deer per mile is absolutely 
ridiculous. Making an antlerless hunt only would hurt the hunting tradition up here. I saw the same 7 deer all gun 
season and that was it. Your facts are completely misleading and 100% biased.

Biggest issue on the unit is the lack of access to private lands. As everyone knows the cost of land ownership has 
skyrocketed and the access issue has become a reason for many people to "give up". I still hunt but only because my 
aging dad still has a private property spot to hunt. I’m afraid that once he doesn't hunt anymore I may be forced to 
hunt out of state just for the opportunity to do so.

I oppose an antler less only season. Hunters should be able to harvest one buck with a bow and one with a gun. 
However, I would support one buck non weapon specific for 2017. Hunters should have access to up to 3 doe tags, 
non weapon specific. Hunters should be able to harvest their deer with their weapon of choice within allowed 
seasons. I support a holiday hunt if it helps reach harvest goals.
Holding an antler less only hunt for all of the 2017 seasons is going to decrease the number of hunters drastically in Door county as most people see more small bucks than they do doe therefore angering hunters and making them decide not to go out at all which will result in the antlerless quota not being met anyhow but I do think a holiday hunt will encourage hunters to shoot more doe's in 2017.

The predator population (coyotes) is extremely high in certain areas and needs to be maintained somehow. I believe door county should be split into three zones with the third zone north of County EE. The farther north you go the deer per square mile population decreases dramatically. I do not live or hunt in that northern zone however I do you work there and know alot of people who hunt there.

Make people physically check deer in. Make it mandatory. Phone in or internet is skewed because people will lie just to get doe numbers down to where they need to be since they won't shoot does. Make it earn a buck, with real check in. Then you would get better doe numbers and bigger bucks the following year. For those people who won't shoot does, some will lie about where they got their buck?

I believe the number of hunters in the northern part of the county is less than in the southern end. I believe the county should be split into different zones. Given the large amount of private land and the inability of hunters to access it will make it difficult to manage the herd effectively. Upon traveling in the county roads, there appears to be more deer sightings in the south.

I feel deer population goals can be reached without penalizing hunters by not allowing harvesting a buck. The opportunity to harvest that once in a lifetime trophy buck can never be repeated or duplicated. That first time hunt for a new hunter would be very disappointing to tell them they couldn't shoot the buck they see. I feel this antlerless only season would be a disaster.

I think that the CDAC should issue the minimum number of free tags for the unit since there is no restriction on whether they are for public or private property. Emphasis needs to be placed on harvesting does on private lands since that generally is where the high deer numbers are located. Hunters too often go to public lands to harvest does and free tags reinforces that.

I usually see 3 bucks for every doe? Is it my understanding that only the does are destroying crops and forests? I usually shot one of each. Doe only, probably stay home or hunt another county. That's just me. Lived here all my life. Finally have a decent place to hunt in door county. This antlerless only would be a incentive to hunt elsewhere. I'm not getting any younger.

Lack of hunting opportunity on private land is a problem in Door County. Many landowners do not allow hunting, and deer pick up in that. I am not sure how these folks can be convinced to allow deer hunting. Maybe they need to be faced with starving/starved deer on their land. I'm in favor of charging more property taxes on land in which hunting is not allowed.

An antlerless season in October (and December) should be considered if the goal is to reduce the number of deer in the unit. Earn-a-Buck should be considered/employed (rather than utilizing the drastic no-buck-in-2017 option). Bow and Crossbow seasons should continue "unchanged" -- in other words, allow the harvesting of a buck with a bow or crossbow. Thank you!

This is based on deer populations in certain parts of the county there's too many parts of the county that don't have the deer population as a hunter I hunt different parts of the county in some of the areas I hunt there aren't that many deer so if we give all kinds of doe tag out you're going to hurt those areas to the point of there won't be any deer left.

PLEASE CONSIDER SPLITTING DOOR COUNTY INTO TWO UNITS AS DONE IN THE PAST, WITH SOUTHERN DOOR ANTLER-LESS ONLY AND NORTHERN DOOR AS A REGULAR BUCK AND DOE SEASON WITH EXTRA DOE PERMITS INCLUDED WITH THE GUN HUNTING LICENSE. NORTHERN DOOR IS A MUCH SMALLER AREA AND HAS MANY FEWER DEER THAN SOUTHERN DOOR, AND SIGNIFICANTLY LESS AGRICULTURAL DAMAGE FROM THEM.
A doe hunt only will not work, you will lose hunters, less deer will be shot and you will have a bigger problem. I question the whole reasoning behind this agenda? I think the whole formula for figuring the deer population needs to be addressed, it is incorrect data, here inlay's the problem. An antlerless only season will not work period.

Have an antlerless hunt for persons who did not shoot a doe in the last 2 seasons. They tend to be the ones that are not helping control the population where the rest of us are doing our best to harvest both bucks and does. You have all the info available from hunter harvests so you should be able to do this without a lot of extra work.

If looking to reduce the number of antlerless deer, it would make more sense to give hunters an incentive to harvest them and bring the population down. Personally, I do not want/need more than one deer and potentially an early “hunt for the hungry” or some other type program could be run in conjuction with youth hunt.

If there is an antlerless only season this year I will NOT hunt at all. Bring earn a buck back. I believe you will see fewer deer harvested if you go to antlerless only hunt than you left it the way it is or went to earn a buck. People will elect NOT to hunt if they don't have an opportunity to harvest a buck.

As an avid hunter and huge outdoorsman I feel there is no benefit that will come from having an antlerless only season. There will be less people hunting not more, Myself and my family will not buy a license and deer hunt this year if it is doe only. The deer herd estimates in Door County are all wrong period.

When I see large numbers of deer grouped together as I drive around, those deer are on private land that is off limits to the average hunter. Getting access to hunting is more important to reduce those deer herds. If there is an antlerless season, my hunting party of 5 will not be deer hunting this year.

Please take into consideration splitting the county into three sections: southern, mid, northern. I believe the mid section of the county is low population and we should consider no season next year in that part of the county. If Wash Is. is included in this, the island should be open season on all deer.

I was told the reduced number of deer in my immediate area was a result of special permits provided to a farmer with a newly planted cherry/apple orchard near the property I hunt. Don't know if this is the real reason for the fewer number of deer seen but this influenced some of my answers in the survey.

I don't see how just shoot I g Doe's does anything... There is not any deer in northern door anymore.. Quality deer .. Yes... Quantity .. No.. Anyone from up here will tell you that.. I don't think anyone really knows anything about the deer count up here ... Its all the south numbers they look at.

Rather than have an antlerless only hunt, I think having a 4 day antlerless gun hunt in October and a holiday gun hunt should be attempted first. My other thought is, if an antlerless only hunt is what's decided, make the gun portion of it longer. Maybe half of October and all of November. Thanks!

I count deer in my area throughout the year and have noticed a decline in numbers over the years. I don't believe an antlerless season is necessary. There may be pockets of deer in small areas where property owners don't allow hunting but a county wide antlerless season is not the answer.

I support an earlier gun deer opener, a week before it Now opens, Get them in the rut, and usually better weather conditions, last year it wasn't good and made for a lower harvest. Also a one buck per year, choice of weapon. would help, don't want to see a doe only season. No way.

I believe the antlerless only hunt proposal cor 2017 is a terrible idea. I am most likely not going to hunt in the unit at all if it is antlerless only. I believe population estimates are way too high for he unit and hat the proposed harvest quota of 6500 antlerless deer is ludacris.

Holding an antlerless deer season would not benefit the county. An antlerless deer season would decrease the interest of hunters and would be less hunters willing to hunt only for does. It takes all of the excitement out of hunting, everybody dreams of shooting that big buck.
I have hunted for over 40 years mainly in northwest WI (Hayward area). In NW WI, I saw the result of aggressive reduction management. I fear the same in Door County if the same doe management is implemented. I also strongly support strategic predatory wolf herd reduction.

I am strongly opposed to an antlerless only deer hunt in Door County. I feel that it will discourage many hunters to not go out at all and compound the problem even more. I would be in favor of an antlerless only hunt for bow/crossbow from January 6th to the end of January.

hard to justify more antlerless tags when the neighboring farm shoot 30+ crop damage tags a years. population has bottom out in my woods. 120 of acres of woods, 5 guys hunting last year and we saw less than 10 deer for the week. no need for more antlerless tags here!!!

My friends and I hunt mostly on public land north of Bailey's Harbor. This is NOT "central farmland." The area is heavily forested with few farms and not many deer. We have seen few deer for several years. An antlerless-only hunt in this area would be a disaster.

I am strongly against having an antlerless only season. I have no problem shooting antlerless deer. In 2016 I did not have a chance to shoot any antlerless deer or I would have. If it goes to antlerless only I will hunt different units or just focus on bird hunting.

Door County needs to be split back into multiple management units. The deer population in Northern Door is not remotely close to the population in Southern Door and the hunters in Northern Door are paying for the miss management of the southern part of the county.

I would highly recommend having an antlerless only season for bow/crossbow hunting through the end of January. I think it would give deer a better chance to settle down after the deer gun season and allow archers a chance to help reduce the antlerless population.

If Kewaunee County were to follow the antlerless only season framework, I would be in favor, but, since our land borders kewaunee County, that allows them to hunt all bucks that we will be passing, thus, providing us no benefit from the Doe only season.

Having an antlerless only deer season will not work, people are going to do less hunting and kill less deer. Probably some people wont even buy a license this year if you do this. "This is not good" "The Dnr and Cdac got this all wrong"

As an avid outdoorsman hunting turkey, goose, duck, small game, and deer-bow, gun, muzzle -- and I also take my son and daughter and freinds hunting. I would very likely not deer hunt in Door County at all with a Doe only season.

I don't understand the notion of even contemplating an antlerless only season. I know it may not seem like much, but as for me and my family If door county goes antlerless only we will not purchase any type of wi dnr license.

I've seen less deer in the last 3 years than I have the previous 8. Then numbers are down look at the harvest numbers if there were all these deer then more should've been taken. Earn a buck better option then antlerless only

We all have the right to hunt what we want, that's why people buy land in deer county, you will lose so many hunters by doing this, just going to be a chain reaction of events if you do this. Would look real bad on you guys.

I strongly oppose the antlerless only hunt. You will lose hunters if this approach is taken the same way hunters stopped hunting with earn a buck program. I have personally seen this with my own family and friends.

doe only will work give me all the tags you want i wont fill them we need doe ONLY you never will get numbers any other way my group will shoot does if their is no doe tags otherwise we will hunt buck so DOE ONLY !!

I will not hunt deer if the season is antlerless only. I am not opposed to shooting does, and have in the past, but I don't want to sit out in the field and watch a buck of a lifetime walk by. I'd rather not hunt.
An antlerless season would not get the desired results. Fewer hunters would hunt, fewer deer would be harvested. Set antlerless quota for this year. If not achieved, then do antlerless only in 2018.

I visit Door County and enjoy the wildlife all summer. However, it is very rare to see any deer in the places that I used to see a lot of deer. Where did they go? Please bring the deer back!

Too many coyotes and also too many more wolves. I understand you can't divide the county because the southern towns will come shoot our deer but I also think the doe only season is a joke

The areas that u guys views are areas that don't shoot does. So your punishing the ones that do by not letting us shot a buck. Go after the farms that are doing that not us.

I think that we need to have a buck and doe hunt together not just doe season. Otherwise you won't have enough people that will want to hunt and your number won't be meet.

This will not work, if this happens I will not deer hunt this year. I will be coming to see you for a refund on my conservation patrons license. What a bad resolution.

I am giving up on bow hunting because there are not enough deer. I am afraid that a doe only season for the next three years will wipe out the few deer we have left.

As usual you guys are way off with your population numbers and refuse input from those that actually know the land. The holiday hunt is the only good idea presented.

I own a home on Washington Island and strongly oppose a antlerless deer hunt. If the DNR is looking to cull the herd, either extend the season or do a holiday hunt.

I have not harvested a deer in four years because there are so few deer up here that I feel bad if I shoot one. We need to increase the deer population up here.

It's unfair to punish everyone with a doe only season, some people will not shoot deer on there private property, not sure what can be done about that mentality

If 2017 deer season is doe only I will not be buying a license, I own 80 acres of land that 4 people hunt on and none will purchase a license and hunt in 2017

Doe only seems like an excellent option for our County especially where I hunt on Washington Island which is way over populated with deer currently.

It is my hope that a antlerless only will allow our bucks to age another year, showing our county's mineral rich soils ability to grow bigger racks.

DO NOT MAKE AN ANTLERLESS SEASON!!!!!!!!!!!!!! DO NOT DO THIS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! DO NOT MAKE AN ANTLERLESS SEASON!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If the season is antlerless only, our family will close our few hundred acres to all types of hunting and not purchase any hunting licenses.

If it's antlerless only I would guess a good half of the hunters won't even hunt. That would backfire and cause your plan to backfire.

We need a BUCK ONLY hunt for the next three years in the area north of Sturgeon Bay. If you push for doe only, I will not hunt.

If the DNR chooses to hold an antlerless only season for 2017, I will not be purchasing any form of WI deer hunting license.

One proposal could be to limit antlerless to gun deer season, and allow archery to harvest buck or doe or earn a buck.

farm owners who do not get deer damage permits should be allowed a buck tag even if you go to antlerless only
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are so few deer in Northern Door County. If a doe-only season is imposed, I will not hunt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EARN A BUCK WOULD BE A BETTER TOOL TO HARVEST ANTLERLESS DEER THAN AN ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON</td>
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<td>A doe only harvest will not work, if this goes into place I will not deer hunt this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is way too many coyotes and there is no reason to have wolves in Door County</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOE ONLY make it happen  chicken little bet you dont but its the only way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no bucks no liscence get your fax straight your wrong good luck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The deer herd in Door County would benefit from being reduced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i suport  DOE ONLY its the only way! jest DO IT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Split the management zone North/South.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For only hunt would be helpful</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

167 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 113
   - No: 54

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 64
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 42
   - I hunt in this unit: 161
   - General interest in this unit: 41

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 154
   - Bow: 98
   - Crossbow: 68
   - Muzzleloader: 64

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 25.92
   - Maximum: 67

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 37
   - Mostly Private Land: 23
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 41
   - Mostly Public Land: 34
   - Exclusively Public Land: 24
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 31
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 31
   - Somewhat crowded: 26
   - Very crowded: 33
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 19
   - Fewer: 21
   - Same: 44
   - More: 68
   - Many More: 14
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 22
   - Fewer: 16
   - Same: 31
   - More: 61
   - Many More: 35
   - Unsure: 2
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FARMLAND ZONE</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METRO Antlerless Tags per License</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for Douglas, Northern Forest

*Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.*

In my opinion based on public land hunting, we are not in the position to be harvesting does. The point of not being able to harvest does the last few years was to increase the almost non-existent deer population in Douglas County. While we are beginning to see deer again, there are just not enough deer at this point in time to justify harvesting does. It would set us back to where we were a few years ago. In another subject, this is the first year in five years that I have not seen wolf or bear sign. Please increase the harvesting of bears and being back the wolf harvesting. If we want the deer population to get back up to where it used to be. Third, as nice as it was to have online registration of deer, the local businesses (bars and restaurants) in the small towns were not as busy last year. It hurts the local economy by not having the face-to-face registration. Lastly, in regards to the tags, please find a new material. Having to print out my tag on a flimsy piece if paper is a joke. Make it an extra dollar or two to print on a material similar to what we used to have. I would be happy to pay the extra buck or two for the non-flimsy tag.

The herd has rebounded in Douglas County to the point where more antlerless tags should be issued on both public and private land. 1000 tags with a harvest quote of 500 won't do anything to help manage the population. With 3 mild consecutive winters now and no antlerless harvest, the population is at the brink of really increasing beyond control again. I don't think we need 10,000 antlerless tags, but more than a 1000 would be nice to keep the population in check. Treating the County as a single management unit makes no sense to me, vastly different habitats with vastly different carrying capacities. Wolves need to be delisted so they can be managed. Wyoming was able to do this, why can't Wisconsin? Baiting and feeding should be prohibited, but I know I'm wasting my time talking about that. Far too many people that call themselves hunters these days that don't know how to hunt, getting rid of baiting and feeding would result in more people having to learn how to hunt. If deer hunting in this State is Wisconsin's great tradition, then put the hunt back into the tradition. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

In all my time in Douglas county I have never ever seen this few of deer especially bucks. We found 0 sheds so far and 6 years ago we found 100 or more. I think pounding the bucks is a terrible idea. In my opinion the hunting season in the northern counties should be shut down for one year. This would do wonders to the deer population. All I ever see is does when I do see a deer. I only hunt for big antlers and I'm thinking of not Hunting for a few years. I gave up in Minnesota 4 years ago because of the same reasons. Between the bears, coyotes and Timberwolfs the deer population is not getting better from what I can see. I would think your Hunting permits must be way down so why not for one season let the deer recover? You can't please everyone and the money lost would hurt but it's the right thing to do. I do some of my Hunting in the Brule River Forest. I will not go there this year as there's way too many hunters and literally no bucks. I also hunt in Wascott by the copper mines. There are more does there but I have not seen a buck in two years. Bucks only is not working!
We have disparity in our deer herd here between private and public land. Many more deer and does on private land which is creating an imbalance in the deer herd. I am certain that there are places where we have three to four does for every buck on private land and all we can harvest is a buck. We are also now seeing a significant decrease in age-class. Very few two and a half, three and a half and four and a half year old bucks. I hunt over 3000 acres of land each fall, spend four weeks of vacation to do this plus every free moment I have outside this time. I hunt literally every week from the start of bow season until it ends in early January, I have 14 cameras that I keep active for six months of the year. I predominantly do not hunt over bait and have gotten to the point that I hunt less and less in this county because of decrease in our older buck population. If this trend continues without balancing our deer heard I may end up spending the majority of my time and money hunting in other southern counties in our state and in other states.

1. There should be no need to Ban baiting in Douglas County until CWD shows up in the County. 2. The sunset on the baiting and feeding ban will be great and I am in full support of it. The counties in the northern part of the state shouldn’t be limited on hunting methods since we do not have the deer populations they have in the south. If they ban the transport of deer from infected counties to the north I think it would limit the spread of CWD far better than a baiting ban. I also can’t take the state serious on cWD if they are not willing to put an end to deer farming. 3. I think if the county is going to list a 500 antlerless quota then we shouldn’t give out any tags to the general public because all the special people have been killing more than 500 a year for the last 3 years. 4. I spend more time in the woods then most people I know and I have seen no real increase in deer numbers between 2015 and 2016. There was a big jump in antlerless numbers between 2014 and 2015 though. Buck numbers have been going down pretty sharp since 2014 though.

I don’t think allowing private land owners to have antlerless tags is wise. I know many people who own private land and they go to public land to harvest antlerless deer. They will not shoot a antlerless deer on their own property in seasons in which tags are available in both. By giving them tags on their private land when there are none available for public you are encouraging this behavior. You are rewarding the behavior of managing private land and hammering public land. I think if their is an overpopulation on private land the deer will move to the public land eventually. I think the best way to handle areas with low deer populations is to allow hunters to shoot either or but not both. I the past few seasons since their have been no doe tags available I have seen many deer in the woods. I think people get worked up about wolves and in some areas there are wolves. The simple solution for them is to stop hunting in the wolf areas. Reducing tags in these areas just helps the wolves not the deer population.

The mortality rate for deer is high in Douglas County because of predation vs most other factor i believe. Personally I have seen track on or near my property from bear, wolf, coyote, lynx, bobcat and cougar. With this many predators’ fawns stand little chance of survival let alone winter weather conditions adding to mortality. Without controlling of the predators the pray will continue to dwindle on the predators will continue to migrate to greener pastures. Through 2008 we hunted in the Central Forest area near Pray and saw the harvest numbers fall sharply with the introduction of wolves and the flagrant distribution of antlerless tags. We moved back north hunting in an attempt to find and buy/lease private land in order to improve hunting harvest potential but that has not worked as well but we purchased 120 acres in Douglas County and are committed to a long-term improvement of our hunting experience. I have 4 grandchildren that I have secured a future for should they continue to enjoy it as much as I have.
I have hunted the same area for 41 years. I hunt with 15 other hunters and most are from out of state. I own 60 acres of land and pay higher taxes with really no benefits when it comes to owning land and hunting. As I’ve become older I look at the value of owning land, paying taxes, and hunting. As a group we have started to look into other states to see if there is better value. Last year half are group never had a chance to even shoot at a deer. With the high price of the hunting license the hunter want to some value for expense. The last couple of years we haven't seen a lot of deer in the area we hunt and I think it's the traditions that have kept us hunting in the same area. If the hunting doesn't improve in the next couple of years I feel that the hunting group will look into other states that offer more value compared to the expense of hunting. I am the third generation of hunters who have hunted in the same area. I am wishing for better deer populations in hope of keeping my hunting group together.

Please--Please do not issue any antlerless permits. The deer population is extremely low in Douglas County over the last few years and has not rebounded hardly at all. Very few deer sightings in the woods hunting and traveling the area in other months. With the snow cover during hunting seasons very little sign noted. The deer are not there period !! Way to much predator involvement in Douglas Co. Wolves-Coyotes-Bobcats-Winter Kill and don't forget the good old Indians driving around on the land scape. All together this is destroying the deer herd and that never gets a chance to rebound to near numbers of the past. Winter kill a few years ago took a large number of our deer and never rebounded. Our deer hunting is loosing ground and hunters see this and are losing interest rapidly. SOS---Save our deer soon or the sport is dead I'm worrying. The old traditional hunting camps are dropping like flies in November--SAD.

We've all noticed starting back in about 2013 that the deer numbers have declined significantly. The idea was to cut doe tags and bring back deer. It has been working, but we are not there yet. We are nowhere close to offering doe tags, ESPECIALLY the public lands. Some private chunks of property I see have rebounded quite nicely, and maybe they are close to being back to "normal", but the public grounds are not. Please don’t issue public land doe tags, it’s not time yet. Since we stopped issuing doe tags, many people are killing small bucks by the truck load. Think about it, it saves some does, but many small bucks that would sometimes get the “pass”, are getting taken out. So, in a way we have shot ourselves in the foot, however, in time, the does will bring the population back. If we start taking them out again, we’ll be right back where we were in 2014. I'd like to see no antlerless tags for another 2 years.

Wolves and bear populations, along with speeders and the past slaughter of does from issuing to many tags, are keeping the deer population to low, witch in turn are keeping hunters from traditionally hunting up north, causing less movement of deer and less money spent at the local businesses. I can remember party tags, and the population of deer stayed steady. Many hunters at least saw deer keeping the interest high. Today, the loss of revenue to dnr must be increasing, as youth hunters are losing interest after a few years of not seeing anything. We have 9 hunters, and 0 deer harvest in the past three years, losing our grandchildren in the gang, we hunt, don't party, and see few deer, but many wolves while hunting deer, and bear thru out the summer. FYI we hunt in the Minong/Wascott area west of hwy 53. Wolves have taken over. Thanks for considering my thoughts of what may be happening.

-Deer numbers need to be kept at levels allowing regeneration of diverse forests -CWD is the most serious threat to the heard and tradition of hunting; we need to keep predators on the landscape to kill sick animal, eliminate baiting and feeding and keep the hunting pressure up to maintain a healthy herd. -Youth, elderly and disabled hunts are likewise critical to maintain hunting - retention, recruitment, and a thank you to our vets. -The economic impact of hunting in the state is huge. Don’t risk that by allowing CWD to get up here (don’t let a few feed suppliers to steer the deer regulations). And please require double fences and tighter overall regulations on deer farms - the risks are just too great to take chances. -Increase fines for poaching, it is rampant and people are willing to pay the little fines in order to take a chance at killing extra deer.
I am a 50’ish woman who loves the bowhunt. I am a zoology/biology college major. The deer numbers are way down from what I saw my first few years hunting northern Douglas county in 2007 to 2010. The 4 day gun doe hunt in October (in and around 2010) and the hard winter of 2013/2014 had a very big impact on the deer herd. I sit the tree stand a lot during the bow season. 2014 and 2015 were terrible for the number of deer I observed, and 2016 was only slightly better, but I did notice a small increase in sightings. I think we need to be bucks only for 2017 and 2018 and let the herd make a sound recovery before opening up the antlerless hunt again. As much as I love to hunt and would love to have a doe tag, it is not, in my opinion, the responsible thing to do for at least 2 more years. We need to be patient and let the herd recover more. Please!!

I think we should go one more year with no antlerless tags. We went with DNR recommendations in the past and we got into this problem. Along with to many predators. The CDAC is doing a good job at trying to get the deer numbers up. The forestry and wildlife biologists have to justify there jobs so they need to make changes good or bad. That is not in the best interest of the deer or the hunters. The amount of feed and public hunting in Douglas cty there could be 20 deer per square mile instead of 4 or 5. We need some common sense brought back. 2 years of buck only wasn’t long enough. The wolves are increasing and the bear numbers are high. The fawn mortality will be heavy again. Property value is way down, the businesses are hurting. The number of hunters are going down (its because there is a huge decline in the deer herd up north, period).

I have not seen a problem with wolves in the area i hunt. I live in Minnesota and am a landowner in Douglas Cty so i am used to high populations of wolves. I have seen tracks in the snow on rare occasions. But the bears! I run a half a dozen trailcams and my area is over run with bears. I am retired and hunted an average of 3-5 days a week bowhunting and the entire 9 day rifle and the entire muzzleloader seasons so i was in the woods a lot. I did not shoot a buck by choice but saw several but not any of the ones i had on camera i wanted. This last fall i only saw 2 does that had a fawn with them. I think the bears are really taking a toll on the fawns. My best guess would be that 75% of the does i saw did not have fawns. It was the same way last year also. Hard to build up the population of deer with the poor fawn survival.

Since 2009 our group of usually 10 hunters have seen a big drop in deer sightings. We did see a slight increase in does and fawns this past year. I personally have seen only an average of 6 total deer for the season since 2010. (opening day through the Friday prior to the last weekend). Many of our group now go home to hunt the area around home on Wednesday because of so few deer sightings. We usually hunt withing a 10 mile radius of our cabin which is located in the Town of Highland. I do realize some areas may have a higher population. I personally feel there should still be 0 antlerless deer tags for public land in Douglas County. Our group is not a tavern hopping bunch of guys, we have stands where we sit on opening weekend and then make pushes(drives) the rest of the time we are there.

I appreciate your asking -- I pretty much figure you have made your mind up ahead of time, but here is what I think. I believe we need to do a better job of teaching people about quality deer management in the area they hunt. Our youth need to be taught that value as well. With the system on the youth hunt -- adults are cheating and taking advantage -- harvesting animals for there kids.-- my cameras don’t lie -- had 3 adult does in my field with fawns -- 3 adults were harvested and lost a fawn or two. -- Gun season came there were little or no deer on my field --- I am a avid hunter for many years --this experience talking I cross bow hunt -- as well -- too easy -- more deer harvested and being able to register electronic --- has promoted cheating -- thank you for asking

Good sign that Douglas County CDAC is considering some antlerless quota, but 500 is much to low. The buck kill last year is not an aberration. The deer herd has recovered. Having such a low quota with a mild winter and a few years of no antlerless quota risks having too many deer. Managing for numbers of deer that were present in the early to mid-2000’s isn’t good policy. Those numbers had detrimental impacts to habitat and set the herd up for the tremendous decline we saw after harsh winters in 2013 and 2014. In addition, limiting the antlerless quota also limits the ability for families who rely on non-steriod/non-antibiotic protein source. Thanks for your consideration of these comments and your volunteer work on the CDAC for Douglas County.
Because there are a few people in the Eastern part of Douglas County that think they need antlerless tags to control the deer herd, I don't believe the whole County should reduce the herd to satisfy a small number of people. There aren't enough deer in Douglas County to be issuing any antlerless tags. The youth hunters, disabled, and military hunters have been shooting antlerless deer during this time when the CDAC agreed to increase the deer herd. In my opinion this has to stop. It's hard to grow a deer herd when shooting any antlerless deer. The predators are killing too many deer, and their numbers need to be reduced. Because of these reasons that I have mentioned. I would recommend zero antlerless tags for Douglas County for the 2017 season.

Douglas county is proposing 1000 tags with a 60/40 private/public split. What is not mentioned is the 600+ antlerless deer that were harvested in '16 with a 0 quota. It's likely we will take 1100 antlerless in '17 with the potential for hundreds more. Why tell the public it's 500 antlerless? Be upfront and honest and let us know it's 1100+. Also, while I agree we need some antlerless harvest I'd much rather see it structured with either/or tags. You would receive one tag, and it's good for a buck or doe. I'd like to see that coupled with a single buck tag, no party hunt, structure. Because we are in Wisconsin I'm sure this will never happen but I can always wish with one hand and hunt Kansas with the other.

I'm not sure why one bad winter four years ago has resulted in such restrictive harvest goals when in the interim there have been three relatively easy winters, particularly this one. In the 26 years I've hunted in this area I've never seen such a restriction after one bad winter last so long. As a property owner near Solon Springs I try and create areas to help deer out but as a non resident it's harder for me to be in the field for as long as I like, so being able to take a doe to fill the freezer is nice. Making crossbows legal during bow will hopefully give me more opportunities in the field this year. Hopefully that will help counteract the low doe permit numbers and I'll get a buck. Thanks

If you want to maintain predators at the level they currently are at, no antlerless tags are necessary to balance the population where I hunt in the western portion of the county. When I began hunting public land in the area 1991 there were very few bear, wolves and hunters. There are growing numbers of every category mentioned. I have never seen vast amounts of deer in the area, but the first 15 years I hunted, I harvested 12 bucks in the unit. I have harvested 3 in the last ten years. I have never harvested a doe, never seen a reason to. I am at the point of not hunting Douglas County any longer.

I am glad to see that there will be some antlerless permits available in Douglas county in 2017. I support growing or stabilizing the heard in this county, but I believe the quota should be a little higher than 500 and 70% of the permits should be for private land. Deer on public lands are harassed at a much higher rate already. I see noticeable browsing damage to most tree and shrub species. Most deciduous buds that are accessible to deer have been trimmed off by browsing. Fewer bucks will be harvested if there is an opportunity for hunters to get an antlerless deer for meat. Thanks.

Let's get to the maintain level in Douglas cty. before we consider doe tags. we are in the increase now and we need a lot of increase to get to maintain level. Common sense please. Property values in decline, businesses hurting, predators HIGH and hunter numbers down. Recipe for fail. There is more feed than there's been in decades in Douglas cty. No deer to feed on it. If landowners are complaining of no opportunity, then give a small number(200) of doe tags on PRIVATE land. We could handle 20 to 25 deer per square mile. Now there might be 4 or 5. What a Tragicy and waste of resources.

The deer herd has grown over the last two years, this past easy winter will increase the current herd size, 30-40%. Predators are at an all time high, yet the herd is growing! I am an avid deer hunter and have been for 33 years. Bad winter and spring time weather are major factors on the herd health. Humans are the number one predator and we can and do determine which way the herd grows. Hunting isn't supposed to be easy, success of a hunt is in the eye of the beholder. There is no law that saws the DNR is required to make hunting easy, earn it and respect the game you pursue!
Even after the 2016 season and harvest- we are seeing herds "herds" of deer on our property as well as neighboring properties. Sometimes as many as 10-20 per herd. We have watched the new births of two fawns per doe increasing in our county. Yet doe harvest has been prohibited for what? Two years?? The notice of bucks is about the same as previous years but the number of does and yearlings is increasing amazingly. Offer doe tags again- but more than 500- Washburn just south of us has thousands of tags issued and doesn't seem to be depleting the herds at all.

I would like to see a higher doe harvest. The first rule of wildlife management is that you can not stockpile game. We can not assume that leaving doe harvest at a very low level will build the herd over years. One bad winter will bring the population down considerably. I also think that an increased doe harvest will give hunters that want venison the ability to harvest and help our area economically because people do not come to the area if they can not shoot deer. The buck only seasons have also brought back the bad doe to buck ratio that was prevalent when I was a kid.

I have been hunting in Douglas County for the last 15 years, we used to see alot of deer. It would be normal to see 10 deer while out bow hunting every night now we’re lucky to see one deer a weekend. There seems to be a lot more predators and over hunting. The the t zones killed way to many does and Buck fawns and it's taking a long time to recover. I'm also concerned with the amount of logging going on in the Jackson box region. I understand its good to do but these deer are loosing a drastic amount of cover in an area thriving with predators.

Deer population is coming back from very low deer density. It still needs to recover. I spent several days in the woods. I use four trail cams. I believe a few more years of buck only is necessary. Juniors need to be able to shoot does to keep them interested in hunting. Seniors should be able to shoot a doe also, because they don't have the capability to hunt as hard as they'd like to. Only the junior or senior doe tag owner can shoot a doe. No transferable to others, maybe just within themselves. Where I hunt I don’t see predators as an issue.

Before you opened zone 8 and 9 to bonus permits at ridiclos prices we saw deer all the time on our stands. Now it has become a day brightener to see a few, the heard has improved the last 2 years but it would be nice to give it the extra kick it needs to level itself out again with the wolf, coyote, cat population along with bear, eagles on the fawn population. Saw does that went unbred this past winter possibly due to buck harvest, saw very small late fawns this winter that had it been a hard winter they would have not made it through.

A good deer population is very important. Education of sportsman (Women and handicapped included) is lacking where Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is concerned. Wisconsin needs to listen to all the stakeholders and work with the DNR to study our deer population, put best practices (Scientific) in place and prevent further spread of CWD. Very recently, the Wisconsin Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Legacy Committee voted to approve AB 61 (Regulation which bans the baiting and feeding of deer). I very much oppose AB61.

Our property values are declining and taxes are going up. I won't bring grandchildren up because it is insane to hunt and not even see deer, to keep interest up and not have a chance at harvesting a deer. So the amount of feed is higher than I have ever seen it and no deer to eat it. More Wolves and bear than I have ever seen. We should go one more year at least with no doe harvest. Mild winters and no doe harvest have held the heard at staying even. Let's use common sense and let the heard grow. Please listen to us....

Until wolves are removed from the Endangered Species list and can be controlled by the state, there is no way to determine how many deer are being killed each year. Once we go down the path of over killing our antlerless deer again, and don't have a control plan for the wolf population, our local deer population will suffer. We've made some great strides in the past couple of years with zero antlerless quotas and mild winters. Fix the wolf problem and a lot of deer hunter dissatisfaction goes away!
As long as the wolf population continues to grow. I feel we must keep hunter harvest in check. Since all the wolves moved into our area the deer sightings have plummeted. When I bought the property we did not see or hear the wolves and the deer population was strong now we hear and see the wolves on our cameras more than the deer. Rarely do we see any does with fawns anymore when the wolves are able to be controlled and the deer heard recovers the harvest options should increase.

Douglas county needs more time to get the deer population back, killing off the does will not help. This winter was mild maybe there will be more twin fawns. The Bucks only hunt is a good hunt. Leave it alone. Let the youth hunters take a doe if they want. Get rid of the baiting, let people learn how to hunt again. This will be my 50th year of deer hunting, I do know what I am talking about. As a hunter we need to see game, we don't have to kill everything we see. Thanks

I believe deer populations in Dairyland Township have not rebounded (although enough time has passed since harsh winters and significant winter kill) because there are too many predators. When will the DNR take steps to reduce bear populations in Dairyland Township? Wolves are all over my property. I see as many bear and wolves while bow hunting and on camera as I see deer. I hope the DNR regains the ability to manage wolves and does so aggressively.

3 of us hunt SE Douglas Co. (Cheever Rd.) dawn to dusk Sat-Mon during the gun season. We've seen the population falling for several years leading up to the big winters of 13 and 14 yet antlerless and bonus tags were still being issued by the thousands. In 2015 only one of us saw a deer. In 2016 we each saw a doe at some point during the three days. Maybe there are some urban or fed deer rebounding but not in the remote areas.

Deer gardens and baiting are contributing to the adverse health of the deer herd. I see forty to fifty deer in one eight acre garden plot several miles from where I hunt. I know of four deer gardens with in a five mile area of my cabin. Soon everyone will need to bait or raise a deer garden to have a chance to shoot a buck. BAITING IS NOT HUNTING. RAISING A GARDEN TO SHOOT DEER SHOULD BE OUTLAWED.

Our camp of 7 hunters saw 52 deer on the 2016 gun season and only one small spike. Neighboring camps had the same experience. We all hunt from stands and drives in the sand barrens. For the past several years I have noted that there are more shots fired after 4:00 PM than on opening morning. I fear this is an indication that baiting has replaced "hunting". Sad. Thanks for all the hard work of the CDAC!

I hunt the Brule River State Forest and some of the surrounding lands and there is an over abundance of does and more of them need to be harvested. I am a meat hunter as well as a horn hunter and I would like to have a reasonable opportunity to shoot a deer to feed my family. I would see 10-20 does per sit and never saw a horn. I would like to be able to harvest one of those does because there are too many.

Over hunting has been a large problem in the area I hunt. Some people were buying a lot of doe tags. One person was reported shooting 20 does in our area. The wolf population also went threw the roof 3 years ago. There multiple packs howling every night. Many of the years I hunted and during scouting trips you could jump several deer. In the last few years I might not even see a deer walking or on stand.

Thanks for allowing fixed stands to remain in the woods during the season. As a 66 year old hunter it is not either safe or feasible to place and remove a stand each day. I do like management units by county, but have some concern about establishing antlerless quotas in such a large county as Douglas, where there can be a significant variance in deer populations across such a large area.

I'm lucky to see one buck all season. I hunt from dark to dark for 7 days. I don't bait. I think it should be illegal. The deer don't move like they used to. We see and hear wolves constantly. The amount of deer sign in units 4 and 8 is 20 percent what is was 25 years ago. Way too many wolves and doe killing. You guys have destroyed the quality of the deer hunt in the Northwoods.
I think the Deer Herd is headed in the right direction but still have Great concerns about the number of actual wolves there is in our area compared to what the DNR is telling us that is there. The Deer had a good winter this year just worried if we get a hard winter and the Deer yard up that the Wolves can wipe out 3-4 years of rebuilding the Deer Herd in 1 bad winter.

There needs to be no doe permits issued for Douglas county until they solve the over population of the bear and wolves. We see more bear and wolves than we do deer. The land value in this area has dropped 30 to 40% because of the low deer population and over population of wolves and bear. One thing that could be done is looking at changing the deer and Bear Zones.

Please do not overestimate the deer populations in Douglas county! I have seen many dozens of deer kills (at least 70) by wolf and coyote in a 3 sq mile area, which includes private and state land. Here in the north the biggest problem with the deer population are these predators and more action needs to be taken to shrink their population to help the deer.

I have hunted my whole life and after the outrageous amount of antler less permits over the last decade combined with weather And lack of wolf and bear control in this northern area- the last 3ish years the woods are like the dead Sea. I see more wolves and bear than I do deer . Antler less permits SHOULD NOT BE ISSUED IN THESE NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Our population has just trended sideways (at a low level) in Douglas for the past 3-4 years. Needs to be rebuilt further. Buck kill goal of 3,500 for Douglas County is too low. We are a far cry from the level of deer we had in the 80's and 90's, and something needs to be done. Predation needs to be taken into account when issuing tags.

The opinion on a previous survey showed that almost 75% of people surveyed did not want antler less tags issued in Douglas county. now you want to issue 1000 tags. Same old thing you don't want to listen to the public. It is a shame. No wonder people don't show up for meetings. It doesn't matter. Shame on you and your committee Al Horvath.

I would like to see a consideration for adopting and antler restriction for Douglas County. Something similar to Southeast, MN and Counties through Missouri. These are areas that have already provided success stories for increasing the deer population, herd health, and an increase in the entire age of the deer herd.

Need the does to reproduce to get numbers consistently high. We are still seeing on the multiple trail cams across hundreds of acres that the predator (wolf especially) population is much too abundant. Deer won't be seen on camera for long periods of time when wolves are around, which is every other week

Common sense, too many wolves, I will respect your research when you push harder for common sense wolf hunting and more bear tags. Zero doe permits is starting to help, lets get a decent deer herd back. My hunting tradition has lost much fun and my land value has plummeted. Thanks For nothing DNR

Please issue zero antlerless permits to still give the deer herd a chance to grow. Very low numbers at this time and need assistance in getting to normal hunting numbers again. Predators in high numbers in central Douglas Co. and thinking other areas also. Need wolf season again this year .

WE HAVE A WAYS TO GO BEFORE I WOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE HAVING ANTERLESS TAGS. I DON'T BELIEVE FOR A MINUTE THE DNR'S HARVEST TOTALS FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY. I BELIEVE WE HAVE HAD A GOOD FAWN CROP. HOWEVER, ONE BAD OR NORMAL WINTER WILL PUT US BACK TO SQUARE ONE IF IT OCCURS NEXT WINTER.

I get so many more pictures of bear, bobcats, and wolves on my cameras. I think they have a huge affect on fawns being killed. I had only gotten one picture of a wolf in all the years I've using cameras . Not anymore. And i use to get a deer every Year. Not anymore. Its been 3 years
Deer numbers still extremely low. Issue zero antlerless permits in Douglas County and let the herd grow and catch up from bad winter a few years ago. Need wolf season and other predator reductions. Bear population is very strong at this time hurting fawn production efforts.

My concern is that the process assumes Western Douglas County is equal to Eastern Douglas. Two completely different habitat types. Historically, Eastern Douglas is far more productive for deer. Goals should be evaluated differently for Eastern and Western Douglas County.

I believe this unit is very diverse and should probably be more than one unit there are parts in the western portion with very few deer and heavy predation and parts in the north east with a god deer population, that's why I believe the doe harvest is so controversial.

I spend a lot of time out in the County land and rarely see any deer. Also in Superior there are rain sightings. It's a 100 mile round trip trip to our place in southern Douglas County and no deer sightings the majority of times. Use to see at least 40 deer one way.

Douglas county went from good hunting to non-existent ..There needs to be wolf control !!!! No doe tags !!! Property values have plumited as a result . I'd like to sell what I own and leave Douglas co but it's impossible to sell unless it's for little of nothing .

Although alpha predators have not been personally witnessed we are seeing more and more sign of them and wish we had similar controls for them. They play a vital role in managing the deer herd and growing unchecked throws everything else into disarray and doubt.

We have finally seen an increase in the deer population since the 0 antlerless harvest seasons. We would like no does for at least another year for long-term success for future hunting. Wolves and over hunting have hurt our herd numbers.

Need to keep it bucks only another year at least. Too many predators, not enough deer for hunters in northern wisconsin. Also would like to see muzzleloader season extended a couple more weeks long for hunters with busy schedules.

The deer population is just starting to rebound in North Western Wisconsin. We need to go with no doe tags for the Douglas county zone for another year or two to keep the growth of the herd until the predators get under control.

The deer herd has begun to noticeably increase with the reduction of antlerless tags over the past couple years. That increase is encouraging. I would like to keep the number of antlerless tags low to help the herd recover.

Quota should be zero again this year. The herd is no where near recovered enough to be killing does. I saw more timber wolf tracks last year than I saw deer tracks...(west of Gordon and Solon Springs)

In this unit to many young bucks are being killed and a lot of does around if they do t give out doe tags I think they should consider giving out either sex tags one deer of either sex can be harvested

My wife and I are seeing more than double the amount of deer this spring of 2017 as we did the spring of 2015 and 2016 despite the fact that I know of at least a half dozen being harvested last season

If they are going to issue bonus tags I would rather see them go to a choice tag system. Both on archery and rifle licences. I don't feel that this would over drastically hurt our herd at all.

I was at the CDAC meeting and spoke to some of the board member's after and they were unsure on the numbers that were set and felt that the numbers go have been set a little higher.

A small antlerless harvest will still allow herd growth, reduce pressure on bucks, allow more venison to be put on the table, and help control the rate of herd expansion.

Please reduce/manage wolf numbers. Still way too high. With reduced/no hunting, land values have reduced tremendously and businesses have been forced to shut down.
I drive a lot of the roads in southern Douglas county and I’m seeing less deer than the year before. Sometimes no deer tracks on roads I look for deer on every year.

Need Wolf Management/Control Deer #’s still far too low. Property values low, businesses out of business, need better hunting and more draw to the area!

Saw many doe with twin fawns both on my land and my friends land, along with many fawns from the previous year. Population is definitely increasing.

I feel that farmers that own their own land should get an antlerless tag if they wanted. For the farmer only, not to be transferred to anyone else.

Need to minimize the number of predators in this county to aid in the re population of Whitetail Deer. We need a Wolf season again for this county.

Baiting regulations need to be enforced. Too many hunters do not abide by baiting regulations - ruining hunts for those that do.

We do not need any antlerless tags even for youth hunts and military tags. Zero antlerless tags.

We definitely need some predator control very soon or there will be no deer left in the future.

I think if possible the City of Superior should look at expanding the area’s available to hunt.

Please—Please---Have a BUCK only season to restore our deer population in Douglas County.

address the baiting issue. It has spread into the turkey hunt. Let’s get back to hunting

my agricultural land is over run by does and I have significant crop damage.

Private land deer numbers are growing public land increasing very slowly.

Agreement for a antler less quota when we get wolf season back.

We have a lot of wolves. Nothing you probably don’t know!

zone 2 does not need any antlerless permits this year

Put a point restriction on buck shot.

Way too many Wolves!

Ban baiting!

I blame the wolves
69 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 36
   - No: 33

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 34
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
   - I hunt in this unit: 63
   - General interest in this unit: 8

   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 62
   - Bow: 35
   - Crossbow: 17
   - Muzzleloader: 29

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.1
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 44
   - Mostly Private Land: 7
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 5
   - Not too crowded: 7
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 22
   - Same: 21
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 21
   - Same: 15
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 3
## Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

### 9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

### 11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

**Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU

### 12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                                                                  | Not applicable in this DMU

### 14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for Dunn, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

What is the purpose of declaring public and private antlerless tags, just to find out how much public land is being hunted? Does this really matter, a deer down is a deer down. This public / private declaration is very tough for non-landowning hunters. I usually try to stick to private land due to there's a better chance to harvest. I also like to keep a good repore with the farmers for other types of hunting. But, there is some land that does not open up for my brother and I until after opening weekend or possibly the entire gun season. There are many spots where if I cross one fence, I'm on public my tags are no good. Deer don't follow fences or should I say, who's land it is. What if it's shot on private but dies on public??? This could possibly create a messy situation no hunter wants to deal with. Muzzy season gives us a few more possibilities, but I don't want to need it. I miss the October T-zone hunts; they help the meat hunters! It's first dibs and most farmers or other hunters don't care because you're not shooting the one big buck hanging around the area. Let's face it, some spots are just not as good after opening weekend. Sometimes it's nice to simply try something different or make a small drive, if you can call 1 guy walking to another a drive? Depending on who's tags are filled, this public / private stuff can possibly determine who walks or stands on one drive??! This is silly. Sometimes this law may or may not work due to factors like wind direction. There are tons of scenarios but this public/private stuff is a total crutch!:( Please stop.

To Whom it May Concern- I am writing this in regards to some concerns with not only the Dunn County zone, but in regards to state wide. I feel as if the hear is on a slight decline and quality deer Management suffers in the Central Farmland(excluding Buffalo County). I feel as if there should be a minimum point regulation for when harvesting a buck with any tag. Our neighboring state (MN) has this in place. They are only allowed to harvest a buck with a minimum of at least 4 points on one side. I believe this would give many of the Male deer a chance to become a 2.5+ year old and also increase the amount of deer that would be re producing. With this being said, peoples responses will claim they are limited at what they are able to harvest. I too think they should still receive one Doe tag per license (one for archery one for Gun) Another point of interest would possibly be alternating years but having where each hunter is only allowed to harvest one buck( whether or not its with a gun or bow). This to would allow for the deer heard to become very mature in a result having a greater reproduction percentage. I feel though as of right now to many antlerless deer tags are being handed out or available for purchase. Respectfully, Ryan Mountin

In hunting Dunn County for 32 years now I have a pretty good take on Dunn County as I have hunted in different corners of the county. Near the Elk Mound area, it is terrible for deer. This past was my worse I have ever seen. At over 100 hours of bow hunting and only seeing 2 young buck and 3 does, I am ready to give it up. However, if I were able to hunt in the area North of Colfax, that would be a different story I as drive around there a few times a year just to show my kids what a deer looks like as I have seen hundreds of deer in that area in the last few years. Why the different, large area of land where only a few people hunt. In the Elk Mound area, smaller areas of land where lots of people hunt. Plus, the deer in the Elk Mound area have not recovered from all of the doe tags given out for many years of the issuing of the free tags. Some people were shooting as many as 20 does. What do think is going to happen. In the 90's, there were lots of deer, now, very, very few. And until this area gets left alone, it will not be recovering any time fast!
I don’t think the county has recovered yet from the years of the earn-a-buck slaughter of a few years ago. I oppose any holiday hunt that specifically targets antlerless deer. I also realize that the northern and western parts of the county seem to have more deer than the central/eastern portion of the county but I have to look at my area and in my area, the deer population still needs growth. I saw 3 deer all season and I hunted all but 3 days of the season. I know the DNR doesn’t want to "micro manage" but something has to be done in the area I live in. In all honesty, I’d love to see a couple of years of buck only! Try to get a kid interested in deer hunting when he sits for days at a time and sees nothing! Thanks for the chance to express my views...

The new tagging system is a joke, people just copy their kill tags and keep shooting deer. That goes the same for turkeys. I would suspect that the deer and turkey populations will drop significantly in the coming years because of this. Bear population has a lot to do with higher fawn mortality rates, I think the population of bear is greatly underestimated. The deer we shot looked and seemed healthy, just didn’t see that much this past year. If a doe only hunt ever passes we will quit deer hunting all together and start hunting out of state.

MN has made a southeastern area of the state, trophy only. I Southern Dunn County be a trophy only zone with minimum spread or point system. If an individual wants venison, they could purchase a doe tag. Wisconsin has a lot of potential to produce large deer, but the deer are overharvested. This county has the perfect combination of ag and woods. The point restriction would not apply to minors because the hunting industry does not have enough young people participating in the sport.

It seems over the last 10 years the deer numbers have plummeted. I’m not all about the kill that’s just a bonus, but when I can go for 2-3 days at a time with out seeing deer it gets really frustrating. I know you have to kill does to have balanced heard but I think there are way too many bonus tags being handed out. There are also so many deer killed on road ways each year that are not counted for and not only that but the lo- life poachers are not taken in to account for how many as well!

I have always dreamed of seeing and harvesting more MATURE bucks and does. My definition of mature is 4.5 years old and older. AGE or score parameters must be installed to protect our young bucks. I believe that a minimum gross score of 135 inches or 3.5 year old buck is a great minimum to start with. If a buck is harvested which does not meet these requirements, a fine or temporary loss of hunting privileges would be appropriate repercussion. Please please please!

You need a license where patrons can harvest an antlerless on Either Public or Private land without buying two licenses. I only want to Harvest 1, regardless of land type, I hate paying twice or being restricted where I hunt. Keep giving kids many tags. I mentored my first time Hunter son. He loved having his choice. He made good decisions about which animals to pass on. I’d hate for him or another kid to not have a choice if given an opportunity.

With the new tagging system, I know of hunters taking as many as three deer with one tag. They Xeroxed one tag and if they weren’t checked they continued to hunt and take deer. Very poor way to tag the animals, resulting in many unconfirmed deer being taken. The bear population is causing damage to the deer herd also, high mortality rate in the fawn production, less fawns means less deer. there are way more bears than most people think.

Due to the amount of privately held land in Dunn County, I would like to see "Shining" of private lands prohibited. On multiple occasions I’ve heard gunshots accompany "shining" and I consider poaching to be of significant impact to DMU goals. Also, I would highly recommend more DNR patrolling of this county, as I've personally seen "road shooters" crusing the country roads looking for easy vehicle shots during midday.

A side note - I do appreciate being able to use a smart phone to register deer harvested. A second note - I appreciate the work that the DNR does in relationship to our resources which include deer. I am concerned with lower staffing levels and some of the regulations coming from the Governor’s office and the support they receive from the DNR Secretary.
Please consider going to a one buck per hunter per year law. In other words, a hunter could shoot a buck with a bow or crossbow or with a rifle but not both. There is no reason a hunter should be able to shoot more than one buck per year in this modern era. Also--go back to the old crossbow law--a hunter can use one if he or she is disabled or elderly.

I would like to see all deer hunting seasons end by the first of the year. I really hate to see nice young bucks with a lot of potential make it through 3 1/2 months of crossbow, rifle, and muzzleloader hunting only to get shot late in the year when they are especially vulnerable trying to find food to make it through the winter.

We appreciate your giving us the opportunity to be part of deer management. Winter is a stressful time for deer and extending the season beyond January 1st is unnecessary. The season extends from September to January...that is too long. There is no need to have the season extended further. We need to think about the deer.

There are many deer in some areas of the county, however the deer continue to occupy the same areas. The areas are unhuntable land. It seems many leased areas as well as private lands apposed to hunting. With leases once a dollar amount was placed on a deer head many landowners have stopped hunting access.

Way too many bears, they are hurting the fawn population. I seen one doe with twins last year, some only had one and some had none. I seen zero car deer collisions near our land last year. if you went to does only myself and my family would quit deer hunting all together.

The deer population in the county is growing. There are more deer in the north than in some other parts of the county. Parts of southern Dunn Co that don't have many deer never will; no habitat. Gaining access to private land is the biggest challenge.

A point restriction would be nice to have statewide. Have seen a huge number of smaller antlered bucks shot the last couple years. Might help hunters take a little more time and make a better shot on the animal if they have to analyze better.

Just don't see the deer we used to and we push drive go through swamps work out butts off and had days where we didn't even see one deer. Either they are getting very smart or the population is hurting especially on public land. It's bad.

I do not agree with private/public only tags. Tags should be able to be used in either area without limitation. In my opinion the restriction of tags reduces the amount of ability to hunt antlerless deer.

The idea of only having one either sex tag with each licence for Dunn county and making hunters purchase all antlerless tags will not result in more antlerless deer harvested.

Spring brook township there is very few deer. I never seen so many coyotes ever then last hunting season. I hunt all over in spring brook township only. The deer are not here.

The cold, snowy winter, off the severity charts 2014-15. Had the biggest effect on herd control. Decreasing the herd size. Dunn county has been slowly recovering since.

I hunted dunn county with a bow and during gun season for roughly 35 days in 2016. Next year I will be hunting zero days because its the worst its ever been.

I do worry that if we do not start to control wolf population our deer herd may be affected! Otherwise happy with deer management.

Too many does are being harvested. Consider hunters choice permit. No earn a buck program.

I think DUNN County need to have earn a buck to reduce the herd.

Keep the deer herd healthy. Stop the Baiting!

earn a buck for northern Dunn County.
You guys harvest way too many does!

get rid of baiting
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

23 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 12
   - No: 11

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 18
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 5
   - I hunt in this unit: 22
   - General interest in this unit: 8

    The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 22
   - Bow: 12
   - Crossbow: 12
   - Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 20.18
   - Maximum: 43

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 11
   - Mostly Private Land: 4
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 1
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 1
   - Neither crowded nor uncrowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 1

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 1
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 5
   - More: 1
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 12
   - Same: 6
   - More: 1
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:  
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  
Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Report Generated:  **Friday, April 14, 2017**

*Eau Claire, Central Farmland*
I have seen less deer in general and especially less bucks almost every year since 2008. I target both adult does and adult bucks both for meat and for trophy. As hunting is becoming more and more popular, there are obviously more hunters in the woods. With the addition of more hunters, in general more deer will be harvested. As a lifetime citizen of Eau Claire county, I have always considered it a trophy county when it comes to whitetail deer. I think it could be beneficial to have some discussions about what the Minnesota DNR is doing to manage the harvest of non-mature bucks, and give more hunters the opportunity at a buck of a lifetime. For example, some zones/units have rules on the size of the buck they are able to harvest (minimum of 4 points on one side). Or that only one buck tag is given for the entire season regardless of what kind of weapon is used. (Hunter may use his/her buck tag either during the archery season or the gun/muzzle loader season, but will not be awarded a second tag if they harvest a buck with the first tag.) I think Wisconsin in general could benefit from maybe only one or two seasons of this practice. Even though it isn't regulation, it is more of a common practice in Buffalo county, which is why it has consistently been one of the best counties in the country to hunt whitetail deer. I believe Eau Claire has the potential to become just that.

At this point, CWD does not appear to be a problem in this area. However, if it becomes a larger issue in the future I would like to see NO herd culling take place as a means of control. In my opinion, there may be at least a chance of deer developing a "natural immunity" to CWD, and culling (killing potentially healthy or even immune deer) would not be beneficial. I would rather see deer die of CWD than kill healthy deer to prevent it's spread. Also, although this was not a point on this survey, I am opposed to all baiting and feeding in this area, regardless of the detection of CWD, or not.

We're finally starting to see deer along the roadsides again in the SW portion after years where it would be a rare occurrence. What you see out in a field is nowhere near what you'd see in Buffalo, Pepin or Trempealeau Counties so I would not want anyone to get the impression there are too many deer. I cut trees each year for deer browse and I'm still seeing a significant amount left untouched so I feel we could even see a 15% increase in the population and not have too many deer yet.

I feel like the predator issue is being overlooked. There are a significant number of wolves and coyotes that ARE affecting population numbers. I strongly recommend that a wolf season be reconsidered. Overall in this state we have an awesome opportunity as hunters to participate in the fair chase of whitetails. I appreciate the efforts of all ethical sportsman and the DNR to keep that alive for us and future generations.

In order to maintain the population in the central farmland zone, more doe tags must be issued. One with each license will result in an increase in the population as was seen last year. It is next to impossible to grow a garden or regenerate oak trees or grow fruit trees without putting up fences. I think even a slight reduction in the herd size is appropriate in order to regenerate our forests and grow oak trees.

Just because the neighboring county does not issue antlerless tags, doesn't mean EC Co should do the same. 2 very mild winters will cause a boom in the population, which will cause more vehicle damage, higher insurance rates. Higher populations could lead to more CWD. A small number of bonus tags should be allowed.

I support eliminating deer and elk farms and captive hunting operations state wide due to disease and unsportsmanlike conduct. Please maintain a ban on baiting and feeding.

I believe that the new/current online and or phone registration is ripe with the potential for under reporting of deer being harvested.
I would like to know the influence of last years Chippewa County deer issues on the number of Eau Claire deer licenses sold.

I've watched the population steadily decrease, there is a need for an extreme limit on anterless permits

Please allow feeding again. We really enjoyed watching them out our back yard.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

42 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 26
   No: 16

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 8
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
   I hunt in this unit: 37
   General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 35
   Bow: 20
   Crossbow: 14
   Muzzleloader: 14

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 23.08
   Maximum: 52

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 7
   Mostly Private Land: 7
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   Mostly Public Land: 7
   Exclusively Public Land: 9
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 1
   Not too crowded: 14
   Neither crowded nor uncrowded: 3
   Somewhat crowded: 5
   Very crowded: 7
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 14
   Fewer: 10
   Same: 9
   More: 8
   Many More: 1
   Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 15
   Fewer: 11
   Same: 8
   More: 7
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antlerless Quota:</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
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<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT :</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**  
*Eau Claire, Central Forest*
Comments for  Eau Claire, Central Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Wardens would be suprised to see what they would find on Amish properties in and around Augusta and Fairchild area. Not only remains of white tail poached out of season year round, but an assortment of all types of wild life that have been poached out of season. They claim it is to feed there families and their religion permits them to do such things, or blame the lack of knowledge on what is legal and not legal on lack of technology. It’s not uncommon for an average Amish house hold to take home 50 white tail a year in and out of season. Not to mention the fish they net at night in Augusta and on the Eau Claire river at night. This is a major concern not only of mine and has been for a while, many other community members in the area are very concerned as well. One other concern regards the wolf population. Being a person with (Daily) dwellings in the Eau Claire county forest the signs and sightings are ever increasing. They were sky high pre 2012 then they dipped down to only finding only a track here and there and hairy skat in the middle of the road, to now getting back to pre 2012 numbers once again. I'm out there every day and see them, so to claim the numbers are way down by whom ever that opinion may be coming from for one either doesn't spend quality time out there, or two doesn't know what they are looking for. There is also an increase in bobcat activity in this area. Two years ago I had one walk under my archery stand and didn't think anything of it until I saw a bobcat sitting on a fresh white tail carcass eating the hind quarter. Is a bobcat really able to take down a white tail? None of this is local superstition or folklore it's all factual first hand accounts of mine that myself an avid sportsman and former US Veteran would like some effort put into to help preserve what keeps me and the locals happy and you in a job. Thank you

This unit has been subject to very low antlerless quotas for several years now. The winters the past two season have been extremely mild meaning low mortality. Taking both of those facts into consideration it is undeniable that the deer population has increased substantially for this unit. This scenario holds true for many counties in the state including the northwoods where deer numbers were truly very low. If you look at the map of statewide recommendations, Eau Claire County is on an island by itself with the recommendation for bucks only in this forestland unit. I do not understand how the committee could come up with this plan. There are undoubtely hunters in this unit who want the opportunity to harvest antlerless deer for their freezer and the CDAC runs the risk of alienating those folks. The recommendation should be to increase the number of permits available for public and private compared to the past two years and the overall goal to increase the population will still be met with out any issues. It almost appears that the council is forcing their personal beliefs about harvesting antlerless deer onto all those who hunt this unit. I truly hope that is not the case because that was never the intention for forming these committees. Please use the scientific information you were provide, consider the feedback from all (not just those that agree with you), and make a sound, educated decision that does not include personal bias. One other thing to keep in mind is that your decision could result increased pressure on antlerless deer on adjacent counties public lands that are also trying to increase their herd numbers.
Bravo CDAC. Finally buck only in the Eau Claire County Central Forest public and private land. It is long overdue. The deer herd is as low as I have seen it in the last 35 years. I don't think people realize how hard it is to grow the deer herd now with 30-40 year low populations, sky high predation, and throw in the possibility of some severe winters. I hope the CDAC keeps the Central Forest public and private land buck only for at least 3 years. The fawns from the does that are not going to be killed this year will take another year or two or more before they are able to be bred and produce more deer to grow the population. The herd will not grow much at all with one year of buck only.

Good job CDAC you are making a wise decision for the short and long term deer population of Eau Claire County Central Forest. The herd is at a dangerously low level and needs to increased aggressively. Don't issue any antlerless tags until the buck kill gets closer to historical norms. I am glad you looked at all the metrics and saw that the deer population is extremely low. Your decision for buck only will help grow the deer herd and save the deer hunting tradition in Eau Claire County.

I have hunted many many acres of the public central forest land in Eau Claire County and found that there are actually very few places "overbrowsed". Most of these overbrowsed areas are very concentrated along the edges of the best cover or in areas not accessed by humans during the hunting season. AKA where the most deer travel the most often. The number of antlerless taken on public land is always the wild card I think. Very few hunters own property and therefore head out to public lands. From a management perspective there is no real way other than tag restriction for public land areas to affect populations, if the access to public areas is not being tracked or restricted. For example, buck tags could also be given out for the different zones based on carrying capacity instead of the statewide tags.

I hunted every Thursday-Sunday from the the middle of October to the end of gun season. I also run 4 trail cameras on our 40 acres. A lot of factors affect deer sightings but I believe deer numbers were a bit lower this past fall. I had more days of seeing no deer than previous years, but also had days where I saw 5-6 deer and one particular day at the end of October where I saw 5 different bucks before noon. I used to hunt public land half of my time and private the other half, but when I began seeing more hunters than deer I lost interest in hunting public land. I do plan to put some extra legwork in this summer and find deeper areas of county forest to try to get away from hunters.

I think the antlerless bonus tags should be available to private landowners one per license purchased. Not all of us are horn hunters and we rely on the venison every year to feed our families. I agree with no bonus tags for public land hunting. We have had cwd reported in this zone and I think it is our responsibility as stewards of the land to make sure populations are kept in check so there isn't over population in certain areas where disease can spread in the right conditions. It is the job of the hunter/landowner to make the right educated decision whether or not to take a antlerless deer by observing the population and overall health of the deer in that area.

There are certain areas in this unit that deer numbers are subscribed from private land management. When there were many free doe tags giving out in this unit in the past not every land owner went out and shot every die that they could. In the area I hunt with neighbors we have great deer numbers because we took it upon our selves to manage our area. We need to continue to manage the doe numbers cause we have plenty in our area. There are areas where individuals went out and slaughtered every fawn they saw just because they could go back and receive more free tags

If the CDAC committee moves forward with the zero antlerless quota I think they are making a huge mistake. I understand the goal is to increase deer populations in the unit, but I think this is a dangerous move. All neighboring units are increasing antlerless permits. How can this unit be doing the opposite? Deer populations are doing just what was intended, rising. This past winter was another favorable winter for deer. Dropping the antlerless permits this drastically will result in many unintended consequences.
The deer farm by Fairchild that tested positive for cwd is too close for comfort. I think managing the doe heard is very important knowing this. I am happy to know no deer tested positive during this deer hunt but not sure how many people tested their harvest. I do think there should be a program in Wisconsin for testing deer hit on roads and a program to feed the hungry people in our area instead of letting perfectly good meat rot on the side of the road and then even perhaps spreading disease.

The Central Forest boundary needs to be changed, The area between County R and St HWy 27-12 is more represented by Farmland. St. Hwy, 27-12 should be the Bdy. between Central Forest and Farmland. going south on Kempton RD. and back on Co RR to County M. On Mar. 31 I counted 23 deer in making a 10 mile route. On April 3, I counted 58 deer on same route. There needs to be some antlerless tags about the same as 2016 to MAINTAIN The population in this part of Central Forest in 2017.

I don't believe that sound judgment was used to come up with the zero quota for antlerless permits in the central forest zone of Eau Claire county. Having a board member put out a sign up sheet at a local bar to see if anyone would support a ban on antlerless deer, is not science, if these people actually spent as much time in the woods as they do in the bar they would see more deer.

Too many local hunters that do not care about property lines and tresspass. Baiting should be legal throughout, since there isn't much food there. CWD is coming from game farms, not the wild. Crack down on game farms, and cwd will disappear. Also this new tagging system is a joke, go back to the way things were.

I would like to see a formula that would take smaller tracts of private land 100 acres or less and combine them with public land thus evening out the number of tags between public and private lands as we often hunting the same deer but the access to tags for private land is much greater.

By going to zero tags you are gong to drive hunters from this area. I have four young hunters in my group and two are from out of state and if they didn't have the ability to shoot a doe I don't know if they would keep coming. I also feel that this result in more poaching.

After 43 years of hunting in the Augusta area I am profoundly disappointed in the number of does we have taken. That said I think the wolf and bear population is out of control with the coyote and I'm not sure you can fix it in my lifetime

Youth hunter should get one valid tag for each season example would be 1 tag for archery season and 1 tag for gun season that can be used for antlered or antler less no bonus tags should be issued in the zone.

With the lack of acorns last fall I think the deer population is down slightly. Would consider limiting deer kill this fall and gun season to strengthen the herd.

too many wolves, herd is way down last several years. I fear people may shoot a deer, tag it, bring it home, not register it, print another tag, repeat, repeat.

I hunt in the triangle from Fairchild to Osseo to Augusta, this area has too many deer for habitat and should be included in farmland zone not forest zone

I feel that if ATVs are not allowed on public land then the Amish should not be able to use their horses and buggies to access this property either.

Zero quota is a very good start towards getting back a healthy and plentiful deer herd. Right now it is pathetically low in deer numbers.

there are too many wolves, pray that can be addressed soon

Deer Management Units are way too large to be effective.

0 is great the heard needs to recover.

2 years late on zero antlerless tags
would like the
**Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017**

**Florence, Northern Forest**

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

112 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?  
   - Yes: 53  
   - No: 59

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?  
   - I live in this unit: 15  
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 41  
   - I hunt in this unit: 105  
   - General interest in this unit: 30

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?  
   - Gun: 102  
   - Bow: 58  
   - Crossbow: 32  
   - Muzzleloader: 36

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?  
   - Minimum: 1  
   - Average: 26.99  
   - Maximum: 58

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?  
   - Exclusively Private Land: 19  
   - Mostly Private Land: 16  
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 21  
   - Mostly Public Land: 12  
   - Exclusively Public Land: 37  
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?  
   - Not at all crowded: 4  
   - Not too crowded: 15  
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 20  
   - Somewhat crowded: 21  
   - Very crowded: 25  
   - Not applicable: 1

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?  
   - Many Fewer: 9  
   - Fewer: 22  
   - Same: 32  
   - More: 41  
   - Many More: 6  
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?  
   - Many Fewer: 10  
   - Fewer: 19  
   - Same: 29  
   - More: 38  
   - Many More: 14  
   - Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  

Florence, Northern Forest
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017 Florence, Northern Forest
Hunted this area with family and friends for many years. Traditionally we sit the first 2 days taking advantage of the deer and there normal patterns. Years back if we had successful hunters on the first day they would move about on the second day to try to keep deer moving. The 3rd day we would do drives and switch up drivers and posters so everyone got a chance to rest up. Same on the 4th day and so on. For the past 15 years our success rate has declined and our drives used to provide every one a chance to SEE some deer. Over the past 5 years our drives where fruitless and after a day and a half many in our group said it don’t pay! Our group has shrunk and our stay is shorter. Last season we seen a slight improvement and we are optimistic for this season. After this season we are very concerned that we will be back where we were a few years back. Every person in our group feels 2800 permits to get 1000 antlerless deer harvested is way to many and as your stats show while it was buck only this unit had over 300 antlerless deer harvested. Our family has owned land in Florence for over 75 years and its to the point we are considering selling, But to who and for how much? We understand that Buffalo county is a whole different dynamic and habitat but just try to buy hunting land there. There is hunting land all over the state for sale and price reflects the quality of the hunting. So if we sell what are we going to get for our land? Land that we truly loved to come to at one time that we now feel we are stuck with. Seems like prior to the deer czar, hunters complained that no one was listening to them and the DNR put out the directive to change that perception. Now the DNR has a seat on the CDAC and with the mild winter the deer population is going to explode. Then you have a Forester on the CDAC that wants every deer wiped out so the logged off forest can regenerate in record time so it can be harvested again, Mind you logging used to be a vital part of the counties work force and now 2 men in multi million dollar harvesters can wipe out forty acres in a few days. What used to take a small family operation weeks and those small family operations are gone and all that’s left are the big dollar operations that only care about profits. Then we have the agricultural representative and there are few farms in the county and I am sure they are feeding the bulk of the deer that congregate and focus on their crops and this could be controlled with a few crop damage permits. I really feel like the cards are stacked against the sportsman on this council. Please reduce the number of antlerless permits and let the herd grow a few more years. Also hold your meeting on a Saturday and see how many hunters attend and listen to what they have to say. Let them tell you about the wolves and bears that are keeping the deer population in check. You didn’t have the abundance of these predators 20 years ago. Or issue as many permits as you can sell and ruin deer hunting completely for many years to come and considering the wait for a bear tag was 10 to 11 years it will grow to 15 years with hunters looking for a different hunting opportunity. That will get even worse to the point you will loose the hunting tradition in Wisconsin all together. Many are taking that as the WDNR’s goal But where will the money come from then. Tax the lumber companies ? Charge the Farmers for sharp shooters to eliminate the nuisance deer ? Its sad to say the least. Don’t shoot up the woods in 2017 let them go let them grow.
The 2016 season was to be buck only, yet 374 antlerless deer were taken. Same thing happened in 2015. The Florence CDAC decided to increase the herd and was to be Buck only. Antlerless deer were still harvested even though it was to be Buck only. So now there are 2800 tags to be issued to hopefully harvest 1000 antlerless. So if Florence had Buck only for the last 2 seasons yet last year 374 tags were filled, How many will actually be taken this year. The harvest was up in 2016 but we were at all time lows just prior to that. I own land in Florence Cty. Hunted that land for 45 years seen good and bad and willing to accept some poor years BUT when hunters say they are not seeing deer the DNR stopped listening AGAIN. I feel we were approaching a huntable population and this decision will set us back again. What is so hard about giving deer hunters what they want because if deer hunters all went away would the DNR's money come from. There is not even an attempt to compromise It's the DNR's way or no way. With deer numbers the way they are if I wanted to sell my land which is only good for hunting purposes because I am 2 miles off the main road and power. Who in there right mind is going to pay me what its worth. Oh maybe a timber company would be interested just like the ones who have the DNR in there back pocket telling them the deer are eating ALL the new growth which cost them money. Then maybe I am way off maybe the DNR is just keeping the herd at low levels to slow the spread of CWD BUT we can still have baiting even though it may contribute to the spread Of CWD, AGAIN who is in the back pocket but all the vendors Selling tons of corn, sugar beets, carrots, pumpkins, alfalfa bales and apples. Heaven forbid you take there sales away. Also hold the CDAC meeting on a Saturday and I guarantee the hunter attendance will more than double. I for one am not going to drive 150 miles after work to attend a meeting ( a meeting that the hunters input will not be taken seriously anyway) on a week night then after a few hours drive home 150 miles. If you think I am going to take a day off work guess again. AGAIN not when our input is not taken seriously any way. I have hunted Montana twice and both times passed on several Bucks before taking one and our group filled all our tags each time with in 4 days. THAT never happened in Florence Cty. to our group AND I never ever expect it to. But to spend several days hunting and not seeing deer is getting sickening. If it returns to that its time to hunt out west and the hell with Wisconsin totally. Sell a product people want and they will come, try to sell them crap they wont come back. Give the herd a chance to rebound. Control the small pockets thru micro managing just like its been done the past 2 seasons.2800 permits to get 1000 harvested is absurd. Shoot up the woods this year shoot yourself in the foot next year.

I have been hunting in the county for 15 years and fishing in the county for 20 years and have seen an extremely sharp decline in deer population over the past 8 to 10 years. We rarely see deer in the summer anymore when driving to the trout streams in the spring and summer and in the fall it has become increasingly difficult to find deer sign around our typical hunting locations. What is most concerning is the amount of wolf sign we have seen over the past few years. In 2014 I personally found 4 wolf kills (8 foot circle of deer hair, no carcass, no bones, unlike coyote kills) while completing drives or walking during hunting. We have found wolf tracks (roughly the size of the palm of my hand) the past three years on the roads and skid trails by our stands. For reference my family covers roughly 1 square mile in our standard hunting locations. Most concerning was a wolf sighting last summer (May 2016) while trout fishing where I crossed a bridge on a logging road and looked down the road to see a wolf walking 40 yards down the road towards me. I am confident in the sighting as the wolf was middle chest height and examination of the tracks were palm sized again. My family has kept information on yearly sighting numbers, harvest quantities, number of hunters, and days hunted per hunter for our camp for the past 30+ years and over the past few years the sharp decline has pushed our total sightings, sightings per hunter, and sightings per hunter per day to historic lows. Where it used to be uncommon to not see a deer all day it has now moved towards not being uncommon to not see a deer all weekend or over the past few years see no deer even hunting 5+ days of the season. I would strongly urge to only allow antlerless harvest for junior or new hunters and not to allow antlerless or bonus tags to the general public.
From all of the time I spend in the woods starting in the spring and all the way to the end of Muzzle-loader season I was somewhat happy to see more deer than 2015. But I think we are still a few years off from being to the point of issuing these numbers of antlerless permits. As far as over browsing of trees I just do not see this happening. I recently had my property cut and some of the soft maple shoots are being browsed off but I see this a part of the process to grow a healthy tree or stand of trees. A stump may have 50-100 shoots coming off of it, well if a deer doesn’t eat some of these shoots the tree would end up growing slower and a large majority of these would eventually die off any way. Now that a deer browses off the majority the stronger 2-3 shoots emerge and do just fine. Why can’t we allow the deer heard to recover and then be conservative about tags not like 4-5 years ago when we issued up to 5000 tags and then have to have 3 years of no doe tags and a poor hunting experience. I have never done the research for the county and what the deer population number was back in the late 90’s to early 2000’s but I can tell you that if we are claiming its roughly the same now we are so far off it is not even funny. I’m not asking for a deer population like it once was but what we have now is not good enough. We should let the heard go for at least one more year.

I think the county should be split, being more of an ag area east of 101. The main issue with the county, is the management of the Federal Land, which hopefully can get better in the future. Deer can do better in the winter, IF they have natural browse in the forest, good yard areas etc, going into winter in better shape, may also help against the wolves….. What needs to be enforced on both Federal land and state Land, etc in the county, is the abuse of stands that are never removed, illegal stands constructed on state and county land, and the total disrespect, of our land, by those who use our land, as a garbage dump. I agree with your idea on doe tags, too much pressure on young bucks. but to me if you kill a doe, than your done, you should get one deer period. Otherwise your going to have those that kill a doe, and go right along and kill a small buck, which serves no purpose for the health of the herd….. Poaching is out of control, in my opinion as well as road hunting. I know we only have one warden, but we should have at least 2. Thank you, for all the work you are doing. I hope to be at my cabin in the UP next week, so I can come to the meeting, Get rid of baiting….. it will never happen, but its a curse in my opinion

My land is in south eastern Florence County. We have more does than we have in 20 plus years of hunting our land. Our 8 cameras that run from April to January have indicated the past two years that our buck to doe ratio is very heavily weighted on the side of does. I know that the WDNR has the research and experience to understand what an unbalanced herd can do for the overall health of the herd. Tough winters and too many deer create a lack of food shortage and bucks that are worn down due to an extended rut with too many does. I don’t believe that the entire county is at that point but some of the private land is almost there. I did not see in your survey if my concern for the health of the deer herd influenced my answers. It was the main reason for filling out the survey and how I answered your questions. I would like to see a focus on a healthy balanced herd. I was happy to see your question on quotas broken out for Public and Private. The public land west of the town of Florence is much different in deer numbers that what the farm land area is near Aurora. I believe the private land needs tags for does this year. Thank you for all you do, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide feed back.

I feel the deer numbers, count, is not very , if at all accurate, when it comes to depredation. Also If anyone is to believe the Buck kill numbers that the DNR has for the Northern forested zone, they are employed by said agency, and the only ones. The Northern forest is now deserted of many hunters and that is because the deer are just not, managed, to be there for us, by you. Excuses notwithstanding, you know, to cold to go out, rain, oh and my favorite, the kill is down because hunters stayed in to watch the Packers! Ever think of telling us the truth? try it sometime, you may be surprised. Remember when Wisconsin was a destination? Not like now, where its just a state to pass through, to go and get a deer somewhere else! There was a time when you went into the field with the chance of knowing, you had a chance at a racked buck, and sooner or later, it did, happen. Now you go out "knowing" it isn't gonna happen. You want future generations to hunt and keep the tradition alive? Just an FYI, my son no longer hunts deer with his Dad in Wisconsin! I dont blame him, to many cold days in the blind/tree stand with absolutely nothing to show, Thanks (insert sarcasm here)for that, DNR.
I believe the proposed 1000 antlerless tags for 2017 is a mistake. I think it will take more than just two years of zero antlerless tags for the deer population to come back. This will be a step backward and hurt the population rather than improve it. I have been hunting Florence County for over 20 years and the deer population is just not there. I love hunting and spending time in the woods. I do not expect to harvest a deer every year, but when you are out in the woods and don't see one deer in 10 hours there is something wrong. I have noticed the number of hunters in the woods is also down from previous years. This is hurting the local economy. Whenever we come to Florence we support the local economy. We want to see Florence become a more successful community and hunters are a big part of this success. I hope you reconsider the 1000 antlerless tag proposal for 2017 and let the deer population continue to grow. Thank you!

There seems to be a fair rebound on deer in agricultural areas of the county. It's not a huge rebound and seems even a bit slow with the large predator populations. There can be limited antlerless harvest and I agree with the 1400 tags issued. Public land is an entirely different story. I have snowmobiles all winter on Florence County lands and see little if any rebound of the deer population. The overbrowse issue seems to be blown completely out of proportion also. Anywhere there is sunlight and cutting the forest looks like a jungle. The deer population on the other hand seems to be very fragmented and sparse......mostly due to wolves and past years massively over harvests. It looks to me like there is no recovery in the Spur lake, Bass Lake, Pine River or the Plains. I would hope that any public land antlerless harvest would not happen in 2017 until we can see if the deer herd is even capable of recovering in these areas.

The deer densities in Florence county differ drastically from the east side of the county to the west side. There are many more, especially antlerless deer, on the east side of the county. I would suggest dividing the county in a East Zone and West Zone with harvest goals different. In the East side of the county there are very few bucks compared to does. The bucks that do exist are 90% yearlings and most get shot during the hunting season. Very few 2.5 + year old bucks. The bucks need to be protected by antler point restrictions. Does need to be harvested. The west zone of the county has a healthy deer herd that is still recovering. No antlerless harvest and protect bucks with an antler point restriction. There are more 2.5 + year old bucks but less deer as a whole population. I have seen more does with last years fawns this spring compared to previous years for the whole county. Please protect young bucks!

I have leased approx 200 acres for 6 years, spent about 30 days/year, and have noticed that the doe to buck ratio is approximately 4 or 5 to 1. We miss the rut most years-should be a week to two earlier. Also there are a large number of bear throughout the state. I gave up the point system out of frustration of having to wait too long. I believe MN has fewer bear and yet they don’t have to wait as long on avg. The same is true for turkey permits. There seems to be favoritism by the DNR to continue the permitting as there are large sums of revenue streams from them. Many hunters and farmers agree that there are simply too many turkey/geese in areas and we don’t need a permit system with so many. The geese population needs to be more relaxed as well. I use to hunt geese years back (am 66 yrs old) and gave it up as it is too much work for only 2/day limits. Thanks for asking.

Loggers on our property of 200 acres saw 3 packs of different wolves. Wolves as well as coyotes are taking down deer in my opinion. From all indication on our property the wolves are moving south and packs are growing. When you introduce a dominant species in an environment without any check or balances it’s dangerous. Kids, pets, wildlife are all at risk. For what reason? I guess I don’t get it. I’m even freaked out sometimes walking to my bow stand in the dark! My son just turned 4. I hope the DNR has a plan to reverse this process that appears to be out of control in North/Central Wisconsin by the time he is able to hunt. My suggestion. You need a wolf hunt to control their population before you’ll fix anything with the deer population. Giving out less deer tags just makes their (wolves) hunt easier. Also talk to Loggers, they know the woods better than anyone.
It appears we had a very good 2016/2017 winter for the deer herd. However, I still believe we are in a rebuilding population cycle from over kill of anterless by hunters and increase in predation that I've observed. I think that a good management of anterless in 2017 will get the herd to a point that is healthy but still allows a good hunting experience. I definately saw less deer 2016 hunting versus 2015 with the same effort levels and that is a big factor in my input that no anterless tags (other than junior hunters, since I would like to see us building this culture with our young people) for the general hunting population in 2017. When we finally do decide anterless harvest is necessary, I'm a strong advocate that they should go the landowners only and keep the less ethical hunters out of the area who typically travel to the units with the most tags.

I believe offering a lot of anterless tags- or any at all- would be a mistake in this unit. The deer heard has started to make a comeback in this unit over the past couple years, in large part due to no anterless tags being offered during gun season. Offering anterless tags again this year will be too soon and will just start the cycle over again. Hunters will kill a bunch of does and fawns, and the herd will drop back to what it was again. Not to mention, we could be due for a tough winter again. Offering anterless tags too soon like this will undo all the good that was done in bringing the herd numbers up the past few years, in this area. Don't rush this and jeopardize the future of the herd in the northwoods. It would be best to cease offering anterless tags at least another year or two.

We have to many bear, coyotes and wolves they are destroying to deer herd in the north woods. After opening day last year I don't think I heard more than 2 or 3 shots a day during the hunting season. When talking to local businesses they don't even consider hunting season it is more of a hunting weekend. I think that we need to consider changes for our future hunters. Maybe go to a longer season where more weekends would be involved. Maybe it time to let the deer hunters hunt part of the rut. Maybe have the weekend before the start of hunting season have a 2 day then have the 9 day season. The bow hunters should not have the rut all to themselves and I crossbow hunt. If we are going to preserve the hunting in Wisconsin we need changes in the north woods!!

I have hunted public land in Florence county for 34 years and the deer population is starting to come back. The group I hunt with believe that the deer population is coming back due to the past two years of mild winters, and only allowing hunters to tag a buck. I hope that you keep the 2017 season a buck only hunt on public land in Florence County because who knows what the winters ahead of us will bring and what the predators will do to the herd. I hope that you keep the antlerless tags to less then 300 or keep Florence county to bucks only. Florence had a great year last year, but that was only one year. The more deer in Florence the more hunters we will get back and will make more money for the county. We need more deer in Florence.

The 3 year goal is to increase the deer heard and the last two years was 0 anterless permits and two now allow 2800 anterless permits is a contradictory to the 3 year goal. I believe the youth should be allowed antlerless, but no permits should be allowed for the final year of increase. Next year the cdac can vote to maintain the population. Forestry should not dictate the heard population, which they did in this case. every CDAC was pressured by the forestry this year, almost like it was the DNR agenda. The 3 year commitment was to require consistency and simplification to the hunt, your committee jumped the gun on the 3 year process and made a mockery of the CDAC. Finish the process and don't let the forestry push there weight around.

The deer herd in the eastern portion of Florence County where I hunt and recreate, is just starting to recover. Give it one more year of no antlerless to help this rebuild. Deer numbers are substantially down from the previous two decades. Predation is still an issue with fawn mortality (Where are we with overturning the wolf listing as endangered in Wisconsin I thought this was being rectified in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Wyoming? We were lucky in having a mild winter, yet what about next year? what if it is another 1998/1999 with tremendous losses? Let the herd rebuild another year then issue a reasonable amount of antlerless, reasonable not 5000 or 8000 as has been done in the past, more like 1000 but next year.
The age old problem of predation on deer. Wolves and black bear kills of fawns and adult deer have impacted the region in my opinion to an unacceptable level for managed resources. I know this is a broken record, however, wolves have no positive impact on the economy or the near non-existent herd at this time. Hunting seasons and permits for these predators are great, but no where near the revenue generated by deer hunting. I used to see 40-50 deer in the first three days of season year after year (most doe), but at least there was population. I haven’t seen a live deer in the woods the past three seasons, and nearly no track as well. I hunt Whisker lake wilderness area.

I would like to propose there be a buck deer point minimum throughout the state. This would ensure that small young bucks have the opportunity to grow and help breed the does that are in the area. To many hunters shoot spikes and forks that so not have the opportunity to grow and become 2 years old. I understand that there will be growing pains and for the first 3-4 years people will not appreciate the effort but after those bucks become mature hunters will be happy and Wisconsin will be a go to state for whitetail deer hunting. It is a big first step but I believe that it is a necessary step.

Why doesn’t the DNR look at a new option go back to the old days of having (deer camp permit)2-3 people getting together charge $12@person for 1 doe tag you kill 2 birds with 1 stone, DNR gets $ & a antlerless shot, and keeping the antlerless kill in check Also you people talk about keeping tradition in place it's a joke!!!! Paper tags, not going to the local registration to see who shot what, call in deer registration what a joke talk about a violaters dream. Take the government out of this and give it back to the experts. Also get rid of the Baiting

During the hunting season of 2016 I was able to harvest a small buck with a crossbow. However during the gun hunt and muzzleloader hunt I was seeing 15 to 20 deer a day, none of them were bucks and qualified for me to harvest them. The doe population seems to be very strong, and with a relatively light winter mortality of the deer population I would assume to be low. The option to harvest a doe during bow and gun season would be very beneficial to the number of successful hunters, impact to the economy, and increasing the deer herd health by reducing over population.

I feel that this unit over the years has seen a very large decrease in deer population. Every year we see fewer and fewer deer. And this is not just while hunting. As I may not live in the area, I visit it often and I have family there. They spend a lot of time outside on their land and in the National Forest. They have also seen fewer deer over the years. I feel that if the goal is to rebuild the deer population in this unit you have to do 2 things. 1. Thin out the Wolf Herd 2. No Antlerless Tags (Except for the Youth Hunters. We want to keep them interested.)

Deer hunting has a big impact on the local economy no doubt. The bigger impact to our local economy is the forest industry. Without a robust forest industry we would not have much of an economy in this county with many of our workers in some fashion linked directly to the wood markets. Maintaining the current population or slightly decreasing the population should be talked about more instead of increasing the herd, and impacting our abilities to have a sustainable forest industry for our future generations and a quality economy here in our community.

Florence County should be split into an eastern zone and western zone. We have a lot of deer in the eastern side of Florence County (we have for the last 4 years+). The size of the does are huge since they haven’t been shot for 3 years. I don’t understand why the antlerless permit level has ranged from zero to ‘too high’ over the years. Please consider setting the level in the middle and leaving it there, unless we have a terrible winter. 2,800 permits is way too high, and it should never be set to zero again on the eastern side of the county.

I've hunted public land in Florence County for over 20 years with family and the deer population is low. I believe that the buck only seasons are helping the deer population increase and that with keeping it buck only for several more years would truly help. Taking soo many does as in years past really over harvested the herd. Please leave the herd grow! It would be really nice to see more than one or two deer in a season of hunting. Hunters seem to just hunt in these public areas to fill antlerless tags when available.
Having hunted this area for 29 years much has changed for deer hunting we have fewer hunters in the area and very few deer. In the past few years I have seen more wolves during deer season than deer. Trail cams have shown a large number of new fawns are taken by black bears also the forest is getting older and not much logging is being done forcing wildlife to other areas. Also no snowshoe rabbits, not many porkys it almost feels like a dead zone in the forest the last few deer seasons.

Regarding the western half of Florence County, there are now too many deer present to suit the available browse due to the fact that there is little to no significant cutting in the national forest. The obvious solution is to begin cutting again and make this a working forest once more so that ALL wildlife can benefit from a working forest rather than trying to protect a single insignificant bat or frog species at the expense of all other potential forest inhabitants.

Deer are not abundant on the public land I hunt on. Our crew will be looking to move to different parts of Wisconsin or different states to hunt if the deer population is not managed much better in Florence County in the future. After the last few winters we've had here we expect to see some deer herd recovery. So far we haven't. Spending the amounts of time and money we do is looking more like a waste of both if Florence County doesn't manage the deer herd better.

I PERSONALLY HUNTED ALL DAY OPENING DAY GUN SEASON AND THE FOLLOWING 3 DAYS .. IN THAT TIME PERIOD IN THE SAND LAKE AREA I HEARD LESS THAN 30 GUNS SHOTS TOTAL . THIS IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL AS ON ANY GIVEN OPENING WEEKEND I HEAR OVER A HUNDRED IN 2 DAYS „THERE WAS NO PRESSURE AND DEER SIGN WAS MINIMAL AT BEST .. EVEN THE LOCAL EATING PLACES WERE EMPTY AND NOW YOU WANT TO SHOOT MORE DOES, NOT MY IDEA OF A GOOD PRACTICE GIVE THE HEARD ANOTHER YEAR TO RECOVER

Youth hunts are good but 3 years should be a maximum. Not from youth to age 17. Also any youth deemed old enough to handle a weapon should be required to pass hunters safety!!!! I've browsed for yearly harvest totals w/o much success. 4 years ago we voted to increase population in florence. I have not seen that happen in my time spent on woods. I say zero doe kills on public land till a substantial growth is seen in population and deer harvest.

Florence County needs to continue with "O" antlerless tags for the next two-three years. The deer in this county need continued help in increasing the numbers for the future. I want my grandchildren to be able to see deer so that they will be interested in hunting. If we continue to kill off the antlerless deer the herd will continue to dwindle. Also, wolves are getting way too many deer in Florence County. Please bring back the wolf hunt!!

The deer population in Florence County is still extremely low. With the number of deer that I have seen over the past three years, shooting does would just delay the growth of the herd. For the third year in a row I have barely seen a doe during gun hunting and very few does during bow hunting. I would support the elimination of baiting deer in Wisconsin....I believe it would improve the hunting experience, even with fewer deer.

Although the herd size has improved as the result of 3 consecutive years of "buck only", Florence County is far from having an abundance of deer. If you are going to reinstitute antlerless permits, please do so on a much more conservative nature. Also anticipate a success rate higher than your current estimate of 35% (give or take). My recommendation would be to issue 1000 permits anticipating 500 antlerless harvested.

If antlerless tags are made available in Florence please keep the number of tags around 300-350 for public land. We need to keep the deer population on the rise in Florence. If you give out 1000 antlerless tags how many nub bucks will get shot and yes Florence has had two mild winters, but we can't predict the future. Please keep the deer herd on the rise in Florence not the decline where it was in 2010-2015

I would like the dnr to consider a timber harvest on public land and create food plots of around 40 acres per section of land. By harvesting the timber you can create resources to fund such a project. If necessary work with the USDA USFS to get this accomplished on National Forests, but definitely do it on state forests. We need to improve the deer herd by coming up with ideas that are different.
The deer herd has shown signs of rebuilding due largely in part to no antlerless tags being permitted for this county. I feel the DNR has made good strides in improving the deer herd the past two seasons. It would be detrimental to the progress they have made to permit any antlerless tags for 2017. This herd needs to continue to grow. Please make the 2017 season another antlered only season!

I hunt far off the beaten path on public land. I do this so I specifically do not see other hunters. My only concern is localized hunting pressure on public land. If the goal is 1,000 antlerless deer, with 1400 public tags, the spots that most hunt (within 400 yds of roads/trails) receive more pressure. That could cause issues since most public spaces are more easily accessed. Thanks!

There should be no antlerless tags allowed for one year, we finally had a nice winter, give it another year or two and you'll be set for years to come even if we get nailed with several bad winters. Also, predator tags such as bears should be looked at and increased. Youth should still keep their antlerless tags. The herd is finally doing pretty good, we can't afford to ruin it now.

Please manage the deer population to rise so my kids and grand kids would like to hunt again. Our deer camp would just like to see something during gun season again. Please increase the harvest of predators of the deer might help. Please remember predators do not have a we miss them club when hunting deer. Thank you and good luck.

I have gun hunted in Florance for 24 years and the past two years our group has been seeing more and more deer. Our group believes that we are seeing more deer due to less harsher winters and only shooting bucks only. If doe tags due become available I hope it is less then 300. Let's keep the deer population up in Florance

I believe that there needs to be an emphasis in educating the public on what CWD is, and the affects it would have if it were to spread throughout the state. The deer herd population will rebound eventually from the past couple winters, but if CWD were to spread it would obviously have much worse effects in due time.

Deer population a few years back were terrible and to the point where hunters were considering quitting. This last season we started seeing a few adult deer and I believe at least one more year of no doe tags is the better answer. I know many crop damage tags are issued so some controls are still in place

The wolves continue to be an issue and have contributed to the rapid and sustained decline in deer numbers. The hunters know this. The DNR knows this, but nobody wants to talk about it. The wolves have changed everything about hunting. It is very sad for many of us who love the woods and love the deer.

I hunted 40+ hours during the gun deer season again in 2016 in Florence County and saw a grand total of one deer....by far the worst season of my 16 years hunting. I saw more wolf tracks than I saw deer. The idea that the antlerless permit limits should be raised from 0 to 1,000 is, frankly, outrageous.

I support new hunters being able to harvest antlerless deer, but I feel Florence county should go a few more years without antlerless tags or bonus tags. Predator population is still very high from what I have seen. Deer numbers are still low but seem to be stabilizing.

Should be illegal to feed or bait deer. In light of the spread of CWD, the risks involved in concentrating deer should be avoided. The number of deer should be controlled at a level beneficial to the integrity of the ecosystem not at a level hunters want.

Deer numbers have increased. Mild winters. Had 4 deer hit by cars this winter. Wolf and coyote populations are booming. I'm afraid that it will only take one hard winter to decimate the deer population since there are so many predators in my area.

The deer numbers were up from the year before but the deer were mostly fawns and yearlings. I think one more year of no antlerless tags will help greatly. Then we may get another warm winter and a return of the wolf hunt with a little luck
Population and resource management are extremely important to our economy and ecosystem. Having antlerless tags to reduce the rise of population and fall of resource quality is a step in the right direction to finding a stable coexistence.

If the goal is to INCREASE the deer population, how does it make sense to set the antlerless goal at 1,000?!? That seems totally backwards to increase the antler less kill by 500+ deer when the goal is to INCREASE the deer herd!

I do not support any kind of antlerless hunt in Florence County. I do not see deer in any numbers at any time of the year. My family has a Cabin in Florence. Fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, atv-ing, we don't see deer.

2 years of no antler less harvest then a goal of 1000 is to high. My 35years of hunting this unit have shown me that predators (bears mostly) and pouching along with weather are the main issues to herd growth.

Of all the years I have hunted this area, this year we saw more does than bucks by far. Opening weekend of rifle I personally had 15 does go by my stand on opening day. Not one buck was present.

I don't believe that baiting should be allowed in this unit nor should there be any antlerless tags be offered as I find it rare to even see a deer while hunting the past few seasons.

I do hunt both public and private land, the amounts change from year to year. I like the proposal of a 50/50 split of permits between public and private. I fully back the proposal.

With this area being in buck only for 4 years or so the herd should have rebounded. We saw far fewer deer this last year. So to say we should shoot 1000 does seems...not to smart.

Allowing the number of proposed antlerless permits in this unit is unconscionable. Youth and disabled should also not be allowed to shoot antlerless deer when it is buck only.

Allowing more antlerless tags is a step in the right direction but I hope the committee will decide to decrease deer numbers when the next three year plan is formulated.

Bring back deer hunting and end baiting. There is so much natural food to hunt we don't need bait. Deer move better when browsing

Need to bring back antlerless season to the Northern Zone for the sake of the forest resource, the deer, and the hunters.

Way too many antlerless tags on public land. Too much cheating with youth tags. Deer over browsing is a bunch of BS.

Predation is a big concern. The bear, wolf, cougar, and coyote quotas should be looked at to maintain balance.

If you're going to give antlerless tags out just give crop damage tags like you did the last 3 years

I feel with the milder winter than normal the time is right to allow antlerless tags again.

Baiting should be eliminated. The number of Black bear, and wolves need to be controlled.

If there were no antlerless tags given out, why were there antlerless deer taken?

No antlerless tags unless wolf population can be put in check.
68 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 30
   - No: 38

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 45
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   - I hunt in this unit: 57
   - General interest in this unit: 17

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 54
   - Bow: 39
   - Crossbow: 22
   - Muzzleloader: 26

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 26.26
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 22
   - Mostly Private Land: 12
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   - Mostly Public Land: 7
   - Exclusively Public Land: 9
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 9
   - Not too crowded: 14
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 3

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 22
   - Fewer: 27
   - Same: 14
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 24
   - Fewer: 24
   - Same: 12
   - More: 6
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: |                           |
|                                | Not applicable in this DMU |

| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: |                           |
|                                |                           |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure: 11 | 54 |

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure: Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I appreciate the work being done as a council. I realize it is difficult to keep everyone happy-and address growing CWD concerns. Personally I love deer hunting-and even more just seeing deer. But in Fond du Lac County I see a huge imbalance between private and public land density of deer. I drive frequently on the eastern half of the county-Kewaskum, Eden, Campbellsport, Mt. Calvary, Plymouth areas. I can easily count 100 deer on most later afternoon drives near Eden and Campbellsport where there are no public hunting areas. But the same drive near Kewaskum, Dundee and Mullet Marsh areas would yield a count of 20 or so. I think splitting the permits allowed by township-and location of harvest is something we should consider. Critical for this also is warden enforcement of location of harvest. The doe permits allowed in townships with nearly all private land should be significantly higher than those with significant habitat near public lands. We should also embrace tradition and go back to back tags. Saving money is not always the best solutionespecially with tradition so deep and rich. The same can be said for deer farms. Looming CWD issues at many captive deer farms has shown that it is time to get all deer back into the natural setting they were intended to roam in. It’s time to start making this happen-while we have enough youth left in the sport to make a difference. Thanks for your work.

Fond du Lac County is suffering with low deer numbers as the result of issuing way to many antlerless tags over the last couple decades and this has caught up with the deer numbers getting much smaller. Fewer does on the land scape result in fewer deer totals. Holiday hunt has to be eliminated along with antlerless tags in general and also the Youth Hunts need to be a one time event instead of years after year for the same youth ??!! This is fostering grand expectations of youth and when getting into the real hunting world a tremendous let down. No reason for this hunt as on going, very concerning to say the least. This is not the way to get youth involved in hunting turning them into special hunt hunters not be3ing the real world. No antlerless tags or very few would be good with me. If antlerless tags need to be issued , issue on private property only being the public land in FDL Co. gets hammered year after year--ALOT.

