

Greetings DMAP cooperators –

I wanted to send you a quick note about an opportunity to participate in the DNR's "Operation Deer Watch" program. Since 1960, DNR employees have reported location, deer type (buck, doe, fawn) and number of deer seen from dawn to dusk for the summer months. These data help to determine the fawn-to-doe ratio for the area and ultimately deer population estimates. Collecting this information on your property provides an index of annual fawn production and an early forecast of what the hunting season might have in store. For level 2 and 3 cooperators, the fawn:doe ratio for your property is calculated based on the data you enter and provided in table 3 of your annual harvest report (example attached). This is a great opportunity to get the kids and grandkids involved with deer sightings on the property. The data you collect will be shared with Operation Deer Watch coordinators, so please only enter your data into your MyDMAP account. Let me know if you have any questions.

Here are the program guidelines:

- Record observations between **August 1 – September 30, 2016.**
- Record deer observed from dawn to dusk (when headlights are not used for driving).
- Record ALL deer you see, not just does with fawns.
- Do NOT include multiple observations if you are sure the same deer is being seen repeatedly.
- Do not include trail camera counts in your observations.

How do you participate?

- Use the attached "DMAP Wildlife Observation Form" to record your observations. This form is also available on the Resources page in your MyDMAP account.
- Enter the data from the form into your MyDMAP account.
 - o Select the "Harvest & Observations" tab.
 - o Select the "Observation Information" tab and make sure you are entering data for 2016.
 - o Select the "Add Wildlife Observation" button to begin entering your data.