

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division**

November 2005

Proposed Deer Population Goals

The DNR is proposing population goals to guide deer management through 2010. These draft goals were presented to the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) on November 3, 2005. The field staff has recommended deer population goals for each Region and Wildlife Management Unit in the state. The proposed goals reflect the desired fall deer population. The proposed 2006-2010 goals represent a change in management from the previous goals. A population range is being developed as the goal, not a specific number as was established in 1999. The DNR developed interim deer population goals that year which has guided deer management through 2005. The proposed deer population goals for 2006-2010 are expected to replace the 1999 interim goals.

The two charts below show the previous deer goals (1999), the proposed (draft) deer population goal range, and the estimated deer population for 2005 for the three regions (Upper Peninsula, Northern Lower Peninsula, and Southern Lower Peninsula) and the eight Wildlife Management Units.

Draft Goals by Region

Region	1999 Interim Goal	2006-2010 Pop Goal Range	2005 Est Pop
UP	475,000	323,000 – 411,000	336,000
NLP	538,000	459,000 – 546,000	498,000
SLP	566,000	501,000 – 602,000	868,000

Draft Goals by Wildlife Management Unit

WMU	1999 Interim Goal	2006-2010 Pop Goal Range	2005 Est Pop
WUP	358,400	220,000 - 284,000	245,700
EUP	116,500	103,000 - 128,000	90,600
NE	230,200	191,000 - 234,000	214,900
NW	251,500	217,000 - 251,000	220,000
SB	188,000	170,000 - 203,000	242,500
SE	57,100	53,000 - 62,000	115,900
SC	205,200	179,000 - 213,000	305,500
SW	172,700	151,000 - 186,000	267,100

Click [here](#) for a map of the eight Wildlife Management Units and their associated Deer Management Units. For the proposed deer population goal and documentation click on the specific Deer Management Unit you wish to view. To view the Wildlife Management Unit summary click on the Wildlife Management Unit name.

The DNR is accepting public comments on the proposed deer population goals. Each of the eight Wildlife Management Units will conduct a public meeting to discuss the goals. As the dates (December or early January) and locations for these meetings are confirmed, they will be posted on this site. Contact the appropriate Wildlife Management Unit for any additional information on the Deer Management Units within that Wildlife Management Unit.

Comments may be sent to the appropriate Wildlife Management Unit or e-mailed to Deer_Goals@michigan.gov until January 20, 2006. If your comments are specific to a DMU, please reference the DMU number (ie DMU 001) in the title of your comments. This will insure that your comments are sent to the biologist for that DMU. If your comments cover multiple DMUs be sure to use the Wildlife Management Unit name (ie: WUP, EUP, NW, NE, SB, SE, SC, or SW) in the title. After reviewing all public comments and making any appropriate changes, the final population goals will be presented to the NRC on March 9, 2006.

Thank you for your interest and taking the time to visit this site.