

**Michigan Department of Natural
Resources,
Wildlife Division
Deer Range Improvement Program:**

2025 Upper Peninsula

***Deer Habitat
Improvement
Partnership Initiative***

Grant Program



Prepared by:
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**Michigan Department of Natural Resources,
Wildlife Division, Deer Range Improvement Program**

**2025 Upper Peninsula
Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative**

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**Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division
Deer Range Improvement Program
2025 Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership
Initiative**

Program description:

The Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative (DHIP) is a grant program designed to foster productive relationships between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, sportsperson's organizations, interested citizens and other partners to produce tangible deer habitat improvements and educate the public about the importance of the habitat work accomplished through the grant and the scientific principles involved in it. The Initiative focuses on completing deer habitat improvements in the Upper Peninsula.

This document is designed as a guide for use by applicants and intended to provide basic information on initiative goals, proposal requirements, eligibility rules, grant application process, proposal criteria and selection process, funding, and the implementation process.

1.1 Initiative goals and expectations:

The purpose of this Initiative is to develop a collaborative approach to deer habitat improvement on **private land ownerships** across the Upper Peninsula; there are three primary goals for this Initiative. All projects should address these fundamental goals to be considered for funding:

- **Produce on-the-ground deer habitat (summer and/or winter range) improvements in the Upper Peninsula that address resource needs.**
- **Establish and promote partnerships between the DNR, sportsmen's organizations, and other partners.**
- **Showcase these cooperative projects through a coordinated public outreach effort, highlighting the relationship between the DNR and Partners while educating the public on the benefits of habitat improvements made through the grant.**

The DNR welcomes diverse and non-traditional conservation and outdoor recreation organizations who may not have a deer focus to apply. The DNR recognizes that managing ecosystems and local habitat resources for a variety of wildlife values typically will benefit deer and project proposals can be tailored accordingly to be successful. However, priority consideration will be given to

projects which focus on providing food and cover within or near (within five miles) deer wintering complexes throughout the UP.

Deer Range Management in the Upper Peninsula and the Importance of DHIPI Projects

Deer Habitat in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is classified into two categories summer or winter range. Summer range is where deer disperse to during the snow free months. Management emphasis in summer range typically focuses on providing nutritional value for deer to recover energetically from the stresses of winter, give birth and build up fat reserves in preparation for the onset of winter. Deer winter range is the landscape where deer spend the winter months. Winter range is characterized two ways: 1) Obligate and 2) Conditional. Deer cannot fulfill their year-round habitat requirements on summer range alone and are obligated to migrate from their summer habitat to occupy suitable winter shelter. Obligate deer range is habitat where deer must migrate to find suitable thermal cover to survive the harsh winter conditions. Obligate migration occurs in the much of the UP where winters are typically severe and can involve long distances where deer vacate summer range entirely unless shortstopped by human induced food sources (I.e., treetops in timber harvest or supplemental feeding) and localized winter severity differences. Conditional range occurs in the south central UP and most of the northern Lower Peninsula (NLP) where winters are less severe (compared to obligate range) and of reduced duration. Deer on conditional range are typically dispersed across the landscape and only move to relatively short distances specific areas of suitable winter habitat depending on the combined effects of harsh winter conditions and limited food supply. Specific plans developed for each mapped Deer Winter Complex show below are available to help guide landowners and forest managers on appropriate habitat management principals and recommendations. Individual deer wintering complex shown below are linked here. Please consult these plans as you develop your project proposal. See Appendix B for DWC maps to aide in prioritizing project locations.