I am very dissatisfied with the current state of deer hunting in Wisconsin. The introduction of apex predators coupled with the over distribution of doe tags has led to a deer population that is dwindling to the point of mere non-existence in portions of the state to over population in other parts. I believe the state needs to adjust thinking in regards to preditor control and endless doe seasons. We are at a cross roads for deer hunting in Wisconsin. If we do not do something soon to rectify the current deer population, we stand to lose generations of potential new hunters. As it stands, only about seven percent of people in this country hunt. We are likely to watch that number fall without an intervention about how tags and predators are regulated.

I personally believe the DNR has absolutely zero accountability to sustained population growth the the Wisconsin deer herd in all of Wisconsin. Due to insurance lobbyist, ineffective DNR leadership, & Govenor eliminating over 1000 DNR positions that were crytical to successful hunts of all species of legally hunted animals our DNR has turned its head on the people who have funded many things only to have our monies diverted towards other projects deemed necessary to keep our natural resources ours for the future generations.

I do not support a Holiday Hunt for any counties in the State of Wisconsin. The popular sport of snowmobiling already has a short season. Doing these hunts causes trails to close in certain counties for 2 1/2 weekends and upsets many people including myself. That’s a big chunk of time. Please take this seriously as I speak for myself and many, many other outdoor enthusiasts. Let us have our season and stop giving us sledders the shaft. Thanks! P.S. You guys really need to look at the deer numbers in the north as for they are not where they should be. A big problem is you guys re-introducing the wolf.
We as a hunter rich state need to learn how to properly manage our deer heard. Do I have The answer for this? No I do not but I would like to see less tags to give the deer a chance to become more mature. An antler size restriction would also benefit the hunters and the deer heard. You guys are working hard and I appreciate that but to me it seems that are state in a whole is going backwards. Less deer less hunters a very messed up tagging system currently. Let's make Wisconsin the once great hunting state it use to be.

I AM REPRESENTING A HUNTING PARTY OF 6 INDIVIDUALS WHO HUNT MY FATHERS 380 ACRES MY OLDEST SON 21 HAS ONLY HARVESTED 1 SMALL BUCK. HE HAS HUNTED SINCE 12 YEARS OF AGE THE REST OF US ARE ALSO FEELING THE AFFECTS OF A DWINDLING DEER POPULATION IT CERTAINLY IS NOT THE HUNT IT USE TO BE IT IS HARD TO FEEL EXCITED ABOUT THE DEER AS OF RECENT YEARS. YOU ASKED OUR OPINION AND AS A COLLECTIVE HUNTING GROUP HAVE FORWARDED OUR CONCERNS, PLEASE INCREASE OUR DEER HERD. MAKE IT EXCITING AGAIN.THANK YOU

If the county is truly in MAINTAIN then I don't believe the antlerless tags should increase from previous year. For two reasons: Those in the field have noticed a decrease in deer sightings on both private and public land, Secondly your deer metrics show that the fawn to doe ratios have been declining which to me demonstrates a decrease in the deer population. I have noticed other counties with MAINTAIN proposing a decrease in antlerless tags because of the same reasons.

People are the over population problem not the deer. Giving more tags only equals to more yearlings being shot. On our private property and the neighbors around us strive for a Quality Management Hunting not meat hunting. Those people that thrive to fill every tag available make us sick and are not true hunters since there is usually multiple bullet holes in these deer and it's not teaching the next generation the true meaning of HUNTING

I believe their is no need for bonus in Fond du Lac county when you already are issued one doe tag with bow license and another with gun license. People wander why 70% of deer are being harvested 30% of hunters. You give them to Many opportunities and less deer available for remainder of hunters. I also think its a joke that farmers get extra tags. Thanks for listening.

One of my concerns is that of the doe population. I find it frustrating when I hear people shooting 5+ deer, all which I'd assume be in separate counties. Truthfully, every person that buys a bow tag, should get a buck and doe tag(depending where you hunt for the doe tag) and that's it! Same goes for gun too. Just a thought...

I'd like hunters to buy their tags. No reason we need free tags, it's only $12. I'd like to see more deer when I hunt; I try my best to manage my land and keep it attractive but there's only so much I can do. I also think the gun season should start earlier and run a little longer.

I noticed that when it is cold and there is snow on the ground. It appears that there are numerous deer on my land. They eat everything from buckthorn and pine trees to alfalfa but as soon as the weather warms they spread out and travel at night making it difficult to hunt.

I believe the deer in my area have changed their habits to night time activities only. The constant hunting pressure from September through December by bow, youth, antlerless, post gun, black powder, etc has adversely affected deer activity.

I believe one of the biggest factors on deer mortality is the number of coyotes in this area and wolves/coyotes in areas where wolves are found. Maybe some type of bounty on coyotes or a wolf reduction program should be implemented.

I would like to see restriction on antler size to improve the age structure of antlered deer. For example - allow harvest of forked antlered deer only would allow most 1 1/2 year old bucks to get to the "next level". . Thanks,

We need to increase the number of doe tags. I own property that I am trying to grow trees. It is impossible as they eat the seedlings. The number of deer in the field in the evenings is unbelievable.
I think the numbers of deer is higher than the study indicates. I think antler restrictions should be in place such as not being able to shoot bucks with under 3 points on a side.

Why does one person need to kill more than one deer? Why the extra tags? It takes my family of five a year to eat one full sized deer so why do other families need 2+ deer a year.

Consideration of deer numbers as it relates to crossbow and traffic mortality needs to be taken into account in the future before more antlerless tags are given out.

Would be great with me if ZERO antlerless permits were issued to rebuild the deer herd. Lots of coyotes in FDL Co. and population appears to be growing yearly.

There is no need for antlerless permits in Douglas Co. period. Should be buck only and none of the special permits should be issued either.

Stop wasting money on cwd. It going to happen no matter what you do. Double fence deer farms. Surely deer transmit cwd while breeding.

I think you should charge a small fee for does permits instead of giving them free. Do not get ride of baiting and feeding!

Deer numbers seen were lower for gun hunting than bow hunting. Mainly because of the weather I believe.

I would like to see all baiting stopped in all of Wisconsin.

I would be in favor of an antler point or size restriction.

No bonus tags
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

91 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 47
   - No: 44

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 19
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 32
   - I hunt in this unit: 83
   - General interest in this unit: 20

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 81
   - Bow: 46
   - Crossbow: 20
   - Muzzleloader: 27

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 4
   - Average: 25.11
   - Maximum: 52

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 11
   - Mostly Private Land: 11
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 19
   - Mostly Public Land: 15
   - Exclusively Public Land: 26
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 10
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 14
   - Somewhat crowded: 20
   - Very crowded: 25
   - Not applicable: 1

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 13
   - Fewer: 25
   - Same: 26
   - More: 19
   - Many More: 7
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 17
   - Fewer: 23
   - Same: 18
   - More: 21
   - Many More: 11
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am 63 and retired. Last year I spent over 160 hours hunting deer with bow and gun in northern forest county. I target trophy bucks like most serious hunters. I saw several 1 1/2 old bucks but only 1 buck over that age class. I did not harvest a buck last year during the bow, gun and muzzle load season. Most of my buddy's had the same success with the exception of those that decided to hunt Florence county because of the baiting restrictions. I believe many older bucks fall to predators over the winter due to winter and rut stress as a result that the doe to buck ratio is very high. I do agree with harvesting some of the does to try to get the herd back in balance. I would also like to see a forked or 6 point rule put into effect during the gun season. Another option that I believe would be nice is to allow bow hunters to harvest a doe after the gun season is over. Since baiting is gone hunting has definitely changed in Forest county. Most private land owners will be putting in food plots to compensate for the no bait restriction. This will even make hunting public land less effective since deer will congregate near the food plots. I guess after going through last season with out bait, I would like to see baiting allowed for bow hunting only and cut the amount to 1 gallon or less.

For the first time in years we have finally saw an increase in deer harvest which is finally great to see! But I totally disagree with giving antlerless tags out. Why look to tag out 600 antlerless deer that could potentially produce anywhere from 1-3 fawns per antlerless deer. We need to look at extending the 3-year plan for 2-3 years to keep increasing the deer herd with buck only. Also I would like to also to potentially see in the next 2-3 years to come in the Forest county area is to become a high potential hunting area similar to counties such as Buffalo, Trempealeau, Juneau, Marathon, and etc. To Resch this goal is to enforce a horn restriction on bucks of either 6 points or better. So at some point in that bucks lifetime they have potential to becoming a trophy class whitetail that every hunter dreams of bagging and bragging about! Not only by accomplishing this goal you can see the local towns and the businesses within have an increase in the economy making it the dream place to hunt such as Buffalo, Trempealeau, Juneau, and etc. Forest County has more acreage of public land compared to private land. I think by doing this at some point for our generation and the generations to come it could become a competitor as the place to hunt in America instead of the worst!

A quota of 300 antlerless deer is a step in the right direction for deer management in forest county. It is difficult to paint a solid picture in this county when it appears that the density of deer in many areas is not comparable. The idea of splitting the county into a northern and southern unit was brought up during the meeting and I'm on board with that. I am glad that the committee has taken the advice of the DNR in order to slow the growth of the population to try to attempt avoiding a large spike in the population and the crash and unhealthy herd that would follow. The committee discussed harvest numbers on tribal lands to assist in making decisions. We need more cooperation and understanding between the general public, CDAC, DNR leaders and tribal land managers. The result would be a more accurate picture of what is happening across all parts of the county and would benefit all parties involved. It's time for leaders across these groups to get together and work on a way to get this done. You will hear a lot of frustration at these meetings in regard to not knowing the number of deer harvested on tribal lands and some of it is justified and some of it appears misguided, but it is all genuine and needs to be addressed productively.
the thought of antlerless tags baffles me , I have been in this country my entire life and remember a time when you actually could see deer when sitting in the woods. I checked my cameras 4/1/17 for the first time since 1/1/17 which are on our logging roads and random established trails that have been there since before we owned the land , I had as many predators as I did deer , many wolf’s (yes plural) , coyotes and bobcat. walking our land and paper company land the weekend of 4/1/17 we came across 6 deer kills , and this is random that we stumbled across how many more did we not find. the youth in are deer camp are loosing interest. when somebody within the dnr figures out that it is about seeing deer and not killing deer you will be on the right path. I would say I am a third generation leader in our camp and I am not sure how much longer I can tell these younger hunters “this is big country , sooner or later you will see one”. I say no to any doe tags , the numbers are low but not from hunters , predators are the root cause and I would narrow that down to wolf’s first bears second. baiting , the truth is , we seen very few deer with bait and very few deer without ,

Listen here for the last 5 years I believe forest county was supposed to be buck only, then why are we still giving out doe tags for the youths? Another topic I am strong about is antler restrictions, why are we not practicing this? Look at other states/counties that do it their deer numbers are significantly higher and after a few years of this practice you have a great chance of actually bagging a decent buck. If we want our deer heard to thrive in our area we need to change something as in, quit with the crop damage tags no reason to give out hundreds of tags. Secondly our deer numbers are down tremendously we need to either make it bucks only across the board for youth and adult, make antler restrictions (3 or 4 points on a side) and I believe true heatedly if we practice QDM and do antler restrictions our deer heard would be up in population in a few years. Take this from someone who has hunted bow and gun around the area for 8 years and is ready to just say screw it and go to Minnesota or Illinois to deer hunt, so what if my license costs 3x more at least I’m guaranteed I’m going to see something. Take this into consideration thank you

I believe some consideration should be given to the increasing bear population in northern Wisconsin as it affects the deer population. It is my understanding the a bear can locate and consume newly born fawns more effectively than even wolves or coyotes. On our property, we have several game camera out during the summer and fall and we get nearly as many bear pictures as deer. We get very few solve or coyote pictures. My suggestion would be to increase the bear harvest to help increase the deer population. The past 2 summers, the farmer renting our fields had the agriculture department live trap and relocate bears due to damage to his crops. Each of the past 2 summers, 6 bears were trapped and relocated. 2 summers ago, another farm had traps set and also caught 6 bears and had them relocated at the same time the 6 were caught on our property. The whole time the bears were being trapped, and after traps were removed, we continued to get bear pictures on our game cameras. This is my reason I feel some focus on the bear population could affect the deer population. I thank you for this opportunity to express my opinion.

I have hunted this area most of my life and the last 5-7 years the deer numbers have been awfully low. The local attitude points to wolves and native American harvest as being the reason for the low numbers. I personally have not seen a wolf in this county ever and have only seen tracks from time to time. The native American influence I can not comment on in any way as I have no knowledge and assume it is racist conjecture. Mostly I just see a lot of hearsay and very little objective analysis by both the citizens and the DNR. There needs to be better communication and education particularly when it comes to wolves. It leaves citizens in a tough spot and adds to the hype when they cannot legally protect themselves or property without breaking the law. Even now that hunting wolves has been stopped, that approach to management was wrong. Wolves are not game, we do not eat them. The approach should be from the aspect of managing problem wolves and leaving non problem wolves alone.
I do not understand how there were so many antlerless deer killed in a unit that was buck only. This DMU does not have the amount of deer to justify a antlerless quota. We still need a few years of buck only. Also, buck only should truly mean bucks only. I do not agree with youth hunters being able to shoot antlerless deer in a unit that is buck only. If the youth hunters want to shoot a antlerless deer, then they should be required to do so in a DMU that has antlerless tags. We also need to get the predator population under control in this area. There are way to many wolves, coyotes, bears and bobcats. The deer population will never increase if the predators keep killing the amount of deer that they are, even in a true antlerless zone. We have voted and tried to increase the population in this area, but the amount of predators keep that population from growing, along with the amount of antlerless deer shot in this so called buck only DMU.

I have hunted Whitetail deer in Forest County since 1975. I spend many hours each Fall in Forest County Grouse hunting and scouting for the upcoming archer and muzzleloader seasons. I can confidently say that over the past 5 years the amount of deer sign and deer sightings is the lowest I have ever experienced since 1975. Yet I must be totally honest and say that over the past two years I have seen a slight increase in the amount of deer sign and deer sightings which is encouraging. The ban placed on baiting in Forest County during the 2016 hunting season was a much awaited action and I believe will help the deer population rebound. Although, if the decision were mine I would ban baiting for the regular deer gun season and muzzleloader season but would allow the 2 gallon baiting rule for archery deer hunting. I am hopeful continued changes will be implemented to help return a solid deer herd to Forest County. Thank you!

This is the first year I decided not to hunt at all. In fact decided to go on vacation in Mexico during the 9 day gun season. All I see in 130 plus days each year in forest county over this time frame each year the population of deer is effected by the black bears population with fawn loss in spring / summer. Wolf population killing deer just to kill and not even eating the remains. Some are ate but others and just left. Both of these predators need to be controlled more. Coyotes are no where near the population from wolves killing them off they even learned not to howl due to wolves coming in and killing them. Coyotes hunting kills are down over the last 3 years due to this. Only way to get one is with dogs or trapping which is still hard. You use to see 30 to 40 deer everytime you go out to look for them. Now you have a good day if you see 3 and this is during summer.

The deer population in Forest County has been low for many years. I do believe that the zero antlerless (including Junior) has helped markedly but that herd growth still has a way to go. The effect of non-human predators, primarily coyotes, wolves and bears, has adversely affected the increase in the deer population. I truly believe in a Junior program, but I have been privy to too much bar talk where the Junior’s tag was filled by other hunters in the group because "the doe was too good to let go". Antlerless therefore should exclude Juniors until such time as there is an adequate herd to support both Junior and regular antlerless. I know CDAC does not have it within its purview, but the lack of logging and regeneration on federal lands does not provide the browse necessary to support an moderately increasing herd. Thank you for allowing my input.

Having hunted primarily on private lands in this unit the past few seasons, I cannot say with certainty how depleted the deer heard was after the hard winters of 2013/14 & 2014/15 really was. On our property, a drop off in the sightings of mature bucks (3.5 years & older) was most notable on both trail camera and actual sightings. On the contrary, the doe population seemed to remain steady, based on the camera activity and in-field encounters. While our hunting group understands the complexities of maintaining a balance in harvest proportions (antlered vs antlerless), we also felt that we have under-hunted our property during the past few seasons. Adult does without fawns would seem to indicate we have an aging population that puts additional strain on forage and habitat without adding to the growth of the herd.
Forest County is composed of very different types of deer habitat which the past system of management units addressed quite well. 39 was primarily a forest unit while the other units in the county contained a greater amount of private and ag land. I have seen an increase in deer numbers in proximity to more developed areas and private ag land areas in the county. However in the forest regions (what used to be unit 39) I have actually seen fewer deer this past fall, winter, and spring than the previous year. I support the antlerless tags for parts of the county (mostly private areas) but believe that antlerless tags should be held to a minimum on public land; most of the area north of highway 8. I have hunted, fished and worked outdoors for almost 40 years now.

The decision on doe permits should be based on input of citizens and the board. Make your decision based on what you see while in the woods and driving in your car. And not what the dnr comes up with, there way of counting Deer is why we are here trying to rebuild the heard. We should continue on the same path as last year. No doe permits except disabled and military. And if the population were to spike up one year that would be great and we could deal with that next year. And don't forget if we have no doe permits the tribe will kill plenty of does and with that being said in some parts of the county the deer are not increasing due to the tribes shooting an unlimited amount of deer. And last year they were at an advantage since no one could bait but them.

In year 2000 there were roughly 8000 deer harvested in forest county compared to the 1200 harvested last year that is a decrease of - 566%. I believe as long as we have the wolves around the deer herd will never rebound. Northern WI. used to be well known for Big Bucks and that is all lost. The businesses have taken a tremendous loss in lack of business. There should not be any does harvested period! .. It is getting to the point that deer hunting should be closed in northern WI. put why feed the predators. In the year of 1996 It was one of the worst winters ever and we lost a lot of deer and 3 years later we had a T zone. Now we had 3 mild winters in a row and the herd is not rebounding.

Along with now antlerless tags, PLEASE limit archery season in Forest county -  Now with crossbow and bow - almost equal number of bucks taken in archery season BEFORE the rut,  as taken by gun during the firearm season. Those bucks get no chance to reproduce - no matter how large the doe count is. In the Crandon area I see many does WITHOUT fawns during summer.  What good does it do to protect does from hunting pressure if the bucks are not there to reproduce?  Yes i understand all the "numbers about how many does 1 buck can mate with, acreage they can cover etc etc, But fact is, they seem to be getting tired before the job is done ....

I personally feel the upswing in increasing the herd in Forest County by issuing no antlerless tags has somewhat helped. Needing to get a handle on the predators will also help. I hunt both rifle and muzzleloader and in live in Forest County full time and am retired. In the last 10 years the average day’s hunted to harvest a deer was 7. In 2016 it took 18, hunted very day all day and am not a beginner and hunt solo. Small pockets of deer in the areas I frequent, extensive scouting if you want to be successful . I do enjoy the lack of hunting pressure and the challenge. Also enjoy eating venison!

The data presented in the survey for 2016 showed 91 antlerless harvested on public land and 36 on private land bring the total to 127 in Forest County. The quota was 0 for 2016 and antlerless harvest for youth was prohibited. Why were 127 antlerless harvested? If 127 antlerless were harvested with a zero quota and no youth hunt, then a quota of 300 will yield how many more than 300? With deer numbers so low and the total shots I could count opening weekend being an all time low of 33 years, I don’t think the unit can withstand a quota of 300 antlerless.

I can’t imagine the justification for adding 300 antlerless tags to this unit. In the past 2 years gun deer season and now I have literally seen zero deer both seasons. I also heard far far less shot reports than through the 90’s. The herd needs to have antlerless left alone. The numbers are down and terrible plain and simple. Sign is down, activity is down, deer trails are non-existent. How can we get the next generation into hunting when all it is now is sitting in the woods and staring at nothing. No deer!
Unfortunately in Forest county there is a big difference in survival from the northern half and the southern half of the county. We own ~100 acres and just this month with limited time in the forest I have seen 5 different deer. 2 last years fawns with two adult does and a single deer. They all look very healthy. With another mild winter and a projected healthy production of fawns The increase in Car Deer accidents will be upon us. The quota needs to increase but it would be best to split the county.

I know a lot of hunters do not want any antlerless quota but from what I see the deer numbers have come back a lot the last two years especially on the private land. We are seeing a lot of deer this spring especially near the farms in our area. Last year the deer ate the clover off our fields faster then it could be harvested for the bison. Even the National Forest has quite an increase in deer numbers. You have to start an antlerless hunt this year or the numbers will get out of hand in a few years.

The deer herd in Forest County has dwindled the past 5 years. Major contributors are Bears and Coyotes and Wolves...along with some winter weather. Keep the baiting OUT--No Baiting. This County had 2 Game Wardens from 1940 to around 2000. Now it has I think just 1. You are losing alot of deer to Indians hunting year round and at night. You are losing deer to local hunters violating year round...they bait and hunt at night. Lack of Game Wardens is a local joke.

Sign of major predators in the unit is at an all - time high in my opinion. Morale of all hunters is also at an all - time low. It has always been a challenge to harvest a deer in this unit (which I appreciate the challenge), but it is almost stupid to buy a permit in this county, especially since I pay out of state fees. Due to these factors, I would vehemently recommend no antlerless or bonus tags for this unit unless they are for youth 1st year hunters.

I can go along with Junior permits but they should be limited to 10-14 age groups. Only Juniors can shoot to fill these permits. I question the antlerless quota of 800 permits in a county where we are not close to goals (15 deer/sq mile). Should hold off for another year before shooting more antlerless. Don't like baiting of deer in county and should keep it illegal for all including Native Tribes.

Deer numbers are too high to sustainably manage forests on private land in Forest County. Failure to maintain or reduce deer number on Private land will force large forest landowners to use ag. tags to dramatically reduce deer numbers. Modest antlerless quotas may help keep deer numbers in check so industrial forests don't need to go around the cdac process.

I am very much opposed to giving out "junior" antlerless tags for all hunters under 18 years of age, when there are ZERO tags available for other hunters. I am 68 years old and see no reason whatsoever for young hunters being given the ability to harvest antlerless deer... I would see MORE rationale for senior hunters getting those, but would still object.

I hunted all nine days this year again and have seen almost as many wolves as deer. Our group did see more bucks this year but they were all young deer. Would like to see more deer of an older age class. I would support an antler restriction of 4 points on one side and for youth under 18 have them be able to harvest any antlered buck.

Deer seem to be making a slight comeback. I think mostly from mild winters. Predators are definitely on the uprise. Need to harvest wolves. More bear. Go back to include bear with deer lic. Put bounty on coyotes. I have never seen so much predation before. Last 2 years I've actually watched wolves and coyotes chasing deer.

They need to keep the antlerless harvest away for at least this season. The deer are just starting to come back. We had a mild winter and hopefully we will have a good fawn crop. with this and hopefully a return of the wolf hunt, we could possibly see a return of better deer hunting in the northern 3rd of the state!

Junior license should be hunter choice, not an extra antlerless tag. Seniors age 65 and over should be hunter choice as an incentive to keep hunting in their later years. Deer feeding should be allowed in winter after deer seasons are over. May consider one buck per hunter per year by all methods.
In my opinion junior hunters should have the choice to harvest a doe or not, bucks only for all other hunters. From my observations in my specific area, the population has decreased significantly in the 5-10 years. I attribute this to predation and over harvesting by the local Native Americans.

if there are going to be tags available to purchase would like to see youth allowed to use antlerless preference/tag be included as well. Number of hunters in north woods in have been noticeably less since no antlerless tags available along with less youth hunter participation.

Allowing antlerless tags this year is a step in the right direction for this committee. When the next 3 year plan is discussed I would like to see the goal for deer numbers decrease. The mild winters and low deer harvest is allowing the population to increase too rapidly.

i'm ok with limiting the adults from taking a doe but not the kids. let them shoot a doe, they'll be adults soon enough. the indians around us shoot deer 24/7, if you don't get them on board with what you're trying to do it won't make a bit of difference.

I feel all deer farms should not be allowed in the state. I also do not feel that eradication and no baiting are true forms to managing CWD. Wolf and coyote are too high for the area especially coyote. There should be a hunt to lower the coyote population.

A lot of does in the area, and not many older bucks. Since bucks are the only thing we can shoot a lot of young bucks are taken rather than letting them grow larger. If doe tags are introduced more does would be taken and the bucks could grow larger.

Population and resource management are extremely important to our economy and ecosystem. Having antlerless tags to reduce the rise of population and fall of resource quality is a step in the right direction to finding a stable coexistence.

This last year I saw just as many wolves as I did deer. There should be no reason the wolves are protected, there are plants of them. Before you know it they will take one of your dogs or child playing in your back yard up there.

Should be able to feed and bait you cwd containment strategy is not working if it was there would be fewer counties rather than more. It is just your way of eliminating something you don't want.

Herd is improving but not where it needs to be. CDAC should recommend increasing the herd as the next 3 year goal. Forest Co. does not seem to recover well when the population is down.

What is the logging program for national forest land? I can walk through many national forest land and see for hundreds of yards. Why are we logging trees to allow growth?

Is there any plans to open up antlerless hunting for bow hunters in 2017? If antlerless tags are made available would the be supplied for both bow and gun hunters?

Concerned about predator decimation of deer population. saw least amount of deer in last 5yrs. while in woods while hiking bird hunting and atv riding

Re-look at the Forest County Wide feeding ban which is ridiculous based on where the infected herd was discovered. Sanity check please.

Need more years without doe harvest and predator control to bring the herd up to reasonable number. It's still very low.

Headed in the right direction with the antlerless allocations. Would like to see a few hundred more licenses available.

Something needs to be done about the wolf population and what it is doing to the deer population. Thank you.

Very few deer are seen. And those seen are smaller than normal and mostly does. Even signs of deer are low.
Hardly see a deer or even tracks. See many more wolf tracks. In the summer I see more bears than deer.

Grow a healthy herd that the land can sustain.

THE WOLVES KILLED 60% OF THE DEER IN NEWALD

not enough deer,
Grant, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

89 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 45
   - No: 44

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 42
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 11
   - I hunt in this unit: 83
   - General interest in this unit: 30

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 77
   - Bow: 62
   - Crossbow: 14
   - Muzzleloader: 33

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.48
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 60
   - Mostly Private Land: 19
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 8
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 7
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 29
   - Same: 25
   - More: 17
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 5

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 28
   - Same: 34
   - More: 14
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 2
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

#### 9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
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<th>About Right</th>
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<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td></td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

#### 11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

**Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

#### 12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

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<thead>
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<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.41</td>
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<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**  
Grant, Southern Farmland
My biggest input into all this: STOP wringing our hands, spending SSSOOO much time, energy and money on the control of CWD. Since it was discovered in Wisconsin there has been a ton of attention, money, effort to somehow stop its spread. After 15 years of study, testing, population control efforts it has become abundantly clear that no human interjection nor effort is going to accomplish one damn thing! Its here, its in the soil and in the deer herd(animals that have survived its effects for years as evidenced by the radio collars in Iowa county have proven), It cannot be remove from the soil by ANY means so it will therefore continue to infect animals for timeless continuum, despite population control it has continued to spread simply because of the migratory instincts of deer to NOT interbreed AND as evidenced by the fact that ALMOST no hunters have their carcasses tested for CWD SHOUTING to all listening that the only ones truly concerned by CWD presence is the DNR and that is only really because they want to inflate their importance in legislators eyes to get increased funding and control!!!!!! FORGET ABOUT IT! The DNR probably scares more hunters away because of the HYPE the DNR puts on the subject despite NEVER having ONE shred of documentation that humans can EVER BE infected with it and the fact that the DNR has made it SSSOOO complicated to know what is legal and what isn't that some hunters just throw up their hands for all the MISERY created that they don't want to hunt anyway. KISS it away (keep it simple stupid) and lets enjoy a great resource that the DNR does deserve credit for developing.

I just want to comment on a couple things. 1st of all the holiday hunt proposed, I didn't like it when we had it the first time because this is the time of year deer seem to move off some properties onto deer yards where there is good feed and a nice south exposed hillside to keep warm from the winter chill. this makes a good majority of land very unappealing to hunt because of the lack of deer, it is great for the guy hunting the land the deer move to, especially years ago when you were allowed to shoot a buck. some guys would not go hunting during the regular 9 day because they knew that all the deer where going to move on to there property for the winter and they could take there pick at that time. secondly I don't think that giving more tags out is going to help with the doe harvest, people are going to shoot what they can put in their freezer and be done. most of the county is not a problem for deer numbers, it is the area around a choice few parcels of ground where there is limited or no hunting at all. if you have ever drove around grant county looking for deer for something to do we all know where the best places to see deer are.

I recently attended our county CDAC meeting: and found the holiday hunt is planned to be reinstated. As a landowner, hunter and farmer, I was shocked to hear this. With the 4 day antlerless season we have in December, we already have a gun season that lasts 23 days!! That is a long season for gun hunting: not to mention the superlong archery season we have. I do not agree with the holiday hunt. Instead, I would encourage the DNR to educate hunters that they need to harvest more antlerless deer in an effort to maintain or reduce present herd. So far, even with 2 antlerless tags per license, a small percentage of these tags are being punched. More tags, extra seasons—no!! We need to emphasize killing more antlerless deer through hunter education. Secondly, with the buck kill down, crop damage tags kill down and the flown deer assessment count down, there is some question as to the real deer population in Grant County. Is it really up 20%?
We need to bring back the Holiday Hunt! Specifically we need to also bring back the option of shooting an antlered buck during the holiday hunt. I would also support bringing back the bonus buck rules from years past. This could help slow the spread of CWD. Our area has a high number of deer, and we need to fight the spread of CWD by attempting to keep the population in appropriate balance with the habitat. Currently, there is way too many deer, and we need to give hunters more opportunity, especially in the later season when the opportunities are more plentiful due the the lack of food available for deer. Thus, I would also support the extension of the archery season until the end of February. Many other states do this, and this could help us get our population in check, while giving hunters a chance to chase deer in the winter months with different strategies than the early season and the rut.

we have a group of land owners that monitor the deer crop, and we have a deer management in our area to provide heathy deer and big bucks. we plant hundreds of acres of food plots for deer. the last thing we need around us is a holiday hunt. iam in favor of a normal gun 10 day hunt only. no special hunts. we are sportsman trying to maintain quality deer in this area. if the deer make it threw the10 day gun . then they deserve the chance to survive threw the winter. all they have to do is maintain for bow hunting. most of our hunters support for bow season, not another gun holiday hunt. we spend thousands of dollars so we can maintain a fair and ethical hunt for the deer. don't keep ruining it buy more gun seasons.

question about muzzleloader season. am an avid muzzleloader hunter and am very dissapointed with wisconsins muzzleloader season,everyone is burnt out after season, deer are so spooked and dont move until dark out, suggestion how awesome it would be to wait until mid to end december when cold temperatures set in and deer start to herd up, I hunt iowa also and what a difference the cold temps do to deer herds, hands down night and day difference between wisconsin and iowa. Seen alot more deer in day light hours hunting there

Ten years ago, I observed 30-35 deer each opening weekend. The numbers have steadily declined. Last year was an all time low. I observed only 4 deer the entire weekend. I have no idea what has happened to the population over the past 5 years. But, there has been a steady decline in numbers. I oppose giving more doe tags, and recommend reducing the number given to help increase the population of does.

I feel there is areas of Grant county that need more harvest. More tags will not solve the problem. The biggest reason is Grant county is 95% privately owned. We need to do something to open up more land to the public for antler less harvest. The holiday hunt is not the answer because the majority of the landowners are against it. Hunters have 23 days to harvest a deer and that should be adequate.

No matter what the quota is, if hunters and landowners don’t harvest the antlerless deer, we’re really going to have problems. Great job on the of farmland tags per hunting license. Very pleased to see the Holiday hunt back. It doesn’t hurt anybody and gives me a chance for a completely different type of hunt, often with the kids.

I would love to see us adopt a Holiday Hunt in 2017. I also think that offering 3 free antlerless tags is a good idea. I’d support offering even more free tags. I hunt both public and private lands, and having more free tags gives me more flexibility without having to pay $12 to hunt where I want.

Do NOT go back to earn a buck !!! A better choice would be only 4 doe tags with the regular lic. and instead of bounce doe tags have $25 for one bounce buck tag. That would be a single buck that could be taken during the archery or 9 day gun, but ONLY one buck tag.

My observation of the deer in my area, I have a hard time believing the biologist deer population numbers. again, this is my feeling and the feeling of others I have talked with. Deer sightings, car deer accidents have all seemed the same in the last 3 years.

The Grant County CDAC has wisely recommended 3 anterless permits per license. Given the increasing damage to wintering habitat and selective browsing damage, this is a welcomed recommendation I fully support for the overall health of the Grant County herd.
Please no holiday hunt. We do not need it because very few deer are harvested and it makes more people mad than it is worth, especially non-hunters. They do not want hunting while their kids are outside over the holidays.

I think giving out all these doe tags is not good for the future population. As well as the online registry system is easier for people to poach and not register deer.

I'm not a huge fan of having to buy tags that are county and public/private land specific. It limits those that have access to hunt in different locations across the state.

I would like to see earn a buck season again. This is the best way to get guys to shoot does and helps control buck population for disease management.

Wolf issue in Wisconsin is destroying some wildlife and livestock as it is. I would make that population more of a concern than the deer population.

The season structure is right the way it is. Issuing more tags and more seasons are not going to make a difference.

I think that the public land doe tag number should be one a licenses. the privet land number looks good at three.

To many private landowners that do not want any does killed on their land and only want big trophy bucks killed.

Need a way to convince hunters to shoot more antlerless deer. Bring back the Earn a Buck.

Please consider antler restrictions, such as at least 4 points on one side

Allow left over buck tags to be utilized in Holiday Hunt.

Seeing less deer each year for past few years

thank you for your efforts
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

67 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 39
   No: 28

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 30
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   I hunt in this unit: 51
   General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 50
   Bow: 28
   Crossbow: 13
   Muzzleloader: 18

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 3
   Average: 26.47
   Maximum: 54

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 40
   Mostly Private Land: 3
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
   Mostly Public Land: 2
   Exclusively Public Land: 3
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all Crowded: 0
   Not too crowded: 7
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   Somewhat crowded: 2
   Very crowded: 1
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 12
   Fewer: 20
   Same: 20
   More: 10
   Many More: 3
   Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 12
   Fewer: 19
   Same: 16
   More: 12
   Many More: 3
   Unsure: 5
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

#### 9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>Much Too High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
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<th>Too low</th>
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<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

**Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:** Not applicable in this DMU

#### 11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

**Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

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<th>About Right</th>
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<th>Unsure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License          | Not applicable in this DMU |

#### 12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7</td>
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</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

**Scale:** 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
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<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Green Lake co. You have hot spots of over populated herds. Mostly on property that the owner will not let hunters on. My property is next to corporate land. And they shoot a lot of antlerless deer. I hunt because I enjoy seeing deer, and other wildlife. I am just starting to see good numbers of deer again, from the earn a buck years. I started hunting in the late 1970s. It was nothing to see deer on every sitting in the early to mid 80s. The numbers are coming back. But not even close. Yes, you have more car kills, and yes you have more farmers claiming crop damage. Farmers are going to take advantage of programs. And I don't blame them. And there is more traffic in rural areas now, than in the 80s. I personally would like to see one buck tag, and one doe tag for firearm, and for archery.

There are too many deer. There are too many hunting seasons. All of the hunting pressure has made the deer nocturnal. This in turn negatively affects hunter satisfaction. The holiday hunt cancelled the best snowmobile week of the season. I suspect that you (the dnr) would like to see the population reduced even though the term "maintain" is used so as not to cause anger with some sportsmen. The big challenge is educating hunters to shoot more deer to improve the future quality of their hunt. The 9 day season has really lost its excitement when it is just one of 5 different gun seasons. I am sure the extra seasons would go away if population goals were reached. Then maybe we could all see more deer during hunting hours and not just after we leave the stand.

The Holiday Hunt is disruptive to late season bow hunters, snow mobile personnel (of which I am not but have heard complaints) and simply not needed that late in the season (keep firearms to a minimum during holiday periods and promote longer youth hunts early to establish good hunting ethics). Holiday hunts also encourage trespassing on private land as many landowners may not be able to monitor their property. Furthermore, please bring back improved (weather resistant) tags for deer. The new GoWild system is not user friendly with regard to paper tags and calling in from the field with limited cell or internet service. Finally, if you wish to improve the buck:doe ratio, consider increasing minimum antler requirements such as with elk in Colorado.

I don't see why we wouldn't have a "holiday hunt" in Green Lake in 2017. According to the provided data, we have not gotten close to the antlerless quota number in a couple years. Selling more tags does not seem to be the answer. The holiday hunt provides a great opportunity to fill the unused antlerless tags. Plus, schools and business are closed around the holiday's......so the opportunity to participate is there if you want to go. I have only found one winter killed deer on my land (buck fawn). I usually find several. This easy winter is going to equate to more deer. We better keep filling doe tags for the foreseeable future so we don't get in a situation like some of the other counties. A "doe only" discussion would be a shame.

I strongly think that you need to do away with the holiday hunt!!!! I live in Green Lake county, and my wife an I bought snowmobiles in 2016, and do to the holiday hunt, they could not open the trails due to the stupid holiday hunt. Not only did we have to pay the yearly registration fee to the dnr. And annual trail passes for them as well, to find out we couldn't even ride them until after the new year is a whole lot of crap!!! So if you know what are Winters have been like lately, you cut our riding season in half. I feel as a hunter, if you can't bag a deer in November or before that you will just have to wait until next year. Isn't that why we call it hunting??? Not taking!!! To whom it may concern! One pissed off person
I hunt in Green Lake and Waushara County. I think that the tag should be like they used to be with area 67 b where I can use my doe tags in either County. I purchase a conservation Patron license and I don't feel that I should have to buy tags for the opposite County. I do my best every year to try and harvest a doe in each of the two counties to help with the management of the herd. Also like to thank the DNR for the paper with tags. Now if you could add my boat registration to my driver's license that would be a great help. Instead of having to carry that Mickey Mouse paper card that disintegrates in your wallet.

I've been keeping a tally of all the antlerless and antler ed deer seen during the gun deer season since the mid 90's when we had 2 years in a row of E.A.B. the year following those 2 I was seeing 2 antlerless for every antlered. That ratio has gradually increased every year thereafter to 11 antlerless for every antlered in 2016. Granted I am on a large area of private land that has huge population there is still a public area right across the road. 2016 I saw 19 antlered deer if you want to do the math!

It is rare that the snowmobile trails are open during Christmas, so don't let them influence your decision. Allow the Holiday Hunt to happen. It was GREAT last year. I was able to hunt with a brother and friend that I was not able to hunt with earlier in the year. I hope landowners will close their property down to snowmobiling if the holiday hunt doesn't go on. You need all the opportunity you can give in Green lake County to control deer numbers. You can't possibly shoot too many!

Crop damage tags are a joke when you hand them out in January. A lot of bucks have lost their horns. Besides, with all the dam tags the dnr hands out why do we need crop damage tags? Let a few other people hunt if you want the deer gone. I enjoy seeing deer when I hunt. The neighbors fill every tag they have and then shoot 20+ ag tags. No more deer on half our property! Neighbor leaves a big corn field on till after gun season opener so he can get at tags. Really neat.

In re‐guards to AG tags, AG tags should be harvested during the hunting season which would control the deer that live in the area damaging the crops. Winter AG tagging has turned into a fill the freezer option (NO Does shot during season) on the properties where the deer herd up for the winter. This affects the hunters in the area. I know that the Ag Tags that are given to some of the areas cant be filled during the season because the deer are not there. (Raccoons)!!

Only saw 4 tiny yearling deer in 4 complete days of hunting. Very disappointed in the amount of deer spotted over the last 3 hunting season. In addition, saw much lower numbers of hunters in the field over the gun opening weekend. Also, bring back the back tags. If we spotted a poacher what good is the description "average height & weight, wearing blaze orange hat & coat"?

Deer damage to crops is totally out of control. Number of deer are in extreme excess. Number of deer hit by cars more than ever before in my area. Can't even take a walk on my road without smelling the rotten carcasses, and that is a constant all summer long. I remember when Deer used to eat the first couple rows of corn, not the first 8 acres like now.

The Holiday Hunt is a great opportunity for friends and family to hunt together when kids are out of school. Snow is typically non‐existent during the Christmas break in Green Lake County and the hunt will not impact other outdoor activities at that time. Also, the Holiday Hunt has proven to harvest additional antlerless deer in an area that has abundant deer.

The public land in this unit has been over hunted for far to many years. With all of the holiday hunts, antlerless only hunts and the EAB back in the day, the herd has never recovered. There should not be any public land bonus tags allowed. One doe tag for gun or bow is plenty.

The deer population is not anywhere near where it should be. Deer hunting ob this state is the worst I've ever seen. I've been going since 13 yo. All over this state. I see a fraction of the deer I once did. Time to go back to the application for antlerless tags.
About this holiday hunt if you can’t get a deer within the season then you wait til next. If theirs gotta be one hunt during day open snowmobile trails at night. Can’t hunt at night? Right. If no then the shouldnt have to pay for trail pass.

There are way to many deer in the farmland zone. There needs to be more free doe tags for the farm land zone. 3 dollars per tag not 12 for farm land zone would sell more tags. Keep the holiday hunt in the farmland zone.

Earn a buck is the only way to bring the deer herd population back in balance. Implement earn a buck immediately in Green Lake County. Listen to DNR Wildlife Management staff more and less to politicians.

Deer numbers in Green lake county are good. I hope they stay where they are at through limiting antlerless harvest. There is no need for a Holiday Hunt in Green lake county.

I thought having to chose public or private land for tags wasn’t a good idea. People I know hunt both and if they didn’t have the right tag they couldn’t shoot.

Too many deer in most areas. Significant car/motorcycle risk year round. Very Heavy crop damage in smaller fields.

I believe putting bate out for deer is a good thing. It helps the deer harvest.

They’re just no deer left in Green lake County. There hasn’t been in years.

Keep snowmobile and bow open for bucks
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

57 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 25
   - No: 32

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 35
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 14
   - I hunt in this unit: 49
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 44
   - Bow: 32
   - Crossbow: 10
   - Muzzleloader: 17

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 24.71
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 37
   - Mostly Private Land: 9
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 1
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 0
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 21
   - Same: 22
   - More: 12
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 3
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 24
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support 20, Oppose 36, Unsure 2

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support 3, Oppose 52, Unsure 2

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID, NOT VALID, Unsure: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Green, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

It would be interesting to know where my 43 years as a Green County deer hunter rank, among survey respondents! I have "seen it all" in this county ... from 3-day any-deer seasons in the early 70s (it was any deer because there weren't many around to shoot and you were lucky to even see one), to the astounding rise of the deer herd in the late 80s and early 90s as antlerless tags were skimpy (I have journal records of seeing a herd of 31 does on a Cadiz Township gun hunt in 1990!), to trimming the herd with crazy amounts of antlerless tags, to whacking the herd outright during the CWD situation after 2002, to seeing the enormous bucks that come from this county now (like it or not, earn-a-buck way-back-when showed this county's hunters how big our bucks can be and now they the hunters embrace that) to the present day when the herd seems at a nice balance. I am a native son who returns to hunt here each year, so it is interesting to get the "snapshots" of what is going on. Most astounding to me is how hunting patterns have changed -- how property lines are tight, everybody sits, nobody hardly pushes, and you hunt deer now on their own patterns, more or less. I am talking gun season here. That is both good and bad. It's fun to shoot one on stand that is chasing a doe, doing some rutting, or coming out to feed. But the deer drives we used to have were thrilling, effective ... and they sure kept the deer moving for everybody. Miss those days, but these days are good too. Keep up the good work managing the deer here. The herd seems just right, now. A nice balance between seeing deer and not having too many. I shoot does, little bucks, even a big buck if I have to (and the biggest ones I have ever shot here were in 2016 and 2009 ... two once-in-a-lifetime deer that we wouldn't have dreamed of shooting back in 1974.). Green County deer are special. I grew up bowhunting them, gun hunting them, and will make them a part of every hunting autumn until I can't hunt anymore. Which I hope is maybe another 43 years.

Starting this fall, what are chances that a hunter could use their unused Gun Buck tag on a bow buck after the traditional 9 day gun season and 10-day muzzleloader season? If a Gun Deer license was purchased, the hunter has been given the privilege of harvesting an antlered deer. However, if they do not harvest an antlered deer during the firearm seasons, why not allow that hunter the opportunity to used that unused antlered tag on a buck with a vertical/horizontal bow, obviously if they have purchased an archery tag? Those of us who have a passion for archery would love the opportunity to use this tag during the 'late' season. Especially, if we were fortunate enough to harvest an antlered deer before the traditional 9-day gun season. I personally have no interest in taking an antlered deer with rifle or muzzleloader. However, I would relish the opportunity to purchase a "Gun License" and be able use it to harvest a buck with archery gear in the late season. Has this ever been 'reasonably discussed'? Do other states allow this? What are the drawbacks of allowing this? To me, it makes sense, especially since hunters are already allowed to harvest a buck with archery gear, in the 9-day traditional firearm or 10-day muzzleloader seasons because it is considered a lesser weapon. Why not extend the use of this tag into the late archery season if a hunter has not used their Gun Buck tag?
Where I own land and hunt, and where I hunt on land I lease, the population has not came back from the CWD wipe out of unethical neighbors who continue to shoot everything they see, along with a lot of shed bucks during the holiday season. Neighbors to where I hunt also bragged they harvested 9 immature bucks and 6 antlerless deer last fall. They made small talk with the new registration system," they just butcher them up and continue to use the same tag". It was non stop shooting during every season while I was afield. The poor deer are running at extremely high stress levels. I plant about a 2 acre food plot near my house, in 2016 I had as many as 4-7 deer feed on a good evening. This past year maybe 1-2 only on the ideal night. I never had an encounter with a buck sporting a 2nd year rack at either property. I was lucky to harvest a 3 year old buck during archery season on a friends land, however where I am able to hunt the population is very low. I would really like to see the DNR give the deer a chance to reach maturity and a population where when my children reach the age to hunt they will be able to have encounters and not be bored of sitting afield only hoping to see a deer every 3-4 sits.

The Holiday Hunt i am not for at all. The Deer have been pounded enough through out the fall and i like to hunt smallgame and varmits. It seems the DNR only cares about killing Deer and the heck with other activities during this Holiday Hunt. As far as CWD i feel your spinning your tires as it is here to stay and will never go away. What's the difference if we kill off all the deer or the few that have the CWD die naturally? If the state had not had deer in a pin by Mount Horeb with CWD and then let them get out we wouldn't have this problem in the first place. Their study of CWD backfired. Let it go stop trying to kill off all the Deer and and you might get hunters back in the game. The only hunters you get during the Holiday hunt are the pig hunters that want to see how many animals they can kill in a season not your average hunter who is in it for the sport. Insurance company's love you guys and pay big contributions to the politicians so i don't believe you will listen to the people on this survey anyway and you will do what you want as always.

It has been so nice to finally after all these years to get traditional seasons back and now you want to extent the season again with the holiday hunt. I am a landowner that wants to be able to let family which some is home visiting be able to hike and enjoy our property along with cutting wood during the holiday break. I do pay taxes on this property and am fed up with how many years this season has been put into place and kept my family and myself out of the woods until the season is done. Personally I feel that hunters have plenty of opportunities to harvest deer from sept thru december and as a taxpayer and landowner feel I want my recreational choices to be mine when the hunt was never a permanent hunt to start with.

I don't know where you come up with the herd being the size it supposedly is because I feel thats way off and now you want to add more doe tags for free and more seasons such as the holiday hunt when you already have a antlerless season in december really how many opportunities do people need its just a shame that all the state is concerned in is killing and not trying to keep the genetics here and grow some quality bucks that people will want to come and hunt instead of just we have to kill kill kill. I feel as a hunter I have more than enough opportunities to harvest deer without having more seasons. Please get rid of the holiday hunt and the overharvesting of does again with all of the free tags.

I am concerned and unhappy about the proposals and the extended holiday hunt as we own 50 acres with most of it woods and do like to hike and snowshoe and cross country ski with friends and family during the holiday break and if this is brought back again will not be able to enjoy our property AGAIN during this time due to safety concerns. Our neighboring property seems to almost always have someone sitting at our borders. I will be very very unhappy if this happens again and doesn't this committee listen to the people of this county as I know plenty of people that are not happy about this and am telling them to voice their opinion also.
I don't understand what is wrong w/ maintaining the current population that seems at a healthy level since the lows of the CWD slaughter. I know I have a few too many deer on my property, we try to harvest some does every year, but there seems to be enough ag field loss to keep the animals healthy all winter long. I'd like to see this level maintained - you don't see too many car / deer altercations and I drive the county a lot for work. It is very fulfilling to own a property, manage it to keep the deer healthy, and then be able to enjoy viewing / hunting them w/ my children. I vote to continue to maintain this level of herd.

I have lived here all of my life and just don't understand why you would think there is a reason for the extra hunt in December when you already have a antlerless season in December already. It's a shame to have a hunt that can kill bucks already shed out and for what reason just to kill another deer that will most likely be donated instead of being used by the killer. Isn't the reason for hunting supposed to be tomorrow harvest and eat instead of killing just for the fun of it. Let's stick to traditional hunts and not overharvest a herd that is not what the dnr wants you to believe is out there.

Please do not vote for the Holiday hunt, In my opinion our deer herd in Green County has been stressed and reduced by recent liberal seasons and by Coyotes. I feel there are plenty of opportunities for a hunter to harvest a deer with the current season framework. A deer must survive the Archery Season, Youth Hunt, Gun Season, Muzzleloader Season, and another Archery Season. While constantly fending off predators and dodging vehicles. Then comes Winter. Lets give em a break! Be careful or we will be in the same shape as Rock County. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

I don't understand why the quota would need to be raised when the deer kill over the last few years has only been about half of that expected. What is the reason for raising the license permits and the bonus permits when the past levels were not utilized. Raising the quota and increasing the permits available will not magically increase the deer population. It is time to accept the facts that the harvest data shows. The deer population is only about half of what the DNR has estimated.

I'd like to see a more scientific approach to this situation. Maybe the DNR could rehire their scientists and do this the right way. I'm not sold on this commitee approach. No offense. Why are we not collecting data and understanding how severe of a problem we may or may not have? Understanding a problem completely is the only way to solve it completely.

Why not create a 1 buck per person regardless of weapon kill, and allow two doe tags one for each season gun or bow. Thus giving a total of three tags. If people want to go shoot more antlerless increase the tag fee to $20 per "bonus tag". That should weed out the guys that like to shoot 10 deer a year and who continue to blame the DNR for mis-management.

Provide earn a buck opportunities. Scientific studies and research has shown a higher prevalence of CWD in mature bucks. Allow hunters to help control the spread by offering additional buck harvest via harvesting antlerless deer. If mature bucks have a higher infection rate, perhaps a point minimum for additional buck harvest could be a requirement.

Southern Green county does not seem to have near the deer numbers it once did. Part of the problem may be due to less opportunity to hunt land as we once were able to. A lot of new housing and no opportunity to move deer as in the past. I am not sure how anyone can change that. Deer movement is almost non existent during gun season.

The deer harvest has been about the same for the last 3 years in the County. I've decided to not allow doe harvest on my land as each year the does are killed leaving only the fawns for the next year. I'd like to see a more balance age structure. The oldest bucks that I seen last year were four point yearlings.

I visit friends and family during the holiday break and have enjoyed being able to cut wood with them and just let the kids play in the woods the last 2 years as we had to quit this when the holiday hunt was open and would really prefer it stays closed as it makes our family time home much more enjoyable.
The deer population is lower than the landowners in my area want. The population needs to be increased so a hunter can at least see a deer during the gun season. No one in my hunting group has fired a shot in 3 years. It is very hard to keep the young hunters interested when they don't see deer.

I strongly oppose antlerless only hunts after October. The does have been bred before gun season starts, there is no reason to have extra gun hunts after muzzleloader season. The deer that survive past muzzleloader season don't deserve to be shot with a firearm.

Bonus tags fund CWD testing, which is really important in the NW corner of the county. Reducing the number of free antlerless tags out there may help sell more bonus tags. Making tags available that don't sell is not going to manage the deer population.

Give the land owners free bonus tags up to 5 it's there the ones feeding the deer. One bonus tag for the rest or some how let the landowners sell the extras so they could recoup some of the time and money they put into the deer herd

2 antlerless tags is 2 many and I really am opposed to the fact that they want to bring back the holiday hunt i really hope you guys wake up and do the right thing and leave it as it's been the last couple of years

I support the deer seasons as they were in 2016 but do not want to see an increase of gun seasons like proposed in the spring hearings, where there would be a 16 day gun season or a holiday hunt.

Think that the DNR is doing good job with management, but would like them to stay on top of the CWD situation. Thank you for the work you do.

Thanks for your efforts to continue the deer hunting tradition we have. It is very important to us.

Keep a regular hunting season please no holiday hunt and way too many antler less free tags

Awesome job to all that have been a part of this process

2016 season framework was good, don't change it.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 85
   - No: 74

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 71
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 33
   - I hunt in this unit: 138
   - General interest in this unit: 42

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 126
   - Bow: 108
   - Crossbow: 34
   - Muzzleloader: 43

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 19.31
   - Maximum: 49

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 107
   - Mostly Private Land: 18
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 8
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 12
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 5
   - Not applicable: 2

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 37
   - Same: 70
   - More: 30
   - Many More: 14
   - Unsure: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 40
   - Same: 49
   - More: 38
   - Many More: 18
   - Unsure: 8
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9.** In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10.** In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

**11.** In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

**12.** Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**14.** How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

*Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Iowa, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Two thoughts in the interest of continued improvement... 1. Pertaining to this survey - when asking our opinion on whether the proposed 2017 antlerless quota is too high, too low, etc. it was helpful to see the past two years' quotas, but it would have been helpful to see the past 2 years' harvest totals as well (vs. just last year's 2. Pertaining to managing deer in our unit - I appreciated the question about not allowing any buck harvest this year as a management tool. I am not necessarily opposed to it, as it would certainly enhance the quality of our hunters' experiences in the field the following year or two! But I believe we could find some middle ground by incentivizing people to kill does in order to be allowed to kill a buck. If we say "no bucks" I'm worried less people will buy licenses to hunt does only. If we say "you need to earn your buck" people will be motivated to hunt and harvest does in order to qualify to harvest a buck. Earn-a-buck is a great concept, it was just taken too far last time it was implemented. Hunters don't like extremes, and our deer management in this state has traditionally been managed to extremes...20-30 years ago we protected our does to a fault and overharvested bucks, so you'd see herds of does without seeing an antlered deer. Then, 10-15 years ago, using CWD as our reason, we went to the other extreme, asking hunters to "kill every deer you see", which resulted in another backlash and landowners refusing to shoot deer so they could increase sightings and the quality of the sport they love. When are we going to find a way to incentivize hunters to kill an adequate amount of antlerless deer, without reducing our herd to levels that are not acceptable to the very people who are responsible for managing it? I'd like to encourage you to consider using earn-a-buck as a management tool, but allowing hunters who have harvested a doe to carry their buck tag over from year to year so they aren't frantically killing the first nubbin buck they see or tagging a road killed doe in order to "earn" their buck every season. This would allow you to make sure the casual hunter is harvesting a minimum of one antlerless deer for every buck they harvest, and allow those of us that have the opportunity to hunt more/own land, etc. to harvest more does in an effort to manage the herd. People would be incentivized to hunt and kill antlerless deer, your overall antlerless harvest (as well as ratio of antlerless deer to bucks) would go up, and yet with the carry-over buck tag it wouldn't be so extreme that #s plummet, causing the same knee jerk reaction to protect and rebuild #s again that we've seen over the past decade. I really think we have the opportunity to be Wisconsin's poster-child for finding a way to engage hunters, kill more does, yet enjoy a quality experience year after year!
Wisconsin used to be a premier state to hunt whitetail deer, unfortunately this is no longer the case. CWD is a disease that has been around far longer than we know of and has yet to show signs of being able to cross species barriers and infect humans or even domesticated livestock for that matter. The fact that our department of natural resources is so willing to destroy our state’s deer herd in some wild attempt to beat out mother nature is disgusting. I have been to these meetings and have spoken with other landowners and it seems as though the state doesn’t want to listen to the people who live, work and hunt in these areas. Deer numbers are down! Sure you can find isolated pockets of concentrated numbers but that is not reflective of the vast majority of the southern farmland zone that has been plagued with all of these extended rifle seasons, antlerless-only hunts, holiday hunts and unlimited tags handed out year after year. We are destroying one of our greatest and most coveted natural resources. I think the DNR would be better off using its budget to protect our deer herd and trying to establish a healthy and strong population. Archery only units, buck only hunting for a couple years, possibly even taking a year off completely from hunting whitetails. Anyone who has been hunting since 2001 or before has seen the slow and steady deterioration of our deer population in these intensely managed units and we are sick of it. If we want to be hunting whitetail deer with our kids and grandkids in 20-30 years we need to take a look at what we are doing and change our ways. Let’s try to protect and grow healthy and abundant population of deer instead of wiping out a resource because of an unwarranted fear.

I would like the deer population to still rise. Keep the tag structure the way it is with minor adjustments. Offer the Doe hunt for a 2 week period during Christmas but don’t offer more than 2 doe tags per hunter for both gun seasons. So that is 3 Doe tags total if you include Bow Season. I would love to see the mature buck population rise and I have brought this up before. I strongly believe that mature hunters should be taking mature deer. Bucks and does. Before the online registering I thought this may be doable. I would say up the Sales price on Bucks tags for a certain age group and offer a discount of a mature buck is taken. Looking at the mature bucks from state to state. I really do not think we are #1 anymore. We may take a number of trophy whitetails every year but when it comes to actual trophy buck population to what is harvested. We are slacking greatly. When I was a kid in the 90’s, I saw herds of deer. Tags could be filled that opening weekend with mature deer. What happened to that?

Issuing 2 antlerless tags will have little impact on the number of antlerless deer harvested. In past years if someone wanted more antlerless deer they could buy more tags, I can’t believe the cost of a tag would stop someone. No Holiday Hunt, not enough deer harvested to make it worth while. Also I deal with road hunters and trespassers during this hunt. I think it is too cold so they go to the bar, have a few and decide to shoot deer from the road. There are plenty of opportunities to shoot antlerless deer without the holiday hunt, just need hunters to shoot them during the other seasons. Need to get the folks who don’t understand why we need to harvest more deer to get to that understanding. Lots of reasons to shoot doe, a better buck doe ratio, more intense rut, better for the forest and crops, cars/trucks etc. Not sure how to do this as the one’s that need to listen, read, and understand think they know it all already, so they won’t listen to the experts, very frustrating.

This survey has clearly been created to generate a high to moderate herd reduction response with no options to object. Collection of data within a publicly funded survey should be fair and unbiased. Per the provided data 2601 antlerless were harvested in 2016 and the department proposes doubling the quota to 5160 in 2017. This survey has proved to be just another backdoor to “perceive” public support to ultimately recreate CWD management policies of the mid 200... 1 buck, 2 anterless and the ability to buy some additional antlerless tags I feel is reasonable. Moreover this survey and all dnr data for that matter are built to generate a favorable repose that aligns with the departments CWD/reduction objectives. Mandatory quotas via sharpshooters IS NOT ACCEPTABLE PERIOD please just drop it as its and utter waste of tax dollars and more importantly completely irresponsible. Where are the FACTS where is the SCIENCE?? We are not going to kill animals based on a hunch!
The holiday hunt only harvested 100 some deer when we had it a few years ago. I'd bet that some of those harvests got moved to the 9 day or dec antlerless hunt, so we are talking less than 100 deer. Let landowners use their land for other activities during the holidays without having to wear orange. Other seasons are open if people want to hunt with family at that time. An antlerless only holiday hunt would be either sex Ina year or two because the DNR still wants to eradicate deer. Seasons are long enough. It's not about opportunities. It should be about a quality hunt. Nocturnal deer do not lead to a quality hunt. Don't forget we already have cross guns and added pressure. Educate hunters on why to shoot does. Raising the doe tag quota does no good at all because there is no demand for the extra tags. Just look at last year's sales. Did I mention that I hate the holiday hunt and the lazy road hunters that it brings to our area?

Iowa County has the highest CWD prevalence rate in the state. It is my hope that someday the Iowa County CDAC will get serious about talking more in-depth of what we as a county can do about CWD and be a leader for other counties. I feel as though this topic often times gets "shrugged off" or swept under the rug in conversations at meetings. Do we really want to be dubbed the county that has the most unhealthy deer population and not care about it for our future? The only tool I'd suggest we go back to and at least look like we're doing something about it, is Earn a Buck. I remember attending a Iowa County CDAC meeting with a show of hands who would consider Earn a Buck again. As I recall nearly every single person in the crowd was in favor. It not only Increases harvest, for the big antler hunters out there, it grows more antlers! I'm defiantly in favor of a Holiday hunt!

I strongly oppose the holiday hunt, there are more than enough other seasons to maintain or reduce the herd. I would much rather go back to the earn a buck and have to shoot 2, 3, or 4 doe to get a buck tag. This is the only way you will be able to get most people to shoot more doe. Another option is once you fill your original buck tag have the option that you can earn another buck tag by shooting x (2,3,4,5, or more) number of antlerless. If this was an option I would shoot every antlerless deer I saw so I could harvest another trophy. A doe only season won't work as it will just make most people frustrated and give up hunting in this area. I shot 8 antlerless deer with my bow trying to help maintain/reduce the herd but will not bow hunt or hunt with any weapon during a "Holiday Hunt".

Estimated CWD prevalence for adult bucks in SE Iowa County is now 32%. In the SW Core Area, which includes NE Iowa County, it's 33%. In NW Iowa County, also 33%. In SC Iowa County, an incredible 39%. And shocking, in NC Iowa County, it's now over 50%! 1 in 2 bucks in NC Iowa County is now infected, and increasing every year. WAKE UP MEN AND WOMEN! Our precious deer herd is going down the drain! Demand that DNR, DATCP, the Wis Legislature and the Governor take action to control CWD. Your delicious venison, your cherished family recreation, your hunting traditions, your property values, and over 1 billion dollars in economic contributions to the Wisconsin economy are at stake, much of it generated by small family businesses. Don't wait until it's too late and be forever sorry!

I think the important factor on the deer herd is CWD. I had several very thin sick looking deer on my trail cams and saw deer that I did not shoot because they looked like they had CWD. I think the DNR should go back to earn a buck. The buck to doe ratio on the land I hunt is around 3-4 bucks to one doe based on trail cams and personal observation. Most of the hunting land in Dodge county is private and the number of deer killed is controled by the land owners and not by quota. I talked to a DNR biologist for about a hour 2 years ago; he said in the area I hunt CWD was about 25%. I think it is higher now. I think the deer herd in Iowa county is going to decrease over the next several years due to CWD. The only solution is kill more deer.
I strongly oppose the holiday hunt. It encourages irresponsible hunting due to bucks possibly dropping antlers. Puts stress on deer going into the toughest part of the year for them. In humane! Holiday hunt only kills marginal deer. More negatives to have it than positives. Eliminate holiday hunt to promote people to hunt the 9 day. Give incentive to shooting doe by reducing buck tags to one a year. Offer a limited buck draw by giving more preference to hunters that have harvested doe during the regular season. For example a person that shoots 5 doe will have 5 times the chances to draw a second buck tag than a person that shoots one doe. A person must shoot one doe for their name to go in a hat.

Our deer herd is still way below what it was in years past. You want people to hunt and there isn't enough deer. You slaughtered the deer on public land with baiting and soo called sharp shooters that no one wants to hunt in our state. People still worry about CWD.. Stop letting everyone shoot does!!!! We don't have enough deer and you still want the numbers down???? Drive around, i do.. you will see the only good hunting is the rich guys who actually manage there deer not slaughter them... Put a deer hunter on the board that isn't a deer manager and does care about everyone else and not get mad at his neighbors for shooting THERE DEER!!!

It is clear that the goal of MAINTAINING the level of deer was not reached. When tags are sold out and there are not as many hunting opportunities and seasons, we will not be able to maintain the herd number goal. our hunting zone (Iowa co) is infected with CWD and we need to control the herd size for its own health and the health of the hunter-consumer. The deer abundance is influencing our forest regeneration and ecosystem diversity. Invasive species dodge browsing deer and the native ones are beaten out. In so many ways our ecosystems are being negatively affected by deer and we need to do something about it. We must!

The hunting culture has changed, not many deer drives, hunters sitting in stands and not kicking up deer, which I feel is leading to some of the claims of not seeing deer. The deer have no reason to move around if not being forced to. Some areas may not have deer, but a lot of areas have to many deer. Please keep the two free tags and Holiday Hunt to allow the landowners who want to reduce the deer herd in their area to be able to do it. This is a Maintain County but yet the population has increased under the one free tag and no Holiday Hunt so keep the recommended tools available to maintain it.

"Maintaining" the herd in Iowa County at it's current level should not be an option. The herd needs to be "Decreased", rapidly, to reduce crop damage, vehicle collisions and the spread of CWD. We need the maximum number of antlerless tags on both private and public lands as well as antlerless only seasons and a Holiday Hunt to try and reduce the herd NOW rather than pay more serious consequences in 2018. Is public hunting the "deer management too" you say it is or is this a load of BS? Get serious. Reduce the Iowa County herd now while we have the chance.

Something needs to be done about shooting a deer and if it goes onto a neighboring land and they don't give you permission to peruse and harvest your deer. No one wants to shoot a deer and have it go onto someone else land but things happen and deer jump fences. There needs to be a law allowing the hunter to at least try and harvest your animal. I understand that they don't want anyone screwing up there hunt but there is no reason not to get permission to look for after closing hours. This is getting more common especially since leasing land is getting big.

I think with the recent winters, the deer have been able to survive the elements. This has encouraged the growth of fawn come spring. I believe that if the WDNR and CDAC MAINTAIN the deer herd, this would be the best option. I chose this reason because if there is an antlerless holiday hunt (I oppose) and a harsh winter, it could cause a set back on deer populations. I think until we learn the impact of maintaining and a hard winter (which we haven't experienced under within CDACs time) there can't be a justification to lower the population.
The very CDAC that set our population goal at maintain voted last year to not give us the tools to maintain the population. The recommendation for 2017 season includes tools to help us maintain. You discredit your own decision to set our goal as maintain when you vote against giving us the tools to help maintain or even slow the growth. We need the holiday hunt. The neighboring counties that took their goals serious and provided the tools to their hunters had success and Iowa County Deer Advisory Committee did not do that.

Unfortunately the CDAC can allow any number of permits, but the permits are currently not being used. Since they are not currently being used on private land, increasing the number does nothing to increase antlerless numbers. We will need some sort of earn-a-buck in the future to harvest more does. I would like to see the tag held over and applied the following year to a buck, so they is not a rush to harvest does and possibly harvest numbing bucks. Most sportsmen are not going to harvest more than two deer per season.

We need to maintain or decrease the deer herd. I support the antlerless hunt. I support more cwd testing and reducing the population to try to reduce the prevalence of cwd. I support a holiday hunt. Deer are destroying our forest regeneration crops and gardens. Stop trying to manage for bucks. Once the populations prevalence of cwd sky rockets, you won't be worried about getting a big buck, you'll be worried about maintaining a healthy heard of a more sustainable population density.

The deer herd has been increasing every year since 2014 when the CDAC experiment started. It is time to have a Holiday Hunt here. Not everyone will be happy with recommendations....that's the reality of deer management! Past decisions to not have a Holiday Hunt were apparently made to appease a segment of Iowa County big buck hunters. It is time to give those of us who could care less about trophy bucks more opportunities to control the deer herd. Please authorize the holiday hunt!

I think that the antlerless tags that are given to us with our licence should be valid in any Deer management unit within the southern farmland zone. It is very confusing and takes the joy out of hunting different areas for deer. I like to hunt in different areas and counties and this management system takes all of the fun out of this and is confusing. It would be better to introduce people to hunting with a simpler system of tags like what was in place before this change.

I have 2 properties in Iowa County-180 acres near the State Park and 130 acres near Town of Clyde....dramatic difference in deer population. Almost no deer near the "Park".....we have 25-30 deer every night in our alfalfa field in the town of Clyde.....WHY? Are there huge ag tags issued near the park? Is there "Sharp shooter" activity there also? Very frustrating....we have owned the land by the State Park for 29 years and I have given up on it for hunting experience, sad!

We need to get back to buck tags and party tags for doe for a few years. Population is way down I used to see 30-40 deer a night in a majority of the fields on the road I live now I'm lucky to see 10. What once was a honey hole through the hollow for big big and mature doe is now sparsely dotted with yearlings and immature deer. Earn a buck has to stop, deer management must be pushed to the fore front. If we continue at this pace our great deer herd will be eradicated.

I oppose the use of DNR sharpshooters because of cost, but mostly because hunters should be given the opportunity to harvest more deer. The penalties for even the slightest infractions are steep, yet at times the deer are treated more like nuisance varmints and are killed and thrown in the garbage. I do fully support the DNR supported free CWD testing and think it's crucial to keeping hunters in the field. I know I don't eat any venison until I see the testing results.

In the last two years we have had more deer test positive for CWD. Many hunters in my area are starting to get concerned for the future generations of hunters. I would like to see more strict and tougher enforcement of in CWD areas. Minnesota and Illinois have been much aggressive with their approach of attacking the CWD issue and I would like to see Wisconsin start to do the same! Let's do something before it's too late!
The deer population is out of balance with the landscape. That is reflected in the condition of our oak forests, the areas around our homes and the health of the herd. We are not acting aggressively enough to manage CWD which is so prevalent in our area we have a hard time shooting a CWD negative adult deer. Let’s stop managing for antlers and start managing for the health of the herd.

Where I have been hunting the herd seems to be stable or decreasing so I do not see the need for the holiday hunt. There are other people who like to use the outdoors during that time with their children and don’t want to have to wear blaze orange or pink. Hunters are not the only one who use Wisconsin outdoors. You have cross country skiers, snowmobiles, just to name a few. Thanks

I do not support the holiday hunt, it is not worth it for the relatively few deer that are harvested and for the problems it causes (trespassing, road hunting, etc) and it ruins my late season archery hunting. There are more than enough gun seasons. We need to get hunters to shoot doe, not just bucks, how about earn a buck where you need to shoot 2 or more doe to earn a buck tag.

Do not bring back extra buck tags for each doe shot. It only benefits selfish hunters that think they are entitled to shoot multiple bucks with no regards to neighbors or other hunters. That's not what Wisconsin hunting is about. If we need extra deer shot only increase the doe tags and make hunters pay for them in order to help Dnr budget to help with habitat

Go back to old plastic licenses but no need to wear a back tag the paper licences are bad because if they get wet they are destroyed. Then go back to register in person because not only does the new system make it easier not to register your deer but it takes a lot of money away from the place people would take their deer to register it.

I feel as though there is enough opportunities during traditional seasons for hunters to harvest deer without the holiday hunt. I find a more aggressive condensed hunt is more efficient and also gives hunters and wild game a break from deer hunting to enjoy the area for other outdoor activities. Thank you for your consideration.

Historically, the unit has consistently failed to meet annual antlerless harvest goal recommendations. Increasing those goal recommendations will NOT result in an increase in antlerless harvest. An antlerless only season is necessary to reduce both the current rate of increase and the future rate of increase.

It is obvious that there are areas in this county with far too many deer, and areas with fewer deer. Please allow hunters in Iowa County the opportunity to hunt during a Holiday Hunt to address the issue of too many deer. If some landowners do not want to participate, they do not have to. Thank you.

The muzzleloader season should be moved to the holiday hunt period and include bucks and the 4 day antlerless season should be eliminated. This will provide for a quality muzzleloader season and would eliminate the statewide confusion and continuous changes of the additional antlerless seasons.

I think we should have the holiday hunt because it gives hunters that like shooting bucks a chance to harvest antlerless deer. Basically, if a hunter likes shooting bucks and not antlerless because it may scare away deer (or other reasons) it gives them a chance to harvest antlerless deer.

Deer numbers per square mile remain much too high. We see over browsing, crop damage, CWD increasing, deer/car crashes on the rise and fewer hunters every year. The DNR should give landowners free tags to encourage herd management like it did 10+ years ago when CWD was discovered in the herd.

CWD is a serious concern and maintaining or reducing the heard is important. Having the ability to harvest does to limit reproduction and bucks that spread the disease needs to be made available every year. Using earn a buck should be utilized instead of an all antler less hunting season.

I would recommend supplying 1 antlerless, and 1 buck tag per license in the southern farmland unit. If people want to shoot more than 1 antlerless, then they can go buy more tags if available. This way the DNR can generate additional revenue from the antlerless tags for research purposes.
I will not support the ability to earn additional buck tags. Hunters should be given one buck tag per season, at most 1 for a firearm weapon and one for either bow or crossbow. If additional tags are given in the future I will not allow hunters to access my property, hundreds of acres!

I think the threat of CWD on the deer herd is overblown. We have had CWD in the area for a long, long time and know whatever we have tried will not get rid of it. Deer numbers should be maintained and agree with CDAC on this. Keep the seasons we had last year and no holiday hunt.

There is no reason to give every one two tags when they can get additional bonus tags without question if needed. There are plenty of left over antler less tags available in this county. Let the does live! Strongly Encourage the expansion of public hunting land opportunities.

I think an antlerless deer harvests can be accomplished during the regular season. I do not think a antlerless gun deer hunt is necessary during the Holiday Hunt time period. I am strongly opposed to a gun deer Holiday hunt that allows antlered deer to be harvested.

The DNR should keep politics out of deer management the DNR used to be the guardian of the deer herd now they're obsessed with extermination of the resources there supposed to protect. I'm a hunter not a killer stop using cwd as an excuse for your shameful actions

If the goal of the holiday hunt is to harvest more antlerless deer to maintain the population, you should allow buck harvest. Many more hunters would participate if they had the opportunity to shoot a buck. By just being out there, they may shoot a doe instead.

I am a huntress who has been able to overse the change in deer population over the years in Iowa County. I feel it could truly benefit from an antlerless only hunt for the purpose of herd control, quality deer management and also environment and agriculture.

Provide landowners with more free tags as an incentive to open there land to others to hunt on while also establishing a framework of rules to let the landowner maintain control over the number of hunters that have access to their property at any given time

I fully support a holiday antlerless hunt. I feel it gives gun hunters, in particular, those who do not have the time to hunt the 9 day, and those whose primary interest is feeding their family, a second opportunity to harverst much needed venison.

Our family REALLY missed having the Holiday Hunt in 2016. Our grandchildren are at the age when they are learning to hunt, The Holiday Hunt provides more opportunities for them to learn and share in the deer hunting experience which they love.

The farm I've now hunted for 3 years results of CDW: 10 positive CDW deer, 2 negative results. We continue to test positive over 80% of the deer we harvest. I feel that you need to be more aggressive with doe kills in these areas.

In order to reduce the spread of disease, modify the carcass removal rule when "quartering a deer." Hunters can effectively pack out all the meat with sex identifying structure(s) without transporting the carcass and with it CWD.

More effort should be placed on control of CWD and research on how to stop it from spreading. Raise Tag fees for additiona antlerless tags as for those who wish to harvest multiple deer as cost is likely not an issue.

Please vote in favor of a Holiday Hunt. The objective for this county is to maintain the deer population at the level it was 2 years ago. It is now well above that in MANY areas. Do not leave any tools on the table!

Please eliminate all agriculture deer tags. It is unethical to shoot deer during that time of the year. If a private land owner feels they have too many deer, they should open their land up to the public to hunt on.

Hunting is returning to normal without extra CWD tags and seasons. I do not want the holiday hunt or sharp shooters. DMAP is a good idea because landowners can manage the deer on their properties better than the DNR.
I do not like the Holiday hunt, impacts my late season archery hunting. It is not worth it for the few deer that are harvested during this period and it creates problems (e.g. trespassing, road hunting, ....)

No Holiday hunt please, I love to bow hunt late season and won't during a holiday hunt. There are plenty of other hunts available earlier in the year, please don't screw up the late season archery hunting.

Some of the people on this county committee should not be in this position, because they don't really care about the health of the herd. Only that people don't shoot their deer.

please consider allowing the harvest of multible bucks to reduce the spread of CWD. Iowa county should be reducing its deer population for forest health and CWD concerns.

Cwd is a real issue. We need to fix this. I want to see more 5 year olds. With cwd we hardly see 4 year olds. Heard health is my far biggest concern for the this area

I feel strongly against bringing back the Holliday hunt to Iowa County. I myself will not hunt in Iowa County if there will be a late season hunt everest again.

Would ensure we have a statewide ban on baiting Ramp up testing efforts in CDW zones I would like to see antler restrictions like other states have such as PA

Deer are important animals but I have too many and my hunters did not shoot enough last year. I can't grow oak trees after timber sale due to too many deer.

There are too many deer on my farm and in the surrounding area. CWD is a major problem-----more significant than the leadership of the DNR acknowledges.

Too many coyotes, saw less fawns last fall. Trail cam pic of coyotes daily. Definitely give out more antlerless tags before you have a holiday hunt.

No thoughts other than to say thank you to the folks that make deer season in WI possible each year. You do great work with the resources you have.

I do not support a holiday hunt. if you go forward with a holiday hunt I strongly, strongly oppose the harvest of antlered deer. Thank you.

I find it reprehensible that we are not making every effort to drastically lower the deer population, given the history of CWD here.

Encourage more education on a balanced herd. Manage through antlerless harvest and not more seasons. Holiday hunt is not needed.

I'd recommend including one buck tag and one doe tag with each license and possibly reinstating the Earn-A-Buck program.

Holiday hunt is an important time for my family to get together and enjoy our hunting. Please offer the holiday hunt.

If you want to stop the deer her from growing, get earn-a-buck back. Otherwise, folks just won't shoot enough does.

I would like to see a buck tag be either sex. I believe an increase in does harvested is needed.

I am glad CDAC has decided on a Holiday Hunt and I still would back Earn a buck.

The deer numbers have declined heavily the past four years and it is concerning

As a landowner I would like to see deer numbers managed at 10 per square mile.

No holiday hunt or doe only season. Not enough deer to support either.

The sharpshooter program was a debacle, please don't try that again

Strongly against holiday hunt whether antlerless only or either sex.
seeing deer and wildlife is very important to all hunters.
I am very concerned about the growth of CWD Positive deer.
Bring back earn-a buck and the holiday hunt.
No Holiday Hunt, No CWD Management!
Good Job. Thank You
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Iron, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

65 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 43
   - No: 22

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 24
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 22
   - I hunt in this unit: 53
   - General interest in this unit: 19

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 51
   - Bow: 26
   - Crossbow: 22
   - Muzzleloader: 20

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 0
   - Average: 26.96
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 10
   - Mostly Private Land: 12
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 16
   - Mostly Public Land: 7
   - Exclusively Public Land: 6
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 2
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 12
   - Somewhat crowded: 8
   - Very crowded: 17
   - Not applicable: 0

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 9
   - Fewer: 16
   - Same: 18
   - More: 17
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 12
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 11
   - More: 18
   - Many More: 8
   - Unsure: 3
**Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations**

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  
Iron, Northern Forest
I am deeply concerned about wolf killed deer. The deer numbers were slightly higher last year due to a slight decrease in wolf numbers over the past 4 or 5 years, the reason being what I believe is lack of food for the wolves after their slaughter and nearly complete destruction of our deer herd in northern Wisconsin. With the slight increase in the deer herd last year I’ve also noticed an increase of wolf sightings this year. If we want to sustain a good game animal population we must do a better job on controlling the predator population! Our snowshoe hare population is a joke compared to what it used to be due to fishers, so a life long passion of rabbit hunting is all but gone up here. Grouse numbers are up ever so slightly, but the fear of getting your bird dog rip to shreds by a wolf deters most people from hunting grouse. I’m sure you must have noticed a decline in license purchases, and with the seemingly goal of wiping out every game animal in the northern part of this state you must not be too concerned about license sales at all. Bike trails and tourism must be your main goal. Many people are questioning the types of people in the past couple of decades that the DNR have been hiring, are they anti-hunting? Anti-gun? Full blown eco-wackos? Regardless, one thing everyone in the DNR must have noticed the way sportsmen have been voting, Walker got in because one of his champagne promises was to dismantle the DNR. Your tactics are not going unnoticed, area hunters are not at all satisfied with your game management practices or lack thereof.

Please do not ban baiting in the northern forest zones. I have been hunting in unit 28 for 40 yrs, before baiting was legalized we used to drive the roads looking for a deer track and then figure out how we could make a deer drive to hopefully spot a buck. Then baiting was legalized, deer #s increased so much that all 9 guys in our camp started hunting in established blinds and had good success. Then baiting got banned and nobody in camp got a buck, I had 48 hrs in blind and never saw a deer. I walk in 1 mile and never saw a deer track. Then baiting was reinstated with 2 gallon limit, and we started getting 1-2 bucks a year, but its never been the same. Conditions are extreme in Iron cty. over 200" snow annually, wolves, bears, and very very little farm land. In the southern, and central part of the state they sit over 40 acre fields of bait, I sit over 2gals. Ban the game farms that bring in CWD and don’t punish us. I actually believe we help the mortality and size of the deer herd in the northern zones, by putting a few extra #s of fat on the animals the gets them through the very tough winters. I’m positive if you look back at the last 40 yrs of deer harvests in Iron cty. you will see the #s reflect when baiting started and was banned and reinstated. If you ban baiting I won’t be buying a deer license, I’m getting too old to walk around in deep snow in big forest areas looking for deer tracks.

In Iron county Wisconsin I believe that we should continue to have a zero quota for does. It seems to be helping out our dying deer population. As I drive by fields I am starting to see more and more deer. The predators take a lot of our game, but I believe we as hunters kill to many deer. And this is done by the DNR giving out to many doe tags. I love venison but I also love the outdoors and hunting and I am more than willing to give up some venison so that one day my kids can enjoy the thrill of chasing big bucks in northern Wisconsin again. Like I did when I was a kid, which is what got me hooked. Kids now days don’t have a chance to get hooked on the sport of hunting because there is no game out there for them to hunt and get excited about. So I believe you as the DNR is doing the right thing by eliminating doe tags. I would also like to see a 4 point rule on one side for bucks. This would eliminate all hunters that can’t shoot does from filling the freezers with spike horns. It would allow our small bucks to grow up and mature. Over all you guys have Iron county going in the right direction and I hope you continue the no doe rule for many years to come!
I've hunted many years in other states with productive management practices; A size restriction on bucks seems more productive in growing the population and allowing only one doe for harvest. Even if allowed for archery only like the neighbors in michigan. I've only hunted here for the year so I'm aware I don't have a vested interest; however I did just purchase a 40 acre tract with the intent on staying. I have seen nothing but does in decent numbers, but have yet to see a single buck; possibly due to hunting pressure, or they just aren't around. I like to think of myself as a conservative hunter, as I only hunt for meat on the table and to teach my kids the enjoyment of being in the woods. I do unfortunately feel that the regulations will cause outhers like me to just take the first young buck that walks thier path. Thier is a need to look closer at the quotas and find a middle ground for us conservative hunters to be able to continue this fine tradition which also supports everything you do. Thank you for your time and everything you all do.

For a variety of reasons the deer population in most of Iron County is very-very low. Over the past 15 years we have watched it fall to the point that it almost unless to hunt there anymore. We saw just 1 deer during our 5 day gun hunt in 2014, 4 deer in 5 days during 2015, and ZERO deer in the 5 days we hunted in 2016. Our hunting party has lost 4 of our members who now choose not to deer hunt at all, realizing it is a waste of time and money if they have no chance to even see a deer. Judging by the amount of traffic we see in the community during the gun season, this is putting a heavy burden on the local economy of the area. It's sad to see the 40+ year hunting tradition in our family/group slowly deteriorate because of a low deer population. We believe baiting is hurting the hunt, as too many deer are moving only at night. We do not bait and it is our hope that it would be banned state wide.

Deer numbers in Iron County remain very low versus a few years ago. Winter kill and predation has decimated the herd and it needs time to recover to an acceptable level. The impacts on the hunting economy have been seen dramatically over the past few seasons with many hunters not coming to the area and many locals not even participating in the hunt. The concern on forest regeneration is a legitimate one, however, Iron County typically does not have an issue with over-browsing. Mother nature takes care of our deer herd every few years with severe winters. Allow youth and seniors the access to some antlerless deer to help foster the hunt but let's hold off on any antlerless tags for the general population for another 2 - 3 years and grow the herd to a more huntable, acceptable level.

Private land should be allowed to harvest 1 anterless deer per tag (gun and bow/crossbow). I base this decision on the overabundance and taming down of anterless deer I have observed on my property. Antlerless deer are becoming less wary of human intrusion into their areas, to the point I had several walk within 2 feet of me last year. With the antlerless deer harvest set at 0 for the past several hunting seasons, tourism is suffering, and hunters are shooting anything that approaches legal instead of allowing the smaller, less experienced bucks, to live and procreate. I also feel that without in person registration of deer, and the restriction on antlerless deer, that poaching and/or illegally reporting an antlerless deer as a legal, antlered, deer has probably increased.

We need a small antler less harvest. 100 antlerless deer harvested will not make a bit of a difference in the goal of increased deer in Iron County. Let the people put some meat on their tables and let the local businesses benefit by increasing tourism. People are leaving the north and hunting down south mainly due to the fact that they can't harvest an antlerless deer. The best option all together is to have a hunters choice permit. If I choose to harvest a doe then one buck lives to another age class therefor diversifying the herds genetics. The data shows that this is a great management solution. Also, where in nature do we just remove a single sex of a species for management. To me.. it's not natural. My vote is for hunters choice.

At the Iron county March CDAC meeting the suggestion of antler restrictions was brought up. I strongly disagree with any type of antler restriction as they do not work. They result in wasted deer, shot and then found to not meet the restrictions. This is especially true in heavily wooded landscapes. And it has not resulted in bigger buck where it has been tried, even out west in open habitats. Just a bad idea. Just look at the bucks shot during antlerless seasons! In person registration was also brought up and that is great idea. Hunters and merchants (reg. stations) want it to return. And biologists would be able to get data to properly manage the deer head. All a guess now.
The Department has ruined white tail deer hunting in Iron County. There are so few deer the last few years that I may give up hunting until the herd builds. I question the ability of that happening as I see so much wolf sign that I am not sure that will happen until those numbers are reduced. It has negatively affected our local economy and the tourist industry. Many landowners have listed their lands for sale and are hunting in other states. It has reduced the quality of my life and the reason I decided to live here. I wish they would bust up the WDNR and third party the management of the deer herd. I am tired of contributing my money to this agency.

I believe that the current wolf population has a greater impact on the deer population in the northern tier of counties than the DNR thinks it does. The wolf hunting season should be reinstated and the quota increased significantly to reduce the amount of deer killed by wolves every year. When I see any deer on a trail camera (which has been shrinking the last 2-3 years) about 3 minutes after they leave the area I get a picture of any where from a single to a pack of 4-5 wolves following them. This is just in the area of approximately 100-150 acres that I hunt which to me seems a very excessive amount of predators for such a small parcel of property.

Ban baiting and deer farms-prevent CWD from becoming established. Provide support for state and federal authorities attempting to delist wolves so they can be properly managed like other big game animals. Push the DNR to allow much greater harvest of bears/significantly increase the number of bear tags allotted and the allowable take. It shouldn't take so long to get a tag, and there are many bears in the area, with a large impact on fawn survival rates. Reduce input of bear hunting associations/guiding associations attempting to limit bear hunting opportunities for personal gain-more hunters should be able to hunt bear than currently allowed.

I would like to see antlerless permits provided for private land. I have seen a increase over the past few mild winters in does and fawns and with managing habitat more on private land would like to see private land antlerless tags available for 2017 to reduce potential over browsing. Also allowing antlerless deer for harvest would allow the smaller bucks to grow for meat hunters. Please bring back a limited number of antlerless doe tags.

Having some antlerless tags may ease some pressure on younger bucks - spikes and forks. The sample size for determining the deer population in Iron County is so small that is misleading - not accurate and therefore minimizes the chances for hunters to have a successful hunt. It is also important to balance the impact deer have on the landscape. There has been a definite increase in forest regeneration with the lower deer herd population.

The level of deer mortality due to winter kill, wolves and bears finding fawns has destroyed the deer population over the last 7 years. Our deer yard in this region, the wolves destroy the herd each spring. That combined with the bear mortality on fawns prevent populations from rebounding. We have hunted on this location for over 70 years, over the last 5 years we struggle to see or harvest one buck in our camp.

I think our herd is starting to rebound. But more time is needed to build it up more. And YOUTH should learn about delayed gratification and wait until there are enough deer to warrant antlerless tags. No antlerless tags means NO ANTLERLESS TAGS!!! I have watched some fathers hauling in 100 pounds sacks of corn to help their children get deer. Or maybe themselves get deer which is "tagged" as a youth deer.

Deer heard is way down from winters and predators so the impact on our tourism is way down, who is going to compensate business for bad decisions made for years with our deer heard. How are you going to get new people young and old to hunt in the north again when you can sit out there for 40 days and see 5 deer. wake up. You need to contact me if you need more info Bob weinkauf 715 544 54851

I have hunted in Iron County since 2000 and have seen a continual decline in the deer population. Some of the decline was due to predation but mostly due to overharvesting. The population rebounded last year due to the reduction in antlerless tags. Take the next step and eliminate them for the youth hunt too. The deer population is moving in the right direction. Keep the momentum.
The science of deer management in Iron County indicates that some does should be harvested during the archery/gun seasons. The youth hunts should also be permitted to harvest a doe. To take the chance that the next winter will be mild and thereby increase the number of fawns is foolish. The herd has increased from 3 years ago and should be harvested before the weather takes its toll.

The deer population in Iron County is nothing like it used to be. We are trying to get our children interested in hunting but when you see no deer it is very hard to keep them interested. We really hope to see the DNR take this matter seriously and control the predator population in Iron County so that our boys will enjoy years of hunting on our property.

Wolves have no fear of man. Wolves are the most aggressive animals in the woods and will be a growing problem to man and his freedoms, his pets, and his children. Bow hunters have spoken of their concern about wolves as to protecting themselves from wolves as they leave the woods. It’s necessary that the DNR supports the sportsman and the community.

Please address CWD in any way you can. Although CWD has not been transmitted to humans through consumption of deer, as far as I know, I want to feel safe eating the meat I harvest. If CWD is near Iron County, we should act as though it is already here and follow appropriate management recommendations to keep our herd secure.

I agree with the CDAC recommendation of zero antlerless permits in this DMU. From deer sign I have seen this spring, it looks as though yearlings made it through the winter. I believe with the milder winter and carryover of yearlings, the DMU could be on the verge of turning the corner on deer numbers.

I would make it 8 or bigger or 4 on one side for a year or two. I believe last year’s harvest involved to many 1.5 year olds so the amount of 2.5 years olds this year will be down. Under no circumstance would I have antlerless deer taken by any age class or hunter. Your defeating your purpose.

I feel that reducing (or temporarily suspending) the number of antler-less tags and youth deer hunts should help some. The amount of predators are still quite high in our area, however. Hopefully, the mild winter this past year will help the herd rebound.

Clear cut logging is causing more damage than deer are. The equipment is decimating seedling trees and ruining the tilth of the soil. Hardwood land will take well over 50 years to be able to be harvested again. Stop blaming the deer, please.

I would like to see antlerless tags brought back for the county. Have seen more does and less bucks over past years due to all the small bucks being shot for meat. Mild winters recently have also seen more does and fawns than in the past.

There was no mention of the concern for the abundance of wolves. Those of us who live here and hunt here see the evidence first hand (tracks, sightings, torn up deer), and lower signs of deer like tracks or actual sightings.

Zero antlerless tags HAS to mean zero. A pregnant doe shot by a child, handicap, or veteran is just as dead as a doe shot by anyone else. We have to stop killing them at all in this county.

Propose a 4 pt antler restriction on one side to allow the young bucks to have a chance on developing into mature 2 1/2 year and older bucks. Youth hunters could shoot any legal buck.

Time to come to the realization that baiting deer during gun season has run its course and now poses CWD threat statewide. Baiting should be relegated to history.

To limit landowners hunting rights to this extent and increase the rights of native Americans is stupid. To allow predators to flourish, unregulated is stupid.

I believe that registration stations should reinstated, both to validate kill and provide information on population distribution and material for CWD testing.
Without controlling the wolf population the deer population will never recover. I am in the woods every day and see the problems.

Would like to see antlerless tags available on private land, too many does and fawns now and no bucks.

I have seen a decline in our deer herd since the wolf’s arrived on the landscape!!!

The deer population is in poor health and the numbers are way too low!

Would like to see some antlerless tags for private land.

Would like to see private land antlerless tags.

Open a wolf season with no close date.

Still too many wolves and few deer.

Too many Bears and Wolves.

Wolf hunt imperative.
Jackson, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

42 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 30
   - No: 12

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 14
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 39
   - General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 36
   - Bow: 25
   - Crossbow: 15
   - Muzzleloader: 13

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 24.79
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 28
   - Mostly Private Land: 6
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 3
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 17
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 6
   - More: 6
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
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<td>19</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | | | | | | Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Jackson, Central Farmland
Comments for  Jackson, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

We need to get the deer population back up!! Not much deer sign in the woods anymore. The visible signs are gone- seeing deer, tracks, feces, rubs, scrapes, etc. are gone. Years ago we used to see deer, and it was fun. The last several years, probably close to ten years now, myself and the group we hunt with are lucky to even see a deer walk through the woods. And we hunt all day, sun up to sun down. Deer hunting is just not what it used to be, and I love the sport. I've talked with people all over the place, restaurants, taverns, etc., and I'm not the only one not seeing any deer. It's all over the state. I even know people who say they aren't going to go deer hunting anymore because they say "what's the point, there's no deer in the woods". In my opinion there are a lot of factors as to why the population is so low. One, over the years to many tags have been given out allowing hunters to shoot so many deer, especially antlerless tags. And two, the wolf population is very high. There have been some gun deer seasons I've seen more wolves than deer. And that's just not right. The wolves are killing many many deer. The deer population years ago always seemed fine until the wolf population got so big.

I feel like some units have been hit year after year with numerous doe tags. I have no problem shooting does and do every year never more than one from a farm but I know many hunters that over hunt areas and compared to Rusk Co where I live there are way fewer deer in Jackson Co. especially the last 4-5 years. One more of my biggest complaints is the new license system. Everyone I know is disappointed at no back tags and a paper lic. Most of us have collected those back tags and lic. year after year. We would love to see the back tags back and a decent printed lic. The registrations stations need to come back as well. I am sure millions of dollars a year are missed from registration stations not drawing in the hunters registering their deer and showing off their harvest. Even non hunters enjoy hanging out and hearing the stories. I know for a fact a number of people who don't even register their deer. The phone or online registration I am sure if wonderful in states where the nearest station is miles and miles away but here in WI they are all over the place. It just doesn't feel the same. Hunters have lost a lot of the comradery with no place to bring your harvest and stories to.

I had two kids that I tried to get interested in hunting. When you go sit for the weekend and don't see any deer it's kind of hard to get them interested in even going. My son has already given up the sport, too boring he says. I'd like to have my daughter at least continue the sport. I used to see 20 deer opening day, now I'm lucky if I see 2 or 3. How in the world do you get a young hunter interested in seeing 2 deer. I'm sure some has to do with hunting pressure but 20 years ago there weren't many coyotes around the area either. Now we see them every year.... how long before the wolves make the short migration over? You guys keep giving doe tags out and for years bonus tags too! you can't keep shooting all these does and wonder why we have no deer. I'm a non-resident paying 6 times what I used to pay (as a resident) to hunt in WI and not see any deer. Too many predators and too many does tags = less deer. MHO

Need to stop issuing antlerless bonus tag all together for this area. I know some farms have large deer populations, but they get concentrated on their large acre properties because they only hunts bucks. Hunting as a whole has changed to sit and waiting for big one, while leaving most traditional hunters who hunt for nice deer for meat seeing fewer deer. For past three years I've seen less than ten deer each season cross my property during hunting. It's more like if see deer you had better shoot or you won't see another one. It is sad when you hunt 40 acre parcel and you can't even see a reasonable number of deer to take a quality animal.
I own 120 acres here in Jackson county, and having the amount of Antlerless tags go up will only hurt the places where there are few deer as of now. The problem with the population is that it's highly concentrated in areas is where they don't shoot any does. I don't know how many times I've heard people say, I sat there all day/week/season, and only saw one doe, so I wanted something so I shot her. Well there goes that population down more. Unfortunately there may not be any perfect solution. Good luck in whatever you come up with. Because no matter what you do somebody will disagree with it. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

Get rid of the new tags and registering system. I know of one guy that shot 5 deer on one tag. I will pay the extra money to go back to the old system. Just think of all the commerce that has been lost. Hunters would go to the gas stations (etc) and register their deer and most likely buy a candy bar, soda or a 6 pack. Those sales don't happen anymore. I used to take the kids down to the registering station to see the deer registering. Other than it's the law why bother registering your deer? THE NEW SYSTEM IS A BAD JOKE. Who ever thought that plan probably doesn't understand the wonderful tradition they just trashed.

I have hunted deer during the rifle season for the past 40 years in Northern Garden Valley and Southern Town of Cleveland. The last two seasons, 2015 and 2016 were the worst as far as deer seen and harvested by our hunting group. I do not believe that the D.N.R. has an accurate deer population estimate for this area in Jackson County. Jackson County used to be one of the top deer hunting counties in Wisconsin. Not any more! To shoot even more antlerless deer in this area is disrespectful to the hunters and land owners in these townships.

I hunt in an area that is highly populated with Amish. Although we get along with them, I know that they harvest a lot of deer, and when the antlerless permits are available for purchase, they take advantage of them. The harvesting or “over harvesting” of antlerless deer on the adjoining properties greatly affects the hunting quality on our property. Years ago when 3 or more bonus antlerless tags were given with each purchased license, we noticed a severe drop in the number of deer we observed the following years.

I've lived in the Oakridge area for over 25 years and this spring have seen a small rise in deer numbers than previous years. 20 years ago this area was whitetail heaven! We've got along way to go to bring Jackson county back on the map. However predators must be regulated in order to achieve this. I'm a firm believer that counties with known wolf packs, shall make it a responsibility to watch and manage the size and kill tags available to hunters. This in the end can only help all hunting and also these beloved elk!

I have hunted my 40 acres for 10 yrs. The first couple of years I would see at least 6 or 7 deer. Now, since the earn a buck and $ 2.00 doe permits, I am lucky to see a single deer the whole season. I think it's time you started listening to the hunters, stop the doe hunts, stop the bonus tags and stop treating the deer herd like vermin in this area. I have attended your meetings in the past and your people dismissed my comments like I didnt know what I was talking about. You asked for our comment please listen.

Most of my friends and I are quality deer management deer hunters. We shoot lots of does for meat and wait for the big bucks. I will not pay 12 dollars for a doe tag, 2 dollar tags were good when we did that. We will have to build up the herd on public land, but I think it can be done. We have to keep hunter numbers up and tourism for Wisconsin.

Whitetail deer distribution is seemingly being affected greatly by other things than hunting pressure and success. It is my belief that more looking into fawn mortality by area is needed. Might be successful control of varmints by area makes a difference. In 2015 I saw more bobcats in southern Jackson county than deer.

Don't give any free antlerless. Only offer the doe tags for purchase. People who have to many deer will buy them to shoot does. Many people who have a free tag will shoot a doe, even if its the last deer on there land; then next year they will show up at the CDAC meeting and complain there are no deer!
The lack of deer has discouraged young hunters. My son in fact is 18 and has been hunting since he was of age and the amount of deer that he has seen has diminished so much that he doesn't want to hunt any more. The excitement of even seeing deer is gone.

Talk to other land owners around me and they say the same thing lack of deer from past years also a decline in the amount of hunters in area. Firmly believe that too many doe's are taken. I feel only 1 for permit for each licence.

As a landowner I feel doe tags should always be offered with the buck tags for private land. Land owners should be able to determine their own buck to doe ratio's and land capacity issues.

Deer seem to be pushed from public lands into the farm lands and permissions to access these lands are low.

There are so few deer in our area compared to what they're used to be it is ridiculous.

Wolf season is needed. Habitat programs for deer and upland birds are also needed.

I think youths should have a chance to shoot a doe ages 16 & under.

