

Naturalist: _____ Date: _____

Weather: _____ Location: _____

White-tailed Deer: How Many are There?



OBSERVERS: _____

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ TEMP: _____

HABITAT TYPE: _____

Transect 50 feet long X 10 feet wide (5 feet on each side of the line)

Total number of FRESH pellet groups = _____

Sketch an aerial view of your survey plot.

Sketch and label the different types of scat you found in your survey plot.

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CLASS CALCULATIONS: Deer Population at MN Valley NWR

Average piles per plot:

Sum of all piles divided by the total number of plots.

Average piles per acre:

Divide the average piles per plot by 0.01 (one hundredth of an acre) to get the average piles per acre.

Refuge Deer Population Estimate:

To translate the piles into a population estimate, biologists must divide by the defecation rate of 13 piles per day.

And then divide by the days between surveys (use 30 days).

You are the refuge manager. Do you think this habitat can maintain this many deer?
Why or why not?