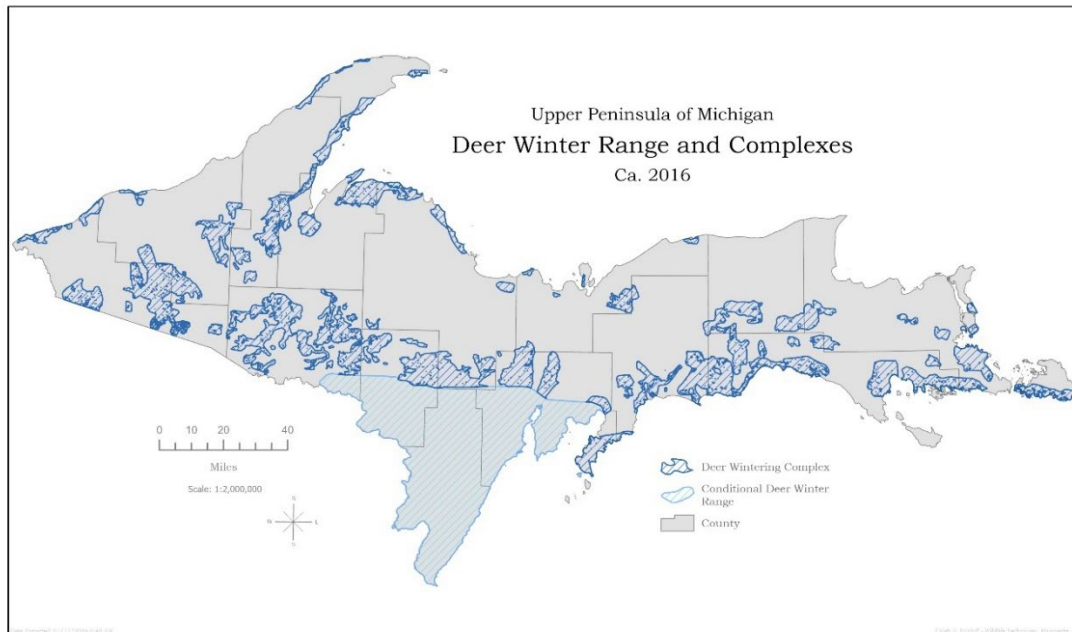


Fig 1: Deer Wintering Complex Locations, Obligate and Conditional Range

Summer Range Habitat Management Project Recommendations:

- Provide a diverse composition of herbaceous, shrub, and tree species to provide diversity of hard and soft mast and plant species to benefit deer and other species using similar habitat.
- Enhance and sustainably manage early successional habitats to improve deer physical condition prior to winter and upon emerging from winter confinement.
- Provide adequate and sustainable hard mast sources to build fat reserves in the fall and enhance physical condition and overwinter deer survival.
- Provide sufficient early spring green-up grasses and herbaceous species in opening, upland brush, and poorly stocked forest stands that benefit deer as they emerge from winter concentrations.
- Appropriate summer habitat increases the physical condition of deer and increases their ability to survive overwinter by providing early spring green-up areas and hard mast in the fall. Summer food sources include:
 - Oak/beechn/hazel mast – Hard mast of acorns and beech nuts, when available in the fall, are a premier food as they provide exceptional nutrition levels which can be stored as fat in deer and can be metabolized for energy during winter. Exceptional good acorn years provide deer access to acorns early and into winter. Acorns have been shown to have positive impacts on deer survival and physical condition and antler development. Acorn crops are unpredictable and good crops may be separated by 2-4 years. Soft mast in the form of apples, crab apples, and other fruiting species are also a highly valuable sources of nutrition in the fall.

- Herbaceous foods – Forest openings and upland brush sites inside and adjacent (within five miles to the edge of mapped DWCs) to DWCs often provide protein-rich food for several weeks in spring and fall before deer enter or leave the complexes.

Winter Range Habitat Management Project Recommendations:

- Maintain and/or enhance suitable conifer thermal cover shelter thereby facilitating conservation of energy and deer movement to obtain food, improve physical condition and avoid predation.
- Long-lived thermal cover species such hemlock and cedar are extremely important to overwintering deer. Short-lived conifer species such as balsam fir and black/white spruce can also provide thermal cover. Especially in areas where hemlock and cedar have been degraded or removed from the forest. Conserving existing cover is paramount and it is only recommended to harvest them within DWC's if there is a high probability of successfully regenerating and recruiting these species past deer browsing.
- Expand thermal cover forest stands thru properly planned silvicultural harvesting, scarification to provide a proper seedbed for light seeded conifer species to take root and grow, or through direct planting of seedlings.
- Provide an adequate and sustainable high-quality winter browse adjacent to shelter.

Some key sources of winter food that can be promoted:

- Litter fall – cedar and hemlock fronds, hardwood stems, and lichens dropped due to wind, snow action, or red squirrels.
- Hardwood browse – Most browse is available in aspen, red maple and northern hardwood stands, either as felled tops from winter timber harvest activity, regenerating stems of trees and shrubs in years following timber harvests and natural disturbances such as windfall.
- Acorns produced by promoting healthy oak trees.

1.2 Project concept development:

Prospective habitat improvement projects will be developed by partner organizations through the application process as outlined in this document. These project proposals should be generated by eligible partners (see section 1.6 for eligible partner definition) for implementation on lands of eligible ownership.

It is encouraged that collaborative interactions occur between the respective local DNR wildlife biologist and the partner organization throughout proposal development to ensure that project locations may occur within priority regions of the Upper Peninsula, specifically Deer Wintering Complex areas.