Increased number of wolf and coyote sightings over past 3 years.
70 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 22
   - No: 48

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 9
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 14
   - I hunt in this unit: 68
   - General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 62
   - Bow: 42
   - Crossbow: 25
   - Muzzleloader: 19

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 21.9
   - Maximum: 61

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 14
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   - Mostly Public Land: 8
   - Exclusively Public Land: 30
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 4

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 12
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
   - Somewhat crowded: 11
   - Very crowded: 18
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 17
   - Same: 21
   - More: 16
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 21
   - More: 17
   - Many More: 7
   - Unsure: 1

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

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12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support Oppose Unsure

Not applicable in this DMU

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support Oppose Unsure

Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID NOT VALID Unsure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>1.91</td>
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<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
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Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Jackson, Central Forest
Comments for Jackson, Central Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

First and foremost, thank you to the members of the CDAC for your time and efforts working on the Jackson County deer management unit. While my opinion is solely limited to field observations (e.g. deer sightings, trail cam pictures, hearing distant gun shots, talking to other hunters, etc.) and less on scientific data, I do believe these experiences hold some value. My family has been hunting the same area within Jackson County for almost 80 years, giving us a unique opportunity to compare and contrast one season from the next. While our hunting party has shot both antlered and antlerless deer over the years, we have been fully supportive of the CDAC's previous recommendations to not only increase the overall herd, but for the buck-only seasons. Based on our recent observations (to include a half a year's worth of trail cam photos), the population remains a fraction of what it once was. As such, we implore the CDAC to reconsider having a zero quota antlerless season for one more year. If that is not feasible, please give thought to decreasing the amount of available permits from the current recommendation (so that the conspicuous efforts of the last two seasons do not get wasted). Once again, thank you for your time and consideration on this matter....your work is appreciated.

Number of deer have been very low in this area especially since the clearing of timber few years back. Also very concerning with no visable backtag numbers i beleive it should be brought back to how the tags were before this last year. That or drop the price since only thing we get is a 2 cent piece of paper with info on it but no visable numbers if someone causes a violation at least before you could give backtag numbers and now your kinda screwed. When to report something now u say "oh yeah there in orange" and now no better way. Should find something to encourage hunters to come back out to public land or to get more people out. Numbers were lower last season verse prior years. A big decline in hunters. Hunting sure isnt what it used to be 20 years ago when i started. A little safer maybe but something has driven alot of hunters away. I think we should find a way to find out. Alot may have to do with all the clearing of timbers ass deer are now finding other places to go to that are difficult for older generations to take the youth to. Therfore making a drop in hunters as no one sees any deer makes you not want to go after a couple of years not seeing anything.

As a property owner in this area, I maintain several food plots, not for hunting but to help deer and other wildlife through tough times and to improve their health. I also maintain several cameras not only on the plots but on deer trails throughout the property as do my neighbors. These cameras are in place year round. While we see a few does (4-6), what we do not see is fawn recruitment (2 fawns last year). Late winter and early spring does on the cameras appear healthy and plumb with fawns. My cameras also reveal the presence of predators (bears, wolves and coyotes) -- all prolific fawn feeders. I work on the predators I can legally control but to no avail. Until my cameras show more does with fawns and twins in tow, no antlerless deer will be killed on my property regardless of any rule changes. Please allow 3-5 more years for our antlerless and fawn recruitment and your best on predator control. I learned today that a state appellate court judge approved baiting so long as it is not for hunting. I love to see deer as much as the next person, but not at the expense of increased CWD with nose-to-nose feeding.
The deer population is lower than it has been in many many years. I blame over harvest of doe’s and the reintroduction of the wolves. I think the wolves should be hunted and the population lowered substantially. Also bear numbers are increasing. And they love to eat fawns. I run trail cameras on 4 different food plots all year long. And the amount of does i see without fawns is alarming. The deer herd needs time to recover and three years is not enough. With the current predator population. If you leave things as they are with the bears and the wolves. More so the wolves. We may never see a rebound that would allow for and antlerless harvest. Or unfortunately see and increase in our newly reintroduced Elk herd. I for one can tell you that antlerless deer will not be harvested on my property until i see a 10 fold increase in the deer numbers. And substantially higher fawn recruitment.

I feel that there needs to be 1 or 2 more years on no antlerless hunting in eastern Jackson county. We hunt in the Pray area. Our group has harvested only 1 deer in the past 4 gun/bow seasons and seen very very few while hunting. While scouting we see very little deer sign and we cover a lot of ground. My son has been hunting with us the past two seasons and has yet to see a deer during gun season and has only saw two during bow season. I know as an adult I get frustrated from the time and money spent to go hunt and not being able to see a deer hour after hour, day after day, season after season. I can’t imagine what it is like being a kid and instead of making your own memories of successful hunting all you hear is the adults in the group talking about how good it used to be. I wonder why I even go hunt in eastern Jackson county anymore.

Instead of “Zero Quota” areas, consider bringing back some version of a previous method of controlling the hunting of antlerless deer in those areas, through the use of “party permits” where the harvesting of one antlerless deer is allowed for a group of four hunters in addition to the one buck per hunter. The recent past attitude seemed to be “kill all the doe” – now we wonder why there are fewer deer in many areas. I believe that the policy of selling limitless antlerless deer tags during the hunting season caused the situation we have now, creating the need for “Zero Quota” areas. The party permit (or whatever you want to call it) would give hunters an opportunity to have a better chance to harvest a deer without severely lowering the doe population.

Most of my hunting in 2016 was making drives during the gun and muzzleloader seasons. I was fortunate enough to shoot a buck during the muzzleloader season but I didn’t see a single deer in 5 days of gun season making drives on public land around City Point and Pray. Our group did poorly overall. I do believe deer have become more savvy to the deer drive and aren’t as likely to run where they are "supposed to", but I still am not seeing the deer sign to indicate the population is where it was at many years ago. I don't think hard winters are a concern anymore and there is always logging to keep the deer fed over the winter. I would prefer the public land antlerless quota be lowered a bit from your original proposal.

over the years I have seen an increase of predators which feed on deer and other game species. Coyotes mainly but bear and wolves also have had a significant impact from my personal observations. During the winter I find many deer and turkey carcasses that were killed by coyotes. Since I am in forest land I have had little success in trying to control their numbers on my own by calling them in. It seems to me that the fast growing coyote population in Wisconsin should be checked. Maybe like old times there could be a bounty placed on them or some trade off for every 5 confirmed kills you can earn the right to a doe permit. That way someone has a reason to protect the herd from predation.

Please continue 2017 with buck only as I believe it is really starting to help the area my party hunts- exclusively private. We are finally starting to see more deer, including more young bucks that probably would have been shot as nubby bucks if anterless tags were available. Also, not a huge change but a few more doe sightings from previous years. I think another season of no antlerless tags would be very beneficial to the area. I do not see any overbrowse or signs of overpopulation. I hope you consider my comments above. Thank you everyone who serves on the committee and is helping to try and increase deer numbers for the Jackson County Central Forest.
Request to bring back hunter's choice option as that was a good way of allowing a hunter better odds at least harvesting a deer, but only one deer, and not allowing deer numbers to go in a downward trend by means of hunter overharvest. Also allows DNR to still get some funding by the hunters choice fee, much like the antlerless fee currently in practice. Or allow only landowners to harvest a doe if they so choose because let's face it, most of the land in this DMU is either state or county PUBLIC land.

The western edge of the Jackson county central forest where it meets the farm land and the high quality deer habitat along the Black River has responded to antler only seasons. There are now pockets of abundant deer in this unit. There are also large areas of the unit that have few deer, mostly in the blocks of the state forest managed for pine. Forest management in this unit should be more focused on wildlife with aspen regeneration and less emphasis on plantation red pine.

As noted above, I have observed the deer population in this area for many yrs. In the last 10yrs or so the deer populations & other game has greatly declined. Where there used to be numerous signs of deer & other game activities has been covered up with wolf tracks & scat. Area needs a strong effort controlling predator population. Also, antlerless zones should apply to everyone---no antlerless deer should be shot by anyone with gun or bow!!!

not sure what the proposals are this year, but we have had to many seasons in the past. The deer population has depleted considerably since I started hunting many years ago. I know people who have hunted this area for years and have now left because there are no deer. If it doesn’t improve, I will be the next to leave. Its sad because the local business count on us coming up and spending money. So its not just the deer that’s the issue.

Out of state licenses need to increase $200 - $300 per tag. Wisconsin has ONLY 3 big game animals to hunt. Many other states charge up to $600 per tag while having 5 to 7 big game animals to hunt. My children do not hunt due to lack of hunting opportunities and success. My hunting activity severely decreased 4 years ago due to undercharging non-residents and lack of game. I see little reason to hunt in Wisconsin any further.

I hunt on private land that surrounds the Black River Falls State Forest. Over the last two years I have seen many more deer each year. I agree that most of the unit is public land that has a higher density of hunters and lower numbers of deer so limiting antlerless permits on public land makes sense. However, those that hunt the farmland fringes have significantly more deer that warrant more antlerless tags on private land.

2016 was the first year of my 28 year hunting career where I had encounters with wolves while deer hunting during daylight. On 6 different occasions wolves were seen by our party during daylight either from the treestand or while driving between locations. Prior to this season we would only see occasional wolf tracks or droppings. These sightings were all in the Dike 17 area, and were in the same areas where we also saw elk.

Having hunted in the area for years and having seen the population go from having a deer behind every tree to not seeing a deer for 4 years while hunting the same areas I would like see caution being used in in the availability of antlerless tags. We hunt a large area and it was encouraging to see a few deer this year. It would be nice to give the deer a chance to rebound a little more before giving out the antlerless tags.

I not only pay attention to how many deer I see but also the width of runways, amount of droppings found, amount of beds found, scrapes, and rubs. We have no where near the amount sign today as we had when I was a kid. Younger members of my party quit hunting because they never saw all the activity that I used to, we have a long way to go to get our deer population where it needs to be.

We hear a lot about how the elk are damaging crops and the forest, however when on my drive to and from work I see 80+ antlerless deer everyday there is a skew in the data. I am a hunter that believes in the herd health, I also believe in the consumption of venison; to increase the opportunity as a land owner to fill my freezer would be appreciated as long as the herd health is maintained.
I am pleased that this area is a no bait zone. I would like to see this continued and expanded to the entire state. I believe baiting helps spread CWD and messes up the natural movement of deer. Also attracting deer to a bait pile would also attract wolves. Please keep the doe tags down for a few more years. Deer seem to be coming back, but they are not there yet.

If there is a no antlerless season that's what it should be (no antlerless deer taken period) no matter who you are. The deer population in this area is hurting BAD, so bad I feel there should be no deer seasons at all in this unit. Another big concern is the wolf population, they have destroyed all wildlife in this unit.

I have been hunting in the Jackson County area where I own just over 80 acres and I have only recently started to see the deer population starting to recover. I believe that if we hold off at least one more year on antlerless tags, that it will have a positive impact on the deer population in the area.

Hunter satisfaction is at a low. Why? Tooo liberal of seasons in past. Now herds need to be rebuilt. However, wolves will also increase kind of a pickle the DNR has itself in. Most likely need two prong approach lower wolf numbers, keep hunters in check until deer herds are replenished.

Too angry to comment, hunting on public land in this county and surrounding counties has been a sad joke for the past 7-8 years. And our state legislators just make it worse. Let people who have an actual education in resource management make decisions, not Madison politicians.

I would really like to see another 2 years of buck only, also a wolf season every other year would be cool. There used to be so much more deer in the area, now, the few I do see are just being chased by wolves. We don't need to eradicate them just manage them. Thanks!

there has been a slight increase in the doe population they have been healthy over this winter and look to make a better come back however from what i have seen there is more does than bucks by about a 5 to 1 ratio over the last hunting season in my area.

We are just starting to see some does with fawns again. It would be nice if there were no antlerless permits for another 2 years. Between all the wolves, bears, & bobcats the deer numbers are way down. Thank you, Jim

There are huge numbers of doe here. In the past 3 years all I am seeing is doe. In a hunting party of 12 we have only seen and took 1 buck in 3 years. We could have taken 12 doe a year or more with the amount of doe we see.

I hunt on the west edge of the Central Farmland. In my opinion the land type and deer patterns on my property are more similar to the Central Forest zone than what may be observed in more heavily forested areas.

I have hunted this unit for 29 years and with the population of deer being so low it's pretty hard to get kids involved in hunting when they don't see anything except other hunters.

Make it buck only again. Remove wolves from this area. Took a walk in the marshes this passed January and saw very little deer tracks and a lot of Wolf tracks.

If permits are allowed, there should only be one per person. If they harvest a deer either sex, it should end their hunting for the season.

Open up antlerless again statewide but limit bonus tags.

I believe that one more year of buck only is warranted.

To many wolves and not enough deer in that unit. Thanks

Predator count way too high. Need immediate relief.

Way to many wolves
Jefferson, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

67 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 33
   - No: 34

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 45
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 59
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 51
   - Bow: 38
   - Crossbow: 16
   - Muzzleloader: 23

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.16
   - Maximum: 56

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 25
   - Mostly Private Land: 16
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 11
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 9
   - Not too crowded: 12
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
   - Somewhat crowded: 7
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 1

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 17
   - Fewer: 17
   - Same: 22
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 18
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 14
   - More: 16
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for Jefferson, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

It is unclear, but of great concern to hunters in this unit, why the DNR continues to issue so many crop damage permits to farmers, while greatly reducing or even eliminating antlerless hunting on private non-agricultural and public lands. Some farmers in our area continue to exploit crop damage permits by shooting deer on leased land and public land on which those permits were not intended or allowed. Much more surveillance and accountability should be made on the use of crop damage permits as they significantly affect the number of antlerless permits and hunting opportunities for non-farming hunters. Additionally, there is great concern, and disdain toward DNR, about the use of deer damage in the Spring when does are carrying fawns yet to be born, and, when mature bucks without antlers are being shot. It makes little sense when hunters see so many deer being shot under the ospaces of "deer damage" but very few or no deer can be shot on adjacent or nearby public lands! For individuals who don't own private land to hunt on, deer hunting has become a thing of the past and the cause of much distrust and anger toward the DNR. If hunting opportunities are very limited or nonexistent on public lands, we will continue to lose hunters and significantly affect hunter recruitment. Much more attention and effort should be paid to allowing and requirements for allowing hunters access to agricultural properties for which deer damage permits are being issued and used.

I would really like to see 1 buck and 1 doe per hunter total...bow and gun combined. For example, if you shoot a buck and doe with your bow, you are done for the year. Still keep the bonus doe tags for areas that have more deer and 1 buck only for areas with less deer. I really think its the best of a lot of worlds, meat hunters can still shoot anything that walks by, trophy hunters should see an increase in quality of bucks, hunters in general should see more deer, and the dnr can still manage the herd with extra doe tags or no doe tags depending on the area. Plenty of states have the one buck rule and it seems to work well. Let me know and thanks for your help. My proposal is: 1 gun/archery buck, 1 gun/archery antlerless tag, plus bonus antlerless tags ($12 each) For a hunter that gun and archery hunts, the difference is: Northern and central forest counties: 1 less buck Central and southern farmland counties: 1 less buck and 1-5 fewer antlerless tags (depending on the county) For a hunter that only gun or archery hunts, the difference is: Northern and central forest counties: no change from current Central and southern farmland counties: 1-2 fewer antlerless tags (depending on the county)

I vote to eliminate all free antlerless tags per license if not no more than 1 antlerless tag whether gun/bow being Jefferson county is a high agriculture rich environment. That is surrounded by large communities and population hunters/non hunters that our quality have the hunt has drastically dwindled the last 10 years per age in the herd. Many areas of the county has more than 1 hunter per 10 acres or less and is unsuitably to high in numbers and yet there is plenty of high quality forages surrounded throughout including our many marshes! I would like to see go back to shotgun only but at the very least start maximizing our quality in opportunities in age aka maximum potential yield or a medium potentail to reduce the age of juvenille buck harvest a year and a half and less to under 50 percent every season. From all the long seasons, free doe tags, high population and hunter density, rifle to shotgun, our rich feeding area is far under par for its quality potential and safety in hunts! 33 percent of habitable habitat is very small when you look at the age of the deer and population dynamics!
I personally promote the youth hunt, as I feel it is highly important to the growth and future of hunting here in our state and across our nation. I DO however, feel we do a disservice to our youth in that most of the time the mentor/adult supervisor does all kinds of work so the youth get an opportunity at harvesting an animal. Being that they have done the scouting and planning, it often seems to end up with the youth hunter taking a pretty nice, if not trophy, buck. They often have no idea, and are so excited to just get a ‘deer’. I really think that we often do too much for them, and give them an unrealistic view of hunting. Since they would be just as thrilled with a doe or antlerless deer, I would like to see this made an antlerless hunt for them. I think it would keep them sometime more into the hunting, as they would maybe see goals later as they progress. Sometime we ‘hand' things off too easy, and unrealistic…. just sayin. At the same time, know that O personally mentor youth hunters and certainly think it is a great thing to continue.

DNR is concerned about new hunters. I am 72 hunted deer since I was 21. Deer season in southern Wisc and alot of northern Wisc stinks. I looked at a report from 2015, haven't seen a 2016 one as of today, a ratio of about 10/1 kill of private/public land. I do not own land I hunt public. I have encouraged my four hunting age grandkids 3 boys, 1 girl who like to hunt but are discouraged when they don’t even SEE a deer, let alone shoot at one. You want new hunters, most of which should come from non-land owners, something needs to be done. I dropped my patron's license two years ago, after some 10+ years due to deer. I am back on it due to my kids wanting to hunt. Food plots and baiting are holding deer on private land. I talked to the Jefferson Cty warden and he doesn't have answers. I have had good relations with the wardens and enjoy my encounters with them. Helps me set the stage for my grandkids to look to them as a friend. I hope something can be done. I would like to have a good hunt before I get too old to do so.

I think one thing the DNR could focus on in Jefferson County is making sure there are adequate CWD testing facilities available. This is hard to get done in this area, even though we have positive CWD tests in Southwestern Jefferson County. This should be the standard at all the major deer processing areas. I also think the season ends too early (sunset wise). Why is it 1/2 hour before sunrise, but only 20 minutes after? Nationwide, 1/2 hour before and after sunrise/sunset is standard. On fairly full moon, bright, and when there is snow on the ground getting down 20 minutes after sunset is silly. 10 minutes would make a big difference. The paper licenses are a joke. Please go back to laminate! Carrying a pencil in the field to try to write on this small piece of paper is difficult at best. (trying to watch my language). This also makes it way too convenient for poachers. We should still register deer physically. I also liked the backtags. It is good to have an identifier on peoples backs.

This is an excellent survey. I attended the CDAC meetings and the WDNR data presentation on CWD infected deer in WI over time. The data is not scientific in that the data is not random. The data is biased in that only deer that were submitted for testing were included in the most recent data. So the data indicates that CWD is increasing exponentially. But they are not comparing apples to apples. Hard to believe that deer management(CWD control) would be based on poor data and that all this time and energy produces this very poor scientific data base. One hunter suggested that don’t you think that a CWD infected deer would be easier to harvest than a healthy deer? Logically one would think so. Data is not random.

I really feel the deer management plan currently in place for this unit is the best plan we have had since CWD reared its ugly head. The deer population in Jefferson county is definitely on the up swing. Doing away with the teacher and Holiday hunt was the best thing to happen to deer hunting here since QDM was born. I really like that we are only allowed 1 buck per season. When the time comes that we need to lower the population I feel the best way would be to include 2 antler-less tags with each license purchase. No need for a bow season gun hunt or Christmas slaughter ever again. We are heading in the right direction for the first time in a long while.
I think there's a direct correlation between the amount of antlerless deer taken on private land and the amount of deer sighting on public lands. They move around a lot. By allowing private land owners to shoot everything that moves it cripples the public lands as well. I know that the CWD has been an issue and I'm not sure were we are with that but I think there has been to many seasons in the past. Youth hunt has also been a thorn in the bow hunters season. Its normally right when bow hunting is at its best. Silence is golden for bow hunting. Now we have guns going off when bow hunters are trying to bag that nice buck.

Sick of "neighbor" hunters who consider brown is down. Say they have to because that feeds there family for the year. Then why do they buy at least one beef to slaughtered each year? The family isn't that big. Enough "beefing", hope they let a few go so they can grow past one to two years old. Wish all questions addressed at meetings would be provided on line so those of us that don't attend a "boring", "long" meeting could provide comments. Thanks for listening.

I have a big issue with only being able to choose public or private land to hunt on. It has diminished my hunting opportunites alot since I have in the past being able to hunt on both classification of land.

A single antlerless tag for county residents should be valid for both private and public land within that county. To balance that benefit, residents could then only buy one additional bonus tag.

Oppose holiday hunt for two reasons. It would be to long,(anything over 4 days) and just leaves the door open for trying to include bucks in the future.

the biggest problem for hunters is not having access to private land, is there anyway to provide an incentive to allow access to private land.

Deer herd needs to be managed through antlerless harvests. More education needed with regard to a balanced herd. Holiday Hunt is not needed.

Try to discourage the killing of fawns and young deer, I see way to many people slaughter anything that walks during gun season.

There is no reason for a holiday hunt in Jefferson county. We are where we want to be with our deer numbers and goals.

I enjoy wildlife watching and I'm not seeing any deer. Would like to see more deer on the landscape.

I would like to see more whitetail deer in Jefferson County.

Please stop selling off public lands.

Where are all the deer?
Juneau, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

21 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 15
   No: 6

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 10
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
   I hunt in this unit: 20
   General interest in this unit: 3

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 18
   Bow: 13
   Crossbow: 8
   Muzzleloader: 9

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 4
   Average: 21.65
   Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 19
   Mostly Private Land: 0
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   Mostly Public Land: 0
   Exclusively Public Land: 1
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 0
   Not too crowded: 0
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
   Somewhat crowded: 0
   Very crowded: 1
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 3
   Fewer: 7
   Same: 8
   More: 3
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 4
   Fewer: 4
   Same: 8
   More: 5
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 0
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:** Not applicable in this DMU

**Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:** Not applicable in this DMU

**11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?**

*Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

**12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.**

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>1.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**  
Juneau, Central Farmland
I think the Bow and Crossbow license should be separate and not limited to just being able to have the option tag. I think they should be as independent as the rifle and archer license have been in the past. This is so that I can purchase a full license with its tags for all 3. I have been bow hunting since I was 12 years old. I am 58 now. I think that the tag that has always been a choice tag for bow and crossbow should continue to be a choice tag now that we are not being required to shoot a doe before shooting a buck. As it was before all the CWD requirements. In fact I did not bow hunt last year because of these regulations. I have both a crossbow and a compound bow. I do not know that I will buy either license this year either. I saved all my life to buy some land so that I didn't have to carry my stands in and out every day. Now that I have the land these regulations make me think about selling the land and stop hunting. This private/public land requirement is ridiculous. I have hunted on OMF and FCL lands for more than 30 years. I hear all this wining about people that hunt on public land say that it is over crowded. I have had 250 acre tracks all to myself. I have told many other hunters about the various programs and explained how they work to them. None of them have done the research on how to get the information. They just complain about not having any place to hunt. They are too lazy to do the research. The major problems with these programs is that the landowners that put their land in these programs do everything they can to deter people from being on these lands. I have had the sheriff's department called on me on a regular basis for utilizing these lands that are open to the public. I have complained to the foresters and nothing happens to them. They might get a letter but not once have I heard of a landowner that has their land in the program actually get a fine. I have had land owner shoot fireworks off around me, I have had them stand behind me and shoot their rifles off. They have followed me around on their property badgering me and harassing me. Nobody enforces any rules when it comes to their open lands. Hunting with the constant changes is getting to the point that it is too much of a hassle to do anymore. Too many regulations that are constantly changing. It is no wonder the number of hunters is dropping rapidly and dramatically. I am considering being another one of those that stop hunting altogether.

I hunt in southern Juneau County about 1 mile from Sauk County. The overall population numbers are still down compared to the numbers that were around in the 80's and 90's. Found 4 dead deer in the past 2 months while shed hunting. We haven't harvested a doe on our farm in over 5 years and the numbers keep dropping, I do no feel that we need any more doe seasons. Just the 9 day hunt.

Overall, the CDAC has done a good job in maintaining the deer population. I believe they need to pay closer attention to the CWD concerns. With current deer numbers, there is no need to increase the herd. Deer herd is healthy...Lets keep it that way.

Hunters choice applications like in Wisconsin the 1990's. Too many antlerless tags given out. No more bonus tags. 1 deer per hunter per weapon specific season.

Public hunting grounds are very ineffective . Deer that are around are gone by 7 am. Chased to private land.

I think this is a good forum to get opinions from many different people. Thank you.

thank you members of the council for the time you spend on this topic

8 Point or above antler restriction
65 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 35
   - No: 30

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 11
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
   - I hunt in this unit: 60
   - General interest in this unit: 12

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 59
   - Bow: 34
   - Crossbow: 19
   - Muzzleloader: 13

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 0
   - Average: 23.51
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 21
   - Mostly Private Land: 6
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
   - Mostly Public Land: 9
   - Exclusively Public Land: 15
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 3

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 12
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 7
   - Very crowded: 10
   - Not applicable: 1

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 12
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 27
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 14
   - More: 19
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 4
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public Land:</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  
\[ \text{Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.} \]

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? (Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I HAVE HAD UP TO (25) HUNTERS STAY AT MY HOUSE FOR THE DEER GUN SEASON IN THE PAST (20) YEARS. I NOW HAVE MYSELF AND OUR (4) SONS HUNTING ALONG WITH (6) FRIENDS. THIS DECREASE IN HUNTERS IS DUE MAINLY TO LACK OF DEER SIGHTINGS OVER THE LAST 8 TO 10 YEARS BY THESE HUNTERS. GRANTED THAT THE PEOPLE THAT QUITE DEER HUNTING MAY NOT HAVE BEEN THE BEST AT DEER HUNTING, BUT THEY ALL ENJOYED SEEING THE DEER AND NOT NECESSARILY KILLING THEM. I HAVE HUNTED THE MEADOW VALLEY AREA FOR (45) YEARS. THE OVERALL DEER POPULATION APPEARS TO BE EXTREMELY LOW. WINTER DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A FACTOR AS I HAVE USED MY SNOW BLOWER ABOUT (6) TIMES IN (3) YEARS AND ICE FISHING SEASON HAS BEEN EXTREMELY SHORT AND WITH UNPREDICTABLE ICE CONDITIONS. I TAKE WALKS THRU OUR HUNTING AREAS IN MARCH AND I AM HARD PRESSED TO FIND DEER SIGN UNLIKE YEARS PAST. I HAVE SIGHTED ABOUT (12) WOLVES OVER THE LAST (5) YEARS. I TEND TO BELIEVE THAT THE WOLF POPULATION IS EXTREMELY DETRIMENTAL TO THE OVER ALL DEER POPULATION. WITH THE WHITETAIL DEER UTILIZED AS PREY FOR THE WOLVES, I DO NOT SEE AN INCREASE IN THE OVER ALL DEER POPULATION WITH OR WITHOUT FEWER ANTLER LESS TAGS AVAILABLE. CONTROL OF THE WOLF POPULATION MAY BE THE ONLY OPTION TO INCREASE THE DEER HERD IN THE PUBLIC LAND, CENTRAL FOREST AREAS. AS THE DEER NUMBERS CONTINUE TO DWINDLE, I AM GOING TO LOSE MORE PEOPLE THAT ATTEND OUR DEER CAMP. THESE PEOPLE WILL NOT CHANGE HUNTING LOCATIONS, BUT STOP HUNTING ALTOGETHER. HELP SAVE THE DEER HERD & THE DEER HUNTERS!!

Having hunted in the Juneau Co Forest Zone/54A my whole life, I feel I have a very good grasp of the deer population and the number of deer the habitat can support. I see NO signs of overbrowsing in any of the public areas I hunt, which are numerous and cover much of the unit from south of the Germantown area up to the Bombing Range and everywhere in between. I average about 40 hours per season in the woods during gun season and just started seeing deer again last season after going 2 years without seeing a deer while hunting, this is not acceptable to me or anyone else who hunts the unit. I am not asking to return to the numbers in the late 90’s when I saw 6 or 7 every sit, but sighting a deer or 2 every other sit would be refreshing. I oppose the increase in antlerless tags, at least for one more season while we finish our 3 year "Increase" period, as I have not seen the evidence that the population has rebounded enough to keep it increasing if we kill more does, especially with the increasing numbers of large predatory canines in parts of the Juneau Forest Zone.

I have hunted deer in Juneau County for the last 25 years and understand the need to limit the amount of antlerless harvest to increase the deer numbers. I do not understand the need to have zero antlerless permits available on public lands considering the amount of public land acres that are available in the Juneau County central forest unit. Last year 100% of the permits were issued for private lands. There must be over 150,000 public acres between Meadow Valley, Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Juneau County lands and MFL lands that are open to the public. I am considering hunting in different counties in the future as are other hunters. When hunting traditions change, they seldom revert back. Ask the owners of stores, bars, restaurants, hotels, and other retailers if they can afford to have hunters go somewhere else.
I hunt the refuge. I have seen it go through cycles over the years. Was awesome in early 2000s. Went down the tubes about 10 years ago, lucky to see a deer or 2 and had a few encounters with wolves. The last few years though have been better with more deer being seen, but mostly does. Does extremely outnumber bucks. I am fine with the number of antlerless tags for the unit, I just don't agree with the distribution ratio from private to public. Seems a little lopsided. 50 tags for public? There is a ton of public land. My dad started bringing me here when I was 8 and am now 34. There were more hunters back then than there are now along with more deer. There are now more wolves, less hunters, and less deer.

I have a total of 8 trail cameras that are out from turkey season through muzzleloader season, 6 on 80 acres that we lease and 2 on 10 acres that I own. I had more pictures last bow season of wolves then I did of deer, granted it was repeat pictures of 6 different wolves (one of which has a tracking collar). Most citizens that live in the concrete jungle of southern WI believe your reports of wolf population estimates, but myself and my neighbors know the real truth. WE NEED THE WOLF POPULATION REDUCED TO RAISE THE DEER POPULATION, plain and simple.

Hunting in and around the Necedah Wildlife Refuge in 2016; I could count on one hand the number of shots I heard opening weekend. THAT tells me something about the deer heard regardless of the antlerless quotas. With Wolves in the area and if killing of antlerless deer allowed; for every deer killed you are taking out average of three deer. One Wolf can take A AVERAGE 15-19 DEER A YEAR. You do the numbers. You can't increase the deer heard and help the local economy by allowing us to shoot more antlerless deer.

I would also submit a concern in regards to the amount of agricultural damage permits that are issued. I am in the Central Forest with a fair amount of farmland around. If high numbers of permits are issued for the crop damage it is directly impacting the area in general and skews the numbers. I don’t see many deer and went the entire 2016 bow season seeing only 2 deer while for obvious reasons the farm fields were abundant with deer. The impact of the the crop damage permits is significant on area herd numbers.

Deer numbers are still quite low in the public central forest, which leads to fewer hunters and thus less movement of deer during gun season. Observations of predators are at an all time high. Deer numbers seem to be staying static without much improvement from reduced antlerless quotas and and an active timber harvest in Meadow Valley. Our groups sightings and harvest of deer has been the lowest of the last 32 years. On a plus side buck quality/size has improved from the days of all spikes and forkhorns.

The amount of antlerless tags is too high. This unit really needs to be broken down further. I own 48 acres north of Necedah off of Hwy 80. I have not had an opportunity to shoot a deer during the gun season in 8 years. There are NO deer in this area. Also how could there have been antlerless deer taken last season on public land when there were no tags available? I would like to know where these 1000 antlerless deer are going to come from.

Had just as many wolves on trail cams this past winter as deer. Wolves have really multiplied with each progressing year and I believe something needs to be done. We are shooting much fewer deer in the area from talking to others but the population stays the same. The wolves have been taking out so many that deer population will never increase in this area until something is done with them.

Keep up the good work guys. I’ve been following closely since this process was born and really feel that the Juneau County CDAC is in tune with the herd and the hunters. Things seem to be improving up north in the Forest Zone. It's too bad the meetings are never on the weekends or at least on a Monday or Friday, I'd love to attend but live and work to far away.

The concept of being able to obtain a doe permit based on public or private land is flawed. There are many areas in the central forest region where a doe can literally change legal shooting status numerous times simply by running or roaming across a relatively small geographical area. The current system seems more based on politics than sound science.
Releasing wolves in this area was absolutely idiotic. There were already a huge number of coyotes, but ever since the wolves were released the amount of deer have decreased. The number of hunters have decreased it seems as well because no one is really seeing the amount of deer the have in the past.

In my farm in the Town of Clearfield, Juneau Cty. there are way too many deer. In 2016 the high count in my field was 32, this spring the high count was 27 deer. My woods is severely over browsed with no oak regeneration. My opinions in this survey are only based on what I see on my property.

I would like to see more antlerless tags on the public land. After opening day, we like to hunt the public land. We almost never see deer on our 40 acres after opening day. Makes for a long hunt not seeing deer, or seeing deer on public land but not sure if legal buck to shoot.

This winter we have seen more deer than ever in our wild prairie and around the house. The deer population has definitely increased substantially. Browsing on young trees is substantial. We have to protect young trees with tree shelters to promote their survival.

When I hunt on public land, I see some bucks, but most of them are does. I would like to see more antlerless permits for public land offered. Obviously, not every tag will produce a kill, and from what I've seen, the doe population in the area is way too high.

The number of deer in the area is greatly decreasing and yet all the DNR does is increase the number of antlerless deer. This shows no concern for the deer population or the health of the herd. Stop the slaughter of the does and allow the herd to replenish.

It would be nice if the dnr would had enough brains to understand that the wolves are making the deer quotas for all the hunters in the middle to northern parts of the state. All the old timers shot them on site for a reason!

In 2016 I saw a total of 4 deer the entire season in the New Lisbon area that I own land and hunt. The numbers are much to low in this area and the deer need help to re-populate and make hunting this area worth while.

**I BELIEVE THE DEER POPULATION IS IMPROVING AND THE CDAC HAS BEEN VERY BENIFICAL WITH ITS IMPROVEMENT. BY ALLOWING THE GERERAL POPULATION TO BE INVOLVED TO THE LEVEL IT HAS CAN ONLY BE A GOOD THING.**

We are not seeing hardly any deer on the east side of hwy.80 off of 12th Ave. I have not seen any deer in several years in spite of being out on stands most of every day of the deer season.

The low number of public land doe permits makes absolutely no sense in the Central Forest Zone of Juneau County, with all of th public land that is there.

Dislike large group deer drives. Need laws that require hunters to identify their target before they pull the trigger!!

Hunting on public land is a little disappointing the last few years - with no antlerless tags available.

We are seeing more predators (wolves) and I believe less deer in the future.

Consider antler less permits for land owners similar to turkey permits

Deer are needed to keep the younger hunters interest in hunting.

Had a possitive bow & gun hunting in this unit last year.

Increase dog hunting or trapping on the Eastern Wolf
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Kenosha, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

18 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 4
   - No: 14

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 10
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
   - I hunt in this unit: 16
   - General interest in this unit: 5

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 12
   - Bow: 14
   - Crossbow: 3
   - Muzzleloader: 6

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 18.73
   - Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 6
   - Mostly Private Land: 2
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 7
   - Same: 6
   - More: 0
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 3
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 5
   - More: 0
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 1

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Kenosha, Southern Farmland
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure |
  - 1 | 15

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Not applicable in this DMU

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
  - Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Comments for Kenosha, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I agree with increasing the herd size within the county but have not seen any results over two years of the program. I believe it all starts with reducing doe tags issued to hunters so the herd has a chance to grow. The car / deer kill has not went up over the last 2 or 3 years which I feel is a very good indicator of what is going on with the herd size. If anything there are more cars driving around these Kenosha county roads at all times of the night where you would think even if the herd size stayed the same they would see an increase in car deer collisions. Hard to blame the weather on no increase in car killed deer. When we analyze the data from the previous hunts if the kill is down they always blame the weather, or hunters are not hunting hard or it was bad rut. What about maybe there just aren’t the deer there were years ago. I would like to see no hunter in Kenosha county get more than one doe tag no matter how many license they buy. Maybe we just have to go a year with no antlerless tags to see if that get us going in the right direction. Hard to blame the DNR when the ball is in our court. Increase the herd please!

Looking at the previous years data we have made no progress towards our goal. Maybe we need to acknowledge this may be the best it can be with all the land lost to development each year. Not only in K county but all over the state. For the young folks who go out hunting a couple times and don’t see anything and quit the sport due to the lack of excitement, sorry you missed it. Unfortunately for me, I saw the good years of hunting and the enjoyment it gave me and my hunting partners. I guess all must come to an end sooner or later. There is only one way to increase the herd numbers.

Looks like we are holding a flat line on the herd size and will probably continue as long as we keep giving out antlerless tags. Seems pretty obvious but they don’t make the needed changes. Thanks to the hunters who are dedicated to growing the herd by not shooting our future deer before their born. Giving out a 100 tags to the metro unit should pretty much wipe them out. Thankfully the deer are way to smart for that.

I am all in favor of increasing the herd. Being so close to IL we need to figure out a permit system to hunt public lands. They get just too much pressure from residents and non residents alike. With Rifles legal in this county safety will be a major concern with all this hunting pressure.

Kenosha County has one of the lowest buck kills per square mile of habitat and the lowest %success with antlerless tags. The County could support quite a bit higher population level if it was not for the threat of CWD

This plan needs to stay in place for longer than 2017_18 season. Keep it up. The turkey tag system is also perfect and opportunities for tags are just the perfect amount. Hunters will appreciate the system over time.

Hardly see any deer in this whole County! Even working night shift and driving home at night I see no deer! Seen more coyotes then deer

Holiday hunts in general should be stopped. Potential interference with snowmobile use in our state is absurd!

Still not seeing the deer of years ago. Not sure how many years its going to take at this rate.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Kewaunee, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

24 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 13
   - No: 11

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 11
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 2
   - I hunt in this unit: 20
   - General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 17
   - Bow: 14
   - Crossbow: 6
   - Muzzleloader: 9

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 18.55
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 14
   - Mostly Private Land: 2
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all Crowded: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not too crowded: 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat crowded: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very crowded: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 4
   - Fewer: 6
   - Same: 9
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 8
   - Same: 5
   - More: 7
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 0
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

#### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We do the traditional 9 day gun hunt on private land in Kewaunee County and have very rarely see large bucks. I believe the bow season is greatly impacting the buck herd. It would be interesting to institute something like an earn-a-buck for bow season. I know people that bow hunt and they only draw on bucks, thinning the buck herd prior to gun season. Gun season is a time for family and traditions. I feel that a change to the early bow season would have a positive impact on the gun season.

Although I support a doe only season, I would rather have the option of shooting a buck after harvesting a doe or 2. Time to put pressure on the politicians to reinstate earn-a-buck as that tool actually worked. We not only saw a reduction in herd size, but more young bucks were surviving. The potential for shooting a nice 2.5 year old increased, but apparently that was overlooked by most. It was a forced QDMD which I believe can strengthen the overall herd.

I hunted every day during the 9 day gun hunt every weekend during bow season and only saw one deer on 3 different public lands in Kewaunee county. I talked to many private land owners who saw and took many deer. Seems to me that the deer are hold up on private land with less pressure and mostly trophy hunters so the doe population is high on private land. I dont know what the answer is but public lands are not productive.

I found more deer dead from bow hunters than I saw in regular gun season. Bow hunting should start later in fall to prevent loss of game when plants are still green. I found six dead deer on my farm last fall with arrow wounds or arrows in them. Hunters are wasting animals when they cannot track them and are not counted in harvest stats.

I would like to see a hunting season frame work of a one buck tag per hunters only .could be taken with the gun or bow but only one buck permitted per license year. That way you retain interest in hunting but are options for hunting some does to control herd size.

Would like to see more protection for bucks, either earn-a-buck or a one-buck season limit. Group hunting during gun season for bucks should be banned. We need to target more antlerless deer.

Having a holiday hunt in kewaunee county would give members of my family, who are in the military visiting during the holidays, a chance to harvest an animal while they are home on leave.

No holiday hunt maintain herd size to many seasons just leave it at bow gun and muzzleloader these deer need to stop being hunted so much

I think an early doe season would help with the over population problem. Let doe hunters hunt during the rut.

We need to make baiting illegal in Kewaunee and All counties, The threat of CWD by baiting is real. Stop baiting in this unit people are baiting so heavy it turns the deer nocturnal

I have no other comments at this time. Thank you.

Well done
La Crosse, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

23 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 10
   No: 13

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 16
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 1
   I hunt in this unit: 19
   General interest in this unit: 2

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 18
   Bow: 14
   Crossbow: 7
   Muzzleloader: 7

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 2
   Average: 18.05
   Maximum: 40

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 17
   Mostly Private Land: 0
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   Mostly Public Land: 0
   Exclusively Public Land: 1
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 0
   Not too crowded: 0
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   Somewhat crowded: 0
   Very crowded: 0
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 4
   Fewer: 5
   Same: 11
   More: 2
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 4
   Fewer: 4
   Same: 11
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### 11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

#### Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

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<tbody>
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<td>18</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

### 12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- **Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:**
  - Support: 4
  - Oppose: 16
  - Unsure: 1

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- **Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:**
  - Support: 0
  - Oppose: 22
  - Unsure: 1

### 14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
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<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I live in the metro zone, and have 25 acres to hunt here. I agree that numbers are similar to past years, so it is appropriate to keep antlerless tag numbers similar to past years. I think I would prefer it somewhat if there were no free antlerless bonus tag, and instead we offered more purchased tags, following that idea that the tag will mean more to someone if they bought it. I looked at the metrics data. I wish it were possible to monitor certain things separately in the metro zone from the total of La Crosse County. For instance what is the trend of buck kills each year. Also, how many people with La Crosse county antlerless tags actually hunted in the metro zone? What is the success percentage for bucks and for does? Maybe I’m not seeing the metrics right, but it doesn’t seem to be there for the metro zone. I think maybe I saw some numbers for the metro, but it is not in the graphs that are online. Regarding my opinion of numbers here, I think that the population is similar to other areas of southern and central wisconsin. I would guesstimate that the population is similar to areas like West Salem or Holmen. It is not immensely higher. I went out with the bow three times, and the gun six times. I saw zero deer on those hunts. I think that in the metro zone, the deer have a great ability to hide during the daylight hours. The deer are out there, but they are difficult to harvest. If I could change anything, I would ban baiting in the metro zone. We have a lot of people feeding and baiting in their back yards, and it changes the deer movements to focus on the bait piles. In summary, the CDAC recommendations seem reasonable to me.

The DNR’s ridiculous stance on CWD continues to be a problem. This is a problem that has been around for a long time and has yet to be transferred to humans. Wake up and quit spending our money on this!!! Your efforts at containment have failed. Talk to any sportsman in the know and the problem with our dear herds (and the elk) is we have a predator imbalance, brought on in part by the USFWS and their wolf project. In addition, coyotes have not been given enough credit. We are over run with them!! I own a measly 105 acres in La Crosse county and have watched and found the remains of 8-12 deer a year eaten by these very efficient predators. My neighbor put a camera on a coyote den and watched as the mom coyote brought back 12 fawns in 3 weeks. This, combined with the wolves and bears puts fawn mortality at a very high number. You have watched it happen with the elk I supported being reintroduced in northern Wisconsin. Now you are going to watch it in the BRF area. Wake-up DNR!!! The problem with the decline of the deer and elk in Wisconsin is purely and simply a predator imbalance. Until we fix that with more tags on the bears and wolves and educating the general public so maybe we can get people to hunt more coyotes, I believe the ungulates will continue to struggle in our state. Bear tags could be raised easily by 35% and I’ll bet the population would continue to grow!!

Deer damage to gardens and ornamentals in the La Crosse Metro Zone continues to be a significant problem, especially in the more residential portions. Groups of 10 or more deer are common throughout the winter and early spring; this during and after close of the late archery hunt that ends January 31. I believe there is no easy solution to these and other overabundance of deer in the Metro area. Currently there are plenty of antlerless tags/bonus tags available but the demand to harvest additional deer is just not there. Since most of the area in this Zone where hunting is allowed is already being hunted, the harvest of antlerless deer is not likely to increase significantly and it is highly likely the herd will continue to grow and damage/car kills, etc. will also increase.
I have hunted in the metro zone for 24 years. I have never seen deer numbers this low. I bow hunt and gun hunt in this zone. I never saw an adult doe this year. The crack wants to maintain the number of deer in our zone, but I have not seen that at all. Deer numbers continue to fall. They will continue this trend if we continue to encourage hunters to take antlerless deer. Let us stop with the bonus tags. I have never been so frustrated with the DNR and their management practice. There will come a time when people will just stop deer hunting because of the numbers. I am nearing that point now.

Numbers seem about right at this time. We are very concerned about the negative impact that the coyotes have on the deer. We have several huge coyotes that bring down adult deer and even big bucks. We would like to see more incentives to help control our coyote population.

In years past this unit was set up as antlered and not antlered with shotgun muzzelloader or handgun the first 2 days then the rest of the season was with any firearm but antlered deer only. This seemed to be a better way of managing the deer heard.

I think being allowed to bait deer helps keep the harvest numbers higher in this management unit - I would be in favor of continuing to allow hunters to use baiting as a strategy to harvest deer.

I've been hunting the same land for 30+ years. The deer population in our area is the lowest its ever been. We used to harvest deer every season. Now we are lucky to even see deer. Make a law for size of "Buck" tag can be harvested like other states........re:must be say at least 15' spread an 8-pts

More public land antlerless bonus tags are needed. I hunt in multiple counties.

Can we do away with baiting?
Lafayette, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

43 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 19
   - No: 24

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 18
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 8
   - I hunt in this unit: 41
   - General interest in this unit: 7

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 37
   - Bow: 30
   - Crossbow: 12
   - Muzzleloader: 19

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 18.9
   - Maximum: 56

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 36
   - Mostly Private Land: 3
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 1
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 16
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 3
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 14
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure
---|-----------|--------

Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I currently own and hunt about 600 acres in Lafayette county, am a DMAP enrollee, and overall avid whitetail enthusiast. I currently support the existing season structure as it was in 2016. We were able to easily meet our personal antlerless goals for the property using the existing opportunities that were available in 2016. I am in favor of no holiday hunt for various reasons, and appreciate the fact that only one buck can now be harvested, as I feel this has increased the quality of the deer in our area. Subsequently this has resulted in an increase in interest in our neighborhood in hunting in general, and I feel has helped to get people back in the woods and keep the population in check.

Thanks for not asking for the holiday hunt. I hate the holiday hunt! There are other hunting seasons open then if people want to hunt. It was mostly lazy road hunters a few years ago when we had snow on the ground. Let me use our property for other things over the holidays without wearing orange and worrying about rifle hunters. The seasons are already too long and nocturnal deer are hard to hunt. We do not need to harvest a lot of antlerless deer here. Remember we now have "cross guns", rifles and less deer habitat than we had just a few short years ago. Keep up the good work guys!

As far as the deer population in my area is good, need to harvest more doe, I would be good with doe only hunt, for a year or so to see what that means to the area. Very disappointed with the license system last year with the paper tag and what was needed in the field and what we were told when we bought the license. I really thing there are way to many hunting season for deer, not that I want to only hunt big deer (bucks) but with all the seasons holiday hunt / youth hunting and so on, the deer are so skidish that I believe the harvest is done, they need to have a break to.

We should also be allowed to harvest Bucks during a Holiday hunt. If we are going to spend the time and money to participate in the hunt we should have a chance to also harvest a buck if one presents itself. I would think the number of bucks that could be harvested in a late season hunt would not effect the overall herd in an adverse way. But it would provide another opportunity for friends and family to gather and share time and help mange the herd with doe harvest as well.

I would support the holiday hunt if it would go back to the way it started with being able to harvest a buck. It was a fun time to go out and get one last chance at a buck during holiday season. Doesn't only just not enough incentive to get excited about it

Remove all other gun hunting seasons except for the 9 day gun. Forcing hunters to a lower set season will force more hunters in the woods. Also late season hunting leads to increase wounded animals that die in the cold weather.

There are enough deer in most of the county. Too many deer exist in areas with good habitat. Any hunters who are complaining about no deer should reframe from shooting does in their area or move to a new area.

Do not want season, including archery to be any longer than current. The season is already long enough, if hunters don’t shoot enough deer it is not a result of the season being too short.

I believe earn a buck in the previous year or current year is a fair and reliable way to increase doe harvest and contain DNR goals of managing herd size.

More timber would be great I think the lack of deer is because of habitat loss more timber and crp land would be a nice benefit for the deer

I believe one buck tag for each weapon, bow and gun. that’s it. One doe tag per weapon as well.
The holiday hunt is hurting the deer population largely. I am 100% opposed to it.

No Holliday hunt please. Does nothing but hurt the deer population around here.

Wish we had the same old back tag and registration stations.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

99 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 57
   - No: 42

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 29
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 28
   - I hunt in this unit: 89
   - General interest in this unit: 30

   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 86
   - Bow: 52
   - Crossbow: 32
   - Muzzleloader: 29

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 0
   - Average: 25.81
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 26
   - Mostly Private Land: 15
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 19
   - Mostly Public Land: 13
   - Exclusively Public Land: 15
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 4
   - Not too crowded: 18
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
   - Somewhat crowded: 18
   - Very crowded: 11
   - Not applicable: 3

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 31
   - More: 30
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 5

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 21
   - More: 41
   - Many More: 10
   - Unsure: 5
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
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<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Langlade, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I've been hunting for 7 years now, in the same area of langlade county. My first three years I was taken to my fathers " honey hole " on public land under the assumption I was bound to see something there, three years later I never saw a single deer on public land and only harvested one on private property. Many of the places on public land that have been known to have deer and now becoming desolate. I hear of times before me where herds and herds of deer being seen all the time. My father has seen 30 deer at once on the side of the road, I have not even seen 30 over the course of the last 7 years of my hunting career. In my time however, it's been a tough era to get into the sport. I strongly believe the antlerless tag rate needs to stay low as possible. 2,000 tags is extreme considering the state of the northern herd of deer in Wisconsin. There has not been enough time yet for populations to recover. They need to re-establish themselves in high numbers before the tags are increased again. ' In numbers' I mean in terms of the lively hood and vigor of the wild population of animals, to be seen abundantly again in the wild and in yards. When I said that the antlerless tag count needs to stay low as possible, I should also include that the youth tags need to remain available to children only ( no party hunting them, etc.) so that the odds of that child being able to harvest at least one deer Can be increased; if they never come across that first opportunity and excitement they may give up on the love of the sport, and along with that giving up on the love for conservation. If I had never had an antlerless tag I would have gone more than three years without ever harvesting a deer. Perhaps maybe 5. I was 11 at the time, not many 11 year old will fill encourage to stay in touch with the food if they aren't allowed that extra privilege. We need the foster this curiosity for the forest, and once they graduate to mainly buck hunting seasons that curiosity will hopefully stay with them to drive a passion for being in the natural world and experience it. I am very very passionate about hunting. Experiencing youth hunts, antlerless hunts, and then finally buck only hunts has taught me a lot about wisconsins herd population. If you take my word for anything, please second guess the thought of increasing antlerless tags. Us that have braved the cold woods for years on end know that nows not the time. Not one year after buck only, is the population back to being fine and dandy. This will take time. The power is in your hands, DNR, we need to preserve the nature of the hunt for years to come.

Our family has hunted Langlade County Forest land since the early 50's when my dad got out of the service. We've seen a lot of changes in the natural environment in that time. From no forest management [ie: tree harvest] to active forest management, from very few deer to a dangerously high population and back down to almost no deer. After years of almost unlimited antlerless tags and a surging population of predators, we succeeded in almost eliminating deer from the landscape. As a forester, I see the changes in forest composition. In the 90's there was very little regeneration of species like Red Maple, Red Oak and Hemlock. Now I see regeneration of these species reaching above the browse line, which tells me there are still very few deer. Now after several years of letting the does live, we're seeing a few more deer. This is the first in 8 years I saw deer while sitting opening weekend. I watched a doe and her two fawns opening morning browse their way under my stand. Those were the only deer I saw in 5 days of hunting. With the population showing some signs of recovery, it's not time to start killing off antlerless deer again.
We need to stop slaughtering the deer population in Wisconsin. STOP THE Bonus permits for Does, That is just a money maker in the public's eye. We are finally seeing a increase in Deer north of hwy64 and its not a drastic increase, nature can only work so fast if there is no interference by mankind. KEEP Antlerless closed for another 4 years in Lincoln and Langlade. Crop Damage is a JOKE, Raccoons and squirrels do more damage. My 20yr old kid stopped hunting, I'm having a hard time keeping my 12yr old interested due to lack of seeing anything!! Wisconsin is repeating what they did less the 100yrs ago almost making deer absent from the state. Permits should be issued as they were 30 years ago. Not handed out for little or nothing. Out of state permits cost should be heavily increased. And NOT give out any out of state antlerless permits to out of state hunters. All we see is the DNR capitalizing on license fees, No real management. I’m speaking for 1000's of people.

Increasing the Doe tags is a huge mistake. Predators (mostly wolves) moved into our area a few years ago and helped to decimate the deer population along with the increased doe tags. This past season was the worst I have seen. Although the numbers somehow say otherwise, I don't know a single person that had a successful season. This spring (2017) we have FINALLY seen an small increase in the doe population. The doe population is what builds the buck population; that is known and that's why the war on does continues. I want my son to grow up enjoying and seeing the wildlife I have been blessed to see but the tactics being implemented try to take that away. The interest of our tradition should outweigh the special interests of insurance companies. Kids should only be allowed to shoot does as their first deer or through the same steps as adult hunters. I know of many people that hunt in groups and will use their kids doe tags as their own.

Forget the CWD emphasis and all the $$$ you are spending. It is a waste. Look at western states that have had things like this for years without all the emphasis and $$. Their herds are fine. You can and should educate the public, offer suggestions and monitor the herd. But all the $$ on studies, personnel, special advisers is foolishly spent. Why not simply outlaw ALL the game-farms (captive animals/herds) where this started in the 1st place?? To upset an entire state of WI hunters because you won't go after game-farms with captive deer is missing the boat completely. Also ban transportation of live deer from other states. I am always at a loss and lack any confidence in our DNR when I see WI failing to act on the source of the problem that you -- the DNR -- and State of WI identified as the causal source themselves. I'm certain darn near every other hunter feels the same. Do it now--there is still time. God-speed.

I have no where near the deer sightings that I used to have several years ago. There are not nearly as many shots taken or deer seen during rifle season as there used to be. Whether that is due to predators, harsh winters, more available seasons with increased numbers of people spread out over a longer period - I'm not sure. Regardless of what season or what time of year I hunt I just don't see the deer that I used to. I have been going to Canada hunting for the last several years to experience something that I used to be able to experience here. Certain portions of the state have much higher densities but not in the Northern Forest Zone. The quality and quantity of deer that I see in Canada is much better than here even though the winters there are more harsh and there are a great deal of predators. Stop shooting so many does when there seems to be a slight uptick in the population.

With deer Langlade County deer heard showing that it can potentially increase numbers, I feel it would be foolish to allow any antler less deer tags available. Allowing ~5,800 public and private antler less tags available would give me absolutely NO respect for the dnr officials in Langlade County. We have to start showing the state the Langlade County is a place to come see and hunt deer. The minimal amount of tourism the county is honestly sad. This is 100% correlated to the past few years small deer heard. To now increase antler less tags is absurd. It is almost as bad as having public and private deer tags. To honestly think that deer shot with a private tag were not actually taken on public land is elementary, and laughable.
I think the INCREASE goal is correct but I think the mass increase in antlerless permits for 2017, both regular and bonus, is not consistent with an increase goal. I would even consider lowering the antlerless permits from last year. I hunt extensively on the eastern side of the county and the deer numbers are VERY low. Our hunting party of 4 saw 2 deer in 40 days of hunting during gun season. During the bow season I hunted another 20 days and saw 8 total deer on our 80 acre property. Our neighbors who hunt on an additional 220 acres had very similar sightings. If you are going to increase the herd then hold the line on doe permits.

I spend a lot of time in the woods with both crossbow and gun. I also have trail cameras out. I am 68 and I hunt both mornings and evenings of the entire season. I have seen the number of deer sightings increase slightly in 2016 over 2015 but the herd is no where near the size it was. On public land if we go buck only for one more year after this mild winter we may be able to start with some antlerless tags in 2018. Buck only should mean buck only for all. That means youth veteran etc.. I have grand children that will hunt soon but I need them to at least see some deer to keep them interested. Thank you for all work you do.

As a non-resident, I find the license application process difficult to work with and confusing in regard to who can apply for antlerless permits on private land. Before we could negotiate our way through the process for the 2016 season, all available antlerless permits were gone. As a property owner in both Lincoln and Langlade counties, it is a bit distressing to have the antlerless option unavailable for the main rifle season. I also think that bow and black powder hunters should be restricted to one antlerless permit per year regardless of the type of weapon used.

Part of a 6 person hunting party who hunts public land. Sit opening day and make drives morning and afternoon the rest of the deer season. We probably average 6-7 hrs hunting per day. For our group of 6, we saw a total of 10 deer over 7 days and we figure many of those were the same deer since they were in the same area we were making drives. the deer population in our area is very low. can't understand having antlerless deer permits at all in this area. Should be zero for several more years to try and bring up the population. Wolf and bear prevalent in our area.

I am seeing more deer year over year in Langlade County - as an example, in the 2014 gun season, I hunted 7 of the 9 days and didn't see a deer. However, recent moderate winters and the buck only seasons have made a positive impact on a "reasonable opportunity" to harvest a deer. Like all game species, the population fluctuates based on many factors, but I believe a moderate harvest quota of antlerless deer, along with hunter education and awareness of deer management strategies, is key to vitality of the deer herd and the deer hunting tradition in Wisconsin.

We've had three years of zero and low quotas, and mild winters, therefore it's time to increase the quota. We don't want too many deer on the landscape harming habitat. And if a severe winter hits, we don't want deer dying across the county. I like the amount of tags on private lands, but tags on public land need to be increased to provide opportunity for those who don't own land. This will only help bring more people to our area and increase tourism, as well as protect the habitat. A higher quota still allows for an increase in deer.

30 years ago, I would hunt all week during the gun season and never see a bear track, but now I see some every time I am in the woods and yet last year I had 10 points and still didn't get a bear tag. Someone new with some common sense needs to take over the bear management in Wis. Also, the same goes for wolves; wherever the wolves go, the deer population plummets. I used to hunt right where the pack in the town of Upham lived and I went years never seeing a deer. They don't belong in Wis and I am in favor of getting rid of them all.

I'm the youngest of 4 boys in my family. My dad started hunting in this area in 1954 when he got out of the service. We have had the familial tradition of hunting in northern Langlade county and I fear that at the current population of the deer herd that may soon com to an end! I know most of the traditional hunting parties that we used to run into have already abandoned there traditions due to low numbers of deer seen! I don't know where you get your information but it is not from the people that spend there time in these areas!!
The deer heard is showing signs of possible improvement after two basically non-existent winters. However, the predator numbers are still strong and getting stronger yearly. It is naive to believe that tags sold for private land are actually being used only on private land. The private tags are being used for public land, even though they are sold as private land tags. If you believe that statement is wrong, then you are only kidding yourself. I believe there should be no antlerless tags available in Langlade County.

The deer population in Northern Langlade County has begun to rise and now is not the time to harvest more than a few hundred does in the area. The population of deer in the area is still far below the levels we saw in the late 80’s and early 90’s which is where we would like to see the population of deer. The number of deer per 1 square mile should be at or near 50 deer (3 to 4 deer per 40 acres).

If you raise antlerless tags to over 4000, I feel you are crazy. The herd in the northwest part of the county is very low. We had 7 Hunters on over 200 acres of land and saw 1 deer opening weekend, 3-4 the rest of the week and did not see a single deer. I realize the southern part of the county has more deer, but that doesn't help us out. Setting antlerless tags at 1000 seems more reasonable to me.

Langlade county should be split into two zones. You get south of 64 and Near Antigo, Wi plenty of deer. You get north of 64 and east of 45 the numbers are very low. I call it the triangle of 64, 52, and 55 where the numbers are real low. A lot of it is public and you just don't see or kill that many deer. I've seen 2 bucks in the last 3 years in this area and this is it.

If you are truly trying to INCREASE the herd the doe harvest and tags shouldn't be that large. To go from 1100 to 4200 is astronomical. A small increase would make much more sense when your goal is to INCREASE the herd, not slaughter it back down to where it was just a few years ago. I can see 2000 at the most for antlerless tags.

Unit 42 is starting to show improvement. The amount of antlerless tags that are being proposed is way to high. The unit needs a year or two more to recover to what it should be. I live and hunt in Shawano County as well. Years of unlimited antlerless tags is really starting to take it’s toll there and not for the good.

In my opinion the County should be split in half due to mainly forested in North and farmland in south. Also wolves are being more common in all of Langlade County and the Langlade County CDAC should error on the cautious side with issuing antlerless tags. There is an established wolf pack in the Town of Rolling.

ACT 82 NEEDS TO END! when adjacent landowners can not get tags for ag damage is not right. The system is being played. For this reason I stopped hunting Wisconsin and will spend my time out of state. Ag damage program needs to be over hauled. The program has not changed since it was introduced.

I am against any type of deer hunt that would extend after 25 DEC of any year. Normally this is the start of the snowmobile season and other outdoor winter sporting activities; extending deer hunting after 25 Dec would have a tremendous negative financial impact in Langlade County.

Your proposed antler less harvest is much too high. With the herd now just slightly rebounding why kill them off? Please don’t eliminate feeding and baiting. When this happens I feel hunter numbers will fall tremendously and that hurts all of us. Thanks for reading.

Wolves and coyotes have decimated the deer herd in Northwestern Wisconsin and now are moving south. Seen three deer dead on my property and in talking to the neighbor he confirms at least 5 wolves have been sighted this spring. There needs to be something done.

There is not enough deer in Langlade to do what they are purposing.....Can we stop the killing off of whitetails.....Deer season is a heritage in Wisconsin, If the DNR keeps going the way it is there will be no season in the future.....Keep Doe season closed.
This is more of a general comment, but given the proximity and relatively small size of most private land in Wisconsin, I'm don't think separating permits by public/private makes much sense. I hunt both and often private land that adjoins public land.

I would like to see jounior antlerless permits handed out until age 16 or when they shoot their first deer which ever comes first in units that have permits available. Groups are using these as party permits and taking deer year after year.

This unit should remain Bucks Only, with the exception of allowing Junior Hunters to harvest an antlerless deer. Deer numbers are still way below the early 2000's and way below a healthy population.

Thank you, I'm a MInnesota Hunter who comes to WI every year. I never complain about the cost to hunt in WI but I sure would like to see more deer.

I would like Antlerless tags to be given with bow tags like before. and we need more deer to hunt and Baiting needs to be banned STATEWIDE! Thanks

Please develop a method to limit the number of antlered deer harvested each year. Earn a buck worked well in limiting the antlered harvest.

Need to do a buck quality managment in all of wisconsin. Exclude youth vetrians and disabled to put wisconsin back on the big list.

I have not seen the deer come back like it was years ago. On my land I only seen one buck in bow and the gun hunting so I let him go.

I M most concerned about CWD. I would like to see baiting on public lands eliminated and would like deer farms closed completely.

Proposed quota set at 5 times of 2016 quota is to high. 2 time would be more in line with deer activity seen over the last year.

From what I have seen this unit would benefit from another couple of years of no antlerless harvest.

I think the low doe tags is working, me and my cameras have seen more young deer in the years. Limiting the anterless tags has helped increase the overall population. Keep it up.

The Public Forested areas still have very few deer and too many bears!

Way too many wolves and bears. Please do something about this.

More public doe tags should be available. Let us hunt!

TOO many wolves and black bears

I think the DNR is doing o.k.
Lincoln, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

101 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 71
   - No: 30

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 34
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 23
   - I hunt in this unit: 94
   - General interest in this unit: 23

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 91
   - Bow: 57
   - Crossbow: 31
   - Muzzleloader: 38

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 23.53
   - Maximum: 63

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 52
   - Mostly Private Land: 13
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 11
   - Mostly Public Land: 10
   - Exclusively Public Land: 7
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 10
   - Neither crowded nor uncrowded: 7
   - Somewhat crowded: 11
   - Very crowded: 13
   - Not applicable: 0

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 17
   - Fewer: 27
   - Same: 41
   - More: 14
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 12
   - Fewer: 23
   - Same: 28
   - More: 30
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 3
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

#### DMUs in a Farmland Zone

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Not applicable in this DMU

#### DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Not applicable in this DMU

#### If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? 54 VALID, 42 NOT VALID, 5 Unsure

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am a nonresident bow Hunter. I was born and raised in Wausau and for the past 5 years have been returning to a family cottage in Lincoln County. We own just over 2 acres. I have hunted on this property as well as the Lincoln County Forest land. Initially an antlerless tag was included but within the past few years I was unable to obtain an antlerless tag. This has greatly impacted by decision as to whether to return. I have seen very few antlered deer through permitted hunting hours. I have hunted in late September as well as both early and late October and simply do not see antlered deer. In other words I have not had a realistic opportunity to be successful. Last year I attempted to gain an antlerless tag through the phone in system. I called literally seconds after the allowed time, told I was 9000 on the list, waited on hold over an hour and then was told all of the bonus tags were gone. This is an absurd system. In particular this is absurd as these were for both archery and gun season. I'm not sure I will return if there isn't a more realistic way of a nonresident gaining both an antlered and antlerless tag. I find it astounding with the electronics available today that there would not be a way of tracking the antlerless harvest through bow season and then making any left over bonus antlerless tags available to gun hunters. I would be in favor of having the bonus antlerless tags listed as for the “earley archery season” meaning harvest would need to occur before the gun season not after. This would allow you to track and calculate harvest from archery then allowing gun hunters the opportunity to gain a bonus tag as well. Again, I'm not sure if I will return to Wisconsin as a nonresident for archery season in the future without a realistic opportunity of a successful hunt. Tom Berens 352-284-9636

Deer cams do not lie...IMHO.even mother nature knew the buck population was decimated as most fawns on cam were nub bucks last summer...the bucks are way over harvested all the seasons and a lengthy season is wiping out bucks annually which provides little age structure...lets face it...People at least want to know a decent mature buck lives in their hunting area... Cash crops have helped hide some bucks for age. That didn't happen last fall in Lincoln County as most cash crops were harvested during the season as opposed to after due to low gas prices to dry corn. This saw protected bucks being harvested in cash cropped areas and some large ones at that. I personally will not purchase a WI deer tag until I have a buck on camera I want to go after. And I run a spread of cameras to monitor a wide area...I own 120 acres plus use some public ground nearby as well...I am not alone. I have friends and know others doing the same. Which is reflected in less tags sold...why buy a WI tag if there isn't a deer in your area you want to hunt?? It's just easier to buy out of state and go after deer there.or just cut firewood and not waste time hoping.. I would strongly considering going to 1 buck tag per resident at least north of hwy 29 if not state wide to improve the buck heard or as more people use cams all summer...and see what's not around..more will be heading to other states or just leave the sport all together and license sales will continue to drop....Thanks for listening

I believe the Lincoln County Northern Forest deer management unit truly should be buck only for a couple of years to bring the deer population back to a healthy level. I have hunted in this unit for almost thirty years and it seems like the past few years have been the worst with regard to just even seeing deer. I just like to at least see deer when I am hunting even though I like to wait for a trophy buck. Seeing deer helps to assure me that the deer population is where it should be. Last gun deer season I hunted every day from sun up to sun down and never saw a single deer!! Neither did the seven other gentlemen hunting with me. It is time to stop killing off all of the does and fawns and it is time to stop giving out all of these bonus tags. I truly believe the only way we can make the deer population healthy again is to have a buck only season for both now and gun hunting for a couple of years to bring the deer population back. We also do not need these antlerless hunts or muzzleloader hunts either until we bring the deer population back to a healthy level.
6000 bonus tags? there aren't 6000 deer in Lincoln Co! I am a landowner in Lincoln Co and we just saw a SLIGHT increase in deer seen over the last 12 months. After 2 years with no wolves on our trail cams along with the Slightly more deer the wolves are back too. As far as I am concerned we need 0 bonus tags for a year. We run 6 cameras year round and in no way can 6000 bonus tags be justified. The last time we had that many tags available in our area(52 then) it took many years for the herd to recover, it never really has come to think of it. I believe the only reason the WIDNR would want 6000 bonus tags is for the almighty dollar, this situation really sucks. Own 100 acres and if something doesn't improve with the hunt it will probley be for sale soon. The local businesses are virtually empty of customers during deer season when years back there was a wait for food, a barstool, even at the gas pumps. Now due to the poor hunting there is no difference from a normal Nov-Dec week. Its a real shame that it is so messed up now for everyone.

5400 Antlerless tags is an insane amount! The herd in Lincoln county is slowly starting to rebound. Making 5400 Antlerless tags with a quota of 2100 is a HUGE step backward! Having hunted the same property for 35 years, I have a pretty good feel for our local herd. We are FINALLY starting see deer again. I consider myself a DNR advocate, I believe the department is doing the best in its power for Wisconsin Fish and Game. I do question the reasoning behind the HUGE quota. I cannot fathom why we would try to reduce a growing herd. Personally, I think the department and the CDAC is way off base. Unfortunately, my work schedule will not permit me to attend the local meeting on April 20th. Hopefully my comments on the survey will make my voice heard. I do support a SLIGHT increase...but 5400?!? This HAS TO BE A TYPO. I will also contact my local CDAC members as well as encourage those in our camp to do the same. Thank you for all you do. Best regards.

The number of deer myself and my hunting group have seen in the past 3-4 years is significantly down. Trail camera surveys showed 3 adult does, 4 fawns (1,1,2), 5 yearling bucks, 1 2yr old buck and 2 3yr old bucks. The bucks didn't take long to travel out of the area once the rut started, as the does were bread rather quickly in the area. The 2 yr old, and 1 3 year old were harvested, not by us, but neighbors. The remaining 2 yr old remained in the area over winter, along with 4 of the yearling bucks. Trail camera census also told of higher numbers of bears frequenting the area. 2 adult males - 1 2-3 yr old, and 1 very large male, along with a sow and 2 cubs. Coyote numbers seem to be up as well, although we managed to eliminate 2 of them. There has also been a bobcat in the area in the past 2 years. So reduce the antlerless harvest quota for 2017, and possibly beyond, and increase bear harvest in the upcoming years. Please.

I would just like to see deer. My son will be of age to hunt this year and I would love him to love hunting as I did years ago. Unfortunately if we were not to see deer all day it will be hard to keep him interested in hunting. I know I'd when I were young I would have lost interest as I have now if u weren't seeing deer. Plus hunters are a major source of revenue for businesses that rely on hunters to spend money. More deer are getting hit by cars because they are moving into more rural areas to get away from predators, mainly wolves. I used to own land in rusk County but the wolves have completely decimated the deer populations along with the bears killing the fawns in the spring. Wipe out the wolves and kill more bear to get the deer populations back. Listen to the people paying the dnr's bills. I just hope things change. I actually thought about quitting hunting as many of my friends have.

I think it important that the state respects and appreciates the landowner(land stewards/taxpayers) concerns with the current situation. Most of us own land in Lincoln County not for fishing or the fine resorts we have in our midst (read none).But for woodland pursuits. Hiking, camping bird hunting, etc Outdoor recreation in a pleasant and safe place. For our children and pets. Bird dogs included. Our land values decrease with the wolves in abundance and they effect not our deer numbers but on our ability to feel comfortable with our pets and young children in the woods. If you deal with the wolves our concerns will diminish. Also do away with baiting and get back to hunting vs sitting in front of bait pile. It's like playing a video game or watching tv...lazy on sitting on their butts.
Where I have seen 3 adult does frequent my property, only one had a fawn survive to spring. On trail cameras these last few years it seems that 40 percent of the pictures are of predators. Bear, bobcat, and wolves. My driveway to my cabin is 3/4 of a mile long and I visit it weekly. 75 percent of the time I will find wolf feces with deer hair in it during the winter months. I know they hunt a large area but fawn survival rate in my area is extremely low. It has been this way for the past 5 or more years. We need an increase in the predators tags to give the deer reproduction a chance. It is sad after a mild winter that the survival rate of fawns is almost equal to years past when the winter severity index was high.

Wolf population remains to be a high impact on the deer herd. Would like to see kill tags for wolves to manage the wolf population. Mature bucks are almost non-existent. Would like to see a buck size limit in certain manageable areas. Without back tags trespassing on private land is on the rise. Even with back tags there were a number of hunters we have seen over the years on the public land that didn’t buy a license and that number seems to be increasing with the new license procedures and reporting changes. The presence of the DNR has been pretty much nonexistent on the public land. Would like to see the DNR check licenses and make sure that deer killed are properly being registered.

Wolf population has defecated the deer population in this zone. I have hunted this zone for over 25 years and seen such drastic decrease in deer population. For the life of me I cannot see why the DNR even allows antler-less bonus tags for this zone. Remove the Wolves (provide longer wolf season) or no more antler-less bonus tags to increase the deer population. This will allow wolves more feed and us conservationist to see some deer, which I have not seen a deer for four years in this zone and I hunt the full season and walk our 520 acres every fall for sign. We even log the area for wildlife and ecology. It is such a shame to see the DNR dual out the permits just for revenues.

Don't know why you want to had out that many doe tags again. Just start getting the heard so a guy can see a few deer and the DNR wants them extinct again. I do agree with handing out some doe tags out but not 5400 for private and 600 for public land. That's nonsense. Got to remember that with the junior antlerless tags there's quite a few shot with them also. I personally would like to see a deer tag. By that, you go buy a tag you get one "deer" buck or doe. After that's full your done hunting. I believe that would cut down on 1.5 old bucks getting shot making Wisconsin a better trophy state. Also getting rid of more predators would help tremendously, but you already know that.

The western side of Lincoln County, outside of the agricultural areas, have very few deer. I realize that the mild winter conditions the past two years have helped to promote high deer populations in some areas, but population levels in other sites are very low due to the many predators which exist in these locations. Please take this into consideration when determining the number of antlerless tags to issue and try to do more to lower population levels of predators such as bear, wolves, bobcat, etc. so that deer populations can rebound in places where they need to and get back to acceptable levels. Thank you for your consideration.

I have seen a marked increase in the number of deer throughout a significant portion of the county. Most notably in farming areas of the county, but even in the Northwestern portion of the county. It is easy to find deer sign around the quality habitat, even on the county owned lands. I drove through areas this winter after snowfalls and saw a significant amount of deer tracks within a 24 hour period. Much more than I saw even 2 years ago. I am also seeing many more deer in fields during the evening hours. The population is increasing and needs to be stabilized to prevent the negative side effects of overpopulation.

Based on the preliminary permit numbers I believe too many antlerless will be harvested. Here is the math using a 41% success rate (from the deer metrics report for Lincoln County), public 600 x .41=246, private 5400 x .41=2214, for a total harvest of 246 + 2214=2460. The stated quota is 2100, the permit levels could harvest 360 too many. My opinion is a harvest quota of 2000 antlerless, 200 public and 1800 private. With these quotas and using the same success rate of 41% the available permits should be, public 500(500 x .41=205) and private 4400(4400 x .41=1804) total permits 4900, with a total harvest of 2009.

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Lincoln, Northern Forest
The increase in suggested antler less harvest seems quite large from 2016 to 2017. Without having the data the CDAC has it seems that would be too large an increase. I had difficulty weighing that with the fact that I saw 2 deer all of last gun season and neither one had antlers. Obviously, I would like more opportunity for my son and I to get a deer as he has just started hunting the last 2 years. We also have to consider the fact we do not live near the hunting land and neighbors who do bow hunt and feed all season. Hopefully with a successful herd increase we will have more success in the hunt.

The sighting of deer. It is all any hunter thinks about as they lay in bed the Friday before the opener. It is a disappointment when opening day passes by and there are no stories to be told around the fire that evening. Or when you see the kids (and adults) resorting to social media outlets on their "smarty pants" phone by 9am of the opener. Why....bored in the woods with nothing to quicken their heart rate. Hopeful that there is no politics in the decision making process and only the sportsman and the deer....as it was. Too many cooks in the kitchen perhaps??

I feel that baiting and feeding of deer should be stopped in Lincoln County and also statewide. It is unhealthy for the deer herd, it concentrates the deer and allows private landowners to "horde" the deer. Plus I think it is entirely unfair that a person that hunts with a crossbow, which is basically a single shot rifle, can sit over a bait pile for 3 1/2 months, of course they are going to get a buck under those circumstances. It's unfair to the other hunters, i.e. vertical bowhunters. Also to gun hunters that only have 9 days.

We need to end baiting of deer once and for all. Deer farms need to be held responsible for CWD transmission to the wild herds. Predator control needs to be addressed on a statewide basis. Increasing the number of bear tags along with working to delist the grey wolf, so they can be managed. Not just fed imported elk. If the people in the southern part of the state want more wolves in the state, by all means move them from the north to the south. Let them face the problem in their backyards and see how much they like it.

My comment pertains to the antlerless tag numbers given out in Lincoln county. You need to either split the number in half or go back to buy a doe tag use it on public or private. Very frustrating when you hunt public land and you get drawn for a private doe tag. How the hell am I supposed to use that? There are more hunters that do not own land that hunt then hunters that do, but you give all the tags to land owners?

While as I stated I have seen more deer. They have been mostly Doe's. Buck sightings have been lower. Driving through the county I see pockets of deer and others void of them. I feel it would be in the best interest to keep die tags at where they were in 2016 rather than jumping all the way to 2100 for 2017 and bonus tags on top of that. Seems like an awfully extreme jump in the quota.

I'm amused that there is a proposal for one Musky tag. But we can kill Bucks with four different weapons and tags. I know the bowhunting and crossbows during the rut is probably the most effective time to hunt. To build a depleted herd there should be one buck tag. I know the DNR is trying to get rid of baiting and I support their efforts. Thanks for taking time to listen to me

We really need to limit Buck harvest to having at least a fork. This will also promote safety as people cant shoot brown it's down. It will allow at least a buck to mature a little. With private land the deer are not moving and with the wolf kill there are not many deer seen. We have too many hints, doe seasons, bow, muzzleloader, gun etc. we don't need a youth hunt.

I would like to see Gov. Walker and the DNR to pressure President Trump to take wolves off from the Endangered species list. They are devastating the herds. I would also like to see the Bear harvest tags increased, decrease the application period. Waiting 8 to 9 years to hunt in Lincoln and just across HWY 39 it's typically only 6 to 7. Even that's to long.
I hunt in Lincoln county with my 2 sons on opening weekend only and have for many years now and have seen good and bad times as far as deer hunting goes. While last years opening day was not supportive to seeing deer, we were very encouraged by the amount of deer sign in the woods. I think deer numbers are on the way up and support your decisions.

It's time to grow the deer population before people say screw the DNR and stop hunting or don't buy licenses. It's also time to control predators such as coyotes, wolves, and bears. The wait for a bear tag in this area is unacceptable. It's time to control the bear population.

The population appears to be better in the Eastern Lincoln County. The New Wood Area is not recovering as you hoped. The wolves are not being managed. Wolf sign is evident on every outing to New Wood. Go there and see it! Wolves are also very plentiful in the Underdown.

I have hunted in this dmu unit for over 50 years and the last 5 years have been very disappointing for number of deer seen. I don't know how you can go from an antlerless quota of 1000 to 6000 from one year to the next! There aren't that many more deer available!

Use of antlerless tags for junior hunters is a must. The low rate of success in general in harvesting a deer in Lincoln county only further supports the cause. If we don't allow junior hunters to experience success, we will lose them to other activities.

There are very few deer in the woods than there use to be I feed the six same deer all winter no new ones over 4000 pictures and same 6 deer not one buck far as the youth hunts are good but need to have same rules as any other Hunter far as shooting does

At least in the area we hunt there needs to be a no kill antlerless for at least 5 years, so the population has a chance of recovering. In the past three years I have seen less then 12 different deer in that time, including archery and gun.

First, ban all baiting in this unit & the state. Second, for antlerless permits use a lottery system (drawing) Not everyone has access to the internet during work hours. Make it so everyone has an equal chance.

The population is still very low. I think there should be NO does killed for three or more years. You want young hunters???? Not seeing deer will not work. It will discourage youth from wanting to hunt.

I'm failing to understand how an antlerless harvest of about 800 animals in 2016 lead to a proposed quota of 2,100 in 2017, particularly when the goal is to increase the population.

I'm tired of sitting all day, every day and MAYBE seeing one or two deer total for the whole season. Our group of 5 hunters consistently bags one deer a year between all of us.

FROM MY EXPERIENCE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS THERE IS NO LOGICAL REASON TO RAISE THE ANTLERLESS QUOTA 600%. WE SHOULD CONSIDER AN INCREASE OF ONLY 100-200 PERMITS FOR PRIVATE LANDS.

we really need to get stop the baiting we need to get back to natural food sources we bait the deer in and they come late at night and what follows the wolves

Predators (mainly wolves) in the New Wood and surrounding areas seems very high. During the hunt, our party observed numerous deer remains from wolf kills.

we do not see many deer in back yard this year. although that does help save my flowers I still would like to more deer. they are fun to watch.

Wisconsin needs a wolf hunting season again!! These are the animals that are going to be and in some areas already out of control!!!!!!!

Predator management needs better maintenance still, more coyote and bear hunters, fawn mortality still seems to be an issue.

I have not seen a deer the last 2 rifle seasons. hunting in town of harding. we do not need to have more doe tags.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

too many permits going to private landowners  many hunters can not afford to buy land for deer hunting only
the three year goal was to increase the herd. so we should not be increasing bonus tags.
I have seen more deer this year in Lincoln than I have in the previous last 5 years.
antlerless tags on public land are way to low,should be equal with private land
Wolves are hurting the deer population. Please do something about the Wolves!
The herd has not recovered. PLEASE do not increase the anter-less permits!
I feel that the proposed number of antlerless permits is appropriate.
seeing more wolves which are driving out the deer herds
Limit the number of special seasons for deer huntinging.
Splitting county into north and south halves.
Too many predators of all types
Way too many permits for 2017
MORE DEER
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

57 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 28
   - No: 29

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 43
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 7
   - I hunt in this unit: 49
   - General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 45
   - Bow: 26
   - Crossbow: 26
   - Muzzleloader: 26

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 26.08
   - Maximum: 61

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 33
   - Mostly Private Land: 8
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 4
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 5
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 20
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 20
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2
**Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations**

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

**Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I voiced my concerns to Larry Bonde last year about the potential for a Holiday Hunt, I’m a private land owner and also hunt on relations (uncle) land. I also hunt Kansas and Nebraska muzzleloader seasons. I enjoy the long archery season in Wisconsin, but cannot understand why we go from a 9 day gun season to a 11 day muzzleloader season then a 4 day Antlerless only, any body with common sense knows that come middle of gun season here or sooner the deer are pretty much nocturnal. How do you expect to fill tags when the deer aren’t moving, the big gangs no longer drive or move deer like they used too, private land is not being hunted or pushed like it use too and there are too many parcels that are owned by non-hunters. I stated last year that it takes minimum of a month for the deer to settle down after our 24 day gun season in November, it’s hard to even fill a doe tag late season archery, end of December, from all the gun pressure. I’m an advocate of foodplots and harvested 4 does total between archery and gun, along with an adult buck during early archery. I knew I didn’t want a Holiday Hunt and did my best to harvest does. I hunt out of state for the quality of the hunt, we’ll never have that here in Wisconsin with our current gun season running concurrent like they do.

Major issues the DNR will have in controlling the deer population include: Urban sprawl. Withing city limits firearm and quite often bow hunting is forbidden; The second is loss of huntable land. By us it is owner(s) of substantial parcels not allowing hunting thus creating a refuge for deer. We see an abundance of deer up to a week before and then again a week after deer hunting season. In addition there is an ever increasing home building in woods which does have an impact on the hunting as well. As a parting note, being a scientist myself, yearly changes expecting immediate results does more harm than good. As far as an increase in car accidents, put away cells phones and pay attention.

We have way way to many deer in Manitowoc county. There are to many car deer crashes. There is to much Lyme disease in humans and dogs. There is to much damage to forestry. There are enough deer that they are eating themselves out of winter food. They are suppressing prime winter food. This will result in lesser quality deer, deduced reproduction and smaller horns in the future. It sure is fun hunting now, with deer everywhere, with way to many deer. Since you guys are doing nothing to stop CWD it will soon get here. How will that affect people’s desire to harvest enough deer? I don’t care to eat a CWD infected deer, and will feel bad about possibly giving a health risk away.

I believe that we do not need the holiday hunts or the mentor hunts or any antlerless hunts. I think that the seasons are long enough for bow, gun, and muzzleloader with out all of the specialty hunts! And all the antlerless tags and bonus tags. Buck and 1-Does tag should be enough. And let the kids go with a parent during the 9 day hunt with a free antlerless tag. And learn form their own hunting parties, parents and grandparents aunts and friends on how to learn to be a ethical hunter. And learn to respectful the game and other hunters. And I also don’t think we need the deer 25, think that the DNR was doing fine with the sak system.

On 04-08-2017 I was on my property and looked out the window at about 6:45 pm. At that time I viewed 25 healthy looking deer feeding and playing in the alfalfa field. This was the first time I had viewed that many deer on my property at one time. That having been said, I spent 68.5 hours hunting during the 2016 deer gun season and did not see a deer. I spent an additional 40 or so hours hunting with the bow last season and did not see a deer. Having said that, I had a trail camera out in two spots and had captured several different bucks, does, and yearlings. Our group of 9 hunters harvested 3 deer. 2 of them were bucks, and 1 was a nubby.
As a private land owner in SW Town of Liberty I feel deer population is adequate to slightly above the lands carrying capacity. I greatly enjoy planting food plots and long term trees for deer benefit, look forward to hunting and observing them in fall then cuss them out in spring when see damage to seedlings. It is trying to find the balance between both worlds I struggle with. Kudo's to the counties CDAC for the time they volunteer, listening to attendees comments and make decisions that I would be making if in their position.

Crossbows are seriously affecting the sport of archery hunting in a negative way. all this season did was convert bowhunters to xbow hunters who fill tags, shoot at further targets and take out large numbers of bucks and does affecting the satisfaction of a season for archery and gun hunters. High powered rifle use has also done much of the same. after 30 years of promoting deer management for more mature deer harvests I now have 12 deer I see regularly this winter in my back forty. 11 are fawns. Thanks

I think the dnr is doing a good job managing the herd numbers. I like the herd size for the past 3 years and would like to see it remain at these levels. I dislike the public land/private land tags, I wish the dnr would do away with that. The deer have legs, they can run onto any piece of land they want. Public or private does not matter. We hunted for years without two types of tags. Could you please put the question on the spring hearing list for next year. Thanks for your time.

This last year for hunting in manitowoc county was ruff. I didn't see nothing near what I use to see. Allowing people to kill 2-3 doe isn't right. I know a group that killed over 15 doe in the last year hunt. Killing doe's aren't gonna solve the deer problem. Give out less doe tags and encourage people to shoot bucks not doe's.

Manitowoc county does not appear overpopulated. I hunt it often, as well as Waukesha and Dane counties. I consistently, and by a good measure, see the fewest deer in Manitowoc co. I also support minimum point regulations for antlered deer and would be in favor of an antlerless only year to allow the heard to mature.

Ever since the earn a buck era, hunting in Manitowoc County has been on a steady decline. The county carrying capacity for deer is much higher than the DNR has calculated. The population goals for Manitowoc County need to be increased, not decreased. The current deer population is far too low county wide.

Public land in Manitowoc county was utilized but was not crowded. I fully support more antlerless tags to be made available to both private and public land. I also would like to see a holiday hunt for increased recreational opportunity and antlerless harvest.

I would like to see a plan to increase the age of bucks in the state like not shooting of 1.5 yr old bucks for a year or so or a temporary minimum antler size or something like that to increase the amount of older bucks in the state.

The CDAC commitee really does a very good job in this county. Group works very hard to get all the input they can to make the best decision possible for the benefit of the hunters in this county. Thanks!

I would like to see some type of program to have landowners more willing to open their land to hunting. There are several large farmers in the area that do not allow hunting at this time.

I believe that baiting should be allowed as long as the feed is spread over a 10' area. Besides there haven't been any CWD in unit 64 except kept deer/elk.

Holiday hunts seem to have gone smoothly last year and more counties are proposing to use it this year. Manitowoc should as well.

Without hunting the metro units hard these populations explode and are the concern and complaints of many city dwellers.

Do not have "Doe Only" hunt dates. Hard enough to get a nice buck, as to getting a doe for the venison in the freezer.

Having 300 acres I may view differently than others lived here all my life most deer ever and quality is great.
The population is terrible. Fawn predation by coyote and wolf predation is occurring in this unit.

Thank you for listening!

Get more deer please.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Marathon, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

128 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 71
   - No: 57

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 63
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 28
   - I hunt in this unit: 110
   - General interest in this unit: 36

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 105
   - Bow: 78
   - Crossbow: 28
   - Muzzleloader: 46

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.89
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 64
   - Mostly Private Land: 24
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 12
   - Mostly Public Land: 4
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 14
   - Not too crowded: 10
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 8
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 5
   - Not applicable: 4

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 31
   - Fewer: 43
   - Same: 38
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 5

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 34
   - Fewer: 41
   - Same: 26
   - More: 15
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 9

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I bowhunt a fare bit on 160 acres of private land near Eland. The property adjoins a DNR 40 which I have also bowhunted on occasion. In general, there are WAY to many deer in the neighborhood. Drive around - browse lines and road kills are everywhere. You couldn't grow a young cedar tree if you had too. Young hardwoods are almost as scarce. In harsher winters the deer even eat the PINE saplings and raspberry stalks. Last year I saw fewer deer than the previous 2 years, but we are all spoiled. The habitat will never recover if the deer numbers aren't reduced. I may be in the minority on this, but I LIKE the idea of an entire antlerless season. Maybe you could issue buck tags every other year? Seems like very few bucks live to see maturity. The does eat just fine and are just as fun to hunt. Also, there is a disturbing amount of shining and poaching in the area. I don't understand why shining is still legal. I don't understand the mind of a poacher either, but if you let them shine deer, perhaps they can't resist the temptation. The phone or on-line registration seems to be going pretty well. I do NOT like or understand why you need to specify in advance where your tag should apply - what County and private or public land. What if I hunt in several counties? How do I know IN ADVANCE when and where a harvest opportunity will present itself? This seems ridiculous. What if my buddy invites me to bowhunt his property in a distant County? This is one of the dumbest regulations I have ever seen. Also, the Youth Hunts are a nice idea for the youth and for the sport. But it seems over the years more and more "special" gun hunts have been added. If you are trying to harvest more deer, this is counter productive. Bowhunting deer in the early season is relatively easy. Bowhunters in general don't create a major disturbance. But once you start shooting at deer with guns - they get real wary, real quick. If you don't believe me, try bowhunting the week after gun season. Last, I strongly support the baiting ban in Marathon County. I have bowhunted in other Counties where baiting is permitted and the deer quickly learn to visit bait piles at night. A lot of people baiting seems to break deer from their natural feeding patterns and suppress deer movement overall, particularly daytime deer movement. That's my $0.02. Nice of you to invite feedback from hunters.

Marathon County is the States largest county. That being the case, the deer population varies considerably and in my opinion needs to be managed in 2 or 3 separate DMU's. For example, what is good deer management (kill quota's, antlerless, bonus tags, etc.) in the Mead Wildlife area, is not good for the Northern parts of the County. The old DMU's had it about right. The area that I hunt in the far northern part of Marathon County (old unit 33 - Rib River - AMCO Park area north/NE of Athens) because of the amount of public hunting land has 'way too many hunters' and the deer population is low. During the 2015 & 2016 bow and rifle seasons, the pubic land in this area received incredible hunting pressure. Large hunting groups have no respect for the individual or 2-3 man groups. These groups see your vehicle and know you are hunting an area but will spread out 20+ hunters and drive right through. The lack of good sportsmanship and common consideration is appalling. I know many local hunters that will no longer unit or have quit hunting this area because of the lack of deer, safety considerations, and way too much hunting pressure. Please consider breaking up Marathon County into 2-3 DMU's before the situation gets out of control.
Believe it or not wolf population has defecated the deer population in this zone. I have hunted this Northern part of this zone and Southern part of Lincoln County zone for over 25 years and seen such drastic decrease in deer population. For the life of me I cannot see why the DNR even allows antler-less bonus tags for both zones. Remove the Wolves (provide longer wolf season) or no more antlerless bonus tags to increase the deer population. This will allow wolfs more feed and us conservationist to see some deer, which I have not seen a deer for four years in these zones and I hunt the full season and walk our 520 acres every fall for sign. We even log the area for wildlife and ecology. It is such a shame to see the DNR dual out the permits just for revenues. The kills I have seen once antlerless bonus have been giving out like candy just for revenues are ANTLER-LESS. Now our buck kills as gone way down too. If we have farm damage then give the land owners the permits for antlerless deer in the central part of Marathon County. However the northern part of Marathon County has a wolf population like Lincoln County. 

I am concerned about the future of hunting in my unit and the northern units as hunting success falls so does interest and the interest of younger hunters. I am also quite concerned with the impact predators are having on the overall deer herd. Wolves being the primary concern as they have been most recently re-introduced to the environment. If their numbers go left unchecked the problems with getting more hunters interested and lack of success will be major issues. This will severely impact the revenue the DNR has for wildlife management and improvement and the overall hunting morale. Seeing one or two deer all season in northern units does motivate people to keep hunting or start; which is and will become an even more serious problem. In my unit maintaining the deer herd would be appropriate. There are enough deer but not too many. If the number of animals increased slightly that would be an even better number. By eliminating the holiday hunt and limiting bonus tags an ideal herd size could be accomplished. Thank you

If the plan is to continue taking as many does I would like to see some type of quality deer management with the bucks. It gets old letting them go to grow and having the next person drive a woods and shoot the little ones and say we'll it's all I saw had to shooting something or I'm a meat hunter and complained they are seeing less and less deer. Don't get me wrong I like the meat to but if I'm not seeing but a few does and small bucks I'm not going to thin the herd any more. I enjoy sitting in a tree and seeing more than a few deer especially surrounded by all this farm land. 8 points and larger, with fewer doe tags for a year or 2 would help with what seems like more and more wolf every year. And not so many crop damage tags to the Amish, there fields lack so much that the crops look shitty to start with. That go's for all farms

You need to ban baiting state wide. I hunt in both bait-legal and bait-illegal counties. I see far more deer in the bait-illegal county than where bait is legal. Baiting has ruined WI deer hunting. There are as many deer where I hunt as there ever was. I think there are as many deer in the state as there ever was (save for Northern WI where the reintroduction of non-native species of wolves is the second worst idea behind baiting). Baiting and constant human presence (tending bait piles) only cause more deer to move at night. I am wondering if there is any correlation to deer sightings being higher in non-bait counties vs. bait counties in your surveys. I would be surprised if there is not a correlation. Baiting needs to be banned state-wide.

The 2016 deer hunting season was a very high quality hunt for our group of six hunters who are all in our fifties. All in all, we have had successful hunts but we do put in the time in the woods. We have noticed in the past ten years or so that there is very little shooting within a mile or two of our hunting land which is of some concern as few deer move during the day but do come out in late afternoon. Mornings are very slow in the the last ten to fifteen years. I do commend the WDNR on keeping the deer hunting populations in check and the balancing of keeping enough deer to keep the sport fun.
Having an Antlerless season, prior to the 9-day rifle season, cause more human traffic in the deer woods and prompts more deer to become nocturnal BEFORE the 9-day rifle season. Lone or small party of hunters must rely more on the uncertain timing of the RUT. Baiting should ALSO be banned STATE WIDE. Baiting causes deer to change their daily routine habits and patterns. A doe I may pattern during the archery season in early/mid fall changes her routine when bait piles arrive, decreasing my opportunity to take a buck chasing her past my stand. Baiting also causes more deer to become nocturnal.

I would like to see an antler restriction, like 4 points per side and min. of 7 total points. The object here is to let the younger bucks grow and with limited amounts of antlerless tags, the population rises along with the chance to see bigger bucks. The reason for 7 total points is for the older bucks on the down side could legally be shot. This should also cut down on the amount of deer shot and never recovered because some hunters see antlers and shoot without putting an ethical shot on the deer. To curb the higher amount of deer seen, then you can add more antlerless tags per area.

Marathon County CDAC voted to maintain the population in 2014. We have had 2-3 mild winters in a row. DNR's estimate of deer has increased by nearly 10,000 animals from 2014-16. The quota was set at 6500 for two straight years and hunters were offered 3500 bonus permits. The 5700 quota is set too low along with the 2500 bonus permits. To maintain the population CDAC's should be increasing the quota and offering more bonus permits to those landowners who wish to manage the deer in high deer area's. The quota is simply too low to maintain the herd.

Overall I am ok with what's proposed. Honestly though, why not hand out more doe tags and put antler restrictions on for bucks. Trophy units in Iowa and minn do this. Providing a framework for trophy bucks while still allowing the hunter to collect venison is the best of both worlds. Also maybe don't allow every out of state hunter to by over the counter. Adopt something like Iowa does, draw a tag every couple of years. It's important that Wisconsin residents have a better chance for harvest. Most people don't have the money to go else where.

Stop with all the kids hunts & first time hunter benefits. Stop CDW by banning deer farms, c'mon it's common sense. Stop victimizing people for baiting, deer farms spread CWD not folks like me trying to feed our families. Reward the hunters who buy licenses every year. Replenish the heard. Stop pleasing auto-insurance companies. We see almost no deer and pay taxes on 80 acres for 24yrs. Used to see many deer, now see almost none. Pics of bobcat wolves bear and coyote often...my nephews don't want to hunt because we don't see deer, PERIOD.

I used to see a lot more deer than I did last year. The owners of the neighboring property have a large group of hunters, and shoot everything that moves, even if it has spots. It seems to have affected the number of deer in the area. Maybe you give way too many doe permits? Also, I have seen wolves in the area on a couple occasions. Maybe another reason there's no deer. GET RID OF THE WOLVES, limit the doe permits for a couple years, and leave the deer to feed humans, NOT wolves (or the hoggish people next door)!

I would like to see baiting allowed as long as it is done within reasonable limits, as a private land owner I would like less restrictions on this, for instance instead of 2 gallons per bait sight make it 5 gallons, also be allowed more bait sights per acreage. I can't control what happens on public land but I would like to be able to control what happens on my land, as a private land owner we pay plenty of taxes to enjoy what we have, I also know we need to be reasonable on how we manage our land.

Zero bonus tags for public land?!? Seriously?!? I guess antlerless hunting is only for landowners and those fortunate to own land or have private land to hunt on. There are many deer in eastern Marathon County where most the of the public land in the county is. We should not be shutting the door on antlerless harvest for public land hunters. The sport of deer hunting is already getting to be a rich person's sport. Your lack of bonus tags for public land just adds to that.
I'm am strongly against having a holiday hunt in Marathon County and other central and northern Wisconsin counties. IMO the number of hunters that would hunt during the holiday hunt time frame is minimal compared to the number of snowmobile club volunteers and snowmobilers that use this time to sign, maintain, and enjoy this short and precious time. Also take into consideration the revenue lost in the DNR department because of the minimal trail pass purchases.

I believe the youth hunt should only be during the regular season. I am a vow Hunter and rifle hunter. And the weekend of the youth hunt deer begin to come in after dark. Instead of coming in during the daylight hours. I can prove from pictures on my deer camera. And they stay in that pattern all. Of the deer season. Im all for the youth hunt. But have it november when rifle season should be. And let the bow hunters hunt.

With all the doe permits given to the local farmers, they are continually trespassing on my lands to fill their doe permits, and even though I have notified you numerous times, you fail to do anything about it. This is especially true now that back tags are no longer required. These violating neighbors know there is no way to identify them now, and they are taking advantage of it. What were you thinking?

As a property owner, I control what gets taken off my land. With 300 acres and 10 hunters we took off 4 bucks. Does were off limits because we saw only 5 does on cameras in Marathon county and 4 in Price county. We know what we have on our property before hunting season. I don't care if you raise your quota to 20,000 - it won't kill any more on my land, nor will I open it to any more hunters.

