Deer Impacts on Forests
Wildlife Management Perspective:

Deer are a Native Keystone Species socially, economically, and ecologically
NR 1.15: Goal Setting Criteria

- Carrying capacity
- Hunter success
- Ecological and economic impacts of deer browsing
- Disease transmission
- Deer-vehicle accidents
- Chippewa treaty harvest
- Hunter access to land
- Ability to stay at goal
- Tolerable levels of agricultural damage
Agricultural Damage Criteria
in code:

Exceeds 2.5 times median in 2 of 4 of the following:

- Appraised losses per hundred over-winter deer
- Appraised losses per square mile
- Appraised losses per square mile of agricultural land
- Number of claims per 100 square miles
Socio-Economic Factors
Ecological Factors
Management Capability Factors
Process for setting goals

1. Gather data on criteria
2. Public and stakeholder involvement
3. Tribal negotiations
4. Department recommendations
5. Natural Resources Board approval
6. Legislative approval
Balanced stakeholder input is the key to balanced deer population goals.
Working with hunters and landowners is the key to maintaining deer populations at goals.
Magic of reducing deer herds to goals
Factors affecting success in keeping deer at goals:

- Traditions – season and bucks
- Conflicts with other recreationists
- Demand for success (see and shoot deer)
- Demand vs. supply
- Mild winters
- Deer disease and hunter participation
- Private land access
- Baiting and feeding
- Development of homes in forests
- MFL exemptions for public access
- Leases of industrial forest land
- Selling of large forests in small parcels