1.3 Initiative funding:

All Initiative activities will operate on the State of Michigan's fiscal year calendar, October 1 through September 30. Initiative funding is from an annual Deer Range Improvement Program (DRIP) fund appropriation. Public Act 106 of 1971 created the DRIP fund, whereby \$1.50 from every deer hunting license sold statewide is allocated into a restricted fund to be exclusively used for the improvement and maintenance of habitat for deer, acquisition of land for deer management, and the payment in lieu of taxes on purchased lands.

DRIP funds will be used to finance this Initiative through competitive grants. Your group may be required to initially incur the expenses associated with implementing the project and submit invoices (with organization name and contact information) for reimbursement (save all original receipts).

For 2025 the total value of DRIP funds made available through this competitive grant application process is \$100,000.00. **The maximum allowable limit for deer habitat improvement grants is \$15,000.00 with the minimum at \$2,000.00.** Funds will be awarded across the entire Upper Peninsula based on a competitive grant application scoring process.

To be eligible for consideration, all projects must meet the three Initiative goals. Projects that may require repeat applications for funding over multiple years will be considered but will be limited to the above funding limitations per fiscal year unless there is leftover funding available within the current fiscal year. In the case of multiple-year projects, scheduled deliverables will be required to occur within the fiscal year deadlines as defined within the Agreement Contract and grant disbursement rules.

1.4 Project implementation and grant process:

It is the responsibility of the partner organization to undertake the primary role in implementation of approved grant projects. Partnering organizations will need to actively participate in the project through financial match, cost share, volunteer labor, material contributions, or other in-kind support. **The required partner cost share for approved projects is 25% of the total project cost.** Proposed partner cost share and additional contributions to projects will be considered in the scoring process.

Approved grant projects will require the partnering organization or their representative to be Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) compliant and a registered vendor of the State of Michigan's SIGMA system. Registration through the SIGMA process is available online at www.michigan.gov/sigmavss. This will be necessary to facilitate transfer of grant funds from the DNR to an approved partner or other service provider. The EFT process will generate a W-9 and 1099 tax form for the approved organization, as required for grant funds by law.

Successful applicant organizations and participating landowners will be required to sign a contractual DHIPI Agreement and liability release prior to any implementation. This agreement will specify the project deliverables, define partner responsibilities, and stipulate the minimum duration for which the project is to be maintained by the applicant. Additionally, successful applicant organizations will need to complete a Partner Organization Grants Account form. Scheduled release of grant funds will occur after deliverables/objectives have been completed successfully as defined in the DHIPI Agreement. Under some circumstances partial prepayment of grant funds may be approved depending on the financial nature and time scale of the proposed project.

Failure to meet project obligations or noncompliance as spelled out in the project contractual agreement will result in project termination and ineligibility for future applications.

1.5 Eligible land ownerships:

In 2025 the focus of DHIPI funds will continue to be improving deer habitat on rural forested lands where the DNR has not traditionally had significant wildlife habitat influence. Therefore, DHIPI projects **may occur on:**

- Privately owned lands (partner must provide written proof of ownership),
- Industrial forest or Commercial Forest Act (CFA) or Qualified Forest Program (QFP) enrolled lands (with appropriate written permission from landowner)
- Tribal owned lands (with appropriate written permission of tribal authority)
- Federal lands (with appropriate written permission of federal administrator)
- or other lands with perpetual conservation mandates.

Lands zoned primarily as business, industrial, agricultural, or within incorporated areas are ineligible. While not required, public access to projects is highly desired. Projects with provisions that allow legal public access (minimum of foot traffic) for hunting and fishing will benefit in the project scoring process. The DNR or the State of Michigan will not assume indemnification for liability involving projects undertaken on non-state-owned lands.

State owned lands are not eligible for Initiative funding in 2025. Currently there are existing mechanisms for partnerships between the DNR and external partners to enhance state land wildlife habitat. *If you are interested in partnering on state lands, you should contact the respective local wildlife biologist or forester to explore project options.*

1.6 Eligible partners:

Given the limited grant funding, the expansiveness of the Upper Peninsula, and the desire to utilize these grant funds as effectively as possible, private individuals (Non-Industrial Private Forest Landowners-NIPFL) are **not** eligible to apply directly for the grant at this time unless they meet the criteria below. The

intent of this program is to provide funding to local conservation groups to foster a community approach to conservation action on private lands.