Marathon County is the largest in the state. It should be divided into four sub zones, using east-west Highway 29 and north-south Highway 51/39 or Wisconsin River as dividing boundaries. Hunters want to see more deer. It is less important if we harvest an animal than that we see more deer while we are hunting. Young hunters especially don't have patience if they don't see deer.

Wish to eliminate ag damage tags altogether. Farmers shooting the herd to pieces which encourages trespassing and they are getting paid for their "damage" already. When you have 2 farmers on either side of even a large block of land shooting does and fawns....no bucks and fewer does. How is there money in the budget to pay them to kill them? plus crop reduction reimbursement?

Marathon County needs to be divided into at least 2 if not 4 zones. Marathon county has a land mass that is larger that some states. Our southeast part of the county is heavily populated while the northern half has a diminished heard. This is the reason a maintain heard size was established yet the heard should be increased in the north and decreased in the south.

The length of the crossbow season needs to be addressed. This ability to dispatch a deer with a crossbow in comparison to a compound or long bow is not on the same playing field. This problem should have been looked at before crossbows became legal in Wisconsin. Just for the record, I am not a bow hunter, nor am I a real serious gun deer hunter.

I support the recommendations of the committee. I support greater availability to antlerless tags on private lands as a management tool as well as a means to allow for regeneration of wood lots. Please continue to make sound decisions based on science and herd health rather than the daily volume of animals observed in the field

I feel strongly that feeding and baiting bans should be maintained, and if fact, expanded for the entire state. The baiting practices have dramatically changed the deer movement patterns over the years to the disadvantage to those who do not bait or feed. Everything about it leads to less importance on "real" hunting.

Agricultural Tags must end. This is a money making venture usually used by large farmers who only see dollar signs and not the health of the deer population. If the funds dry up these farmers would not even bother with the program. These larger farmers have can afford crop insurance if it is at all necessary.
I have lived and hunted in this area for fifty years. Each year we see fewer and fewer deer. This past winter I saw 2 deer in my neighbors field. Total for the winter months!! I think the deer are being over hunted and should be allowed to come back. Our younger generation doesn't have much to look forward to.

Suggest breaking Marathon county into two units. The county is too large and too diverse to set antlerless tags for the entire county as a whole. I hunt far NE Marathon county and the habitat is does not support a high harvest of does in the bigger woods and less Ag than other portions of the county.

Basically after two years of Earn-A-Buck and the amount of Antlerless Tags still being available for sale it has ruined deer hunting in the State of Wisconsin!!!!! In my opinion we have nothing to offer our grandchildren in the way of a quality hunt. The WI DNR has ruined deer hunting.

I have owned my property for 30 years and it has been in my family for 80 years. The deer numbers are so low I've watched it decrease every year since the years of buy as many tags as you want. You are ruining a family tradition with over harvesting!!!!!

Just need to stop with all the antlerless tags period!!! The deer population is so far down if we keep going the way we have been there will be absolutely no deer left. Stop with the antlerless permits before the whitetail in Wisconsin is extinct!!!!!

The management in place is sufficient. It is the tag system that is messed up. There are no internal controls in place to prevent poaching. Anyone can print and use tags to poach. This needs to be fixed, because it is a significant problem.

On my land, I have seen no deer personally but have seen tracks. I would like to see the bonus tags stay the same because of the second mild winter we had. Hopefully, the deer move from the north into the central part of the county.

Every year it seems I see fewer and fewer deer. I am in the NW corner of Marathon county and I feel that because it is such a large county the management of the herd in the NW corner is far different than that in the SE corner.

Unit needs to be split (possibly at hwy 29). Northern half of county has very few deer were southern half has a healthy population. Being the largest county in the state I feel it would be reasonable to split in two.

STOP The Special Season Youth Hunts and Mentor Hunts !!! They should experience what all seasoned hunters have gone through from 12 years old and up. Including seeing nothing and crowding on public property.

I like the current limit of 1 buck/1 antlerless per tag with the option of a bonus antlerless for $12. However, I would also be in favor of 1 buck/2 antlerless for Marathon County.

Too many deer. They are suppressing forest regeneration in many areas, and causing damage in agricultural croplands not to mention the damage to the yards of home owners.

Would be great to have more deer in our area, we see less and less deer with every passing year. I wish they would go back to regular cwd checks on the harvested deer

Because of the lack of flexibility in use of antlerless tags, I would like the opportunity to purchase a bonus tag for public land in this unit.

During the past 10 to 15 years I have watched the deer population decline to the point that I only saw 1 deer during all of 2016 deer season.

I think the CDAC group / members have there own personal agenda and should be eliminated. They are doing more bad than good.

Do antler restrictions for everyone besides first time hunters to let bucks get more mature.

give out one antlerless tag - could be used during the bow / black power or rifle season.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consider extending the muzzle loader season in lieu of antlerless hunts. Thanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would like to see the whitetail deer population in Marathon County increase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not see a lot of deer when I am hunting some years I dont see any deer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to see more deer. Tired of going home empty handed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have not see many deer in the last couple seasons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I think there should be more deers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Want to see more deer. Thank you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In support of doe only harvest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Want to see more deer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To many anterless tags</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

46 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 32
   - No: 14

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 14
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   - I hunt in this unit: 42
   - General interest in this unit: 11

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 42
   - Bow: 29
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 16

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 25.17
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 29
   - Mostly Private Land: 7
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 4
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 16
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 11
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
Marinette, Central Farmland
Comments for Marinette, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

A lot around were our group hunts is we keep seeing more and more predators wolves bobcat cougars (even though dnr says there are none) and bear and every year I see less and less deer when I was younger was nothing to see 20 to 30 deer in a day now you're lucky to see 2 every year I see less fawns too. I know also that deer don't get a rest either they're hunted from Sept Jan. Used to have bow n gun and back then not too many people bow hunted now I believe it's more popular than gun hunting at times n we didn't have black powder n youth hunts n holiday hunts n antler less only hunts deer numbers are down n they just want to keep getting the numbers lower we are a qdm camp n it's been 8 years for me on a buck other members of camp longer for the 1st 10yrs of hunting this area we took a good buck every year I don't claim to know the answer but I do know were seeing fewer deer every year n the camps around us are good at qdm also except the occasional 1st time hunter which I can agree with letting a first time hunter shoot there 1st buck

As of today the current enrollment for ag damage appears to be low. If Ag damage enrollment be low wouldn't that also lead to a finding that the der population has stabilized or decreasing. I would just like to see more consistency with the explanation that deer damage is high so there is a high deer population. I currently believe the deer population is currently at a prefect level to maintain. I also agree we could continue to maintain this level even with 2 tags given per license. I do not believe the additional tag is going to entice additional harvest especially on the private land but the additional tag allows for more opportunity. It may also be a good idea to prevent over pressure on public lands and additional private land tag is provided with every license even if at time of purchase public land is requested. I still think that if the deer population overabundance is on agricultural lands that additional incentives need to be given to land owners to provide opportunity for harvest on private lands.

I believe there is a problem with deer numbers around farms this is where the focus on reducing the deer herd should be confined to. right now we are shooting to many deer in areas where there is no problem with deer numbers we have to get hunters in these farm properties some how. so we are shooting deer in areas where the numbers are to high. where I hunt there are no farms with in 5 miles and the herd by me sims to be decreasing every year . my grandson started to hunt last year and if the number of deer keeps declining I think it will be hard to keep him interested in hunting I think this is a problem with a lot of new younger hunters if they don't see deer they lose interest and quit this i think is why hunter numbers are going down you need deer out there to keep the hunters happy and interested as far as a holiday hunt I think It is one of the ideas I worry about with safety being a worry to me people doing outside activities snowmobiles on trails skiers on trails just people outdoors this is not safe

I have hunted 44 years at the same location, Peshtigo harbor area, all woods, no farms, but this is your central farm land area, (I understand you don't want to make up smaller hunting units) You need to understand nobody wants to hunt on the farms, in city's or next to roads, they all go to the woods to hunt, this is the tradition. I have seen the smallest amount of deer in my life, our kids and grandchildren do not want to hunt anymore because they see nothing. You have killed all the deer in the woods and now they have adapted and relocated to the city and safe areas like farm land, etc. the woods are too dangerous for deer. this is the opposite of what we want to happen, deer belong in the forest. 2nd, Everybody kills does on public hunting woods with private doe tags, Again this is where the deer need to live. please help solve this issue. Thanks
I have been hunting marinette by crivitz for 10+ years and my father 20 years before that. The first few years were great! No earn a buck no wolves, no ag tags. Every year since then have gotten considerably worse. It has come to the point where we are considering selling our land. I have watched the farmer across the road shoot 15 deer in a season. I sat 10 days consistently for the 2016 deer season, with bait and saw. 2 fawns. This whole ag tag B.S. had gotten way out of hand. It's time to put that to an end. It is so underpopulated that I have began to worry that it may not be long before there are no longer deer in our area. We need to have a 2 deer limit in this area for at least a few years to bring the heard back. Or we will just end up packing up and moving.

I have hunted in this area for over 20 years. Granted in the late 90's - early 2000's there were probably too many deer on the landscape. However the herd has continued to be pounded year-after-year and it's to the point that I hardly even want to shoot a doe. I did so this past year on a friend's parcel because I had not harvested one in several years...mostly because we saw so few! The impact of predators is way underestimated and it's time to have a more selective antlerless harvest/season/quota to let the herds in some of these areas rebound. Since becoming a property owner 3 years ago in this unit I have yet to have an opportunity to harvest ANY deer on my property (complete with food plots), much less an antlerless deer on my property.

deer numbers are rebounding the past 2 years after a long hard winter with numerous deer losses in 2014. If the spring fawn crop is good, it could warrant more antlerless tags in 2018. Without some increases in deer numbers, it will be hard to get hunters back into the management zone to hunt. No one wants to hunt all season and only see a few deer. This scenario is bad for retaining hunters and hurts the local economy that depends highly on the money that deer hunters bring into the economy. The majority of hunters now only hunt opening weekend and one or two days after that. There is minimal hunting pressure after opening weekend and little deer movement before dark.

In the deer management zone 51A I know for a fact that I see very few numbers of deer, so little "I HAVE NAMES FOR ALL 4 ! " I see bucks on trail cams from time to time but mostly at night and by spring they are not around. I have very few does on my land ever since the 80's when the dnr gave out 5 antlerless tags to every hunter and the population was slaughtered in the Marinette area. I don't even see that much when LEGALLY shining the fields in hope the deer herd comes back. Michigan and Minnesota both have healthy ( abundant ) deer herds but Wi does not. I think we should concentrate on fixing the mature buck totals and stop wiping out the antlerless totals. thanks

The deer numbers are extremely low, I have hunted deer here for more than 40 years, the kids are not very interested in continue hunting because of not see deer, the deer should live in the woods and forest, but this is where everybody fills there doe tags and this is where all the deer camps are located. Forest and woods is where the deer should live, in large numbers like many years ago, but the deer are not stupid, they have moved to safe spaces, like city's and farm land. Do not reduce the deer population in the best place for them to live. Deer hunting is one of the most important recreations of hunting.

Thanks for providing me this opportunity to provide input to the committee. The forests of the central farmland zone in Marinette County are very degraded from 30+ years of over browsing. There's virtually no sugar maple, cedar, hemlock, or oak regeneration in the entire zone. This doesn't tell the whole story of the herbaceous plants that have dramatically declined or the affect on animals that rely on these plants or a healthy forest understory. I would support a doe only season in order to help decrease the population. It's not the ideal option but its the best option available to the CDAC at this time.

I always see deer in agriculture fields when I'm driving, and they pose a threat to not only farmer's income, but to me since they dart out in the road in front of my car. Given the mild winters and the persistent growth of this population, I feel that the antlerless quota should be increased. At the very least, give hunters on public lands more tags. If you goal is to decrease the population and you are failing to do so, you should use every tool at your disposal to decrease the population, and public land antlerless tags are a tool that is severely underutilized.
While I support reducing antlerless deer numbers in this unit I think eliminating buck harvest for even one season would be disastrous for the DNR from a PR standpoint and seeing hunters dropping out of the sport. I think earn-a-buck was reasonable and even that was widely hated! If we need to shoot more does about leaving the gun hunt open for antlerless deer from the end of the general season through the end of January? I'm not seeing bucks lose their antlers until late February or even later.

I think that allowing stands overnight on public land was a huge mistake. Two years ago, I had an inconsiderate hunter walk up on me as I hunted along the Peshtigo River on HWY BB, I had been sitting there for over 6 hours, and he set up not 15 yards to my right. When I protested, he said "I been huntin' here all week, I had to work today, I ain't movin'." This was slob behavior then, but now all one has to do is put up a stand, and that spot is effectively claimed for the whole season.

Institute an antler restriction for bucks. This would increase the chances of our young deer not being killed off and give them a chance to mature. Marinette County has the potential to produce some great deer, but our hunters continue to shoot them before they can reach maturity. Use state funds to improve wildlife habitat on public lands. I see no effort to improve wildlife habitat on the public lands that I hunt. I hunt other states and can see the difference in herd quality.

The hunting culture in the area needs a shift from, "what's brown is down" to a more patient mature deer harvesting hunting culture. Too many 1/2 year old and 2 1/2 year old juvenile bucks are harvested which do not allow for a good population of mature bucks. Many folks claim "needing venison" as their main argument, however these same folks pass on the dozens of doe's (female) that are passing them by through the season to satisfy that objection.

I think we charge too much for out of state licenses. The high fee discourages nonresidents from hunting here. I would like to see more hunters in the field supporting this activity, not to mention the loss economic benefits of bring more hunters into the state. We should be encouraging as many hunters as possible to participate. We can charge more, but 7-8 times more is discouraging.

I have over 300 acres of wooded property in this area. It has been in QDM for 15 years now along with a number of other property owners. We all have seen the number of deer along with the quality deer drastically go down over the past 4 years now. This is not based on one bad year but rather on consecutive years of poor hunting.

I would like to see extended firearm seasons for youth hunters in an effort to encourage more young people to deer hunt. I would especially like to see youth Seasons extended on private land as I understand that extended seasons on public land may interfere with the use of public property by non-hunters.

Our camp is north of 180 and west of RR which was old JJ with the river on the west side all wooded no farms with in 10 to 12 miles I don't see how we fit into the central farm land we don't bait saw only 3 deer all season sit all day every day. if we have an only doe season we may as well stay home.

Too many predators, too much baiting, baiting should be banned in Marinette county, my land is just south of the northern forested land and we have fewer deer in this region perhaps dropping the northern forested line to Cty X or making all of Marinette buck only at least for 2 years..

Doe permits in are area are enough now! Maybe areas that have more deer should be split into smaller zones to control them. But as a whole deer are down and others are very concerned over hunt. Bow with late season I vote no. To much with different season hunts.

There are areas in the CFLZ that should be in Northern Forest. This should be adjusted sooner the better. I do not like the Holiday Hunt. Too many deer seasons that effect other outdoor activities in the forests. Also somewhat of a safety concern.

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Marinette, Central Farmland
i hunt couple places in marinette county. one is out of farmland area off of hwy rr north of mccalister. dnr must fix the lines for farmland and forest. if the dnr would get rid of gamefarms that would take a big risk of cwd out of the equation.

farmers are ripping off the hunters and state of WI, whining about all the crop damage. THIS is way overblown!

farmers who get crop damage permits should have to allow public hunting on their land. only makes sense.

the deer management in the unit is far overlooked. the DNR is killing off the population over the last 3 years, and it is killing the hunting success rates on private land.

i would rather have a holiday hunt than a an early December Anterless season. it allow s family who come in for Christmas time to hunt. Make it like 12/22-12/26.

please allow us to choose the unit in which to get the additional a tearless tag with license purchase and don’t automatically assign it based on where we live

too many tags not enough public lands... i walk over 1 mile to each of my stands and see nothing but over baiting and illegal stands though out the woods

Snowmobiling is a major tourism tool here in Marinette county. Especially over the Holiday season. Please take this into consideration.

Coyote numbers have radically increased over past 5 years in this unit. Have seen singles and packs in pursuit of whitetails.

Give us our deer heard back and let us take the control!!! And give us wolf tags
172 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?  
   - Yes: 92  
   - No: 80

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?  
   - I live in this unit: 41  
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 45  
   - I hunt in this unit: 158  
   - General interest in this unit: 40

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?  
   - Gun: 150  
   - Bow: 87  
   - Crossbow: 61  
   - Muzzleloader: 45

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?  
   - Minimum: 1  
   - Average: 23.25  
   - Maximum: 54

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?  
   - Exclusively Private Land: 60  
   - Mostly Private Land: 22  
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 24  
   - Mostly Public Land: 16  
   - Exclusively Public Land: 36  
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?  
   - Not at all crowded: 6  
   - Not too crowded: 28  
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 19  
   - Somewhat crowded: 23  
   - Very crowded: 18  
   - Not applicable: 4

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?  
   - Many Fewer: 23  
   - Fewer: 43  
   - Same: 54  
   - More: 38  
   - Many More: 13  
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?  
   - Many Fewer: 25  
   - Fewer: 40  
   - Same: 42  
   - More: 44  
   - Many More: 17  
   - Unsure: 4
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

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**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

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Not applicable in this DMU

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have hunted out of the same location on public land for 14 years. When I was first introduced to the area there were many hunters throughout the area, now there are few and far between. There used to be deer sign everywhere and many bucks on camera. Through the years I've seen an increase in predator sign (primarily wolf and coyote), a vast decrease in deer sign, and a vast decrease in deer on camera and while hunting. When I started hunting the area I would see 10-12 deer per day, we harvested 2 10 point bucks in back to back years. Now I'm lucky to see 10 deer all season. In fact, 2 years ago I didn't see a single deer and this year I saw 3 all season long. On a side note I'm a die hard hunter, we've had some harsh weather during the hunting season the past couple of years and I've been in the woods every minute. My point is we need more deer, stop giving out antlerless permits to an area that doesn't see very many deer to begin with! Let the herd grow and mature, don't you know that many does that are killed are pregnant and generally produce 2 fawns? Also there are far more predators than you realize, they are terrorizing the herd and killing the young off. All of this has created a decrease in people willing to hit the woods and for the most part I don't blame them. Why sit in the woods, freeze, and see zero deer when I can sit in a warm cabin and watch the packers? I am not one of these hunters, I'm always in the woods but I don't blame other hunters, it is difficult to get the drive when there are fewer deer. It's even more difficult to teach our children that this is a sport worth pursuing because of the thinning of the herd. Please, I beg you, do not sell antlerless permits for a couple of years. Thank you. Lastly, the GoWild website for purchasing antlerless permits is a joke, the queue is worthless and takes far too long to sit in line. Why not begin a points priority system like you have for other game? That way if you don't get a permit one year you have a better chance the next year, plus you can charge a couple of bucks to get your points. Seems like a win-win.

This was the first year in 35 plus years of hunting entirely public land that I did not see ONE deer for the rifle season. I hunt Sun up to Sun down with a climbing stand and do not leave the woods for lunch or to warm up. I was extremely discouraged to not even see a deer this past rifle season. I am very concerned as it appears the predator population is way out of control. I see deer tracks, I see wolf or coyote tracks. I speak with other hunters and hear of bear dens loaded with fawn skeletons. I do not see any fawn tracks. These are all signs of over harvest and predator dominance. The argument of the woods can't support the deer population is absurd. Many years ago, deer would roam in numbers of 3 to 10 at a time. I don't buy the excuses that we are given for reasons to have antlerless tags being issued period! I hear of people killing to provide meat to the food pantries just because they could buy more permits. That is only a few things that have made me think about NOT hunting anymore at all. It appears to be only about the money generated from license and tags sold. Less hunters will mean less money. Find a way to fix this extremely soon or you will lose many young hunters who do not have the patience to sit without at least seeing ONE deer in nine days!
In 1976 our hunting party was 13 strong. We've had 3 members die, 6 quit hunting altogether and only 4 of us remain. We used to see deer pass through our land and used to see deer in Black Sam. Now we see them in neither place. Wolves are up, bear are up, coyotes are up and deer are almost non-existent. Neighbors with large tracks of land have massive bait piles and hold what few deer exist on their land where eating is plentiful. Don't see deer crossing the river, no tracks in the cedar swamps, no tracks on the dirt roads. Steady decline since about 1989-1990 season. As doe tags became more available and predator populations increased the deer became fewer and fewer. The past 10 years or so we have purchased tags and simply not filled them in an attempt to aid in the herd rebounding and to keep them out of the hands of doe killers. Is not working well as the sightings/sign/track continue to be scarce. Sad reality. I have 5 grandchildren that are 5 years or so out from beginning their hunting journey. I can't bring them north to sit on stand or walk the woods to simply see chickadees, grey squirrels and bunnies. They might come up once but will not return if they don’t see deer. Sad but true up here in the northern forest area.

I would also be in favor of eliminating the antlerless permits for those in the military at this time. I work with an individual who shot an antlerless deer for his cousin who is in the military and can get off year after year to hunt. Not right. Thanks to the DNR for allowing use of crossbow hunting, I was able to spend a lot more time in the woods this past fall which was very enjoyable. However, to still hear ATV's on logging roads (not fire lanes), on unposted fire lanes, to know an individual that shot a buck with a bow and continued to hunt shows that maybe there is the need of a higher warden force. Would love to have enough money to buy 40 or more acres to help ease some of those frustrations. As noted, have hunted this county a long time, appreciate all of the county land that is available, just wish it could be managed a bit better. Lastly, not that it really has a lot to do with deer hunting, but has there been any research on the outburst of deer ticks? Fall of 2016 was rediculous and I've been out once this year and pulled 12 - 15 off of myself. Not sure where they came from, or what can manage them, but would be OK to see them go soon!

There should be a draw for nonresident hunters for the general firearm season or license prices for nonresidents should be more comparable to other states costs throughout the US. If you made nonresident licenses $300 (similar to every western state), it is likely that hunter numbers would decrease (meaning a healthier population and increased hunter satisfaction) but the DNR would still maintain adequate profit (which is all the DNR wants out of its wildlife) with the increased price margin. An antler restriction 3 points or 4 points to a side would also help increase the severely diminished deer numbers. Also, the predator numbers are out of control (mainly bear). Wolves have had some impact, but it has gotten to the point where I see more bears than deer. Takes ten years to get a tag, though. In summary, the Wisconsin DNR has encouraged the uncontrolled slaughter of the whitetail population for profit while simultaneously denying the impact of black bears on deer populations.

I have hunted in this unit for many years and there have been good and bad years. this past couple years I have seen fewer deer and many more hunters (mostly due to logging). I think the population is getting strained from lots of logging, then predators and then lastly hunters. You can drive around our area and see many deer in farm fields, sometimes numbering in the dozens pretty regularly. I put in many hrs with camera's and hunting and see by far the least amount of fawns and young deer now as I ever have. Typically I see fawns with 2 out of 3 does every year but the last 2 years I am luck to see a single fawn with 1 in every 8 does. I would assume predators (mainly bear) are a large factor in this along with the winter kill. But logging has deteriorated many areas that I would typically see does birthing fawns. they are then left to wide open spaces and can be seen easily by predators.
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The forest area of Marinette county should not have any antlerless tags at all. There are fewer and fewer deer every year and more predators. Put an antler restriction on bucks STOP shooting antlerless deer immediately, you cannot increase the population with all the hunting pressure and all the predators. Get rid of the wolves now!! I have hunted this unit for over 50 years and see almost no deer and I hunt over 40 days a year. Why are you shooting antlerless deer when there are very few deer now? My cottage is right in the middle of the forest zone and with all the logging going on there is more food for the deer than ever before and the forest can support a much higher deer population. Where I would see 10 to 20 deer in a day, I now see 1 or 2 and many days none. STOP shooting antlerless deer in the forest zone now, please. Your running deer hunting for the next generation.

Whenever I go outside, I always see evidence of too many deer, whether I'm walking or driving. Whenever I'm driving, I always see deer in agriculture fields consuming valuable crops and presenting a threat with the possibility of colliding with my vehicle. When I'm hiking in the woods, I see evidence of high browsing pressure in the obvious browse line and lack of vegetative diversity. Based on this, the mild winters for the past few years, and the lack of antlerless harvest, I think the deer population is too high and could easily sustain a more liberal harvest. Besides, why is the goal to increase the deer herd if we aren't going to hunt more deer? Additionally, I've heard people complain about predators impacting the deer herd, but predators only increase in numbers in response to high prey numbers, i.e. the large number of deer is supporting a higher number of predators.

The amount of bears, coyotes, and wolf is very disturbing. I personally haven't seen any wolf but friends have but coyotes I have heard in the night by our cabin. We have been very lucky with the mild Winters we have had. The deer heard are not coming back very fast I haven't seen any fawns on trail cameras just adult deer. I believe if we ban feeding and baiting this year it will harder to keep kids into hunting because kids need to see animals they get bored when you don't see anything for out all day. We have 2 kids under age of 18 and 1 at 21 they are getting very disgusted about hunting lately. Some how we need to increase the heard in Northern Forest in Marinnette. No doe would be my suggestion for next 3-5 years kids don't care if it's a doe as long as they are seeing seeing deer

Let me start by saying I support the limited number of bonus deer tags allowed in my hunting area and surrounding areas in order to try and increase the deer population, as I feel over the 12 years I have hunted in my area has suffered (decreased). My concern is with the excessive amounts of deer tags given to neighboring zones. Being that I hunt close to the zone boundary line, our zone has been given a low number of bonus tags. I think this small number of bonus tags is accurate to try and support the increase of the deer population but, giving the neighboring zone thousands upon thousands of tags does not make sense to me. My suggestion is that the amount of bonus tags given to one zone should also reflect the number given to neighboring zones. Thank you for your time.

Cut out the youth deer hunt!! It only hurts the deer population and does NOT increase interest in hunting for our youth. EXAMPLE: dad sits (mentor) and watches will the youth hunter plays a video game and has to be told here he comes get ready. I have seen this on many occasions with my friends, family and my own kids. Now about cutting out the deer youth hunt----- when I was starting to deer hunt as a kid I could not sleep from tuesday night before opening weekend till saturday night opener. It is called desire and anticipation. Yes it was cold and uncomfortable but it made me a better hunter and I like to think a better person. Sitting out in 70 plus degree plus weather does not teach anything----patience, self reliance, ethics etc.

The number of public land antlerless tags are still to few to sell as "first come" tags. There should be an application and lottery drawing like it used to be for hunters choice tags. It's near impossible to get an antlerless tag at a License Vendor and/or DNR Service center and most who are working are not allowed personal use of internet during the work day to try logging in and purchasing an antlerless tag that way either. In this day of technological advancement, we are quickly finding out that the old way wasn't really all that bad. Same goes for carcass tags, the person who decided paper tags printed with ink keyhole printers was a good idea shouldn't be employed any longer, nor should the fools that agreed and made it happen.
I understand that populations can vary from one section of a unit to another. That said, the property I hunt is 5 miles west of the Marinette Farmland unit and the amount of deer I see throughout the year is Very strong. Fawn production in 2016 was exceptional based on multiple trail camera and personal sightings, including three sets of triplets. Deer are constantly being hit on area roads and highways. I know this about deer, but may I also add that I have 14 different bears on camera including cubs. I harvested my first bear 2016 on the same property as I deer hunt. It took 9 years to draw a tag. Please consider reducing the amount of preference points for this area. Everyone in the area has seen an uptick in bear populations.

I would appreciate email reminders of when all tags will be available a week in advance. I didn't know we had antlerless tags available last year. I would also like to see a law on number of gun carrying hunters per acres. We live here full time and take care of or land and care about all animals in our Northwood’s, yet we have seasonal neighbors who own under 15 acres and yet they have 5-15 hunters on their land during gun season. This is dangerous when larger plots of land back up to seasonally owned property where they do not know where people are hunting. We were shot at twice last year and yet the Sheriff’s do nothing about it. You cannot fix stupid and that is why hunting laws are desperately needed per acres. Thanks.

I would like to see the WDNR go back to the Hunters Choice for antlerless deer tags. I believe that plenty of hunters would be okay with spending the $3 dollars to apply for an hunters choice tag for deer as they are willing to do it for spring and fall turkey as well as black bear. A $10 all in fee would be nice for Turkey Bear and Deer. This would also cut back on the stress and increased server costs for days when tags go on sale and the websites are over run with traffic. If the GoWild site is automatically assigning a random spot in line when tags go on sale this would be similar as it would still be a randomized drawing accept you would be getting the extra revenue from all of the hunters choice applications.

I have hunted on public land in northern Marinette county for many years. During this time I have seen the good times and the ugly times. We are still in the ugly times. The increase in wolves and bear along with all the bonus tags crushed the deer population. The heard has not recovered and tourism has taken a hit. We used to hunt with many deer camps full of hunters spending lots of money in the area. Now most of these camps are vacant. It is even hard to sell your cabin as no one wants to hunt where there are few deer. Increasing the antlerless tags in this area is ridiculous. If the committee raises the quota they are showing that they don't care about hunters and tourism dollars.

If the intent is to increase the population in the Northern Forest part of Marinette county, then why in the world are you increasing the number of antlerless tags available? Remember, we fill out these surveys because we care. The population of deer in the unit is in a downward spiral. We have prime, private land and saw few deer. Remember when Marinette county used to be the TOP county in the State for deer harvest? We don't have to be top again but the quality of deer hunting has gotten so poor that many folks no longer hunt up here. Ask the restaurant owners, bar owners, and other businesses what the impact of fewer deer has had. Please...manage for a higher deer population!

While I commend the DNR for setting up a separate zone for Northern Forest I am still concerned that too many bonus antlerless permits are being given out in this zone. I have hunted public land in this area for over 40 years and in recent years our hunting group has not seen many deer or harvested a deer in several years. I have a group of about 10 family members hunting out of 2 cabins we own on Jones Road and we are starting to lose the younger hunters due to the lack of deer sightings or opportunities to shoot. I am afraid our next generation will not be deer hunters. Please reconsider the recommendation to issue bonus permits on public land in this area. Thank You
Deer seasons are to long. Way to many does hunts in the state. Every time we kill a doe it’s just like killing at least 2. The early seasons make any other kind of hunting very dangerous. I'm sick of hunters saying if my dog runs through a field, they will shoot it. This stuff is unacceptable. Been told for years there is no wolves in the town of Athelstan. Had multiple confrontations with 2 different packs. One pack is of 8 then a pack of 6 by amberg. Next year is my last year deer hunting, unless things drastically change. Michigan will start getting my deer hunting money and I'll start hunting Iowa.

I feel the Marinette Woodland Zone should be looked at closer. We are just above Hwy 180 and the deer population is quite large. This is the area east of Wausaukee. It isn't unusual to see 20 to 30 deer each night that I sit out. The area is mainly agricultural and is over populated with deer. As a landowner it's almost impossible for me to get a doe permit to keep the herd in check. In two years I was only able to obtain one permit. This is an area that you should really reconsider allowing land owners of over 40 acres the chance to pull a antlerless permit over other people or work closely with the landowners.

I think the DNR has totally missed with the CWD process to control. It may be too late already. The DNR never fully embraced a special season to hunt to eliminate deer in heavy CWD areas when it first popped up in SW Wisconsin. You should consider offering free permits to volunteers to kill deer in heavy CWD zones and these would be special hunts outside of the regular deer hunting seasons. You could have many volunteers that would have hunted in those zones to eliminate/reduce the herd size, but you expected hunters to do so during regular gun seasons, not realistic.

I have had a trail camera up from April to December for many years now and I continue to see very low deer numbers. Also, for the gun deer season I hunt an average of 50 hours+ and I have not see a deer worth harvesting in several years. On my trail camera this last year there was one young doe with a fawn and one buck that occasionally passed through on the property. The numbers in my area are not high enough to justify an antlerless kill. I'm not opposed to harvesting Does when the numbers support the practice, however they currently do not.

Thanks

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I'm not a math teacher but the quota last year was 350 and the actual harvest was around 900. Way over the quota goal. This year the quota is 500 but you want to increase the available tags from last year? That math does not add up. If you keep the recommended tags as listed way more does will be killed than 500. We don't see the deer we saw years ago and the population is just starting to recover. Let's not take a step backwards by increasing doe tags. Keep the number of doe tags the same as last year or decrease that number.

I used to hunt up here years ago and the hunting was good. Now there are very few deer and I feel I am wasting my money hunting here. I am about ready to call it quits and spend my money somewhere else in the state where there are actually deer. I am not alone in this as many friends of mine have moved on or are close to moving on. If the CDAC increases the antlerless tags it shows me they don't care about the deer hunters or tourism dollars. The talk of over browsing is a joke. There is no over browsing in the north woods.

Education: hunters to respect not expect. Respect: land owners, animals they hunt, the privilege to hunt, public land, other hunters. DNR, Listen to the voice of the hunters more. Stop making it easier for people to pouch. Crossbow, online registration. Enforce and encourage others to help enforce the rules that only the good hunters follow. If you go to no baiting figure out a way to minimize the huge advantage it will be to those who break the rules and get all the deer at their bait pile. thank you for your dervice.
Our camp has gone from 14 to 6 hunters all because of the lack of deer we need to have 0 anterless permits we need to build up the herd again and cut all the extras hunts, if you want to sell more licenses hunters want to see more deer I have never sent in any complaints but I feel enough is enough and need to be heard and don't know if this is a waste of time we need to see more deer. Just for the record I hunted 4 weekends in a row October into the gun deer hunt and saw only saw 6 deer. Thanks Dave

Predatory animals are greatly on the rise in this unit; thus greatly affecting the deer population. I strongly suggest ensuring he deer heard is strong and abundant, exceeding desired limits. Once obtained, then start to scale the population down through increased anterless tags. A larger deer population draws more hunters which greatly impacts the local businesses, hunter moral and desire to spend other dollars on equipment, and better opportunities to attract and obtain new hunters. Thank you.

I believe that to increase the anterless tags shows inconsistency in the 3 year objective to increase the heard. The tags should stay the same until the 3 year process is complete and then next year you can change the objective to maintain. The purpose of the CDAC's was to promote the consistency and simplification to deer season. By raising the anterless tags quota you end up changing the objective before the 3 year process is complete which makes a mockery of the CDAC process.

Since the new zone layout with the Northern Forest Zone suppose to be NO anterless tags, and Marinette County is in Northern Forest Zone, WHY are they still given out - the eastern 1/2 is agriculture - fine, but the western 1/2 is heavy on logging and heavy forest, with almost no agriculture - this is why the county zone idea DOES NOT work for Marinette county - we have stated this for years, but falls on deaf ears at the DNR - PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, look at this setup again

It is my opinion that there is no does gun or bow for at least 2 years or 1 buck or doe with bow then your done and buck only with gun over the last 10 years we have seen fewer deer and more and more bear we now have bears in the yard almost daily and see deer very seldom reduce the amount of antler less permits to zero for a few years to bring back the population sure it will decrease the amount of hunters for a few years buck will help bring them back

I am a nonresident hunter with connections to this area. I am very satisfied with the CDAC recommendations for this area. I would only propose that of the total antler less tags, some be set aside for online application. I will certainly continue to hunt and trout fish this beautiful area of Wisconsin no matter what, but feel that it would be more than fair to offer everyone a chance at an antler less tag. Keep up the great work!!

Heavy browse in natural regeneration on county and state lands seem to be heavy. Populations seem to stay concentrated near cabins and home that recreationally feed deer year around. I am very concerned about deer populations increasing and nothing is being done about baiting and feeding. CWD should have everyone's attention, but it just doesn't seem to be a priority with the general public.

Please make these units in northeast Wisconsin buck only for at least two years due to lack of deer population I would like my children to be able to enjoy deer hunting but it is VERY hard to keep kids interested when we go sit in the woods for 9 hours and see nothing buck only hunts would really help the deer population in these areas PLEASE CONSIDER THIS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF DEER HUNTERS

I truly believe the number of antler less tags were too low for the last two years, especially the public land. With warm and short winter, the tag for public should be 500-600 and private be around 1200. I saw doe or antler less almost ever hunt. I also want to see the number of bear tag increase in this unit. I believe the high bear population put a dent to deer fawn survival rate.

I believe that the DNR cannot properly manage the deer herd with only 3 units. I live in the northern forested zone and there is too much environmental diversity between forested and agricultural land. This zone cannot be managed the way it is now. I would like to see the youth hunt discontinued. It's not right that the youth can go out with a rifle before the standard gun season.
Deer hunting in this zone has been going down hill for years. Between bonus tags, harsh winters, and predators the deer have had it tuff. Now CDAC wants to "increase" the population as they should. It is crazy to give out more doe licenses when the recommendation is to increase. This will just stunt the increase and drive more hunters south costing local businesses money.

I question how or the fairness of last years online antlerless applicants and awards. I went online a few minutes before the awards were to be made, put on hold, then 2 minutes after the hour of the start of the awards I received the message all awards were complete and no additional tags available. Done in 2 minutes? Just raising a question about the online award process.

We are still trying to recover from a few severe past winters and more so from the years of the dnr handing doe tags out like candy. Add in the increase in predators and our deer population crashed. This led to a massive mistrust of the dnr. Let's learn from our mistakes and help our herd continue to recover. Keep the antlerless tag numbers the same as last year.

Living up here and spending time in the outdoors of Marinette Counties Forest Lands I see some increase in sighting of deer but it's still far lower than years ago. I think another three years of increase and no special hunts will help to bring us back to a decant population considering we don't have a bad winter. One bad devastating winter could change everything.

I would like to see several seasons where only mature bucks are allowed to be harvested. Something like over 4 points. Keeping the antlerless permit numbers low is helping to keep nub buck harvest down. This is helping increase number of bucks reaching maturity. I do enjoy feeding deer outside my cabin. I would like to be able to continue doing this.

Having hunted in this unit for many years I can tell you the deer population is still way down. Too many doe tags and predators are to blame. There are small pockets of concentrated deer but overall the population is down. Don't ruin our recovery with giving out too many doe tags. I would recommend no more then 500 total doe tags for the unit.

We are still trying to rebuild the northern heard. No one wants to hunt up here anymore because there are not many deer. Wolves, bear, and yotes along with all the doe tags have crushed the northern deer population. This has had a SEVERE impact on our tourism. Please give us a chance and lower your projected number of available doe tags.

I am very hopeful when the next 3 year plan for this unit is made that the committee will decide to decrease the deer numbers by allowing more antlerless permits. The mild winters and low number of antlerless deer harvested in recent years have allowed the population to increase rapidly. The consequences have been evident all over the unit.

It is my personal opinion that hunting deer over bait should be banned. It doesn't take much knowledge and skill to harvest a deer over bait. Not only do I feel it is unsportsmanlike like to hunt deer over bait there will always be the unethical hunters who ignore the two gallon rule or still bait in areas where baiting has been banned.

In the northern forest zone I used to see does with twin fawns. I haven't seen any in the last 10 or more years. I believe that predation is way up due to the increase of wolf, coyote, and bear populations. I know of people who have for sale or have sold their hunting property because there are no deer left on or around their land.

Sales of antlerless tags should be sold on weekend to give everyone amore far chance to get one not been able to get a tag in three years. at work on week days. should go back to applying for tag don't get one this year next year you have preference 750 tags sell out in 15 minutes not everybody has a computer at work .

I was very discouraged with the online application process for an antlerless harvest tag. I had logged in 10 minutes prior to the posted time of sale and was informed that I was #2050 in line (queued). Obviously, I had no chance of obtaining an antlerless permit. I'm not sure what the solution to this would be. Thank you
I feel like there should be more for tags available on opening day or rifle season I saw 39 deer 8 of them being bucks or doe to buck ratio is very out of whack. I never went a hunt where I didn't see a deer. We either need more doe tags available or to have the line extended up and become part of central farmland.

The northern forest zone needs to be adjusted in that much of the NFZ is agricultural especially the land south of County X in Marinette County. There is also some land in the Central Farmland south of HWY 180 and east of 141 to County X that should be in Northern Forest. Should be changed soon as possible.

During this past winter, we have noticed a large increase in the number of deer in our agricultural fields as well as 40-50 deer per night coming in to our feed storage area for our cattle. From what I have seen, it appears that fawn survival has been excellent with many of the deer observed being fawns.

Over the last 15 years I have witnessed a drastic reduction in deer numbers...especially on public lands. I truly believe this is because of the over harvesting of antlerless deer. In my deer camp we try for an anterless deer tag. If we get a tag we don't fill it on purpose. We call that save a doe.

Your last page is a catch 22 I care about deer health, over browsing. The problem is I don't see any of that in the area. So its not a concern There are several ways these questions can be taken. If there is a problem in the agriculture areas let the people start opening up their land for hunting.

My only concern with these proposals are the number of antlerless permits being considered. The number of deer in this area has gone substantially down and the past 10 to 15 years. The proposal to double the number of available permits over last year's offerings is very disheartening.

You need to get rid of the Wolf population, When you have 20 dogs on camera, Where do you think the deer are Duh! This isn't Rocket science. I have more Bear and Wolves then Deer! Maybe The DNR should do something about the Wolfs!

This survey asked about deer population now compared to the last 2 years. I believe this area had to many doe permits and doe harvested more than 4 or 5 years ago and has never recovered. Coyote, wolf and a growing bear population contribute to a difficult recovery.

Way too many antlerless tags on public land. Too many wolves. The buck harvest was next to nothing near hwy 8. Need to change the northern forest boundary further north. Too much cheating with youth tags. Don't believe the harvest numbers. There was no shooting.

It has been nice to see more deer. This area had big decline in amount of deer. Since there haven't been doe permits for archery it has helped but area still needs time to grow. Leave this unit the way it is. Finally enjoy time sitting when you can see something.

The boundaries for the Marinette County Northern Forest Zone need to be revised. The southern portion of the unit contains much farmland, is mostly privately owned, typically has a lower WSI, and a higher deer density than the northern portion of the zone.

Think we need to do better surveys on the deer population and I recommend an antler restriction for all of Wisconsin. Less doe tags for all of Wisconsin. Let's make Wisconsin hunting what it used to be. Fun, not boring cause of no sitemings of deer. Not fun

Population and resource management are extremely important to our economy and ecosystem. Having antlerless tags to reduce the rise of population and fall of resource quality is a step in the right direction to finding a stable coexistence.

would like to see the preference point system returned to the northern forest zones where we would like raise the deer population and keep antlerless low its only fair to give everyone a fair chance to get an antlerless tag once in a while
Bring back the back tag and make them register at a station. I feel there to many deer shot that were not registered. Thank you

There is plenty of deer. Hunters have to scout and move with the deer - when a forest matures the deer eat else ware. People do the same when the food isn't as good as it used to be at their favorite restaurant.

my opinion is. do not allow antlerless harvest, even during bowhunting for next 3-4 years, along with gun hunting. I am ok for Junior's to harvest antlerless deer- something needs to keep them interested

You have no idea WTF your doing 30-45 yrs ago we saw plenty of deer, now we have 6 guys left out of our party of 14 and none of us has seen yet alone shot a deer in at least 12-15 years.

Thank you for allowing me to provide input. Our area is near the Central Farmland Zone, but falls under the Northern Forest Zone area. I guess the line has to be drawn somewhere...

I had only seen two deer for the whole season on public county forest land; which is much less than normal. On my private land only a few small deer where seen in our hunting group.

I would increase the antlerless number of tags and put a restriction on the size of antlered deer that can be harvested at 6 point or even 8 point and bigger for a couple years.

It is incredibly obvious to anyone in the area that the entire deer population is WAY down. We MUST stop or severely limit the number of antlerless tags that are given out.

Based on DNR deer metrics for area, including car/deer collisions, forest regeneration problems, and 3 very mild winters, I think more permits should be issued. Thank you

Why give out more permits this year when last year more does were killed then this years recommended quota number? At this rate we will be declining the population soon.

I have not seen any great increase in the deer population in this area. If anything it has remained at the same level. This is why the quota should not be increased.

I think there should be more people should do a head count in the four seasons. Because there might be more in one county then other. Thanks Chester Blackburn

We are seeing a very rapid increase in predators such as coyote and wolf and we believe this is the reasoning for a less abundance of deer on our property

Just an opinion but the number of private land antlerless tags is irrelevant because most of the landowners will not shoot doe regardless of opportunity.

Don't see too many antlered deer, would have loved to harvest an antlerless deer last year. Have been unsuccessful in the lottery the last two years

Not enough deer due to bear populations out of control as well as wolf packs. Coyote packs are huge as well not to mention the bobcat in the area.

Would like to see several hundred more antlerless tags allocated but appreciate the efforts being made to manage the current deer herd.

Way too many antlerless tags. Too many wolves. Northern Forest boundary too far south. Too much cheating with youth tags.

The deer herd must be reduced much lower than it presently is to allow valuable tree species to regenerate.

Let's get hunting back to hunting. Bucks first. Then if you have to does on the last 2 days of season.

I feel if you bow or crossbow hunt you should be able to take an antlerless deer without a bonus tag.

Buck only for a few years...regain the population. You are losing hunters with your mismanagement!
Landowners should have a different system to acquire an anterless bonus tag.
Hunting of wolves needs to be resumed as soon as possible.
These quota goals are much too high. Please lower them.
I would like to see antler size restriction
I would be in favor of banning baiting
STOP THE ANTI BAITING PROPAGANDA
Keep up the good work.
144 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 81
   - No: 63

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 52
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 50
   - I hunt in this unit: 100
   - General interest in this unit: 35

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 98
   - Bow: 64
   - Crossbow: 28
   - Muzzleloader: 40

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 22.91
   - Maximum: 68

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 78
   - Mostly Private Land: 11
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 5
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
   - Somewhat crowded: 3
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 4

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 25
   - Fewer: 47
   - Same: 50
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 5

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 25
   - Fewer: 53
   - Same: 40
   - More: 12
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 9
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

**11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?**

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: Not applicable in this DMU

**12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.**

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure
  - 32 | 103 | 17

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure
  - 19 | 107 | 17

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure
- Not applicable in this DMU

**14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  Marquette, Central Farmland
I don't know why I take the time to fill these out and comment because it always falls on deaf ears, but here I go. Once again, this is the most ridiculous proposal I have seen to date. I have hunted property in Marquette county for 50 years now and this is by far the lowest and worst the deer population has been. And yet you want to shoot more antlerless deer! What a joke!! Then to top off more antlerless tags and a higher antlerless quota, you throw in the idiotic holiday hunt and then threaten us with an antlerless only season! You people are nuts! If anything, we should have a buck only season! We need to stop slaughtering the antlerless deer or we won't have a deer herd left. Of course with the money you are receiving from the insurance companies this has been your objective all along. I am very angry and tired of this nonsense. I have not spoken to a neighbor or a true sportsman in Marquette county that does not agree with me. Our deer herd is in trouble, we do not need to keep killing antlerless deer and I for one refuse to do so. But as long as you keep handing out tags like cotton candy there are idiots that will keep shooting until its too late. Please take a real look at the facts, not your scientific assumption B.S. that I keep getting handed. STOP THE SLAUGHTER!! I love whitetail deer hunting and spend my falls in the woods appreciating the species and the strategy that goes into harvesting a trophy deer. It is sad to see each year getting worse than the previous year with no hope in sight because of the CDAC lunacy!

Plenty of oppurtunity already to hunt deer all fall (bow, gun, muzzleloader), dont need holiday hunt or special antlerless hunts. If anything start mussleloader season 10 days prior to current gun season and extend gun season 10 days over prior mussleloader. Primarily only see fawns and yearlings due to low population compared to estimated herd size. I refuse to hunt antlerless hunts. Already shoot primarily all does, dont need to finally get chance at buck during antlerless hunt and cannot harvest. If people have unfilled tags let them use them anytime during legal season plus you will get more people out in woods if they can harvest a doe or buck based on their unfilled tags. Make it illegal to sell deer bait and ban it use statewide, not just some counties. I bow hunt all fall and see deer them I notice all deer magically disappear prior to each gun season and consolidate in large numbers on certain properties (I think they are baiting illegally). CWD is spreading so DNR measures have failed and pointless if not enforced. Come on, they sell deer bait that looks like dirt. Reduce use by banning retail sale, then do proper enforcement. I have also heard of people who dont hunt feeding deer to view. Ban the sale of bait. Stop giving out ag tags unless property is open to anyone to hunt. Otherwise land owner is not interested in actually reducing population.

As a graduate student at Madison studying environmental practices, I understand the importance of maintain the deer population in Marquette County for economic and environmental reasons. However, simply maintaining the population in this county will severely impact the whitetail population. The population should be increased, based on the recent diseases that have devastated whitetail populations. EHD hit us a few years ago wiping out many mature bucks and of recent years many fawns have been dying for unknown reasons. Decreasing the populations will not rid these diseases; private landowners need to be contacted and allow deer sampling to be done. The rich deer hunting traditions in this area need to be preserved in order to maintain the economic benefits that many local businesses rely on during the fall. Therefore, because of recent disease impacts, the population needs to be increased to restore its previous status. Then, biologists need to work with landowners to sample more deer.
I do not live in Marquette county; however I have family there that I frequently visit. I do not see deer population to be an issue for my family in the area. What we do see to be an issue is the Holiday Hunt taking over the already short snowmobile season. Snowmobiling is a beloved family sport that brings business to many local businesses throughout Marquette and all surrounding counties. Expanding Holiday Hunts to other counties will only greatly hinder the positive economic impact the snowmobile season has. Snow is unpredictable, but there is one thing that is certain - there is never enough of it. Last year there was actually snow during the holiday season - but trails were closed. These weeks are prime for getting out on the trails as many people are off of work and spending time with family - please don't let an already extensive hunting season take away from the little amount of time snowmobile enthusiasts have!

This so called "method" of managing the deer herd is harming hunting as a whole. They have been over hunted for way to many years. Deer numbers are no where near what they used to be and in truth I'm ready to hang it up. When I first started hunting 26 years ago I'd go out and see so many deer I didn't know which one to shoot. Now I go out and hope to see one. You have so many "special" hunts going on that the deer have no chance to rest. They have gone nocturnal by mid October and stay that way until early February. These hunts have ruined the fall bow hunt as well as the late bow season. Having to shoot does only most of December has taken the fun out of it and made harvesting an animal in this way almost impossible. The youth hunts won't guarantee new hunters if the old hunters no longer hunt to show them how. I'm having a real problem taking my 10 year old out this year. Please give this serious thought.

You guys have been missing the boat for many years. All you need to do is look at the harvest numbers and compare the difference between the success in private vs. public. I truly believe things like use of permanent stands on private land and landowners ability to use quality deer management as a tool helps the private owners. The DNR took a step in the right direction by allowing hunters on public land north of hwy 64 to erect ladder stands and leave them up overnight. what I don't understand is why limit it to just north of hwy 64? Attempting to erect a ladder stand in the dark the morning of the hunt and then take it down in the dark after the end of the day is not only unsafe, for someone my age it's impossible. If you are truly concerned about hunter safety you would adopt this rule statewide AND I am certain that it would help with hunter success and your goal to control the deer heard. Thank you.

The number of deer per acre are way above the safe level. The last 3 years I have witnessed 25+ deer in the 22 acre field that I hunt during bow season more than a dozen times per season during daylight hours. Deer carcasses litter the road sides along I-39. In 2011 we had 5 killed in the 1/4th mile stretch in front of our farm (that we knew of). This year an equal number. In January we counted more than 100 deer on the 14 mile trek home from my parents crossing the center portion of Marquette County before dark. Over the years I have had to burn the deer hides after skinning the deer due to the massive number of ticks crawling on them. Less deer would equal less ticks, too. Last year I had 6 tags, but filled only 2 because that was all we would be able to utilize in a year. This year I have gotten requests for 5-6 that will be donated to family members. This wont even dent the population.

The main purpose of me taking this survey was not recommending a Holiday Hunt. I do not want a Holiday Hunt to happen in Marquette County again this year. Our snowmobile trails could not open to due to the holiday hunt last year. A lot of my friends did not even hunt during that time. Snowmobile trail openings are extremely limited due to time frame, and we lost a good percentage of that last year. I heard a lot of complaints from community businesses, and fellow riders about them not being able to open. The hunt is from 24th to 1st, but we could not open at all during December due to 1 landowner not wanting them opened before the hunt. Due to 1 landowner out of 74 that said no, we respected his decision and closed them prior. And once Jan 2nd came, all the snow was gone. There are so many other hunting opportunities in this great state, I feel the Holiday Hunt is not needed.
The deer population has finally returned to pre Earn a Buck numbers. Continuing to estimate and over inflate numbers is not working. Unless there is a verifiable method of defining the actual deer population numbers estimates shouldn’t be made. The DNR continues to claim higher and higher deer population numbers yet harvest numbers continue to drop. In my opinion most ethical hunters are going to harvest what they need to provide for their families, not what is recommended by any agency. Earn a Buck, holiday hunts, and other herd reduction measures destroyed the younger deer population in units across the state. My oldest daughter will hopefully harvest her first deer this season and it is my hope that she will enjoy the traditions I have learned from my grandfather. Let the land owners continue to manage their own properties as we see fit.

Like most hunters I think the number of permits is too high. Why would we have a deer herd that is so large that we must issue more permits than hunters can use or want to use? Please get the herd back to our 2014 level so we don’t need this many permits. I am also opposed to the herd being so large that we must have a holiday hunt and the many/longer seasons. I am also opposed to hunting during the 5 days before the rifle season. Give the deer 5 days off and the rifle hunters will see more deer. Please get the herd in line before we end up with an antlerless only season. In Deer 2000 a criteria for herd size was the demand for antlerless tags. If there was too little demand the herd should be smaller so it didn’t reproduce as much. If hunters demand to shoot more deer than a larger herd is in order.

I would like to see less antlerless only hunts. Personally the number of deer seen gun season has dropped dramatically the last ten years. It would be nice to see anterless tags get away from being county specific and land specific, many hunters hunt multiple counties it becomes very difficult to have tags for both public and private in several counties. Bonus tags still could be but not the tags issued with your license. Also if someone buys both gun and archery license they should be issued two bucks tags to be used either both archery or one of each. Many people are not gun hunting any more but far more are archery hunting. Land owners and hunters know their deer herd far better than any outside source! Thank you!

I live where 300-400 deer could have been any night on a drive around the block. Now, 20-30 on a good night!!!! The old days are gone and that many deer may have been too many, however how did numbers drop so heavily in 15 years?? I’m 35 years old so for 20 years this land supported those numbers. The old hunters would not shoot a doe because that’s what they where taught. Then the ag-tags came about and farms close by would take 75-100 deer yearly off their property. And now here we are, un-generationAlly supper low deer numbers. 1 buck, 1 doe bow season 1 buck, 1 doe gun season Only have a 9 day gun season, with muzzle loader to follow. Leave bow season the way it is. Please!!!

I believe you are over harvesting the doe population. We have hunted the last 2 years on average 6 of the 10 days and our group of 3 will see a total of 10-12 deer each year. We did harvest 1 buck but will not shoot a doe as we feel the numbers are far too low by what we see! Having 2 extra seasons to hunt doe only is not needed and should be eliminated! The extra season that was provided only delayed opening of the snowmobile trails which provide the businesses more business after the general 10 day hunt. Our land is near Harrisville in Marquette county and numbers are very low compared to other areas in Marquette county.

Glad to see the amount of free tags was increased to 3 for Marquette County when you buy your archery and gun tags. My main idea is to keep the price of bonus antlerless tags at $12 each for public land tags, however reduce the cost of bonus antlerless tags to $3 (roughly) for private land tags to give those who hunt on private land and have a localized deer issue an affordable way to control the population. This should not be a large cost to DNR to reduce the price of private land tags since we went to the GO WILD system and there is no printing cost to the DNR for printing the additional tags.
In my opinion I would give out more tags during the normal 9 day season and a T Zone. NO more Holiday Hunts. The Wisconsin Snowmobile season is short enough the way it is. Snowmobilers bring in way more revenue to the tourism and businesses than Hunters ever could! Please consider not interfering with a already short season of snowmobiling and maybe extend the standard November Season of deer hunting or allow more tags during the normal hunt! I spoke to Bar, Restaurant, Motel, and Gas stations and they are hurting because the season is already to short and the lack of snow has not helped!!

I am a snowmobiler and my opinion that having a holiday hunt will cut into being able to snowmobile in Marquette County. I also have hundreds of snowmobiling friends that live in that country that will be affected. Snowmobile season opens at the beginning to mid December till March 31st. I do like to ride in this county when trails are open. Having a holiday hunt can limit that! Which means you will not be letting me spend money in that County to help its tourism! I think there's other options for deer hunters without hurting the snowmobile program! Thank you for letting me speak my opinion!

Please give serious consideration into eliminating the holiday hunt. Businesses in Wisconsin rely on the business they get from snowmobilers in the winter to make it through. This winter the only good snow Wisconsin had was during the holiday hunt. We understand the deer population needs to be managed. I can say in the past I personally have witnessed a large reduction in the number of deer I see during both bow and gun season. This year I saw a total of 4 does and 2 fawns during the entire gun season when normally I would see many more. Thank you for your time.

The property we purchased in 2013 in marquette county has, in my opinion, too many deer. We have on average taken 8 deer per year between archery and gun season. In an effort to provide better habitat for wildlife We have planted hundreds of trees and shrubs. The deer will destroy any plant they can reach within days, making it necessary to tube or fence every single plant. I drive the 8 mile block every spring before fawning and count deer. In 2014 it was 225. In 2015 it was 242. In 2016 it was 256. These are just the ones visible in fields from the road.

Have to now pay for a snowmobile trail pass & couldn't use the snowmobile trails during that time. And it turned out that week would have been one of the best times to snowmobile, most of the rest of the season it rained or didn't have enough snow to open the trails. We have seen fewer deer in our area than we did a few years back. Used to have issues with them nibbling on trees & haven't had any problems the last couple of years. If an extended season needs to take place then extend the November hunt by a week or at least before snowmobile season.

I really hope the Holiday Hunt is reconsidered this year. As a long time snowmobiler in a snowmobiler family, I know how limited our time is to do what we love each year in this area already (without driving to Michigan). I, as well as many others, were unable to get out on the trails(that we groom and maintain ourselves) due to the Holiday Hunt. Although hunters have multiple seasons to do what they love, they also had to have our season as well. Please rethink this holiday hunt and bring more snowmobile tourism back to this area. Thank you.

I live in this unit. I'm a snowmobiler. And we only get a few months to ride. Marquette county had enough snow to open the Trails in Dec. but didn't because of the holiday hunt I feel more money would have been generated from open Snowmobile trails, for Marquette county then the holiday hunt. It just seems very unfair to all the business in this area. They can hunt in Oct and Nov. Please re think the Hoiday hunt times to make it fair for everyone to share our great outdoors.

I am against the Holiday Hunt in Marquette County. I am a snowmobiler and feel in a good year, snowmobile season might last 2 to 2 1/2 months and it isn't fair to loose a week of that season to deer hunting. You don't realize the revenue that snowmobiling brings to Marquette County. Your hunting seasons start in September and you get a good 4 months to hunt. For the 300 plus dear that were taken in that week, you could easily allow 4 to 5 additional tags with the original license.
I am concerned about the impact that the large deer population has on other wildlife, native plant populations, agriculture, forest regeneration. For example on my property I have little understory and that is mostly prickly ash and fern, neither of which is good for most wildlife species. I had my land logged due to oak wilt and cannot get any seedlings to grow due to deer browse. Last week we lost count at 150 deer on a 10 mile loop around Montello.

I am a resident of this county and enjoy snowmobiling. I strongly oppose a holiday hunt because it interferes with the ability to open snowmobile trails. I pay registration, belong to a club, and also purchase trail passes for 4 machines. The snowmobiling season is never a guarantee due to snow conditions, so to monopolize an extra 2+ weeks for hunting when the trails could be open is not fair. Snowmobiling brings lots of tourism to the area as well.

I farm over 400 acres in Marquette County and I can tell you from first hand experience that deer numbers are down. Crop damage is almost non existent on our property with most if not all damage coming from turkeys. Should we start shooting those year round too? Your attempts to eliminate the deer herd in Wisconsin are working. Glad we hired a so called Czar to empower you to ignore the truth!

As the Amish community continues to grow in the southern part of the county the deer numbers continue to decrease in this area. With each hunter having six or more tags available to them between archery and gun seasons there simply aren’t enough deer in the area to support this. Shooting a doe and her two fawns just because you have tags available is not deer management.

The harvest this year prevented me and my family from using the Marquette County and neighboring county snowmobile trails during the ONLY time this season they would have been open for any time. The holiday time is the ONLY time of year we can usually gather my family in one place at the same time. Usually to use our house in Montello as our snowmobile gathering spot.

The Holiday Hunt is a great opportunity for friends and family to hunt together when kids are out of school. Snow is typically non-existent during the Christmas break in Marquette County and the hunt will not impact other outdoor activities at that time. Also, the Holiday Hunt has proven to harvest additional antlerless deer in an area that has abundant deer.

The holiday hunt in all counties is bad for local businesses that depend on the snowmobile season for their livelihood. Hunting already ruins most of December and now you want to take more time away when people have off for the holidays and plan their snowmobile trips. Sometimes December is the best month for this sport, we don’t need to add more hunts!

The holiday hunt does not provide the area the tourism dollars that snowmobiles provide to the area. So few hunters were out during the holiday hunt judging by restaurant traffic compared to the all day long snowmobile crowds. Allow the holiday hunt during the first two weeks of December and leave the last two weeks to the families.

I oppose the Holiday Hunt in Marquette County because the number of deer harvested in 2016 was very low. As a member of the Endeavor Freedom Riders Snowmobile Club, I would like the Snowmobile trails to open on 12-1-17 when there is snow. The Marquette County Snowmobile Association opposes the Holiday Hunt. Thank you.

I strongly oppose a holiday, because snowmobile trails being open brings a lot more tourism dollars to the county during this time of year. The few hunters you have are mostly local and do not spend the money snowmobilers will at area business. The snowmobile season is to short with out losing that week.

An extended season would be better than a hunt in December. It is not fair for others that try to snowmobile etc. I hunt every year and I also snowmobile and the best part of the season was ruined by the holiday hunt. Just extend the current hunt a week and make It Doe only. Share and Share alike.

we are dedicated snowmobile workers and riders. we work hard to make our trails ready for the season, and snowmobiling brings much needed income into the area-much more than hunting enthusiasts. we need to have our trails open for the season, which can be shortened anyway because of weather.
If you can't get the number of deer killed in nine months and give us snowmobiles three months out of the year to snowmobile I think it's time to replace the heads in DNR the business owners I talked with we're not happy with the revenue and bought them compared to snowmobiling.

I believe hunters have plenty of chances to harvest deer in this county. I also enjoy snowmobiling. The Holiday Hunt last year took away the opportunity for the best sledding of the season, and quite a few tourist dollars for local businesses. I don't believe that is right.

If doing antlerless hunt after gun season. It needs to begin first part of December. Over the Christmas break is not the time to hold a holiday hunt. You need to think about both animal interest and also tourism throughout the state of Wisconsin.

We loose a lot of deer in area 54c do to coyote predation, and also due to the Hmong hunters in our area, that don't believe our hunting laws apply to them. Nothing alive in the woods, is safe when they are around, either in or out of season.

This DMU is ridiculously overpopulated with deer. An earn a buck season is the only realistic way to get hunters to harvest enough does. In fact, I would recommend a two doe earn a buck season (two does required to earn a single buck tag).

I don't like the holiday hunt due to fact I snowmobile and we had snow during the holiday hunt and trails were closed. It hurt the economy for the area they need to rethink the holiday hunt.

After opening day there are no deer left on the public lands. They are all run off to the private lands and you cannot get access to these lands. If you want to cut down the heard in some areas open up more access to private lands.

where I have land there is a lot of hunters in the area on private land harvesting a large number of does. the deer population is low because of this. 5 to 10 miles away you see fields with larger numbers of deer in them.

We do not support a Holiday hunt which delays the snowmobile season in this area. The hunters have plenty of time to hunt without the addition of the holiday hunt and this delays opening of the snowmobile trails.

As an avid hunter, I have plenty of time and opportunity to hunt during a regular hunting season. As an avid snowmobiler, my family pays good money for licenses and would like to snowmobile when there is snow.

I am strongly opposed to a holiday hunt, having snowmobile trails open during this time brings in way more tourism dollars than the few deer hunters it brings. The snowmobile season is to short as it is.

I support an antlerless season only or I support a ton of buck to help knock down the population. I do not support adding more hunts to kill deer in other parts of the season enough is enough.

I think hunting from September through the 1st week in December is plenty. We have property in this unit and did not get to even snowmobile on this property.

The over browse on oak regeneration has been devastating. We are going to miss a generation of quality oaks unless the deer herd is brought down in numbers.

Holiday hunt adversely affects snowmobiling. If there is snow, snowmobiling generates more dollars to local economy than hunting at this time of the year.

The deer numbers are way lower than what you show. I've spent well over 300 hours in the woods hunting last year bow/gun. No way we have that many deer.

I do not want to see any more antlerless deer taken in this management unit. Nor do I recommend or support a higher antlerless quota and holiday hunt!

Please do NOT consider shooting more antlerless deer as a solution. I do not like any of the recommendations being made by the CDAC.
I would like to see private stands allowed to stay up during the hunting season. Much like in the northern hunting areas.

No antlerless hunts at all would be fine with me. We need the existing herd to recover from years of over harvesting.

The dead deer numbers this winter on my land were staggering and most were from Wolfs and Cyotte!!!!!!!!

I do not like the amount of antlerless harvest that is being proposed. We need more deer not less.

The Holiday Hunt does not support the local businesses to benefit having this hunt again this year.

The deer population is not as high as it has been and predators are causing the numbers to drop.

I think having 3 months of hunting is far to much on these small heards in Marquette.

Holiday Hunt is not needed!!! There is already too many seasons/times to shoot deer.

I think an antlerless only gun season at a separate time may be worth considering.

I am seeing more wolfs than deer. The problem is predators. Bring back the hunt.

I was very unhappy with the holiday hunt, please do not do it again. Thank you.

Stop killing antlerless deer, this is truly becoming ridiculous!

let the snowmobile clubs open the trails in december

I believe the system is good as is.

Opposed to ALL CDAC recommendations

NO HOLIDAY HUNT!!!!!!!

NO Holiday Hunt.
### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 0
   - No: 1

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 1
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 0
   - I hunt in this unit: 1
   - General interest in this unit: 1

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 0
   - Bow: 0
   - Crossbow: 1
   - Muzzleloader: 0

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 2
   - Maximum: 2

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 1
   - Mostly Private Land: 0
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 0
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 0
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 0
   - Same: 1
   - More: 0
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 0
   - Same: 1
   - More: 0
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0
**Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations**

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

- Amount of deer mortality during an average year... 3.00
- Amount of damage to backyard plants... 1.00
- The number of deer-vehicle collisions... 3.00
- Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)... 3.00
- Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer... 4.00
- Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer... 4.00
- Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer... 4.00
- Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species... 4.00
- Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy... 1.00
- Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit... 4.00
- Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)... 3.00

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**

*Milwaukee, Southern Farmland*
I regularly see a consistent count of does in my hunting area. The number of does and diversity of bucks throughout the season is appropriate and hunter opportunistic. The goals identified in this survey appear appropriate and thoughtful.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Monroe, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

59 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 39
   - No: 20

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 25
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 6
   - I hunt in this unit: 54
   - General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 50
   - Bow: 39
   - Crossbow: 11
   - Muzzleloader: 17

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 21.98
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 38
   - Mostly Private Land: 8
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 5
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 16
   - Same: 28
   - More: 6
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 20
   - More: 10
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Monroe, Central Farmland
When we first started hunting Monroe county some 13-14 years ago, one could expect to see double digits number of deer on opening day. Now, 4 of us are lucky to see double digit number of deer COMBINED. More recently, we have had members of our family who hunt for 3-4 days w/o seeing a deer. And it has been getting worse every year. It used to be the shooting could be heard continuously on opening day and sporadically on Sunday. Now there are 1, 2 even 3 hour gaps between shots on opening day. Granted there were an over-abundance of deer in the early 2000's but now it has gotten to the point where I don't believe all the antlerless tags are justified, especially the bonus tags. Last year during the gun deer season, the four family members killed 0 deer and fired 0 shots. A first!

Deer populations in the southern portion of the county are high. On my 430 acres, using 5 trail cameras we identified 11 individual buck in late December. Of the 11, 2 were 3.5 yrs plus, 2 were 2.5 year olds and the remainder 1.5 year olds. Its difficult to estimate the number of does but we did have camera pictures with as many as 10 does in the same picture in ag fields. Browsing on young oaks, white pine and young sumac was high. Its difficult to get any oak regeneration with out some sort of protection for the tree. Bucks seemed to retain their antlers very late into to the winter, an indicator that winter stress was low and we will be going into 2017 with a large number of deer.

I would still like the chance to harvest a doe every year. Also, would like to have more public land to hunt. A lot of the public here is over crowded with too many hunters during the gun deer season. Also, would like to see more bobcat tags available. Just the last two seasons of going out coyote hunting. I've called in more bobcats then coyotes. Hence our grouse and pheasant population in almost none existent. As for letting pheasants go in an area. That area should be blocked from hunting pheasants for a year to better establish them. I watched a release near Norwalk. Within 3 days after the release every pheasant was gone. Way over hunted upon their release.

I would like to see some antler restrictions similar to the way Southeast MN is set up. I have relation and friends that no longer hunt in Wisconsin. They have switched to MN for the opportunity for Trophy deer. These were long time WI hunters that have hunted here for the past 20-30 years. Since switching each has harvested a Trophy buck in 2 of the last 3 years. I can see how this attracts more tourist dollars to those areas. I only heard complaints the first 3 years it was in effect, since then everyone is happy. In my opinion it also makes hunters a little more cautious prior to taking a shot and I'm all about safety.

I have hunted on private land, public land and public Access land. I did not see any deer or movement for that matter. When I have my son out for his first time during the youth hunt and we don't see anything and you have kids dropping deer in other counties gets really upsetting. I love the go wild app, but think we need to register deer at stations. I would consider putting a limit on the amount of deer an individual can harvest yearly. I know people who will have 10-15 deer in the freezer cause they hunt every type of season with several tags.

I have hunted this area for 21 years when I started as a kid I was lucky to see deer then we had a good herd and we all eliminated it. Now I'm finally feeling comfortable seeing the deer that I am seeing and talking with neighbors when hunting and they are seeing more then years ago I think if we stay with one antlerless tag per license we will be ok I do not want to see it go back to a bonus tag that you have to send in for because if all I see are doe's I will harvest a doe.
The significant drop in the antlerless quota is puzzling to me. How can you go from 5000 the past 2 years to 1750 for 2017 unless their was a steep drop in the population? Your goal is to maintain. With CWD at your door step and many species of browse struggling, you should error on the lower side of your goal. You have a 20% window to shoot for, you should be aiming for the bottom 1/2 of that window.

I believe that the policy of selling limitless antlerless deer tags should never be allowed. I believe this is what created the need for “Zero Quota” areas. Having to make the distinction of public or private land on a license is confusing, many hunters legally pass between private and public land. The deer don’t care!

I have lived here since 2010 and travel 14 miles to and from work daily. I see far fewer deer than I saw several years ago. I believe the DNR should stop issuing a free antlerless tag with each license and go to the quota. I also believe spotlighting should be banned due to its effect on the behavior of deer.

I would like to see you ease the restrictions on "baiting" deer. I would like you to allow mechanical type automatic feeders to be placed on private property. I think you are doing an EXCELLENT job of managing the deer population.

1.Quit protecting the wolves and let people hunt them and find ways to get rid of the coyotes. 2.Put a 6 point minimum on antlered deer to help manage and grow the deer heard. 3.Make the county buck only for a couple of years.

I saw so many more deer this year it was unbelievable. It was a great year. I oppose strongly about an antlerless deer hunt for Monroe county. Unless the deer population is at risk to future hunting

Please place more emphasis on bait banning and education of the effects of high deer population on Oak forest and native woody vegetation regrowth.

1. Eliminate all deer baiting. 2. Provide options for CWD testing of harvested deer 3. Eliminate all cervid/deer farms.

Please let the DNR experts do their job without the Governor and politics interfering with best practices and CWD control.

Would like to see a 8 point minimum on bucks and a lower antlerless harvest to bring the population of deer back up some.

I'm seeing deer and that's important to me. Keep up the good work!

concerned about coyotes and wolves.
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 9
   - No: 9

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 3
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
   - I hunt in this unit: 17
   - General interest in this unit: 3

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 17
   - Bow: 9
   - Crossbow: 6
   - Muzzleloader: 6

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 23.12
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 9
   - Mostly Private Land: 2
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 2
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 2
   - Same: 12
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 5
   - Same: 7
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: **Not applicable in this DMU**

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: **Not applicable in this DMU**

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
    - **VALID**: 11, **NOT VALID**: 7, **Unsure**: 0

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>2.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**

Monroe, Central Forest
I would like to see changing rules for senior hunting. I am 74 and have to abide by the same rules as the younger fit hunters. Senior hunters should be able to put deer stands in for the whole season, not have to take them in and out everyday. Many fire lanes have been closed and we have to carry our stands farther than we should. They also should be able to use ATV’s to pull deer out of the woods, not joy ride, but to only drag harvested deer. The DNR does absolutely nothing for the senior hunter. Many of us still enjoy hunting, but it gets harder every year. Thanks and hopefully before I die or have to give up hunting you will do something for your seniors.

Baiting/feeding should be banned in Monroe Co. In Central forest area deer are concentrated are those areas that are baited and seldom leave area in daylight hours. Deer numbers on private areas are definitely better than on public. Deer numbers dont seem to be responding well to amount of cut over areas, too much harvesting of mature mast producing oaks. Wolf, bear and bobcat sightings and sign have increased greatly in the last 10 years. Cant view meeting minutes online, not available yet?

Your goal for this DMU is understood but I think it is important to offer youth tags to keep them interested. In our area 2016 winter kill did not seem to be an issue, but I believe we lost more deer to predators.

There are a lot of does. There should be more doe tags.
Oconto, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

69 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 43
   - No: 26

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 28
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 17
   - I hunt in this unit: 64
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 60
   - Bow: 42
   - Crossbow: 29
   - Muzzleloader: 25

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 25.08
   - Maximum: 63

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 46
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 4
   - Exclusively Public Land: 4
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 9
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 3
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 12
   - Fewer: 18
   - Same: 25
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 4

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 12
   - Fewer: 17
   - Same: 25
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 6
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

#### 9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

#### 11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: Not applicable in this DMU

#### 12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Oconto, Central Farmland
I find it extremely frustrating that baiting was banned in Oconto county due to finding CWD on a game farm in an adjacent county. Especially implementing this mid season was very frustrating to say the least. I don't understand the theory of a 2 Gallon bait pile spreading CWD. On average, not including baiting once the deer herd up after gun season, on my game cameras over bait piles I averaged 6-8 different deer thru the entire bow season? The only time you see drastically higher numbers is once you hit post Rifle season and then deer start concentrating around food sources due to necessity and ease of access. Wouldn't it be more effecting to ban baiting once December 1st comes around? I also hunt in Calumet county as well near where I live and once it hits late season bow you can find 50 plus deer in one Agriculture field every single night until that food source has deminished or has been harvested depending on the crop. If that many deer are using that same filed night after night wouldn't it be relatively safe to say the those deer should all in turn have contracted CWD? You may say well if none of them have it or older deer are the ones that develop systems and others will carry it until maturity is reached. Sorry bit of a tangent. Back to Oconto county, I can honestly say now with the baiting ban I will no longer be hunting up in Machikanee Forest until Pre rut/rut due to this and I will be staying more locally based until then. I'm just getting tired of these deer farms ruining hunting opportunities. I really enjoyed taking my father with me up by Stiles to where he learned to Whitetail deer hunt when he was in his early 20's. Seems the state is ok with driving their local hunters towards out of state hunting.

First of all I'm concerned about the CWD in not just my area but the entire state and how it is handled right now. This past season they shut down Oconto County for no baiting due to a game farm that had CWD. My concern is that they did nothing to the game farm and they shut the County down not fair not right. I believe baiting should be allowed and managed in a different way. It's been said that baiting in piles and the deer breathing on it would pass on CWD. My suggestion is that they allow baiting again certain amounts and it all has to be broadcasted not on a pile. Just like you plant for food plots and they're spread out and there legal and why shouldn't baiting be legal. I believe that people that have baited will continue to bait and they'll have nothing but fines going out and the DNR are looking for people that really apparently are breaking the law but if you broadcast the bait the deer are not breathing on those particular spots as the same time no different then it would be for a food plot. The DNR does not have the time or the manpower to go looking for people that have put baits out to attract deer. And one more item I believe we should have is a four point minimum on one side. This would allow for more trophy bucks in an area which is called deer management.

The recommendations proposed are very inline with where i personally hunt in Oconto county! Last year the corn on our property which is rented got harvested in very early September, which was the main food source for alot of the deer that frequent there. By October and November deer sightings were non existent, as they moved to the south of our property and went on neighboring land where there was corn and alfalfa. With no baiting in Oconto county and land owners on both sides of us not wanting any antlerless deer taken it was a very uneventful season. We seen deer but they were all on these landowners properties. I'm not a believer in CWD! As I have talked with many hunting groups and outdoorsmen and asked them if they have ever seen a CWD deer in the wild, an not any have ever seen one! I also bowhunt in Waupaca county on my private 10 acres which is in the middle of 1300 acres and the years we could bait seen 4 to 6 deer a night. The last 2 years i'm lucky to have seen a deer the whole season, and i bowhunt alot! I don't like the fact that Waupaca county has had no CWD deer found in it but yet we are punished for it, because of a neighboring county having 1 CWD deer. I feel this needs to change. Thank you.
I think the number of deer harvested in 2017 will be drastically lower with the baiting ban. I hunted for 25 years but will not even hunt at all myself because I can't afford to put in a food plot and it's just too boring hunting runways because I rarely see anything. I think it is stupid to ban baiting when a deer on a game farm in Oconto County tests positive for CWD! It wasn't in the wild it was on a game farm. I saw they tested 1230 deer in the central farmland zone and only 1 tested positive for CWD and it was in Portage County which is a long way from Oconto County. There will be a lot more deer hit by vehicles now because of this as well so we have that to look forward to. I'm beyond pissed about the baiting ban in Oconto County! Fix the problem right instead of making it worse!

Most bucks harvested in Wisconsin are 1.5 years with dressed weights about 110 to 125 lbs. In people years, this is equivalent to a 12 year old! Please consider implementing regulations that allow bucks to grow to a more mature state, i.e. 3 to 4 years with dressed weights in the 180 lbs to 220lbs range. This would improve the hunting experience for all hunters and make WI a much more desirable destination for hunting. The economic benefits would be huge. It would allow WI to raise their non-resident hunting licenses in line with other states, as well as help support local economies. Personally, I would certainly consider an all-antlerless harvest (or two) worth the investment for a future "quality" hunting experience.

I appreciate and support both the Holiday hunt and the 2 free tag proposals for the Oconto Farm Land Zone. I have land in this zone and am experiencing significant deer browse on my forest. I had just completed several small clearcuts to regenerate some aspen. Deer browse was much worse this past year than I had anticipated. Most of the aspen sprouts were chewed off at 6 inches tall. One patch of sprouts reached 4 feet by fall before the deer chewed them back down to about 2 feet. I am concerned the deer may not allow the aspen to grow past them, or any other trees for that matter. We hunt the land and will make use of the extra tags and the extra season. I hope others will also.

More control needs to be developed regarding deer farms. Almost every time I hear about CWD it starts with a game farm scenario. They seem to be able to continue to operate as normal yet these issues seem to originate with them. I can't put out two gallons of bait because it cause it congregates the deer and potentially spreads diseases. These game farm people can have hundreds of deer fenced in on a small tract of land and that's ok? In my opinion, you are never going to get a handle on this issue if you don't start shutting down these deer farms - they are not needed. Thanks for your time.

This past winter I have been seeing more deer than I have for years. That may be due to the mild winter we had. but I don't really think so. I hunt private property, small partials. CWD is a very scary disease and I think we need to do whatever we can to minimize the issue. Baiting is illegal, it should have been illegal years ago. Now strict enforcement must be enforced aggressively. If we want to attract for or that matter maintain our hunter numbers we need to not give them reasons to not hunt. Deer farming has become a big concern and needs stricter rules and regulations.

Oconto - central farmland zone runs too far North. The County forest on the Northern border of this zone is extremely over hunted leaving the deer population depleted. I own land adjacent to the county forest and this pressure directly effects the deer that I see on my land. Because most of this zone is private farmland, the large amount of non land owning hunters hunt the little public land available to them. A high number of bonus/antlerless tags that are issued are filled on this small amount of public land.

I own 95 acres in Oconto County that has a 1 mile border with Marinette County. My deer stand is 100 yards from the Marinette County line. The adjacent land is heavily hunted and baited, as a result I seen 1 doe opening morning. Until the baiting regulations for Oconto county is changed or baiting is banned in Marinette County, my deer hunting is marginal. Sadly I don't see enough deer to even consider taking my grandson on a youth hunt

Thank You Don
I own 120 acres. 80 are in forest cropland, which makes them public. Most of land around me is Oconto County forest. With the way it is set up, I either have to hunt on my 40 with the cabin, which is private, and then I can not hunt anyplace else. Until I do scouting, how am I suppose to know if there are deer on the private 40, so I am forced to go public, because of more chances to see deer, and I CANNOT on my own land. This is not right.

Cdac harvest recommendations seem on track with the deer numbers I see. There doesn't seem to be any health problems yet but over browse is an issue and it is nearly impossible to get anything growing. We all like to see lots of deer when we are hunting but I think the current number of deer will eat themselves out of habitat. hopefully we can hit a balance between habitat and numbers and keep quality deer hunting in Wisconsin.

I would support a point restriction on bucks to help bring the age class of bucks being harvested up. I think it would encourage more antlerless harvest for a few years while some younger bucks would be passed. this may not be popular at first in the end I think hunter satisfaction would go up with opportunities at older bucks increasing and it would help with population goals with an increased antlerless harvest.

Wish we were only were allowed one buck tag a year to increase the buck to doe ratio in Oconto with a heavy doe harvest to lower the population. This winter my herd migrated and there was months I would have only one deer walk through 150 acres. Really moved to last cut corn fields. I believe that due to no baiting the deer have congregated more in higher density then ever before. Take that as you will.

Predators on deer and turkeys have been out of control in last couple of years. Not many people are out hunting them because of the pelts prices. In the northern part of northeast Wi bears and wolves are out of control taking fawns like crazy. A person north of 64 should not have to wait 10 plus years to get a bear tag. And the wolf population is another big problem!!!!

This area is devastated. 10 years ago we’d see 10-15 deer a day, last year 4 hunters saw 8 deer all SEASON!!! The hunting has become so poor that I am considering quitting deer hunting in Wisconsin and heading south to IL or MO to hunt. This is the last year I’ll attempt up in Oconto county and if it’s not better, I’m done buying hunting licenses here.

The deer management areas are too large. One area in a DMA has a large population and others very little. Start managing the herd. Over the last 20 years I am seeing smaller deer size. The only good area is the QDM in Lean Swamp. If you get complaints from farmers for crop damage, give them extra permits. dont give them to the whole management area.

I feel natural predators (i.e. coyotes and wolves) needs to be addressed. also I feel there are a greater number of harvested deer that goes unreported, whether it is hunters not registering their deer or poaching. I was surprised not to see any questions pertaining to CWD and the baiting issue. Thank you!

I do not support a holiday hunt in oconto county because there are some public land opportunities late season for bucks that are closed down because of the holiday hunt. There are enough does taken in the 9 day season and bow season to sufficiently manage the population on public land.

Parts of this unit (Oconto County South of HWY 64) should not be considered Central "farmland". Many parts are more forest with little to no farm crops. From my experience these parts that are more forest have way less population and should not be subject to the "decrease" goal.

I think the Wisconsin DNR does a great job of managing our natural resources in the state and should be given even more resources with which to keep up the great work. Please let the scientists to do what they are good at!

I leased 60 acres in Oconto County and put in over 100 hours in the woods between bow and gun seasons. I was appalled at how few deer I saw during the season. We have to stop killing doe. It's been out of hand for years. Please stop.
Concerned a deer Holiday Hunt in Oconto County will conflict with other hunting opportunities such as fall turkey, late season deer bow, pheasant, rabbit and grouse hunting opportunities. Deer hunters have a long enough season.

Strongly oppose the holiday hunt. Strongly oppose any antlerless only framework proposals. Please consider going to one buck tag any weapon per person per season in this unit and across the state.

Deer hunting on public lands in southern Oconto county still seems to have a poor chance of harvesting a deer. The numbers of deer on public lands vs. private lands seems to be way out of balance.

Concerned about CWD found on the Gillette game farm. Haven't heard how this is being handled. Is it being shut down? If not, Why.

Please do something about the large bear and wolf population. I believe this is a big part of the decline in deer.

Did not see many deer this year especially nicer bucks which we passed on last year but did not see this year.

Didn't see many deer this year and once you were no longer allowed to bait we hardly saw any deer

Too many does not enough bucks. Higher doe harvest lower buck harvest.

The coyote and wolf population should be the main concern

Please continue to outlaw baiting.

allow baiting
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Oconto, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

77 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 19
   No: 58

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 15
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 16
   I hunt in this unit: 69
   General interest in this unit: 15

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 67
   Bow: 33
   Crossbow: 27
   Muzzleloader: 22

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 2
   Average: 24.85
   Maximum: 59

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 5
   Mostly Private Land: 7
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 8
   Mostly Public Land: 21
   Exclusively Public Land: 28
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 2
   Not too crowded: 22
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 18
   Somewhat crowded: 10
   Very crowded: 12
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 17
   Fewer: 23
   Same: 22
   More: 14
   Many More: 1
   Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 15
   Fewer: 20
   Same: 18
   More: 18
   Many More: 4
   Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>2.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017 Oconto, Northern Forest
Comments for  Oconto, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

We had a neighbor this year shoot and Kill (3) 1.5 year old bucks that he never tagged/found in time. 2 were found by another neighbor within 200 yds. of where they were shot (the guy who shot them didn't even look for them the nights he shot) eaten by coyotes and one they tracked and kicked up and then lost the blood, later that night heard coyotes in the general direction the deer ran to. Don't know how you manage unethical people like that but just wanted to share that little story. Just another variable that needs to be considered is unethical hunters/poaching. Maybe a little more of a DNR presence would be better. We have been in this area for 5 years now and I ran into a DNR guy one time. My dad and I are doing a lot of work/deer management on his fairly large plot of private land in Northern Oconto forest land and are going in the right direction but removing (3) 1.5 year bucks really set us back again. So frustrating!! Now there is nothing wrong with harvesting 1.5 year old bucks at all but it comes down to at least making an effort to recover the animal you shoot buck or doe.

The WI Appellate courts just ruled that you can feed deer, but hunting over bait is still illegal for Northern Forest of Oconto Co. At every CDAC and Congress meeting that I have attended, the DNR has stated the baiting ban is to prevent the spread of CWD due to close nose to nose contact. Yet, Apple Creek only has a single fence where nose to nose contact is extremely plausible. Food plots, agricultural land, fruit/nut trees, ornamental flowers and hay bales for cattle where deer congregate and have nose to nose contact are all legal. The DNR needs to quit masking the fact that their agenda is to eliminate baiting statewide and come out and tell the public the truth. I am extremely disappointed in the direction that this state is taking towards deer management. The Oconto Co CDAC is made up entirely of individuals who live in the central farmland, with exception of Bob Ellingson. Every vote that is taken sides in favor of central farmland. There needs to be two CDACs in this county since the north and south are completely different zones in so many ways.

Three main concerns to mention. Number one is the number of predators, bears, coyotes, and wolves. Bears in particular seem very high in numbers and perhaps could be reduced through increased hunting. Coyotes as well. The second concern is the difference between private and public land antlerless tags. 75% private/25% public does not seem to make sense when the public land in the area is 75% of the land area, with most private tracts being small cottages. Either make the antlerless tags good for either public and private, therefore open to all, or re-distribute them to better fit the amount of private vs. public land. There is no scientific reason to have it the way it is. The last concern is the general DNR direction toward eliminating the sound science behind decisions and bowing to public or political pressures. Thank you for your time in allowing hunters to provide input.

I believe having special hunts in any of the units (youth hunts, holiday hunts, etc) should be discontinued. As for youth hunts------had I not started, at the age of 14, to hunt with all my Dad's hunting friends, my interest may have dwindled. Starting kids at the age of 10 is way too young. Having special youth hunts does nothing for long term enthusiasm---in fact, it fosters a sense of entitlement which seems to be all too prevalent in today's society. Special hunts, in general, do much damage to stress the deer. Allowing ATV travel during the archery season does much to devalue the hunt as most archery hunters have a high respect for the peace and quiet found during the hunt. Basically, I feel too many activities are allowed during the fall season and many of these activities are harmful to the deer herd and other wild life.
Based on my own observations and experience, I believe the deer population in the northern most part of Oconto County is much too low. I hear the DNR talking about hunter recruitment all the time and I can tell you sitting in the woods for days without seeing a single deer is not the best way to achieve that. The combination of a too high bear population, higher wolf populations and too many bonus / either sex tags has held the population low and not allowed the deer population to grow very much at all. I will say it seems to be better than it was 5-6 years ago when nobody in our hunting group saw a single deer during the gun season and I will also say I think the timber harvest projects that have been going on the last few years have the potential to make hunting much better for a long time if we just give the deer a chance.

The current split in antlerless permits between public and private land types is not supported by any scientific basis. The land is mostly public and the tracts of private land are not of sufficient size to have deer herds that live only on private land. The deer herd in this unit moves freely between public and private land. The split of public vs private land antlerless tags should be based on the percent of deer habitat that is on public or private land. If this were adhered to the split would be roughly reversed from what it is now. The current split is clearly an attempt to privatize the deer herd which runs counter to the American ideal that wild game belongs to the people. Thanks for considering this viewpoint.

The new paper tag system was a huge mistake, it opened up the ability for unethical hunters to violate. The "word on the street" was if the DNR doesn't care why should we. I was sickened by the stories I heard in the bars and from hunters in the woods, PLEASE do something to help restore the integrity of the tagging system. The loss of the registration station was also a huge mistake, many of us have remote camps and no cell phones. To the CEDAC members for the Oconto zone thank you for your time and work. See you in the woods!

From the deer management concerns, I have the following: 1.) deer-vehicle accidents: The DNR does not work for the insurance companies. Northern Oconto County has limited vehicle traffic relative to other more populated parts of the State. 2.) Crop damage: Crop damage claims should not be paid unless those private lands are opened to deer hunting. To continue paying claims is not resolving the problem on those lands. Both these issues are political, and should not have any bearing on the DNR population numbers.

Get rid of baiting so the deer don't congregate in certain areas. Didn't see many acorns last year so there were areas of baiting that the deer were concentrated. As a hunter I have respect for other hunters and don't impose on there spots. I've baited myself during some hunts just to give myself a chance at harvesting a deer. I know whitetails are close to being nocturnal as it is but when hunters bait they turn them completely nocturnal from what I've seen in the area I hunt.

If the objective is to increase, we should build the doe population by only providing antlerless permits to juniors and focus on getting predator estimates to determine the effect they are having on the deer population. Deer numbers are not recovering. We need to find out why. Predators are the first thing to look at. Also, we should encourage the killing of coyotes during the deer season and throughout the year.

Banning baiting in Oconto County was a mistake. I have stopped baiting but gas stations are still selling corn and it is nearly impossible to regulate with so few game wardens. The deer found with CWD were in an enclosed pen. The DNR should charge a small fee (like $10) to bait deer and this would be a way to have it be legal and be profitable for the DNR in counties that don't contain CWD.

Antlerless quotas have been exceeded for three straight years, why have a quota if you don't adjust to meet it? Also selling tags on a first come first served basis with an electronic system that puts everyone in a single queue is not fair and doesn't work, go back to a draw for areas that have more demand than tags.

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Oconto, Northern Forest
the deer population still has not recovered from the slaughter that we (hunters) were allowed in the early 2000's. With the added wolf population, growth is slow at best. My deer camp has considered relocating to other areas within the state to try for a better chance of success.

I'm going to say that why can't the bow and crossbow hunters take a deer antlerless when the youth hunt can take any. Most of the time there big bucks by young kids that can't even hold up the gun. Makes you wonder who is harvesting the animal. Just my point of concern.

Take the partisanship out of these decisions. Do what's best for the animal population and the hunters that support it. Use information from other states to make intelligent decisions based on past history instead of wasting money studies that have already been done.

I would like to see baiting legal in this unit again. The public should not be penalized for CWD discovered on a private game farm. If it is discovered on public land we could take another look at a ban. The current law should be changed.

Please remove the baiting ban. Just seeing deer can help make a season more enjoyable. I understand that it is important to hunt areas of natural travel but when you are public land with a child seeing a deer can make their hunt.

While hunting on my own land, I saw many more does than bucks. Being forced to only shoot a buck is contrary to, what I feel, is good herd management. To many does and so few bucks can lead to herd loss.

We need to find a way to reduce or eliminate the wolf and coyotes. Cause way more damage to the herd. One of the questions was about over browsing by the deer. That doesn't happen in our unit.

We have seen many more signs of wolves and no longer hear coyotes opening weekend. Fewer hunters than past years also fewer deer seen by all in our group during both bow and gun season.

I hate the new DMUs that break up counties. After 37 years of DNR BS, pretty fed up. Git rid of the wolves.

My personal opinion is that the population of predators, as well as the frequency of poaching, is directly affecting the deer population in my area.

Just an opinion but, the number of private land antlerless tags is irrelevant because most landowners will not shoot doe regardless of opportunity.

Don't sell antlerless tags for a couple years, the herd isn't growing. Sell more bear tags, they are everywhere and are known to take many fawns.

Please be courteous to the very short snowmobile season, when planning hunts during late December thru March. Thank you.

The deer numbers need to be increased! Stop antlerless permits and put an antler point restriction on bucks.

Do not do the holiday hunt in these counties. Us snowmobilers already have a short enough season as it is.

Don't give doe tags to youth!! You are teaching them to shoot the reproducing members of the herd!!!

Not enough deer haven't seen deer in years

Dont ban baiting in northern forest!!

Allow deer baiting again!
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 74
   - No: 83

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 70
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 40
   - I hunt in this unit: 144
   - General interest in this unit: 31

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 136
   - Bow: 81
   - Crossbow: 45
   - Muzzleloader: 47

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 26.17
   - Maximum: 62

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 39
   - Mostly Private Land: 26
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 27
   - Mostly Public Land: 22
   - Exclusively Public Land: 29
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 4
   - Not too crowded: 19
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 19
   - Somewhat crowded: 30
   - Very crowded: 30
   - Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 26
   - Fewer: 37
   - Same: 37
   - More: 42
   - Many More: 14
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 26
   - Fewer: 37
   - Same: 25
   - More: 43
   - Many More: 23
   - Unsure: 3
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
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<th>VALID</th>
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<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
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<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
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<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017 Oneida, Northern Forest
Comments for  Oneida, Northern Forest

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First of all--a lot of members said after the meeting that they could not hear some of the committee members when they were speaking. In the future maybe each member could have a microphone. Also in the last 2 yrs one member wanted antlerless tags for the county. He hunts in the East Central part of the county--where on the 400 acres he hunts has many many more deer per square mile then anywhere else in the county. I do not think he believes anyone at the March meeting that there is hardly any deer in the Western part of the county. Especially the Willow Flowage area!!! I think it comes down to just killing for meat. You have to look at the whole picture. Also another guy wanted antlerless tags the last 2 years. We have to go very very slow on antlerless tags until we can get the predators under control and maybe(as mentioned at the meeting is in the tool box) we can divide the county into 2 sections. There are less deer in the Western part of the county now then 2 yrs ago and that is with no antlerless tags!!! Antlerless tags at the most should be like 400 for private and 200 for public. Remember--if you bow hunt--gun hunt--and muzzleloader you have a 100 days to kill a doe. That said--the success rate would be a lot higher. Most of the people left the meeting early because all we have heard for yrs.and yrs. And yrs. Is numbers from the DNR at meeting. It is about time the DNR and county committee members start listening to the people!! From some of the people I have to since the meeting--we all agree that it sounds like the DNR has there fingerprints all over these meeting!!! When will they start listening to the people for a change!!

In my 14 years of deer hunting southern Oneida County, I am perplexed at the number of hunters who complain of seeing few deer. My hunting group and I spend a considerable amount of time scouting the plethora of public land available, and each year we uncover new spots and see increasing numbers of deer. In conjunction with the private land we hunt, since 2003 we have never had a season where we felt numbers were “low”. In my carefully recorded observations, we notice a very disproportionate number of does to bucks. Averaging all deer sightings throughout the bow and gun seasons, we see 12 does to 1 antlered deer. This is averaged over public land (Federal, county, state), and managed private land. I am strongly in favor or opening at least some antlerless tags to balance this ratio, as well as give a reasonable opportunity for harvest. One consideration that I do not see widely discussed is the average age of the Wisconsin deer hunter, which is 50+ years old. Arguably, the majority of these hunters simply do not have the desire to adapt to changing conditions. With the abundance of logging and clear cutting, deer change their patterns to adjust to where the food sources are. This means the same productive 80 acres in the year 2000 may not produce the same results in 2017, but other land in the immediate area may be more productive. My fear is that the WDNR may follow the “loudest voice”, in that the people who are most vocal are typically the ones who see the fewest deer. Please consider the positive side of this argument. As a seasoned deer hunter, I feel I bring an objective opinion in that the population is not struggling to the extent many believe.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

It would be nice to see a "point" limit on deer, 6 or even 8 or bigger. The bigger the deer get the more people would want to hunt a trophy deer and spend more time in areas bringing business to the area, yes it would take a few years to see the growth but myself and many of my fellow hunters would rather shoot a nice deer than a small one. I will not shoot anything under and 8 only exception is a deformed rack if I really need the meat. Yes we all know you can't eat the antlers... I would also get rid of the online/call registration, think of how many people really follow the rules or say they shot this gender of deer and shot a different one. It makes it way to easy for people that live in the woods to "say" they killed. Make them go in person and show there kill. Also what if Russia hacked the info and there is actually less kills than what really happened.... than your trying to support the false deer presence when in fact the deer around Vilas and Oneida is pretty bad in my opinion. Yes I did vote for Trump just pointing out how bad of idea it is. Wolves... I shouldn't even get started, I've never seen wolf's prior to the last 3 years. I've seen them on camera, person and have seen over a dozen deer kills from them. I would take them of the list and have open season on them to a point...

Oneida county in no way has 25000 deer human population is 35000 ,I have hunted the western half of county for 29years in the last 7 years has been very bad even when feeding with 8 to 10 cameras out not seeing does or fawns. in the last 2 years we have not seen a fawn in camera. after it has snowed I have walked up to 8 miles with out seeing a track in my belief the population is about like in the early 70s at least in the western half on county if you are using the same counting methods as 8 years ago when it was reported that area 31 had 13500 deer you should start listening to the people instead of what a computer model says is happening this is very discouraging . there might be some deer by the farms but according to my calculations with western part of the county & eastern part which is approximately 440 square miles even if there was 8 deer per mile that leaves 21500 deer jammed into 600 miles which is 35 per mile I would like somebody to show me where so I can hunt there. also I was at the meeting where all but 3or 4 people said there was a lot of deer why have the meetings if you do not listen to the hunters that are in the woods and support this sport.

Way too many wolves and bear. Used to see 10-20 deer a day, now I go a week and might see one. If I do shoot one and go into my stand to keep hunting wolves start coming into the deer I have laying below my stand and I have to scare them off. Also hear them howling ten minutes later at the gut pile when I shoot one or when another hunter does. See bear sign everywhere and now guys tell me that they're jumping bears out of dens or from logs on accident all over the cedar swamps when doing drives. I've actually heard a couple times bears growling after being jumped out of dens from other guys. All I see is wolf tracks on the logging roads, no deer tracks, and will see wolf tracks on top of my groups' boot tracks on the way out at night. Used to have to get to your spot two hours before light to beat other guys, now you're lucky to see another truck driving around. The local businesses up here are just taking a beating from no hunters because of the lack of deer from all the predators. Restaurants used to be on two hour waits starting at 4pm, now they're empty for gun season. Starting to see wolves killing bear cubs because they're running out of deer

Thank you to the committee for recommending some antlerless tags this year. Not having any doe tags is ruining the quality of our bucks. There are way too many antlerless deer where I hunt. Last year I gun hunted all day the first 7 days and afternoons the last 2. I saw 93 deer. Only 7 were bucks. The biggest was a fork. I had 5 cameras out from June till February. I only got 3 different bucks on camera that were older than yearlings. None older than 2 1/2. I believe the age structure of the bucks will improve again with the availability of antlerless tags. During muzzleloader and late bow seasons I saw anywhere from 15-40 deer a day coming in to one of my food plots. The committee is on the right track giving out tags. Deer numbers are recovering. I bird hunt and snowmobile all over the county and I saw more sign last fall and winter than I have in quite a while. I wish there was a way to split the county. Stella, Sugar Camp, Crescent, Cassian and Woodboro definitely have more deer than the other townships. Again, thanks.
I don’t think that all people under 18 years old should receive an antlerless tag every year. I think there are a lot of adults and large hunting groups taking advantage of these antlerless tags. Maybe a hunter under the age of 18 could get an antlerless tag until that hunter harvests a deer. I understand that would be a lot to keep track of from year to year but something needs to change. I would like to know the success rate of these hunters under the age of 18. I’m sure the number is staggering. I’m also not sure if the deer population in Oneida county is great enough to hand out all those antlerless tags. I have seen an increase in deer numbers but that’s just a start. I have heard hunters complain about the number of 1 1/2 year old bucks being killed but that’s all there is out there. The population of deer is getting targeted on both ends. Fawns are being killed by an over abundance of bears and older deer are being killed by an over abundance of coyotes and wolves.

Overall in my observations there are very little fawn production and few bucks in my time afield and running logging operations. There is too much pressure on adult bucks and little reason for me to continue hunting in Northern Wisconsin. The deer are largely in residential areas and so few in the woods my reward is not worth the effort and spending my hard earned dollars to continue this activity in Wisconsin. The WDNR has created this situation and it is hard to listen to any of their public announcements stating they are the experts. I hold the WDNR responsible for over harvesting the herd years ago, not managing the wolf numbers to 350 as agreed ap0n by the public and creating liberal effective means of allowing illegal harvest of deer. In short, crossbows, shooting out of homes, youth hunts, the stupid registration system and reducing the harvest management areas which reduces the value of harvest herd data. They are all guessing now.

Our property seemingly has a higher number of does than bucks (based on sightings both while hunting and simply observing, and camera surveys). The abundance of does and fawns (deer not yet 1 1/2 years old) is having a negative impact on the habitat we are currently trying to create through TSI and other management practices in order to have more food and cover available. We had gap openings created in portions of our forest, but the over-browsing that is occurring is not allowing for proper regeneration to take place. The agriculture planted (we currently lease the fields for the growth of soy beans, alfalfa, and oats) also has taken a more direct hit in the past 2-3 years as the antlerless population continues to grow. I feel that allowing private landowners the opportunity to legally harvest some antlerless deer through archery and gun seasons would help alleviate (at least somewhat) these problems.

I spend a lot of time in the woods in Oneida County. In the past year I have personally seen a slight increase in deer numbers. Not a very substantial increase. I suspect the increase I have seen is due to the baiting/feeding ban and increased natural deer movement. I am not totally opposed to shooting antlerless deer when the population merits, but I am convinced we are not at that population level at this time. I am strongly opposed to harvesting any antlerless deer in Oneida County this year. We need at least another year to figure out if the population has truly increased enough. Reducing predators would help. I feel some population numbers are being fudged to justify antlerless tags in order to promote tourism and generate license fees. I am very disappointed to see the CDAC is not likely to wait another year before expanding the antlerless harvest. Have patience!!!

All concerning, Over the past four years I have spent hundreds of hours in Oneida county forests between gun deer, small game and fishing observing and taking in what this area has to offer to the outdoorsman. One of our main concerns during the DNR meeting was of the proposal of adding antlerless permits. I had harvested Antlerless whitetail in the past and would not even consider this over the past few years if they were available. The entire hunting group\family are actually hoping to see this area with zero permits for a few more years. As for the 1700 tags being issued to private land owners would be impossible to regulate or maintain. Please keep in consideration as the large majority would agree and have proven so at the meeting a few weeks ago. Thank you and hope to see the deer herd become healthy again, with time. Thank you, Mitch Webster Woodboro, WI
Fact: The western Oneida County forest structure differs from the eastern half. Fact: Carrying capacity within this western structure will never support deer populations like the eastern. Fact: agriculture increases carrying capacity for a multitude of wildlife populations (deer, bear, turkey...etc.). If we propose to split the Oneida CDAC into halves, by that logic we may as well continue to break it down to parcels, or a "PDAC," and have every landowner, in their unwavering wisdom, decide what tags they want to have based off of last years observations. A deer behind every tree expectation is wildly illogical for so many reasons that I will not waste my time bothering to go into. The deer herd is stable and climbing at an expected and well calculated rate. Predators? No baiting? Welcome back to the age of real hunting. I think the we're doing just fine.

If the deer are to be managed by county, the bears should be too. There is too much predator strain on the deer and the bears are the one area that can be managed at the county level. You can't reduce the wolf numbers at this time, people already hunt or trap coyotes, so the key way to reduce predation I feel is to reduce the bear numbers. Also, the county should be split back into the previous DMU that it use to be. The area west of Hwy 51 is very different habitat compared to the east. I would like to see no antlerless harvest on public land for at least 1 more year and limited on private land. My 17 year old son didn't hunt last year and maybe never will again. He's busy and feels why bother hunting if he's not going to see much or harvest a deer. This saddens me and should be of concern of those making decisions on the future of hunting in WI.

Last year (2016) archery and gun deer season i hunted 4 out of 7 days every single week on public property in multiple areas threw out oneida county, WI. And kept close track of deer numbers and buck to doe ratios. What i noticed was that on average id see 6 does to 1 buck. During the Rut that upped to about 2 bucks for every 6 does. Every single one of my spots is guaranteed to see at least 4 or 5 deer a night walking past or browsing achorns. In the past few years i've noticed more and more 5 and 6 year old does that most likely are no longer feral therefore taking food and space for other deer to move in resulting in long term damage to the herd. It takes 2 to tango... Killing all the bucks to save the does wont make more deer itll only make more old steral does and less and less trophy bucks to spread there genes to the few feral does...

I don't support providing antlerless tags to youth hunters if they are not available for everyone, largely because youth hunting can be 8 years and I fear these tags just become a party tag for some hunting groups. I think it also doesn't get the geographic distribution that a random drawing would. I also think no antlerless should mean no antlerless for everyone. In 2016 blaze orange was required most of December in Oneida county, because there was an antlerless season some where. This forces archery hunters to use blaze orange to accommodate a handful of special interest people. I am a disabled veteran myself, but don't think active duty military, disabled hunters, youth hunters need a gun antlerless hunt when it is not open to all. Most if not all of these hunters could hunt with archery or cross bow.

Oneida county is way to big to manage this way. We hunt in the west part of the county. There is no agricultural areas at all. We HARDLY even see deer, tracks, rubs, etc.. It's the worst I've seen 27 years. Rhinelander area and the eastern part of Oneida county has agricultural lands, etc., that support a completely different deer population. To manage the county that is so different in one manner just makes no sense. The Western half (willow flowage area, etc.) has been decimated. PLEASE...No doe permits. The very few deer we have will be all gone soon if we kill off the does with all the predator problems we have. I have young kids. There is no way they will hunt up north as I've seen less then 5 deer TOTAL in the past 3 years combined...and hunt ALL day for 4-5 days each season.

I am glad to see a quota for Oneida but it could even be a little higher. The population is clearly on the rebound. I understand the concern of a harsh winter setting us right back where we started but there is no avoiding that. A harsh winter will impact the herd, it is impossible to "stockpile" against it. The herd is getting to the point that a moderate amount of antlerless can be taken and STILL increase the population. If we wait too long we will not be able to "catch up" to the population. A quota is not a bad thing, it is proof that the population is gaining. Yes, there are some areas with few deer but there may be a reason for that (such as habitat). Hunters will shoot deer where they are and they will not where they are not.
In my opinion, the quota for antlerless deer should again be zero. The numbers of deer seem to still be down and this harvest goal will set us back years. When you hunt all day and see almost no deer (buck or doe) in areas that have usually held a lot of deer, the overall deer numbers are still below the carrying capacity of the forest. What if the winter of 2017 is more in line with average? The past two winters have been relatively mild and the deer population is not really increasing. A harsh winter (like that of 2014) combined with the recommended doe harvest would crash the deer population once again. The exception should be junior hunters, who could still harvest a doe to aid hunter success and long-term hunter recruitment goals.

I have hunted in Oneida County since 2014. 2014 and 2015 I saw maybe a half dozen does each season. Last year I saw 40 does during the regular gun season and 2 bucks. I know there are more bucks on our land but the like to disappear during the gun season. I don't think it is unreasonable to open a limited amount of doe tags for 2017. I also feel that the baiting ban should be lifted as well. The deer that was found in Three Lakes in 2015 was in a fenced in deer farm. Bucks are increasingly difficult to see during daylight hours and I feel that baiting would help with that. No wild deer have been found to have CWD in the area and only one on a deer farm. Wild deer are one thing but fenced in domesticated deer are another.

Based on my observations, the herd is doe-heavy locally (Oneida County). There aren't too-few deer overall, though, especially considering our maturing forests and the ban on feeding/baiting. It's likely there are too many deer on a range that differs quite a bit from not too long ago, despite relatively few bucks. Unless forest management shifts toward younger forests again and/or "artificial" feeding is allowed again, we're going to need to have fewer deer on this range. This area used to attract hunters. It no longer does as forests mature, predator populations climb, and using bait to lure deer away from the few prime areas has become illegal due to a phantom.

went hunting 28 times before seeing a buck which I did shoot with my crossbow, did see about 10 does or yearlings during archery season, did not see any deer while gun hunting 3 full days. have question why feeding and baiting ban is not being enforced in Oneida and Vilas, every bait shop and gas station selling corn, deer standing in yards every where in town (St Germain, Menoqua, Woodruff area, eating over corn in plain view of roads at almost any time of day. any warden could have filled his violation quota in a day if they opened them eyes at all, and then maybe word would have out and the feeding would have stopped

Being retired and owning a small parcel of land that is used exclusively for hunting, I feel the DNR and CDAC should permit a senior, land owner, antler-less permit just like they do for youth. I hunt for the enjoyment and for the food. Having to harvest a small spike buck in lieu of a large adult doe for food just seems like a waste. Also, last year's total ban on feeding is too restrictive. There should be a limited amount of feed that a private land owner should be permitted to put out. I would rather see more antler-less permits and fewer bonus tags if there are still concerns over herd population control.

Oneida county is too diverse to set a recommendation that covers every area. Where we hunt out by squirrel lake...there are a couple more deer than in years past but not enough to open a doe season. We have alot if predators that take enough deer as it is. However...east of hwy 51 i know they have deer causing ag damage. Somehow this has to be split up. The NRB needs to approve splitting counties into separate DMU's as to manage our deer herd more effectively. Lets wait a year and see if the herd continues to increase and hope for the splitting of the county before we talk about shooting does again.

If the onieda unit were to adopt a zero antlerless harvest quota it should only be on public land. It should be up to the land owner whether or not the want to harvest does. If they want to shoot all their does then fine they won't see many in the next years, and people now understand this which is why is should be up to the landowner to be a responsible manager of their property. It is different when it's public land and people are going to shoot whatever they see, but on private land many of us put in lots of hours not only improving our habitat, but also scouting and watching our herd. Thank you
I could understand a limited antlerless quota, however 2400 tags are way too many. Maybe half of that would be appropriate. I hunt southern parts of the county and rarely see deer or deer sign. Things have improved but last fall we still saw less than 10 deer in 7 days of hunting. This is total for the 2-4 people in our group. I see no threat to the forest growing and see many small oaks and maples that are not harmed at all by the deer. I have baited deer my whole life but enjoyed baiting ban last year. I would prefer it to stay that way since we saw more daytime deer activity without bait.

I feel the deer herd is starting to rebound, but is still to unstable for extra doe tags. I believe that kids should be able to shoot a doe, to keep interest in hunting and wouldn't hurt the herd to much. Predator's are still very high in our area. Because of this the deer seem to be staying much closer to dwelling's giving some people the perception that the herd is doing great. Please let the herd keep recovering and the younger generation keep the opportunity to shoot a doe. The Jr doe tag was the best thing this state has done toward the future of hunting.

I own 160 acres in Oneida County. I've been hunting for 8 years and have not harvested any deer...because, I believe, the population in too low due to previous wolf infestation. The population of doe have come back, not bucks. We have not seen wolf for 2 years now, but, the only deer I see are does. In our area we cannot hunt doe. I think it is unfair for me to keep managing land, paying property taxes and not be able to hunt a doe on my private land. I'd like to see you do something for private land owners to be able to hunt on their land and be successful.

Gentlemen The deer population in north eastern Oneida County is extremely low. I find it troubling that the committee would be suggesting an antler-less quota for 2017. While we are seeing less pressure from less hunters in our area, the hunters have been leaving for more productive counties/units Our hunting party of four saw a total of two does and no bucks for the regular gun hunt. I would recommend that the buck only rule stay in place for 2017 and beyond until there is an appreciable increase in the deer population. Sincerely Dave Anhalt

We do deer drives on public and private lands and last year season we drove out just as many wolves as we did does. Which totaled 6 in Oneida county. 2 days later we were doing drives 3 miles away from that spot same county and we drove out 3 does and had a pack of wolves driving on the other side of the river from us. We have younger hunters in our group that are getting discouraged with deer hunting when they can not see any deer, but are seeing and hearing wolves every day. Hopefully something will be done about the wolf population soon.

I have hunted this unit for 38 years and over the last 6-8 years the amount of deer that we see is dwindling. I have a son who is 21 years old and wants to move to another part of the state to hunt. He is frustrated with hearing coyote's and seeing wolves. Years ago it was tradition to hunt with your family/friends. The next generation does not have the patience to sit in the woods all weekend and maybe see one deer. The local businesses have traditionally benefited from the deer hunters. Today it's almost a ghost town. Very disappointing

I would prefer a zero antlerless quota for 2017 with the exception of supporting antlerless tags for youths and special youth hunts in order ensure that our up and coming future hunters have a successful harvest and learn not only the excitement but also have a chance to exercise the responsibility of successful deer herd management. Thank you for all your hard work and tireless efforts for the house that all of you out into our deer management! It has certainly not gone un-noticed! You have all done an excellent job!

I believe the amount of hunters in this unit have diminished significantly do to no doe tags! Also not being able to bait. Most people don't even see a deer all season do to these reasons. I hope your studies that I seen in this email will correct your reasons for no baiting. This should bring back more hunters and should give hunters a better chance to harvest a deer.your studies show no CWD in this county so baiting should be reinstated! Thank you for this opportunity to tell you how myself & other hunters feel.
I'm glad to see a doe harvest. As for baiting, look at Price county which saw an almost 40% in buck harvest compared to Oneida, which was up only about 2%. That should say everything it needs to say in that both counties are essentially identical in terms of deer habitat but one allowed baiting and another did not. The one that did not (Oneida) now has more deer out there walking around right now than it would had baiting been allowed. If you want more deer, continue the baiting ban and enforce it convincingly.

In the Wisconsin Outdoor news there is an article about Washburn county. The cdac did not listen to the hunters at all--80 percent said no tags. But in Sawyer & Bayfield counties they listened to the people. Like I said in previous comment— doe tags should be at a very very low number. Hopefully in the future we can divide counties to better manage the deer. Maybe the DNR should go back to a 4-n-1 doe tag. 4 people for 1 doe tag. Have to get predators under control!!

I didn't understand the definition of the "Junior Antlerless Tag". I would like to see the option for hunters to have the opportunity to harvest one antlerless deer with either a bow or firearm. With the zero quota the past few years, along with the mild winters, and based upon individual observations (certainly not scientific), the deer numbers appear higher. To alleviate the pressure on antlered deer, maybe more antlerless deer could/should be harvested.

I travel for work all around Oneida county on a daily basis, and although it appears the deer population is increasing and rebounding from the roadway, the deer numbers have to come a long way before this area has a sizable number of bigger bucks again. Opening the area to antlerless hunting in the 2017 season, even the limited number proposed, will be yet another setback in the repopulation in my opinion as a hunter.

Having any antler less hunt would be detrimental to increasing herd. Timber wolf predation has wiped out the deer herd. For the past five years we have seen more timber wolves during season than deer. Cabins at resorts are setting empty during deer season as hunters are seeing less and less deer, or none at all. I would urge the CDAC to reconsider making the antlerless quota zero. Thank you.

I would like to see buck only until the deer herd comes back strong. I think the kids need to be able to shoot either a buck or doe, its important for them to get interested in hunting deer and if they keep going out and seeing nothing they won't hunt for long. I also think baiting should be allowed, a deer found in a fenced in area with cwd doesn't mean deer outside are affected.

History indicates that over winter deer densities should be held at or below about 20 deer/sq.mi if your are to maintain healthy, productive deer and to successfully practice silviculture. You can't wait until forest damage is obvious. It is time to begin stabilizing deer herd size in this county which means the quota should match or exceed the predicted buck kill.

Based on buck harvest alone, the deer population is crossing a silvicultural threshold where tree regeneration will begin to be impaired. Waiting for obvious forest damage is too late. You should begin stabilizing this herd now with a 2017 quota matching or exceeding the predicted buck kill. A decent quota will also show you an improved buck harvest.

Are you serious? Making ANY doe tags of anykind in this area is ludicrous. The deer population is so desimated in this are now. ANY doe tags would be extremely detrimental to the deer herd! I love to see deer as much as the next guy but this area needs to have ZERO doe tags for at least the next 5 years. No deer or very few = no hunters...

A lot of hunters that I have seen in this area are not too picky when it comes to taking quality animals. When antlerless tags were available, if it was brown, it was down. Shooting nubins and a lot of does have hurt the deer herd and the hunt. I have a place up there and the numbers of hunters have diminished and the number of bucks has too.
I feel that the county is to big to make it one unit. I liked the old system with smaller units, this way you could take into account the diverse ecosystems of each area. Thanks for the opportunity to take this survey. One last thing. Can we PLEASE take the politics out of the DNR and let science and biology be the driving force.

46 years deer hunting I saw the fewest number of small bucks last year I have been trying to take eight point or better buck for the last 10 years but now there numbers are way down it seems talking to other hunters they are shooting the first buck they see because of there low numbers it should be only one buck per year per hunter.

I think you should lift the feeding and baiting band. The deer with cwd was not a wild deer. So if anything all the deer in that farm should be put down. But us as hunters pay for his b.s. That's not right in my book. He's still making money and all were trying to do is feed are family's. So maybe you guys need to think about that.

I did not hunt last year. The previous two years my son and I each spent about 20 hours in our stands each year over a bait pile and never saw a deer. Thus our reason for not hunting last year. I have two other partners in our 240 acre camp. For the past four years they went to Florida instead because the hunting is so bad.

The deer herd in the area I hunt is getting so thin that it's actually a rarity to see a deer while hunting. It's scary actually, very few signs of deer in general and where there is deer sign there's usually wolf and coyote sign on top of it. Minimal quotas need to be set in place in order to bring back a struggling herd.

The last 2 years I did not see a deer during the rifle hunting season. I hunt around the Willow Flowage and there are very few deer in that area left. I have seen wolfs both of the last 2 seasons. I don't know how long I will still be hunting but it is not much fun when you can not even see a deer.

During fawning each spring, black bear are killing most fawns! Over the past few years I rarely see a doe with twins. This is not the lack of food. Increase bear tags, and you will increase deer population! I believe the bear population is growing at alarming rates! Thank you for this survey.

I trust in the DNR in making decisions on the antler less deer harvest. With their knowledge and data available to them they do have the hunters best interests. A limited draw antler less tag or point system is something that I grew up with and I see it as a benefit to our hunting opportunities.

Through the past fall and this winter, I have seen an increased number of deer, especially does and fawns. I am concerned with the number of deer I see while traveling to and from work, as I am worried about an increase in automobile-deer accidents and the health of the deer population.

The only deer that are seen are always near the resorts and cottage's. After a fresh snow all that's found in the woodlands are wolf and coyote tracks trying to find the deer that are left. Too many predators to contend with, wolves, bears, coyotes, and bobcat populations are to high.

need to put a limit on the number of hunters in each unit. Most bucks are harvested as spikes or forks. Very few bucks reach maturity. put some kind of restriction on buck size also. no hunting over bait. people should be allowed to feed deer. its no different than a food plot.

During the 2016 gun deer season I saw more deer than in the past few years combined, however, that's not saying much. I believe that it would be beneficial to continue to not harvest antlerless deer for the next couple of years to allow a for continued recovery of the herd.

Deer numbers are slowly coming back. Please do not have a doe season in this unit. Leave it at buck only. Maybe put an antlered restriction in place. 3 or more points. May help some of the younger bucks make it to 21/2 or 31/2. A lot of small bucks are being shot. Thanks

We need more timber harvest to provide diversity of habitat. That will help all northern big and small game animals. Very little interest from young hunters due to lack of game. I don't blame them. Contemplating selling our place up there and going out of state to hunt.
Paper Deer tags and license's are a joke. You eliminated backtags don’t waste my time with a paper tag to put on a
deer that can’t handle weather, etc. If you want a tag...make a real tag. Go back to the old “party deer" tags in
zones with low antlerless tags.

Need to keep growing the herd on public lands in this unit. Doe harvest needs to be restricted or eliminated,
including "Junior" tags. Juniors shouldn't get the privilege of antlerless tags -should be earned privilege. Gives the
wrong message of entitlement.

You need to open up predator hunting again. I see more wolf tracks then deer tracks in the snow. It’s not real hard
to figure out where the deer are going. The deer have enough obstacles to overcome in the Northwoodsz the
wolves are just to much.

The deer population has decreased substantially due to predators. We have seen and/or heard wolves, bear and
coyote in and around our property. I do not believe doe tags should be issued or should be limited for 2017 on
private land.

Junior license should be hunter choice, not an extra tag. Having antlerless tags reduces pressure on bucks. In person
registration for the area around the cwd positive deer farm. Eliminate all deer in the cwd positive deer farm.

The current zero doe quotas seems to be working, all be it very slow. The predators are still a concern, and as they
increase in numbers the deer population growth will slowly decrease as the predators population increases.

The doe population was dropped way too far and the herd is having a hard time recovering. Too many antlerless
permits have been given out for too long. There has been very few shots fired in the last three years.

I continually see more antlerless deer than antlered deer. We need to shoot more antlerless deer. I want an
opportunity to harvest an antlerless deer if I so choose because there are plenty of deer to go around.

It would be outstanding to get rid of the public versus private tag system. It does not allow much flexibility and it is
a challenge in a county with as much public land as it does to have this be an issue.

I believe that a limited number of antlerless tags to allow younger hunters an opportunity to harvest a deer is
critical to keep the interest of the younger generation. Very limited numbers though.

We tend to see an over abundance of doe and very few if any bucks. We also have information from locals with trail
cams that there are wolf packs harvesting fawns at an alarming rate.

There are no cases for CWD in my zone. Please allow us to use bait. We never see any bucks during the day
anymore. No one in my family has harvested a buck since you stopped this.

We need a few more years of a zero antlerless quota before reversing course. There are not that many deer out
there! There is too much predation from wolves, bears and coyotes.

We need doe tags. Let us put a little meat in the freezer. If hunters don't see deer they won't shoot them. Those
that want to harvest should have the chance!!

We have had several years of no antlerless harvest, it is time to start harvesting some antlerless deer. Plenty of
deer, so please allow some antlerless hunt.

I did see more bucks last year compared to the previous year. But we are still see and hearing wolves every day
during seasons which is very discouraging.

The baiting and feeding ban should continue. CDAC members should oppose any state legislation attempting to
change the current DNR rules in place.

Keep the ban on baiting and feeding without a sunset. Deer farms should not be allowed, or at the least they
should all have double fencing.
i have damage to my young hard maple trees every year. they dont have a chance to grow! landowners should be given first chance at doe tags.

We've not been seeing but a few does and no buck for the gun season. You noodles to continue the buck only for the Oneida county unit.

loss of legal baiting works against smaller landholders and public land hunters far more than it does against larger landholders

I gun hunted in Oneida County for deer in 2016, I hunted 7 full days during all legal hunting hours and never saw one deer.

Give the deer population time to come back, you kill the does you kill and additional what 2-3 deer. Let the heard grow

You should keep the "Buck only" in this DMU for at least two more years before even considering issuing anterless tags,

Deer are over browsing everything they can reach on my property I have 160 acres and need to harvest some does.

Need to increase CWD sampling around Three Lakes Deer Farm. And need to require double fence on that farm!

Still need two more years with no antlerless tags to start gaining on deer populations in sugar camp area

Oneida County needs to continue to grow the deer herd. The county has way too many wolves.

Not only was the number of deer seen down the amount of tracks seen was down

Will bow hunters be given an automatic antlerless permit?

No antlerless of any kind except active military.

Wolves are the problem
Outagamie, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

53 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 27
   - No: 26

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 27
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 13
   - I hunt in this unit: 47
   - General interest in this unit: 16

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 46
   - Bow: 34
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 23

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 22.28
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 30
   - Mostly Private Land: 8
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 0
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 6
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 6
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 1

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 21
   - More: 6
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 21
   - More: 10
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>About Right</th>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

**Scale:** 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am a gun (centerfire and muzzleloader) hunter and land owner in Outagamie County. I see the pressure is on to have more Bow/Crossbow hunting during the Statewide hunting season extended. I don't want to be a bow hunter or pressured to be one. I'd like to see more muzzleloader times available after December 24 in either Holiday Hunt or possibly the Statewide Hunt. The reasoning for this is that myself and others that go to college (or teach) would like to limit our rifle/shotgun times during the school semester (exams and normal school activities). Then after the semester ends, have the ability to hunt with a muzzleloader sometime before the next school semester begins. I also believe that in our county and many higher population counties, that 243 Winchester should be the maximum centerfire rifle allowed to hunt in these counties. I also believe that EVERYONE that wants to go hunting, should take an age based DNR Hunter Safety Course (or set of courses). I never took it (because of my age), but should have. This might bring in more revenue to the deer programs here and really get people interested in a better way to hunt and be good land stewards in Wisconsin. It might also be a driver to get more people involved in hunting - more revenue. WDNR Wardens are highly experience people and should be involved heavily with the course (or possible upper level courses). They can offer insights into hunting in Wisconsin that can actually keep the sport safe and fun! Thank you. Chuck Linskens

In the Mack wildlife area and northwest of there in wolf river bottoms/the old game farm. I have seen the water levels go up and up and up. The deer which used to be so plentiful are almost all on private lands where it's dry enough to bed or out where you would need a swamp boat to get there. Water fowl that almost no one hunts be damned. Deer is what drives the hunting dollars. You are as responsible as any other factor for driving down the numbers of hunters. There's no habitat. We DON'T NEED ANY MORE WETLANDS!!! I used to see dozens of deer every season. All of their bedding areas are UNDER WATER NOW! There's nothing but cranes, snakes and mosquitos left. And ticks, lots and lots of ticks. Public land looks like the mall on black Friday during gun season, but some of you knuckleheads want to sell off some of the public land? In 10-15 years you'll be lucky to sell 250,000 licenses. More deer, less fowl.

The land we hunt is adjacent to public land and the numbers of hunters using the public lands have decreased markedly. I feel that there are a few reasons for that decrease, the major one is that the deer numbers simply do not exist and folks are not getting a good deer hunting experience, the other reason and it is related is that the public lands are not managed for deer habitat or to hold deer. the lands are left as they are with no food plots or cover being established to hold deer through the year. When I got to the properties after snow falls I am surprised how little deer sign there is. We used to have major deer trails I the area and the number simply aren't there anymore and there is nothing to hold the deer in the area.

One presentation at the CDAC meeting was by a forester working the area. He clearly stated the impact of the deer population on forest regrowth in the County. I believe his data was clear in supporting a significant increase in effort to reduce the number of deer in the herd. Yet, I did not feel as though the Committee gave his comments sufficient weight in the deliberations. After the forester's report, I was fully expecting the Committee to increase the number of antlerless tags to three (3), plus add a Holiday Antlerless Hunt. However, I will say that the committee is to be commended for attempting to make herd management decisions on a wild animal over which humans appear to exert so little effective control! Thank you.
I think that Outagamie county has done a nice job of keeping the deer herd balanced. In order to keep the DNR funded, any extra tag besides a buck tag should cost extra, even if it's only 3 dollars. Additional antlerless tags should be limited, and the price could be raised on those slightly. Also, when it comes to safety, Outagamie should look into bringing back a shotgun only season. The numbers (death, injuries) don't seem to truly reflect how much more dangerous a rifle is than a shotgun, but I predict that will change soon. I notice hunters taking dangerous shots over hills at greater distances, not looking beyond their targets etc. It's only a matter of time before the number of hunting related deaths spike.

Since most hunters determination of the herd size is made from their own deer stand, deer management is now based on opinions rather than science. Ten hunters in ten stands on one property will give ten different estimates. Modifying the quota has almost no effect on the harvest. It only puts an upper limit on hunting. It does not get hunters to hunt more. Free tags do not cause hunters to hunt more hours. Whereas bonus tags means the hunter has already decided to hunt more or they wouldn’t be buying more tags. Even though the DNR forester explained the damage done by a herd that is out of balance with nature, it seems hunters have no interest in anything other than being able to get their buck.

As a group on 140 acres, we monitor our 15-20 Trail cameras all year long. We tend to see the same amount of deer year in year out. The week before the archery season we make a decision on how many anterless deer we would like to harvest. We also do QDM, we see a lot of nice bucks throughout the year. We as a group will only take a three year old or older. We pass on a good number of bucks only to see them grow for the future. If we don’t see a nice "SHOOTER", we will then harvest a doe instead or go without. From what we see and reports from the surrounding area, there is absolutely no need for an anterless only season.

The baiting of deer for hunting purposes in Outagamie county should be banned totally. No baiting policy should be in place. Our property adjoins private property owned by a game club that illegally bait by placing 10 times the legal amount every morning and every night training the deer to be only active at night and no purpose for daytime movement. They own over 600 acres which has difficult access for wardens to check on them. With around 20-25 members which the majority of the members participate in the baiting leaves about 40 bait piles being stocked with 100-200 gallons of corn each per day.

A few main concerns. First, I would oppose the anterless only hunt because I feel it would drive hunters away from the area rather than reduce anterless population. CWD is a concern, though thankfully we do not have it here yet. I would be interested in outlawing baiting/feeding to help reduce the chances of CWD. Finally, I am very concerned about the DNR reducing its focus on scientifically backed decision making and moving towards political pressure to make decisions. I would like to see WI be a leader in scientifically backed decisions rather than go the way we have been.

I recommend no antlerless-only hunt after the muzzleloader season. I propose the limit to youth hunting success to two successful seasons (two years of filling a harvest tag) to allow equal opportunity for ALL hunters. Allowing youth to hunt before all others for up to 7 consecutive years is unfair to hunters and those who must wait until the regulated time. season closing hours should take into account the angle of the setting sun, primarily starting in mid-november, when it is bright out for much longer than 20 minutes after the sunset.

There are large packs of coyotes in my hunting area. we've found several coyote kills on our property year round, and have more coyotes than deer on some of our trail cameras. I hunted a lot this deer season, and had cameras out from mid-september through january (like i have the past 8 years or so). the number of deer on my cameras has been declining for the past 3 seasons, but i feel there are plenty of deer to keep hunters interested. maintaining the current herd size is a good recommendation.
High deer numbers in certain parts of the county make it very difficult to regenerate trees. This is not only detrimental to individual properties but also has a negative economic impact for the landowner and Wisconsin's economy (potential jobs). The objective to maximize deer numbers on MFL properties contradicts practicing sustainable forestry. High deer numbers also negatively impacts habitat for many of species of plants and animals.

I think the deer in Outagamie Co are ok. Some of the issues that plague the hunters are of their own doing. They do not respect the deer population and think they own the deer on their land. They go to public land to shoot does. They think they can bait and draw in deer during the daylight hours. They have become too wrapped up in there own greed. There are many who over bait by a lot.

The problem I have is I see most of the deer in our area in the city limits/urban areas, not out in the rural area where I hunt. Where I hunt, when I started 34 years ago I would see 15 to 25 deer just on opening day, now I am lucky to see 10 or more deer all season with most not shoot-able (too small). I think this needs to be considered.

I agree we should maintain or even grow our deer herd. Offering bonus tags (especially public land) leads to way more deer (typically 0.5-1.5 year olds) being taken. I consider myself lucky to typically hunt private land where I know I will get to see a deer while others go all season on public land without luck.

I am most concerned with delaying the snowmobile trails from opening with additional hunts. We have limited time to use trails and if there is snow but no one can ride the risk for illegal riding rises as well as tension between hunters and snowmobilers.

Would like to see farmers programs of obtaining crop damage permits or being paid for crop damages eliminated. I think the amount of damages are over estimated, and may not come from deer but from raccoons and birds.

I believe it is prohibitive to have to identify for my tags if I am hunting public or private land. This is very restrictive to give up 1/2 of my hunting land options. I see no long term value of this.

Last year was the first time in 40 years I didn't see a deer and or harvest deer. The DNR is doing a good job and the wardens need to go and check more licenses. Also check the boaters walleye fishing.

The quota is good but am concerned that by raising the amount of free tags from one to two can influence the amount of bonus tags sold, last year tags did not sell out with one tag.

We are impressed with the thorough presentation of data provided in this survey. As landowners in Outagamie county since 1986, we appreciate being a part of this survey.

I would like to see a point restriction to harvest a deer so all our young bucks don't get shot off. I would like to see the 2.5yr old bucks get protected.

The weather and baiting is no. one. and take the money out of hunting before you can solve the problem too . to much is paid out in personal staff

Wish there was more social media posting besides the day of the meeting so people could plan on attending ahead of time

Do not force hunters to harvest antlerless deer as it will only reduce hunter interest and numbers. Keep it voluntary.

Need to eliminate wolves from this unit. Too close to people and hunters can control the deer herd.

I like the idea of NOT having a holiday hunt.

Should have the Holiday hunt
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

21 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 6
   - No: 15

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 12
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
   - I hunt in this unit: 18
   - General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 13
   - Bow: 13
   - Crossbow: 6
   - Muzzleloader: 3

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 19.56
   - Maximum: 41

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 6
   - Mostly Private Land: 4
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 4
   - Not too crowded: 5
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 6
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 7
   - Same: 3
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am opposed to all hunting in Harrington State Park. I believe this park is too small to try to accommodate all it's users; hunters, hikers, campers... I did try to black powder hunt in the park the first couple of years, and stopped because of the safety to myself, other hunters and hikers. Worst hunting experience to date. It was just way to crowded, and that was back when only 24 hunters were allowed in per year. I have seen deer numbers fall over the last ten to twenty years. I do not totally disagree with the "goal numbers" for our area, but I feel the deer need a bigger safe haven. The majority of the deer have been pushed out of the park and into residential areas, mainly along Lake Michigan. These deer are becoming more like pets than a wild animal. I understand one reason to hunt the deer within park limits was due to the amount of damage they have caused to the vegetation within the Park, but it has become increasingly worse for home owners surrounding the park and along the lake. I also realize public hunting areas need to be available to the general population. US Fish and Game has recently opened over 100 + acres just North of Belgium, another 80 acres along the Oz./Sheboygan Co. line as well as close to 300 acres NW of Belgium, all within one township. I feel the DNR should consider partnering with the OZ/Wash. Co. land Conservation group to restrict all hunting at their Forest Beach preserve. That in conjunction with no hunting at Harrington Park, would provide a good start for "Safe Havens". In reality, it would only effect a handful of hunters.

I live close to Harrington Beach State Park, and the amount of land that remains "closed" for hunting is discouraging. Before hunters had to obtain a permit to hunt on this land, and now that it is open to anyone, it can get quite populated with hunters that refuse to sit, have no respect for other hunters that do, and quite frankly, the deer know which areas are closed and just sit there everyday after opening morning of the gun season. Since WI deer gun season is only 10 days long, I don't understand why we can't open more of the park for hunting. By doing this, it allows more hunters a great opportunity to harvest a deer, it spreads out the population of hunters using that land, and it also pushes deer onto adjacent land instead of offering "free harbor" for those deer. I'm not a trophy hunter; I butcher my own deer and enjoy eating ALL of the meat from this resource. I'm sure you can ask the warden at Harrington, drive past the intersection of Sauk Trail, and Hwy D in the early evening and you can EASILY see 20 deer on a nightly basis in the fields just outside of the park. Also, I enjoyed the old "T-Zone" hunts in addition to the Holiday hunt. That gives true hunters who value the meat gained from deer, an additional opportunity to harvest an animal if truly out for meat, and not antlers. I'm hoping for more opportunities in the Belgium/Lake Church area this fall, more antlerless tags included with each license, and an expanded State Park hunting area. 

Thank You

Metro zone was developed to reduce the herd by allowing more time to harvest does. But you allow bucks to be taken very late in the year with the aid of bait. This has allowed hunters to turn into killers by using bait and the colder tempature of winter to lure big bucks out and slaughter them without any fair chase for the buck. Wisconsin used to be a fair chase state by hunters scouting and setting up on natural sign to take there trophy but with these rules you have allowed it to turn into just killing ! I am not against bait but the use of bait and colder tempatures along with bucks trying to regenerate body weight from the rut does not make fair chase hunting !!

Public land needs to be restricted, but due to mild winters there are way to many deer.. this winter was just as mild.

Deer are abundant and it would be impossible to shoot too many.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

26 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 13
   - No: 13

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 11
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 5
   - I hunt in this unit: 25
   - General interest in this unit: 8

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 25
   - Bow: 20
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 17

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 21.36
   - Maximum: 58

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 19
   - Mostly Private Land: 2
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 0
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 1
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 9
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 7
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- **Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT**
  - Support: 7
  - Oppose: 16
  - Unsure: 0

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- **Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons**
  - Support: 0
  - Oppose: 25
  - Unsure: 0

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
  - VALID
  - NOT VALID
  - Unsure: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Pepin, Central Farmland
I am not a fan of Earn a Buck but I do believe that it was an effective tool to bring the population back into check and allow for a healthier herd population. On a side note, I shot my biggest buck during the last Earn a Buck season and saw some really nice bucks the years following the last Earn a Buck season...coincidence? I think not. The deer hunting culture needs to shift away from the "Trophy Buck" mindset to one of proper management. Our forests and agriculture lands can not support the "deer behind every tree attitude". Too much emphasis is focused on shooting a "Trophy Buck". Too often I have heard supposed "Trophy Buck" hunters pick on those who shoot does because they are not something you can hang on the wall. Every hunter needs to take responsibility and not be ashamed of shooting a doe.

I believe the herd population has gone down in the last 3 years in Pepin County. I believe the impact of predators has been overlooked. In order to maintain good hunting opportunities and deer population I believe the number of antlerless deer tags needs to be decreased with anticipation that the deer herd will continue to see a increase in deaths caused by predators. A increase in the Bear population has been noticed in the last 3 years in my hunting area. The dwindling numbers of deer herds in the northern forest zone is a great example of this and with less measures to control predators such as wolves I believe we will see a bigger increase in predators into the central farmland zone.

The holiday hunt must go, it affects the ability for late season now hunting during a time that most people are able to hunt. The new online and calling registration is not effective and throws out the ability to do an earn a buck season again. Even though it's really nice having the ability to register deer without a drive to town, it cannot be trusted. It also hurts the economy by not bringing people into towns to register.

I hunt deer exclusively on private land, however, I extensively hunt upland, turkey and ducks on public lands and always see more deer than any other species. Many public areas are over browsed. It's time to increase antlerless tags on public land so that they are more inline with the private lands.

I would really like to see limitations on food piles and water troughs. too much contact, to many avenues for disease to spread fast. love the elk back up north. hope the population booms, be a great balance to the wolves. thanks

Maintain deer herds but DO NOT have the holiday hunt. Myself and a lot of friends hunt the late season and that holiday hunt wrecks at least half of the late season.

Hold the holiday hunt!!! The deer population in Pepin cty is way too high! If folks don't like it, then they don't need to hunt it!

saw many deer on private but few on public. eliminate the holiday doe only hunt. it screws up late season archery!

Seems like a lot of deer around this year, I see them everyday on way to work and back.

would be nice to see youth hunt moved to later in month closer to the rut

I believe Pepin county is in good shape this year.

reinstate use & requirement of back tags
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 17
   - No: 25

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 16
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
   - I hunt in this unit: 35
   - General interest in this unit: 10

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 33
   - Bow: 23
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 13

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 4
   - Average: 22.51
   - Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 27
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 2
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 1

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 21
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 0
   - Fewer: 6
   - Same: 23
   - More: 10
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 0
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

*Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support 15   Oppose 25   Unsure 3

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support 0   Oppose 39   Unsure 3

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID  NOT VALID  Unsure

Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? *Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: *Friday, April 14, 2017*
Comments for  Pierce, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Wisconsin deer hunting is a tradition in all camps. Tradition does not necessarily go hand in hand with harvesting a deer. Albeit frustrating to hunt 9 days, drive after drive, and in some cases, not see a deer, is not why most people go to deer camp. I enjoy the whole hunt. That includes the weather, the other things you see in the woods, the commodrody, the teaching of the kids, and the stories. Yes, harvesting a deer is nice, especially for me as a non-resident with the cost, but even if I go deer-less, or take just one deer, it is still a success. Safety is job 1 and each year that is safe, that is the most important thing. We see less and less each year and in our opinions, it is from too many antlerless permits. I understand the balance you all must keep as well, so what ever is decided, we will be happy with. Thanks for the survey. I hope it helps.

Overall i feel that the deer population has remained fairly consistent in the area of this unit that i hunt. I believe that the fewer sightings i had in the 2016 season compared to prior seasons were, in part, due to the weather conditions. I feel the DNR has done a good job of managing the herd in this unit over the years. The only strong objection i have, is allowing an antlerless only gun hunt prior to the regular gun season.

1. Eliminate the frustrating public/private deer tag structure. 2. Ban baiting and feeding Statewide! 3. Increase DMU geographic size to equal the zone size, ie. Central Farmland. 4. Convince legislature to re-instate Earn-A-Buck as a management tool. 5. Holiday hunt is a non-event, won't significantly increase the antlerless harvest. 6. Reduce bonus deer tags to $5.00.

I do not like the fact that a hunter can obtain a crossbow license and hunt the entire archery season. I feel it is too easy (which is why so many gun hunters have started to crossbow hunt) and is over crowding the woods with too many people degrading archery hunting quality. Crossbow hunting should have a limited time period like gun hunting.

As a young hunter, I am concerned about the limited areas to hunt on private lands. Leases and general land closures make it hard to find new spots to hunt. Any landowner that has their land subsidized in any way by the state or federal government should be forced to allow the public to hunt on their land.

Please raise non resident license prices. We have the best deer hunting in the country. Let's not give it away for nothing. People will still buy a license if it cost 100 dollars more. We need the revenue. The amount of deer we need to kill will still happen even with the raise in non resident prices.

Do not get rid of the metro season bow hunt which allows hunting into the end of January. Do not go for a holiday hunt, there is plenty of time to kill an antlerless deer during the archery, rifle, muzzleloader, and late bow season. Also Ryan Haffele is a great asset to the DNRs wildlife department!!

Access to land is becoming more and more difficult for hunters. Private and leased land is making it very hard for those that don't have a place to hunt. Access to hunting land is the single biggest problem hunters face today. We are lucky enough to have access but many don't.

Please raise non resident license cost. If you still want the deer killed offer residents an extra buck tag contingent on killing a doe first. Or make it a draw for non resident, we shouldn't be giving away our resources for so cheap.

I really like that there is a good number of deer to hunt. It is fun to see deer when I hunt even though 95% of the time I dont plan on killing the deer. I do think you dont need as many antlerless tags.

It's not possible to make every one happy, no matter what the committee decides. Thanks for your dedication in trying to do whatever is best for our deer herd.

Report Generated:  Friday, April 14, 2017

Pierce, Central Farmland
I think the state of Wisconsin needs to take a look at our neighbouring state of Iowa from out of state license fees to early/late muzzle loader seasons.

I would suggest changing the muzzleloader season. Either hold it earlier like September, or a week after the 9 day to reduce stress on the herd.

I think out of state license fees should be raised, I am tired of out of state hunters ruining local hunting

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input!

Need 2 free antlerless tags and a holiday hunt.

Stop baiting though out the state!
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

107 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 67
   - No: 40

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 59
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   - I hunt in this unit: 93
   - General interest in this unit: 26

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 85
   - Bow: 58
   - Crossbow: 31
   - Muzzleloader: 34

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 25.31
   - Maximum: 56

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 51
   - Mostly Private Land: 15
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 14
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 10
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 4
   - Not too crowded: 15
   - Neither crowded nor un‐crowded: 10
   - Somewhat crowded: 7
   - Very crowded: 5
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 21
   - Fewer: 33
   - Same: 28
   - More: 22
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 22
   - Fewer: 33
   - Same: 24
   - More: 23
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | | | | | | |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I've hunted in southern Polk County for over 30 years. Deer activity is as high as it has ever been. The predator population, however, is higher than I have ever seen it -- coyote and bear populations, mostly, have risen dramatically in the past 10-15 years (I've neither seen nor heard any wolves or large cats, however, nor have I encountered their sign). The deer population is impacted by the increased predator population, of course, but not to the extent that hunter success rate is negatively impacted because predators are reducing the heard size. On the contrary, the deer population appears to be quite healthy. There are lots of deer. The problem is that predator activity has driven the deer to almost exclusively nocturnal patterns. Hunter success rate is negatively impacted due, first, to the fact that there is very little naturally occurring daytime deer activity like there used to be. This impact is exacerbated by the fact that, second, hunting methods have changed dramatically over the past two decades, as well. Most hunters "stand hunt" these days, relying on scents or calls or bait or natural daytime deer activity to draw the deer to them. As a result, the deer are not being pressured by human activity to move during the daytime. As a "still hunter," and not a "stand hunter," I can assure you that there are many deer, that I see many deer every season, and that I see tremendous amounts of deer sign. I bag deer every season. But I have to work for it. A third factor that may be reducing hunter success is simply the fact that there doesn't seem to be many hunters in the field anymore. I hunt all season long, equally on private and public land, and as a "still hunter," I cover alot of ground, see alot of game, and alot of sign. But in the past 10 years combined, I haven't encountered a total of 10 hunters on public land. Thirty years ago, there was a hunter on every knoll. Not anymore. Because the predators have driven the deer into nocturnal patterns, bagging deer takes considerably more human effort than it did twenty years ago, and most hunters simply aren't willing to work that hard. They just want to sit and wait for the deer to come to them. But the deer aren't active during the day like they used to be, so the hunters have left the field. If effective deer management requires the involvement of hunters, then you'll have to concern yourselves with hunter success -- if bagging deer is too difficult, then you'll lose the hunters. I suggest that you include efforts to reduce the predator population in your deer management considerations, to return natural daytime deer activity to normal, so that lazy hunters can bag deer even though they essentially remain stationary all day long. That's my 2-cents worth.

It would be really nice if only landowners of 50 acres or more could receive the two tags per license with the rest of the antlerless tags available for purchase (at least $20) or lottery. For example.... In my area of northern Polk County we have had several new families move into the area. These folks are nice people and have become friends of mine since their arrival two or three years ago. They are builders and carpenters by trade so they have purchased only small farmsteads. (3-5-10-20 acres) However, their arrival has also meant the addition of 20 or more licensed hunters within a three-square mile block. None have asked to hunt on my land and I would respectfully tell them "no" if they did. The problem is that several neighbors seem to idolize and pedestal-ize these curious new neighbors and cheerfully allow them to hunt on their land. That's the landowners prerogative, of course, but perhaps if everyone didn't get a "free" antlerless tag there wouldn't be so much hunting pressure in the area. By the way---like those mentioned above---I hunt deer for venison, not for antlers and trophies. I don't blame those folks for "filling their tags" for meat. But when a family of 7 or 8 legally licensed hunters takes 7 or 8 antlerless deer out of an 80 acre plot, it's bound to have an effect on sustainability. Respectfully submitted, JR of northern Polk County
There should be more buck tags available for archery hunters. Archery hunters should be able to use their rifle buck tag during the archery season as a substitute. I think giving archery hunters more tags would make it more appealing during the public. The archery season is during the rut and this would give hunters more opportunity to capitalize on this crucial time when bucks are daylight active. It would not negatively effect the deer population because the odds are actually much better with a rifle in hand vs. a bow. The DNR could even charge more money for this option. I think having this option would be very well received, and offer a new perspective on archery hunting opportunity. On a side note, the new paper tags are impractical. For instance, when I shot my 2015 bow buck there was no worries about having the tag melt in the rain or snow. This year, I had to carry a plastic bag around to wrap my tag with. I have also heard from other friends how they’re tag was illegible because it had gotten wet this past year. Surrounding states such as Illinois and Iowa use tag that have a sticky adhesive on the back to wrap around the antler of a buck of the hind leg of a doe. I just feel this is a minor fix that would really help solve issues with tagging not only deer but other animals as well.

I am a conservationist, hunter and outdoorsman and I’m concerned about CWD. It makes sense to actively and aggressively reduce deer herds in areas that are known to have a high prevalence of CWD. If this is not done, higher percentages of CWD will occur in these areas as infected deer impact neighboring deer populations. To oppose this need will only result in increases of deer with the disease which then can only more rapidly impact both immediate and neighboring counties. While conservationists and those living in the affected counties may have personal reasons for wanting to avoid the killing of larger numbers of deer by others, those are emotional responses and not based in fact. The result of not keeping the disease under control can only mean that the entire state, and not only that region, will see an even greater number deer suffering and lost over time than there needed to be, the possibility that more people could be harmed in their accidental consumption of infected deer, and an eventual reduction in the number of hunters and state revenues. We cannot afford decisions such as these which influence all state residents to be influenced, much less decided by, those who are either ignorant of the facts or attempting to succumb to the demands of those who are.

This unit definitely needs to be split into a northern forest zone and a farmland zone. The amount of deer and the amount/type of food is quite different south of Hwy 8 compared to north of Hwy 8 and even 5-10 miles north of hwy 8. The proposal for an antlerless only hunt is irresponsible. The numbers of deer are far from the numbers experienced from about 2002-2012. The back to back winter/spring of 13/14 took the numbers down quite a bit for both antlerless and bucks. The backing of a Holiday hunt is a poor decision. By that time of year, we want to get out on our snowmobiles or ice fish. The holiday hunt would close all the trails during that time and if we have good snow at that time, you will definitely hear calls about our displeasure given that good snowmobile weather is at a premium. Also, a holiday antlerless only hunt takes about from the opportunity late season bow hunters have to harvest a buck by a full week. I you think people are going to take time away from ice fishing and family to shoot an anterdeer, which if they wanted one or two or more they probably already got during normal hunting times, you are sadly mistaken.

I wish the DNR would consider going to a one buck per hunter per season total for Wisconsin. There is absolutely no reason a person should be able to shoot a buck with a crossbow or bow and then go out and shoot another buck with a rifle or muzzleloader. With a one buck per hunter per year rule if an archery or crossbow hunter failed to get a buck with their arrow launching equipment they could take a buck with a rifle but not with both. In this day and age it only makes sense. People do not need to shoot two bucks or more per year. I am also in favor of going back to the way it was for years concerning crossbows-if a hunter is over 65 years old or is disabled they can hunt with one but if not they must use regular archery equipment. There is an unfair advantage with modern crossbows with scopes, etc. that enables a hunter to remarkably extend their effective range where the weapon becomes more like a firearm than a bow and arrow.
I was not at the CDAC meeting for this area because I attended the one in my home area in St Croix County. My concern from that meeting was the population numbers that were presented. I don't know what number were presented at the Polk County meeting but I am guessing that they were set at a 25-30% increase like St Croix. I am an owner of a large track of land in Polk County and have done many projects to manage that property and have a lot of communication with the neighboring land owners who have been in this area longer than I. They have been disappointed in the numbers they have been experiencing in the past years and are not supporting the harvest goals that have been put forth. It is obvious that more tags do not increase harvest. Hunter experience is the underlying factor and more hunters with tags and inaccurate numbers will not help the cause. Thank You for all you do.

Continue to see fewer deer each season. We hunt west of 87 in the Barrens. The numbers seem to be skewed as a lot of this county is farmland but not at all in the Barrens. We have 14 hunters and we're able to harvest 3 bucks. We all had antlerless tags and we're not able to harvest a doe. The high for number of deer seen out of 14 guys was 10 deer for the entire gun season. I don't believe issuing more antlerless tags is the right answer. You may have not met your quota but have you considered this may be due to the hunters not seeing doe to harvest as this is the case in our group. I bow hunted during the rut, early November for 3.5 days and saw 1 deer and my hunting partner saw 5. The number of deer seen has dramatically decreased over the last 5 years both gun and bow season for our camp. We have also seen more coyote and a few wolves during that timeframe.

The DNR needs to go back to in-person deer registration and the laminated green tags. The online registration allows people to be lazy and not register their deer. I know several people that did not register the deer that they tagged. The in-person registration is a huge part of the tradition of Wisconsin deer hunting. Hunters can come, compare deer, share stories, and boost the local economy at the stations. Visiting the stations is what I have very fond memories of during my early deer hunting years. I personally know a bait shop owner and I worked for him. He went out of business the year after the DNR went to online registration. This wasn't the only factor, but it contributed. I can not stress how important it is to go back to in-person registration. It holds people much more accountable and boosts local economy and morale.

There is no reason for additional antlerless tags in Polk County. It is very unfortunate that this is what it is coming to. My wife is rapidly losing interest in deer hunting as well as my younger brother due to the fact that they see so few deer. It is not due to the fact that we don't do anything to draw deer to our hunting area as we have done habitat projects and food plots as well as manage what we shoot, yet the deer numbers are just not there. If all of these extra free tags and holiday hunts are a thing of the future I see the amount of younger hunters dropping drastically since there is nothing to keep their attention. I would hope this is reconsidered before fall. Sad to see what was once such an amazing hunting area (grew up and still live in Polk county) become such a travesty.

I think the youth hunt needs to end. Too many parents are using it as an excuse to get in the woods with a gun early in the year. Or switch to does only. I think Wisconsin should eliminate the 2 bucks a year. 1 per person. Either gun or bow, the hunter chooses. Stop all the extra doe hunts. 8 years ago, I would see 40 deer on any given day during gun season. Now I am lucky to see 5. Too much over hunting, guys would buy 5 tags and shoot every deer they see cause they have a tag. The DNR are so money hungry they don't listen to the actual sportsman that live here. More tags....free tags brings morons into the state....equals more money for the DNR!!! There is a ton of issues with people making these decisions. Some are easily fixed, but burying their heads in the sand won't help.

I have hunted this area (used to be unit 10) since 1974. The high water mark for deer kill was the year 2000. The kill and deer sightings during the hunting season and other times of the year has gone down dramatically since then. This is due to over usage of antlerless tags. The lottery system used years ago was the correct way to manage the deer numbers. I cannot stress enough the importance of managing these numbers correctly. Deer hunting is a time honored family tradition in Wisconsin, the experience as well with sons / daughters. How can a Dad keep his child interested when you see maybe 3 deer in 4 days... Please do the right thing and back off on the antlerless tags, issue 50% of the proposal... If you do, the deer numbers will come back in a short period of time.
I believe that the Public or Private option to the tag system should be done a way with. There is no reason to restrict where people get to hunt. Populations should be managed by DMU (Deer Management Unit!!!) and not try to manage them by property ownership. Wild Deer populations can not and should not be micro managed. A piece of public ground is not a deer farm, you will never control the number of deer specifically on public property as it is not high fenced, same goes for private property. Populations should be managed by harvest numbers and the science that goes with it, and not base the populations on people that come to the meetings that have only spent the 9 day guns season in the woods and did not see a deer.

I have worked hard the last 3 years to maintain pollinators, fruit-bearing plants, prairie...to no avail as the deer have devastated it. I also had a very close call w/ a huge buck on my way home and was rattled to the core. I am VERY concerned about the spread of CWD and it’s impact on other wildlife and plants and people as well. Lastly, I shutter at what deer are doing to our forests and ecosystems. It is time to seriously consider lowering the deer population in the state of Wisconsin. We need scientists to manage the deer, not hunters. Wisconsin deer hunters have shown no desire to limit the population and most of them care nothing about the threats that deer pose.

It seems as if folks want no one besides themselves to harvest a deer, and then it can only be a 3.5 year old or older buck. Deer are not going to go extinct, no matter what quota numbers are or how many tags are available. Private land hunting (85% in Polk) is controlled by the owners. It is only selfishness regarding caring about what someone else harvests, especially on a different property or in a different township. Provide opportunity...having 10-14 days of gun hunting and over 100 days of bow hunting seems out of balance. Answers to questions regarding opinions on quota numbers with no context or what said quota will do to the population are meaningless.

Most of my fellow hunters and landowners believe the deer population is way too low. I believe that we are so used to the last 30 years where the deer population was so high, that all you had to do was step out in the woods, and you could harvest a deer. The last five years, with the population closer to where it needs to be, requires a little more effort on the hunters part. With the amount of food there is in Polk county, the deer herd can easily rebound from a year of over harvest/deer mortality. The goal should be to maintain the current size of deer herd, and try to increase mature buck herd.

Please stop spending money on private/public partnership land purchase agreements like Standing Cedars Land Conservancy. I much prefer that the DNR purchase and manage the land since that setup results in the same rules being applied to land purchased with state funds. It is too cumbersome to learn, know, and properly follow the changing rules of each piece of land that is part of the private/public partnerships. Thank you! The deer populations have finally recovered to a somewhat reasonable level in Polk County, don't overdo the harvest and knock us back to where we hardly see anything.

I would say that in Polk county there are too few deer already. Giving everyone that buys a license a pocket full of tags will just add to the problem. It is hard to keep young hunters or new hunters interested when they sit out in the cold and not see a deer. especially when we go to public land. Can hunt all day there and not see a deer. I guess that's what happens when there are so many antlerless tags issued. Is that public land hunters shoot every deer they see. I think too many buck fawns are shot with so many antlerless tags being given out.

Based on antlerless harvest numbers, you are dreaming if you think a Holiday Hunt will make much of a difference. It will just lead to more frustration for snowmobilers and bowhunters like myself who are trying to hunt for a buck that survived the gun season and are basically nocturnal. Personally I do not even hunt the early Antlerless season so I will not be out for the later hunt (even if the weather is good - which may be an issue). Still hoping that somehow Polk County can be split somehow between Central Farmland and Northern Forest.
I have seen a steady decline in the number of deer, when baiting was allowed it provided a better chance at seeing some deer. The number of bears seems to be increasing possibly effecting the number of fawns surviving after birth. There needs to be a reduction in the number of doe tags given and a reduction in all the special hunts. It is getting tough to get excited for the deer season when you only see two deer between bow and gun season combined. This is from seeing deer every day and all day.

I've seen the least amount of deer since the 1980s ..I refuse to kill a doe and have not killed one in the last 10 years ..My wife and I pretty much give up gun season due to never seeing anything other then the same 3 deer ..If the population continues to drop we are considering dropping deer hunting all together ..All the special seasons and Doe hunts are ridicules..also non resident tags should be as they are in other states Iowa , Kansas and so on ..Not raise them on residents ..

Place I hunt on has rules about the size of the bucks you can shoot. Has to be at least an 8 point outside the ears. Landowner does allow does to be taken. For 2016, no bucks and 3 does were harvested from 4 hunters. 1 hunter did not have a private land doe tag so did not harvest a doe. Is the landowner managing his herd properly. There were lots of does, nothing to see 25 does every day. Is there a way to educate landowners on how to properly manage their herds?

It is always great to see deer when hunting, so getting a deer is a bonus to being in the great outdoors. We do not need to get a deer every time we are out. Over population and over kill of the species are both bad and we need to find a happy medium. A license does not guarantee a person getting a deer. Predators are a concern. I don't farm, but if farmers truly have a lot of crop damage they should get bonus tags, but only to be used on their property.

I'm what you would call a avid hunter I'm in the woods a lot I deer hunt ,small game hunt,trap,duck hunt.Last season I seen a lot less sign of deer and when I was deer hunting with bow and with gun seen the least amount of deer ever in all my 38 years of hunting also it was in many areas of the county that i hunted. I think in polk county we need to increase the deer heard thank you.

You need to make sure baiting and feeding stays illegal. It needs to be banned state wide. We can't go backwards at this point. Baiting artificially elevates the carrying capacity, increases disease risk, increases populations which hurts forest regeneration. It also increased the ability for poachers to violate (hunting at night/after hours ect)

I've been hunting in the same area for the past 40 years I would say in the last 10 years I have seen less and less deer ever year. I believe that the northern part of polk County should not be considered central farm land. like the area west of county road 87 up to burnet county line

Please stop restricting the numbers of antlerless tags available for public lands. Low numbers of available tags on public lands will do nothing to promote the growth of the deer herd. It only limits hunters opportunities to hunt and harvest a deer from a large healthy population.

If there are as many deer as you say why do you need a special antlerless hunt. If you can't shoot a doe in 9 days of rifle hunting you don't deserve one. Again I say, you can't control the deer herd on private land so all these extra hunts just decimate the deer on public land.

The holiday hunt is needed in Polk county, the population is too high. Oak regeneration is virtually nonexistent where I hunt. Plus, we are a cwd county, so it is even more important to try and get the population under control. Give folks the tools to do this.

Please permanently stop all baiting and feeding with both strong laws and strong law enforcement. Hunters should hunt. Please close all deer farms and deer breeding facilities. CWD is inevitable, but we should do all we can to slow it down.

I think there have been too many doe tags on both public and private land! Also I thing the number of crop damage tags should be reduced! The farmers kill too many deer of all ages. Set a limit to how many tags a hunter can buy!
The number of antlerless permits needs to decrease to below what was issued in 2016. The number of deer in Southern Polk County and also in Southeastern Polk County has been steadily decreasing in each of the last four seasons.

I hunt the McKenzie wildlife area. Last year I saw deer opening morning. The 2 years before that I did not see a deer. After the (T Zone) years we did not see many deer and the deer hunters stopped coming to hunt this area.

I am a Minnesota hunter that chooses to hunt in Wisconsin. I think Wisconsin does an excellent job managing the deer population and will continue to support Wisconsin hunting in part because of how the heard is managed.

public land in polk seems to be overhunted by large numbers...it has become a real treat to see more than 1 deer on public land...0 doe tags for two years would bring back the herd and hunters...= more revenue for dnr
clear cutting in this area on a random basis really throws off deer patterns making a hunt very challenging. It is hard to believe that the population is higher than what we encounter in the woods.
i disagree with having a holiday hunt in polk county as it will have an impact on the snowmobiling season theres alot of bussiness that count on snowmobilers to visit there estashliment for income
Hold the holiday hunt. The deer population is very high, give hunters the tools they need to manage the deer population. If folks don’t like the holiday hunt, then they don’t have to hunt it.

The deer population in the old area 10 is down to nothing!! This area should have no antlerless permits, after nearly 60 years of hunting here this is the worst i have seen!!

I have observed deer numbers decreasing and I have a 10 year old son that I would like to get hooked on hunting. Seeing deer helps younger hunters get interested and excited.

THE NUMBER OF DEER AND SCRAPS SEEN ON THE 160 ACRES OF WOODS HAS DROPPED WAY DOWN THE LAST TWO YEARS. THE HARVEST FOR GUN HUNTING WAS REALLY BAD LAST YEAR. THANK YOU, RICH

Bring back deer and wildlife feeding. Minimize amount of feed (2 gallons) and NO feeding/baiting during any deer season. Bring back wolf season!

Limit crop damage tags. Local farmer has drastically reduced herd in our area by shooting too many does and orphaning fawns to early in year.

First off we hunt on are own land. My mother is 75 years old and she love to watch the deer at her feeder why is this not ok?
The deer population in our area is significantly less than in the past. There are too many antlerless permits being issued.
The unit is just starting to come back. We don’t need two free antlerless tags per license. I would prefer zero doe tags.

My land boards farmer with aggressive tags who bates deer to fill his tags and we see very few deer too many ag tags

Have not seen a buck in my area in 3 years.farmer down the road kills the deer with his crop damage permits
Would love to see more Quality Deer Management practices to achieve higher number of trophy bucks.

No quality, young deer heard, limited deer population on public lands

allow small amount of baiting to assist in taking of deer
Implementing an antler point restriction would be great.
I think one free tag per license would be appropriate.
keep it the same as last year. This is to many tags.
Bear population is out of hand.

Please ban baiting.

Plenty of deer!
Portage, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

56 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 35
   - No: 21

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 31
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 10
   - I hunt in this unit: 48
   - General interest in this unit: 17

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 47
   - Bow: 28
   - Crossbow: 16
   - Muzzleloader: 19

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 25.12
   - Maximum: 56

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 33
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 4
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 7
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 3
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 13
   - Fewer: 24
   - Same: 14
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 18
   - Same: 16
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
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<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
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</table>

Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
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<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

VALID NOT VALID Unsure

Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Portage, Central Farmland
Comments for  Portage, Central Farmland

I only saw two deer during the 2016 gun deer season, another neighbor saw two as well, one other neighbor saw one. Bow hunting was just as bad. The deer East of Hwy 34 and South of Lake Du Bay all the way down to Hwy 10 is terrible. I hunted this area for 45 years, I take the whole month of November off each year to hunt and I hunt a lot. Its very frustrating to see what's happening to this area, all the neighbors are complaining about the lack of deer, it's terrible. Please do something. I have never seen it this bad in 45 years, its been slowly getting worse over the years but 2016 was the worst. PLEASE HELP OUR DEER HERD.

There is no doubt that the deer herd is growing quickly on our property, and I do not have the means to buy enough tags to kill a proper number of does to even maintain the herd, let alone try to keep it from multiplying. Adding to that issue, I enjoy hunting with family in two other counties besides Portage. If I get 2-4 antlerless permits in the other counties I hunt (which has been the case), then I never declare for Portage where I can only receive one per license even though I care about herd management. My invited friends get a few on our land, but never enough. I wish there were a way to get more antlerless tags with a license in Portage or be able to divide up the tags we get between two counties.

I hunt morning till dusk and all week long. When you only see the same three deer all week (some days nothing) it's not fun hunting! Years past I would hear a lot shooting on opening morning. Not the case anymore. The people I talked with tell me the same thing. I think there are pockets of deer and there is none or very few in other places.

Having hunted public land most of my life (leather camp, paper company land....) and only having the opportunity to hunt private land for the last couple of years, my opinions may be skewed a little. I think most opinions will differ depending on where you hunt in the DMU and if your a farmer, homeowner or recreational user.

For some reason, my observations of antlerless deer in 2016 were significantly higher compared to bucks during prior seasons. Out of the 50+ acres I hunted buck sightings were down significantly while does up slightly versus prior years.

I think the tag system used in 2016 was terrible - I would gladly pay and extra dollar or two to have the regular back tags used again. There was way to much over harvesting with the 2016 system.

We continue to see very few deer in our area during rifle season. That's how it's been for about the last five seasons. We have elected not to harvest any antlerless deer with our free tag.

Agree with preliminary numbers. I'm opposed to the Holiday Hunt. I believe there are too many seasons already. Potential interference with other activities, i.e snowmobiling, etc. Thanks.

Consider going to only 1 buck a year per person like some states, not 1 with the bow and 1 with the gun. Increase the age class of bucks in this area.

Also hunt Marathon county, seeing less and less adult does each of the last three years. Seeing mostly yearling does when hunting bow & gun

I feel the free ranging deer population in Portage County is well within the carrying capacity of the resources available to sustain it.

I feel there are too many crop damage permits and / or the farmers are abusing the tags or how they use or disperse them

Maybe start antler restrictions... charge extra for doe permits. Less free tags and doe permits issued.
Plenty of deer. Deer ticks and overbrowsing on our land.

I saw almost as many coyotes as deer.
177 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 127
   - No: 50

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 72
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 36
   - I hunt in this unit: 151
   - General interest in this unit: 39

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 146
   - Bow: 98
   - Crossbow: 48
   - Muzzleloader: 73

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 24.44
   - Maximum: 65

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 57
   - Mostly Private Land: 25
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 26
   - Mostly Public Land: 21
   - Exclusively Public Land: 20
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 20
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 16
   - Somewhat crowded: 30
   - Very crowded: 20
   - Not applicable: 4

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 31
   - Fewer: 42
   - Same: 57
   - More: 35
   - Many More: 11
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 36
   - Fewer: 44
   - Same: 32
   - More: 45
   - Many More: 17
   - Unsure: 3
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
  - VALID: 84
  - NOT VALID: 82
  - Unsure: 11

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I support and appreciate how engaged the DNR has become in obtaining information from the conservationists that use the resource. Changing the zone structure and reviewing it by county has been helpful. There is a fine line and challenge in that not each county area is perfect fit for farmland vs. forest. In the section of Price County that I hunt there is a fair amount of farmland but the zone gets pulled into forest zone. The Southern part of the Price county does have high doe numbers and the buck to doe ratio seems off yet. I spent many years hunting the nearby Taylor County zone in the national forest, very different hunting experience in national forest vs. the regions of Price County. The buck to doe ration 10 years ago seemed more inline and allowed a great experience of hunting during the rut time. Where you actually got to see and experience rut activity. With the higher number of does in Price County the rut activity seems to have declined and getting to experience a true traditional rut hunt in Oct. Nov. time periods have drastically declined over the years. It would be nice to see the private land owners do a better job of harvesting does and not just shoot bucks. Those back to back harsh winters were very hard on the herd but it seems to be recovering and looking forward to upcoming seasons. QDMA program is a benefit when done correctly and what I see and hear is people don't harvest anything and that is not the real intent of that program. It is to manage and try to get the buck to doe ratio in line with each other. Poor education and practices of what QDMA program is for has hurt the hunting experience in the state over the last 15 years. I have been hunting deer in WI for 30 years and watching what QDMA has done to the herd hasn't helped improve the great tradition of this State. The increased predator’s in Price county does not help in growing the herd size. The bear populations in Price county are growing at a tremendous rate. In the last 2 years I seen more bear than I did deer while hunting. Increasing bear tags given to hunters would help manage the bear population better. Wolf I understand is a protected species but hopefully that will change was the federal government realize that manages of State resources should be granted to the States and not the Federal government. State’s need to be able to properly manage their resources because they have the best insight to what is happening within their own areas. It's the same concept that the DNR is trying to accomplish by obtaining more feedback from the public. It makes the best sense to get feedback and make decisions from those that locally use the resources. Baiting - is a topic that often comes up in debates. I was traditionally a anti baiter until I started getting my kids involved in hunting. The use of a little bit of corn helped draw in other wildlife while we sat on stand. Letting the youngsters watch birds, squirrels, grouse, turkey come in to feed keep their interest while on stand until a deer would show up. I have sense changed my opinion on baiting and support the use of it. I would like to see the use of feeding deer year around as an acceptable practice to help the deer herds in those times when mother nature is harsh on the herd. Education and proper feeding practices need to be taught though because poor practices can actually harm the herd. The amount of public land in Price County is amazing. Thanks a lot to the paper mill lands that are open to the public. I shake my head when I hear people say they don't have places to hunt. There is so much public land available to hunt if a person just puts some work in for scouting and getting in off the roads the outdoor experience in this State is second to none if you just try a little bit. The land management in Price County is solid as well, I enjoy seeing the logging activities for future habitat development. Use of public land in regards to treestands. Would like to see it be allowed County wide that if the land is open to hunt to the public regardless of ownership that you could leave treestands up during the entire season. Allow setup 7 days before opener and removal 7 days after closure of season. This just seems to be a safer concept instead of setting up and taking down stands in the dark. Also improves hunting experience in knowing who and what pressure is in a particular area so that a person is not wasting time trying to hunt a heavily pressured area.
Deer hunting is nothing like it used to be in Price/Sawyer co. like it was 30 yrs ago not just because deer numbers are down at least 50% but because of the worst ethical hunters I have ever seen. I have land at the end of a road where Price co. land starts. It is over run by ATV's. It is enough to get you sick. These hunters / joy riders even go all the way into the Flambeau River State Forest and drive all over the place. They bait ( and very likely over bait) on their own land and on the public land. This is most discouraging to see since I walk down walking trail a mile with backpack, climber and weapon and then go in from there. At my age I still walk in and can't compete with an ATV and a pile of corn. I believe corn has made hunters so lazy that they don't really even scout anymore. In 1989 I hunted in the Flambeau River S.F. and saw deer on a regular basis . There were more deer, but I hardly knew the land at all. I believe baiting is attracting deer onto nearby private land cause that is where the bait is and that is where ALL the shots come from in gun season. Warden Jason Behr put a stop to much of it and sadly he is gone. The Price co. forestry couldn't care any less if the ATV's are all over the walking trails . Take a look at the end of Down River Road. ATV's just go around the gate without a care in the world. SO bad the tire ruts are a foot deep. Surely , I am not the only one bothered by this behavior. I have emailed Price co. Forestry several times and seems like nothing is done. It is obvious who is doing it cause the ATV tracks come right off the private land. Price co. public land was better one time. It is not worth hunting there anymore. I have not even seen a snowshoe in 10 yrs.. however , I do see grouse. I dont even mind the terrible deer hunting, I expect it, but to have ATV's going all day long on Friday and Saturday cause of the bait stations really spoils the hunt to the point I can stay on public land in Washington co.

Last season we saw more 1.5 year old bucks than the past 4 years combined. Previous years the ration of young bucks to older bucks was close to even, which is out of whack. There should be many more young bucks, last year was the first time we saw that in a while. It seems that the first easier winter we had 2 years ago helped bring about a larger crop of fawns. That being said, I did not see a drastic amount of does. If anything it was no different than the past few years. That was a little odd to us, with more little bucks we thought there would be more does but that was not the case, granted it may have been our sample area. We did typically see a deer while driving firelanes though, almost every time. That was definitely an improvement. Did find a predator kill on our small property that appeared to be a fawn from last summer. Of 3 does we had around regularly, there were only 2 fawns. While hunting I saw 1 doe with 0 fawns and 1 doe with 2 fawns. I think some are getting picked off by predators like would be expected, but clearly not all like some might say. Could be better though, with the easy winters I doubt it was mortality from that. Overall I think numbers are on the upswing but I don't think its where it needs to be yet and I don't want to see us shoot too many does and mess it up. We just had another easy winter so that should help things. I would like to see the increase in antlerless harvest start to happen in maybe another year or two.

These recommendations seem way too high. It's only been a couple years with the objective of increasing the herd and we want to keep cranking up the quota. You really need to let the herd stabilize with little or no quotas. If at all, and as recommended by several committee members last year, can issue tags on private land. The landowner will manage accordingly. Offering so many tags on the fragile public land, to satisfy two members of the committee (tourism and hunt/conservation club) with obvious agendas. These two certainly are not looking at the future of hunting. They are in the now and should be skated off the board. It seems they are the two persons who drastically changed the preliminary quota recommendations for 2016 from 0 to 500 with no objective reasoning (on record), and are the same guys with the 2017 mentality of "let's offer 2X since the DNR says the population estimate is up 50%". Guys, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand their agenda, one that certainly does not mimic the feedback of the hunter surveys (majority against the increased quota). You are cutting your own achilles in making these recommendations. Strongly consider you back off, at least on the public land or tourism and your hunt club memberships may dwindle too.
I live in Minnesota but am originally from Wisconsin. I hunt in both states as do my children, who love to hunt. (THANK YOU FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAMS!) Baiting is illegal in Minnesota. We see and shoot plenty of deer in Minnesota because deer act like deer are supposed to. In southern Price county, where we hunt, the two weeks leading up the the gun season there is a DRAMATIC shift in deer movement because of all the baiting. Over baiting is rampant. We watch as the neighbors bring wheeler after wheeler of corn out to their stands in some cases several days in a row. The deer go completely nocturnal by the start of the rifle season because of all the food on the ground. We quit participating in the rifle season solely for that reason, we never see any deer! A month prior to that, during the bow season, we see plenty of deer. It is sad. I quit buying an out of state rifle license about 10 years ago and don't even bother going to deer camp for the gun season any more. My kids and just bow hunt the early season and call it quits in early November when the baiting starts. Its just not worth it for me to purchase an out-of-state gun license so we can sit and stare at an empty woods because the deer are too full to walk around.

We have heard over and over, with the DNR, and now with the CDAC that the population estimates given by the DNR are accurate. Amazing how anyone can come to that conclusion. Where are the herd population studies to validate the numbers? It's like throwing darts blindly trying to hit the bullseye, and based on overwhelming public input from past years, they are missing the board completely. When CDAC listens to the minority, it appears as if they too are an extension of the DNR. It will only be a few more years when the public finally loses trust in them too. I realize members may be pulled in various directions by concerned citizens, but CDAC must concede that they must move agendas in the direction of the majority, not minority. Look at the majority feedback over the past couple of years...easy to see MOST hunters are dissatisfied, especially on public land. I hope you hold this public input forum to the highest. It's a great indicator what we the people want, especially when the metrics on browsing, collisions, ag damage are pretty neutral. Back off a bit and let the herd have a chance on public land, and stop being brain-washed by the DNR's fake numbers. They only want $$ from tag sales.

WHAT......26 deer per square mile. When is the DNR going to pull their head out of the sand. This is a ridiculous number unless you are basing your numbers off of a silo-sized feeder placed on every field in the county. This is bordering fraudulent when they share this crappy info with the general public. A formula cannot shed light on the population especially when we have introduced many and additional hunt options. Today is not like 40 years ago. But you can ask the hunter who has had boots on the ground in the same area for 20+ years how the population is or sightings are. Asking for comparisons for the past 2 years is bad information, especially when the deer herd just came out of a low population for many, many years. If there are truly that many deer in Price, then open the doors for business cause you are going to flood the gates. Unfortunately, they won't be back in years to come when they get a dose of reality that those numbers do not exist. VOTE down these ridiculous quotas. Give the herd a chance to rebuild. Then we will have something to write home about, called HUNTER SATISFACTION!!!!!!!

#1; when killing antlerless deer @ 30% are nubby bucks, this reduces buck #s the next year as witnessed this past season with many forked or spike bucks taken. Most hunters are very happy to take a buck of any size. #2Preditors [wolves] are doing great damage to the herd and we as humans should know we need to raise as many deer as possible to offset the mortality rate caused by these animals #3 we need to increase the herd to a point where an archer can take a buck OR a doe and bring back the group hunting attitude with a party tag system like we had in the past. #4 The YOUTH hunt needs to be changed to, a new hunter may take 1 antlerless deer during the regular season. This permit would be valid until age 16 or until it is filled which ever comes first. NO MORE SPECIAL SEASONS as it teaches nothing about hunting and protecting our resource! It only teaches KILLING! We put too much pressure on deer way too early in the season, which greatly reduces the # of deer that can be seen during the regular framework seasons.
I love going to the Northwoods to hunt. This year was very unusual, only spotted a few dear and not a lot of tracks in the specific private land area I hunt. Upon entering the land areas to set up and scout on Wednesday before Thanksgiving, we found that one of the other property owners adjacent to out land was in deed trespassing and from what we could tell hunting on the property. In fact this guy a day later ended up dumping 2 buck carcasses in the tract of Federal forest, right out in the open; I’m talking racks cut off and plenty of meat still on the bodies. Very disappointing to see and know that there are hunters out there like that right in the same area we hunt. Disgusting! On a side note, having antlerless tags was beneficial to our party as one member ended up getting a doe (other than the 2 dead buck carcasses, this was the only deer we saw in our area. Plenty while driving). At night and in the morning, we could hear the wolves howling like crazy; very eerie to hear in the distance.

Compared to three years ago there has been a slight uptick in deer numbers. This opinion is based on owning 80 acres and having 7 cameras out (2 on my own property and 5 on surrounding private and public land). Bear population is very high as I typically get more bears on my camera then deer. I and my two sons do not bait as well as neighbors which make up about 600 acres which abuts paper mill land. Because of the low deer numbers we have only harvested two does in the last five years. Both were harvested by youth hunters. After also letting younger bucks go for the past three years we are starting to see a few older bucks. Last year I only had two mature bucks on camera. The year before I had four. One was hit by car, two survived and the third was probably harvested by a lucky hunter not from our group of 9. In essence, numbers are starting to increase but not to the levels of five years ago. I estimate about 6-7 deer per square mile right now.

The deer numbers have dropped dramatically over the past 10 years in my area. A hunter can sit for days and not see a single deer, there are times when we see more wolves, coyotes and bear than deer. The closing of the doe seasons was a start but the predators also thrive off of more fawns. I personally have seen the deer hunters drop off in my area due to the lack of deer and worst of all the young hunters are loosing interest. When you take a young child out to hunt or observe a hunt and sit day after day and see no deer, they are going to loose interest fast. This area used to be known for good deer hunting and now it is known as a lost cause for deer. In 2015 deer gun season out of 38 hunters in my area I included only one small buck was shot. Most everyone did not see a deer opening weekend. The forestland is being hit hard by predators and when you open antlerless it just adds more hurt to the herd.

I would support an antlerless quota higher than previously recommended to begin to slow herd growth. We don’t need to be back to deer numbers like the early 2000’s. There are portions of the county that currently have a tremendous amount of deer. I also support the elimination of the baiting and feeding of deer statewide. The deer should be where the habitat is and only in numbers that it can support. Once this happens landowners will begin active management of their properties instead of reliance on corn piles to hold deer on their land. There is a lot of private land in the county that is no longer quality deer habitat but so long as folks can dump their corn nothing changes. I am sure the forestry community which is huge in the county, would be highly in favor of this. Baiting ban would also help a few more bucks survive to maturity which is almost non-existent these days.

Your antlerless tag quota for 2017 appears to be way off the mark for the 3-year INCREASE objective. The metrics certainly do not show any reason to dramatically increase the 2017 quota. In particular, based on the feedback from hunters regarding sightings on PUBLIC land, offering 675 Public bonus antlerless tags would result in an approximate 450 does killed. This is a ludicrous number when you compare it to the 2016 quota of 300 (240 harvested), and shows a disregard to the majority of public comment/feedback. You are charged with managing the deer herd long term and not micro-managing it year-to-year based on a minority of feedback. Do the right thing and manage for the 3-year INCREASE objective. Our county will be better off long term when hunters can actually SEE an occasional deer, let alone harvest one. We will be back year after year when the herd is back from a 30-year low.
I hunt in southwestern Price County south of Kennan around Big Falls County Park. Our deer heard numbers are drastically low and have been for about the last 8-10 years! Compared to other parts of the county or even a few miles north our area is very different. Large areas of public hunting land with easy access from prior logging. No farm fields either. There is a lot more hunting pressure on the very few deer that are left here. There's not a lot of escape for them to large areas of private land where they can feel un-pressured or where they can't all get wiped out. Also we regularly have multiple packs of coyotes, wolves, and probably more bear than deer. Killing even more deer. So no I am strongly against more antlerless tags. In fact I believe we should have no antlerless tags for 5 years straight to boost our population and help the heard. Thank you for your time.

After attending the prelim meeting and hearing the local biologist, it seemed like the same ole same ole. This committee (not the members) is a farce when the dnr gives estimates and tells the committee that the deer numbers will soar out of control if we don't issue 1000 tags. Just like the old days, the dnr won't admit that the estimates can be wrong. I guess hunters lie about what they are seeing in the woods. One of two people stand up and say they are seeing more deer....wow, now the assumption is deer are everywhere. Get a grip, people, I would hope we are seeing more deer after the super poor numbers and harsh winter, and the giving of a doe tag a day a couple years ago. All I can say, the opinion of most hunters really is not being heard...just like before this committee. Insane and reckless! Time to move on to a county that cares.

My personal opinion to who this may concern, I would not kill any antlerless deer up there until the numbers are up and number 2 until the wolves are under control or gone all together. I have talked to a lot of people that will not even buy a license any more because of not seeing deer, so not only are we losing hunters and revenue local business are hurting also because of low numbers of hunters. Let the deer herd thrive before killing them back of again is nice to see the deer starting to come back but that doesn't mean send more tags out just because people seen a few deer. It used to be no problem seeing a lot of deer now your excited when you see one or two. My pinion is the wolves have got to go and not slaughter them off by sending out how many antlerless tags when there is no deer hardly to begin with.

The only problem I have is dividing hunters by public and private land. Hunters are realizing this today. With the number of hunters going out of state to hunt this may hurt Wisconsin hunting. Why would a public land hunter support a private land hunter. The private land hunter likes CDAC antlerless proposals. This makes me believe that they don’t care about public land hunters. So why do I care about them. The private land hunter opposes baiting but supports food plots. By doing these things concerning baiting and antlerless permits it eventually caused hunters to quit hunting. Many will become the opponent of those that still hunt. This may convince some to oppose hunting period. I’m going to Wisconsin this year, my Dad and brothers are going to Kansas. Good luck, Russ Walton

I've been hunting in southern Price Co. for 50yrs..When I started hunting it was nothing to see 3,4 deer everyday. Last gun season I saw ONE doe for the whole season and I put MANY hours in the woods. The predators (bears, coyotes,wolves)have kept the deer herd down.If anything INCREASE tags for them. I know the DNR is losing income from not selling ANTERLESS TAGS, but in the long run the number of hunters will increase if there is a GREATER DEER HERD. Maybe bring back the PARTY TAGS where 4 license are sent in with $5.00 or more to get one DOE tag. This way you get income and the DEER HERD doesn't get wiped out. Finally I hope the BUCK ONLY will continue for 3 or more years with NO ANTERLESS TAGS SOLD or given out. Thank you A concern hunter

I hunt on public land east of phillips and there still are not many deer. But you recommend upping doe tags. Let the deer come back. You want Youth to hunt but are losing them because there are few deer and they lose interest. Public land on eastside of county is the worst i've seen in my 23 years. Private land by fields especially on western side of county are doing much better. I have patience hunting but its getting to the point of finally leaving this area and doing something else. I wish the councils would see this for themselves. Hunting up here is no fun anymore. Sit all day for days on end and see 0 to 2 deer. No wonder kids dont want to hunt. Raising more money selling tags is not the answer, the long term future of the deer herd is.
In my job and at home in the woods, I am covering much of Northern Wisconsin. Walking several miles daily through the woods, (because my job requires it). I see areas where deer are plentiful, and areas where they are almost non existent. In Price County there are plenty of deer in the south, and very few in north. Mainly because of farm fields. My main concern is that we do not get in a ridiculous situation like they have in Oneida, Vilas and Forest Counties, where baiting is banned, yet every convenient store is selling corn. There is absolutely no good reason to ban baiting in those counties. CWD is not an issue in the Northwoods. We need to put a sunset on the CWD rules, they are not applicable here in the north.

First I think the number of doe permits is a bit high. I would like to see the heard grow faster and take advantage of the mild winter. As pointed out the predators also had a mild winter. Second I still do not understand the idea of splitting doe permits between private and public land. With the heavy emphasis on private land permits verses public land I still believe we are in the process of privatizing the deer heard. Since we have to live with this privatization movement I would suggest a 50/50 split of the permits. If that will not fly why not at least allow one third public (800 tags) which would still give the private land owners, which I am one, twice as many as the public.

THE DEER HERD IS SLOWLY COMING BACK BUT ONE HARD WINTER AND WE COULD BE BACK DOWN TO LEVELS LIKE WE HAD 2-3 YEARS AGO.I THINK ALOT OF PEOPLE WOULD BE HAPPY IF WE COULD GO OUT HUNTING AND BE ABLE TO SEE SOME DEER NOT JUST BIRDS AND RED SQUIRRELS.LET THE DEER HERD INCREASE BEFORE WE START SHOOTING ANTERLESS DEER MAYBE THEN MORE PEOPLE WILL COME UP TO HUNT. I SPENT MANY HOURS HUNTING DEER IN 2016 IN PRICE COUNTY AND SAW VERY FEW DEER, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSE TO KEEP NEW HUNTERS INTERESTED IN THIS SPORT IF THEY CANNOT SEE ANY DEER.LAND VALUES ARE ALSO SUFFERING DUE TO THE LACK OF DEER IT IS A LOSE, LOSE FOR ALL OF US LAND OWNERS. SO PLEASE BACK OFF ON THE ANTERLESS

We have been seeing wolves more often in populated areas, around lakes, and closer to town in the winter of 2016-17. This would lead me to believe that the predation by wolves in more remote areas has increased. This would lead to less deer in those areas and increased pressure in areas where deer have moved to be safe from the wolf packs. Also bear sightings in these same areas have increased over the years and bear are another main predator of deer fawn. Bobcat and cougar sightings are also pretty common. Simply stated we have way too MANY predators in this management unit. Time to up the quotas on the predators and leave the deer kill at 2016 levels.

In the public land areas that I hunted, deer were pretty scarce. There was a lot of logging in the areas east of Fifield where I predominantly hunted so food supplies would appear to be adequate. Unfortunately the most success probably comes to the bait hunters who bait for weeks prior to the season; a guy who just comes up for a few days during rifle season doesn't have as much of a chance to stumble upon a deer. There seems to be plenty of deer in the farmland areas west of Park Falls and Butternut so I’m glad to see the tags being handed out there. I do think the public land tags might be a bit too high for where I hunt. Thanks for your efforts.

Please consider strongly to put a restriction on size of bucks that are harvested. Many hunters and non- hunters enjoy seeing antlered bucks. Please put a restriction for harvesting young bucks. I so wish the WI DNR could do like many other states have done and recommend or legally limit the harvesting of small bucks. My recommendation is at least 4 points on one side. It does not matter to me if it is 3 points or 4 points but limit it so spikes and forks are not able to be harvested by any age hunter. By limiting the harvesting of small bucks for a few short years has the big potential of increasing the larger antlered deer. Thanks,

The largest decline in have seen on my private 220 acres of wooded forest land was due to Wolves. We have gradually seen less deer each year over the previous for the past 10 years. Until the Wolf population is under control we need to limit the harvests for 1 deer per hunter per season in this zone. Buck or does and only 1 for harvest for gun and 1 for bow. Either or tags but limit to 1 and no bonus tags. I want to have my children hunt this property but due to seeing no deer or up to 3 in a 12 hour period is unacceptable and I can only manage my land. Please help.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

When I started hunting 26 years ago, there never was youth hunting programs, where you could go out and shoot deer before season's and these kids these days have a pocket full of tags, you give them too many tags the deer population is not there anymore in Price County there's deer, but not a lot of deer... I wish you could implement a six-point antlered deer or bigger that can be harvested, then you would actually have some nice trophies in the area and the deer can make it past a year and a half years old.

Deer #'s have increased slightly the last couple years, but I think we'd all agree they are still quite low. I have seen an equally decreasing # in hunters as well. This is good for me and the other handful of hunters still trying their luck on the mostly baron public land, but bad for business. I can't remember talking to anyone in this area for several years now that would say "We have too many deer". The Buck only quotas were helping and need to be reinstated again for a total of 3 years.

Predators taking too many deer. Don't allow doe hunting for a few more seasons. Bring back hunters choice tag. No bonus tags and no doe tags. Shorten the very long bow season. Get rid of public vs private land designations. The private land owners hunt public land on opening weekend and all the deer move onto private land afterwards. This system puts too much pressure on public land. Many private land owners are shooting way too many does on their land. System unfair to non land owners.

YOU GUYS ARE NUTS. DEER POPULATIONS IN PRICE COUNTY ARE WAY TO LOW. NO DEER ON PUBLIC LAND AND POCKETS OF DEER ON PRIVATE LAND. YOU DONT LISTEN TO THE PUBLIC INPUT. LAST YEARS DOE QUOTA WAS WAY TO HIGH. AND IT IS AGAIN THIS YEAR. THIS AREA IS NOT EVEN CLOSE TO THE CARING CAPACITY. WITH ALL THE FOOD PLOTS, DEER FEEDERS. AG LAND IS BEING PLANTED MORE NOW THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN. OUR PUBLIC LAND IS A WASTE. THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND AND THERE ARE NO DEER ON IT. SHAME ON YOU GUYS.

Stop selling doe tags!! Stop all the dam different hunts!!! In the 80s and 90s there where a ton of deer why because you didn't sell everyone doe tags! The DNR is just like the dam dem's you think you know what people want but u have no F N clue!! Stop lieing to us and your dam self's about how many deer are around and the wolf's! Why are you guys worried about personal attacks?? We just telling you the truth and you don't want to here are storys its all about the money to you.

I think the line of questions answered this, but just to put it in words here it is... This unit has seen a small increase in the deer herd over the last couple of winters, since the winters weren't as harsh. This issue we see on our parcel of 100 acres is the buck numbers are dwindling, but the doe numbers are growing. I completely agree with the increase in doe tags, especially for private land as the foraging is getting almost destructive at times.

In 2016 you wanted an antlerless harvest of 500 but in reality the harvest was 969. What you propose for this year 2475 tags to harvest 1000 antlerless is just wrong. Give it a few more years with low antlerless totals and we will see deer hunting rebound when hunters see deer every day they hunt. Let the disabled and youth harvest antlerless but most serious hunters really don't want to shoot a doe.

Decades of experience has shown that northern deer populations should be held to no more than about 20 deer/sq.mi over winter in order to preserve healthy, productive herds and to be able to successfully practice silviculture. Waiting until forest damage is obvious is too late! You should begin stabilizing this herd by ordering a quota at least as large as the predicted 2017 buck kill.

I feel that there should be less antlerless deer tags given out, for the few years that we haven't had antlerless permits deer populations in northern Wisconsin have gone up substantially and there have been more buck harvests in the past years. It wouldn't hurt to go a few more years without the antlerless deer tags to help the population go up and keep the breeding does around longer.
Some units are showing a population comeback, but some units are not. I believe that there needs to be a few more years of not harvesting does to keep the population rising. Junior harvest of does is great but that will also have more parents buying tags just to get a deer, which will be more harvested than what it would normally be. Additional doe tags need to remain very limited.

This may be the last year hunting Price County. Trying to get son-n-law involved, but deer seen has been less than 3 deer each of last 3 years. Seems he is going to try his luck in the south WI area. Bummin. Think deer need chance to grow, at least on public lands. Locals seem to share this feeling. Used to hunt this same area when younger and had more opportunities back then.

We need to drop antlerless tags entirely and start quality deer management. Make it a 6 or 8 point or better for antler tags in the this whole unit. 1 buck with a bow, 1 buck with a rifle, and ban baiting. The whole west does this, why are we stuck in the rut we're in? If you weren't so concerned about loosing some profit while we get our herd back, we'd get somewhere!!!!!

After the 3rd consecutive mild winter, you know that the herd is going to increase. The overwinter average deer density already exceeds 20 deer/sq.mi. You should be seeking to stabilize the herd before damage becomes obvious. This would require a quota exceeding the predicted buck kill. Show some courage to do what is right for the herd and habitat.

We saw far more antlerless deer in 2016 than we did bucks. Buck population is down in our area while antlerless is higher. with not many antlerless tags available in our area, we were not able to get one and therefore we did not harvest a deer in 2016. Example: we saw approx. 10-20 antlerless deer in one day and no bucks over a weeks time.

I work at a local processing plant that takes in deer, and I noticed an increased amount of deer brought in this year, 300, compared to last years 200. Does should not be able to be hunted or should have very few tags handed out like this last year (2016). Youth hunts should have no special privileges, for does, above anyone else, as well.

Wisconsin has mismanaged the Northern deer herd for years. To many antlerless deer tags f and predators out of control. DNR will not accept this. Now the game managers want more antlerless tags . What do game managers really do for our deer herd???? You will not have any young hunters left if this continues. This is a sad state of affairs.

Our deer no's are way down! We need to bring them back by issuing LESS doe permits, and start exploring ways and means to CONTROL our over population of predators,(bear and coyotes). Having been a deer hunter in this area for the past 64 years, our deer herd is the lowest I have ever experienced!!! I grew up on a farm in so. Price Co.

Deer populations haven't rebounded enough to increase antlerless harvest. Opening up antlerless permits last year was premature and undid any gains from the previous year of no antlerless tags. Using current harvest numbers are misleading due to many factors revolving around the current tagging/ registering procedures.

STOP THE DEER FEEDING AND BAITING.........NO MATTER WHAT THE FEED MILL OWNERS AND BACKYARD WILDLIFE WATCHERS WANT. IT IS NOT SOUND MANAGEMENT. OF COURSE TRY AND KEEP THE PREDATORS IN CHECK. AND ALLOW SOME ANTLERLESS TAGS........NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY SOME DOES AND FAWNS NEED TO BE HARVESTED.. THANK YOU.

Deer numbers have not sufficiently recovered to allow for antlerless harvest. In my area preditor animals are continuing to make the deer hunt an exercise in futility. Leave the handful of does that are there alone to hopefully repopulate numbers once the wolf numbers are allowed to be held in check.

There seems to be no effort in reducing the predators. With no allowable way to reduce the wolf numbers the large tracks of public land will not sustain a deer population. It was a bad idea to allow does to be harvested on public land last season and it is still a bad idea for the upcoming season.
Crazy how you proposed that high of quota. I hunt in same public land in south price county and have seen jack ever since the dnr offered daily doe tags. I wish the deer numbers were higher. Trying to get kid interested but bleed outlook. We will go elsewhere if this craziness continues.

I don't think that the deer population will have a steady growth rate until the predators are managed more effectively. Also in the area that I hunt in price county the buck to doe ratio has been steadily getting worse with close to 3 bucks to 1 doe.

Even though there was an increase in dear sighting. It is still not where it should be. The introduction to the wolves put tremendous pressure on the dear. In Price county there is always logging which always gives way to food for the dear.

Deer management on private lands need to be left to the land owners as to what to harvest, having hunted the same property for 40 years, the current population of antlerless is out of balance encouraging predators to move into the area.

Too many predators including wolves is a huge reason the population is down. We see wolves every year during bow and rifle season. There isn't enough does around to give out extra tags to kill more. Need more does to produce more deer.

I have 5 areas to hunt, all on private land. The biggest buck I had to go after was a scrawny 5 pointer. That's horrible! The high numbers of bear and wolves have decimated the deer herd. Why is this never brought up as a factor?

The bear and wolf populations are horrible in the northern areas. Our deer population is depleted due to these issues. Killing antlerless deer just contributes to the further decimation of deer in the northwoods.

The wolf population is a greatly underestimated factor in deer management in the North Woods. I hope the WDNR can get better grip on Wolves before we lose more quality game species than we already have.

Southeast price county I have seen wolves and my land is littered with wolf tracks, not coyote tracks. In 2015 I walked up to two different sights where the wolves have killed deer. It's a problem!

Predation by wolves, coyotes, and bears is a major concern. We are being affected by local depredation permits which is definitely reducing our immediate deer population and affecting our hunting.

1 -Get rid of the wolfs.2-No antlerless permits for 3 years.3-8 points or better for 5 years.4-Increase Bobcat and Bear tags for 5years.5-Get rid of Deer farms permanently and your CWD would stop.

Had numerous bucks on camera saw a few during hunting , but the does where everywhere , I was unable to get a doe tag so I was out of luck so I'm hoping I can get a tag this year

Make doe tags more available for hunters. Hunters will only spend the money (and kill a deer) if they are seeing deer where they hunt. Don't limit our ability to harvest dear!

I am opposed to extending bow hunting season - recreational use for four wheelers and snowmobiling in the state has enough problems with weather among others THANKS

The deer population will not increase if we don't take care of the predators. We need to get rid of the predators because when I'm sitting all I hear are predators.

Predators very well could be the main issue with lower than ideal deer numbers.. Even with low deer numbers we still observe deer brouse on regeration.

Till the wolf problem is taken care of, the deer numbers will not go up. I love hunting the north woods, make it great again for my kids and grandkids.

Deer numbers improving, slightly higher antlerless tags a good idea, doubling the number a little too far. Support banning baiting altogether in WI
Too many Wolves being allowed to go unchecked and uncontrolled are wiping out the deer herd and needs to be addressed before it's too late.

I see an increase in deer numbers this past winter and I believe one more Bucks only season would get numbers back to respectable numbers.

There are no where near enough does to be harvesting any at all on public land, the quota's are just plain idiotic!!!!

I believe that the herd is growing some, but continued control of the predators will be essential to keep it that way. the deer population will not grow a steady rate unless the predator population is managed in a more productive manner.

To many wolves!!!!!!!!! I had a picture of 11 wolves on my bear bait. It's getting ridiculous. Wake up Wisconsin.