A private individual landowner is eligible if they meet both listed requirements:

- Have a Forest Management Plan that is certified to be qualified for eligibility for enrollment in State Forest Stewardship programs or US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) Farm Bill programs. A minimum ownership acreage size of 400 acres is required with in this eligibility category. Forest Management Plans or Wildlife Habitat Plans are typically prepared by a Resource Professionals (such as Professional Foresters or Wildlife Biologists) and incorporate wildlife considerations and landowner's goals. A copy of the plan will be required to be submitted along with the grant application. The grant application can be submitted directly by the landowner or by a Resource Professional / Land Management Service Providers on behalf of an eligible landowner/partner.
- For more information, please see Appendix C: Additional Resources links for Private Landowners.

An application may also be submitted directly by:

- Conservation Organizations
- Sportsperson Groups
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Land Conservancies
- Commercial Forest Act or Qualified Forest Program enrollees with a minimum of 400 acres and certified forest management or wildlife habitat plan.
- Conservation Districts.
- Industrial working forest landowners with Upper Peninsula ownership greater than 10,000 acres.
- Formal private land affiliations. For the purpose of this Initiative a formal private land affiliation is a group of 2 or more unrelated individuals who collectively own a legally recognized (i.e. plat book designation) block of contiguous, rural land, 400 acres or larger for the purpose of wildlife-based recreation. Joint or common tenancy may be considered eligible ownership provided the land is managed collectively for wildlife-based recreation purposes and meet all other requirements. Non-legally binding or collectives of adjacent landowners are not considered eligible.

In addition to private individuals, unrecognized organizations, cities, municipalities, townships, counties, tribal governments, and federal or other state governmental entities/agencies are all ineligible to directly apply for funding. Interested governmental entities may be third party cooperators for approved projects where appropriate (i.e., as cooperating landowners on which projects can occur or as contributing partners). Conservation Organizations may be Upper Peninsula based or local chapters of state, regional or national groups.

Eligible applicants must be willing to register with the State of Michigan to facilitate grant funding. A partner organization must name a project contact person / representative and include appropriate contact information on the application. Eligible partner organizations may apply for funding for multiple projects in a fiscal year, each of which will be evaluated independently. Eligible partner organizations may not apply for funding for unspecified projects or purposes. DHIPi applications are not mutually exclusive with other DNR grant programs.

1.7 Eligible proposal types:

Organizations considering participation in this Initiative are encouraged to contact their local wildlife biologist or the private land biologist to collaboratively develop project proposals. Proposals should encompass plans which incorporate principle of climate resiliency (i.e., planting tree species / forage plant species suitable for the climatic region or have increased drought /stress tolerances).

Examples of activities proposals may include are: wildlife shrub plantings, tree plantings (i.e., oak or other hard mast species, fruit bearing or other soft mast species, winter cover conifers such as white pine, hemlock, or cedar), scarification for regeneration of light-seeded tree species, non-commercial timber stand improvement activities, direct mechanical habitat manipulation (i.e., regeneration of aspen or alder habitat), wildlife opening creation or maintenance, plantings of non-invasive herbaceous grasses and forbs, approved warm/cool season grasses, and native prairie herbaceous plantings.

Proposals which involve multiple partners who sponsor or engage in similar habitat improvement projects on eligible landowner types within a region or defined geographic area are eligible provided there are: clear habitat goals; landowner selection criteria; and project methods are consistent with DHIPi intent.

Specific activities that will **not** be considered are plantings of annual species such as corn or root crops; exotics or invasive species; non-DNR approved naturalized plant species; commercial timber sale preparation, and construction of ponds. Proposals will not be considered if they would increase undesired habitat fragmentation; increase wildlife disease transmission potential; have human safety implications; are contrary to current DNR policy and opinion; counter to Best Management Practices; or have adverse impacts on state or federally listed threatened and endangered species.

To aid applicants in developing cost effective proposals, it is suggested they refer to Michigan State University Extension's most recent Custom Machine and Work Rate Estimates worksheet for current values on standard farming practices that may be applicable at: <http://bit.ly/ratesworksheet>.

1.8 Communications strategy:

Required for each approved project is a planned communications strategy. Developing this strategy is the responsibility of the partnering organization or landowner and is required to be outlined in the application. This strategy should include a detailed description of how the public will be informed of the intended deer and other wildlife habitat benefits, the project location, a detailed description of the proposed habitat enhancement activities, any public education plans, all project cooperators, and the funding sources. It should also include any specific plans for project outreach such as: site signage, local newsprint, radio, television, social media, or other media, and a list of likely local media contacts. The partnering organization must be prepared to be an active participant in outreach efforts. Successful grant participants will be required to craft and submit a post-project narrative (500 words) complete with quotes and project pictures to be used for outreach purposes.