Reduce the wolf hunting numbers or stop all together so more wolves can keep the natural balance in line.

deer population extremely low. Could use a couple years of buck only seasons to regain some of the heard

I think if we don't start issuing more antlerless permits the herd will become to big to manage.

it would appear as though the CDAC committee is on top of the current situation.

Too many wolves. I see far fewer deer on my 80 since wolves became prevalent.

Need pressure on DNR to control predation from bobcats, bear, and wolves.

Need to ban feeding and baiting and control wolf population.

No junior antlerless tags for 2017. No antlerless period.

Please re consider the antlerless quota.

Limit antlerless tags to youth hunters.

Need more does.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Racine, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

10 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 4
   - No: 6

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 9
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
   - I hunt in this unit: 8
   - General interest in this unit: 2

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 7
   - Bow: 6
   - Crossbow: 3
   - Muzzleloader: 2

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 16.38
   - Maximum: 30

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 3
   - Mostly Private Land: 1
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 1
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 2
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 3
   - Same: 3
   - More: 0
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 3
   - Fewer: 0
   - Same: 4
   - More: 1
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

- **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**
  - Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
    - **Support**: 2
    - **Oppose**: 8

- **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**
  - Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
    - **Not applicable in this DMU**

- **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**
  - Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
    - **VALID**: Not applicable in this DMU
    - **NOT VALID**: Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
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<td>1.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**

**Racine, Southern Farmland**
I live in the Racine Sub-unit and have hunted my buddies property for the first time last year. Although I did see a lot of deer during different periods in the fall, they were all out of bow range. I like being able to obtain an antlerless tag when available as the bucks don’t seem to show during shooting hours. My only big issue is Racine no longer being in the Holiday Hunt or the Metro sub-unit East of 94. For years I have been off work during this holiday hunt time since it partners with the kids being off school. I’d love for Racine to get back into the Holiday hunt because it would allow me more time to hunt with and show my daughter the ropes of hunting and scouting for a longer period of time. I can only show her so much on the weekends (when we don’t have anything else going on) during the bow season. The ability to have a full week (in my local area) to take the youngsters hunting without missing school is ideal for continued growth of our future hunters.

I own 3 acres in Racine County. In the past few years it seems like the numbers have significantly declined. We used to see deer on a regular basis and now it is seldom that we see any. I feel that the huge increase in commercial buildings are playing a big part in this. I understand that the ratio needs to be the best it can to support other resources but the deer population is definitely down.

deer numbers are still flat please keep the antlerless tags low
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Richland, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

81 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 46
   - No: 35

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 28
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   - I hunt in this unit: 74
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 71
   - Bow: 53
   - Crossbow: 20
   - Muzzleloader: 31

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 19.69
   - Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 64
   - Mostly Private Land: 4
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 0
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor uncrowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 1

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 20
   - Same: 28
   - More: 20
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 24
   - More: 22
   - Many More: 8
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Richland, Southern Farmland
I was unable to attend the last meeting. I don't think your going to reduce the herd to any degree. The landowners enjoy seeing lots of deer and therefore won't go out and slaughter them. You are turning the landowner against the DNR. How about this. Either go back to a straight 9 day and return to the old tradition or make every season at least either sex. If your trying to reduce numbers if it is doe only I don't go. If it is either I may go and if I don't get a chance at a buck I still may shoot a doe so it's a win for everyone. If it is doe only less people in the wood, less deer movement, less kill rate. It's that simple. Other way is just 9 day. People have become so lazy with the number of seasons they keep waiting and waiting for the right time. The 9 day tradition is ruined. 9 day makes it so they know there is no other season to fill tags and will hunt harder to fill their tag. The people that don't want to harvest does you aren't going to change that unless you start working closer with the landowners. All antlerless season are you kidding? I have already talked with many people about this and are not in favor and claim they will not hunt and I don't blame them. If that's the case I think you would see a lot of people heading to Iowa or Kansas. If you really want to piss away revenue go to doe only. Until the DNr starts paying my taxes I am going to continue to manage the deer on my property how I want. If you would like to discuss in more detail please contact me.

The overabundance of deer in Richland County causes negative impacts with regard to deer quality, deer health and the forest health. The CDAC has been using all tool available to them to meet the goal of maintaining the 2014 herd population, but it has been increasing regardless. I encourage the CDAC to continue to use all tools available, including an antlerless only season to prevent the growth of the herd. I encourage the CDAC to press the DNR and the legislature to make EAB an available tool again in Wisconsin for management units that are having unchecked herd growth. I encourage the CDAC to make strong statements about the health of the deer herd. In richland county, it looks like about 15% of deer tested were positive for CWD. But that is across the whole county. Local prevalence in the south eastern part of the county are likely higher and more reflective of adjacent counties to east with 25% or more percent positive. With out proactive and intenfull measures to reduce the population, that infection rate will continue to go up, and the parts of the county impacted will increase.

I would recommend implementing the Earn a Buck once again. Doe numbers seem to be getting higher and higher and the number of mature bucks has been declining since the EAB was lifted. I especially like the idea of issuing 4 antlerless tags with each license to help stabilize the buck to doe ratio in Richland County. I do not feel like the antlerless only seasons are helping this because of hunters' mindsets that they will go back to the woods to shoot a doe at a later date. If hunters were given a shorter time frame, (during the regular 9 day gun season) there would be a greater sense of urgency to harvest an antlerless deer, thus increasing the antlerless harvest total. However, I strongly oppose that any hunter can earn more than one buck per year per license bought (this will increase hunter experience and deer quality). Having said that, if a hunter were to shoot multiple antlerless deer they would be able to carry over 1 buck per weapon for the following hunting season. Thank you for the chance to provide my input.
The traditional 9 day gun deer hunt has been ruined with the rules and regulations of antlerless hunts, earn a buck hunts, holiday hunts, and any other gun hunt out of the nine day traditional gun season. Existing businesses, bars, restaurants, motels, have all gone out of business without the traditional 9 day hunt. There is still tradition being built, and legacies grown, however to get back to where we once were... will take years of change and challenges, that were so quickly lost by some "great thinkers" at the DNR. Yes I agree we have some herd management issues, and we do need change to get that resolved... however we need to step back, take a helicopter view of what we have done, and make some progress back towards a traditional 9 day gun season, and remove the 6 million other hunts that we now have that dilute our Wisconsin gun deer hunt. Are we in a better place today than we were 20+ years ago? Have we migrated in a better direction? What do we want to gain for our generation now and for generations to come?

Overall, I believe the deer numbers are really skyrocketing in Richland County and this mild winter will keep them up. I killed enough deer on several different public land pieces as well as two private land pieces this past year to see many more deer than previous years in a decent sample size of properties. I would wish to reinstate EAB regulations in this county because I think it is the most effective tool for getting does killed. Personally, I will kill a doe for every tag I receive in this unit, but most hunters do not. If the goal is 16,000 antlerless deer but we have been killing more like 3,000, we need a different incentive and I believe for many hunters EAB does that. Lastly, thank you for considering 4 antlerless permits per license. That helps me and my family more than you know— for food, ability to manage the deer herd, and financially. Could we consider being able to split those tags between public and private, since I take does on both land types? Thank you.

My hunting party, and I fill antlerless tags when we are able to. We all like to eat the deer that we hunt. I feel though, the WIDNR's ability to manage the deer population by throwing antlerless tags at it is very limited. In the valley I hunt we have noticed a steady decline in hunter participation. Having fewer hunters on neighboring properties has reduced the opportunities my party has to take deer. Previous antlerless-only seasons resulted in significantly fewer hunters in our area. I believe an antlerless-only season would actually result in fewer does being taken. The greatest deer harvest of each year is always the opening day of gun season. If the WIDNR could achieve another day of high hunter participation, that would go much further to meeting zone goals, than extending seasons, and limiting buck kill. Maybe a holiday hunt that has the enthusiastic backing of state wildlife groups, and outdoor media would work toward that end.

I don't see how offering more does to harvest is going to help. The problem I see is that to many land owners don't shoot enough does! They don't understand the impact that CWD is having on the herd as a whole. We have seen a significant increase in CWD in just the past five years. The neighbors still don't think it is a problem and don't shoot does. My other concern with the deer herd in Richland county and other counties is that if the bucks account for the highest percentage of CWD infected animals in the herd, why are we not trying to harvest more bucks, this could help stop or at least slow the spread of CWD? I think we should go back to harvesting bucks during the holiday hunt. I understand that bucks have a huge value in our herd and the management plan must not kill off the buck population, but I think it would good to reduce it for a while.

I have a concern that it appears that the fall deer population based on WDNR metrics continues to rise in Richland County, by a pretty significant margin these past 2 years. Yet the number of harvested deer seems to be falling. Either the hunters have given up or the metrics have an issue. So, if it is the hunters (are not hunting or purchasing licenses) than no number of permits you propose to issue, will get more hunters out. You can set aside 5,000 bonus antlerless permits but if only 673 are actually being purchased, why offer 5,000. Because I am concerned that the population metrics may have issues, I don't believe in adding extra antlerless tags keep it at 2. Finally I definitely do not agree to going to a antlerless only season framework. I believe to do so would only lower the numbers of hunters that are still out in the field.
I feel that an antlerless only season is the one option that will effectively lower the population. if you are not willing to do this then ask yourself; am I committed to reducing the population or am I just talking about it? I also feel that population control needs to be done during the 9 day gun season, as all the later seasons contribute only a small percentage to the total kill totals. I am strongly opposed to the holiday hunt, and shooting deer in January is a bad idea for many reasons. I believe that deer should be harvested during the 9 day season when hunters numbers and pressure are at their peak. Setting higher quotes and giving away or selling extra tags have not worked in the past so I WONDER why you [the committee] think that this is the answer? TRYING SOMETHING NEW OR DIFFERENT IS NOT WRONG.

I think it's bonkers that you expect to kill that many doe but not give an earn a buck option. Don't make eab mandatory. But make it a limited option. Give the people an incentive to go out and shoot another doe or two. In general if someone shoots a buck the first week they are done. If they had the option to earn another buck they would continue to be out there which means more taken deer. Also the holiday hunt is way out of line. How can we not shoot a buck at least with a bow during this season? It's bonkers. Why would I drive 4 hours to shoot a doe? I think we should take a look at this and let us shoot more buck. At least in private lands. Cmon guys help us out!!

It makes no difference if you give out 1 or 50 doe tags or how many antlerless hunts you have because areas with higher deer populations are only going to shot so many deer and allow so many people to hunt. In my opinion when you decrease the herd to much you are increasing the odds for the spread of cwd because that buck which is more likely to have cwd may travel farther to find does during the rut and some deer from high population areas may also move onto areas where the deer numbers have been reduced alot because of more food being available and having access to cover that they don't have to compete for

Why can't we have a holiday hunt that includes earn a buck. If you shoot more than one doe during the regular regular bow/gun season. You get the opportunity to harvest a buck or doe During the holiday hunt? That period in the southern units is a great season to spend more quality time with our children to get them more involved with hunting. The key here is that the children are off school on vacation. Plus Most other states have a gun season that lasts more then 10 days and I hope Wisconsin can improve the opportunities for our children to love getting a buck. Thanks.

Well... I've spent well over 300 hours in stand during the 2015 and 2016 season. In 2015 I saw 13 does, 6 different bucks and 7 fawns. 2016 I was able to see 19 doe, 5 different bucks and 9 fawns. 5+ years ago it would be nothing to see 30+ doe, 12+ different bucks and 12+ fawns. I understand the need for healthy herd numbers, and realise what I see in the tree isn't the most accurate way of determining herd population. I've spoken to a vast majority of the surrounding land owners and all but the guys wanting ag tags had the same thing to say... where are the deer?

I very much support the antlerless-only gun seasons to help reduce the herd. I harvested one mature buck and 5 mature doe in 2016 in order to reduce the population. While I support a high quota, I don't find 16,000 to be even remotely possible based on past harvest data. Setting a threshold of coming within 15% of that number in 2017 in order to hold a buck season in 2018 is really just saying no buck season for 2018. I do not support that. I would support a requirement to harvest one or two antlerless deer prior to harvesting a buck. Thank you.

My biggest concern is CWD,if we don't control the herd BUCKS as well as DOES it will continue to spread dramatically. Bucks have contributed more to the CWD problem then does. The holiday hunt is a great tool for reducing the herd. But if we are unable to shot bucks during that hunt we are only taking care of half of the problem. We tested 19 deer on our property this year. 7 tested positive 5 bucks 2 does We also found 3 bucks this last season that had died of what we believe to be CWD no does Would like to see more options for shooting bucks.

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Richland, Southern Farmland
An antlerless only hunt will not reduce the deer herd by any significant amount. There will actually be less deer killed and less does killed, since many hunters will choose not to hunt in Richland County. And some will never be back. Deer hunting provides a very large boost to Richland County's economy. Issue as many permits as possible, educate hunters on the need to reduce the deer herd, and ALLOW the hunter to decide how he/she wishes to hunt.

Highly support a one deer harvest option during a 9 day season. One tag for either a buck or a doe. Ex. 1 buck or doe tag per bow or crossbow license and 1 buck or doe tag per gun license. Deer numbers have been pretty poor in the areas I've hunted due to over issuing tags. Too many hunters are killing deer because they have the extra tags and not using them, in other words, for the thrill of killing because they can

If you want the deer numbers down in Richland county make the holiday hunt for bucks also. The way overpopulated areas are where I hunt and is a qdma area by everyone and we refuse to go on the holiday hunt because you Can't shoot a buck if you have bucks part of the holiday hunt you will have a lot more people out in the woods and if they don't see there buck there after they might shoots a doe.

The Holiday Hunt really makes it hard for us snowmobilers who basically have an extremely short season here in southern Wisconsin. The last 2 years because of the holiday hunt we can't open our trails until after the hunt because of land owner wanting to hunt. All hunting should end by December 15th would make our sport succeed also and allow for plenty of hunting time.

Farther up north it worse with deer population because of wolf population. Should have never brought them back. Wolfs have been seen in Richland now again deer population will suffer after years of lightly our hunting area. And starting to see deer in the area again. Hoping they don't take over like up north. Then years wasted planting food plots for the deer.

My Hunting land is in the upper N/W corner of Richland County. I own 35 acres and I can tell you I hunt opening weekend, and most of the second weekends. On average three of us hunters see 10-15 deer a year total. I do not want an antlerless hunt because we only see an occasional Buck. We don't shoot small ones. They have to be 6-pointers minimally.

EAB and harsh winters lowered deer population, now population has rebounded and CWD is exploding. EAB may increase antlerless harvest but bucks have higher prevalence of CWD. EAB—more mature bucks. This survey did not explain what antlerless quota means....does it mean goal is to reduce herd by 16,000 doe?

In order to further incentivize hunters to curb the spread of disease, consider modifying the carcass removal rule when "quartering a deer." Hunters can effectively pack out all the meat and applicable sex identifying structure without transporting the carcass and with it CWD.

It makes me angry that so many people that would generally not hunt in the county come from all over the state for the special hunts with the shoot them all mentality knowing they will go somewhere else next year it's amazing what people will do to shoot a doe.

It has been proven that our DNR employees and biologists know no more than about CWD when it was first discovered than they do now. It is time to abandon this extremely expensive witch hunt. Why waste money on something that can't be cured or stopped.

I would not be opposed to returning to earn - buck. However if that becomes the rules, allow the hunter to harvest a buck with his first deer of that season, then they must earn all further bucks by harvesting a doe first within that season.

Remove ag tag permit during archery season--due to safety factor of archery hunters being in camo and not being able to be seen by ag tag hunters shooting "into woods/near edge of woods" with their GUNS. Very unsafe for archery hunters.
Any over population of deer in this county is the fault of private landowners whom either allow no hunting on their land or under the guise of quality deer management will not shoot any does or very limited numbers.

All of the people who hunt deer on our property did not like the earn-a-buck seasons. Some stopped hunting when we had earn-a-buck. I would not want to see earn-a-buck hunting brought back.

Even on private lands, not all land is equal. While I see good numbers of deer 11 miles north of me, we do not see many deer, be it in the winter, spring or during the hunting seasons.

The Holiday Hunt is very important to my family and gives us a chance to re-unite for hunting. Thank you for recommending this and please retain this great opportunity.

Bring back earn a buck, if you force me to shoot a doe first I will if not I pretty much trophy hunt, I would shoot antlerless if I had someone to give them to.

We have too many deer, the holiday hunt should be extended to allow for a longer late season doe only hunt.

Thanks

Please consider doe only framework for the 2017 season and please consider earn-a-buck in the future.

I would like to suggest moving the muzzleloader season ahead of the regular nine day season.

Bring back the early October antlerless only hunt and earn a buck. There are too many does.

4 doe tags per license that is more than any county in the state. why?

I feel too many antlerless tags are given out

Do NOT consider bringing back Earn-a-Buck.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

31 forms were submitted for this unit.

### Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 8
   - No: 23

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 20
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 6
   - I hunt in this unit: 27
   - General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 25
   - Bow: 22
   - Crossbow: 5
   - Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 21.19
   - Maximum: 45

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 14
   - Mostly Private Land: 7
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 5
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 1

### Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 8
   - Same: 14
   - More: 1
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 9
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? **Not applicable in this DMU**

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Rock, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Any seasons for deer should not go past Jan. 1. There are almost 3 1/2 months that hunters could have harvested them. Season is getting to drawn out and pressure is so sporadic. Other hunters who pursue predators in the early winter such as hound hunters for coyote must wait for seasons to close and are losing an extra week of running their hounds since seasons are going to Jan. 8 this year. I feel we should not give any free tags. We sell extra tags for turkeys yet give them away for deer? I feel the muzzle loader season is pointless to have it immediately following the 9 day gun season. I would like to see it Dec 24 thru Jan 2. I feel that I am not going to go sit in the woods and Hunt if all I can shoot is a doe. I have no problem shooting does yet don't want to be limited to only being able to harvest a doe. I was in attendance for the CDAC meeting in March and one person on council had said that we were at goal levels in the county, yet deer numbers were concentrated in areas it was difficult to hunt. I feel that if the hunters in other areas of the county felt the need to harvest more antlerless deer they would. Having talked to a lot of other hunters after the season the overwhelming response I got was that they saw a few deer mostly a doe and her fawns and that was it. Nobody wants to shoot their only deer they see on that property.

Land owners and hunters like myself are totally fed up with the DNR when they destroyed the deer herd about 10 years ago. It is finial nice to see the deer make somewhat of a comeback after you poached them at night over bait, with spot lights out of car windows, and out of season. It is awfully funny that a person can only shoot one tom turkey and gets a five day window to do so there are more turkeys then deer. But we want to kill ever deer alive with all kinds of jacked up seasons. Go back to one buck tag per hunting permit. Then sell a few extra bonus tags. Put the seasons back they way the used to be when I was a kid, way to confusing now. The nine day gun season has lost its luster. Make people hunt those nine days not give them an option to hunt later then it never happens. There is no late season bowhunting now its wrecked by too much gun hunting.

While bow hunting my favorite public land spot, In 2014 I saw 1 deer, in 2015 no deer, and in 2016 no deer. There are probably many reasons for this, including changing forms of land use in the immediate area, but it seems like over the last 15 years the deer population has spiraled downwards. I am actively looking for private land access. On an unrelated note, I just read in the Janesville Gazette that target shooting is not illegal on public land in Rock County. This needs to be changed!!

I hunt 4 different properties in rock southern farmland zone. 1 property near Brodhead and the other 3 are between Brodhead and Beloit and I must say that the last 3 years I've seen a steady decline in the the deer population. And all of these properties are agricultural farm properties so the food is there. We need to stop this holiday hunt it's doing some real damage to this deer heard.

I hunt small game all winter (coyotes fox) and don't see a ton of deer. Go back to Hunting the 9 day season and end bow Hunting by the 15th of December... he you can't get a deer by then you must be Hunting the wrong area.. and the big bucks start losing horns and get shot as does... go back to the good Hunting days 20 years ago

Since population estimates are tied to buck harvest, the past 3 openers have had very poor hunting conditions and thus low buck harvests. Are the metrics showing a population trend downward because of this? I believe that the trend may not be downward, but possibly exposing a flaw in the population estimates.

I feel the doe only hunts need to stop the herd was very disappointing bow hunting I only seen 8 deer all season with a lot of hours contributed to a tree stand makes it very discouraging to get excited for 2017

The population in Rock county is and has been too low for years. I'm really glad that the CDAC is not holding a holiday hunt. Less does tags would be appreciated as well.
I feel that the amount of deer in the area is much too low and that we as hunters and the DNR need to help in bringing those numbers up. Possibly a buck only season.

Does not make any sense to have holiday hunt when if u have a buck tag u can't shoot a buck they are the higher carrier of cwd and cover larger areas

I do not agree with an antlerless deer hunt but just reduce the bonus tags. Let's rebuild the herd and make hunting plentiful again.

Need to decrease both private and public bonus tags/ to slightly increase the herd

CWD and blue tongue have reaily reduced the herd in the area we hunt

I believe the hunters should get 1 buck and 1 doe tag per license.

Allow multiple or bordering counties on antlerless tags.

End all deer Hunting by December 15th..

Should have held a Holiday hunt
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 57
   - No: 26

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 27
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 21
   - I hunt in this unit: 76
   - General interest in this unit: 20

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 75
   - Bow: 44
   - Crossbow: 26
   - Muzzleloader: 27

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 23.44
   - Maximum: 70

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 34
   - Mostly Private Land: 18
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   - Mostly Public Land: 5
   - Exclusively Public Land: 10
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 10
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
   - Somewhat crowded: 8
   - Very crowded: 10
   - Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 16
   - Same: 25
   - More: 23
   - Many More: 6
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 11
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 17
   - More: 23
   - Many More: 15
   - Unsure: 3
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Rusk, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

The deer population is slowly coming back. Unfortunately with the past record of issuing which seemed at times an endless amount of doe tags left people with the feeling this resource would always be there. So you have neighbors/people out there using no common sense in harvesting does. Buying multiple tags for each family member. Shooting every age class of does and in most cases wiping out a whole family unit. Allowing people to buy multiple tags is beyond negligence of the DNR. People are slobs, greedy and basically only care for them selves not about the resource. Add to it the baiting that is allowed and all I can say is as a Wisconsin hunter for over 40 years the quality of hunting is just going down. In fact you care more about the predictors then deer. I see more bear and bobcat on cameras then I do deer. I own with my brothers 300 plus acres. And the only one that shot a deer was my 12 year old daughter. She was getting very discouraged as we spent many days not seeing an animal. Please do not increase the number of doe tags available. Second please for the tags you do use the system you have in place for getting turkey permits. Draw for the doe tags and no calling in as some of us are unable to call in do to our jobs. This way if one does not get a tag they would receive a preference point for the following year. Thanks

As a full time Taxidermist in Rusk county and a life long hunter , based on my hunting experiences and the feed back I receive from my customers during the past couple of seasons very very few hunters are happy. Yes there are pockets of deer in Rusk co, but these deer are on large tracts of private land with no hunter excess. The public land in Rusk co is so extensively over hunted and over killed that hunters from out of state and out of town are no longer coming to hunt because they never see or shoot deer. I can honestly say over 95% of all the deer I mount are killed on private land managed by the land owners not the DNR. These same land owners bring nice bucks every year and they do not over kill they're does. It's far to early to start killing anttreeless deer again on public land. I grew up hunting public ground in Rusk co and 4 years ago purchased 40 acres to hunt on because I could no longer kill a deer on public land. Personally I think we need a 4 point per side restriction on public land bucks. I don't have all the answers but it's far to early to start the slaughter of the deer herd again. Thank you.

Rusk county should be managed as two separate units, divided by Highway 8. Most of the land north of Hwy 8 is typical of northern forest zones and most of the land south of the highway is typical of farmland zones. It would make it much more meaningful to be able to access the questions asked in this survey if they were being evaluated for each half of the county separately, based on the land types in each half. The arbitrary setting of deer management zones by county lines just simply does not make sense, scientifically, for Rusk county. This would not be a unique situation. Eau Claire, Clark, Jackson, Monroe, Wood, Juneau, and Adams are all counties which are separated into portions that are in Forest zones and portions that are in Farmland zones based on land types in those counties. The Central Farmland Zone 2 could be easily extended into the southern half of Rusk county. This would greatly enhance the ability to properly manage the deer herd throughout the entire county.

The fact of the matter is that the Southern and Northern portions of Rusk County have completely different amounts of deer. I hunt exclusively north of highway 8 where over the last three years there are fewer and fewer deer that I have observed. Despite the fact the DNR says the population is going up I cannot say that as in five days of hunting I saw a lone doe. There is no doubt in my mind that there are fewer deer because of too many antlerless permits being issued for private land. I hunt a private land parcel surrounded by similar private parcels and heard plenty of shots from those parcels this last year. The year before I saw more deer and heard less shots. Before the winter of 2013 every year we would get 1 or 2 deer and see plenty the last 3 firearm seasons no one has shot and all we see is the same doe family group. I hope you take this into consideration. Thank you for what you all do.
I feel a 6 point or better should be installed like buffalo county which is one of the best buck hunting counties in the state. We have to understand that deer hunting is a northern state holiday and should be treated as the best income generating promises for the northern area of Wisconsin. with the crops and the forest the habitat for deer is perfect. When numbers go up to 2003 numbers then start harvesting more does. The wolves are a problem, we need to take care of this. I have personally had 3 wolf kills on my property. Also more bear tags must be issued as we see them taking many fawns in the spring, and there needs to be more bear tags issued to private land owners which also means out of state land owners.

Strong herd data was often the argument the state used when pushing for liberal harvest seasons. Those liberal harvests are a big reason we are where we are today. I really feel we need to progress more slowly with antlerless harvest I still hear too many hunters unhappy with the deer numbers and not seeing deer while hunting, the past couple seasons offered a nice cushion since the harsh winters could be blamed and understood by most, but now after the the last couple winters if people still do not see deer the cushion is gone and the CDAC will be under closer scrutiny. It is bad enough we are where we are but the public pushed for this and who knows what will be next with Madison in Control.

During my fall 2016 hunts in the Rusk Co. forest (Blue Hills) I saw very few deer. The buck sign was much as it has been for the last 3 years; i.e. very low. I am quite familiar with the Blue Hills area and have hunted it for over 45 years. The deer sign continues to be about as low as I have ever seen it. I do not feel that the increase that the CDAC had hoped to take place on public land has happened. To start harvesting does now, before a noticable increase has happened, is foolish and just not good management. Give it at least two more years of "bucks only" on public land to bring the herd numbers up to reasonable levels before starting to take the breeding stock out.

There are isolated pockets of high density deer in the county that skew the total deer number estimate. Harvest and access to private land is low in these high density pockets. We can not control mother nature so we don’t know what 2017 winter weather conditions will be. Therefore, moving from 550 doe harvest in 2016 to 3000 doe harvest in 2017 is too high. I believe an increase is warranted but should be 1500 doe harvest. Based on a (44%) success rate the total available tags would be 3425 = 2900 for private land (85%) + 525 for public land(15%). Keep in mind that an additional 500 does will be harvested by youth, military, and disabled hunters in any case.

Our land is in the southern Ag region of Rusk County. We need antlerless tags in our area due to over population. If the northern part of the county needs to have fewer does shot then maybe you should open up antlerless tags for only the southern part of the county. I drive around our area in the evenings and have seen over 100 deer in larger fields this spring. We seen 15-20 deer a night when we sit our field edges and we have multiple fields. Please let us have more access to antlerless tags. Last year they sold out so fast that those of us who work couldn’t get any. Maybe change the time of day you sell them.

This area has seen a rebound from very low numbers. It still has a ways to go to be considered back. We need to be careful how drastically we increase antlerless tags. I am in favor of youth antlerless tags, not a fan of the youth hunt. We have way too much pressure on deer during the year and it really takes away from the amount of deer we see during the actual gun hunting season. We have pushed them nocturnal by this time of year. I was a fan of bait, but feel there is so much of it that baiting is a big reason they go nocturnal around gun season. I would be in favor of a trail run of no baiting.

I think the population on my property and nearby properties has remained stable for the 10 years I have been a land owner. Each year I see does with 2 or even 3 fawns capturing them often on trail cams. Discussions among land owners tends to demonstrate that the deer numbers are ok, but everyone would like to see an increase. Rusk County has numerous ag fields that support and help sustain a healthy number of deer so how much of an increase can the habitat really support is the question. A chronic problem that has received little attention is the poaching of deer which is prevalent in this DMU.
I would like to see another bucks only on public land. I do not believe the herd has recovered substantially to justify over 1000 doe tags. On private land, there is a huge problem with baiting, that affects deer movement and the land owners all attempting to have the deer on their land opening day. I would like to see a total ban on baiting for the entire deer hunting seasons. However, that will probably not occur. I do believe the current proposal is also very high on private land. I could see a number of 2000 - 2500. Thank you

Deer overpopulation in the Blue Hills from 1998-2012 has eliminated almost all hemlock and most balsam fir regeneration, hurting the long-term overwinter carrying capacity for deer. It has also harmed the habitat for snowshoe hares. Furthermore, the deer have drastically reduced the leatherwood (a preferred winter browse) and completely eliminated the Canada yew. (The latter was once common, but I have not seen it in the Blue Hills since 2003, and I put on many miles tracking deer every winter.)

I personally believe there should be less tags handed out for a few years to let the deer heard regenerate and also the timber wolf population should be managed Harder do to the lack of deer in northern Wisconsin. As for Southern Wisconsin people are shooting their property off every gun season. No time for the deer heard to get back in pattern. As well as out of state tags. I think we should raise are tag price ten fold directly non resident hunter do to all of Illinois hunting Wisconsin

I believe there should not be youth hunts it takes away from family's spending time together. The kids who do shoot deer during the youth hunt tend to not go once they get older, also if they shoot a large deer they get really discouraged about hunting deer if they don’t repeat it again. You have youth hunts and disable hunts bow hunting all early in the season the person who only gets time to hunt during gun season is at a disadvantage a lot of the deer by gun season have become nocturnal.

It would be great if the DNR were to adopt one antlerless tags for those owning 81 or 121 acres or more at no cost. We own the property and have a genuine interest in ensuring we have a viable deer herd on our own property. I understand this cuts into the DNR revenue by not selling permits. This could be resolved by providing landowners who hunt an antlerless tag at no cost and charge those who do not own the required amount of property more for an antlerless tag.

Thanks to the CDAC for raising the quota to a level which may begin to control the deer numbers on private lands and also for giving out a good number of tags, though still somewhat low, for public lands. The public lands will never have the deer population that the private lands do no matter how much some hunters want that to be the case. That being said, we still need to control the population on public lands and this decision is a step in the right direction.

Spent 30 days in this area hunting from opener of bow to end of gun season. Saw 3 deer this whole time after trying several areas spanning several miles. There is more wolf & bear tracks than there are leaves on the trees. This deer, wolf & bear management is ruining it for our future generations to come and will only decline the numbers of hunters, especially youth hunters. This needs to be fixed otherwise there will be no dnr needed as nobody will hunt...

There is a really low number of deer the last few years and it seems like it is not getting better to many wolfs bears and Poachers To be shooting does I only see one deer last year and we own 80 acres I would make it buck only for the next 2 years and see how it goes I would like to see there be a six limit like has to have at lest 3 on one side make the Hurd healthy again like when I was a kid need to stop with all these doe hunts

I am not sure how the antlerless quota jumped to 3000 from 500 and 550 in the previous two years. Although I have seen an increase in the number of deer on my property, the increase has not been substantial. I have also not seen a substantial increase in deer population while traveling to my property. Although I favor increasing the quota, I believe jumping the quota to 3000 is too much.
Stop giving out 10x as many doe tags for private and none for public. I hunt public only for rifle season and have seen 9 does and 1 buck in the last 2 years. Restrict the number of tags bow hunters can buy. There is no reason for someone to harvest more than a couple of deer. It leads to people shooting immature deer just to fill a tag.

The deer numbers are very low on public land. The wolves, bears and other predators have destroyed the deer population. Over logging of the Rusk County forest Hardwoods has left less feed for the deer and other wildlife. If the predators were properly controled by the DNR there would be a healthy and huntble deer population.

Appears as though the Southern half of the county has MORE deer and less predators than the Northern half. Some folks complain about the lack of deer in Rusk Co. They are probably the same folks who hunt Saturday morning, then spend the rest of the season in front of the TV. We have lots of deer in the Southern half!

Would like to see the herd maintained on private land with a free "private land" antlerless tag given to each license purchased for this DMU. More antlerless tags should also be given on public land to accommodate the open MFL/FCL lands. Great to see the committee following science based recommendations this year!

I own 150 acres of land with food plots and plenty of cover. Deer numbers are double what they were 2 years ago. Cameras are out on my food plots 365 days a year and from what I've seen the deer look real healthy. Looking forward to the number of fawns this June. Thanks DNR for managing the resource!

I hunted in Rusk county for the first time last year and had a great experience there seems to be a lot of deer in the southern part of the county where I hunted and we were successful. I look forward to hunting there next fall and hope I have the opportunity to get an antlerless permit.

We need a lot of deer shot our farm fields are being destroyed the DNR tells us farmers there out of money. The answer is to shoot deer or pay us for all the damage the cap is 10.000 lhad 28.000 last year and got a check for 38000 maybe the dnr should pay for this its your deer

I would only say that I live in the southern part of the County and that the deer population is more than healthy there. I'm not sure but hear that people in the north half (north of hwy 8) don't see as many deer.

3 years ago I hunted bear in that area, I had 22 different bears on 2 cameras spread out on 280 acres of land. The numbers haven't gone down in my opinion. Bear population is to high.

I think the population has grown enough on a unit wide basis that additional tags could be issued for antlerless deer. I fully support the use of youth tags in the unit.

I am seeing more deer this spring, but I would still like to see another year or two of rebuilding before issuing to many antlerless tags.

Need to keep growing the herd on public lands in this unit. Doe harvest needs to be restricted or eliminated, including "Junior" tags.

I would like to see party tags brought back for antlerless tags instead of individual tags for each hunter

This winter we have a pack of wolves on or around our property. There are too many wolves in this State

I feel every crop farmer should be able to harvest one deer free. They feed on his income (crops).

TOO many bears, they are killing too many fawns.

Plenty of Antlerless deer, quota looks good.
1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 77
   No: 75

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 91
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 30
   I hunt in this unit: 127
   General interest in this unit: 50

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 126
   Bow: 75
   Crossbow: 41
   Muzzleloader: 30

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 2
   Average: 28
   Maximum: 66

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 76
   Mostly Private Land: 32
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
   Mostly Public Land: 6
   Exclusively Public Land: 6
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all Crowded: 7
   Not too crowded: 10
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   Somewhat crowded: 16
   Very crowded: 10
   Not applicable: 2

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 21
   Fewer: 49
   Same: 57
   More: 15
   Many More: 7
   Unsure: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 24
   Fewer: 52
   Same: 43
   More: 22
   Many More: 7
   Unsure: 4
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

   Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

   **DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   **DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   **If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?  

   **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for Sauk, Southern Farmland

After reviewing the data presented here, the antlerless quota doesn't actually seem to limit the number of deer harvested. Therefore I don't see how increasing the quota is going to contribute to the "Maintenance of Population" goal because we've come nowhere near meeting the quota in past years. Hunters don't seem to be able, or have the desire to meet the quota, so some other form of population management or incentive to respectfully harvest more deer must be established. I wonder how you intend to increase the antlerless quota/harvest while still providing the same number of free antlerless tags as last year? The 2016 number of available bonus antlerless tags sold was nowhere near the allotted amount. There's no need to increase the number of available tags because they're not being used. I think making the tags free, or concentrating efforts on finding people to use the tags, or considering an additional non-hunting scientific approach to deer herd management would be more productive than simply raising quotas. As a college student at an out-of-state university, I appreciate the Holiday Hunt as I am often not able to make it home for the regular season due to financial concerns. I wonder whether making the season antlerless only contributes to a greater deer harvest. Hunters who didn't get an antlered deer during the regular season but wanted one likely will not go out in an antlerless-only season. Many hunters who are only concerned with antlered deer will not hunt during an antlerless-only season. Hunters who are not concerned with trophies, but rather with the hunting experience or deer herd management would hunt in a regular or antlerless season. In a similar fashion, I don't think an antlerless-only 2017 season would achieve the goal of maintaining population size. It would likely deter hunters, many of whom only care about the size of the head of their deer, thus leading to an increase in population size. One question to consider here is whether we are actually concerned with deer herd management, or is this important goal being obscured by a desire to please constituents who want many, large antlered deer? Sometimes what is best for both the ecosystem and people in the long run is not what is best for individual's material needs and desires. Although it can be tempting to cater to popular demands and desires, doing so often places a band-aid over the real problem at hand. Thank you.

According to this survey, the targeted antlerless quota is around 12,000 deer in Sauk County - yet less than 4,000 were harvested in 2016. Further, the stated approach is to keep the management framework the same. The 2017 antlerless harvest may increase from 2016 based on year-to-year variability but I doubt it will get anywhere close to the 12,000 target without changes. Therefore, I think the CDAC should consider: 1) changing their target if they are not actually trying to achieve it; or 2) make changes to the season framework that have a chance to significantly increase antlerless harvest. One option is to increase the number of antlerless tags issued. I don't know how many more antlerless deer would be harvested under this system since I assume there is a certain amount of self limiting - at some point the freezer is full - but I don't think there would be much harm in increasing from 2 to 4 antlerless tags per license. Other options would include bringing back Earn-a-buck. I know this was unpopular with some hunters but our group strongly supported it and if the CDAC is serious about increasing the antlerless harvest I think this management tool should be strongly considered. The Bonus-buck system might also help but I think Earn-a-buck is more effective at increasing antlerless harvest. In my experience it seemed to be very effective at balancing the buck to doe ratio and greatly increased the chance of seeing a quality buck. Thank you for considering my comments.
With the continual increase in the Sauk County deer population, despite the 3year objective to maintain the population, it has become apparent that other tools like Earn a Buck or more antlerless only seasons need to be strongly considered. This will very likely be met with strong public criticism, but people need to realize the good of days of seeing as many deer as you want and being able to take your pick has taken a major toll on our forests and farmers. An effort to educate the public on the impact of deer to our everyday lives (for example, the cost of deer-car collisions get absorbed into everyone’s insurance premiums!), and the importance of hunting does could go a long way. I hunt for meat, not antlers, and CWD is a serious concern for me – it was alarming to hear nearly 20% of the population tested positive in 2016. Strong efforts need to be made to make more private lands available to hunters as it is apparent private lands play a crucial role in the effort to maintain the population. I would fully support the CDAC in making stronger statements that additional tools are needed to truly be able to maintain the population – the tools we currently have aren’t sufficient. If we want to maintain our deer hunting heritage in WI, we need to be responsible and realize our actions today will determine whether or not we have any healthy deer for our grandkids to hunt in the future.

In our DMU the antlerless harvest stays well below quota (38% in 2016), and the % of available antlerless tags that were actually sold was only 32% in 2016. This suggests that the hunting public, overall, is not willing or able, under the present rules, to kill enough antlerless deer to even approach the quota that is designed to stabilize the population. I don’t see that raising the quota or offering more antlerless tags will make a significant change. The quotas are fine, they just don’t get met under the current system. Personally, however, I would appreciate more free antlerless tags because, not being a trophy hunter and feeling that the deer population is too high, I would use them. An "antlerless only" harvest for the entire season is unreasonable and so unpopular at face value, as to be meaningless to even suggest. We need an earn-a-buck season again, the only thing that seems to work to reduce the deer herd (or perhaps even stabilize it). I would have more confidence in the deer management regulations and quotas if science were more a part of it, as in the pre-czar era, instead of asking people if they see more or fewer deer each year. I think CDAC committees and non-random public questionnaires have a place as well, but they should not provide the primary basis for management decisions.

There is no silver bullet for eradicating CWD in this state. The DNR needs to do a better job of educating hunters about the importance of healthy population management. There are areas of the county that are absolutely crawling with deer and there are other areas where the deer are very sparse. Hunters need to assess their population and kill deer accordingly. Unfortunately, it seems that there are a number of "brown it’s down" hunters. While I absolutely understand wanting to put meat in the freezer, they need to understand the repercussions of their actions on the herd. Likewise, in the areas where the deer are thicker than mud hunters need to realize that doe management would be beneficial to the ecosystem as a whole, crops, and reduction of disease risk. The DNR has failed to convey this message. With that being said, the season structure has gotten completely out of hand. Bowhunters have been getting kicked to the curb for a number of years. We need to return to a more traditional framework and do away with the antlerless only seasons and holiday hunt. If the goal is to truly maintain the population rather than reduce it then these seasons need to go. These seasons are designed to reduce the herd, and frankly they have been ruining late bow season as well.
I know it is a hot button issue, however I would welcome the earn a buck to come back for all seasons. The buck:doe ratio that I have been seeing over the last couple of years is averaging 1 buck for every 12 doe. The only predator that concerns itself with male vs female is humans. As hunters and stewards of the population the only way I see to get that ratio closer to 1:1 is through the earn a buck system. Even looking at your numbers for registered deer, bonus tags available vs bought and projected numbers the only possible way to get people to harvest more doe is by implementing earn a buck or a last resort of antlerless only (which I know is nearly impossible though I support). The same people who I'm sure you've heard from saying they do not see any bucks are the same who refuse to shoot a doe. Look at any keystone predator and you'll see an almost perfect ratio of 1:1, even humans. It would help control the population, encourage competition between animals, and as a bonus create a substantial trophy possibility by hunters passing on bucks not wanting to use their coveted buck tag. Thank you.

I personally do not like the holiday hunt because it is the one time I get to get away from work and bow hunt. This actually keeps me out of the woods hunting because I do not want to mess up my best stands if I can not shoot a buck. We have the 9 day hunt and also the 4 day T-zone in December which I think is sufficient for the antlerless hunting. I grew up in Rusk County in northern Wisconsin and the way the deer are managed there now is horrible. There has got to be a better way to manage those northern counties. Guys that hunt in the cabin I grew up hunting in are going the whole week are lucky to see a deer. I do not even hunt there any more except to take out my nephews to try to get them a deer. The DNR is wondering why the number of young hunters a decreasing, but it is awfully hard to keep a kid interested in hunting if you are not seeing anything. You can buy bonus tags there and I do not know why.

You people have DESTROYED the deer hunting and it’s tradition in this state. I have been hunting the same spot on public land for 30 years and ever since this CWD B.S. came around deer hunting has been horrible. We use to have 13 family members that hunted in the same area and now we are down to 2 people. Even my wife has quit. Back in the 80’s when I started there were tons of deer. You would see 20 to 30 deer on opening weekend and now if you see 2 or 3 deer the whole season you are lucky. I don’t know where you ignorant people come up with these deer numbers but I can assure you they are lies. If you do not stop trying to wipe out all the deer in public hunting areas especially around the Devils lake area, you will have nothing left to hunt nor will there be anyone wanting to hunt. Go back to the way it was years ago. 1 deer per person per tag. Either or, or what it used to be called A Hunters Choice!!!!!!!

Sauk County is a wonderful County full of wildlife and we should be proud. Deer are not distributed equally so that makes it hard to make all happy. Public lands are way over harvested and are usually fairly small tracts of land that the amount of hunters pushes them onto private. Which they stay for the season in the most part. Even though public lands get somewhat the same harvest it is a sad experience for most of the hunters. Limiting the hunters on public would help but may cause some not to be able to hunt then. Not an easy fix. Public hunters tend to shoot every deer they see and private may let many go to be selective. Southern part of County has too many deer. Northern not enough. Also need to convince private land owners it is ok to shoot does. CWD is not good but here to stay. We need to shoot adult deer to keep the herd health. Older does and bucks.

Have been hunting on our property for 20+ years on Happy Hill. From my observations, there has been a DEFINITE reduction in the number of deer. For 2 years in a row now, I have not seen a deer on opening day of the gun deer season. In 2015, I saw no deer the entire opening weekend. Informal conversation with neighbors results in similar reports. My daughters have hunted with me the past 2 years on opening day, and have not seen deer. Very hard to get youth interested in hunting if they don't at least see deer. I am not a wildlife biologist, and trust that the right decisions are being made, but extremely hard to believe the deer herd has not significantly diminished when we hunt so many hours and never see a deer. Please don't take my comments personally, appreciate your efforts on this complex topic. Thank you for listening.
I hunt just North of Spring Green. Bow hunt mostly. The deer numbers have dropped horribly for me. I have cameras in the woods all summer and fall, and I was getting more pics of small bucks, than doe's. Very alarming the small amount of doe's and fawns. I don't know where they went. I realize the acorn crop was down, and several neighbors have seen sick, skeleton looking deer. I believe you guys came out (Wilson Creek area) and shot a few sick looking deer. I have also heard several neighbors had lots of deer test positive for cwd. I truly believe we are now in the heart of the cwd disease area. I'm hoping for the best this fall, but if I see the same amount of deer this fall bow hunting as I did last year, I will not be buying a gun license. Hoping it gets better, thanks for your time.

Don't see the need to provide more antlerless tags to purchase, when in previous years the tags were not close to being sold out. Also I am not in favor of the Holiday Hunt, not sure what the harvest totals for Sauk county have been during this hunt, but there seems to be very little activity in my area near Baraboo. Most of the land surrounding me for miles is private and once the regular gun season is over most everyone puts the rifle away and hopes for a couple descent days to bow hunt the late season. Speaking for myself, after bow hunting in the fall by the time the regular gun season ends, I am about deer hunted "out", and would like to other things on my land without having to worry about possible trespassers and being able to move about my property without wearing blaze orange.

I have never seen an agency that is so determined to kill off the deer that supports it's funding and financial success. Without deer you have no agency. The dnr will be dead. If you continue trying to wipe the deer out in wisconsin we will have no other option but to support that hunters / land owners close their land to hunting and stop buying hunting license. HOW LONG WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FUND YOUR AGENCY IF THIS HAPPENS???

BUILD THE HERD NOT WIPE IT OUT. IF YOU DON'T THINK WE CAN CLOSE THE DNR DOWN FOR WIPE OUT OUR DEER.

LOOK BACK AND REMEMBER. PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP. THE PEOPLE WILL SPEAK. THE TRUST IN THE DNR IS ONCE AGAIN LOST. YOUR AGENCY IS A BUNCH OF LIARS AND WE ARE SICK OF IT

I do not favor any extension of the season, nor do I support any specialized herd reduction hunts in Sauk County past 20 Dec. Any extension or special hunt past the 20 December date will adversely affect the snowmobile routes and trails. Any extension could and probably would close that section for the season. The snowmobile season is a very short window in which to enjoy the sport and would be even shorter if this proposal is approved. We may lose a section of private property that is a state funded trail which will have a severe negative effect on the local economy, snowmobile clubs and land owner/club partnerships. V/r David J. Dahlke West Baraboo

the deer population in Sauk County continues to rise, despite your committees efforts to maintain the population. With those rising populations, CWD continues to rise (20%+ of the population positive), the ecological damage is ruining the forests in the county. The Sauk CDAC should make strong statements that additional tools are needed to reduce the population. Anything other than proactive statements and actions to reduce the herd is irresponsible for both today and for the future. Those additional tools could be EAB, education to hunters to harvest does, and land owner programs and incentives to make more private land available to hunters.

I thank you for keeping out the antlerless only hunt, for now. I would also highly suggest you keep out the idea of earn-a-buck as well. Hunters long ago were clear as can be about that god awful topic, WE DONT WANT IT! Period. Any hunter who thinks antlerless only seasons or earn-a-buck is a good thing, can move to another state and go hunt there. Here we are again, survey's and questions about topics that hunters have made clear we don't want. So why even bring it up? Then we (the hunters) are the bad ones and causing a ruckus? LISTEN to the hunters, please! We bring in more money than bird watchers! :)

Report Generated:  Friday, April 14, 2017  Sauk, Southern Farmland
Antlerless permits should not be free. People do not shoot more deer with a pocket full of free tags, so giving them away in bulk does not kill more antlerless deer. All it does is reduce revenue for the DNR, and then we need to raise license fees to make up for the deficit in that account. Also, the quota you are setting for antlerless harvest would be an all-time record, if achieved. Do you really feel that the population is at an all-time high? No matter, I believe that hunters have learned to set their own harvest quotas. They will no longer slaughter deer just because the permits are available.

As an ecologist my main concern is for forest and human health. Exploding deer numbers can decimate tree recruitment, extirpate preferred browse species (e.g., lilies and orchids), exacerbate the spread of invasive species, spread Lyme and other tick borne diseases, and cause dangerous car crashes. These are all things Eastern states have experienced to an extremely unhealthy degree. We in Wisconsin need to learn from these states and do what we can to keep this problem from getting worse than it already is. We don't want Pennsylvania's experience!

The question is you can only eat so many deer ... You can give tags away till you are blue in the face but where do hunters go with the excess deer you shoot. Should be a place to take excess deer. Also for CWD... can't believe we do not have a solution for this. Lots of money spent. It's too bad there isn't some sort of mineral that land owners could purchase to help preserve a healthier deer herd. Land owners spend a lot of money in taxes to hunt deer... if there was that land owners could buy to help prevent CWD I'm sure they probably would

I like the two antlerless tags with the original tag, but suggest you return to the earn a buck platform, with buck tag that carries over one year. I have no need for more than 1-2 deer a year. But I feel the seasons should be separated each having there own requirement of earn a buck. (ex..Bow, Gun, Muzzle loader, 3 seasons = 3 doe then 3 buck but individual of there respective seasons) Secondly, I don't agree with selling the bonus tags, obviously you don't have a great take rate, give them to those who want them and control the heard as needed.

Public Land needs to be managed differently than private land. It has been 3 years now that the CDAC has been intact and there has been nothing done to help the population of the deer on public and surrounding lands. It seems like the worst case scenario for deer population within the county is used to generate the season framework for the whole county. Which is not right! There are areas within the county that do not hold many deer, but yet, endless tags are handed out and liberal seasons are once again upon us. Same story, different year!!

I think we need to get with the program charge residents less and out of states more for licenses. We also need to stop focusing on quantity and focus more on quality. For most deer hunters in wi they won't be happy unless there's one behind every tree. But truth is our numbers are decent and an antler restriction or limit the buck kill would really make it great here. Basically look at Iowa state rule book now photocopy it. Ever since earn a buck left our deer quality as far as buck goes took a turn for the toilet.

I am not in support of extending the hunting season to include a holiday hunt. This would severely affect the Wisconsin Snowmobile Trail System and season for Sauk County Snowmobilers. I am not opposed to hunting and maintaining deer population, but not at the expense of other sporting seasons such as Snowmobiling Season, which is already short in Sauk County. Thank you for your consideration to other enthusiast groups in making decisions regarding not extending the hunting season into the Snowmobile Season.

The micro management of all wildlife is causing all forms of hunting, fishing, & trapping to be an unenjoyable part of our country lives. Too many rules, too many stipulations, ie, antlerless for 3 days, can't hunt public unless a person buys another tag, the whole debacle of printing a duplicate tag because you can't do 1 at a time but then potentially being subjected to fines. As I get older it's just not fun. I'm too concerned I'm breaking a rule w/ no intention of harming.
Sauk counties cdac committee must be deaf. I have attended a few meetings and the general consensus of the public is over crowded public land with very few deer on it. and the cdac committee keeps giving away more public land tags, I don't get it. aren't they supposed to take public comment and make viable decisions? what the general public wants means nothing to this committee. it is sad to say a citizens opinion means nothing compared to this committees hidden agenda.

Don't get all hung up on CWD. It is here to stay, destroy the sick deer like my Dad did many years ago. 60 yrs and harvest some great venison. I don't even get my deer, buck last yr., tested, I enjoy the steaks, hamburger, jerky and sausage I make. You can never shoot or kill all the deer in an area, they are smarter than you, so you will never get them all. Deer hunting has too great of a tradition for lots of people and families, keep it going.

Having a longer hunt hurts the Snowmobile trails because some land owners don't let us through until the deer season is over. So even if we have sufficient snow in Dec we can't open certain trails till after the deer season is over. Everyone that I have talked to have been able to shoot the amount of deer they wanted to over the regular 9 day and haven't used any of the other seasons that they have already.

I have seen a drastic reduction in the number of doe in my area around over the last several years. While I have seen many buck during hunting season and had many on camera, the buck population significantly out numbers doe and I have not shot a doe in the past 3 years do to this. Overall the number are down and will continue to create for poor hunting for my kids future if this trend stays in place.

The cdac committe claims we have to many deer. if this is true the deer are on private land. there are very few deer on public land due to over hunting and over harvest. this has a huge negative impact on adjoining private land. you should reduce harvest on public land increase it on private land. you should also give away less free tags and charge for all bonus tags to generate income for the dnr.

One concern is predators, have seen bobcats on a regular basis while hunting and on trail cams. Bobcats were a non-issue 10 years ago in sauk county. Also have had bears on cameras and coyotes. I don't think predators are considered as much of a factor in this unit because it is southern farmland but predators do take a toll on the deer herd. Also public lands in our area are way overhunted.

Our family and neighbors enjoyed having the holiday hunt a few years ago that included antlered deer. More hunting seasons like that allow property owners and managers like us the ability to better manage the quality and quantity of deer harvested during the hunting seasons thus improving the quality of the herd locally and the hunting and outdoor experience for younger family members.

The car deer collisions is out of control and it is only getting worse. You can go for a drive and there is so many dead deer laying along the road side that you can not count all of them. There needs to be a doe season to cut the population down to where it should be. The following year there would be some nice trophy bucks. Hopefully a doe season would wipe out CWD or reduce it.

I truly believe in my immediate area that I hunt we have a serious cwd issue. Some of my neighbors an I have been keeping records of cwd harvests. 3 ago 1 case 1/2 mile away. 2 years ago my neighbor 1/4 mile away had 2 out of 5 and we had 0 out of eight, but did dispose of a 3 year old buck that was nothing but skin and bones. Last year we had 4 out of 10 test positive.

1) I enjoy the added opportunity the Holiday Hunt provides. I feel that the Holiday Hunt SHOULD include antlered deer if archery hunting. (Non-Crossbow) Late December is challenging enough with weather and low deer numbers. 2) The lack of interest in purchasing additional antlerless tags should be telling you that there is little/ no interest in purchasing them.
I'm 21 years old and I am no longer going to buy a Wisconsin deer hunting license. It is a waste of time and money when you sit for days and don't see any deer. I will go out west to hunt at least I can enjoy hunting because they have more deer. I feel this survey is even a waste of time because I don't expect the DNR to listen to the hunters anyway.

Quit handing out so darn many tags- especially all the bogus ag tags. Since I started hunting I have watched deer numbers decline rapidly, and it's discouraging. You won't stop CWD- so quit trying a backhanded approach to the long ago abandoned eradication zone. That's all these tag handouts are, and CWD is here to stay no matter what.

Keep up the good work. I think you guys are doing a great job by trying different think in trying to make everyone happy,(if that is possible) I don't see a lot of deer where I hunt, but I do like the idea of an antlerless year only, which would help get the doe count down and the next year we would have bigger buck to hunt.

The deer population in Sauk County is once again growing rapidly and steps need to be taken NOW to avoid more serious consequences in 2018. More liberal seasons and antlerless tags may not even be enough at this point but should be considered a minimum effort to get the population reduced. "Maintain" should not be an option.

Hunting deer in Devils lake state Park has decreased badly in the last few years. I see more coyotes than deer and I also hunt right across the street from the lake and seeing deer there is the same as the lake. You don't see deer for two or three days and when you do there is no maturity in them. Very young deer

Bring back EAB on a 3-5 year rotation. Currently the buck-doe ratio is getting out-of-whack, per the late 1980's. EAB worked very well, but was over-used in consecutive years (and in areas that didn't need it). Extra antlerless and/or bonus tags are obviously not selling, so why offer 6x more than are sold?

This past year I hunted in Iowa and after seeing what it's like there believe WI should follow their blueprint exactly. Shotgun only, higher non resident tags and only limited years! $500 every three years is more than $150 every year and reduces hunting pressure by 2/3. Also have gun season after the rut!

Please end the holiday hunt. If this hunt were to end, people would not have a "back up" plan to shoot does when they pass on does during the regular 9 day gun season. You are enabling horn hunters to pass up does during the 9 day gun season. Don't give them so many opportunities!!

Sauk southern farmland has may young deer. Need to concentrate on bringing the harvest quota up...it is my opinion to bring back the earn a buck season or to have a season where only antlerless deer could be taken, think of the excitement of the hunt the following season...wow...

 Hunters continue to say there is no deer and you continue to raise tag numbers and get less deer killed!!! Stop listening to the one member on the committee that wants all the deer killed in the county, all the woods in the county are not going to be oak savannahs!

I travel to work on HWY B between HWY 23 and 60 and concerned about CWD spreading as there seems to be an over population of deer in that area. For example one winter night I counted 78 deer on B on my way home from work which would have been approximately 10:45 p.m.

Deer are causing major damage to oak regeneration. We need to limit their numbers with more antlerless options and put this heard size at equilibrium levels. Also nervous about the lack of management with regards to CWD, we need to aggressively combat this issue now!

I would appose the Holiday hunt because if there was enough snow to snowmobile during that time, the trails on private land would need to remain closed during the hunt. Wisconsin Snowmobiling season is few and far between, I would hate to see it limited even more.

As a conservation professional, I feel that deer should be managed more like any other natural resource and less like a special case. Deer have measurable negative effects on local vegetation. This data should be weighed fairly along with hunters' concerns.
There is legitimate concern among neighbors to Natural Bridge and Mirror Lake State Parks about overcrowding and excessive harvest on these lands. Need to find a mechanism to obtain adequate harvest in these parks without the crowding concerns.

What about proposing an antler only hunt? Why not try to spare the does to keep the population numbers up from them producing offspring? I saw less deer this year than I have the last couple of years. Just a thought! Thanks for the survey!

I have kept a journal of all sightings of deer by myself and my two sons, for the 9 day gun season. This is for the same property, since 2003. The property is in Sauk Co. I feel this gives me a good perspective for my answers.

Like to see the ability to set up tree stands on state land 2 days prior to gun season & removed 2 days after season ends. Setting up a stand opening morning is cumbersome. If your goal is to reduce the heard, this would help.

I've hunted the public land by bear valley for over 15 years and this was the the most crowded I have ever seen the area by far. Not sure why...just an observation. More public hunting availability would be great.

To many nubbin bucks are killed with the antlerless tags by mistake. Change the sportsman's license to a choice of three seasons. (i.e. fishing, gun deer & bow deer) or any choice of three seasons.

If less than a quarter of the available antlerless tags were actually purchased, and we're going by numbers, this should be a good indication that there isn't much interest in this pushed proposal.

It's is pretty bad you can't even take your son hunting. There is no deer. You guys are wrecking it for future hunters. You guys are all about the money. Dnr is a big joke now days.

Deer hunters are losing interest because they feel to many does are being shot. They want to increase the herd, they are buying fewer licences and spending less time devoting to hunting.

Not enough tags where sold due to price and limit on extra tags. Your idea of a holiday hunt is a poor idea. This would limit other winter activities meaning more lost revenue.

I am a life long snowmobiler and ride with 3 generations. I don't feel our trails should be subjected for an additional week of closure to control the deer population.

I would like to see a Safety color worn by ALL users while utilizing the Public State Park system during the 9 day gun hunt and any other open gun deer season.

Limit the number of hunters in the Natural Bridge State Park to 35. It is dangerous with too many hunters. My hunting land borders on the Park.

The DNR's estimate of the deer herds is not accurate. They are going by their numbers and not actually going out and marking their signs.

We need CWD testing stations available in this unit to hunter who would like their deer tested (ie. Ace/Sauk City).

Please stay away from earn a buck. It turns away people. It got very frustrating the last few years of earn a buck.

The majority of hunters are interested in seeing deer, and having a chance at shooting a buck.

Please do not have any gun hunts past Dec. 20 it has too big of affect on other winter sports.

We need the earn a buck back. It's the only viable tool for keeping deer populations stable.

Too many antlerless deer tags and not enough buck per number of hunters.

I don't think we have the deer population that the DNR thinks we have!

I won't buy a tag next year if they increase the waterless quota tags.

The earn a buck worked. Just have the buck tag good for two seasons.

Keep the regulations the same. Do not add more tags to the Liscense.
Eliminate waterless season for 1 to 2 years and see what happens.
I love the holiday hunt. Please don't take this season away.
i am strongly against a holiday hunt anywhere in the state!
Too few deer for the money and time spent hunting.
I think we should stick to the 9 day gun hunt!!!
No need for holiday hunt or extra gun season.
Please do not increase antlerless quota
Deer herd numbers are low.
Keep the Holiday hunt.
no holiday hunt
Sawyer, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

161 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 83
   No: 78

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 43
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 35
   I hunt in this unit: 145
   General interest in this unit: 34

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 142
   Bow: 82
   Crossbow: 43
   Muzzleloader: 51

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 25.8
   Maximum: 57

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 35
   Mostly Private Land: 17
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 31
   Mostly Public Land: 19
   Exclusively Public Land: 43
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 2
   Not too crowded: 23
   Neither crowded nor uncrowded: 14
   Somewhat crowded: 27
   Very crowded: 43
   Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 29
   Fewer: 35
   Same: 43
   More: 39
   Many More: 15
   Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 30
   Fewer: 25
   Same: 41
   More: 41
   Many More: 20
   Unsure: 4
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Sawyer, Northern Forest
Comments for  Sawyer, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.
With respect, below are several letters sent to the Sawyer County CDAC committee regarding the recent meeting and recommendation to allow antlerless deer tags in the Chequamegon National Forest for the 2017 season. From our perspective there are very few land owners and hunters who support this initiative. We feel this will be a great disservice to the deer population, and to deer hunters in general. The Deer herd in the National Forest is depleted and it will take years to reestablish. I have four sons, three of whom have quit hunting because of the decreased numbers. We ask that you assertively consider our perspective and represent our concerns with state governing/regulating boards that makes these final determinations. If you determine that there is a better person to send this email too please provide that information, and I will forward this email to that address. Please let me express my respectful disappointment in the CDAC decision to recommend 2400 antlerless deer tags for Sawyer County. Due to predator depredation and other natural health risks this decision now puts our recently increased Elk heard in jeopardy because there will be far fewer whitetails as a food source. Controlling whether an antlerless deer was harvested in agricultural or forest land will be difficult at best. In addition, with a goal of 800 registered kills there is no consideration given to the wounded that expire later and are never registered. In my opinion the Chequamegon National forest has not recovered from the years of over hunting and over kill. I’ve walked and continue to walk all over the national forest and see no evidence of an increased deer herd accept in small patches near mega food plot private hunting land, or agricultural land. I also hunt in SE Minnesota where the MN DNR has expertly controlled the deer population, this program is widely accepted by private land owners and public land hunters. When walking in the woods in SE Minnesota there is clear and convincing evidence of a healthy deer herd, this is in far contrast to the Sawyer County whether on private or public land. In SE MN there are very few doe tags, bucks have to be an 8 pointer or better, and you can only shoot one deer. I suggest that this group collaborate with SE MN and recommend a deer herd control measure that is similar. Why jeopardize an opportunity to have both a healthy deer and elk heard in Sawyer county? All - I am sending this ,with respect, due to my great concern regarding the proposal to allow the taking of antlerless deer from public land in 2017. Since about 2003-4 the deer herd has dropped to almost nothing, especially on public land. Each year there seems to be more predator sign, especially wolf sign. Some recent years we have seen more wolves during the deer season than deer. It only seems logical that the wolves are keeping the deer numbers down, so why have an antlerless season at all until the herd numbers are restored? This past year I did shoot a 5 point buck, which is the first deer of any gender I have seen since 2012. I typically spent more than 50 hours in my blind each year. I respectfully implore you to reconsider your decision to propose an antlerless quota on public land, and continue the buck only (preferably fork horn or better) for several more years. Dave Heath, Draper Gentleman - My sons and I built a cabin in Draper in 1996. We hunt primarily on county forest land, which borders our property. The first several years of hunting we had good luck, with 3-4 bucks on the buck pole, and numerous does and fawns spotted during the season. In about 2004 we began to observe a decline in deer numbers, and an increase in predator numbers - wolves and coyotes was noted. The deer are almost all gone now. When we started, we had seven hunters. Now we are down to three because of the lack of deer. We strongly supported the decision to go to bucks only the past several years. We strongly urge you to reconsider your proposal to allow an antlerless quota for 2017 on public land, and suggest bucks only for at least a total of six years to help restore the deer herd. It would also be beneficial to the deer herd for the State to get control of the wolf population. Respectfully, Darrel "Tom" Grahovac Gentleman- I attended the CDAC meetings the past several years, and have been supportive of the committee recommendations to have a zero quota for antlerless deer. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposal for an antlerless quota beginning this year, and retain the bucks only format (especially on public land) for several more years to restore the deer herd. I hunt on public land in the forest, and can attest to the low number of deer and the concerning numbers of wolves. The past two years of hunting (8days each) I have seen three deer and five wolves. Now is not the time to re-open the taking of scarce does and fawns from public land. It is my understanding that neighboring counties have opted for a zero quota on public land - you should have the support of deer hunters to do the same thing. Paul Fritz, Winter Garritt and Michael Luker.
It has become increasingly apparent that the goal of the WI. DNR is to reduce the deer herd in the northern forest by any and all available means. Predator populations are at an all time high while deer numbers are struggling to increase after years of over harvesting. "Buck only" should mean simply that. No Antlerless! In over 30 years of hunting Sawyer Co. with bow and firearms, I have yet to see any over browsing in any area. The deer herd is no where near the carrying capacity of the land. We were told of the need to reduce the herd in the mid 1990's to safeguard against a severe winter which could devastate the herd. We had back to back severe winters and virtually no winter kill whatsoever. Yet the DNR insisted the herd be reduced. So for the next decade or so virtually unlimited antlerless tags were made available. From T zones to earn-a-buck the killing began. Sadly the northern deer herd now more closely resembles the herd in central WI. without the numbers. The DNR even supports the continued use of baiting as long as it correlates to a increased harvest. The use of bait assisted in the over harvesting and helped destroy the buck/doe ratio along with the age structure of the northern herd not to mention the added risk of disease caused by baiting. The corn sales at the local gas stations and feed stores should not have any impact or influence on the deer management policy set by the DNR or the CDAC. A healthy deer herd will do more for the local economies than the ability to sell a few bags of corn.

I hunt in eastern Sawyer County in the Chequamegon National Forest. This is mature forest with no logging activity in the past 10 years. With the presence of a large number of predators (bears and deer), combined with the lack of logging activity to provide browse, the deer population in our area has plummeted. By making the entire county a single DMU, you have lost the ability to manage the herd by smaller, more detailed units which would take into account the differences in habitat and predators. While there may be enough deer to warrant antlerless tags in agricultural sections of the county, there simply aren’t many deer in the mature forested areas where I hunt. I don’t know that there’s any way to compensate for the differences, given the current DMU structure. Too bad - not only is this system not working, but you've lost all of the data from previous years of DMU management by smaller, more discreet units. As a result of the current population, our hunting group of 7 people has been "skunked" on branch-antlered bucks for 6 of the last 7 years (we don't shoot does, due to the low numbers). In addition, instead of hunting for 7 days during the gun season, we've cut back to 5 days because of the lack of seeing deer. We hunt hard and have hunted the same area for over 30 years. The last 8-10 years have been the poorest since we've hunted there.
1) Although I respect a healthy buck to doe ratio, I do not feel the herd is at a point to revert back to antlerless harvest, especially in the form of a bonus tag. Many of these hunters will gladly take a buck as well if given the opportunity. Why not bring back the hunter's choice option? Additionally, I would expect the success rates for bonus tag hunters to be much more than 33% and would also find it difficult for conservation wardens to monitor private versus public land harvest. 2) If we are going to harvest antlerless deer, why not allow beginner hunters the opportunity? When looking into the reason behind the decline in new hunters, I suspect success/seeing deer and access to land are major factors, both of which are in jeopardy. Having access to land and increasing the quality of the experience are vital to recruiting new hunters to the sport. 3) I am bothered by the over-emphasis on harvest numbers to determine deer density. We have to account for change in technology and techniques, including bows, cross-bows, trail cameras, feeding/baiting/deer attractants, tree-stands including the ability to leave them overnight on public lands, food plots, clothing, etc. Deer hunting today is very different from even 10 or 20 years ago.

There needs to be a way to provide antlerless tags to more specifically target areas of high deer densities (e.g., ag lands) without negatively impacting areas where the deer populations are still recovering (e.g., large tracts of forest in the northern portions of the county). Additionally, if higher deer densities are desired in the more heavily forested regions of the county, logging will need to be encouraged in order to provide more browse, since many of these mature forests do not provide adequate forage to support large deer populations. Predator populations (coyotes, bears, wolves) are high, and are significantly impacting fawn survival in the spring, hindering deer population increases in many areas. This is a factor that needs to be addressed (e.g., increasing the number of bear tags). Finally, I think it would be beneficial to enact an antler restriction; 3 yrs. of buck only has skewed the age structure and buck:doe ratio in the deer herd, which can negatively impact the deer herd (e.g., prolonged fawning windows, which increases exposure to predation and produces smaller fawns going into winter, since the breeding season getsstrung out for so long in order for many does to be serviced by few bucks).

I'm glad to see there will be some antlerless harvest this year. I sincerely hope the council stands firm in its initial assessment and doesn't cave to vocal minority. It was a mistake voiding the youth hunt last year, especially after reading meeting minutes and the members rationale for doing so and if it were voided in the future I would no longer hunt Sawyer County. On baiting, if the committee would take a look, there are examples of how it affects harvest (never mind the disease issues) staring you right in the face. Look at the buck harvest increase in Oneida County from 2015 to 2016. It was about a 2% increase where neighboring Price County saw something like a 40% increase. Both counties have essentially identical habitats so there is no reason to think Oneida wouldn't increase similarly to Price, unless something changed, like baiting. So as a result there are now more deer, particularly 1.5 year old bucks still alive now in Oneida County, that would have otherwise been harvested over a bait pile. There needs to be a strong consensus to get this issue resolved statewide, instead of how we have a patchwork set of regulations out there and politicians who seem to pander to the squeaky wheel.

I saw several young bucks (1.5 yr olds) this past fall which I observed daily. 5 where shot by surrounding hunters in the area and 1 was killed by a car. I only saw one mature doe that was at the 2.5 year old. The remainder of the deer were small (1 - 1.5 year olds). If the goal is to increase the herd, don't allow any does to be harvested as you kill basically 3 for every doe that is killed. If the goal is to have a solid herd with the chance of harvesting a large buck, than change is needed: Ex. Increase the doe tags available (900 a good start), only 1 buck per hunter per year - no matter how it is taken, Illegal to party hunt/ Illegal to shoot another persons deer, reduce the bow/crossbow season - hunting in 5 months is too much - sept 15 - Jan 9 or so is crazy. Venison is very popular in the North. If a doe is not available, a small buck will do as I explained above. There is a very healthy wolf population in Sawyer Co that people complain about but they are not the problem, it is the hunters who shoot everything with an antler. Good luck and thanks for listening. (U of M 1986 Wildlife Biology) Mark Rosenow
Management on an entire county basis is not a step in the right direction. Management of public forest land differently than private crop land is needed very much. Many private land owners will only shoot antlered deer on their own property and then they go to the public lands to fill their doe tags. In order to enhance and grow the interest in youth hunting, maintaining the junior antlerless tags is a great way to "get their hands dirty" and promote hunting in the north woods. If a youth in their first 5 years of hunting isn't able to bag a deer, they are going to lose interest real quick and potentially not hunt any more. Especially in these years of too many wolves and bear, where the deer populations are in danger of total collapse. Our ancestors had it right, eliminate the wolves, reduce the bear, and there will be deer. We need to eliminate the wolves! We need to reduce the bear! Also, Elk are not going to help the situation. It will take decades for them to survive and they will compete for the same food the deer do. Winter mortality of both species will be bad and neither will thrive.

Antlerless permits should be issued to any child participating in the youth hunt, kids are not going to get hooked on the sport when then cannot harvest a deer. Bucks only season has certainly helped improve the population and I am a firm believer in letting does walk by. HOWEVER, We are one of many camps who invested in building a new camp after the counties took the program away and we bring a lot of money into the Sawyer county area every season (set aside from property taxes on cabins) We went 2 full seasons without any meat. I feel that renewing the "party permit" for camp meat allowing one doe for a hunting party would be a huge help. It is very disappointing when you have a group of 9 guys invest an entire week deer hunting with no meat! I also feel antlerless permits should be limited to one per hunter max, no need for "bonus" tags. The population is healthy again, we just need to control the wolf and coyote population. We lost an 8 pointer this year 45 minutes before dark, set the alarm the next morning and by the time we caught up to it the wolves had devoured it. Thank You

The CDAC process is severely flawed. Public comment was limited to 2 minutes each in the middle of the meeting. No other questions, comments or discussion was allowed. It was quite evident that the decision regarding antlerless permits had already been made. It would be much more productive to hold open discussions prior to the actual meeting(perhaps as long as 3 months) before the actual meeting so that public input could be actually evaluated completely rather than be rejected out of hand as is now done. The DNR representatives overwhelm the meeting with statistics and take a condescending approach to public comments. It is a difficult task to manage the deer herd between public and private land as well as distinguishing between forest and ag land. Having management zones defined by county is not an effective way to to so. The former zone management system was a better way to manage specific areas. In all, it seems that there is no real desire to actually listen to public comments, just "go through the motions" to say that they have real input in the decision making process.

Please consider lobbying Washington to return control of wolf management to the States with established wolf populations. While not the sole reason for declining deer numbers, they are, nevertheless, a contributing factor. If a healthy pack takes say a deer per week - which has been documented, that is a potential decline of 52 animals in a year combined with other mortality factors such cars, coyotes - (very effective on fawns) and other predators, deer populations throughout the management unit can be adversely affected for longer than one season. This has proven to be the case throughout the deer range of northern Minnesota - where wolf populations are generally underestimated. Perhaps, it is time for a Tri-State (MN, WI, MI) cooperative effort for wolf management with some civilian share holders included in the tribunal. Federal judges, while perhaps well-intended, are the furthest removed from the actual fields and forests where nature is at work. Thanks.
I think the use of antlerless permits to maintain a balance in the herd is important. I own private land and as a group during the 9 day season we saw over 100 deer without horns. Now some are the same resident does that are always around but that tells me the herd is out of balance to a great degree. I also feel that not having a junior antlerless license is just wrong. If over harvest, by out of state youth is the concern, make it private land only for youth tags. This allows the kids who live in Sawyer county (famlys who pay taxes) to actually have more opportunity. I think our neighbors in adjacent counties that allow youth hunting for antlerless deer would like to have less pressure from youth harvest. The youth of our county going to neighboring counties instead of hunting their own property in their own county. Thanks for your hard work I know you cant please everyone, but I would rather you choose the kids over adults.

All the information presented about the dramatic increase for antlerless deer quota in 2017 is very inconsistent based on having quota's of zero in each of 2015 and 2016. The consencous I have from talking with many hunters in Sawyer County is that deer hunting is absolutely very very poor. Deer population is certainly low. Deer rubbings in late summer to fall has dropped noticeably. Many of us believe that the DNR is paying more attention to Elk, something we likely will never be able to hunt or at least for many of us in our life time. We continue to see more sign of Wolf and Bear, populations are increasing, both being predators to White Tail Deer. Many people either have quit deer hunting or moved to other parts of the State due to very poor hunting opportunity in Sawyer County. While its great that the area is not crowded has it once was, this is only because hunting is really poor.

after spending more time in the woods than I have in years every weekend and two weeks bow hunting and 11 days for rifle hunting, will say was nice to see young bucks, spikes, and small y-bucks, actually saw three bucks. was very disappointing not to see very many does. and only three fawns. I also saw the most deer of the 11 other hunters in camp. when you loose 2 out of 3 fawns due to predation, normally the smaller which is the doe fwan , and the small percentage of first-year survival of the ones that are not killed due to predation. if I remember reading right its about 16 % that make it to a year old. we do not need to kill off more does will take years to bring deer numbers up in the Loretta area, the family has hunted the same area since 1933 . also no hunters in woods anymore now that gates are all locked.we do have a key, none of the young hunters want to come up anymore to not see deer

I am a young avid hunter that has been hunting in sawyer county every gun season for the past 7 years. I remember when I was to young to hunt, my dads hunting party would have great success up there bringing back 2-3 nice deer. Since I have hunted up there, I have seen a total of around 5 deer. OVER 7 YEARS. With that, I have seen 2 small packs of wolfs and multiple coyotes. Not saying wolfs are an issue, but 2 years ago my dad walked up on a fresh wolf kill. Beautiful 8 point buck, nothing left but the skull. Makes people wonder how much of an issue they really are. All I am asking is that we address the reasoning behind the lack of deer, especially on public land. I wish to continue the tradition as I grow older with my children up in sawyer county, but from the last few years and the proposed quota that is set, there is a possibility that we may need to find a new area.

Over the past few years I have seen more and more antlerless deer in the area. I understood the low numbers during those bad winters but the population is bouncing back. In the past 5 years hunting the area I haven't had the single opportunity to tag a deer. Passing on small bucks to help the herd has caused me to venture to other states and pay more for tags, room and board, transportation and hunting memories. I hunt for meat and enjoyment and these other states provided it where as the property I hunt in sawyer has yielded 3 deer in the last 5 years for a group of hunters that use to be 10 now dropping to 3 because not one person can tag a doe which we see many of. And the teenagers that come don't even get the opportunity to fill a tag when a doe could mean a lifelong hunter. I would gladly give up my tag to introduce kids into the sport. Thank you.
While I do think the deer population is starting to increase, I don’t feel like it has rebounded enough to have this many antlerless permits available. In fact, the number of bucks that I have seen in the last 2 years have decreased substantially. After last years hunting season I didn’t see a buck anywhere on the property I live on and the public land that I spend time on. How do you expect to make sure that the hunters that get doe permits for private lands hunt exclusively on private land? There needs to be a happy medium that encourages growth and predator control. I see way more wolf tracks and bear tracks than I do deer tracks in the summer time. I think that the many years of cheap doe tags and the increased number of predators have been detrimental to the deer herd and that it is still not to where it should be.

Deer numbers appear to have improved over the last two years. I have no problem with issuance of antler less deer tags, however, not as many as recommended by CDAC. I think it should be about half that number. It probably would still give all that apply a permit. If I’m not mistaken, back three years ago the DNR made 5200 (a ridiculous number at the time) or so permits available and had only about 3000 sold. Deer are tough to hunt in my neck of the woods due to lack of hunters moving deer and heightened deer wariness due to tremendous predation. Deer have also become more nocturnal and have adapted to living close to the cottages where it’s safer for them and their fawns. It’s also convenient to bird feeders etc.. I have witnessed this on our property where fawns are "dropped" nearly every year in our front yard!

I would like to see only 'youth' tags for public land in 2017. I think keeping the youth engaged and excited is important for the future of the sport but the numbers just aren’t there to open it up on public land to antlerless harvest. I would be OK with a some tags for private land on antlerless tags. The numbers are starting to come up but if we ever want to build a strong herd we have to stay the course with the ‘buck only' strategy at least any 2-3 years. We cannot just be satisfied with 'small wins' in numbers, we are still VERY far away from what this area used to be in terms of deer herd and hunting coming to the area, supporting the local businesses, because of said deer herd. Don’t bend now just because of a small uptick. We have to approach this with a long term vision in mind.

I do think they are making some decisions to get the herd going in the right direction towards growth. But I think there are just becoming way too many hunting seasons ! I think the herd is over pressured with too long and too many seasons. In the northern areas the herd just can not handle the predation, the weather and all these seasons especially the extra gun seasons. I strongly believe Archery season should close New Year’s eve, Gun season only Regular 9 days season(no extra doe seasons), Muzzle loader season and done. I would be OK with the youth hunt but should only be allowed 1 deer of either sex and done. The northern area is depleted from years ago across the whole state not just where I hunt now, and I think the main reason is the over doing it of hunting seasons and tags.

I am a huge farmer in sawyer county I had over 28000 dollars in crop damage last year. My loss check only covered 6500 in sawyer county I am sick and tired of feeding deer like cattle its time to control the population I should not have to shoot 40 deer to qualify for a DNR program that does not work. We need to kill does to better the herd and let people hunt like it was intended not some big trophy hunt. You are all invited to come to my fields in July or August and see 20 or 30 deer in a 20 acre soybean field that tells you how many deer we have. If you want bucks only then pay me for all the damage do not put a limit of 10,000 dollars on crop damage commodity prices are at an all time low.I vote to up tags as much as possible.

"Dear" committee members......Thank You for giving of your time with this process. I spend a good amount of time the whole year in the Flambeau State Forest area. I use trail cameras to try to find deer to hunt. In section 3 discussion, of the March meeting minutes, Jeff states "lack of seedlings in forest due to deer browse." I specifically target year old clearcuts, and I see very minimal browsing. Have nuisance tags been available for this unit? If so, were these permits listed as available on the DNR website? I try to stay abreast of these types of things, and have never seen it made public. Maybe it should be more "public". Can these nuisance permits be listed in CDAC notifications? Thank You
We live 6 1/2 miles deep into both County Forest and National Forest and the deer population has been dropping every since you had "Earn a Buck". Between the high wolf and bear population and years of issuing doe tags we hardly see any deer the entire season. We see deer along the roads in Sawyer and also deer small developments and lake shore property, but go deep into the woods and deer are scares. PLEASE do not have 900 doe tags and junior doe tags in 2017. I "think" adults are shooting the does and having the juniors register them. With the past mild winter hopefully what few does there are in our area will have two fawns each. Hopefully not food for all the bear and wolves.

There are definately more deer in Sawyer County this year than there have been for the past three years. However, we still have a huge problem with baiting and feeding, often in excess of the legal amounts. This is still our biggest problem with the ability to see deer during daylight hours in hunting season. Many areas have fair numbers of deer, but they have become nocturnal due to the excessive amounts of corn in the woods. If we would finally eliminate baiting, our hunting would improve tremendously!!! Please, ban baiting once and for all!!! Until baiting is banned, our hunting will not be as good as it could be, even with these increased deer numbers.

Although I did not hunt in Sawyer County last year, I hunt in Ashland County in the national forest adjacent to Sawyer County and have in the past hunted in eastern Sawyer County. The deer population has not rebounded on public lands in northern Wisconsin for this drastic increase in antlerless deer permits. My deer hunting experience indicates that until there is better evidence that the population has significantly increased there should be no antlerless permits issued for any reason. I believe that the combination of predator kills and past over kill by hunters has contributed to the current lack of deer on public lands.

We saw low numbers of mature bucks last season on both private and public land. I believe the winter kill was pretty high based on what I saw scouting last spring, and that seemed to carry over to fall numbers. Increased four wheeler activity in the Harmon lake area also seems to be having a surprisingly negative effect on deer movement, if not deer numbers. I ran into many wheelers on designated walking trails, in addition to the designated wheeler trails. So, the effect in that area may be lower deer numbers or negative effects from the increased wheeler traffic, probably both. I only bow hunt that area, not gun hunt.

There has been a slow but positive upward trend of deer populations on my 330 acre property. I believe a modest number of doe permits would be appropriate for 2017 however the overall population has still not returned to pre-2013 levels. I feel the preliminary levels of doe bonus permits is too high and would suggest scaling the numbers back for 2017. Given the very mild winter of 2016/17 I would expect non-existent winter mortality and a healthy fawn season but do not want to threaten the continued upward trend line for the population. Thank you for considering a more conservative approach to doe permit levels in 2017

I have been actively archery and gun hunting the same area for over 35 years. Since 2005, the deer sightings while hunting have declined DRAMATICALLY. I have kept a hunting log for over 25 years. I am seeing 30% to 40% of the deer I used to see. Despite better winters in 2014 and 2015, there has been not noticeable change. In my opinion, the recent population decline is directly related to over harvesting of antlerless deer, harsh winters in 2012/2013/2014 and growth of predators (wolves). Issuing antlerless tags in 2017 is not a good option for already depressed herd numbers.

I believe that setting a quota at 900 antlerless deer is a little high especially since there have been no antlerless tags the last 3 years. I do understand that the population has been making a comeback over the last few years but I don't believe it is high enough to have a quota of 900 just yet. Sawyer county has a lot of forested areas and had a higher predator population than other counties, especially those to the south. Wolves and bears being the biggest threat. I think that a quota around 500 and only on private land is more reasonable.
I own a cabin on Sawyer county. It has been in the family since 1947. The last 3 or 4 years there have been almost no deer seen by the people hunting in our group. We see more wolf sign than deer sign. I think you should continue the buck only for a few more years. My grandsons will be hunting in a few years and it would be nice for them to at least see deer. My daughter has lost interest in hunting up north and now she does not come up the our cabin any more. She choses to hunt down south because she at least has a chance to see a deer.

Too many private property owners that do not hunt feed the deer. This results in large deer populations crossing the highways at night in southern Sawyer County between Birchwood and the south end of Sawyer County Road C. In addition, I have had crop depredation due to large amounts of does grazing my fields. I am receiving NRCS Grants for pollinator habitat. I have a three season mix in for this. My bees are relying on this mix but the large amount of does grazing have made it difficult to maintain this per my grant conditions.

I think the DNR is making good progress in trying to bring the deer herd back in this region with the recent Buck only gun seasons. I would like to see them continue this. I believed hunters that wish to harvest a doe could have ample opportunity to do so during archery season. Also I believe that archery season has become much more popular (and more advantage to the hunter) with the recent crossbow allowance. For these reasons I feel we could lose the momentum we have in increasing the herd if excessive doe harvest is allowed.

CWD, deer farms and commercialization of deer will continue to threaten our invaluable public resource of wild white-tailed deer. DATCP needs to step up their commitment to protecting the health of penned deer and the DNR needs to push for strict fencing protocols. Seriously consider changing current regulations and not allow feeding or baiting. Virtually all aspects of such practices are damaging, both to the deer and to the future of public support of regulated hunting and public hunting ethics.

The deer quantity in this unit is down tremendously. In recent years; we could count on 2 hands how many deer we seen in the 9 day rifle season (about 1/day). Compared to our notes going back to the early 1990s, it is a very significant drop off. We used to see this many in a morning. The number one impact is wolves. We would rarely see any sign of wolves, now it is very numerous with sign everywhere and on trailcams. There is a 2-fold solution; no antlerless deer permits and re-enact wolf hunting.

In my opinion night hunting is very under regulated. Having no limits, no registration for deer taken, hunting at night during the rut are totally unacceptable. How can anyone manage a deer herd with these kind of laws in place. The deer herd is going to take a tremendous blow and the closer to the reservation that you hunt the worse it will be. With that in mind I am all for opening the antlerless season again, because it makes no sense to try to manage a herd with these types of laws in place.

I have hunted Sawyer and Bayfield counties for the past 20 years. The noticeable deer population has gotten worse over the years. It has gotten to the point that I, and other hunting partners, have decided to not buy a tag for several of those years. We will not be shooting antlerless deer and oppose tags being given in those counties. I'm still upset about the earn a buck program that was used years ago in those counties. I’ve seen more wolves than deer in recent years...

Bear and wolf predation has had a large impact on the heard growth. I have no problem with bear and wolf predation but want it figured into the antlerless quota allocation. I hunt in the Chequamagon Forest and have for 45 years. Due to wolf predation heard growth is slow to recover after difficult winters. They has been good improvement but it seems the large forested public lands will still not support much antlerless harvest and sustain improving numbers of deer.

Thanks to the CDAC for raising the quota to a level which may begin to control the deer numbers on private lands and also for giving out a number of tags, though still somewhat low, for public lands. The public lands will never have the deer population that the private lands do no matter how much some hunters want that to be the case. That being said, we still need to control the population on public lands and this decision is a step in the right direction.
ANY antlerless tags are excessive. If you plan on killing 900 antlerless deer in Sawyer county I promise to hunt elsewhere or not at all. You are completely out of touch with northern Sawyer county public land. Much of your data comes off private land with perpetual corn piles located just out of sight. I have access to good private land to hunt but I prefer to hunt wild deer found on wild land. I don’t hunt tame deer acclimated to corn piles.

Stop the unfairness of antlerless deer havest between public and private land hunters. We seem to pay the same license fee, but don’t have the same havest rights. I know many hunters that feel the same way. Stop helping land owners hold deer on there land with use of baiting and then give them 2/3 of antlerless tags. Common sense tell me CWD is helped spread by baiting, but we don’t have common sense we have politics.

I just want to say I have nieces and nephews that are starting to hunt, and it is hard to keep the younger generation hunting when they sit all day, you see a antler less deer comes in and you tell them they can’t shoot, when in the past, there older cousins could shoot. I believe the youth hunters should be able to take antler less deer in all zones. Thank you

2015 and 1016 deer hunt for me was a huge disappointment, I saw plenty of antlerless deer which I typically take with my bow. Because of buck only I took two young bucks to put in my freezer. I would rather take a doe for meat. I also believe a doe tag should be given with a archery tag, like it used to be. after all getting within bow range is not easy. When I say bow I don’t mean crossbow.

The deer herd is still extremely low in our area. I see more wolves than deer. I’d like to see a buck only season and no special hunts in Sawyer county. Perhaps where it is farm country in Sawyer county a limited doe hunt. Our property is 1.5 miles due nor5h of the Chippewa Flowage (Beaver Lake area). Very few deer but plenty of bobcats, wolves, and elk sightings off of FR 718 and 719.

I think the reintroduction of the elk is going to have a strain and negative effect on the deer herd. There is going to be added predation with wolves and coyotes coming back to certain areas. The deer population is down in Sawyer county. with some of the logging going on helped to give the deer food for the winter but with the elk they are now fighting for the food again.

I think things are just about right in Sawyer Co. right now. The low deer numbers and bucks only has reduced hunting pressure, and I like that. Numbers are coming back, but not sure if they will overpopulate as in the past, due to predation. You can offer as many doe tags as you want, but I will never buy one again. If you want me to shoot a doe, it has to be free.

The 2016-17 appears to be the third "mild" winter in a row for the deer population in sawyer county, that is a good start in rebuilding the herd from the winter of 13-14. To many antler less tags along with the continued growth of the wolf and bear populations may defeat any progress made due to the mild winters. Thank you for the opportunity for this feedback.

Areas around populated areas and farmland have a high population of deer but public land and northern forests have almost no deer. We used to have a good herd of deer in south eastern Sawyer County but with mismanagement of the bear population and predators out of control (wolf and coyote) the deer "except in areas described above" are almost nonexistent.

The over-abundance of the bear population in Sawyer county specifically, but the NW part of the state generally, is taking a huge toll on the deer herd. As fawns are one of the primary food sources for bears coming out of hibernation, the bear population has much more influence on the deer herd than the wolf population. More bear tags should be issued!

Please do away with baiting and feeding of deer. I am very concerned with CWD eventually taking more deer than hunters. A true Hunter does not have to sit over a bait pile. Give Sawyer county another year or two to grow back the herd before issuing doe permits. Inform landowners of the importance of proper land management to help the wildlife.
I see private hunter come to public land to make drives and harvest doe, while having sanctuaries, baiting, not driving, and only shooting large bucks on private land. They want to attract and keep deer on private lands, making them "their" deer. I would like to see individuals forced to pick either public or private, not be able to get both

I travel to my cabin in Sawyer County every weekend. I rarely see any deer on public land away from residential areas. I would like to see a bait ban so the deer would not congregate around residences. I have hunted the public land in eastern Sawyer county for over 40 years and I see fewer deer now than I saw in the late 70s and early 80s.

Not sure quite where the committee is coming from on setting such a high number for antlerless harvest. Curious how many of these CDAC members are non-hunters? How much time is spent in the woods by these CDAC members? Hate to break it to you, the deer numbers have not come back like everyone hoped. One more year of zero quota please.

The acorn crop of the fall of 2016 was almost non-existent in this area which made foraging during winter months for deer much harder. We do not yet know how this has affected deer winter mortality rates, but it could be a big factor. Many yearling bucks were seen in the fall of 2016 as well as does. Not many mature bucks.

The deer numbers are no where near were they need to be. There is an over abundance of predators in the area and the deer need a break. The bear, Wolf, and Bobcat populations are at record numbers and there seems to be no control over them. I would like to see there be No Antlerless tags period for the next couple years.

Please look at the number of wolves that are killing fawns. The wolf sign is way up every year and many have been seen during the deer season. I believe the population needs to reduced. I have gone through two hunting seasons without seeing any deer at all but have seen four wolves. This should not be. Thank you.

The doe numbers have slightly increased but it still very low, bucks being harvest are yearlings and there is not enough bucks to breed the does. A lot of does without fawns. A antler point restriction needs to be in place to have a good buck/doe ratio and to have a better age class on the deer being harvested.

The bucks only format should be continued for several more years to help restore the deer herd, especially in the forest (public land). Perhaps the quota system could be revised to differentiate between forest and agricultural land to address the issue of more deer on ag land versus forest land.

It appears there are way more deer in Sawyer Co. than in the past few years. Deer are constantly being struck on the roadways and they can be seen on any road in the county at all hours of the day. Many are located around residences and private property, most likely because of the wolves?

Predators are killing to many deer, don't allow doe season for a few years. I would like to see bow season shortened, hunters choice brought back. I feel public vs private land designation is unfair, I want to hunt on both public and private lands and being required to pick one is unfair.

A good winter which should allow deer numbers to finally recover. Keep quotas tight for this season then get through next years winter and manage with hopefully a good balanced level. With hopefully a moderate 2018 winter the 2018 season can offer a manageable antlerless opportunity.

I think it's way too soon for this amount of does tags. I hunt quite a bit and saw very few deer last year but did see more predators. The number of deer is substantially lower than even 6 to 7 years ago. My opinion very few if any does tags this year, but allow youth to take a doe.

More Bear's, Coyotes, Bobcat's, And ALL WOLVES have to be killed before deer can reestablish themselves. No Doe tags should be given out. There are hardly ANY hunter’s anymore up North. They used to bring a lot of money in up there, No deer, No hunter's, No Money.

Too many bears and too many wolves. Last year our hunting group of 4 hunters saw 4 wolves (3 incidents) and a lot fewer deer. I would hate to see the deer herd reduced to nearly nothing like what happened in northern Minnesota a couple decades ago.
I would support antler restrictions or any regulations that discourge the harvest of young bucks. I would also encourage harvesting more does simply because the buck/does ratio is terrible right now. Many, many does for each buck observed. Thank-you

Get rid of private land vs public land designations. Should not be used in northern areas. Causes too much pressure on public lands during gun season. Go back to Hunters Choice application/permit and give Hunter an option what sex to harvest.

Too many does in this area! Never see a buck. For the last 3 hunting season my son has hunted here & every day he saw multiple does & NO BUCKS. I can't plant a garden anymore because the does eat everything I plant. They even eat my roses.

Deer numbers are still to low on pubic land. It's not fair to give private land owners 75% of the antlerless tags when DNR give them the tools (like baiting ) to keep there.I pay the same license fee and I expect the same rights to tags.

Could we go back to a hunter choice tag? This seemed like a reasonable way to harvest antler less deer back in the 1990's. It would give a person who received the tag a good option to put some meat in the freezer.

If you spend any time at all in the field you do not have to be a biologist to know the northern deer herd will take time to come back and if a person needs to shoot a doe so bad let them go elsewhere in the state.

We noticed way more predator tracks than ever before. Only saw 2 deer over the 9 day season. Have been hunting this area for over 30 years and it is the worst it has been. We hunt around hwy. 70 and Snuss blv.

cant believe you want doe permits were not seeing deer NOW give the herd a chance you take the few breading does out and have a hard winter back to square ONE wait1 more year NEEDS MORE TIME!!!!!!!!!

The deer population in sawyer county is horrible due to the stupid wolf population give us a wolf hunting season. Don't give the stupid bonus doe tags out. But bring back the hunters choice license

I still feel as though we need a few more years of no does being shot to get the herd back to where it was in the mid 2000s. I'm still not seeing that many deer in most of the areas that I hunt.

We have made great progress in Sawyer County. Give the herd one more year to recover. Youth Vets and Disabled hunters should be allowed to harvest a doe. The rest of us can hunt buck only!

in the northern forest itself deer population is still really low. I own land in the forest and havn't seen many deer increase! I would like to see zero doe permits. larry

I did not see one deer in the 2016 season & saw only a couple in the 2015 season. The wolf pack is too strong around Rock Lake Road where my family's cabin is located.

More tags on Public Lands. No Nuisance tags for forest lands. Urban is also lakes and river development. I support antlerless tag increase to double the 900. (1800).

For the most part all the deer everyone saw in 2016 were young deer. We need to let the herd grow a lot more before we allow does to be shot as well as bucks.

You are never going to please the majority of deer hunters and as long as you have a Political Hack (Cathy Stepp) heading up the DNR this will never change.

I believe the population has recovered well in the past several years. I think there should be a quota to harvest antlered deer in 2017. Thank you.

I think it is very important that young or new hunters have an opportunity to harvest a deer. In these cases antlerless tags should be available.

The youth antlerless hunt should be limited to one or two permits for the individual over the time the person is eligible for the permit.
Just starting to see a few deer again. Still do not like all the places selling tons of deer corn still too much corn in the woods.

I agree with the proposed antlerless harvest, and to encourage young hunters we need to allow the harvesting of antlerless deer.

It will take a decade or more of deer densities less than 10/sq mile to see some our natural forests recover from over browsing.

Please consider a "party" antlerless tag so at least the group has a better chance of bringing home some venison.

Leave the doe alone no doe for 1 more year the herd is devastated needs more time what's a matter with YOU.

Half the deer I see are last years fawns. I think doe permits should not be allowed for another year.

WILL NOT hunt this year due to LOW deer numbers! Haven't seen a buck in the last 2 yrs to shoot.

It's important for future deer population to continue the zero antlerless hunt for one more year.

My only comment is that in 2016 we saw few bucks but a ridiculously huge amount of does. Thanks.

I sat in stand for four days and didn't even see one deer but plenty of Coyote and wolf tracks.

Property owners should be given a preference for antlerless harvest on their own land.

The deer population is still low. Need to lower antlerless quota. Eliminate bonus tags.

My opinions reflect the Winter area. There are plenty of deer there.

Please keep antlerless quota at zero for public land here.

Please, no antlerless tags for 1 more year.

Buck only again this year.

Keep up the good job.

to many predators.
Shawano, Central Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

118 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 81
   No: 37

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 37
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   I hunt in this unit: 114
   General interest in this unit: 21

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 111
   Bow: 81
   Crossbow: 47
   Muzzleloader: 68

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 23.25
   Maximum: 62

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 84
   Mostly Private Land: 18
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
   Mostly Public Land: 2
   Exclusively Public Land: 7
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 7
   Not too crowded: 14
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   Somewhat crowded: 4
   Very crowded: 2
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 23
   Fewer: 42
   Same: 45
   More: 7
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 25
   Fewer: 38
   Same: 42
   More: 11
   Many More: 0
   Unsure: 2

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017

Shawano, Central Farmland
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?**

**Note:** Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

**12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.**

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution...</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  Shawano, Central Farmland*
The landscape of deer hunting is ever evolving. The "science" approach also needs to evolve to determine a healthy herd level. Data relies heavily on winter browse availability in determining what level of a herd is acceptable. Modern data is not taking into account food plot and what farmers are planting when determining whether a deer herd is at a level to sustain thru the winter months. I can speak personally to this because last year I planted a 2 acre food plot that included winter food and the 30 acres of farmland next to me switched 2 years ago from corn to winter wheat. I moved here 2 years ago and I didn't see a deer during the winter months that first winter. This past winter, I saw 20 to 30 deer a day feeding in either my food plot or the winter wheat fields. More attention and credit needs to be put into the growing food plot industry. Educating these new food plotters to plant food for all seasons will help support a larger and healthier deer population. There isn't a deer hunter that doesn't have that as their ultimate goal - seeing more and healthier deer while in the woods. Stop giving farmers money for crop damage and move that funding to food plot education.

I honestly do feel that there are adequate hunting lands available to people that wish to hunt in Shawano County. There are areas that are somewhat crowded with people, but with a little scouting a person can find lands that are not hunted real heavily. I do not see deer on every hunting outing that I go out, but weather plays a huge part in that. Deer movement has changed in the last few years mainly due to logging operations in the areas that I hunt. I have had to scout both during the season and before the deer seasons. I am not a trophy hunter, but always of course like to dream of that big buck. My hunting is more about enjoying being out in the woods, the comradery of friends and family with the chance of taking home some venison for the freezer. I did take a legal buck with my crossbow this past year and two does with the gun. My hunting companions also took deer. Of the four of us that hunted the archery seasons and gun seasons together, we did take 3 legal bucks and 5 does this past year, all on public lands. It was very comparable to the last few years. All were good years. Thank you for giving me the ability to voice my opinion. Keep up the good work!

I spent a good amount of time hunting public land last fall with my oldest son. I wanted him to experience hunting the way I used to hunt. I was very disappointed in what we saw or should I say what we didn't see. The deer numbers on public land are the lowest I've ever seen in 30 years of hunting. With that the number of people and pressure is very high on public land. Everyone hunting public land has a pocket full of antlerless tags and is eager to fill them. I'm not suggesting that no does should be harvested but I will say that way to many tags are available. We saw one fawn and one spike buck in roughly 12 bow hunts on public land. The pack of wolves that moved into the area we were hunting was the last straw. We gave up on the area and public land hunting. This state is going to continue to loose hunters until someone does something to improve the quality of the hunt. Wisconsin needs to be allowed to get a grip on its wolf PROBLEM first and foremost. Second, maybe the number of hunters place way too much pressure on the heard in general and takes away from the quality of the hunt. Maybe less hunters means a better hunt.
Please reduce the number of does and antlerless tags for Shawano County. I have seen a definite decline in deer numbers (bucks, does, and fawns) due to I believe too many antlerless tags being issued. If I remember correctly, if a hunter buys a bow and gun license, you could get issued 6 antlerless tags for Shawano. Likely more with a crossbow or bonus tag structure. Is this necessary? I am all in favor of taking some venison. This is way too many tags per guy and is way over the top. This results in too many buck fawns harvested which declines future buck populations. This used to be a great county to hunt but is steadily going down hill. I like taking one doe for meat and wait for an opportunity of taking a mature buck. Both of these are getting harder to do. Please let mother nature take care of itself. Also I believe many people are baiting in this county illegally. I think this should be printed on their tags so they understand the counties they should not be baiting in.

CDAC’s do not have the tools to effectively implement their recommendations. DNR pulled the option for October antlerless hunts and the legislature banned Earn-a-Buck. These two season structures worked and actually help implement the tenets advocated by Quality Deer Management (QDM). People say they are doing QDM on their property but when you ask questions about their management you find that they are only implementing the part of QDM that states "let the small bucks go to grow", but they ignore the part that states to "increase the antlerless harvest to improve buck to doe ratios and habitat." CDAC's really only have the option of an antlerless only season if they are serious about the goal to maintain or reduce the deer herd in this county. It is the "nuclear option" that is politically impossible to implement. If the CDAC system is going to work they need real tools to use.

I AM IN THE TOWN OF WESCOTT IN THE AREA CALLED MOOSEYARDS. THERE IS NO PUBLIC HUNTING. THE AREA HAS LITTLE FARMLANDS. MOSTLY ALL FOREST AND WETLANDS. DURING THE GUN SEASON I HUNT EVERY DAY ALL DAY LONG. IF I SEE 1-2 DEER THE ENTIRE SEASON IT HAS BEEN A GOOD SEASON. OPENING DAY OF GUN SEASON I HAVE GONE THE ENTIRE DAY & NOT EVEN HEARD A GUN SHOT. I WALK MY 70 ACRES AFTER A FRESH SNOWFALL & SEE MAYBE 1-2 SETS OF DEER TRACKS. THE COYOTES ARE BAD, WOLVES ALSO & A COUGAR NOW & THEN ALONG WITH LITTLE FARMLAND. IT SEEMS WHEN YOU DO YOUR SURVEYS & MAKE YOUR CONCLUSIONS THE AREA I AM IN IS INCLUDED IN THE SAME AREA THAT HAS MORE FARMLAND THAN THE AREA I AM IN. THERE A SIX OTHERS PLUS ME THAT HUNT ON MY LAND. I HAVE MORE TAGS ISSUED TO ME THAN THE SEVEN OF US EVEN SEE. EVEN WHEN WE WERE ALLOWED TO BAIT THAT DID NOT MAKE A DIFERENCE.

Please look into harvesting fewer deer. Every hunter I talk to thinks there are many less deer than there have been in the past. The days of seeing multiple deer every night are long gone. To maintain interest in younger hunters they need to see deer or the future of hunting will be diminished. Hunting is a extremely important part of the heritage in the area and entire state. Please listen to the hunters and not the 'experts' in this area. The hunters are the ones out there every day, the 'experts' just look at numbers on a sheet of paper. Also the wolf population needs to be smaller or our deer population will continue to tank. This comes full circle back to keeping the youth in the woods. I don't know of anyone that wants to go face to face with a wolf. Thank you for reading this and taking my opinion into consideration.

Please let us continue to harvest both Antler and Antlerless Deer. But please limit the number of Antlerless tags given. I remember a time when there were many deer and the local economy not only flourished, but family and friends gathered to harvest deer and had no concerns of if there would ever not be enough deer to harvest. This has changed in recent years. Many people have stopped hunting completely that I know and this saddens me. There simply are just not as many deer as there used to be and young hunters are losing interest quickly. There are also more predators than I have ever seen in this state/ area. Please please limit the amount of Antlerless tags given so that this population of deer can replenish itself. The pros will greatly outweigh the cons. Thank you for your consideration.
I think it is great that you are taking input on our deer herd. It is hard to make a decision to please everybody but I think this is a great start to be sure peoples voices are heard. I attended the spring hearing last night and it seems there is some tension between snowmobilers and deer hunters regarding a holiday hunt. I would like to see a holiday hunt if the antler-less harvest goal is not reached. I would encourage our CDAC to find a way to hold a holiday hunt and be sure that snowmobilers are able to ride as well. Sometimes we don't have snow during the holidays and trails may not be open. We could have a holiday hunt at that time. Keep up the great work, Thank you for your time.

I support no season that would prevent me or my family from harvesting a buck. I also do not support any season that would shorten the snowmobile season. I am a avid hunter, and snowmobiler, and snowmobiling is short enough with the hit and miss winters. The holiday hunt only shortens it more. I also disagree with the no bait/feed law for Shawano county because the deer that tested positive for CWD was in a high fence, where concentrated areas of deer inevitably will be. Do not punish the average hunter from baiting or feeding, which many times is solely for viewing purposes i.e. trail camera, just because a deer farm tested positive for CWD.

There are too many deer. They are eating everything, even bird food. People need to stop being lazy "Collectors" and start being hunters. since we artificially inflate the deer population buy indirectly feeding them and protecting them from their natural predators we have an obligation to manage their population to a holding capacity in line with natural numbers. I’m tired of hearing " I haven't seen no deer out in the woods... only does! The DNR just wants to take our guns and deer away..."

In 17 years of hunting deer numbers have decreased each and every year, as land owners we bought into the T-zone and other management ideals over the years and it has only RUINED the deep population we currently have in the area, not to mention the ever growing issue with new predators in the County. With the growing prices for tags and decreasing numbers in animals, there is NO way today's youth will get "hooked" on hunting as the older generations did.

Bring back the population and stop killing all does that provide that population. It was great as a kid to go to the woods and SEE deer. Now when I take my kids or my weeks vacation like I have for the last 20 years you hope that you, or your kids don't lose interest in hunting because you may have to hunt a week before seeing even a single deer. Go bucks Only and maybe just maybe we can keep our hunting heritage alive and well in our great state!!

Over the last 4 years, I have drastically seen a decrease in the amount of deer seen on any given sit during the 2016 archery season. This, I think, is contributed to over harvest of deer in this specific unit. Too many doe tags. I would actually recommend something similar to many years back, where there was a hunters choice application to get a deer tag. And at that time if you drew a hunters choice, you could then shoot a buck or a doe. Not both.

I've been hunting on land in this unit for 30 years until about three years ago the heard was decimated. Numbers have been much better the last few years but we are not out of the woods yet. Let the herd continue to build. My 14 year old son has grown up with lousy herd numbers and has probably seen less than 10 total deer in his life and he's been in the stand with me for 7 seasons. It's hard to keep him interested when there is no action.

I trophy hunt with the bow and most years I do not fill my tag, as I am waiting for the big one. It would be nice to have a second archery tag for a buck or a trophy tag, 8 point or 10 point or bigger or as in a few other states if you have an unfilled buck tag from the previous year it can be used the following year for the first few weeks of the season. I enjoy my time in the woods and hate to fill my buck tag to early so I eat it most years.

I am glad that the dnr simplified the buck tags this year. I pay for a patrons permit and I wish that antlerless tags could be mailed to us. last year I tried to print them up and finally gave up. it would be nice to get something for my 165 dollars. now I hear you want to stop printing the dnr magazine. I think you are doing a pretty good job with deer, but with the trophy hunting craze you will have problems with greed and violating.
I would like to know how many Farm animals have died from Mad Cow Disease/Chronic Wasting Disease? another words how many calf's, cows, steer have suffered and past away? Because all over this State of Wisconsin I see the whitetail deer eating out of the silo bags, so you won't let people bait the deer but the silo bag eating whitetail is OK? Please respond to this question with an answer and not an answer of no one monitors this site!

There are far too many deer in Shawano county. Somehow other hunters need to start realizing the importance of harvesting does to lower the deer population since winterkill is practically non-existent anymore. The DNR can give out as many tags as they want but it is ultimately the hunters decision to do what needs to be done. It's only a matter of time that a disease will find it's way here and nature will take care of the issue.

I hunted every weekend in the 2016 deer season and had a hard time seeing one deer a day. I think a big reason why that is, the dnr is giving to many antlerless tags out. and the dnr has to do something with all the wolf's. people want to see deer and that will bring back the hunters in Wisconsin, not how many deer they can kill. I would be which happier only have two antlerless tags per season. and just seeing a few more deer.

In support of a doe only harvest for 2017. May help support overall goal of maintaining herd level adequately as hunters may be more inclined to harvest a doe if buck harvest eligibility is not present. Not sure on demographics but would tend to believe this may assist bringing the buck to doe ratio slightly closer to benefit overall herd health. Opinion is to give it a try, and see what happens.

I also hunt public land in Outagamie County, but am limited to only antlered deer in that county. Since Outagamie County does allow one antlerless deer (per 2016 data), why am I not allowed to use one of my antlerless tags for that county since this will not deplete the population outside of goals? Can this be considered in units with lower antlerless quotas?

Why allow so many crop damage tags? Not overly fair to those who border these areas when your neighbors can pile up the deer in special firearm hunts, and those would be same deer on your wooded property. Why can't these farmers just allow a few more people to hunt their land or better yet, host learn to hunt or disabled hunts?

Not only did I notice low numbers of deer but I also noticed much lower numbers of predators as well other than wolves. Seen many wolves but very few deer, coyotes, turkeys, etc. I believe wolves are starting to ruin not only deer hunting but all other small game and trapping of all furbearers.

I oppose any type of SPECIAL hunts. youth hunt/disabled hunt ECT. I have been hunting for fifty years and the hunt meant more to everyone when there were not special favors granted to some groups of people. reminds me of the walleye spearing, but the DNR controls the special hunts.

Shawano county supposedly has deer numbers that are too high. Yet, on my land, I have cedar trees re-generating and growing with moderate success. Deer definitely impact the cedars, but they are still self-populating. I don't feel we have an overpopulation in our area.

Crop damage should end., we pay the farmer for to many deer.. If the farmer gets crop damage form the state, than the state should put up a sign that states open to public, As it is right now it very hard to get on crop damage land to hunt.

My family has owned the land we hunt for over 25 years, we never had any issues with harvesting a couple antlerless deer a year. The last 4 season we have not taken any antlerless deer because of the low numbers of deer we see.

BRING BACK EARN-A-BUCK.....Very good program that just needed to be adjusted some. Buck tag sticker should have been good for more then one year (2-3 years) unless a buck was harvested then process would have to start over again.

Been seeing very few deer a year. Deer numbers drastically dropped since I started hunting about 17 years ago and we need to get the numbers back up to where they should be. And We also need open season on wolves.
Unfortunately, I believe the harvest numbers are much lower than the true harvest. The online registration, while making it very easy to log your tags, also deterred folks, who aren't internet users, to register.

Wisconsin should eliminate deer farms. If the DNR is really concerned about CWD, deer farms should be eliminated as they are the primary cause of the disease spreading from one area to the next.

I would be in favor of a holiday hunt if it was NOT "antlerless only", or if, at the very least, it did not preclude bow/crossbow hunters from harvesting bucks during those dates.

I would like the opportunity to use a limited amount of bait to increase the opportunity to see more more deer, removing the restrictions placed on the unit a couple years ago.

We have noticed that the deer population is becoming nocturnal, in part we think, because of predators-Wolf, Coyote etc. We hear a lot of these animals around our area.

Deer overpopulation is having a big impact on the forests of western Shawano County. I love hunting deer, but I think there are too many to allow for healthy forests.

We had 7 hunters and not a single person saw a deer during gun season, it's hard to keep your kids interested in hunting when year after year they see nothing.

As representatives of Shawano county, consider what is the right thing to do to manage the resources. Consider restoring honor to our system of government.

Seems to be a huge discrepancy in the numbers of deer in parts of this unit. Very few deer where I hunt, but seems to be plenty 20 miles away.

I strongly suggest that a statewide ban be implemented and enforced to prevent feeding and bating of deer on both private and public land.

Consider splitting Shawano county into East and West zones. Considerably less deer around Cecil than Western Shawano county. Thanks!

We need a system that allows bucks to mature. There are far too many hunters that shoot 1-2 year old bucks.

We need to keep numbers up or you will lose young hunters and endanger the future of the whole sport.

Just to let you know that deer numbers haven't risen in the area of Seneca that we hunt.

Deer numbers in this unit have been dropping the past 4-5 years.

in our area the young buck quantity out numbered the does.

I would like to see more whitetail deer in Shawano County.

Let hunters bait again will bring the deer heard down

Your recommendations are fine.
50 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 16
   No: 34

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 35
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
   I hunt in this unit: 41
   General interest in this unit: 4

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 36
   Bow: 29
   Crossbow: 9
   Muzzleloader: 14

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 21.17
   Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 14
   Mostly Private Land: 5
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 10
   Mostly Public Land: 3
   Exclusively Public Land: 9
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 8
   Not too crowded: 15
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 1
   Somewhat crowded: 2
   Very crowded: 0
   Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 8
   Fewer: 16
   Same: 19
   More: 3
   Many More: 3
   Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 9
   Fewer: 17
   Same: 15
   More: 4
   Many More: 3
   Unsure: 2
**Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations**

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antlerless Quota</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

**Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Sheboygan, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

It is nice to see logging activities on State Land again. Browse and the general understory in most forest areas in the County is in poor condition or non-existent. Increasing the deer herd in Sheboygan County, without increasing habitat and forestry management activities, will only place more pressure on an already negatively altered forest ecosystem. These effects are only greater within the Metro Subunit...I shouldn't be able to count 30 deer milling around in each of two ag fields across the road from each other. Our management goals shouldn't be to all-but-guarantee a deer behind every tree for every licensed tag holder. Our goals should be increasing overall forest health and biodiversity in both plant and animal communities. Knowing that deer are the primary driving factor in shifting the composition and structure of the forest ecosystem, we should be managing deer based on the current actual observable and measurable condition of the forest. We should be scientifically assessing the habitat conditions with regards to a whole suite of plants and wildlife and then setting deer population goals based on the impacts they are having on these other species.

Granted i’m not a super experienced hunter, but i do know that i’m sitting in the right spots, and doing the right things. I know from my peers who only gun hunt their land that there are not alot of deer. They hunt one week and several of them took 0 deer. Deer population is just down. I was offered up to 5 doe tags last season, and i could have gotten more. The antlerless hunt is not the best idea either.... I also think perhaps regulation some buck sizes would help... Just for a year or two. like 6 pointers or something. at least 2.5 years old. Of all the years i have hunted, ive seen only a few bucks.... and only one i shot.... The population is becoming low.... And i see alot of dead deer in spring.... perhaps some more road fences? Im not sure exactly.. all i know is that i hardly see a deer and when i take the younger ones they lose interest quickly...

If you are trying to increase the population, why are you increasing the number of antlerless permits over last year? Hunter satisfaction is at an all time low. We need more deer and BIGGER deer. I’d really like to see something done to discourage the harvest of does, fawns and small bucks. We are literally giving away tags and in seem border states, like Iowa for example, it is about a four year wait and $700 to even get a non-resident tag and folks are lining up becuase they have some truly BIG bucks. WI has the genetics to do it, but we are not getting it done.

Over the last 20 years or so the amount of sightings has dramatically dropped. We hunt the thickest and wettest spots possible do to hunting pressure. The Kettle Morain Northern unit is really suffering. My recommendation is go a year or two with-out any extra tags. Also maybe one deer per license for a couple years. No holiday - no early hunts.. U let anyone hunt crossbow now. Does this not take out a few hundred more. Must think ahead. People that come to this area and spend good money just at least be able to see a four legged white tail. THANKS..

During the hunting season my hunting party navigates through some of the roughest wettest terrain that the county has to push deer out of their safe areas. In doing this we have the opportunity to see multiple deer a day. This last season we did exactly what we have done in the past and went 3 days without seeing a single deer. I personally walked over 60 miles during the hunting season. I have never in 21 years had such a bad season. I am actually thinking about not hunting this year due to the extremely poor deer numbers.
If the recommendation for the metro is to hold the population. Then tell me why they still will have a longer season than the rest of zone 2? the enlarged season was originally developed to allow hunters more time to reduce the herd. This has now been accomplished and so the metro area should go back to a normal season. With this being all private land it only offers these benefits to the few that own land within it and excludes the hunters that do not own land within the area or the hunters that do not own land.

THANKS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY, DO NOT SHOOT (ANTLERED) BUCKS UNLESS THE RACK IS OUTSIDE THE EARS, SHOOT MORE (ANTLERLESS) DOES, DROP OVERALL POPULATION OF DEER AND INCREASE THE QUALITY. THIS WOULD BE GREAT FOR THE WISCONSIN HUNTER, AND FANTASTIC FOR THE OUT OF STATE TOURIST HUNTER. DNR SHOULD CHARGE A STATE TROPHY FEE, FOR ANIMALS SCORING ABOVE LETS SAY180, WE HAVE ONE OF THE GREATEST RESOURCES IN TROPHY WHITE TAIL DEER, LETS FIND A WAY TO EXPLOIT IT IN A POSITIVE WAY

Die hard hunter here and family members who spend a lot of their time and money in whitetail hunting which we all grew up loving, getting harder An harder to hunt here with over crowded public land, and the doe numbers are way down didn't even have a chance at a doe this year other than some yearlings. Doe numbers are down thus causing fawn numbers to be low. Would love to see one doe tag for bow and gun and no extra tags for a year or two. Thank you

The last three years I have not pulled the trigger. Deer management is very important to me so I don't shoot deer just to shoot deer. I know that the deer numbers are based on the insurance companies influence in the State of Wisconsin. I feel the the deer numbers are way too low and the estimation of the deer population is way too High! pretty much the just of it is this....there's too many tags and people and not enough deer to support those numbers. probably would be best to let them be for a year and not have a gun deer season to increase the population and then perhaps go to a lottery or some kind of other system for antler-less tags.

Less deer for public hunting due to much private land hunting. Private land hunters still abusing the public hunting land. Many drives to the private land. Lots of deer spotted all on private land, little to no opportunity for spotting deer on the public land. Public hunting is disappointing.

Would like to see consideration for an antler restriction for a change. Or a one buck per hunter per year. You either shoot one with the bow or gun, not both. Also eliminate party hunting especially with the gun. Far too many people abuse this.

Getting permission to hunt private land is difficult at best, impossible in many instances. I am open to nearly any suggestions/ideas to promote good hunter/landowner relations. If the DNR can help in any way, that would be excellent.

I believe that there is far less deer than what people think i spent a lot of hours scouting and hunting and seen very few deer I keep in touch with other hunters in my area and they say the same where are all the deer Thank you

Deer baiting should not be allowed in the county. The health of the deer herd should not be jeopardized by weakening this rule. Real sportsmen and women don't bait!

Please use common sense and issue more antlerless tags. This is farm country with lots of deer just no one pushing them like we used to during the season.

Holiday hunts are bogus and close snowmobile trails. Just expand the regular gun deer season by a week and bow hunting season by a month.

The only way the deer population is going to increase on public land is to have 0 antlerless permits. End of story!

Would love to see a point minimum for Bucks. Need to get more mature deer around here.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

30 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 15
   - No: 15

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 27
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
   - I hunt in this unit: 24
   - General interest in this unit: 7

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 24
   - Bow: 15
   - Crossbow: 7
   - Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 21.25
   - Maximum: 47

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 14
   - Mostly Private Land: 4
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 6
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 8
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 6
   - Fewer: 11
   - Same: 8
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? **Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  Support | Oppose | Unsure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  St. Croix, Central Farmland

**Note:** the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

There may be isolated areas of the county that have healthy populations. However, there are areas that also have the opposite in which there are low densities. For example, one property that I have access to for bow hunting, the land owner and family shoot every deer they see with the rifle. This is wide-open CRP so the switch to rifle a couple of years back made a huge difference in number of deer harvested as well as wounded. This has driven the number of deer down significantly, and many times during prime bow hunting weather/season I do not see a single deer. This is in the middle of farm country, where you could see 5-15 deer daily back 5-10 years ago. As long as the DNR continues issuing tags, these pockets of irrational hunters will continue pulling the trigger eroding the hunting satisfaction on both their private land as well as the neighboring properties. I support doe harvest, but this needs to be limited to 1 or 2 does per person annually. With the ability to buy an additional doe tag at $12, the possibility and reality of over harvest in pockets across the county and state is too easy.

I do not understand where you get your forecasted population numbers. My neighbors and I are seeing fewer deer every year yet your antlerless quota keeps going up. What happens is that some neighbors believe you and think that they must fill all of these tags and then there are very few remaining the next year. The population has been dwindling down the last five years. Please stop the antlerless hunts for a few years so that our children can enjoy seeing deer! They get frustrated and lose interest when they don't see wildlife. This will only result in more kids staying inside in front of the computer and phones. We need them outside! Please make it fun and interesting again!

I must admit I am not surprised by the stupidity of "maintaining" a deer herd at the county level, then asking to support increasing the number of tags by 33%. I guess that would be an increase in my opinion. But I am just the guy who buys licenses and gives the DNR its funding. That will soon come to an end as I am tired of not being counted in surveys and spring hearings. DNR has an agenda to make money (the more the better by the way) and throw caution to the wind to preserve or "maintain" a resource. By all rights the DNR was implemented to preserve and protect our resources, not to manipulate them for financial gains.

No holiday hunting statewide. Bow hunting season too long. Bad idea leaving stands on state controlled land. Dump the public land/private land designation. I want to hunt both land designations but cannot hunt both where doe permits are available. Causes too much congestion on limited public land. Have metro hunt later on in year. There are no deer to be seen in public land after regular gun season is over. Run it in place of or concurrent with late bow season. Bow season is too long. Not fair to gun hunters. State gave in to bow hunting association pressure. I hunt both gun and bow season by the way.

The public/private tag framework is a terrible idea and needs to be recalled. Convince legislature that the Earn-A-Buck management tool should be available for use if herd continues to increase. Ban baiting and feeding statewide! Holiday hunt is unnecessary as that hunt will be inconsequential to overall antlerless harvest for the DMU. Increase DMU geographic size, county-wide is too small.

Predators are killing to many deer, don't allow doe season for a few years. I would like to see bow season shortened, hunters choice brought back. I feel public vs private land designation is unfair, I want to hunt on both public and private lands and being required to pick one is unfair.

The 2016 season was better than 2014, 2015 but I think we could use a few more deer. I'm not asking to see 20 deer every time I go out but it could be better. It's really tough to see a deer on public land in St. Croix County.
I feel that the only way the management goals are going to come close to being met is to implement an earn-a-buck format. The number of tags is not having an influence on the doe harvest numbers.

Need to find a way to open up some private land. I saw three shootable deer all season but saw about thirty on land where nobody is allowed to hunt and the owner doesn't hunt either.

Public land in this unit should be patrolled more for illegal hunting methods (bait piles over the limit, clearing brush, leaving stands/blinds permanently on site)

CDAC recommendations seem sound. Not sure MetroUnit needs to extend as far out. Biggest deterrent to harvesting enough deer in county is lack of access.

I think the herd in St. Croix overall has gone up. These proposals in my opinion should help maintain the herd in St. Croix county.

It's sad that so much private land doesn't allow hunting and then see all the deer that get hit by vehicles.

I honestly believe that the low deer numbers are directly influenced by having antlerless deer seasons.

Deer populations have declined significantly over the last 5 years based on numbers seen in the field.

I would like to see a minimum number of points on a side for bucks.

The DNR has successfully decimated the Wisconsin deer herd.

I would like to see a Buck Only for 10 years.

Bring back earn-a-buck permanently.
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

109 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 65
   - No: 44

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 65
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 19
   - I hunt in this unit: 103
   - General interest in this unit: 32

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 101
   - Bow: 67
   - Crossbow: 38
   - Muzzleloader: 42

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 25.17
   - Maximum: 57

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 27
   - Mostly Private Land: 27
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 26
   - Mostly Public Land: 9
   - Exclusively Public Land: 14
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 2
   - Not too crowded: 15
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 23
   - Somewhat crowded: 18
   - Very crowded: 15
   - Not applicable: 3

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 9
   - Fewer: 29
   - Same: 41
   - More: 23
   - Many More: 6
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 28
   - Same: 30
   - More: 30
   - Many More: 9
   - Unsure: 2
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</td>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</td>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Oppose</td>
<td>Unsure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Report Generated: **Friday, April 14, 2017**

Taylor, Northern Forest
Comments for  Taylor, Northern Forest

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

First off, is there term limits for individuals of the CDAC board. If the person in charge of the public land portion believes there should be antlerless tags on public land they should resign and have an examination. Or at least have an individual that spends a little time in the woods hunting have an opportunity at the position. There should be absolutely ZERO antlerless tags allowed on public lands until the population rebounds. Why can't you find hunters on public land after the opening weekend of rifle season? Because we're sick of sitting there watching squirrels. It's almost impossible to find a game trail in most parts of the public land. There is hardly any deer! Actually to be honest there is more bucks than does in 7 of the 9 spots I hunt. Trail cameras don't lie. Close to private there are some deer but the vast majority of the public land deer don't hardly exist. The deer herd is absolutely pathetic compared to 8 years ago and you want to give out public land tags! Unbelievable. I asked 21 people that I know that exclusively hunt public land including federal, county, and open forest crop and everyone of them could not believe there was even a thought of antlerless tags on public land yet. The other 12 people I asked hunt private land in the northern part of the county and they too did not want so many antlerless tags until the population gets better. And to the people that believe the federal forest can't support a deer herd anymore fell off their rockers. The federal forest supported a healthy deer herd 8 years ago with absolutely no problem. There was no over browse issues. That's the only excuse that can be made up? I don't buy it for one second. I don't care if it's only one antlerless deer per square mile of public land being taken out its to much. Some areas on public grounds probably only have one deer per square mile. That's approximately how many tags are being considered. And if you add in the youth tags filled there will not be a antlerless deer found after a few years on public grounds. So my opinion is NO - ZERO antlerless tags for public land! If someone complains they don't have an opportunity to harvest a deer then I would suggest to them to hunt harder, smarter, and spend some time enjoying the woods and harvest a buck like the rest of us. Some people want to hunt 2 hrs and blast the first thing they see to fill the freezer. They don't even like hunting, they like shooting. Their time spent in the woods hunting proves it. Our deer heard should not pay for that.
I witnessed a person harvest a deer on public land during the gun season and they were by no means a active duty service person and not a first year hunter by the knowledge of guns when they asked my brother about his custom built AR. I know for a fact people harvest doe on public and register them on a private tag. This is why an accurate way of controlling the numbers for growth on public is to keep the availability of tags at zero. They will continue to shoot and falsely report the harvest location. We specifically dont harvest doe now when we see others doing it just to maintain a herd count and yet have tags we purchased. Wisconsin needs to learn the concept of managing and not just harvesting. If it continues down this path of kill them all and loose regs allowing the public to get away with it by no accountability to them we are doomed. No back tag only allowed them to get away as an unknown with only a vehicle lic plate that may help but still does not pin point the person in question. With the introduction of cross bows, no back tags, phone registration and only personal printing of tags. We have all the studies to show it setup to increase the odds of violaters and not catching them. A harvest that is falsly given and numbers that lead us down a decline path. The staye needs to support the land owners and not the public hunting lands people preferences. Thats why land owners now prevent any person to enter there land to hunt or retrieve game. Just to protect the resource from dwindling the numbers any more. Sad day when my father shares stories of how hard hunting use to be and how great it was when i started and now he says its to the point of why try if the state wont allow the hunters to help and all they care about are killing animals. Heres an idea. Cut your forests and lands to help give regrowth and food to all animals. Its been the lost puzzle piece for years. And is a reasen why numbers to bounce back. No food, no animals, no healthy replenishing fawns or cover. Its starts at the beginning of the fooda chain and works off that. And we have yet to realize that as a state.

With almost 200 antlerless being taken on public last year why would you want to propose another 250 tags? It may not seem like a lot to you but did you ever consider why the public land is having such a hard time recovering? Start adding up 200 antlerless every year since our rough winters and maybe you will see it does make a difference. And now another 250 on top of that. Mostly good people on the committee but they dropped the ball on this one. Private is pretty close so I have no comment on that one. Quite a few deer on private. PLEASE remember why the forestry and pubic is in such bad condition. OVERHARVEST and then two bad winters. Please leave it alone. I'm guessing there are maybe about 10 deer per square mile in the forestry and less in the county forest. That is hardly a huntable population. The county forest has great habitat so I am sick of hearing the public land cannot carry many deer. What supposedly changed from 10 years or so ago???? OVERHARVEST and a ton of wolves on county forest. I would recommend the CDAC committee go out in the county forest and count deer tracks vs. wolf,bear,coyote,bobcat tracks. You'd be surprised! GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO RECOVER. If they don't recover at least you did your part in attempting a recovery and didn't add fuel to the fire that some of us have to hunt in. PLEASE!Thank you.

My opinion about CDAC is I find it to be cronyism at it's very core. Taylor county has a tremendous amount of public land interspersed with private land. Yet only 250 permits available for public land and over 4000 for private. That's laughable. Take a trip down highway D from Westboro to Jump River in the evening. Now take that same trip down 64 from Prius Road to Goodrich at the same time of day. One is public and one is private. I've taken both and there is no comparison at all. Take a trip down Zimmerman Rd, Rindt Rd, Fawn Ave and Shady lane. These are fields and yards connected to public land. Show me one field in Taylor county with more deer on it than the corner of Shady lane and Fawn Ave. That is surrounded by many acres of public land. At one time fields were not considered deer habitat, personally I don't believe they are either. This tactic by placing deer management in the hands of the private citizen will be the demise of hunting as we know it. My brothers and father no longer hunt here. This is the first year that I'm hunting elsewhere, out of state for that matter. A lot people think the DNR fouled up deer management. Not me, they kept it equal for all hunters. When Wisconsin starts treating us equally again then I'll start deer hunting here again. Until then, Wyoming here I come.
With the increase in large predators such as wolves, bobcats, bears and coyotes the deer population struggles more to obtain a critical mass to sustain a population. Also with the presence of many predators, deer movement changes considerably in the forested areas I hunt. They move less and with fewer hunters there is just less deer movement during the season, which makes the population appear to be even less than what it actually is. I don't live in the area I hunt but I do fish and trap that area considerably and most of the deer sightings are while travelling to and from outdoor activities. During the times when there were many antlerless tags being issued many of the local area land owners would come to the public forest to shoot their antlerless deer and thus maintain their numbers at higher levels but still harvest deer. For those of us that hunt the public areas only and don't hunt leased or private land the public-private antlerless option for tags makes sense to us.

Taylor County deer herd is pretty good in private and poor on public. Should be zero tags on public. How is the public land suppose to ever get caught up when we are going to start shooting does again. It is finally getting a little better and we are going to kill antlerless again? Never seen so many predators. Lucky if a public land doe can raise one fawn until it is mature and now you are going to allow the hunters to shoot the few that do make it thru the summer. The deer committee should have a public land rep. My friend was at the meeting and said it was a DNR brainwash attempt. The committee does a good job but my friend said the number of deer they told you was there is way off. PLEASE represent the hunters and NOT the DNR. We are depending on you guys on the deer committee to not do what the DNR did in past years.

I think the CDAC committee is pretty close on the quota on private but doesn't realize what is happening in the public areas. There should be ZERO tags available on public. With close to 200 antlerless already being taken last year on public why would they want to consider 250 more tags? I would suggest some of the CDAC group try hunting public land for a season and then see if they would still want to kill does. The forestry is recovering very slowly so why on earth would you want to take a step back?? My opinion is private has recovered and public is very slowly improving. PLEASE reconsider 250 public tags and maybe even consider no youth tags in the forestry. Hundreds and hundreds of does have been killed the last few years even with zero doe tags. PUBLIC LAND NEEDS TO RECOVER FULLY BEFORE YOU GIVE TAGS OUT!!! Thank you.

The three year goal is to increase the deer herd. According to the numbers presented here last years antlerless harvest exceeded the quota by 50% so why is the quota increased for 2017? My second question pertains to junior antlerless tags. Why do junior antlerless tags have to specify public or private land? There is no quota on the number of public land junior antlerless tags. Theoretically every youth in the county could specify public land. In the area of the Chequamegon National Forest there are many small parcels of private land adjoining public land and people hunt both public and private land and the deer travel freely between the two. It just makes it more difficult for a youth to shoot an antlerless deer when the whole purpose of giving them an antlerless tag is to make it easier for them to get a deer.

Crop damage should not be a question on this survey of setting a quota. If a farmer has crop damage he can take advantage of crop damage tags to fix the problem. There should not be more tags given to fix the problems in high deer population areas. There has always been a problem there and they never fixed it with unlimited tags a few years back. If they don't want people to hunt their land then it's their problem and not going to get fixed. They want that many deer and want to kill lots also. If they had a true problem with to many deer they would get crop damage tags and let people hunt there to fix the problem. As far as the rest of the county, the deer population is getting better very slowly. Not almost 5k tags better. For public land, tags should not even be a option. There is no deer there.
Having attended the March meeting I now know of the other public tracts in Taylor county. Would it be possible to manage each of the public tracts separately? Each year I hike and scout on foot mostly in the non-motorized areas. I have found many large trees going down either from age and wind or beaver. We desperately need forest harvesting in the National forest, sooner rather than later. Myself and fellow hunters within our family and friends are one the fence regarding continuing hunting, period. Also our tag is a joke. I feel disrespected every time I see and hear of it. – Side note. I’m always impressed with the Taylor county game biologist, Mark. A true champion for wildlife! Heard he was leaving, too bad. Can only hope there is someone out there with same knowledge and skills he has.

I support the stance that Baiting deer should remain open to hunters who want to bait them. I would urge that the people making these decisions listen to the majority of the people and do what is asked of them by the sportsmen of Wisconsin. I also feel we need to decrease numbers of the predators (Wolves and Black Bear) to insure the sportsman have good hunting for years to come. It is not much fun when you go out hunting and you see more Wolf tracks than Deer tracks and can sit in a tree stand for days and not even see a deer. Or you travel 75 miles or more to areas that you have been hunting for years and see nothing. We hear talk about getting the youth involved in Hunting but it is kind of tough when you go out and see nothing because of the low population due to predators.

I didn't see any deer on public land and only a hand full on private. Between the winter kill, predators, vehicle accidents and hunters in general there are few if any deer left. I realize the DNR wants to sell tags to generate revenue but when there are few to no deer left in the area, I would think it's time to wake up... I want my kids to just see a deer, to have that many doe tags a viable for the hunters in the Northern unit is outrageous. I hunt in Medford WI. Lets make all the Northern units buck only unless it’s a junior hunter, this way kids actually have a positive experience or there won’t be any hunters in the future to actually buy tags, then what happens to the future of hunting and the DNR?

The last two years we have noticed increased fawn production with many twins being produced(2015-2016) we had not seen that in the years 2013/14 previous production in the 1996-2013 was always very good as well. Some wolves have been seen in the area, this is a concern as they have no population control. I understand very well our ecosystem and bears would take a lot of fawns, I however do allow bear hunters on my land, as do all the neighbors in a large area so there is (DNR quota) population control on bear. I do understand Wolves are a Federal issue, but raise my concern respectfully. Thank you for your considerations, G.O.

I was very sorry to see the loss of back tags here in Wisconsin. It probably a money issue but for those of us that own hunting land it is a big problem. Trespassers can no longer be ID. There is no way as a female hunter am I going to face off with a trespasser that is carrying a gun. With the back tag that was all I needed. The other issue in this loss is all those little Mom and Pop grocery/gas stations that lost so much income from this decision. It was a gathering place to register and swap stories and pick up that gallon of milk or lunch meat from them. Their loss is the greatest.

I would like to hear from a biologist to find out how many deer per square mile there area now compared to three years ago. It is my feeling that after almost no doe permits for three years the herd is high enough for a modest number of doe permits to be issued on public land. It is my observation that public land is mostly forested making it very hard to know how many deer there are out there while hunting. While hiking last winter I saw a lot of deer tracks and beds on public land in Taylor County.

I am seeing more deer in public and private land over past two years but I do not support any permits for harvest on public land. you are just starting to get more deer in national and county forests but starting to harvest does now would be taking a huge step backwards in increasing the public land herd we have a long way to go to get back to numbers from five years ago let alone ten years ago. hopefully u take a local sportsman and landowners advice and set a ZERO quota on public land.
It would be very nice if the predator problem would be addressed. Though there are more deer around, they are mostly hanging around private land where there is a lot of human activity. The forested areas are being taken over by wolves, and if there are wolf tracks around, there are NO DEER around. The bears have also taken over many of the forest areas and should be reduced in number. They kill fawns in the spring and we see fewer fawns around for the gun season.

I continue to see fewer and fewer deer on the Pershing, Chequamegon and Taylor County Forests. While at the same time I see stable or increasing numbers of large predators on these forests. There should be no antlerless tags issued on public lands in Taylor County if the CDAC truly wishes to increase the herd. Taylor County DMU should be split at highway 64. The habitat quality and quantity north and south of highway 64 is drastically different.

I am a snowmobiler, bow hunter, and gun hunter. I am very much against holiday hunts and extending seasons into January. I believe if you need more deer harvested you should begin rifle season earlier. I know the bow hunters cry foul whenever it is brought up but they shouldn’t have total control over it. It is hard enough now to get snowmobile trails ready the way the seasons are now. Later seasons would greatly affect the snowmobile season.

Been hunting for years. There are way too many different types of seasons. Which restricts other hunting seasons. Way too many types of hunting. Youth vs bow vs rifle vs muzzle vs holiday vs late season antler less only. As a bow sitter (selective hunter) never know when I can hunt or what to wear (camo vs Orange) or what type tag I need. Need a gun carcass tag to bow hunt muzzle season? Hunting shouldn’t be so complicated

1. I believe strongly that in person registration should be reimplemented. Too many people fail to bother registering their kill now. They believe the WDNR does not care. 2. Outlaw gun target shooting the 5 days before and during the fun deer season. 3. Bring back the back tags. When a hunter shoots a deer he must remove his back tag to tag the deer. Thereafter he or she can only camera hunt or coyote hunt.

I spend a great deal of my bow seasons on public land in Taylor co. I think that it is poor that we are not getting doe tags for public lands especially when hunter turnout is low during bow season. Eliminate the doe tags for rifle season altogether. This will drop the number of big party groups hunting together and shooting at everything that moves. I think it would also be safer and more effective.

I feel that there is not enough being done to the Mennonite and Amish they shoot any and all the deer they see legally and illegally. There season does not close they also shine and shoot from there buggy. Some had deer hanging last month (March) They laugh when approached its God's will and we are poor so DNR will not fine the same. Only after less for the youth junior hunters

I hunt county land by Rib Lake. There should be 0 antlerless tags for this area. If the DNR would realize that there is less hunters hunting because of the lack of deer, they would be heading in the right direction. Not, “if we give them more tags, more people will hunt”. The majority of the hunters I know would like to see more deer. It’s a crying shame from what it used to be.

In southern Taylor county there is not the deer that is being claimed. Some areas yes, but 80-90% of the area there is way fewer deer then a few years back. Those hot spots either do not get hunted or the land owners do not let others hunt the property. There needs to be antlerless tags but no more than last year. We need to continue to build the herd to what it once was.

I truly believe we need to find a better system for allowing our bucks to reach maturity. Myself and others around agree with a one antlered tag limit which can be used for any season but you only get to harvest one buck. Also the wolf population in my eyes and what seems like everyone I know is way out of hand and the deer herd is suffering greatly because of it.
Looking at the previous years data we have made no progress towards our goal. For the young folks who go out hunting a couple times and don’t see anything and quit the sport due to the lack of excitement, sorry you missed it. Unfortunately for me, I saw the good years of hunting and the enjoyment it gave me and my hunting partners. Reduce the antlerless kill.

The national forest has been shot out-cleaned out. If you have to shoot does to live do it on private land. But remember there is a lot of private land within the forest so when you issue all those doe permit you are still cleaning out the forest land. 53 years of hunting and never saw so few deer and that's with a gang of 21 hunters.

I think our CDAC committee does a good job of trying to make the best compromise for the entire county. Thats a tough job with the wide variety of habitat and the difference in the population from the south to the north. I know there was a debate about the public land tags but in the end I think they did the right thing. 

Private quota about right, could've seen slightly higher. Was expecting public quota between 0-100, so not surprised there. Generally no complaints with numbers proposed. Public land hunting still tough, but it's certainly better than two years ago. Then again, it couldn't be worse than it was in 2014.

We hunt almost exclusively on privately owned land (MFL) which is designated as 'public', with no bonus antlerless tags. Privately owned adjacent land which is not MFL, has tags available. This does not make any sense to me. The deer herd is the same - same deer in many cases.

Do something about the number of wolves. I see and hear more and more every year, and what a coincidence, see fewer and fewer deer. Are they eating all the deer? No! However, they are shifting their movement patterns and locations based on the predator threats.

Over the last 6 years I have seen fewer numbers of deer. I used to see about 3-4 deer a day. Last two years I seen less deer. Last year I hunted 8 of the 9 days and only seen 1 deer for the gun season. Bow hunting wasn't much better.

I would like to see archers getting free bonus tag for this zone and also I feel Taylor county should not be considered in the northern zone do to most of it is farm land, or at least the cut off should be county road D. Thank you!

It's about time we should be allowed to harvest a doe. Also, don’t outlaw baiting in the north woods. It is completely different hunting up north than farm country. Don’t wreck the things everyone loves up here.

Not very many deer up in the county forest by rib lake but lots of wolf sign that's why I said zero antlerless tags for public land. I think the deer are coming back very good where the wolf pressure is minimal

I hope that the DNR continues to allow baiting in this county. We appreciate being able to put out a little bit of corn in a few places. Thanks for all the DNR does for deer hunting in WI! God bless!

I would stop worrying about the CWD. The reason there are no deer is because of the wolves that the DNR wanted and because of you guys giving out all the free and two dollar tags for all these years

I would rather see less antlerless tags issued overall but at least they gave some tags to the public lands. Hard to increase herd size if your killing the only thing that could make that happen.

Every year I see less deer. I’m seeing more coyotes and hearing Wolves. I think the predators are taking over, we should be hunting them then there will be more deer left to see

there are no deer left in taylor county the deer harvest you show are for very small deer 1 year or 1.5 year old deer ,there is nothing for the deer to eat in Taylor county

From my personal experience and observations, the number of predators - coyotes and wolves has increased dramatically over the 10 years I have hunted in the area.

I think you guys are doing a great job. I think that the public land numbers could be raised a bit due to the amount of deer I see in the southern farm areas.
Just want to say how much it means to my friends and I that the DNR asks us our opinion. Thank You for that and all you do, you have tough decisions to make!

There needs to be less antlerless tags for private land. That's all I hunt and it's disappointing. I have active logging on my 160 acres and very few deer.

I think the deer have recovered very well in western taylor county, and it might be time to try and maintain the population rather than increase it.

More public land antlerless tags are needed. You can't stockpile deer and the land won't support much larger populations in the national forest.

Leave the antlerless deer alone in the federal forest. Wait until there is a huntable population of them. No deer to be found out there!

Do not need any anterless tags on public land. There are still low numbers of deer on public with high numbers of predators.

Please take a good look at bobcat and coyote numbers. Bring back registration stations.

Stop baiting and year around feeding. This practice is unethical. Let us remember the definition of hunting.

there should be a size limit on antlered deer. To many young bucks are killed and too many buck fawns.

Not all antlerless deer are female deer. Too many fawns are killed off when we shoot too many does.

Go back to the draw system for anterless tags and raise the price on out of state tags.

There are not enough deer in the public land. I don't think there should be doe tags.

Give the deer on public land another year to recover no does unless it is a youth.

you need to get the deer population up we have seen how easy it is to reduce it.

The DNR needs to encourage more predator control. Maybe a bounty system.

We need to manage the wolfs before we try to manage the deer population.

What does influence of predators mean? There are too many predators.

I saw the same amount of deer because you can't see less than zero.

I think you guys are doing a great job. Keep up the great work!!!

for bow hunting only . should get a doe tag when buying a license.

should use Quality Deer Management standards for our deer herd.

We should employ some type of antler restriction in this area.

Please, please, PLEASE, do NOT consider eliminating baiting!

I would like the wolf numbers down a lot less than they are!

We need three year of an antler restriction. 3 to a side.

Would prefer to have 0 anterless tags for public land.

NO Doe TAGS for public land PERIOD!!!!!!!

we need to use qdm guidelines

Get rid of crossbow's

antler restriction
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 45
   - No: 42

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 37
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 15
   - I hunt in this unit: 84
   - General interest in this unit: 18

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 80
   - Bow: 63
   - Crossbow: 22
   - Muzzleloader: 38

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 20.14
   - Maximum: 57

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 59
   - Mostly Private Land: 13
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 8
   - Mostly Public Land: 3
   - Exclusively Public Land: 1
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 11
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 6
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 2

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 27
   - Same: 32
   - More: 16
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 8
   - Fewer: 27
   - Same: 28
   - More: 15
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 4
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:
Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I hunt many other states and my biggest concern is the opportunity and deer hunting experience on public lands. I graduated from UWSP with Bach in wildlife management and ecology and I've hunted a lot of public land and my biggest concern is the deer numbers are not there on public land compared to states and I believe the source of the problem is the number of hunters, how many tags they have, and the amount of time they have to hunt these public lands. I have hunted public lands, state land and open forest land, since I could first hunt and I use to see a good sound number of deer until earn a buck started then the continuation of late doe seasons which is a good thing for private land but not for public as the deer numbers on public since then have not recovered and will never recover with the amount of tags and time given to hunt antlerless deer on public. First recommendation is to get rid of the automatic one public land antlerless tag if you choose that for an option. There should be a set quote and a drawing for public land antlerless tags until there is a sound number of mature does and recruitment occurring on public lands. 2nd close all public lands state and open forest to any additional antlerless seasons outside of the archery season and 9 day gun and 10 day muzzloader. If someone with an antlerless tag that wants to fill it can't in those seasons and amount of time then there obviously isn't enough antlerless deer on those lands to support additional 4 day antlerless hunts and holiday hunts. This recommendation is a request to help improve the quality of deer hunting to our public lands. I've seen good things in private lands with the new tag system and it has helped the public lands with the new private and public tags and choosing areas but it's not quite enough to bring the public lands back to where they need to be. Hope you consider these recommendations for improving our public lands for deer hunters. Thanks Kyle Lakey, Galesville, WI

I would like to see a one buck harvest per year for all of the gun and bow hunting. By doing this, I think would bring Wisconsin back into a big buck state. Bring more age structure into the deer herd. I am a public land owner, but also live next to public land and what I see on public land is as far as whitetails, is very minimal. I would of like to have more antler-less deer tags for private, because I manage my own farm as well. limiting the whitetails on public for a few years will increase the whitetails and also give Wisconsin an age structure not only in does, but bucks as well. In a couple years turn around, you would see the age of the deer grow and in return see more people out after a prize deer. I hear more and more people that are not hunting anymore because of two reasons. No deer and not big enough bucks. Yes, there are hot spots of deer around the area, but that is the land owners responsibility to manage that herd. But the rest of the county should not be punished for those specific herds. I know your don't want to many because of disease, but if you are wanting to bring more hunters and sell more tags, hunters are going to have to sacrifice for a couple years. I do wish you would bring back the registration stations to keep people more honest on what they shoot. This will also bring back more people in town and spending money that now they don't.

It has been my personal observation that there are more-than-enough deer in the southern half of Trempealeau County since about 2005. Hunting on private land, I usually see 40-50 deer on opening day of the gun-deer season. This year was an exception with the lousy weather... I only saw 36. 137 deer counted while sitting 5.5 of the 9 day season. This contrasts greatly with a friend near the refuge on public land who saw 2 glimpses of deer while hunting 9 days. Probably 5 miles between the 2 locations. Both have good habitat. How can their be such contrast? I know. Do you? I have seen groups of 30-40 deer together this winter. Predators such as bobcats, coyotes that I have on camera on a weekly basis this year, while bear on mountain lion sightings the year before are making little impact on the population. I am not opposed to reducing the number of deer slightly to a manageable goal. If people want to purchase a 2nd doe tag in this unit, let them.
I hunt in the southern half of Trempealeau County. Overall, I'd say the deer population is about right. I do have concerns that a mild winter combined with a good production of fawns this spring could tip the population to being a bit too high. That is why I would like to see more availability of antlerless tags. Making more "bonus tags" available would be a good move, as well as offering an additional tag with a license purchase would encourage hunters to harvest more does. I also empathize with those who are seeing fewer deer in the northern parts of Trempealeau County but the topography of that area is far different than in the southern half of the county. Offering more tags does not necessarily mean the harvest in areas where there are concerns about lack of deer will be excessive. Landowners will have the choice to shoot or not shoot, allowing herd management to be tactically applied.

If Managed properly Trempealeau County had the ability to be the buck hunters dream. This could boost tourism and continue to increase property value. Need to improve programs to allow farmers to plant and harvest on public land. Increase bonus tags private land owners want to harvest more does to align buck to for ratio but are unwilling to spend money on 10 extra tags Exe. 2 antlerless/ license. So with times changing I think should take another look at baiting restrictions. 35 yrs ago when put in pLace hunting was a family thing everyone sat for an hour and drive pushed deer. Now no one is pushing this gives the advantage to those properties with AG. Hence why you see 100 deer on my farm and the guy next door didn't see a doe all year. Just a though increase number of baiting stations per 40 and volume restrictions. Thank you for the survey I think this is great.

I live in southern Trempealeau County. This last season I seen two deer. The group of guys I hunt with (about 5 in our group) get around 3 to 5 deer every year. This last season nobody seen a deer until the the follow Friday after the season opened. That day we were able to get one deer. Later on that after noon I seen one more deer. When I first move to this area, I could look out my back door and see deer just about every night eating in a picked corn field, but now it's like a special event to see two or three every now and then. I live about a 1/2 a mile from a State Park. The rest of Trempealeau County my have more deer but southern Trempealeau County where I live does not. In my opinion there is to may different hunting season. Get the dollar and the hell with the Hunting Experience. That also hurts the economy in the long run.

I believe we should eliminate the free antlerless deer tag that we are getting and up the number of antlerless doe tags being given out. If people want to shoot does they can buy a tag. If you are giving out a free tag that makes people think that they need to use it since it's free and that is not helping us grow a bigger deer population. If they don't buy a tag that's their lose. The people that have bought the extra doe tags in the past are the ones that plan on managing an area. The people that don't see many deer won't feel as obligated to shoot a doe if they don't have that tag in hand. It not only ups the sales for the DNR, it also helps with growing a bigger population.

I really enjoy hunting in this area. I probably won't hunt in this area again because the land owners are becoming stricter on who they allow. I have hunted 1 particular farm for almost 20 years and have seen many deer every season. Now the farmer is not allowing anyone to hunt so that forces me to go to public or public Access lands. These places are very crowded with other hunters that the deer have fled the area during hunting seasons. Now that I am applying for a disabled permit, I feel I am getting stuck hunting in poor population areas and am really worried about my 12 y/o son losing interest because we do not see any deer or atleast hear gun shots around us.

I am all for no bonus tags for public land, i hear 87 shots opening weekend from public land next to mine including a wounded doe, i could not take a reasonable shot to put her down and failed in trying to track her. I reported this but nothing happened. I did drive by after the weekend they had i believe 4 deer total. it is out of control with how many people go out and blast away. i have talked to many land owners around me and most are thinking about not hunting anymore. we just are not seeing anything. the bonus tags should be a land owner privilege not handed out. Thank you
Need to separate antlerless tags between public and private land. There shouldn't be doe tags issued for public land with the bow and gun tag like there is now. A very, very limited number of doe tags could be sold as bonus tags. Too much hunting pressure has removed all but a few deer from public land. It's a long walk between deer tracks on the limited public land in Trempealeau County. The majority of hunters on public land are closer to giving up the sport with each passing year. "A CHANGE IS NEEDED SOONER THAN LATER".

I favor offering more antlerless tags. Landowners who feel there are too many deer or who want to make sure the population stays in check should be able to harvest more antlerless deer if they feel it necessary. Those who feel the population is too don't have to pull the trigger. Simply issuing the tag doesn't mean everyone in the county will shoot more deer. What we don't want is a situation where we get too many deer and the population grows beyond the ability of the land to support it.

I generally think the deer herd is high and allowing more deer to be killed is good. Allowing those who really hunt access to extra tags is important as this perpetuates more hunting by active hunters and their fellow hunting partner. My biggest concern about deer hunting is CWD and managing the herd is a big part of making sure it does not spread. I also recommend more measures be taken to educate hunter on CWD.

Need to get rid of youth, and special hunts that prevent regular hunters from achieving their goals, specifically those who can only hunt on weekends. Personally, I was Allowed to hunt at 12 yrs old (the minimum age allowed at the time with adult supervision) and it was more than enough to get me hooked. There are too many weekend where many hunters are not able to hunt because these special hunts prevent them.

Don't give any free doe tags. Only offer tags for purchase. Many people with free tags will shoot does even if it was the last one on their property, then next year they will be at the cdac meeting complaining there aren't any deer around. People who have too many deer will buy tags to reduce the numbers, and 'hot-spot' areas will be able to purchase them since they won't be sold out.

Ever since earn a buck we've seen fewer and fewer deer on our property. The harsh winters a few years back haven't helped either. We've planted food plots, managed trees for habitat, and have several trail cams up. Just not seeing any increase in herd size. Doesn't help that neighbors shoot multiple does a year between archery, youth, and gun season.

A holiday hunt would be a great opportunity to provide additional time in the field with family and freinds and the impact to the population would be insignificant. Will also provide an opportunity to cull wounded deer from the herd resulting from the gun season that will die anyway. Thanks for your consideration and public service.

On 90 acres last year we had 3 mature bears for much of the summer, removed one, but predator concerns are real. Wolves are only a few miles away, we have seen up north even by or cabin what they have done. Greatly reduce these predators. Please eliminate all these special doe hunts too. Archery and gun season only.

I think it is a good idea to offer no additional public land antlerless tags. You already get one free one with your license and with limited public land it provides a better quality hunting experience by not allowing hunters to target excessive antlerless harvest on the limited number of public lands present.

There has to be a balance. Some hunters are only hunting for racks; not the meat. While I understand that 1 buck may breed several times and produce many off-spring, if you kill too many does there will not be enough "new life" for the following season/s so we need to limit the number of antlerless only hunts.

I'm not sure how much affect the sand mining and the infrastructure that goes along with it will have on the deer herd, but I'm sure in areas it has a negative effect. Curious if there are any studies going on in Wisconsin with this. I think the predator numbers are up which have a negative effect also.

CDAC needs the ability and desire to develop a strategy to address pockets of overpopulation while allowing the herd to increase on the balance of private and public land. A one size fits all approach of issuing free antlerless tags with every license county wide is not a plan.
Deer numbers in our unit need to increase. The amount of adult does in the area I hunted is way down. We need to decrease the bonus tags available for purchase to give adult does a couple more years to populate the area again, then use more bonus tags on down the line.

Has it been considered when tags are issued that one tag is either sex (buck or doe) and the second is a doe only tag. Not everyone cares that they shoot a buck. This may assist in hitting doe goals as some do not want to buy extra tags they may not fill.

I would like the old tag to come bag and get rid of the printer paper tags!! I also think we should have to register deer at your local town without doing this people are shooting as many deer as they want cuz they don't have to take it anywhere!!

Harvest some wolves they are beginning to overrun the state. Fight to get the hunt back on wolves because there are to many in the state! Tell Washington to mind there own business and fight for the people and the deer in our state.

I feel there should be 2 antlerless tags given for each hunting license. We need to increase the giving to the food pantry. It's not right that we have too many deer and too many people who could use the meat.

Deer numbers to low, to many harvest tags. DNR ruining deer hunting ever since earn a buck. Used to see around 8-12 deer a day, I've only seen 2 a season the last 2 years. Ridiculous.

Give the 1 free tag with the licence and forget about selling any bonus tags. And check into crop deer damage by talking to the other farmers in the area before giving out ag tags

Seeing more deer then I've seen since I started hunting and have to keep letting them walk. Last day of the tzone hunt I was 67 antlerless does and had 1 doe tag

The public four wheeling trail needs to be posted more clearly to people what property is public that they are allowed to hunt.

Before giving out again tags for deer to Farmers talk to the neighbors to see if they are having deer damage as well

I would like to see an end to deer baiting not only in this unit, but statewide to prevent the spread of CWD.

Shut down all deer farms and high fence hunting it is a problem and will destroy our deer herd

I do not like the direction things are going in regard to back tags, registration, etc.

the numbers of coyotes is becoming alarming, they are killing deer in our area

Thank you for all your time and effort in helping to manage our deer herd!

Need more public land antlerless tags! About 200!
Vernon, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

68 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 36
   - No: 32

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 20
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 12
   - I hunt in this unit: 63
   - General interest in this unit: 19

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 58
   - Bow: 38
   - Crossbow: 21
   - Muzzleloader: 26

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 20.62
   - Maximum: 57

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 38
   - Mostly Private Land: 13
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 8
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
   - Somewhat crowded: 3
   - Very crowded: 5
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 10
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 21
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 19
   - Same: 15
   - More: 14
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 3
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

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<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:  Support | Oppose | Unsure
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**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:  Support | Oppose | Unsure
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**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?  VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure
<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>2.27</td>
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<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
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<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.36</td>
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<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.85</td>
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<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hello! I have been hunting since I was a kid and I was always raised to hunt ethically and mature quality whitetail deer. Unfortunately, not everyone shares this philosophy. Many "hunt for meat" and do large group drives. Not that this technique is fun, but this year, there were over 20 people in one drive on some public land adjacent to new property I bought and hunted. A day after they unloaded hundreds of ammo (because they were non-stop shooting) I found an immature whitetail buck, a 6 month old, and a doe on my property with significant wounds which they died from. One was a gaping neck wound and I could only imagine this was a hunt purely for sport. I propose: 1. 8 points of higher antler minimum A part of MN practiced this and the hunter satisfaction percentage dramatically increased and promoted quality deer harvest. WI is losing hunters from out of state because there's this "sport" mentality and the common belief is there are no more nice deer. Let's get tough, set limits, help ourselves both internally with each other as a community and others who want to hunt here. 2. No drives of more than 3 people This is simply dangerous and unethical. The constant gunfire is dangerous for hunters and animals alike. Drives push deer who are in a state of panic and running. The probability of a hunter killing their target is lessened; furthermore, they often don't track their kill. Example: 3 deer dead on my property in one day no one bothered to track. Keeping the limit at 3 people will allow parents to hunt with a kid, disabled, etc... 3. Limit doe tags The doe tags being basically given out is excessive. If we so this, we should at least increase the price per tag. You could increase it by $50 per tag and the revenue will be beneficial for the State. 4. Increase out of State License Price Why is WI one of the only states where you can kill all of our deer for not even a half of what it would cost for a WI resident to go to IL or MN or IA? Let's increase the out of state price to $300. I don't mean to beg here, but we need to get tough. I love our natural resources and want to enjoy them and hunting and it's hard when things don't make sense and our resources are being wasted.

Good Day: My thoughts are as follows, It would be great for you to bring back the old tagging system, this new system isn't going to work, bring back the deer registration stations, not everyone has wifi, computers, etc. Just think of the huge amount of money small business owners have lost cause of the new system. These days there are 1000's of Veterans who are now Disabled and cant get out into the woods during the winter, cause of the snow & cold, so here is what I would love to see happen, If Bow hunters can shoot a deer during there season, why not open it up to all Disabled Hunters, for guns as well. not all of us can afford a cross bow, etc. Yes I am a disabled Veteran, Im sure if you did this you would have a lot more hunters. Thank you for your time, have a nice day. :)

The reason I started hunting this area 16 years ago was the quality of the hunt and seeing more deer than I had been seeing in the northern part of the state. At first it seemed to be the right move but as the seasons past I saw less deer and more hunting pressure and the quality of the hunt seemed to diminish. I hope this county focuses on the health of the deer heard and recommends no baiting or feeding. I know the Legislators voted to change that adjoining counties to counties that CWD has been found only has a 2 year bait and feeding ban if it's not found again. This is the wrong direction to go. Thanks for the work you do!!

We normally end the hunting season with about the number of deer we should start the season with. The deer appear smaller and more hungry than ever before. The DNR has a huge problem to address almost immediately. Failure to lower the deer population significantly will result in I am afraid a collapse of a healthy deer herd. I am sure you will disagree with me, but I have had the opportunity to hunt for over 50 years and I am still able to get into the woods several times a week and the woods looks like a park or a pastured woodlot. Don't believe me have a look yourself.
Ever since the CWD and Earn-A-Buck years, and the excessive antlerless deer harvests of the past decade or more, we see significantly fewer deer than we did when we first acquired this property in 1990. The local population contains many Amish families, and I am sensitive to their desire to harvest antlerless deer for food. However, that affects all of us, and I would like to see the deer herd build up to what it once was again. I spend way too many days in the field in which I do not even see a deer; that was never the case in the past.

In close proximity of where I hunt, about 80 acres away, farmer gets ag tags. After many years of receiving them, my dad’s property has seen a decline of antlerless deer. On my cameras, the buck numbers on average for the last 4 years has been pretty consistent. The doe numbers are down and the fawns are hard to say. This could be from young unbred does or predation. This fall I noticed little coyote activity but did get a bobcat pic. Just have to see what this 2017 year brings.

The deer herd and quality of the hunt does NOT warrant the excessive harvesting of antlerless deer. The Holiday Hunt is unnecessary and interferes with many other activities around the Holidays. There is MORE than enough time to hunt and harvest deer if that is a person’s choice...a Holiday Hunt is NOT needed to accomplish this. Predation and hunting pressure continue to keep the herd at an unacceptably low level.

Let the State Parks set their own rules - allowing antlerless-only! It provides a small amount of acreage that can be a different experience to hunters. Otherwise the public land hunting experience is the same-ol’ thing statewide: OVERCROWDED! At least antlerless-only reduces the crowds in the state parks for those hunters who would be willing to put up with passing up bucks in favor of a more peaceful hunt.

We hunt on 100 private acres with 400 QDM acres adjoining. Warm temperatures were a factor in 2016, but we see too many agricultural tags for antlerless deer having an impact on the deer density in our area. Having and ag tag and shooting from the road just to kill is not sport. It’s just killing.

Get rid of the antlerless only hunts! It ruins late season bow hunting! After a 10day gun season, we don’t need another 4day antlerless only season only 2 weeks later, the 10 day gun season is enough. The way the tags were distributed last year was good.

Not only is the Holiday hunt not needed, it could cause landowners to close there property to other recreational uses and leads to bucks that have dropped there antlers being shot. I am strongly against any Holiday hunt.

I believe decreasing the deer over population will also decrease the presence of deer ticks and Lyme’s disease in this county.

In the future you should bring back bonus buck stickers as an incentive for hunters to shoot more does.

Seeing a lot less bucks over the last 10 years. Hunting should be closed in the Wildcat Mountains.

Saw more deer on my farm this winter than in past winters.
Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017

Vilas, Northern Forest

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

132 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 45
   No: 87

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 49
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 40
   I hunt in this unit: 105
   General interest in this unit: 26

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 97
   Bow: 60
   Crossbow: 25
   Muzzleloader: 37

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 22.88
   Maximum: 55

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 18
   Mostly Private Land: 9
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 14
   Mostly Public Land: 15
   Exclusively Public Land: 45
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 4

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all Crowded: 0
   Not too crowded: 6
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 19
   Somewhat crowded: 21
   Very crowded: 37
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 20
   Fewer: 29
   Same: 34
   More: 35
   Many More: 12
   Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 18
   Fewer: 25
   Same: 34
   More: 39
   Many More: 11
   Unsure: 5
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

**9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public Land:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |

**11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?**

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

**12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>1.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you spend a little time in Vilas County you'll come away with the impression that the deer population is strong. However, because of wolf predation and feeding of deer by humans, the deer are found around homes. We had a doe and her two fawns reside around my house this past year. A couple neighbors still feed, which attracts them. None of my neighbors has any shrubbery or landscaping plants because the deer browse them off. They are so hungry they're eating my young red pines and white pines. They're starving because of the lack of browse due to the lack of forest management on private land. But they won't leave the immediate area because of the wolf threat and the occasional neighbor who feeds. A neighbor 1/4 mile away watched a wolf kill a fawn in his back yard last summer. The pile of wolf scat on the road in front of my house makes me wonder about letting my setter out without me being by his side. In contrast, go a half mile from homes and you'll have a long walk to find any deer sign. They aren't there. And so I've abandoned my favorite hunting areas in favor of setting up 1/4 mile from a piece of private property where the owners feed in a big trough. Since the feeding ban, the trough is empty and the runways leading to it from the 4 points of the compass aren't there like they used to be. The deer still hang around that property, though and I'm making an educated guess that they are because the owners put down a little corn here, a little corn there. Enough to attract a few deer, but not as obvious as the big trough outside their cabin door.

I believe the CDAC recommendations are hurting the hunting heritage and the deer hunting. They seem to have a very limited knowledge of deer, deer habitat, and biology. One forester on the CDAC seems knowledge but the others in Vilas county should not be making decisions on deer management because they just don't seem to have any real experience or knowledge of big game management. I did not hunt last year due to the lack of doe tags although I have family and friends w/ 40 acres of land just west of B. Jct and they are begging friends and family to shoot the does which are causing so much damage to plants and to the forest on their land. I took pictures of the deer/trails, and piles of deer crap on their property. Neither of my friends and relatives bait or feed. I see so many deer, and deer everywhere that I'm just baffled by they CDAC representatives complaining there are no deer, and that the wolves ate them. I saw 90 deer in one day 1.5 weeks ago between Pres. Ilse and Eagle River. I also saw a picture of a guy who feeds deer in northern Vilas county, he had 4 albino deer and approximately 50 other deer feeding on corn in his yard at one time! Please manage our deer herd more responsibly w/ real biology and science. I got so sick of the poor irresponsible deer management last year I did not hunt. Please do a better job in the future.

Antlerless quotas have been set too low to stay ahead of population curve swings. Not harvesting limited numbers of antlerless deer every year plays detriment on health of the herd. old deer wont make it through mild winters if not thinned from the landscape. CDAC needs to remember that the landscape vegetation has not recovered from the high deer herds of the early 2000's. MORE deer can not be supported on the landscape just for recreation purposes of hunting if habitat isn't there. Remember carrying capacity of the landscape is the ultimate an area can hold, not human interference with attempts at artificial numbers to keep hunters happy. CDAC's are not proper management by the public. rather we need science based measurement and analysis of habitat, health, environment and so on and not CDAC's. The deer are out there, hunters in the woods need to adjust the effort to scout, still hunt, drive, move hunting location, and the like. don't listen to them whine to base management on! our hunting season has NEVER been about managing the herd for hunter satisfaction. Hunting is a tool to manage populations sustainably....squirrles, grouse, ducks, bear, bobcat and the like including deer have hunting seasons because of a sustainable/harvestable population. not for entertainment!
We hunt a 10 mile radius and numbers are still very low. With fifty years experience hunting this area I believe I have a good understanding of the deer population in this area. I spend a lot of time in spring and fall observing deer and sign walking large tracks of land with various habitat and the numbers are not there. I thought the goal was to increase the herd over three years I strongly believe we should adhere to that goal!! There has been a slight uptick in our area but almost negligible. Also comments made about adult buck numbers being down because of no antlerless tags has no scientific basis. Even with doe tags yearling buck kill is high because they are an easy target. With the significant increase in wolf population we have a much more wary and alert deer population because they have to be more alert to avoid wolf encounters, thus making them more difficult to hunt. Dr. Ken Nordberg has done a lot of observation and research on the topic of deer hunting in wolf country in Minnesota a good read. Thank You

If the goal is to increase the deer population and have a healthy population of mature bucks for harvest then changes need to be made to Wisconsin's deer management scheme. The population has not increased enough yet to allow the harvest of antlerless deer. In fact, the harvest of antlerless deer was never totally banned because youth and first time hunters were still given permits to harvest them. We also need a larger deer population to support not only the tradition of hunting in WI but to also support our increased number of predators, such as wolves and bears. I like having wolves in WI and we need a management scheme that works for hunters and wolves. I also think there is a lack of mature bucks available for harvest especially in the Northern Forest Unit. People harvest far too many immature bucks. Perhaps there should be a regulation limiting the age at which a buck can be harvested. For example, I buck can only be harvested if it has more than four legal points.

An article in a recent Vilas Co. News-Review issue stated that the goal for the Vilas Co. unit is to have a deer population number close to 25 deer per sq. mi. In my opinion, as well as the opinion of numerous wildlife biologists, this number exceeds the carrying capacity of this forest habitat by at least 10 deer per sq. mi. In other words, the number is way too high and unsustainable. Common sense suggests that in order to manage a quality deer herd for large bucks, one should focus on a balanced harvest favoring taking of does vs. bucks. If there are none or few antlerless tags, the only deer harvested will be bucks. Thus, the heard will be heavy in does and the few bucks that remain do not have a chance to mature. My observation living in this unit is just that. I see many many does that do untold damage to the local flora and forest regeneration, and hardly ever see a buck. The bucks I do see are just spikes. This is no way to manage a deer herd. Just saying!

Hunting in the Vilas County (more specifically, the North Woods) is a great resource to Wisconsin. We have the most public land available in the state, and the most public and in the upper Midwest. Bringing back quality hunting opportunity in this area will not only satisfy deer hunters, but it will revitalize the North Woods economy in the fall and winter months. North Woods businesses do very well in Summer/Early Fall, but to help the economy (ie: restaurants, hotels, resorts, grocery stores, etc), we must first stabilize and sustain a healthy deer herd worthy of traveling hours to reach a North Woods destination. Most deer hunters in this area do not live here - its a tourist destination/traditional hunting destination for them. Go away with the doe tags, stabilize the population to a point where it is growing and flourishing, and you'll see an increase in hunter satisfaction and business in the North Woods during the fall/winter months.

I personally believe that it's not only about harvesting deer but being able to see several deer during a sit. I have children that are very young yet and I am hoping that by the time they are able to hunt they can sit in the woods and be able to see deer. Not necessarily harvesting an animal but being able to enjoy nature. The deer numbers in vilas county are very low the areas where you see deer are in the city limits like Boulder Junction, Eagle River, Sayner, and St. Germain. When you venture out in the big woods the deer are very far and few in between. There is no need in my opinion to even give out antlerless tags public or private. Let the population come back for another 3-5 years. Then you can experiment with antlerless tags again. This is just my opinion I have been hunting these woods since I was a kid and just enjoy seeing deer. But the last couple of years there have been no deer to be seen.
Overall deer numbers I see in this unit have gone down slightly in the years I have hunted and vacationed there. Our family has a cottage in Vilas County and we visit several times a year besides hunting season, and normally see does with fawns around our cabin during the summer. Some years we might see 2-3 does, some with fawns, but the last 3-4 years it has only been one doe with 1 or 2 fawns. During gun deer season in past years I saw 8-15 deer in 3 full and one half days of hunting. For the last 5-6 years our crew has only hunted 2 and a half days, and I only hunted a half day to a day and a half, but I still saw 3-7 deer in that time - minimal by some standards but normal or even better for me personally. There was a resident wolf pack in the area we hunt, but I’ve seen no sign of them recently. I don’t think they had a big impact on deer numbers on the county land we hunt.

The ratio of does to bucks is far too high. There are too many does. The imbalance adversely impacts the productivity of the rut. In addition, our economy is very fragile. The loss of hunters has had a very adverse impact. Any reasonable effort to produce a more successful hunt is very important to the economy. Allowing 1,000 or more doe to be taken in a county this size would have absolutely no negative impact to the herd size and actually may improve breeding success. Also, by allowing hunters to take a small number of doe will greatly help to restore participation in hunting both short and long term. Also, we support a 3 points on one side buck policy. This will ensure a larger and more productive buck herd. Please take steps to promote hunter interest and to help our local economy by increasing the amount of doe permits. We see at least 30 does for every 1 buck.

I strongly support an antlerless quota in Vilas County for 2017. As the deer herd increases in the area a point will be reached where there MUST be antlerless harvest to maintain the herd at a HEALTHY level (which does not mean a high level). By starting with an low antlerless quota now the level of antlerless deer harvested annually can maintain fairly stable. As recently seen in Bayfield county a huge jump in antlerless tags due to long periods of no antlerless harvest can be a shock not only to the herd (throwing off buck to doe ratios and impacting reproduction because of the massive swing in buck to doe ratio) but to hunters as well (many expressing outrage and confusion over the sudden large increase and change from the status quo). By using a low quota both of things can be avoid while still maintaining herd growth at a level that is biologically and socially acceptable.

2016 had my hunting partner and I seeing the most deer in the field than we have in years. I believe the buck only hunts with limited antlerless bonus tag availability and the bait ban have greatly contributed to this. Our cameras showed many more bucks than we have seen in the past 7 years, and 2016 was the most deer I’ve seen in the field in 5 or 6 years. Please continue the progress. Maintain the bait ban. Continue buck only for another year or two before we re-evaluate. I’d rather go without venison than see the antlerless harvest increase and devastate the over all population, again. True sportsmen and women are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to keep the sport successful and the deer population healthy in the north woods. Thank you for the good job in rebuilding the deer population of Vilas County. Let’s keep the momentum moving in the right direction.

In the past 16 years I have planted over 5000 trees, mostly pine and spruce, on my land. I have worked with foresters and know how to plant trees correctly. Unless I put tree cages on the red and white pine, white cedar and yellow birch, they were eaten by deer. Any natural reproduction of cedar, hemlock, red oak or pine was severely limited unless the trees were immediately protected with cages. Even 3-5 foot trees had to be protected by ever larger chicken wire cages or they would be damaged. Only white spruce were left uneaten. Any understory shrubs were severely browsed unless they were protected. My small woodland is full of plastic and metal tree cages. Way too many deer! Anything above 10-12 deer per square mile means destruction of a natural woodland. Any baiting or feeding that’s allowed only makes it worse, destroying the natural movement of deer.
From my observations in the Boulder Junction area the deer numbers are increasing and it is exciting to see deer both during the deer season and at other times. Within our hunting party of 4 one small 6 point buck was harvested. Personally I did not see a Buck of harvest quality. I did see a total of 9 deer during 3 days of hunting which surpassed 2015 by 5 deer. The quality of the hunt in the Northern Forest cannot be matched in my opinion as there is an extreme amount of available public land available and very few hunters. To the availability of antlerless tags for junior hunters...It should be considered and balanced with the harvest quota. The junior hunters should be given preference to the available tags as it will leave a lasting impression and help perpetuate the hunt in the Northern Forest. Hope this is some value. Regards Tom K

there should be no doe tags available in vilas county for many years to come.the population is at pathetic levels on private lands and near non existant on public lands .first thing we need to worry about is predators if you ever want the level to go back up where it should be.a bounty needs to be put on wolves today or you can forget a deer population in vilas county ever again period!even if there was a bounty you would never kill them all.the population estimates of wolves isnt even close in this state there nothing more than dogs that have the same amount of pups.its time this state tells the feds to go blow and take our state back and control predator numbers here not from dc.also this rule that kids can shoot does anywhere for a number of years where there are already no deer is complete bull!!!

I would like to see implemented a one buck for either Bow or gun for at least several years. This would be one way to increase more of the older Buck heard and hopefully increase and have larger and older bucks. If we havea bad winter and the crummy seasons over the last few years, the Vilas County unit could really be a lot worst off then it is now. I would also favor a three point one side rule for several years as they do out west in a few states for elk and mule deer. This also would help in growing older Bucks and not having all year and a half small bucks being harvested, as we seem to see now. In addition we definitely need to have a Wolf harvest of at least 150-200 wolves in the unit as the evidence is there of drastic reduction of deer numbers from wolf attacks.

I hunt near/around Woodruff mostly the north side of Big Arbor Vitae. In general the deer are bunched up near residences where they are fed. In late December I bow hunted this area and couldn't find a a fresh track in the deep snow, yet there were 25 does/fawn in one big herd near my cabin where my neighbor feeds them. Lastly, if you're concerned about buck mortality then it's time to allow only ONE buck per hunter per year regardless of weapon type. The days of harvesting one buck with a bow/Xbow and then ANOTHER with a rifle should be abolished--too much pressure on Wisconsin's bucks. Hand in hand then group hunting also needs to be jettisoned. Colorado has this rule and it works fine there. Wisconsin's hunter's live in the 1950's and it's time to change.

Based on personal experience and that of innumerable others within this DMU, there is very strong evidence that DNR's numbers presented in the survey are highly suspect (some would go so far as to say "fictitious"). I would suggest all data concerning Vilas County deer harvests needs to be validated by independent agencies before ANY decisions regarding quotas can be reasonably assessed. I strongly recommend the CDAC push hard for a return to in-person registration--I, like many others, simply do not believe the numbers DNR is putting forward. Further, a lack of in-person registration (and game wardens in the field) is contributing to a significant number of illegally harvested deer. These are far more pressing problems than setting the antlerless number.

Glad that baiting was banned. There just are not a lot of deer around from the hard winters of 2013 and 2014. I do see a lot of predators on the trail cams and on the stand. I understand that there will probably be more deer with the milder winters of 2015, 2016 and now 2017, but with very low hunter density and a lot of land there are many places deer can concentrate. The only real chance to get a chance at seeing deer consistently is to be able to hunt the rut. The last five years I have only harvested one buck (2015). The previous 16 years hunting in Northern Vilas county I had an approx. 60% success rate on harvesting a buck.
There is a very obvious lack of age classes of mature deer ever since the harsh winters 3-4 years ago. Camera and eye observations in same areas hunted for many years don't lie. Until the age classes are restored and there is a "buffer" for another bad winter, no antlerless deer should be harvested- period. Not by youth, military- nobody. If the concern is that all the 1.5 yr old bucks will then get shit as a result of no antlerless opportunities, lets bring back hunters choice where you get just that one tag and it can be used on either sex but only 1 deer total.

ALTHOUGH THE HERD APPEARS TO BE COMING BACK IN THE PRESQUE ISLE AREA OF VILAS COUNTY, I DON'T THINK IT IS SUFFICIENT ENOUGH YET TO WITHSTAND A HIGH WINTER MORTALITY RATE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS; I'M AFRAID WE MIGHT REVERT BACK TO THE LOW POPULATION FROM THE PAST NUMBER OF YEARS. AS AN AVID GUN HUNTER, I DO OF COURSE WANT TO HARVEST A DEER, BUT AFTER THE LAST 5 OR SO YEARS OF ZERO ANTERLESS PERMITS, JUST SEEING AN INCREASE AND BEING ABLE TO SEE DEER, AS SLOW AS THE HERD HAS GROWN, IS JUST A START.

At least there is a proposed antlerless quota this year. Over the past few years we have seen many, many does in our area, while still seeing few bucks. Generally when we travel up to Vilas county in the summer, we will take a few nights & look for deer. Last year, we'd normally see 30-40 deer per night in 1-2 hours of driving around. There are quite a few antlerless deer, at least in the Boulder Junction area. They stay fairly close to town, however, and predator activity is high.

I think it is important to maintain the ability for young hunters (17 and under) to shoot antlerless deer. It is difficult enough to harvest a deer in this area. If it is expected that the junior hunter have to harvest a buck, I'm concerned that after several unproductive years we may lose hunters at a time when we're trying to recruit more people to the outdoors. For example, hunting between Minocqua and Boulder Junction, it has been 5 years since my youngest son has seen a buck.

I have been a landowner and hunter in Vilas Co. for approximately 30 years. I am opposed to issuing any antlerless tags for the 2017 season. Let's finish the 3 year objective to increase the deer herd with at least one more "bucks only" season. Issuing antlerless tags based on projected numbers is a mistake. In fact we should consider one buck per hunter for the season bow OR gun. That would also help increase the number of mature bucks in the county.

Thank you.

I realize they were extreme winter's biological issues as well as wolves, coyotes and vehicles that all impact The deer population in vilas county. But I still believe there should be a number of anlerless deer available for harvest in the Conover Wisconsin area. It just seems were so restricted now that everybody I talk to is about to give up on deer hunting in general. Please please consider opening this up for 2017 even if it's limited. Thank you

I feel that the number of deer in this area has fallen dramatically. I feel it is due to three different reasons. 1. I feel that predators are making a larger impact to the population than thought. 2. There are many hunters that drive around in trucks, through the woods/trails hunting giving themselves plenty of opportunity to over hunt. 3. Poaching. I have seen a lot of evidence of poaching overnight. Before, during and after the season.

I walk a lot throughout the public land scouting, grouse hunting and deer hunting. I've just seen too many wolf tracks... I have personally saw live Wolves 8 years straight! I've seen them on trail camera, driving in a vehicle, from my tree stand and while snowmobiling this year! It is very rare to see a deer or multiple deer alongside a road! This year I snowmobiled 18 days/nights and put 1400 miles on. I saw 4 deer total....

The junior deer license should be hunter choice, not an extra antlerless tag. Keep and enforce the no group hunting rule for junior license holders. Create an incentive for elderly hunters to keep actively hunting by having the deer license for those age 65 and over be hunter choice. Open the Northern Forest zone one week earlier for 16 days. Adopt a one buck rule per hunter taken by any legal hunting method.
There should be no antlerless tags available in this hunting unit until the numbers in the public lands increase. Where is the Metro hunt to control urban deer numbers that affect all other deer incidents that concentrate deer. Give out antlerless tags to reduce numbers in troubled Metro areas!!! Why are the number of bear tags available soooo low. We see more bear than deer afield and half as many wolves.

Seems most deer are close to homes where they were use to being protected and fed by locals. I'm please at the abundance of public land and absence of hunters in this county. I feel one doe party tag allowing a group of hunters to harvest at least one deer is a good idea. I am concerned that this area will not produce large bucks as most bucks harvested are &lt; 1.5 years old.

Despite what I hear from some, deer have rebounded somewhat on public land. Vilas is a large Cnty and can handle more harvest on both private and public land. Please consider increasing the number of antlerless tags available this season. Although I personally enjoy having less hunters around, I think that more tag availability increases tourism during opening gun wkend.

The amount of deer in this unit is shameful. Between the reintroduction of the the wolf, which are everywhere on the public land in this unit, and the over-harvesting of female deer a few years back, this once whitetail rich area is no longer even viable. Please get the wolf population under control and eliminate female harvesting for at least one or two more years.

No surprise to you the deer population in this area is significantly below historical levels (10 years ago). I have seen two things as major impacts in this area - predators and harsh winters. This past winter was mild and should help but the predators (wolves, coyotes and bear) are out of control - need to reduce those to help recover the deer population.

WAY TO MANY WOLVES! WHY, WHY, WHY TO MANY WOLVES. COMPLETELY SCREWED DEER HUNTING. Now, the deer hunt is more like carrying a gun and communing with my friends and nature. 10 guys, in the woods from 5:30AM to 5:00PM we eat lunch in the woods. most of us NEVER see deer anymore - since the wolves came. We always saw a lot of deer and took some decent bucks.

I am a subsistence hunter. This is our meat supply. We have moved here from Waupaca county, which has an overabundance of deer. I have always wondered if others think like me. I would gladly give up my option to shoot a buck, if I am guaranteed a doe tag. Antlers to me are the whipped cream and cherry on my deer hunting in Sunday.

There should not be antlerless tags for Vilas county in 2017. The deer numbers are just starting to come back wolf numbers are way to high a bad winter 2017-2018 would put numbers back to near unhuntable again in just 1 year. I recommend no doe tags for at least 3-4 more years and thin more bear and for god sake bring back a wolf season.

You just spend the last two years building up the herd.it needs to continue no permits for any one.predators are very hard on the fawns,there are no fawns making it to adulthood.your trying to build the herd you can't do that by giving out permits.sounds like making a buck is more important than common sense.

There are plenty of deer if hunters are willing to look for them. Can't shoot one when sitting at the bar complaining by noon on Saturday! if you want people to hunt up north, give out some doe tags!!!!!! People won't go all that way just to hunt bucks. Some doe tags will also save a few young bucks.

I would like to see the holiday hunts discontinued.If you haven't got a deer in the regular season your chance of getting a deer is slim. Also the holiday hunt affects the snowmobiling season which brings in more money from the tourist than a few hunters do.

I am a forester with 35 years experience in northern Wisconsin. I have seen a dramatic increase in deer numbers in my area of Vilas Co. in the past two years and observed significant increase browse damage to forest regeneration during this same period.
Why is there no rule on the size of bucks? You should implement a minimum points like 3 per side so we can start seeing bigger bucks in the woods. People shooting spikes all the time from what I've seen over the years stops the chance for trophy bucks.

Each year bring more sightings of predators, and far fewer sightings of deer. Unacceptable levels of predators for managed land. Wolves and bear sightings far outnumber deer! Let's increase the tags on the predators to relieve pressure on herd.

Do not allow doe to be shot in Vilas county. The deer population needs to be higher so me and my kids can still hunt here in the future. My kids love being up north but sitting in the woods all week and not seeing a deer is depressing.

Please only allow junior antlerless tags to allow those new to deer hunting the additional opportunity to harvest a deer. Do not open up an antlerless quota for anyone else. The numbers of deer in the DMU are still far too low.

Put either or permits back in place so hunters can harvest a deer, but not more than one per season per weapon. Same with the youth tags, youth as of now can potentially harvest up to 4 deer per season, that's to many.

This management unit has been buck only for over 6 years now because of the lack of deer. It should stay this way for a few more years and then a decision should be made on whether to give antlerless tags in the unit.

Leave it buck only There is not enough deer in the area and wolf kill is to high Get a wolf hunting open season going Let this herd get to a respectable size The DNR does not to make more money by selling bonus tags

Wolf population needs to be put in check. Impose bounty on coyote killing. Make bear hunting season like sturgeon spearing to reduce predator numbers or give out more tags until deer population increases.

Quit shooting does and let the heard recover. Too many hunters, too long of seasons, too many ways to kill a deer, bow, gun, crossbow. Predators are a big problem for the deer herd in Vilas County.

NO ANTERLESS TAGS, AND LETS LET OUR HEARDS GROW FOR ANOTHER COUPLE OF YEARS. MY MAIN CONCERN IS THAT WE WILL HARVEST TO MANY DOES, STOP THE YOUTH HUNT, AND CONTINUE THE NO BAITING BAN. THANK YOU

Predators to the overall growth of the deer population is still a huge concern. Deer population growth will continue to be very sluggish due to predators population increasing each year.

We need one more good year of herd growth and accelerated timber harvest. This unit needs management policy and initiatives to improve deer wintering yards or habitat.

Seeing more deer in 2016 is relative since the bar was set so low the prior 4-5 years. We need to continue to let the herd rebound and get the predators under control.

I have been hunting vilas county for 50 years and the last 4 season have been the worst ever. Do NOT give out antlerless permits until the deer population increases.

Deer populations in towns/residential areas are too high and need to be addressed. People continue to feed deer causing them to concentrate in populated areas.

Quite simply, increasing the number of antlerless tags will not fulfill the intended purpose of increasing the deer heard in this area. It just isn't back yet.

Should require an angler point restriction of three points on at least one antler for all hunters except junior and first time hunter licenses

Apply antler point restrictions for bucks so only bucks with at least 3 points on one antler may be harvested. Except for junior hunters

In the areas around Conover I bow hunt and rifle hunt there just aren't that many deer. There is no reason to shoot any does at all.
The CDAC idea may be sound in concept but is a dismal failure as the non hunter community is absent from the discussion.

Biggest problem in Vilas county is deer distribution, not population. Permanent ban on baiting & feeding is needed.

Please issue more doe tags. Let hunters decide to buy and hunt if they want. Let us have a chance to harvest deer.

Please don't hand out anterless tags in 2017, still think we don't have the population to support that just yet.

people going on state land cutting down oak trees to put up there tree stands and leave them there all the time.

If we can't control the wolves, the leave it buck only, zero doe tags. Buck only should mean buck only!

Please remember forest health is a priority for some and hunting us NOT a priority. Thank you.

I am all for junior tags and I like the idea of 200 after less permits but no bonus tags.

Vilas Co should release a small amount of antlerless tags for the general public.

Would like to be able to leave treestand on public land for the deer season.

Deer removed by locals poaching them should be addressed more aggressively.

Hunting should not impact the snowmobile season.

Bucks only for several more years.
Walworth, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

28 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 12
   - No: 16

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 20
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 3
   - I hunt in this unit: 24
   - General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 23
   - Bow: 17
   - Crossbow: 6
   - Muzzleloader: 10

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 4
   - Average: 18.12
   - Maximum: 47

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 9
   - Mostly Private Land: 6
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 4
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 4
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 2
   - Somewhat crowded: 2
   - Very crowded: 3
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 12
   - Same: 5
   - More: 3
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 14
   - Same: 3
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 1

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? 

**Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Walworth, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I believe that the Private hunting grounds are limited based on owner preference with allowing hunters to harvest deer on their lands. A lot of hunters do not have private land available to hunt and it results in the common "Pumpkin Patch" affect where the public lands are litter with hunters and the opportunity to safely harvest a deer in minimal. For the estimated amount of deer allegedly on public land, the numbers and harvests don't match up. There are two many permits given every year and in areas where the bonus tags freely given a few years back, the deer population may not have bounced back as estimated. I absolutely believe 1 antlered tag and 1 antlerless tag should be provided during deer seasons which can be carried over from bow to gun and no additional tags permitted. If the numbers are not where the DNR predicted or wanted, use the holiday hunt or bonus hunt to then divide those extra tags between zones. I also see an issue with getting rid of zones and dividing tags between counties. I personally hunt on the the edge of 3 counties and can even walk down the one path in county and a few hundred yards down I am in a different county, and no signs distinguish between the two which could cause issues and also prevented me from hunting normal spots on public. Not only that, but when there are certain areas packed with hunters, I am no longer able to utilize other locations possible less crowded and in the off chance that someone has gotten a deer on private property and I have the opportunity to finally hunt private land, my tags are only valid for public. I genuinely think that past 5-10 years of conservation in Southern Wisconsin has failed, every year or so the regulations change, there is no consistency, less land and more hunters and in the 18 years I have been hunting on public land I have only taken 1 deer, a yearling at that and can count on 1 hand how many opportunities I had to take a deer. And now with the online or electronic registration there will be more inaccuracies on information and it will provide a better opportunity for people to poach. I also believe that every 10 years, hunters should renew their hunting licenses, it will provide extra funding for conservation as well as keep everyone up to date on regulations and be a good reminder on do's and don'ts as well as a positive experience for younger hunters to be able to learn from seasoned hunters. I really wish there were some kind of consistency and hope going forward the DNR will be able to find a middle ground for hunters and the deer population as a whole.

I am okay with the quotas and antlerless tag breakdown. Thank you for your efforts. I would implore the committee to reconsider adding back the holiday hunt for 2017. I truly enjoy the opportunity to gun hunt with the potential for snow on the ground. It is a great time of year where my kids are on Christmas break and I can finally spend some time hunting with them where youth sports typically do not interfere. I was fortunate to harvest a deer during the holiday hunt a few years ago and I've been hooked on this hunt ever since. My wife was fortunate enough to harvest a doe during the Waukesha county holiday hunt last year, which is also in jeopardy for 2017. I really look forward to the holiday hunt and I do not think it has any adverse effect on deer numbers; it is merely one more opportunity for a guy to put meat in his freezer.

From September through the end of gun season I deer hunt nearly every day and while I saw deer more times than not it was mostly the same few deer that live on our property. Even during the rut I only experienced a small number of bucks coming from neighboring properties and I run a lot of cameras. My overall opinion is that the deer numbers were flat, especially quality bucks and the coyote numbers have continued to stay quite high in Walworth county which I believe contributes to that. Overall deer numbers could be better.

Still allowing to many tags for the area. Should be 1 tag per weapon buck ot doe to try and increase populations. Should be no reason to hunts on average 60 sits a year and see a deer on 10-12 sits. Good luck getting younger generations into hunting with these type of populations. Hopefully the popultaion can rebound to the way it was in early 2000s when hunting was fun.
The DNR regulations have taken much of the sport out of hunting. Liberal bag limits, long seasons and being able to hunt with rifles and crossbows has made taking a deer too easy.

Thinking going back to the party permit for antlerless deer would be a great idea to rebuild wisconsins deer herd, more deer less cars would help „CARS are the problem

I enjoy watching deer while working in the fields and driving the back roads. The problem is there are NO deer to enjoy anymore, to watch, or hunt. This is very sad.

All unused tags should be eligible for a holiday or extended season. I would like an opportunity to hunt the January snow seeing as we rarely get year end snow anymore

I do not support any hunting that shortens the snowmobile season.

Doe lives matter. No antlerless seasons. No holiday hunt
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

123 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 71
   - No: 52

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 60
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 20
   - I hunt in this unit: 106
   - General interest in this unit: 23

   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 102
   - Bow: 61
   - Crossbow: 29
   - Muzzleloader: 52

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 23.8
   - Maximum: 63

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 32
   - Mostly Private Land: 21
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 24
   - Mostly Public Land: 11
   - Exclusively Public Land: 18
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 6
   - Not too crowded: 18
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 14
   - Somewhat crowded: 18
   - Very crowded: 17
   - Not applicable: 1

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 20
   - Fewer: 24
   - Same: 51
   - More: 23
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 14
   - Fewer: 23
   - Same: 39
   - More: 36
   - Many More: 9
   - Unsure: 2
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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<th>Unsure</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Not applicable in this DMU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

- Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

- Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:
  - Support
  - Oppose
  - Unsure
  - Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

- Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?
  - VALID
  - NOT VALID
  - Unsure
  - 66
  - 46
  - 11

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit? Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CWD management is the most important issue. All feeding needs to be prohibited. All mineral or food attractants need to be prohibited. If CWD becomes established I will personally stop hunting deer. The potential for human health issues eating venison with early stage CWD is not adequately researched. I will not put family at risk. It's imperative to provide statistically valid sampling for CWD. More investigation into human cases of degenerative brain disease and mortalities is needed by public health agencies. Prion diseases and early detection in an infected animal need more understanding. The most important thing now, is to take all steps to limit CWD transmission. No feeding, baiting, attractants. Maintain low deer densities to limit transmission rates. The change to using a hunter survey to get hunter observations instead of historical data collection is a travesty to scientific, defensible methods. I'm a hunter for over 50 years. Things change. Hunters are inclined to observe their personal experience and apply it as if it applies across other geographical areas. Hunters who are bound to one place, one stand, one property, one forest, simply cannot address changes in habitat, weather, wild and cultivated crops, and other variables in a meaningful way. Deer numbers should be held low enough to allow healthy forest growth, including a diversity of understory plants. I hunt large ares of public lands. Wolves were NOT a problem. I track deer. I've "discovered" there is usually a deer at the end of a track. How amazing! Hunters who road hunt or sit on one stand will never know how many deer are in an area. In 2016, walking 5 to 10 miles a day in northern Washburn county with snow, I personally did not encounter a single wolf track. I saw deer everyday, and harvested both an antlered and antlerless deer in mid-season. Hunters I spoke with on roads complained, "no deer, too many wolves". Not my experience. Wolves are not everywhere all the time. Large blocks of public land need to be maintained as public lands. Privatization of land is perhaps the largest threat to the tradition of hunting. CWD is the biggest threat to sport hunting for food values.

With the last 2 mild winters and limited antlerless harvest, the herd should be increasing. It was very interesting to see that many private antlerless tags did not even sell last year. What is going to happen when the population gets much too high again and the WDNR can’t reach their harvest quotas through tag sales? The herd should be managed now to try to mitigate the huge increase if these mild winters continue. I think the antlerless quota and tags proposed for 2017 for both public and private should be increased. I think that if/when the herd grows much higher than objective, the WDNR is going to have a hard time reaching objectives through quotas... much like what’s going on in the southern part of the state right now in a couple counties, proposed antlerless only seasons. I would recommend to the CDAC to maintain the herd as is and to no longer try to increase it. Also, I would recommend to the WDNR to do everything you can to help get the gray wolf delisted so they can be managed by the State. The story of the wolf has gone far beyond sound wildlife science and has become a political nightmare. It’s a great example of the problem in this country today with politics ruling over sound biological and wildlife science. Like everything else these days... we are all divided and it’s all or nothing. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback and I thank the CDAC members for serving.
I would like to applaud the Washburn Co committee once again for taking some science into consideration when determining the antlerless quota. I know there is A LOT of pressure from an unhappy, louder portion of the public to stock pile the deer. There is a quieter portion of us who believe very strongly that the deer herd in this area is doing very well and there is no harm in harvesting antlerless deer. We have had another very mild winter in which the herd should have survived in overall excellent shape. Throughout the winter and already this spring there are deer in significant numbers in fields and along the roadsides. People need to remember a healthy deer herd isn’t being able to see more deer in the opening weekend of gun season then you ever have. It’s having the population at a level the habitat can sustain without significant damage to forests, fields, and yards. It also helps prevent the spread of disease, reduces car kills, and in the event of a harsh winter reduces the number of deer that will starve to death. I believe that Washburn County could support a higher quota especially on public lands. Deer are not rare on public land, they are just more educated and maybe harder to find because of that. And they can’t read plat books. Deer that are in my field at night bed down in the public land not far from me during the day.

Due to the amount of agricultural properties in Washburn county, I have never understood why it is part of the Northern forest zone. Over the last two deer seasons, I have seen more and more deer each year. During the 2016 gun season, I saw 17 antlerless deer during a day and a half of hunting. 9 antlerless on Saturday and 8 antlerless on Sunday morning by 10 a.m. of opening weekend. I spent four weekends before gun season hunting the same property I bow hunted. All I saw were small bucks and does. In my opinion, the rut was suppressed in Washburn county due to the overabundance of antlerless deer. There was no reason for older bucks, 3 1/2 yrs old and older to move. If bonus tags would have been $2 instead of $12, I would have purchased 3-5 tags for the second weekend of gun season and muzzleloader season to reduce the antlerless herd. Due to cost, I only bought one tag at $12. I believe Washburn county’s deer population in thriving. Washburn county should be removed from the Northern Forest zone and put into the central farmland zone.

Over the last few years, the deer population has been creeping back to a healthy number. I would like to continue this trend, and believe that the best way to do this would be to limit the number of antlerless tags available, as well as encouraging predator control. I spent roughly 100 hrs in the stand this season, and saw more predators than I have over the last 5 years combined. I am sure it’s much harder to put into action, than it is in words, but I would like to see an """"earn a doe"""" type program. If a hunter brings in a predator, they are given a preference point for an antlerless tag lottery. I understand wolves are another issue, possibly outside of the state’s control, but it is a very real problem in the area. I saw 6 wolves this season alone. I believe adding an antlerless lottery with predators earning preference points would be a double edged sword that could expedite the process of returning the deer population to a healthy size.