Development of the final communications strategy for projects is expected to be a cooperative venture between the partnering organization or landowner and the DNR. Coordination and public delivery of the communications message will be conducted by the DNR.

1.9 Public notification process and application timeline:

In 2025 the following Initiative timeline is being pursued:

- **February 3, 2025 (Monday) – Initiative Requests for Projects (RFP) application period opens** including a direct mailing of application packages to an existing list of UP sportsperson organizations and live web posting.
- **March 14, 2025 (Friday) - Final application deadline (close of business day).**
- **April 4, 2025 (Friday) - Notification to successful applicants.** Implementation of approved projects will commence immediately upon completion of contract and agreement paperwork.

Complete application packages including: application forms, Initiative description and requirements, and related materials are available online at www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants then following the Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative. Packages are also available upon request from Bill Scullon, Field Operations Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Norway Field Office, 520 West US Hwy 2, Norway MI 49870, office telephone 906-563-9247, cell 906-250-6781, fax 906-563-5802 or email Scullonh@michigan.gov.

2.0 Required application information:

Applicant organizations must meet eligibility requirements and grant application forms must be filled out completely to be considered.

Potential partnering organizations must name a project contact person/representative and include appropriate contact information. Additional sheets may be attached to fully describe the proposed project in detail. It is strongly encouraged that applications be as detailed as possible since they will be evaluated competitively. The project proposal must provide project title, an itemized estimate of project costs, materials, and any other related expenditures including a detailed description of how the sponsoring organization plans to provide the required 25% project cost share, final grant amount requested, the legal location description of the project including GPS coordinates, estimate acreage to be impacted, and any relevant maps/air photos must be provided. Potential partners who are eligible by meeting the Forest Management Plans or Wildlife Habitat Plans requirements (section 1.6) should include a copy of the plan along with the grant application.

Written documentation of third-party landowner permission for the proposed activity must be included where necessary. Specific local recommendations for any contractual service providers should be included. Project proposals may undergo modification by the Selection Committee to ensure habitat practices are sound, to overcome logistical and feasibility issues, and follow union/labor agreements where applicable.

2.1 Proposal selection process:

Immediately following the application deadline, a Selection Committee will review proposals and select projects to be funded. Examples of Selection Committee representatives may include: DNR personnel from Wildlife and Forest Resources Divisions, DNR Communications Specialist, and a DNR Private Land Program Biologist.

The Selection Committee may approve, reject, or make modifications to project(s). Partners who submit projects that are not approved may seek feedback from the selection committee. All Selection Committee decisions will be final. The selection and project scoring process are designed to be standardized, treat all applicants fairly and be as transparent as possible.

2.2 Proposal criteria and scoring:

Grant proposals will be evaluated for completeness, inclusion of all three primary Initiative goals, eligibility, and meeting the five proposal criteria. The Selection Committee will use scientific principles, professional experience, and judgment in numerically scoring proposals on a gradient scale of 1-5 used to evaluate the required proposal criteria. The lower the score for a requirement indicates a

lower priority assessment. The final score for each application will be based on the combined scores of the five required proposal criteria. The maximum score a proposal can receive is 25. The minimum scores a project can receive and still be considered eligible for funding is 12.

The five proposal evaluation criteria are presented in no order:

- Production of tangible deer habitat enhancements
- Proposal is logistically and scientifically feasible.
- Public accessibility and/or proximity to public lands.
- Partner will provide the required cost share and participation in the implementation of the project.
- The inclusion and completeness of a communications strategy.

2.3 Compliance monitoring and final initiative reporting:

For all approved projects, the partner's representative will be required to periodically report to the DNR Grant Administrator on the project status, expenditures to date, future objectives to be completed, and estimated timeline for completion throughout the implementation process (final deadline is September 30, 2025). DNR staff will be responsible for assessing whether the partner complied with the intended contract obligations, prior to final payment release.

Reimbursement for expenses approved through the grant will require submission of an itemized invoice on the organization's letterhead containing the date and contact information. Copies of all invoices and bills must be submitted prior to any payment being made. At the completion of the project a final report must be submitted prior to final payment being made; electronic submissions of reports are acceptable.

In addition to the above invoicing instructions, the final project report must contain:

- A summary of financial accounting for the entire project,
- A final improved acreage estimate (GPS coordinates/or polygon),
- Completed DNR Volunteer/In-Kind match tracking forms,
- Photographs documenting the project from start to finish,
- A post-project narrative (500 words) complete with quotes and project pictures to be used for outreach purposes for future use in DNR grant promotions,
- A copy of any press or outreach materials generated by the partner organization to promote the project.
- Anything else of outreach value worth noting.

Following the completion of the project, periodic compliance monitoring by DNR personnel may take place for some time (as specified in contractual agreement) to determine if the partner organization fulfilled all requirements. The DNR

reserves the right to access the project for compliance monitoring for the period specified in the contract agreement.

2.4 Wildlife Division Upper Peninsula / DHIPI Wildlife Biologist Contact List:

Brian Roell, Wildlife Biologist, RoellB@michigan.gov
Marquette Operations Service Center, 1990 US-41 South, Marquette MI 49855.
906-228-6561

Vacant, Wildlife Biologist,
Baraga Operations Service Center, 427 US-41 North, Baraga MI 49908.
906-353-6651

Tiffany Bougie, Wildlife Biologist, Bougiet@michigan.gov
Crystal Falls Field Office, 1420 Highway US-2 West, Crystal Falls MI 49920.
906-875-6622

Joe Sage, Wildlife Biologist, SageJ2@michigan.gov
Escanaba Field Office, 6833 Hwy. 2, 41, and M-35, Gladstone MI 49837.
906-789-8205

Kristie Sitar, Wildlife Biologist, Sitark@michigan.gov
Newberry Field Office, P.O. Box 428, Newberry MI 49868.
906-293-5024

Dave Jentoft, Wildlife Biologist, Jentoftd@michigan.gov
Sault Ste. Marie Office, P.O. Box 798, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783.
906-635-5281

Vacant, Wildlife Biologist,
Cusino Field Office, P.O. Box 67, Shingleton MI 49884.
906-203-0549

Bill Scullon, Field Operations Manager, Scullonh@michigan.gov
Norway Field Office, 520 West US Hwy 2, Norway MI 49870.
906-563-9247

Karen Sexton, Field Operations Manager, Sextonk@Michigan.gov
Escanaba Field Office, 6833 Hwy. 2, 41, and M-35, Gladstone MI 49837.
906-786-2351

Dave Lemmien, Regional Wildlife Supervisor, Lemmiend@michigan.gov
Sault Ste. Marie Office, P.O. Box 798, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783.
906-635-5281

Appendix A

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division, 2025 Upper Peninsula
Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative
Grant Application Form**

Organization information

Applicant organization name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Contact person / representative: _____ Email: _____

Mailing address if different from above

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ Fax: (____) _____ - _____

Proposed project location legal description

Project Name/Title: _____

County: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____

Section(s): _____ Subsection(s): _____ Acreage: _____

GPS coordinate(s): _____

Landowner name: _____ Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Landowner email: _____

Landowner permission for project: _____ (attach copy of written permission)

Proposal description: Include detailed description of planned habitat improvement project and expected benefits. Be as specific as possible. List any additional parties to proposal (attach extra sheets & maps if necessary). Must include an estimated actual acreage to be improved or treated.

List specific proposal material needs: Estimated **itemized** materials costs or requirements. Include any contractor recommendations or other needs (attach extra sheets if necessary). Be as specific as possible:

Estimated total proposal cost including cost share match: \$_____.

Estimated proposal cost share match only: \$_____. ____

Final proposal amount requested via grant only: \$_____. ____

List the proposal implementation plans including cost share: Be specific as to who does what, when, and include specifics on how 25% cost share will be met (i.e., financial contribution, in-kind contributions, volunteer hours, materials, contractual labor, etc.) (Attach extra sheets as necessary).

Proposal communication strategy: Include specific plans for: signage, press or media contacts / organizations, text, and educational outreach (Attach extra sheets as necessary).

Organizations' representative signature **Date**

Completed applications must be postmarked by or received electronically by close of Business Friday, March 14, 2025. Return to: Bill Scullon, Field Operations Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Norway Field Office, 520 West US Hwy 2, Norway MI 49870. For additional information call the Field Operations Manager at telephone 906-250-6781, fax 906-563-5802 or email scullonh@michigan.gov.