Pretty much hunted the same general area south of Hwy 70, North CTH B and West of Fernander Rd for many years. Populations have rebounded only slightly since the 2 severe winters a couple of years ago. During those winter years the wolf population moved in and combined with the bear and weather decimated the deer herd. Saw only a slight increase in numbers from 2016 which was small. In 2015 only saw 2 deer in 8 days of hunting. County has been heavily logging the area which may help in the long term. Did see a wolf hunting off stand this past year. After a week we figured out we were hunting the same 6-10 deer in about a 300 acre area. Considering predation I would recommend minimal doe harvest in 2017 as long as the wolf hunt is on hold. I’m not anti-wolf - just think the balance is still not there with predators and hunters yet. Thanks & Congrats on nice process for the CDAC Recommendation. Todd
I hunted Washburn County again in 2016, I did see (4) deer. They were the first deer I seen in the last (3) years of hunting northern Washburn County. That being said, I heard very few shots which tells me the deer are still not out there. I drive from Beloit to hunt up north. The motel I stay in is a (9) unit, this year only (3) rooms were taken by deer hunters. That also tells me not many deer out there, I would advise the CDAC committee to be very cautious about the number of tags they want to put out. I think the deer are at a tipping point now. If we have a couple of bad winters, plus hunting seasons, predators, car kills and what ever else can happen, we will be right back to where we were before no deer and hunters will be wondering what went wrong. Please listen to the hunters let the heard grow.

Even though there is a abundant amount of public land it get crowded during gun season with tourist. People who come to our county to hunt shoot the first thing they see and a minority's hunt on public land. I own land boarding Beaver brook wildlife area and it gets pounded every gun season. I would like to see the DNR not give so many public land doe tags. I spend a lot of time in the woods and don't see many deer. I hunt in several states outside of Wisconsin and we have turned are back on the hunter here. They pay the way for biologist and the DNR and should be respected. I work with several farmers and land owners in this county who share the same thought. The forest and farms are not being destroyed by deer. It is a statement made by someone who does not spend enough time in the woods.

Reducing the overall antlerless quota compared to last year is irresponsible considering two very mild back-to-back winters. The public land quota is unreasonably very low, The number of public land permits should be closer to 2600-3000 which is more comparable to the % public land in the County. Deer browse damage is unacceptable, especially on forest regeneration in Washburn County. The current CDAC recommendation for such a low quota is irresponsible and is demonstrated by the highly respected County Forester to resign from this CDAC. This CDAC with their low quota recommendation is going in the wrong direction! Where do I send my bill for forest/plant damage due to too many deer on my property that adjoins Washburn County? We shot 5 deer on my 19 acres last year.

This DMU really needs to be split into two units, I propose a Cty E split from the west to HWY 63 going east to the Sawyer Co line. The County is basically Ag in the South with the majority of the land in private ownership vs more timbered county forest land in the north. The deer population is more heavily concentrated in the Southern ag areas as well so would give better management options of the deer population. The major complaint from us that hunt in the north portion of the county is lack of even seeing deer. I typically hunt 5 out of 7 days a week in the fall, bird hunting and bow hunting and the difference in deer sign from the south to the north is very much discernible from one to the other. It is time to split the County to allow better deer management.

This unit has been overrun with private property owners going onto county lands to shoot their does. Also the out of area hunters coming in head to the county land to take home a doe for the freezer. A few years ago I came out of the woods and talked with some hunters from Iowa who had a trailer loaded with 12 does and fawns. This behavior really hurts the area. The combination of of a big forest area with little human population has made this a haven for the wolf safe area. To many deer are disappearing and as an experienced hunter I recognize a major problem when going on 3 seasons of not seeing a single deer. Last year our group had seven hunters who saw a total of 4 deer in four days of hunting. I believe that Washburn county needs to be separated into 2 zones.

I know you are concern and CWD as we all should be, But there has not been any reports in the Northern part of the state, Douglas county can bait and we in Washburn County cannot, to me this makes no sence at all but where do you draw the line, we hunt close to Douglas County east and west of Hwy 53. I had my Grandson with me this year's opening weekend and after about 5 hours opening day of seeing nothing he had enough and never went with me again and shows no interest of ever hunting again, and he is a very active outdoors kid, we don't shoot everyday we see over a bait and at times never shoot a deer over the bait at all and have passed on nice Bucks and Doe's, sometimes it's just nice knowing you are probably going to see a deer at soon point during the day.
Based on last year's antlerless sales the private lands permits will not sell out and people will want to buy more public land permits than available. I suggest changing the ratio to provide more public land permits and less private land tags. There are good numbers of deer on public lands and with a mild winter there was no over winter mortality and fawn numbers should be high. Higher antlerless permits on public land would provide hunters with more harvest opportunity and keep browsing damage to regenerating forests at a more tolerable level. Keeping private land permits at or slightly above the level that was sold last year would still give private land hunters ample opportunity to harvest antlerless deer without having large numbers of permits not sold.

After two mild winters antlerless tags need to be increased before the heard again gets out of control. Better to put them in the freezer than let them die in a bad winter. A greater percent of permits should go to public land in Washburn Co. The myth of all the deer being on private land needs to be shot dead. Thirty or even 40% of the quota could go to public land. Looking at the metrics the buck harvest looks pretty healthy in our county- way better than the 60s-70s and well into the 80s and some years in between. The 'sky is always falling' crowd needs to be countered- they are never happy even when the buck harvest is increasing, or even when they do shoot a buck, because it's never big enough either.

While I do appreciate the opportunity for public input in making decisions on upcoming deer hunt, and I'm grateful for the public land tags available to hunt in my area, I'm disappointed in the wide range of quotas and inconsistency in the Cdac adjacent Washburn Co where there are so few public tags. The Cdac next county over west is like its own fiefdom and Quota is based on anecdotal reports and so they have so fewer tags for public land than Washburn. I cannot believe that there are that few deer they have to keep quotas low, which make Washburn look we are overrun with deer. I think Washburn has it right but other cdacs probably don't think so.

I have been hunting in the northern county land with my family since I was 12. The past three season I haven't even hunted because the numbers were so low. I gave up. (And we sit all day/every day during deer season. Bow and rifle. There are no deer due to wolves and also the amount of tags that were given about 8 years ago. There are no deer left. You don't even see them on the roads up here anymore at night. Something seriously needs to be done or else our future generations won't be able to experience the traditions of whitetail hunting. And more importantly the deer population is steadily going down. It's extremely obvious....

This unit was flagged as a CWD unit several years ago. You have been testing for CWD ever since and we have NOT heard of any other deer testing positive for CWD. It is about time you lift the declaration of this area as a CWD area and reinstate the ability to bait or at least establish mineral lick areas. If you cannot do this then you owe it to the hunters of this area to prove WHY this restriction is still in place and WHY mandatory CWD testing continues! If you plan to continue mandatory CWD testing then you could at least staff the sampling stations with trained personnel so we do NOT have to leave the entire head!

Washburn county should be split in two, West and East with highway 53 the divider. There seem to be a ample amount of deer to the West but to the east is a joke, from Birchwood North it's terrible, don't believe me get out and do your home work and ask around. The county land has been severely over harvested for years and now nobody even hunts it, but when there's no tracks I can see why. Oh by the way, your bear count for Barron and Washburn counties is so far off is not even funny, you could at least double if not triple it!!! So please listen to people who are out there. FYI i, I'm going to Missouri again!

I LIKED YOUR IDEA LAST YEAR OF DIVIDING WASHBURN COUNTY IN HALF BY FARMLAND AND WOODLAND. MY LAND IS IN THE WOODLAND AND THERE ARE VERY FEW DEER AND NOW EVEN LESS HUNTERS AS A RESULT. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE NO DOES OR VERY FEW IN THE NORTHERN WOODLAND AREA TO GET THE NUMBERS BACK SO WE CAN AGAIN SEE DEER. ALSO THE REINSTATEMENT OF BAITING WOULD BE A GREAT HELP WITH NO CWD IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS AND EVEN BACK THEN ONLY ONE CASE. WITH NO HUNTERS AND LOW DEER NUMBERS, WE HUNT THE ENTIRE SEASON AND SEE NO DEER. EVEN ON THE TRAIL CAMERAS THE DEER ONLY COME THRU ABOUT ONCE A WEEK IN LOW NUMBERS. THANK YOU, RICH
I feel the deer numbers have been so low there was minimal risk to damage caused by high deer density. These areas are all of concern as I believe in balance. Should the density get large then these areas would be of concern. You are going in the right direction I just feel that the moves in the past were more excessive than needed. Slower changes in quotas, the environment doesn't respond that quickly. Harsh winters, predators, and quotas have taken a toll. If wolves are not going to be controlled more closely than quotas need to drop. We see a lot of wolves and bears during our hunting season.

I believe that the number of antlerless tags offered on public land should be higher. Not all of us can afford to own private land. I love to eat venison and want to be able to provide healthy food for my family. When I am limited to only hunting public land and see plenty of does that I could shoot, it is frustrating when so few tags are given out. Plus, more tags on public land would help the hotels and restaurants in the area when people from out of town come to hunt here. Please consider making more tags available on land open to public hunting. Thank you.

I feel that there has been too much importance put on the reintroduction of species in the Northern Forest. This, in my estimation has led to a number of disturbing factors. The first is that there has been a decrease in the number of licenses sold which, in turn, has led to a decrease in the tourism dollars spent in this part of the state. If a hunter is not seeing deer they certainly are not coming back to that area to hunt. I also feel that the DNR is not hunting friendly. Recent legislation and rules are pushing hunters away from the woods not into them.

Because Washburn County is rather diverse with the southern part of the county being more agricultural than the northern being more forested (say up by Gull Lake) perhaps going back to numbered deer management areas would be an option. Seems like most of the area I hunt in the southern region holds more deer due to better food sources. I've also hunted county forest land over by Long Lake and there are not nearly as many deer there. I've sat in stands all day without seeing any deer at all. No easy answers, just my thoughts. Thanks for listening.

Thanks for doing this nearly thankless job. Please do not be intimidated by the very vocal minority of attendees at your public meetings that seem to believe deer are nearly extinct in Washburn Cnty. I strongly believe Washburn Cnty public land can handle more antlerless harvest this season. Since it appears that not enough antlerless tags will be sold to meet the recommended harvest quota on private land again this yr, Washburn Cnty may have to issue a free antlerless tag with each license purchase next yr (like the Farmland Zone does).

Washburn County needs to be split the same as the central counties (Eau Claire, Clark etc). There is ample deer populations in the southern 1/3 of the county, but the number of deer in the northern part of the county is very poor! Nearly all of the farmland is in the southern half of the county and the only way to allow the herd to grow is to split the county at County highway "E" or "A". More bear kill permits are also needed. I know they have been increasing slowly, but there needs to be an accelerated kill.

Even though the DMU is in the Northern Forest Zone, deer observations are definitely increased in the agricultural southern parts of the DMU. I have seen more deer in Jan-March 2017 than I had in 2016 or 2015; however, the sex of the deer is unknown. Even though I have personally seen more deer this spring than in the past couple of years, I support the lower antlerless quota from 2016. My thanks to the CDAC and wildlife management staff for your hard work in projecting quotas.

I would be in favor of splitting Washburn County into a north and south zone. North of Hwy 70 there is much more public land and that gets hunted harder and has fewer deer. South of Hwy 70 has much more agriculture and more private lands. I know of many landowners in the southern part of the county that buy antlerless tags and go up north in the county forest and fill the tags up there. They don’t want to shoot deer of their property so they go up north and get them there.

There are too many smart deer. People are lazy and do not hunt like they used to. They ride their 4 wheelers, hunt at the wrong time, hunt for short periods, make a lot of noise, and sit in a tree. What the bad hunters desire are more stupid deer. Bad hunters need to hunt in enclosed pens on deer farms. Then they can use their 4 wheeler, hunt for short periods of time, and make a lot of noise. It is hard to control the deer herd based on bad hunters.
I hope the CWD feeding ban sunsets after three years. There is way too much attention given and money spent on this issue. It appears the scientists and other DNR personnel are focused more on perpetuating their employment than actually doing anything other than securing their continued employment. CWD has been around for a long time (more than 50 years) and will follow its own course no matter what is done. Stop wasting money on trying to control it!

Washburn county is vastly different north of county hwy E compared to south of E. Having this entire county in the same GMU seems arbitrary and not based on the habitat whatsoever. I have access to private land in the north and the south where I have hunted for over 35 years. Deer numbers are far fewer in the north where there is less cropland and far more predators. This county needs to be managed accordingly with north and south being in different GMUs.

Number one, our fawn crop is being destroyed every year because of predators. Way too many bears! I lease approximately 70 acres to a farmer for growing corn and I can go there any time in late summer and find 8 to 12 bears with the aide of a drone. It’s not the only corn in the area either. And it takes me 8 or more years to get a bear kill tag? We need to lower bear numbers in this area by a lot!

I have bow hunted this unit for 8 years. Can honestly say I’m disgusted with what the state has done. There is fewer deer and more hunters and predators. The state has also killed the small businesses with registration online or by phone. People with private property who own land next to public are killing deer on public land and claiming it on private. It’s a mess and needs to be cleaned up!!

1 Limit the number of hunters or the number of tags.  2 Increase cost of non resident tag.  3 Opening weekend only open to residents. I’m sure the dnr will continue to do the same things they have in the past, like give out more tags than the herd can support. Every year I’m doing more and more hunting in other states, because hunting in Wisconsin is becoming less and less appealing.

I saw no deer during gun season, that is a first for me. I saw more bucks than does during archery season. I spend a lot of time in the tree during archery and the doe population on public land is still much lower than five years ago. Limit antlerless permits on public land to half the current recommended quota for at least one more year. Thanks for asking. Dennis

I believe that the youth or junior hunters should be able to use there unused antlerless tag, regardless of quotas. The one thing beyond a safe hunt and a great memory that will capture young hunters is actually having the opportunity to harvest any deer that would happen to step into their safe zone of fire. Thank you to all who participate within/on the council.

The geographical make-up of Washburn county is among the unique transition zones within our state. The northern portion being heavily wooded and mostly forest, while the southern portion is predominantly agricultural and open fields. I would propose the county be divided into a northern and southern zone. This would allow the management to be more effective.

Deer are in pockets. Large acreage of forest crop or managed forest land that is closed to the public and hardly hunted. Many times after opening weekend there is rare sign and no deer sightings during hunting hours. I also strongly urge the idea of a statewide baiting ban. Deer would be in natural patterns and have a healthy herd.

Washburn county needs to go back to the units that were in place to better manage the deer population. Dividing the county into a Northern and Southern unit will not allow the county to manage the overall deer population. From attending the last meeting it appeared that the committee wasn’t really listening to what was being voiced.

Bottom line, our fawn crop is being destroyed every year because number one, there are far too many bear in this area. I lease approximately 70 acres to a farmer for growing corn. We can go there any time in late summer and find 8 to 12 bears in the field with the side of a drone. And it’s not the only corn in the area.
Most hunters I know want to eliminate antlerless permits for the next three years to allow the deer herd to recover from over harvesting from predators and hunters and the severe winter kill few years back. PLEASE listen to the hunters. They are in the fields and forests seeing or for that matter "not seeing deer."

Predators are killing to many deer, don't allow doe season for a few years. I would like to see bow season shortened, hunters choice brought back. I feel public vs private land designation is unfair, I want to hunt on both public and private lands and being required to pick one is unfair.

The way the registration laws are set up now you will never really know how many deer are harvested. It is just about useless to try and set harvest goals when you have no idea how many deer there are or are harvested. The numbers are low at the moment and you can bank on that!

Although the committee's ask for public opinion, they rarely listen to the public. A majority of people at a meeting can speak against issuing way too many antlerless tags and still the committee doesn't listen. No difference in having the DNR set the number of tags.

Our group of 8 harvested 2 bucks but of the 4 that we saw the two were harvested by others. The pressure in the area of public was tremendous but we worked for our bucks. We care for that area, a lot of change has happened more has been closed off, we will be back.

I feel that too many doe harvest permits where authorized in 2016 I have seen a decrease in the number of Does since I started hunting this area in 2011 and I spend a lot of time in the woods working on food plots, hunting, and just watching wildlife.

Many people feel there are no deer because they do not see them when hunting. I wonder if less people are coming to the area because public tags are not available. Less hunters push less deer around. More people sitting allow more deer to stay put.

Still concerned that there are too many predators in Washburn CO. Would like to see a lot more bear tags offered. Way too many antlerless tags were sold in 2016 to see an increase in the population like most of us hunters would like to see.

Please sub divide Washburn county into a north and south unit. Farmland with decent population south of Trego and deer wasteland in northern part of county. Fewer hunters every year due to poor success in the northern part of the county.

Split the unit north and south due to the great difference in type of property, public and private. Sufficient number of deer in the southern area with a lot of agricultural land and low number of deer in the northern largely forest land.

Washburn county is a bi-polar county. The southern part is cropland and the northern part is forest. This BEGS for very different management strategies. Anyone who has spent any time at all in this county should be able to see this.

Split Washburn County, there isn't nearly the deer in the northern part of the county that there is in the southern half. I don't know what so hard about it. We need a few seasons up here with NO antlerless tags! Thank you

Way too many bears around. Need to harvest many more. Too many wolves also. It seems crazy to me that three years ago it was bucks only and last year it had the most available amount of antlerless tags in the state!

There should be no antler less tags available for the public land in this unit. I hunted with the bow and gun and muzzle loader and only saw 5 deer during these seasons. people must stop shooting the does

cdac meetings are a joke. dnr always has the antlerless permit numbers planned out. washburn county has asked for 0 permits. meeting attendance has fallen to 25. no wonder dnr trust is so low.
Deer numbers are improving but no where near the levels they have traditionally been. Please continue a conservative approach to the anterless harvest until deer numbers have increased.

The bait ban has been a long time with no more cases of CWD. It’s time to lift the ban. By not doing so it appears that the Department is losing support and credibility.

Please listen to the people. I don’t know how many time you can hear or read this and still not listen. I think you listen to the DNR more than the people. Thank you

Consider splitting this county management unit to separate the northern half which is all forest and the southern portion that is mostly agricultural.

The unit needs split into smaller units. Population s in the south may be to high but the heard in the north is practically non existent.

Like to see proposed amount of doe tags on private land remain. Too many deer on private land even in northern forest part of county.

Enforce no baiting laws. Hunters here are still cheating. Illegal shining remains an issue in this area.

I believe the county forest and private land should be separate zones for managing the herd.

Size limit on bucks taken should be considered... should not be able to take younger bucks

Just like the meetings you don’t want to hear any comment unless they agree with the CDA

Maintain Buck only status, lift baiting and feeding ban. Your CWD scare tactics are BS

Take Washburn County out of the CWD area/restrictions. Stop the ban on feeding deer.

WE NEED TO SEPARATE THE FOREST FROM THE FARM LAND AGAIN..... BACK TO UNITS....... I think Washburn County should be divided into 2 zones a Northern and a Southern

there quota numbers are to high need more deer

The baiting restriction should be eliminated.

To many predators
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 13
   - No: 30

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 27
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 38
   - General interest in this unit: 13

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 28
   - Bow: 30
   - Crossbow: 15
   - Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 16.32
   - Maximum: 42

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 15
   - Mostly Private Land: 8
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   - Mostly Public Land: 2
   - Exclusively Public Land: 5
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 5
   - Not too crowded: 12
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 3
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 1
   - Not applicable: 1

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 9
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 14
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 9
   - Fewer: 13
   - Same: 13
   - More: 4
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 3
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License:</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs in a Farmland Zone</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated:  Friday, April 14, 2017  Washington, Southern Farmland
I strongly feel the way the DNR is handling the deer harvest statewide by having the hunter choose where he plans to harvest a deer is way out there. In my 38 years of hunting i have traveled and harvested deer through out the state within a season, and this was based on where the hunting party was going, where bad weather dictates movement and just lets try it here attitude. Now you are taking away my ability to harvest a deer because i may have chose the wrong DMU when i purchased a license. I have had opportunities to hunt - private land but could not because i put public down and i missed hunting public with friends because i had private down in a different county, i missed out on the holiday hunt in Waupaca because of this i had xbow in Washington and rifle in Portage and i am only allowed to purchase 1 license per season. This is messed up. I suggest it goes back to the way it was... Statewide - anything - anywhere - whenever, don’t continue this way and screw it up the way fishing regulations have taken me out of that sport - too much to remember and too easy to get fined for doing the wrong thing inadvertently. Why were the number of deer and registered hunters down this year........it's not rocket science

Please eliminate all special hunting seasons, except for youth. Eliminate metro zones now that most municipalities have the option to bow hunt in the populated city limits. Require everyone to buy a buck or doe tag, EVERY tag needs to be bought and every deer should be registered and be given a state provide verification tag. We don't need backtags necessarily but we do need a check and balance on the harvest of deer. Also require game processing businesses to register with the state, track and report the "verification tag numbers". You guys are loosing your grip on the actual head count in our state, now is the time to do something about it. I appologizes for any typos, this was written on my phone. Feel free to contact me Joe - joeturc06@gmail.com

Please revise the Metro Map, that was set over 20 years ago, and is in need of revision. Presently the cut off road to the north is CTH A. I would like to see that extended to at least the Jay Rd, which runs off of 144, and goes cleanly east to Random Lake and STH 57. You could possibly also extend the present western border of 175, but at the least, extend the north area. The north area is cut out of the extended season. Thanks for your time and efforts on our deer herd. Living on the border of the counties I do not like having to buy a doe tag for 3 counties to be legal, in the area I hunt, but I also understand the process of cdac, and trying to have country control. I hope the map is revised for this year.

In general the rules and regulations of management on the deer heard are over complicated. Deer herds are down in record numbers and it really appears the DNR and lobbyists like it this way. Herd sampling size as well as CWD sampling sizes are always going to be very difficult to determine. The reality is "earn a buck" decimated the population. We just are not seeing the number or age class of deer one used to in the late 90's or early 2000's. More rural land is being developed and herds are being further displaced. I think we need to keep limiting harvest numbers to allow the population to recover.

I would like to see the cdac put a stop to free antler less tags. If you have to buy a tag you are less likely to harvest needlessly . Also stop calling them bonus tags, call them what they are antler less only tags. We need to stop the over harvesting and let the population come back up. The condition of the forests are more of a condition of lack of timber management than of deer over population. Log a little , do more controlled burns, let nature take its course. That's a healthy ecosystem. Not constant human intervention.
I would ask the CDAC team to limit the number of antlerless tags on Public Land. A lot of the deer in Washington County are on private land and it is getting to be very difficult to have quality hunting in the Allentown/Theresa Marsh, and Kettle Moraine area of public land. We simply have shot too many deer off the public lands and need to encourage more antlerless harvest from private landowners. I understand that is a difficult challenge.

I have seen significant signs of coyote predation in the last year or two. This may be a localized issue or a broader reflection of the ecosystem (natural rebalancing via sick, starving, etc or the December cold snap we had), but it has impacted how I feel about doe tags for the 2017 season. I think the Washington county CDAC has done a great job listening and building a plan based on the feedback they’ve received. Keep it up!

In 2016, I shot the first deer that I saw, because I didn’t see anything until Tuesday. Sightings and trail camera sightings drastically decreased once the gun season opened. I try to be selective about what I shoot, but when there is no chance to select from 0 sighted deer, I took my opportunity to put meat in the freezer. I wish I had more opportunity to see deer during the season as I seemed to have 4+ years ago.

Add more metro tags, taking the deer out were they need to be culled. I’m seeing a slow decrease in #’s of deer outside of metro area. I think we need to increase #’s outside metro area’s in the next few years in preparation of the wolf’s, some are already here! The wolves will bring the population down quick, look at the northern part of the state, and watch what they do to the central in the next year or two.

Abandon the crossbow season to everyone who wants a crossbow and only limit them to those with real disabilities. IT’S CHEATING AND EVERY RESPECTABLE BOWHUNTING HATES IT! If you allow the crossbow season to continue to trend as it has been, it will completely do away with bow hunting.

Please do not shut down any more snowmobile trails due to this new hunting season, there are more then enough hunting seasons available in this state. Closing snowmobile trails to make for longer season’s or specific seasons is not needed.

I would like to see the return of the holiday hunt. Usually there is some snow on the ground and that seems to make the deer more active during hunting hours.

Happy with the Go Wild system. Very dissatisfied with the paper tag issue. It’s a joke. Eliminate deer farms in Wisconsin. Ban baiting state wide, NOW!!

Would like to see Wisconsin become a quality deer management state allowing bucks to grow bigger before being able to harvest them, ie 8 pointers or bigger.

There is too many hunters to deer. I seen one deer all of last bow season.

I agree %100 with the proposal.
Waukesha, Southern Farmland

The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

50 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   Yes: 12
   No: 38

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   I live in this unit: 27
   I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 14
   I hunt in this unit: 37
   General interest in this unit: 12

   The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   Gun: 26
   Bow: 27
   Crossbow: 9
   Muzzleloader: 11

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   Minimum: 1
   Average: 20.72
   Maximum: 50

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   Exclusively Private Land: 17
   Mostly Private Land: 6
   Public and Private Land About Equally: 5
   Mostly Public Land: 3
   Exclusively Public Land: 5
   I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 1

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   Not at all crowded: 0
   Not too crowded: 11
   Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   Somewhat crowded: 2
   Very crowded: 1
   Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   Many Fewer: 13
   Fewer: 14
   Same: 18
   More: 1
   Many More: 2
   Unsure: 2

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   Many Fewer: 12
   Fewer: 15
   Same: 13
   More: 5
   Many More: 2
   Unsure: 3

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Too low</th>
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<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC's recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
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<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017  
Waukesha, Southern Farmland
Comments for  Waukesha, Southern Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Waukesha County CDAC, last year the vast majority who did the surveys and showed up at the CDAC meetings were against the holiday hunt yet you went against the majority you are suppose to represent and approved the holiday hunt. The holiday hunt was not wanted and not needed yet you pushed it through. Now you are proposing it again this year when it is not wanted or needed. The holiday hunt was supposed to be a tool to be used by CDAC when the population objective is to decrease the herd. Waukesha County is in a maintain objective. It was not just designed just as an opportunity to kill more deer when not needed and the majority are against the holiday hunt. Everyone including the Waukesha County CDAC as well as the DNR keep using the word opportunity that is a real crock. Opportunity to go out and see not much of anything especially on public land. Quit forcing the holiday hunt on us. We don't want or need it. Your preliminary recommendations for antlerless tags on private and especially on public are way too high. No antlerless tags are needed on public land as there are very few deer there. No antlerless tags should be issued free with a license for public land and no tags should be offered for sale for the public land. You need to grow the deer herd on public and by issuing any tags you are making the problem worse. How do you expect a father and young son to get involved/stay involved in hunting if the only land they have to hunt is public and they see zero deer. CDAC needs to think short and long term about public land. The decisions they are making are not in any way helping deer hunting on public land. If I only had public land to hunt, I would quit hunting. How can you justify increasing the antlerless tags on public and private? There are not that many deer in Waukesha County as people think even on private land. I deer hunt sometimes 5-7 days a week on good private and there aren't that many deer. I have tons of coyote that I see as well as hear and are on my trail cameras. I believe they are killing a lot of fawns and some adult deer. Nothing is being done by the DNR or anyone to deal with this out of control coyote issue.

I feel the adoption of CDAC is a excellent idea to better manage at a micro level our deer herd. HOWEVER I am very concerned about extremely low deer levels in some of the local public lands AND surrounding private lands. I spend a ton of time both in and off season in the field and in various habitats studying deer. What I have found is poorly managed deer herds in the rainbow springs public wildlife area and other large highland state lands near by. We need to seriously change this problem to provide better hunting opportunities for our youth and the general public! It would be a serious waste of time and energy to gun or bow hunt some of these areas. So some areas clearly need to be even more micro managed for better numbers and quality. Many hunters simply need better hunting near the larger urban areas. Also remember these high land areas also provide better access for aging or other wise physically challenged hunters. I find many wetland areas are full of deer but difficult to access for the average hunter. Rainbow springs area/lake lulu natural area used to have many deer but are now very sparsely populated. These are large areas with colossal potential if only they were managed effectively. Thank you. Tim E Nelson
I am okay with the quotas and antlerless tag breakdown. Thank you for your efforts. I would implore the committee to reconsider keeping the holiday hunt for 2017. I truly enjoy the opportunity to gun hunt with the potential for snow on the ground. It is a great time of year where my kids are on Christmas break and I can finally spend some time hunting with them where youth sports typically do not interfere. Hunting pressure was low during the week when I took a few vacation days from work; there was a little more competition on the weekend but it was still an enjoyable hunt. This was my first year hunting in Waukesha county, mostly because my home county of Walworth and adjacent Jefferson did not offer the holiday hunt. My wife was fortunate enough to harvest a doe during this time period last year which was a welcome addition to our freezer and also a nice bonding moment for the family. I really look forward to the holiday hunt and I do not think it has any adverse effect on deer numbers; it is merely one more opportunity for a guy to put meat in his freezer.

Over the past few years I have noticed a large increase in urban deer. Even small towns tend to hold more deer than some of the wildlife areas where you would expect to see them. I attribute some of this increase to readily available food sources such as bird feeders and the large selections of delectable plants and landscaping in peoples' yards. A secondary factor is the that the deer have a sense of security. Back when dogs were not required to be leashed or kept in a kennel they would chase them off and the deer knew to be cautious or avoid certain areas. Now I watch them walk right by a dog on a leash and the dog barks frantically and the deer looks at the dog as a non-threat. It would be a great opportunity to expand a program to have a chance to draw an archery only permit to hunt municipal owned property's environmental corridors.

The hunting season is plenty long enough already. However, the snowmobiling season in WI is very short - 90 days maximum. Snowmobiling brings a lot of money to the local economies - and people invest a lot of money in their sleds. The LAST thing that should happen is to have ANOTHER hunting season, which could impact snowmobiling. It is bad enough to wait until Dec 15th in some portions of the state. Now, you want to effectively move the opening date of snowmobiling to Jan 2nd, depriving many of being able to ride during the Christmas break? Whoever brought up this idea was clearly not thinking clearly. Why not have an early November hunt instead, so all are happy? Snowmobilers have such a short season to begin with. This idea should be put in the dumpster as soon as possible.

We need to go back to an earn a buck type of system --- give everyone there normal tag which they can shoot a buck or doe and then offer an additional buck tag if they shoot 2 more does and a third if they shoot 3 more after that. By doing this you will keep the one day hunters happy that they can shoot a buck if they see one and the serious buck hunters will kill more doe so that they can continue to hunt . You can see from the kill numbers that the youth and holiday hunts are not working to kill doe in any large number. They are in fact keeping those that bow hunt out of the woods . Most of the land is private and small parcels and bow hunting is preferred especially since you have allowed rifles to be used.

I want to know why places like Brookfield are having deer shoot at a cost of 300 + to the tax payers. Example the capital Dr. airport, when they could increase the # of metro tags and cost 0$ to tax payer's. word is they took 140 deer out of cap. alone. those #’s I believe are not represented in the harvest report. Not to mention they bait with piles of corn potentially spreading CWD. This type of culling may have a place inside of the city, but shouldn't be allowed on the out skirts. the # of deer I have been seeing in Waukesha county has been dropping, over the last two year's. Please don't make the mistake Northern Wi did By kill, Kill, Kill,

If you would like informed responses it would be nice if the metrics necessary to answer the survey objectively would be presented in the survey. How many antlerless deer were harvested during the Holiday Hunt that was imposed last year contrary to survey results? Is the buck harvest reflecting the same growth rate indicated by a recommended quota 21/2 times greater than the antlerless harvest of 2016. Do not expect to glean anything meaningful from questions designed only to elicit uninformed emotional responses.
Broader access into our state forests and better postings of information/rules/regulations at major parking areas for public land. I have encountered numerous people hunting ON the horse trails in the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest. Please explore opening DOT owned land to recreation. Citizens own this land and are refused access. Minimum parcel sizes would eliminate having to open every little piece up for any "safety" concerns.

As I have read this survey, I believe I am correct in that there were ZERO antlerless deer harvestable in Waukesha county metro unit last year and again this year. I don't believe ALL hunters in this unit are aware on that. From what I'm reading, it appears the Waukesha county portion of 77m metro unit is BUCKS ONLY. I suggest you definitely clarify this in the 2017 hunting regulations.

Need to get that bossy Conservation Congress head off the committee. Seem he has an agenda and doesn't want to listen to public feedback if not his agenda. Members like him will detract from the committees purpose and, like was the case with the DNR, will lose public trust.

Strongly believe the number of farmland tags per license should be increased to two. There are a lot of lightly hunted pockets with many deer in Waukesha County and this would help those of us who try to responsibly control those numbers. Very happy for the Holiday hunt.

How many hunters and how many deer were taken during the last "holiday hunt"? Has it been worth the hassle and cost to do this? What is the impact on other recreation in this area during the "holiday hunt"? Snowmobiling, x-country skiing, hiking?

I would like to see it be made legal to put out minerals for deer in the off season. I am apposed to baiting, However I feel that being able to legally place minerals out in the off seasons is only going to benefit our deer herd.

Not seeing deer in the numbers we did in years past have hunted same farm for 30 years an we seldom ever take doe with all the bonus tags that wear let out surrounding property's slaughtered the deer off

If the stated objective is to "maintain deer population" then why is the WI DNR proposing to increase the allotted tags? Isn't that counterintuitive?

No antlerless only holiday hunt. If you have holiday hunt then allow hunters with an unused buck tag to shoot a buck.

ever year I been hunting I have seen less and less deer every year lower the antlerless quota

have not seen many deer here even during non hunting time

To many deer are being harvested. Hurting population

We do not want a holiday hunt!
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

221 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 128
   - No: 93

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 71
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 60
   - I hunt in this unit: 188
   - General interest in this unit: 47

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 183
   - Bow: 131
   - Crossbow: 68
   - Muzzleloader: 82

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 22.82
   - Maximum: 65

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 158
   - Mostly Private Land: 20
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 4
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 2

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 8
   - Not too crowded: 10
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 5
   - Somewhat crowded: 0
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 5

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 46
   - Fewer: 70
   - Same: 73
   - More: 20
   - Many More: 3
   - Unsure: 9

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 38
   - Fewer: 76
   - Same: 64
   - More: 29
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 9
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land:  | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?  

Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons:</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Oppose</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Waupaca, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

I am certain that the state has no idea how to manage the deer population, or better stated, they manage deer as a reflex rather than having forethought and being proactive. When the railroads came to the state in the 1800s, people would go up north and shoot as many deer as they wanted. No limit. There were few deer in the populated areas because they had all been shot. BAD. In the early 1900s, there were many years without a season. Deer were rare. BAD. When I started hunting in the early 1970s, you needed four people to get together for a "chance" to win a "party tag" to take one doe. During the 70s, in Waupaca County, if you did not see 60 deer on opening day, something was wrong. BAD. Then "hunter's choice" tags were made available and this was the only time in history that I feel the state was making good deer management decisions. The deer population was coming under control. GOOD. Hunter's choice was working and the population was being reduced but not quick enough for some people with an agenda not shared with hunters. "Bonus tags" were sold and freely issued, and the population crashed to such a point that you were lucky to see five deer on opening day. Some seasons you saw none. VERY BAD. Then "earn a buck" appeared. This was extremely irresponsible deer management. I refused to hunt these years. My conscious would not allow me to kill the only doe that may or may not be present on our land. EXTREMELY BAD! That brings us to the present situation of having the ability to kill nearly every doe you see, if you see any at all. Everyone gets three "antlerless tags." VERY BAD. We need to get back to the hunter's choice and let the hunters decide what is best for the land they hunt on. Perhaps trial one antlerless tag to see if hunters are responsible enough to manage the deer on their land if they feel the population is too high. Greed may be a problem though. No antlerless tags should be given for public hunting in farmland zones! I believe the DNR balances hunter's tolerances (acceptable to lose a certain number of hunters due to very low numbers of deer) with pressure from insurance companies. This is wrong! I do not know the deer/car collision stats but I do know the reason the number appears high now compared to the 1970s, when the deer population was out of hand. 1. Speed limits are higher. 2. There are more highways running through deer country. 3. The number of commuters has skyrocketed. Most people that lived in the country worked in the country. Now, there are many more people that live in the country that have to travel many miles to the city to work. The number of cars driving through miles of deer country every day has increased drastically. I have hunted deer in Michigan every year since 1989, which I cannot say for Wisconsin. The Michigan hunting experience is far superior to Wisconsin. Though the Michigan deer population has come down, they manage much better than Wisconsin. They do sell antlerless tags by lottery but it is much more localized and only given in areas with too many deer. They also allow farmers with deer problems to get crop damage tags; also managed on a local level. Wisconsin keeps becoming broader in scope, which is bad. The smaller the units, the better the control. I am at the point where the Wisconsin hunting experience is so poor that I almost don't care if they allow three antlerless deer to be harvested by everyone. I will just hang up hunting here and strictly hunt Michigan, like I did during "earn a buck."  

Don Nussbaum Neenah
I record animals seen on all of my hunts for the past 30 years, I have always hunted on the western side of the county. In addition I utilize game cameras on the properties I hunt for classroom purposes. I hold this to a high integrity. The buck to doe ratio is out of proportion according to my data, there is a 3-1 buck to doe ratio on the properties I hunt. This is good for today for a hunter but does not bode well for the future. In addition I spend plenty of time talking with hunters and listening to what they have to say. With the call in system I heard of several hunters that registered phantom does to increase the deer harvest statistics to prevent a buck only harvest. If we want to look at studies done relating to the value of the resource we can easily note several that show that when you decrease the monetary value of the game (ie. 3 tags per person) you decrease the value of the animal. People will shoot and if it does not drop they will not search for it, because it does not have the value it once did. Between my three sons and I we had 15 tags last year for deer. We did not need that many and in return others see that and it truly devalues the animal. With the above being said, utilizing historical formulas to calculate a deer herd based off of mortality factors is not good practice. In addition due to the value of the land in Waupaca County there are few large tract landowners, the land is fragmented in habitat now more than ever in the county varying the suitable habitat for the deer. Couple that with agricultural practices that are changing almost annually and you have a situation that is hard to pin down. Hunters decimated the doe population through earn a buck and registered more does than were actually on the landscape by reregistering does time and time again. The county harbors a lot of hunters that do not hunt regularly and will take every advantage to get their buck. If these items are not considered or taken into account being off by fractions of a percent on an annual basis will have catastrophic effects down the road. Overall I am concerned for my children that they will be able to enjoy the bounty that this great county has offered over the years.

I am an active hunter, but also an active snowmobile club member. Both of these sports are great family activities. Snowmobile club members get to make trails on private land by the graciousness of the private landowners, which we are very thankful for! Snowmobile clubs generally do not talk about deer issues in fear of losing trail on private land by angering landowners that hunt and feel we are trying to take their hunt away. But now I need to make the CDAC aware, the Holiday hunt, antlerless hunt and proposed January 31 end of the bow season will have a severe impact on our ability to have a snowmobile season. The snowmobile season runs from December 1 to March 31. We are not allowed by the private landowners to mark and brush many trails in the county until all deer hunting is completed. I don’t understand why the season keeps getting later in the year and impacting other recreation. I wish the bow hunting seasons could start earlier in August and the October T-zone hunt would come back. I had many warm weather hunting friends that participated in the October hunt, but have no interest in cold weather December hunts. Also, the October hunt for antlerless deer got a hunter excited for the November hunt were antlered deer could be harvested. Now, when you see a buck in the December hunts, you have to pass it up and that makes a person not want to go hunting after November. In conclusion, I hope I have shed light on the impacts the hunting changes are having on other recreational sports. Thank you for your time.
Instead of having a antlerless only holiday hunt during the holiday season, I would not object to having a antlerless hunt after the nine day gun deer running from the Monday after the nine day, which this year would be November 27th, and running till December 10th. Move the muzzle loader season to what is now the holiday hunt. Also I if this holiday hunt is going to continue, I think we should be allowed to harvest a buck, if we didnt fill our tag day during the nine day or muzzle loader season. Because hunters like myself do not want to hunt if we can only shoot a doe. However we will hunt and will try to shoot a doe, if we can harvest a buck as well. I am more willing to shoot a doe because I want to, and not because its the only option. I hunt on our family farm and we do not see heavy deer damage even though we see a good number of deer. Two years ago our doe to buck ratio was 12 to 1, this past season it was 3 to 1. I also think Waupaca county can sustain more deer than what you think. Just based on personal observation. Also I have never seen a starving deer where I hunt in my life time, so overpopulation is not an issue, and we see plenty of other wild life that live right along side the deer. I did hear wolves hollowing Sunday morning of opening weekend of the nine day this year. Sounded like 3 or 4 of them. Also this year is the first time I ever got a bobcat and coyote on my game cameras, and I've been using game cameras for ten years.

When I first started hunting back in the late 80’s there are considerably more deer than the is now. Area wide it was common to go shining and see groups of 50+ deer in several fields in the same general area. This was common across the entire county. Obviously there were too many deer then. Now you will not see those numbers of deer anywhere in the area. If you do it is in an isolated patch, not common everywhere, yet now we’re told the deer population is far too high. There were efforts back then to reduce numbers but even more drastic measures have been proposed recently. I worry that the big buck mentality and the QDMA lobby is behind this. Also, I don’t believe the DNR has a good handle on deer numbers. I believe that was a problem in the past and continues to be a problem now. I'm not a wildlife biologist and do not have the background to manage the deer numbers but I do have the observational awareness to see the differences between then and now and realize the information given then and now do not correlate. I agree there are pockets where the herd is out of control however I know there are way more areas in Waupaca County with a severely depleted population. I come to this conclusion through years of observation as a lifelong resident of Waupaca County and one who travels throughout the county extensively for various pursuits.

Current deer harvest quotas seem to be sufficient in my area, as the number of deer seen is maintaining. It also appears that the majority of the land owners in this area would agree with this, as they are not purchasing anywhere near the available bonus tags. If you do find it necessary to increase the quota, I ask that you please consider other means, that do not lengthen the hunting season. I ask that you consider not doing the holiday hunt, and also to please not extend the season into January. Hunter’s currently have 4 months (1/3 of the year) to hunt. I ask this because extending the hunting season greatly encroaches upon the snowmobile season. It only takes a few landowners to not allow snowmobiling during the hunting season, to shut the whole trail system down. There are many folks who like to enjoy our Wisconsin outdoors, who don't carry a bow or gun with them. Shutting the snowmobile season down till February would have a great impact on the snowmobile clubs. Many folks would more than likely consider getting out of the sport, if they only have 4-5 weeks of potential riding. This would effect to local economy and also effect state revenue regarding snowmobile registrations and trail pass sales. Thank you for your consideration.
I live twelve miles west of New London, I drive to work everyday at 6:30 a.m. and drive home everyday at 4:30 p.m. I made it a habit to count and keep track of the deer I see coming and going. I realize mine is not a scientific study but I see a lot fewer deer the last two years than I have in a long time. I'm traveling rural "backroads", were the farming practices have not changed. I also keep 7 trail cameras in the field year round and have fewer photos of deer in all seasons. We own approximately 300 acres in Waupaca and there is no question that we have a substantial amount fewer deer now than we did 8-25 years ago. I think we should shoot fewer antlerless deer and manage the deer herd for quality, bigger healthier deer. Most hunters in the county shoot any buck with antlers and then they shoot 1, 2 or 3 antlerless deer. A fair number of hunters kill a buck with bow and firearm and then they kill some antlerless. I find dead deer on our property every spring, the ditches are full of dead deer and nobody knows how many are killed by predators, coyotes, wolves, bears and dare I say even mountain lions! Yes, mountain lions. I also feel strongly that we should increase the price for out of state hunters.

Last year, Waupaca county had a "holiday" hunt that stopped the snowmobile trails from being opened that week. The following week, it warmed up and killed our chances at snowmobiling. I voiced my frustration this winter with an avid hunter. His words were "If you haven't got a deer by Christmas, you either are not trying very hard or are not a good hunter" and agreed that the holiday hunt was ridiculous. Now I'm hearing that the DNR is looking into additional/extended bowhunts in certain areas along with the "Holiday" hunt the week of Christmas. This is really going to impact the already short snowmobile season. I certainly am not going to continue supporting or getting a membership with my local club if I'm not even going to be able to ride in my own neighborhood. I'll guess that means I just spend more money in Michigan rather than try to hope for a chance to participate in Wisconsin. When do the winter recreational groups get there chance to enjoy the winter/snow? How many deer were really taken during this time? Isn't the hunting season long enough already? Couldn't the season be start sooner or extend the current gun season an extra week in November?

The buck kill has been almost the same the last few years and slightly lower this past year. This is one of the factors in estimating the population, the buck kill. So DNR projections based on that were totally off if you consider the fact that they projected big increases in the herd size coming into last season. I would assume the doe kill increased because of the looming threat of does only being recommended again. With more predators, higher doe harvests, and inevitable rough winters the county could turn quickly back to post earn a buck when the numbers were way down. Mother nature does a pretty good job of managing the herd. At times Id contest better than even the DNR. I believe the herd is in a stable mode right now without the need of extreme harvesting. I hope it stays healthy. I do wish waupaca county someday would look into a point restriction on bucks. It has more potential than it currently shows for world class bucks. The older generation that just meat hunted is slowly swinging to the younger generation of letting them grow. It is gaining more popularity as time goes on and wish it would at least be tabled for discussion.

I strongly oppose ANY ideas regarding only allowing antlerless deer hunting in the Waupaca area. When you kill an antlerless deer, you take a max of THREE possible deer with that harvest. A buck, on the other hand, could potentially remove 11 possible harvests since bucks breed on average 5 does and assuming most have twins that's how we get to 11. WHY the DNR thinks that antlerless hunts is the answer is silly. We used to ONLY be able to hunt antlered deer and we were lucky to get one party tag per five people years ago. We had a managed herd then, which is why we do what we do now. My property is all QDM and we see nice deer, yet we only harvest bucks of certain size. Kids and new hunters are allowed to kill what they can eat, but experienced adult hunters are held to certain size bucks. We see the same amount of deer each year, and we do not have a population explosion. We have no idea why the DNR thinks population control lies within in killing females.
In my opinion if the DOT and the Forestry is reporting a increase in vehicle related accidents or an issue with forest not able to regenerate. Those areas should be identified that report the incidents and should be considered for revised boundaries. The crop damage issue should allow the land owners access to more tags. I have heard if the tags are issued and not used the tag will not be reissued the following year to this landowner. I believe this practice does not help land owners to eliminate the deer. The tags should be reissued the following year. Another Issue is the season for hunting deer is longer. By that I mean the elimination of the October hunt, then the addition of a holiday hunt. This practice is going into other winter activities, one is snowmobiling. This industry relies on land owners, by extending the hunting season the trails are closed. Consider extending the current days in the existing hunts and not extending the hunting season.

In the area I hunt (town of Dayton) I feel the deer numbers have never rebounded since earn a buck. I've seen first hand the numbers steadily go down since earn a buck, then a few extreme winters and more predators pushing down shrunk the population even more. I feel the most important thing I can say is "what's good for Peter isn't always good for Paul" Waupaca is a big area with many pockets of heavy numbers and many pockets of not many deer, so I ask you to consider the people in the areas with fewer deer when making decisions mandating them to shoot the one doe family they have in there area. For those private lands (those who want to hoard does) More programs, incentives (Inviting youths or new hunters to take does on heavily populated private lands) I would love to be able to bring Kids to shoot does on my property if I had an overabundance! Clearly issuing 7200 bonus tags for private and seeing 600 bought isn’t the answer. Thanks for reading my thoughts.

I have seen nothing but a decrease in deer population, I start watching in June and go thru Jan. There are to many does taken each year to support the population. I would also say that I heard a lot of people not even registering deer last year because of this online registration that doesn't work everywhere in the state because of lack of cell towers and people don’t have to show the deer to anyone. The predator population has increased in many areas so that keeps the population down. Years ago we always saw deer with antlers of 10+ and now we are lucky to see 6 point. I personally think there are to many special hunts, I support the youth learning to hunt but the hunt during the archery season really screws up the hunt for the archers. Should have a later hunt or give the youth a break on the price for the normal gun hunt. I feel you are trying to eliminate the herds not regulate them.

In my opinion if the DOT and the Forestry are reporting increases in vehicle related accidents or an issue with forest not being able to regenerate; these areas should be identified and considered for revised boundaries. More tags should be available to land owners and if they are not used that year I have been told they are not reissued the following year. I feel these tags should be issued the following year again. The hunting season for deer is longer The elimination of the October hung and then the addition of the the holiday hunt will impact other winder activities, ie snowmobiling. This sport relies heavily on landowners and by extending the hunting season the snowmobile trails would be closed. This season is already short and consideration should be made to extend the current days into the existing hunt and NOT extending the hunting season. Thank you.

Have been hunting the same area (200 acres) for over 35 years. Numbers are not back to the hay days but usually see see deer every time out which makes it fun. I personally passed 8-9 small bucks while hunting and ended up killing a doe and a nub. If we haven't see many deer we don't just kill one because we have a license. We take just what we feel we can to maintain the population for the next season. Positive: Would say since there is no baiting where I hunt we have seen more deer. Negative: Using the car kill as a way of measuring deer numbers. Most of the highways that use to be 2 lane are now 4 lane with large mediums and shoulders, fences and concrete barriers. Speed has increased dramatically and we drive autos with plastic grilles and bumpers. Cannot compare damage between now and then.
there might be high numbers of deer in certain areas, especially farm areas that draw the deer there because there is feed there. especially in the winter when the deer are most vulnerable and the farms have hay bales and silage bags open. also feeder bunks with feed in them. but for the most part I have watched the deer numbers decline where I hunt and between the wolves and doe tags I feel you will whip out the herd eventually like further up north is seeing. 1 or 2 doe tags per license is plenty or its just a waste of game. without being able to bait or feed this forces the deer to congregate at all the local farms and then they get ag tags to kill them? this isn't fair plus this year there were people getting them and shooting deer after they had lost their antlers. that's not right.

I encourage bringing back earn-a-buck. We see a LOT of deer on our land. Any given day during bow or gun season, I saw anywhere between 30 and 60 deer. We invited friends to come on our land and let their kids shoot does during the holiday hunt, which netted 8 does harvested - many of those kids had never seen a deer in the wild - they typically hunt in areas where the deer have been killed off by wolves or other predators. We try to allow our bucks to grow into older/larger trophies, but have enough hunters around us that see a buck/shoot a buck, no matter the size, so our bucks tend to get shot by 3 1/2 years. Very very few make it past that point. I think the earn-a-buck would help this, and the overpopulation in some areas.

Suggest the WI DNR and AWSC work together regarding extending hunting seasons into the winter months when public, state-funded snowmobile trails can be open. Decisions to have holiday hunts and extend hunting seasons in some areas puts local snowmobile clubs and landowners in an "awkward" situation. Local snowmobile clubs rely on the precious gift of land use from landowners and we respect their decision to restrict the use of their land to snowmobiling during extending hunting seasons. However, would ask the WI DNR and AWSC work together to determine appropriate dates, rather than putting local clubs and landowners in this situation. Snowmobiling also has significant economic impact in our state.

2016 was my 5th year leasing land in Waupaca county and proved to be the worst year yet. The deer population is very spotty. Some lands are over populated and there is nothing you can do about it because the land owners arnt going to shoot them. The rest of us are suffering as a result. Many are ready to give up spending our money and head else where. Your going to ruin a good thing. I personally found two dead 1.5 year old bucks on my land with bullet holes and whitnessed a tree full of fawns and yearling 1.5 year old bucks by my neighbors house.your striking up a "brown is down" mentality of hunting and it's turning deer season into nothing more but killing every deer they see.

Give or take 100 yards, I have sat in the same place during the gun deer season for 40 years. Through the 1990s I saw 80-100 deer throughout the 9 day season. One season I saw 70 before noon on opening day! This is too many. I started to see a steady decline in the early 2000s with a huge decline by 2010. The last 4 seasons, I've seen 6-8 deer total during the 9 day gun season. In 2016 I hunted 36 hours the first 4 days before seeing a single deer. I'm not one who needs to see huge numbers of deer to make me happy and I'm not angry because the deer herd in my area has drastically declined, but I am a bit concerned. Thank You for all that you do!

There are too many deer. They are eating everything, even bird food. People need to stop being lazy "Collectors" and start being hunters, since we artificially inflate the deer population buy indirectly feeding them and protecting them from their natural predators we have an obligation to manage their population to a holding capacity in line with natural numbers. I'm tired of hearing "I haven't seen no deer out in the woods... only does! The DNR just wants to take our guns and deer away..." at the bar. Shoot more does, balance the herd and watch the antlers come back. SIMPLE!
There have been way to many deer in are area for about 20 years. I've farmed my hole life and I am 58 years old. With all the farm land and swamps and woods the deer have a lot of places to hide. No one drives deer anymore because of safety. So the deer are not made to leave there bedding places. Going to antlerless would make things worst because people will stop buying License and you will even more deer. One thing that I think is That any Farmer that is growing crops should be able to shoot at least 10 deer on their property with out opening there land to public hunting.

Some form of the old "earn a buck" would be ok as long as it is not done in consecutive years as it was in the past. If done every three-four years, it would be much more accepted and not decimate local pockets of deer. A review of what is considered "habitat" needs to be done. According to the WDNR, land surrounding my land is not considered habitat which is just not true. This skews the deer per square mile to levels that make it look like there is a deer around every tree. Please consider reviewing this very important facet of determining the overall population.

It's been brought to my attention that they may have a winter bow/crossbow season that would extend up until the end of January. As a waupaca county resident and avid snowmobiler this raises some concerns for me. The snowmobile season is already very short and limited depending upon the weather. By increasing the hunting season this would only be shortening the snowmobile season. This would hurt the tourism in waupaca county as well as fundraising and involvement in local snowmobile clubs. Thanks for taking this into consideration.

There were dates listed in literature to extend bow hunting to January 31st which would not allow snowmobile trails to open until February. I strongly oppose this as this area has a tremendous trail system and not allowing it to open would cause a reduction in tourism dollars and visitors. Hunting at this time of year doesn't increase tourism as the likely hunters during this season in this area would be local. The snowmobile season is already a short 2 month season in this area already at best...to cut that in half would be ridiculous.

I AM A SNOWMOBILER. WE ONLY GET 1-3 MONTHS TO SNOWMOBILE IN WAUPACA COUNTY, THIS YEAR ONE OF THE TWO WEEKS THE TRAILS WERE OPEN WAS IN JANUARY. IF THE BOW/CROSSBOW SEASON IS EXTENDED TO JANUARY 31ST IT WILL CUT OUR SEASON ALMOST IN HALF BECAUSE LANDOWNERS WILL REQUEST THAT WE NOT INSTALL TRAILS UNTIL BOW/CROSSBOW SEASON IS OVER. THIS WILL GREATLY AFFECT THE REVENUE THAT SNOWMOBILER TOURISM BRINGS TO WAUPACA COUNTY. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME EXPRESS MY POINT OF VIEW. RUSTY DETRA. PRESIDENT OF INVADERS OF FREMONT SNOWMOBILE CLUB

LMAO, another poorly thought out plan by our Republican majority to extend the bow season to January 31st and in essence they closed their snowmobile season for good. When the people in power are of the mind set, "What's good for me, is good for all," it will sooner or later come back to bite them in the butt. Someday, we'll get back to looking at what's best for the majority of the people in this state, but not today, tomorrow, or next month. So as far as I'm concerned, keep the January 31st bow date and let them eat crow.

I am pleased that Hunter feedback is being responded to with no antlerless only hunting. Look at the number of surplus anterless tags available on private land and compare that to the number purchased in 2016. Less than 10 percent of available tags were purchased. Conclusion, the deer herds are not excessive in most of Waupaca. Help the forestry people and farmers who have truly excessive overbrowsing manage any excess right in their immediate local. Remember, deer primary home range is only about 1 sq mile.

I have concerns regarding hunter ethics. With the tools we have today in the form of technology, there is very little excuse for trespassing. Having private property abutting public lands, we have trespassing issues every year. Most plead ignorance when caught, even though the private land is clearly posted. I now carry the sheriffs office telephone number in my phone. I would like to see the fine for trespassing greatly increased as a deterrent, and repeat offenders to lose their hunting privileges.
The current method of determining the deer herd is clearly flawed. Deer numbers in the field have dropped annually in our neck of the woods for the better part of a decade. I would say it's half of what it was 15-20 years ago when I started hunting this county. Yet, all we hear is the numbers are out of control. Lots of outside influence with deep pockets clearly involved here. Careful, or what is happening in IL, will happen here & those who purchase licenses will go elsewhere.

Please do not add more deer hunting times. We do not get a very long snowmobile season, and the weather/timing/snow is not guaranteed. We need to use these trails as soon as and whenever we can. Otherwise, we will lose trails, sponsors, donors, clubs, and volunteers. Please consider allowing the opening of trails when deer seasons are active, however this will still not stop private land owners from disallowing trail opening on their land when seasons are active.

It is my opinion in this unit we have hit a saturation point with regard to issuing antlerless permits. Regardless of how many antlerless tags are issued per license, private landowners will still control the harvest. The best way to control an increasing whitetail herd size always was and still is EAB. Enacting an antlerless only season in the future will do nothing to control the expanding deer herd as many will not hunt nor purchase a license.

Just a comment, small businesses in northern Waupaca county rely heavily on deer season as a way of revenue, so more deer more hunters more money, we are also known for our big bucks which brings more people to the area to help support small business. We need to stop trying to kill off too many deer, we also need to watch over the growing wolf population in Waupaca county, we have resident wolf's on camera and they are here to stay, thank you

Our management area in waupaca county is rather hit and miss based on discussions with other land owners. I see several deer every day through the hunting seasons but many do not. The population is probably a bit too high in some areas of the county and I really like the holiday hunt. We have such a unique area of the state with the farmland and the swamps and wetlands. Almost like god intended white-tailed deer to thrive here.

There are way to many deer in Waupaca county. As I drive thru different areas of the county and see the large numbers of deer in the fields. Also every wood line has deer browse as high as the deer can reach. Also heard that DNR is cost sharing putting up fences to aid in natural plant and tree regeneration. This should not happen until deer numbers are brought down to levels that allow natural regeneration with out fencing.

Deer numbers in Waupaca county are drastically skewed because the whole county is not the same as the Eastern half of the county. The way the deer herd up in the Manawa/Clintonville/Marion over winter make it look like the county has way too many deer. Being a die hard hunter as well as a wildlife and fisheries graduate I understand the science behind management so this is not just some average Joe response.

Antlerless Only Season in Waupaca County will turn off hunters from hunting and kill the moral. I think deer population in Waupaca County is the lowest I've seen it in 14 years. Every year gets worse and worse. Your wrecking it for the avid hunter and turning them off. They are going to start traveling out of state to harvest deer where deer are abundant. Let people manage there own property's.

I'am from Fla. so don't get good info. but i can tell last years weather hurt the harvest so you need to keep pressure on to keep the no. of deer down. you could have doe only for bow and gun but youth hunt need to either deer We need to have new hunter each year.I'am 75 and we have2 hunter under 20 and 1 under15 in our woods. 3 of my hunter are out of state. If you like to talk Gene 352 250 1942

My real concern is the additional or extended hunting season. The snowmobile season is extremely short the way it is, and adding longer or additional hunting seasons seriously cuts into the ability to use the trail system. I understand the importance of a reasonable deer harvest, but there is more to life in Waupaca County than just hunting deer. Let's be fair about land usage.
I am very concerned with the amount of woodland where all of the seedlings are being ate off. I can’t even plants new trees without having to fence them in. The farmers are clearing woodland at a high rate to offset the crop damage to increase their yields. I can see herds of deer in excess of 50 at a time. Population is much to high in the Waupaca county area.

During the earn-a-buck years, I saw more and bigger bucks than recent years. I vote to bring it back. To many refuse to shoot does. I can name 50, easy! Could it be possible to keep track of who hasn’t shot a doe in the past 2 or 3 years and print it right on their tag that they have to earn their right to shoot a buck by shooting a doe. Just sounds easy to me.

The wolf population needs to be controlled and lowered immediately. Between the coyotes, wolves, bear, bobcats, etc., the whitetail deer is struggling to maintain their population. If we ever get a harsh winter, this would devastate population numbers just like it did to the northwoods recently. We have to do our part and limit female deer from being shot.

Please dont ever consider anterless only seasons! Us as land owners who pay taxes on our hunting land should have the right to shoot what we are happy with on our land. If you were to pass anterless only seasons, I would not buy hunting licenses which is money out of the DNRe’s pocket and not helping your situation. There has to be a better solution.

I have hunted deer in Waupaca county for the last 26 years. In the last 10 years, the number of deer seen have dropped dramatically. During the 2016 gun deer hunt, our group of 6 did not see a single deer during 8 full days of hunting. In 2015, we saw 3 deer and 2014 we saw 3 as well. I oppose the proposed holiday hunt and anterless only hunt.

Antlerless only is a bad choice for tourism, I feel more available anterless tags would be a better choice. Further, the holiday hunt conflicts with snowmobile trail openings. Snowmobiling brings in way more tourism dollars at that time of year. Anyone who still hasn’t got a deer probably isn’t going to get one by extending the season

I recommend not giving guys 3 doe tags right away with the purchase. Give a person one buck tag with the bow, one buck tag with the gun, and one doe tag for either. And then if they want more doe tags they can buy them. Some people feel obligated to fill all there tags and that causes more does to get shot than needed.

With the limitations of the current system, either totally anterless or normal buck harvest, I wish that the rules could be changed to have buck application with reduced buck tags for both bow, crossbow and gun. This would be more welcome than going straight to a antlerless only harvest, as was proposed 2 years ago.

I seen more deer 30 years ago but that is when people would let you hunt on there land and everybody didn’t think that every deer was their property. The people that practice equality management are goofing it up also sure I like to get big bucks but you still have to shoot does in order to manage the herd.

I DON’T KNOW THE DEER DENSITY OF ENTIRE COUNTY BUT IN THE TOWNSHIP THAT I LIVE IN THE SIGHTINGS AND HARVEST ARE DOWN. MY NEIGHBORS DIDN’T EVEN PURCHASE GUN LICENSE BECAUSE OF NOT SEEING DEER DURING ARCHERY. SOME AREAS OF COUNTY MIGHT HAVE OVER ABUNDANCE OF DEER BUT THAT IS NOT THE CASE IN MY AREA.

I have heard there is a proposal to extend the bow season through January. I oppose this even as an avid hunter because many snowmobile trails would be closed and snowmobile season is too short already the way winters have been. I doubt there would be many hunters out through January anyway.

Deer sightings are much fewer where I hunt in Weyauwega in the last 2 years. We don’t need people harvesting 3 deer each. And, with the snowmobile season so hit or miss already, we don’t need trails closed all of January for the few hunters that will occasionally be in the woods.
I don’t agree everyone should be penalized on the doe issue when 90% of the does are on large tracks of private land where does are not shot. I drive by the same fields day in and day out with 30-40-50 doe in the fields and the land owners will not shoot them. Thanks Brad

Habitat in my area is what I consider to be ideal deer habitat. Something is wrong with the metrics used to determine the population size. The lower numbers of deer I see while hunting over the last several years tell me we are decreasing the deer population already.

I would like to see two antlerless permits offered per license. And extra offered for a fee. Also, it is time to introduce antler restrictions. I propose the 4 points on one side. It is working in other states. I would keep it at one buck per license. Thank you

Our group had 4 gun, 3 bow and 2 youth licenses in central farmland on 70 acres, that comes to 36 tags. The herd is not that big it would be foolish for us to harvest that many in only 70 acres, we put meat in the freezer that we will consume and not waste.

I believe an antlerless deer season is the wrong approach for what the DNR is trying to accomplish. If anything go back to earn a buck, even though I’m against that as well, it at least ensures everybody takes a doe to help manage the population.

You keep supporting all of these antlerless deer hunts and our population will continue to diminish. We will not be shooting antlerless deer in our area and will not be getting a license to hunt if there is a rule to kill one before a buck.

I recommend a longer than 9 day buck and doe gun hunt such as 15 days as in Michigan. with that in place a weekend of bad weather such as opening day 2016 would not wipe out the entire season. There should be a minimum of 3 full weekends.

The method of calculating the size of the herd must be flawed if you think the herd is increasing in size. The number of deer I don’t see tells me there are less deer than there were just a few years ago. A lot less deer overall.

Good way to make the people think they have a say in matters, but in reality the DNR will do what big money (insurance companies) tells then to do .... Also Go back to shotguns and crossbows for seniors and disabled....

Be very concerned about the wolves that have moved into waupaca county. If the Dnr does not believe this threat is real they are not paying attention to what is happening in one of the best deer hunting counties in the state

When I started hunting decades ago as I recall there was one hunter in 8 or 9 harvesting a buck in this area. Now everyone who buys a license thinks he/she is entitled to a deer or they haven't had a successful hunt.

Let's get antler restrictions in place as well as a one buck limit. Also, we need to eliminate group hunting. We need to try this in Waupaca County. People are way too short-sighted when it comes to their hunting!

I would like to see the free doe tags reduced to 1 and sell the remaining ones. Those that want to harvest doe should pay for that opportunity. Plus that is lost revenue to the DNR that is desperately needed.

This will potentially impact the snowmobile season. There are enough opportunities to hunt compared with limited snowmobile riding options. If trails are open, no hunt. If they are closed, hunt away.

there aren't many deer as the DNR is stating. I didn't shoot my bow or gun this past hunting season. I only saw a couple of does during bow and gun season. So where are they according to the DNR.

I am a avid hunter and snowmobiler and have heard rumors of a bow hunting season lasting until Jan-31st. Snowmobile season in Wisconsin is very short. Please do not consider this. Thank You.

I don't no where you get your numbers everyone i talk to in our area see less and less deer its nothing like when i was a kid! I wish my son could of hunted then just a shame now!
I would like to see more input on land development to support a healthier deer herd. DMAP has been around for a while, but I have not had any luck in getting assistance.

Applying the quota recommendation to a county is not practical. Where I hunt there is not a large population of deer. It would be better to return to the unit system.

Earn a buck seemed to be a good system. That way enough does were taken and overall there seemed to be more deer. Consider a minimum size of 6 points or larger on bucks

I saw decreasing numbers of see steady the last few years. You cant go by harvest numbers. I shot a buck and a doe last year. But the kicker is that is all I saw

Thank you for allowing hunters an opportunity to share their opinions. Greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do in the conservation of our wildlife.

Much fewer deer seen the past 4-5 years. Keep hearing the numbers are too high. Insurance and Ag lobbyists have been quite busy by the looks of it.

Would like to kids have many opportunities and success. While I'm seeing fewer deer, I support the holiday hunt so kids get another chance.

I propose that the muzzleloader season include shotguns and perhaps be called rifle alternative season, or something similar to that.

Deer number of deer on my crop Farm keep going down do to wolves and coyotes. Please leave do not give out any more bonus tag!

The free antlerless tags and holiday hunt really helped the harvest. Thanks for this process and the work of the Cdac board.

I would support antler point restrictions in this zone to increase buck age structure and to encourage Antlerless harvest.

Hunting is a great sport. Please do not increase harvest days. This is great way for family and friends to get togather

I oppose the extra/extended hunting season as it interferes with the snowmobile season and would cut it or shorten it.

The hunting seasons are starting to affect the recreational tourism like snowmobiling which is already a short season

I am concerned about the sport of snowmobiling and the fact that extending the season can cut our opportunity in 1/2.

I would like to see a one buck only per year. I would like to also antler restriction 8 point 14 in spread

Deer herd is to low in the Northeastern section of the county. Split the county up into smaller zones.

It theier going to be a buck hunting this year because I just buyed my buck tag allready

Do not extend hunting season for either guns or bow & arrows beyond previous limitations.

Please let me know if any thing changes Nicholsonscott98@yahoo.com ty

Very simply, end this holiday hunt. It ruins late season bow hunting.

Out of state state fees should be lowered to increase tourism

No reason to extend hunting past the December holiday hunt

Get rid of baiting, fine the hell out of all who do bait!

Bring back feeding of deer in waupaca county

All deer hunting seasons need to end Dec.31
I oppose an extended deer bow season 2017.

Good luck trying to please everyone...

council did a good job

Season too long

Buck only
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

116 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 71
   - No: 45

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 46
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 28
   - I hunt in this unit: 99
   - General interest in this unit: 29

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 93
   - Bow: 67
   - Crossbow: 40
   - Muzzleloader: 38

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 1
   - Average: 22.99
   - Maximum: 58

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 66
   - Mostly Private Land: 13
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 7
   - Mostly Public Land: 5
   - Exclusively Public Land: 8
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 6
   - Not too crowded: 9
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 10
   - Somewhat crowded: 3
   - Very crowded: 4
   - Not applicable: 1

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 33
   - Fewer: 37
   - Same: 30
   - More: 8
   - Many More: 5
   - Unsure: 3

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 29
   - Fewer: 37
   - Same: 28
   - More: 13
   - Many More: 6
   - Unsure: 3

Report Generated: Friday, April 14, 2017
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

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<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
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<th>About Right</th>
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<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
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<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
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<td>11</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support Oppose Unsure

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support Oppose Unsure

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID NOT VALID Unsure

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not applicable in this DMU</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
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<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
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<td>2.17</td>
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<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
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<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
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<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
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<td>3.26</td>
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<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
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<td>2.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
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<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
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<td>2.36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
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<td>2.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coyote population is steadily increasing and having an effect on the deer population. Seeing more trappers on the public I hunt trying to control it, and the neighboring private land owners have said they are constantly trapping and having problems. Also starting to see bear sign more and more in this area of Waushara county that rarely saw any in the 18 years I’ve hunted here. Used to see a ton of rabbits in the area, but with the increased coyote population you never see any anymore, and now see more younger deer killed now that the rabbits are gone. Hunt this piece every day during gun season and at least three times a week for bow and know the landowners on all sides and know 90% of the hunters that hunt this public, and none of us shoot does anymore or young bucks, and I haven’t seen any shot off this public in the last two years, just one mature buck taken on the public, and two mature bucks in the bordering private, and the number of deer, and quality of bucks has gone up just in two years time. We strongly oppose more doe tags and any antlerless only hunts. Even one to two years without it strongly improves the deer herd. Also see a lot more deer now which makes it more fun to be in the woods, but nothing like when I started hunting here 18 years ago.

Should allow baiting of 2 gallons a day per 40 Acres, most private landowners have food plots anyway now, would just increase the likelihood of a deer harvested to reach projected deer herd goals. Coyotes, Coywolf, and Wolves are a major problem, we have found 2 carcasses this winter on our land, never had in the past large 10 pt buck we have watched for years. 160 Acres adjacent to 800 acres of Public DNR Hunting and Fishing grounds in Town of Mount Morris Waushara County. Why the mortality from predators- most likely due to food plots and deer concentrating in these areas/ competing for food as food plots are not planted on Public lands by DNR to feed the deer, and baiting not allowed increase hunter success to reduce the herd. More Deer= More and Healthier Predators, should bring back baiting, and let population densities and scarcity run its course to reduce predator numbers.

I’ve been hunting this unit for 25 years. And for the last 10 years I’ve seen fewer and fewer deer every year. I used to see deer just about every time I went hunting and now it’s just the opposite. It seems like all the deer are in small pockets living in the best habitat. And the rest of the habitat is sparsely populated with deer. I think if we had more deer it would help fill in the areas with very few deer. I hunt family land and it’s $1800. per year taxes per forty acres because it’s recreational land, but yet there hardly is any deer to hunt on it. If your gonna charge people that much for taxes because it recreational land there should be a good huntable population of deer on it. When you hand out all the free tags and your neighbors all shoot anything that moves every year I’m actually shocked we have any deer left anymore.

There are too many extra antlerless permits given out on public land and too few on private. Most of the deer are located on private land. The two tags per license for 2017 may remedy the private land aspect of that observation however public lands are over run with hunters and adding extra tags just exacerbates that situation. I also wonder when the CDAC’s will be given an effective tool such as EAB for when the time comes that the current tools are unable to keep the population in check. Waushara County is headed for overpopulation again. It was clear based on the events in Waupaca County in 2016 that an antlerless only season will unlikely get voted for locally, will not actually kill more deer due to hunter non participation and will likely never be approved by the NRB even if it did pass the County CDAC level.
I am Apossed to a holiday hunt!! The deer hunting season is more than long enough. October through the end of November is more than enough time to harvest a deer. Hunters have more than enough options when it comes to the type of hunt they want from bow to rifle during that time. I watched with disgust the lack of deer hunting in Marquette county during the holiday hunt and how its negative affect impacted snowmobiling. Trails were closed during the hunt in the interest of safety. The DNR has taken away the positive economic impact in deer hunting on local business with their new registration practices. Please don't negatively impact other seasonal activities with an unpopular holiday hunt!

I'm opposed to the Holiday Hunt. I believe there are actually too many seasons already with apparently the Conservation Congress and DNR wanting to extend them even further, i.e. extended bow season, 16 day season, etc. I believe this minimizes the value of the deer and merely reduces them to "pest" status. I believe many of these things were tried in the past with not much success. The only thing that seemed to work was earn- a buck. Unfortunately, I think this lasted a couple of years too long when it was previously tried and became socially unacceptable. Additionally, I believe the extended seasons have the high probability of interfering with other activities such as snowmobiling.

As a resident, local hunter, business owner and snowmobile advocate... I am highly against the holiday hunt. Marquette County had the holiday hunt last year. This brought very few additional deer harvested but did keep our trail system closed with more than enough snow on the ground to open the trails. Now that harvested deer are registered online, our local businesses see more activity from snowmobiling than hunting. Hunters don't stop by to register their harvest and stick around for a meal or pick up some other supplies anymore. Keeping trails closed for a hunt almost nobody is participating in is not good for the local economy or deer population. Thank for reading this response.

Deer are becoming too concentrated on certain property's due too food plots, illegal baiting and land owners having large parcels of 100 acres or more and not allowing hunting and holding way too many deer on their lands. I own three different tracks of lands and hunt other locations in Waushara County and experience these above situations. People now have gotten bolder with illegal baiting causing deer not too move regularly during hunting hours, it's the same situations as like in the past when baiting was once legal over 10 years back. I believe chronic wasting is in Waushara county myself witnessing very skinny bony weak looking deer(does) about 1 too 2 per year.

I hunt the very southern part of Waushara county and the deer numbers still are very low. We have had numerous years of antlerless only incentives to reduce the herd. I feel we are at the point, where antlerless is now starting to be detrimental to success. I understand managing a county this large and with all the various types of habitat is hard. But seeing only one deer for the last two years on opening weekend is a hard pill to take. My entire group of eight hunting 300+ acres have seen a total of six deer for the last two years on opening weekend. In the past the group would see maybe ten or twelve deer on opening weekend.

We own a hotel in the area. Hunters have complained they are seeing less deer than in previous years and are thinking about going somewhere else to hunt. The coyotes and wolves are harvesting too many deer and are not being taken into account in the DNR surveys. Adding a holiday hunt would also limit the snowmobile season which is in jeopardy already because of the low amounts of snow we have received in the past 2 years. Last year there was snow in December and not in January. Shortening the season would severely hurt tourism in the area.

As a retired law enforcement officer I have personally observed a decrease in the deer population in this area. I can also state from being a go wild license agent for the last 5 years our customers are not pleased with the current deer management plan. They have consistently seen less deer along with an increase in coyote and wolf sightings. The number of antler-less seasons available are out of proportion to what is needed or wanted. Myself and my customers/ fellow sportsman hope the DNR will reconsider the proposed plan for 2017.
Observed a lot of deer carcasses with only back straps taken. A lot of carcasses left in parking lots, I like the call in/online registration but seems it's getting abused already. In person registration during gun season? Permanent stands on public land is a horrible idea. Called two different farmers from ag tag list and both would not allow me to hunt. Instead of ag tags just open farm to public hunting if they are claiming a deer issue. Spring bear season! Two weekend muzzle loader season. Stop selling public land!

Please do not add more deer hunting time or seasons. We do not get a very long snowmobile season, and the weather/timing/snow is not guaranteed. We need to use these trails as soon as and whenever we can. Otherwise, we will lose trails, sponsors, donors, clubs, and volunteers. Please consider allowing the opening of trails when deer seasons are active, however this will still will not stop private land owners from disallowing trail opening on their land when seasons are active.

the amount of public land within a few mile radius where I live has contributed to a drastic decline in the deer population. What has been appalling is that the number of dead deer caucuses and other animal caucuses dumped on these public lands and along the neighboring roadsides. When you can go days without seeing deer on your trail cameras where in the past it was seldom a day that you would have not any deer activity. I have a combination of ag land, woods and ponds.

Holiday hunts are totally uncalled for. The numbers of hunters taking advantage of this hunt doesn't warrant the time frame. Furthermore, as a snowmobiler, it ruins the period of time families are wanting to snowmobile in our area. This has a critical impact on tourism as well as the sport of snowmobiling. As a farmer, I want the deer population under control, but this hunt is not the way to do it and it is at the expense of another more impactful, (to the area) sport.

In light of the cuts the current political administration has made to the DNR (and they want more cuts) and the joke that is the current DNR leadership/environmental protection, it is hard to view this survey as nothing more than a way to garner support rather than any real effort to manage the wildlife, forests, fisheries and other resources of this wonderful Wisconsin for all the people of the state, rather than just those who are politically connected.

We need to build the herd back up. The big farmers want to kill everything in our area. This leaves little deer left over. That with over crowding on public land means for a bad deer season. You will just see less and less hunters out there. You are not trying to build up the hunters with the way you are managing deer hunting. Pretty soon you will have cut back on a whole generations of hunters who are not happy with the product you are making.

I strongly believe deer shining should be outlawed, nothing good comes from shining deer. I think the paper tags are a joke, I wish we would go back to the old tags and back tags. And I would love to go back to the days of metal tag registration, so atleast there was some accountability for deer harvested, I truely belive that the e-registration just lets hunters do what ever they want and I don't think thats a good thing.

I would say no to a holiday hunt as a business owner due to the cause of putting a hurt on our businesses in town I heard alot from Westfield and it did put a hurt on the town. coloma as far as I know they want the businesses to grow but if u put a time of close to 2 months that sleds could be coming through to stop and have food and drinks that's a loss of business to them I strongly disagree with having a holiday hunt...

I have been hunting this property for a long time, over the last few years the numbers of deer are going down. My son and I are loosing interest in hunting do to not seeing deer. Many of the land owners around me feel the same way. If the current management practices continue I guarantee more hunters will loose interest. The deer around me have great habitat so I know this is not a factor in the declining numbers.

Since the years of earn a buck hunting has been very poor. I've pretty much quit hunting here and now travel west where herd management is much better. Took my grandson hunting here because he is too young to travel west. We hunted hard on our 350 acres during the rut and never saw a deer. Pretty hard to keep him interested. If it doesn't improve we will probably quit hunting here completely.
Bring back DEER REGISTRATION STATIONS. Get BACK TAGS back on hunters. BACK TAG color should be commensurate with public or private land use. Make BAITING DEER and FOOD PLOTS ILLEGAL and ENFORCE it. If you don't have a valid DEER TAG you don't go in the woods unless accompanied by a youth under the age of 18 that has a valid tag, and by no means do you carry a firearm.

NO HOLIDAY HUNT!!!!!!! No need to increase doe harvest from last year, but IF it were to be done, it would be much better done with more tags during the regular season and not hold a Holiday Hunt. It ruins late season archery hunting which many people look forward to. Also there is plenty of gun season to harvest a doe, there is no need to add anymore.

Over the last 20 years we have seen the population steadily drop. and it is the to the point where 8 out of 12 hunters in our area did not see a deer on opening weekend last year. This is on over 300 acres of prime hunting land the over killing has to stop. Go back to the party tags system. That made Wisconsin a awesome deer hunting state.

I would like to have seen how many regular licenses were sold with both public and private land antlerless tags for this unit. I saw the number of bonus antlerless tags, but not regular tags. It would be nice to see how many tags (both regular and bonus) were sold in this unit alongside how many antlerless deer were shot.

Needs to be better enforcement of baiting regulations. Have 120+ game camera photos per week on food plots through the summer leading up to deer season, then a sharp decline to about 20 pictures per week at the start of bow season. Also have had deer shot on mine and neighboring properties that have stomachs full of corn.

Reduce the amount of antlerless tags offered. In the last 5 years of hunting in this management zone and county i can count on my hands the amount of deer i have seen. Which is pretty strange considering the rexuction of forest to fields should push them into the wooded areas and you would think you would see more deer.

Go back to the 9 day gun season with buck only for about 5 years and get the herd back up. Stop all the youth & holiday hunts and get back to the good old ways we all hunted in. The super cold days we have not had in years That way the younger kids can sit and see deer & other wild life in the woods.

several areas in this unit have great cover and then over populated with deer. This makes forestry practices next to impossible to do with such high seedling damage. My last two season’s seedling planting has been completely destroyed, no buds left!

While I only own 5 acres, I hunt on several different spots within a 5(ish) mile radius near Hancock; which I check on a fairly regular basis. My responses are based off my knowledge on this very small area of Waushara county.

Thank you for working to manage the herd. From what I have seen the deer population is far greater than what other hunters report, and I fear for the quality of the herd if more isn't done to better manage their numbers.

Our forester is aging waist high oaks at over 20 yrs old, they can't get above browse line. Over abundance of deer causing damage. Has recommended deer fencing at 5 to 10 acres at a time in order to regenerate oak.

In past years to 2016, I have seen very few deer while hunting. This year I saw a total of 10 in four days of hunting. It made it very enjoyable to be out there. I do not feel there are too many deer in my area.

It's time to change buck quotas to one buck per person per year. You can use weapon of your choice to harvest one buck and one doe per hunter per year, not 2 bucks and 4-6 does per person.

If you are going to give twice as many antlerless tags to land owners and or crop damage permits there needs to some way of also getting land owners to allow access to this land

It is a struggle to see deer at times even sitting all day.. stop all these extra doe hunts its killing the population and runing the snowmobiling season

Get the population back to what it was in the mid to late 1970's, when a person could actually see deer when they went hunting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Input on CDAC Preliminary Recommendations - Spring 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure to get permission to cross private lands to follow wounded deer. Setting up deer stands on private land without permission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please stop issuing doe tags we need to save our deer heard even with no predators (wolf) in our area the deer have disappeared?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Hunt is not necessary. There are plenty of opportunities to harvest an antlerless deer during all of the other seasons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I see more squirrels taking corn out of the field then deer. I'll see 100 of them before one deer eating the corn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very nice survey!!!! I just wish the CDAC would listen to the hunters rather than there data which is junk!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The deer herd must be brought down substantially to get any kind of new oak regeneration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider an earn a buck season for two years. Do not support a holiday hunt please.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliminate public/private designation. Bring back backtags and decent harvest tags.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My children are about ready to quit hunting because of the lack of deer sightings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opposed to holiday hunts interferes with other winter recreation !!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer hunting season is long enough. Don't add more days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need science based decisions not emotional decisions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDAC is going a great job in Waushara County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO EXSTRA SEASONS PLEASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No holiday hunt!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

27 forms were submitted for this unit.

**Section 1: Information about who provided the input.**

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 10
   - No: 17

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 15
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 4
   - I hunt in this unit: 24
   - General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 23
   - Bow: 18
   - Crossbow: 11
   - Muzzleloader: 8

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 5
   - Average: 24.88
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 15
   - Mostly Private Land: 4
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 2
   - Mostly Public Land: 0
   - Exclusively Public Land: 3
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all Crowded: 0
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 0
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 2
   - Not applicable: 0

**Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.**

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 3
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 11
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 0
   - Unsure: 1

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 5
   - Fewer: 9
   - Same: 6
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 1
### Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC's 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Land</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Land</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: Not applicable in this DMU

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

**DMUs in a Farmland Zone**

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support | Oppose | Unsure
| 3 | 21 |

**DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective**

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Support | Oppose | Unsure
| Not applicable in this DMU |

**If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota**

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID | NOT VALID | Unsure
| Not applicable in this DMU |

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? **Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions</td>
<td>1.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Winnebago, Central Farmland

**Note:** the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

The deer in this unit are not distributed evenly. Those who own land and manage it for deer are probably able to harvest as many does as they like or not harvest any. Most of our public hunting lands don’t have the correct habitat to hold deer or get so much pressure from upland game and or waterfowl hunting that deer won’t stay on these lands. And the law changes the last 3 years have made hunting harder for the guy that doesn’t own land and wants to hunt different counties. and I believe they have made violating much easier.

You probably do not hear this enough, but I think you guys are doing a great job. Obviously you know this is very complex, with management decisions based on science, hunter expectations/satisfaction, other groups specific plans, and a lot more. This survey is a great example of how you have increased opportunities to receive feedback and get opinions, to create new plans. Keep up the good work. Thank you

I am overall very pleased with the quota, in that there is basically no increase, and NOT having a holiday hunt. Deer in this unit were over harvested for years. It is my hope that the population can be increased in coming years. That happens by letting the does & fawns walk. Thank you very much for backing off the antlerless harvest.

1. state wide holiday hunt - if deer numbers allow 2. one Doe tag per hunter total in areas that are allowed 3. allow bow hunters more evening time before closing time. Hunting area like fence lines don’t allow hunter the whole window of shoot able time with light that is still available.

In the last 5 or more years the deer heard by us has went down substantial. Remember seeing 20+ deer on opening day. Now lucky to see 5. Makes it hard for younger hunters to take up the sport when they don’t see any deer.

Please stop offering antlerless tags until the deer population (actual real population) returns to the 90s when I actually saw deer while hunting on public land

I saw three deer combined during the bow and gun seasons. This was one less than 2015. It is discouraging.

I’d like to see the DNR have the opportunity to focus more efforts on research about CWD.

Please don’t band anything in Winn. county.

Shoot more does.
Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 21
   - No: 11

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 20
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 9
   - I hunt in this unit: 27
   - General interest in this unit: 6

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 27
   - Bow: 15
   - Crossbow: 14
   - Muzzleloader: 12

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 3
   - Average: 23
   - Maximum: 60

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 18
   - Mostly Private Land: 3
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 3
   - Mostly Public Land: 1
   - Exclusively Public Land: 2
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 1
   - Not too crowded: 3
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
   - Somewhat crowded: 1
   - Very crowded: 0
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 12
   - More: 2
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 7
   - Fewer: 10
   - Same: 9
   - More: 5
   - Many More: 1
   - Unsure: 0
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Quota:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Public land:</th>
<th>Much Too Low</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land: Not applicable in this DMU

Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land: Not applicable in this DMU

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit? (Note: Farmland Zone and Metro Subunits only.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License:</th>
<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
<th>Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License: Not applicable in this DMU

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Support 3 Oppose 27

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit? VALID NOT VALID Unsure Not applicable in this DMU

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit? (Scale: 1 = Not-at-all; 2 = Slightly; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Very)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments for  Wood, Central Farmland

Note: the comments presented in this report are the unfiltered opinions of individuals who responded to an online public input form. The viewpoints expressed do not represent the views of the state of Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources, or its employees.

Not just here but in all units in the state. Do away with the antlerless deer tags. This year go back to the hunters choice system. When we had hunters choice tags. No one was in a hurry to shoot a doe. Very few people wanted the season to end like that, plus we saw more deer. Since people weren't shooting at everything moving the deer where more relax. I know I wasn't around for this one but my dad always told me about it. Do away with the 1 antler being 3" to be a legal buck. Go to a forkhorn rule not four points. The horn has to fork at the end, both sides to be a legal buck.

The current differentiation of forest vs farmland is inappropriate for that portion of Wood Cty which lies south of Hwy 73 from the junction of Hwys 73 and 80 at Pittsville to the junction of Hwys 80 and 54 at Dexterville. The deer population in this area is increasing rapidly. This area includes farmland similar to that directly to the north of the Hwy 73 corridor from Pittsville west to the Clark Cty line. I would like to see the described area included in the Farmland as the contrast in deer populations between this area and the rest of the Forest zone is marked.

I believe in the area of Powers Bluff deer hunting should be crossbow/bow and muzzle loading only. Also WHY are you allowing the crews for grooming trails for snowmobilers to groom just a few days prior to the hunting season, the crews scare the deer up into the park. Also it seems large groups of rifle hunters who own their own land are doing large sweeps during gun season, the lack of public areas for crossbow/bow season is extreme.

the number of seasons is getting too confusing. we do not need more seasons. I believe there were too many unregistered deer with call in registrations. wardens should spot check people who have registered deer. There are not enough mature bucks. I think its about time there is a size limit put on bucks. stop spending money foolishly on importing elk and worry about what is already in the state to hunt.

I hunt my property with my 2 sons. Our combined family's can utilize 3-5 deer a year. We all bow and gun hunt so we have 12 tags combined. Having an antlerless tag for each lic. allows us to enjoy more time in the field and be more selective. We practice QDM and harvest approximately 60% does.

I would recommend 1 antlerless tag per hunter and not per permit issued in the wood central farmland unit and no bonus permits sold and the same for wood central forest unit.

The number of wolves seen this past season is unacceptable. There numbers are much higher than the DNR reports.

Just increase number of tags during gun season. We do not want an additional hunt in DEC thru January.

Would like to see antler point restrictions to finally get older age class of bucks
The online public comment form is the primary means by which CDACs receive feedback on their preliminary recommendations. While many of the responses can be aggregated, the results should not be treated as representative of the general population. In most cases, results are skewed towards more avid hunters. Furthermore, small sample sizes within each county preclude statistical inference. Rather, this input should be regarded similarly to that of in-person or written testimonies given at a CDAC meeting.

43 forms were submitted for this unit.

Section 1: Information about who provided the input.

1. Do you own more than 5 acres in this DMU?
   - Yes: 14
   - No: 29

2. Why have you chosen this unit to reference in this form?
   - I live in this unit: 15
   - I visit this unit for non-hunting purposes: 5
   - I hunt in this unit: 40
   - General interest in this unit: 9

The following questions (numbers 3 to 6) were only asked of individuals who indicated that they hunt in this unit.

3. In this DMU, what type of deer hunting do you do?
   - Gun: 39
   - Bow: 26
   - Crossbow: 13
   - Muzzleloader: 17

4. How many years have you hunted deer in this unit?
   - Minimum: 2
   - Average: 26.25
   - Maximum: 53

5. Which statement best describes where you deer hunted in this unit last season?
   - Exclusively Private Land: 15
   - Mostly Private Land: 5
   - Public and Private Land About Equally: 6
   - Mostly Public Land: 4
   - Exclusively Public Land: 10
   - I did not hunt in this unit in 2016: 0

6. How crowded with other hunters did you feel while hunting on public land in this deer management unit?
   - Not at all crowded: 3
   - Not too crowded: 5
   - Neither crowded nor un-crowded: 4
   - Somewhat crowded: 4
   - Very crowded: 9
   - Not applicable: 0

Section 2: Perceptions about the number of deer in the unit.

7. Based on your observations throughout the summer and fall of 2016, how does the deer population in this DMU compare to the year before (since summer/fall 2015)?
   - Many Fewer: 4
   - Fewer: 15
   - Same: 11
   - More: 11
   - Many More: 2
   - Unsure: 0

8. In your opinion, how did the fall deer population in this DMU compare to two years ago (since summer/fall 2014)?
   - Many Fewer: 2
   - Fewer: 17
   - Same: 10
   - More: 9
   - Many More: 4
   - Unsure: 1
Section 3: Feedback on the CDAC’s 2017 preliminary recommendations

9. In your opinion, how would you rate the antlerless quota recommended by the CDAC for the 2017 season in this unit?

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<th>Too Low</th>
<th>About Right</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of $12 Bonus Antlerless Tags recommended for this unit by the CDAC for the 2017 season?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Tags - Private Land</th>
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<th>About Right</th>
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<th>Much Too High</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Tags - Public land</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Bonus Tags - METRO Private Land | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Bonus Tags - METRO Public Land | Not applicable in this DMU |

11. In your opinion, how would you rate the number of FREE Antlerless Permits recommended by the CDAC to be issued with each license for 2017 season in this unit?

| Recommended FARMLAND ZONE Antlerless Tags per License | Not applicable in this DMU |
| Recommended METRO Antlerless Tags per License | Not applicable in this DMU |

12. Depending on their location, their population objective, and their antlerless quota, CDACs may also recommend some additional options.

DMUs in a Farmland Zone

Implement an ANTLERLESS HOLIDAY HUNT: Not applicable in this DMU

DMUs with a Maintain/Decrease Objective

Adopt an ANTLERLESS ONLY SEASON FRAMEWORK for ALL Deer Seasons: Not applicable in this DMU

If the DMU were to recommend a Zero Quota

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Should JUNIOR ANTLERLESS TAGS be VALID or NOT VALID in the unit?</th>
<th>VALID</th>
<th>NOT VALID</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. How important were each of the following concerns in forming your opinion about the CDAC’s recommendations for this unit?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Average Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of deer mortality during an average year...</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of damage to backyard plants...</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of deer-vehicle collisions...</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential risks to deer health (e.g., disease)...</td>
<td>2.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough deer to provide hunters a reasonable chance to harvest a deer...</td>
<td>2.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter satisfaction with the number of deer...</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of agricultural crop damage from deer...</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer over-browsing of forests that prevent re-growth of some forest tree species...</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution of hunting tourism to the local economy...</td>
<td>2.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of predators on deer numbers in the unit...</td>
<td>3.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of deer numbers on other wildlife (abundance, distribution, health)...</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am able to hunt both wood central forest and wood central farmland units and in my opinion there are way too many antlerless permits given out in the farmland unit and not near enough tags in the central forest unit. The last 4 plus years I have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of deer in the farmland unit (0 deer seen last 4 opening weekends) with a huge number of antlerless permits and a huge increase in the number of antlerless deer seen in forest unit and almost no antlerless permits. I have been hunting 35 years both bow and gun and almost always filled at least one permit a year, but I have gone 3 years now with out filling 1 tag even with gaining access to more private land in the central farmland unit. I almost quit hunting last year and this year I most likely will not buy a license. I do a lot of shining in the central farmland unit and have noticed a huge drop off in number of deer sightings. I would like to see a big increase in antlerless permits in wood central forest unit to seeing more antlerless deer than ever before and being frustrated by not having any permits and having an abundance of antlerless permits and seeing no deer. Thanks for your time.

Over the last five years, our hunting party has seen slightly more deer, but the increase is almost exclusively does. We are not seeing more bucks. The doe to buck ratio is increasing significantly and, therefore, the bucks have more does to select from, thereby decreasing their movement during pre-rut and rut time periods. Prior to the extreme decline of antlerless permits over the last few years, we saw more and LARGER bucks. Bucks had to work harder for does, thereby requiring more travel by the bucks and increased opportunity. Also, when antlerless tags are available, hunters are more likely to shoot the doe coming by first, thereby scarifying off the buck following the doe. This increases the chance a buck survives. For context, I have hunted in the central forest zone (Wood) for 28 years (my dad another 20 years before that). The peak of hunting for us was from 2000 to about 2010 when we shot four 3.5 year old bucks. Outside of this range from 2000 to 2010, we only shot 1.5 to 2.5 year old bucks. We would like to see more antlerless permits to bring the doe to buck ratio more inline. Thank you.

I am concerned about the 3 year fixed lock-in standard, since it severely restricts any annual flexibility to make appropriate adjustments in antlerless prescriptions. The current system also is also hampered by the lack of any over-winter goals and relies on structured personal opinions that are largely based on perceptions of an audience dominated by hunters and or landowners. What is the potential application of any DNR recommendation for antlerless harvests based on the best available science? We are experiencing a series of very mild winters and assuming a overwinter density of 20 deer/sq. mi. of deer range, the average spring to fall population increase would expected to be at least 50% or 30 deer/sq.mi. in the fall. So if you want to maintain the density at 20 deer/sq.mi. you would try to remove 10 deer/sq.mi. In contrast, conservative antlerless prescriptions will allow the herd to increase each year, creating the potential for more car-deer collisions and damage to ag crops and forest vegetation.

I am pleased to see that the committee decided to raise the antlerless quota and especially the private land tags. I'm sure it must be difficult to balance the county having both farmland and forestland, private and public in each. I do most of my hunting in the northwestern part of the forestland unit...south of Hwy 73 and north of Hwy 54. I believe that in that section, there are a ridiculous number of deer residing on the farmland areas within a few miles of Cty E and Cty V. In a recent trip up there, I'm not lying to say that I saw 150 deer in the fields between Hiles town hall and Hwy 73 intersection with Cty V. And this is before fawns have dropped. That area certainly needs to provide antlerless tags for the private land hunters. You could raise your number in my opinion. For the public land areas around Hay Creek, east of City Point, and heading down towards Necedah, I think you are pretty close with your quota.
There is way too, too much logging that is taking the oak trees, that provide food for the deer herd and other animals, for over winter. When this is done, the only regeneration that occurs is poplar (with a short term food source) and pines that have no benefit for the deer herd. The other problem is the amount of predators (bear and wolves) that I have seen in the past years. These predators are killing the fawns as they are an easy prey. When I talk to locals that live their, they are constantly saying they have bears in their yards raiding bird feeders, etc. and seeing more and more bears and wolves. Something needs to be done with this problem if you want to increase the deer herd.

The property that I visit and hunt is located in the Central Forest zone of Wood county. It is on Hy 73, south side of road, so right on the border between farmland and forest. We are seeing 75 to 125 deer in the fields each night now. After fawning, that number will be considerably more. I realize that they are currently grouped due to the food source available, but it does appear they have really come back from the harsh winters of a few years ago. Did not see these numbers two years ago. We have seen considerably more bucks during the past year as well. I attribute that to the reduction in antlerless permits. Deer sightings were acceptable for our group during bow and gun season.

Change the boundary of Wood Cty Farmland zone to include that portion south of Hwy 73 from the junction of 73 and 80 at Pittsville south along Hwy 80 to Dexterville where Hwy 80 meets Hwy 54 and thence westerly on Hwy 54 to the Clark county line. This would more accurately reflect the current population as the numbers of deer in this corridor are many times more per sq mile of deer range than what is the population of the rest of the Central Forest Zone in Wood Cty. 3 yrs of no harvest of antlerless in this area has resulted in large numbers of deer with no mechanism to harvest them. This population is due to explode over the next 3 yrs if we cannot change the boundary.

The population is at a point that in many areas the predators do not allow for an increase in the deer herd. Until we allow more predators to be harvested we should shoot no does. I and others sighted as many does with no fawns as does with fawns. That does not allow a herd to expand when fawn survival is so low, realizing also that adult deer are also being preyed upon. I saw in the metrics that the fawn ratio was less than 1:1. That does not increase a deer herd.

Wolf and bear populations are devastating the fawn crop on public lands. I saw on average the last three years of 1 fawn. Deer numbers aren't rebounding over the last 10 years. I see on average about 10 deer in a season, some of which are the same deer on different days. If I didn't walk a lot, and cover 5 to 8 miles a day, I wouldn't see anything! Ready to quit!

The wolf population needs to be controlled and lowered immediately. Between the coyotes, wolves, bear, bobcats, etc., the whitetail deer is struggling to maintain their population. If we ever get a harsh winter, this would devastate population numbers just like it did to the northwoods recently. We have to do our part and limit female deer from being shot.

Our family owns property near Babcock. For whatever reason the deer population is not increasing in my opinion. Trails and winter browsing are significantly less than 20 years ago despite large logged areas on our property and the surrounding county land. Perhaps the deer studies taking place will determine the cause of the stagnant population growth.

It would be nice to be able to get a public land wood county forest tag again since there's been so few the last few years and there very hard to get because they're gone in a minute or 2 when the sale begins. The deer numbers are up again in certain areas of public land but you have to search to find those areas. Thanks.

I don't think that there is any more deer this year than in the past three years in the area i hunt. Deer sightings is about the same and the number of shots has been less and less. this could be that there isn't as many hunters or not as many deer sightings for legal harvest.
I think compound and recurve bow hunters should be able to shoot an antlerless deer in this unit and no antlerless tags for other hunting for a few years so the population can come back.

Over last two seasons (2015 & 2016) hunting the first three days of opening season, saw only does with the exception of 1 legal buck. (4 pt) Doe quantities ranged in 10-15 per season.

I do not support any future expansion of the central farmland into the central forest. I heard there was talk of expanding the farmland south to HWY 54 and I am dead against that.

Keep the youth involved, they should have the option to shoot and tag a buck or doe. Not necessarily both but have at least a "choice" tag.

Significant wolf sign. One member of our party saw a pair on opening morning...how often do you actually SEE wolves during daylight...

Deer management takes time - appreciate all the efforts that the DNR is trying to do to get the numbers to where they should be!

5 year plan no shooting does. Only youth hunters first time hunters should be allowed to shoot a doe

Deer population is not increasing in my area due to the amount of predators