Appendix B- Maps to Aid in Identification of Prioritized Project Locations

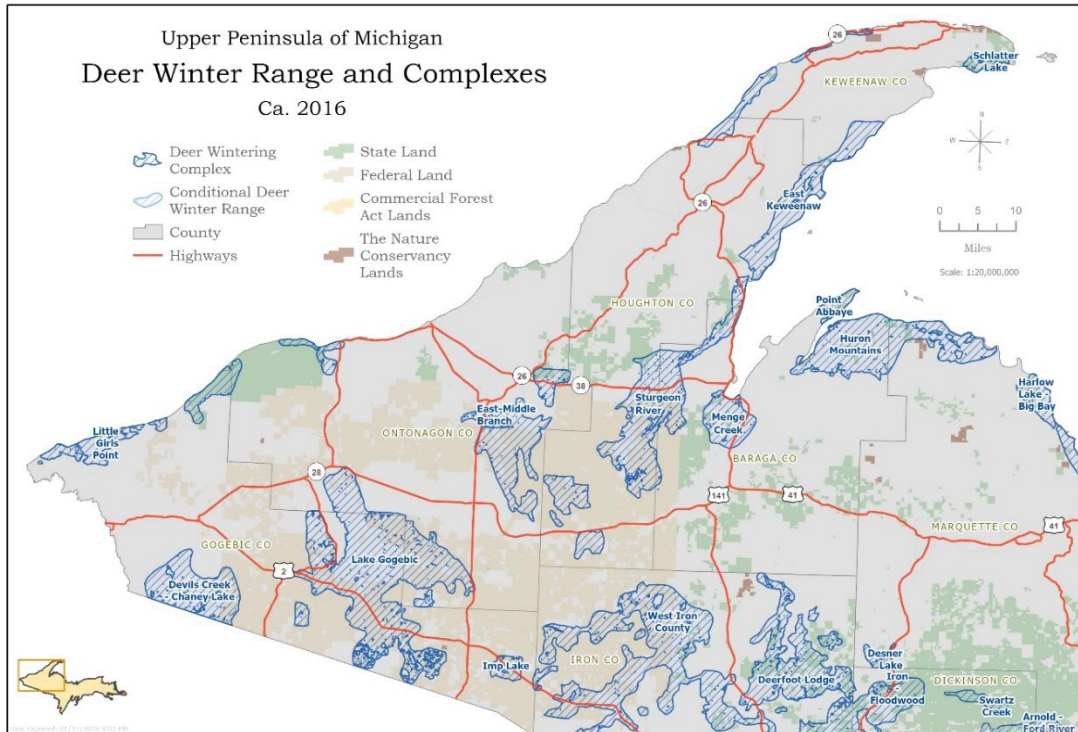


Fig. 2: West UP Priority Project Locations Within Winter Range and Complexes

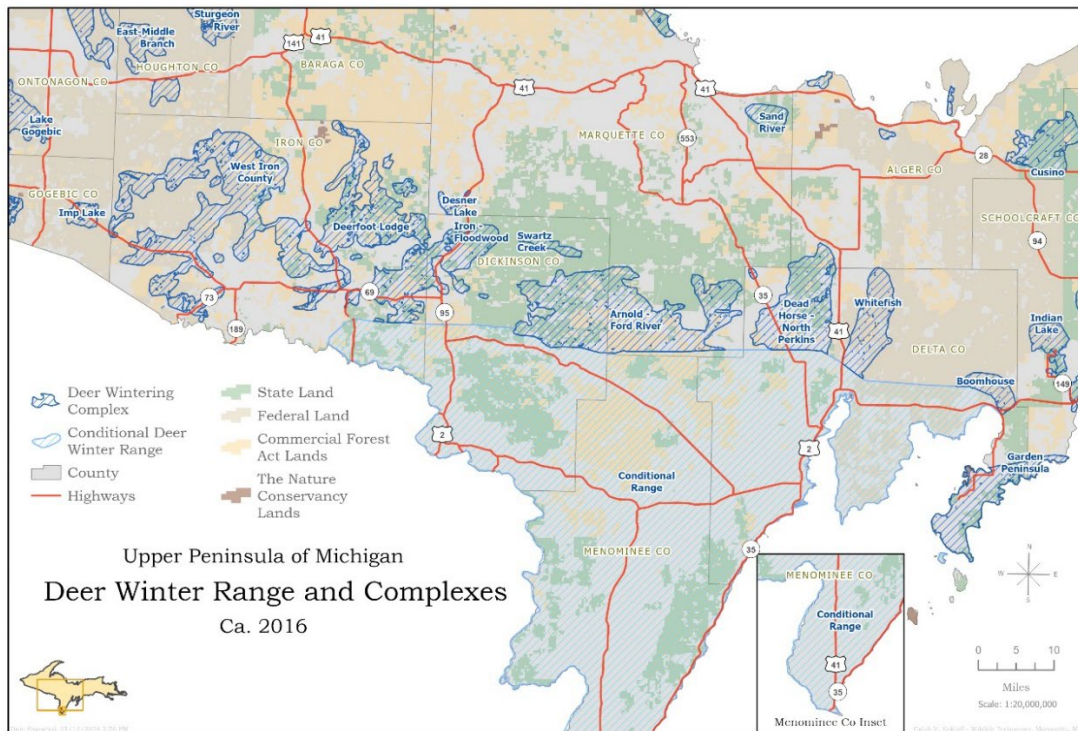


Fig 3: Central UP Priority Project Locations Within Winter Range and Complexes

Appendix B- Maps to Aid in Identification of Prioritized Project Locations (continued)

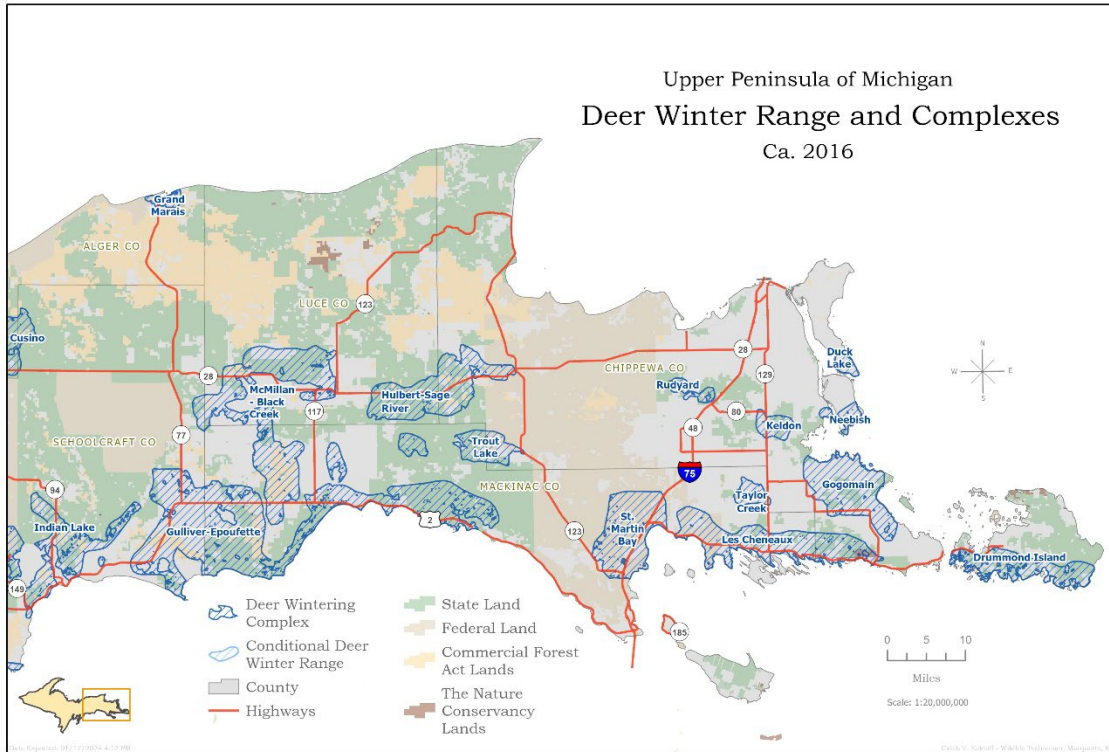


Fig. 4: East UP Priority Project Locations Within Winter Range and Complexes

Appendix C-Resources for Private Landowners

- Finding your local Conservation District and the programs they offer landowners:

<https://www.macd.org/find-your-district>

- Other State and Federal programs / resources to help improve wildlife habitat on private land:

<https://www.macd.org/wildlife>

[Michigan | Natural Resources Conservation Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

- Michigan's Qualified Forest Program - offering tax incentives for landowners to manage their land for forest and wildlife health, including information on obtaining a Certified Forest Management Plan

[MDARD - Qualified Forest Program \(michigan.gov\)](#)

- Specific plans developed for each mapped Upper Peninsula Deer Winter Complexes are available to help guide landowners and forest managers on appropriate habitat management principals and recommendations. Individual deer wintering complex plans are linked here:

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/wildlife/deer/deer-wintering-complexes>

Appendix D- Final Project Narrative and Photos

**(REQUIRED UPON COMPLETION OF PROJECT)
2025 Upper Peninsula DHIPI Final Grant Narrative**

Final Proposal Narrative: Please include a minimum a 1-page (500 word) detailed description of the project, whether intended objectives were met, what challenges you faced during project implementation, the benefits of this project to wildlife and partners, and what your monitoring plan includes. Please include at least one quote form the project representative or group describing their experience or project outcome. Please include at least 3 photos (Jpeg format preferred) of the project site, as well as copies of any media or press releases that were developed. This narrative will be used for post project outreach purposes.

Organization information:

Applicant organization name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Contact person / representative: _____ Email: _____
