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NOTICE OF FILING

CITY OF RANIER

The Ranier City Election will be held in conjunction with the General Election on Tuesday November 4th, 2014 for the following offices:

Two Council Members4-year terms

Persons interested must file an Affidavit of Candidacy at the office of the City of Ranier. The filing period is July 29th, 2014 - August 12th, 2014 by 5pm.

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OUTDOORS

Petersen: Conservative deer season is no surprise

Hunting licenses go on sale Aug. 1

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

Changes to the upcoming deer season that will allow less deer to be harvested is no surprise to wildlife managers and was likely expected by hunters, said a local wildlife manager.

Hunters can expect a conservative 2014 deer season designed to rebuild deer numbers across much of the state.

Only one deer can be harvested in 95 percent of the state, said Leslie McInenly, big game program leader for the DNR. To shoot a doe, hunters may have to apply for a permit in areas where they haven't in the past and, in some places, no antlerless harvest will be allowed.

"This is pretty much inline with how we saw the winter play out and what we've seen over the past several years of how the deer population is trending," said Larry Petersen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources area wildlife supervisor in International Falls.

In 69 of Minnesota's 128 deer permit areas, hunters must be chosen in a lottery to shoot an antlerless deer. Only bucks can be hunted in 14 areas. In 38 areas, hunters have the choice of shooting a doe or a buck. Bonus permits allowing hunters to shoot more than one deer may only be used in seven permit

areas and for some special hunts.

Locally, permit area 108, which covers the eastern half of Koochiching County, and permit area 119, the area further east of 108, are bucks-only hunting areas, said Petersen. Permit area 103, in western Koochiching County, will provide through a lottery a few antlerless permits, as in the past, he said. Antlerless permit areas also allow archery hunters to shoot either sex deer.

Petersen said the conservative harvest is an attempt to allow the state's deer herd to recovery from severe winters.

"The last two winters were really the one-two punch that put them over the cliff, so to speak, or crossed the threshold," he said of the population. "We were getting more conservative as it was and we've been having worse winters than a decade ago and that affected the population."

He said the most conservative harvest offering would be a bucks-only season statewide.

Petersen said harvesting male deer have no effect, especially with hunter pressure, on the overall population.

"So we continue to harvest them, but the females are the ones important to rebuild the population, so we're restricting that population," he said.

Larry Petersen

"This is just one further step toward helping to rebuild the population."

In listening sessions and online comments, DNR staff heard many hunters voice concern about current deer densities and their hunting experiences in recent years. "This past winter only added to those concerns so this year's conservative approach will protect more antlerless deer, reduce the statewide harvest and allow the population to rebound," said McInenly.

Northeastern Minnesota hunters will feel the greatest impact from a bucks-only season. In bucks-only areas, no antlerless deer may be harvested by any hunter, including those with archery or youth licenses. Most of these areas are now below goal and that this year's conservative approach is consistent with the DNR's long-term commitment to manage deer populations at established goal levels.

Hunters can enter the lottery for antlerless permits beginning Aug. 1. The deadline to apply is Sept. 4. Hunters may apply using both their firearm and muzzleloader licenses. If hunters are selected for both licenses, they must select the one season in which they want to shoot an antlerless deer.

Deer hunting licenses, lottery applications and special hunt applications are available at any DNR license agent, by telephone at 888-665-4236 or online at www.mndnr.gov/buyalicense.

Lottery winners will be notified in October.

Permit area breakdown

Bucks-only deer areas in 2014 are deer permit areas 108, 117, 118, 119, 122, 126, 127, 169, 176, 177, 178, 180, 181 and 199.

Lottery deer areas in 2014 are permit areas 101, 103, 105, 110, 111, 152, 155, 156, 159, 171, 172, 173, 179, 183, 184, 197, 203, 208, 213, 229, 234, 237, 238, 242, 246, 247, 250, 251, 252, 253, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 288, 289, 290, 291, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298 and 299.

Hunter choice deer areas in 2014 are permit areas 157, 201, 209, 210, 214, 215, 218, 219, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 227, 230, 232, 233, 235, 236, 239, 240, 241, 248, 249, 254, 255, 256, 257, 292, 293, 338, 339, 341, 342, 344, 345, 347 and 348.

Managed deer areas in 2014 are permit areas 114, 287 and 343.

Intensive deer areas in 2014 are permit areas 182, 346 and 349.

The DNR strongly advises hunters to review new deer hunting regulations, permit area designations and boundary changes before applying. Current and up-to-date information is available online at www.mndnr.gov/hunting/deer. Information about deer management and upcoming deer population goal setting during the next two years is available at www.mndnr.gov/deer.

Planets at play in August

BY DEANE MORRISON
University of Minnesota

August is a great month for vacations, and even the planets seem to be at play.

Take Mars, for example. Last month its eastward motion carried it past its long-time companion, the bright star Spica, in Virgo. As August begins, Mars is in the southwest, almost midway between Spica to the west and Saturn to the east. Continuing its eastward trek, the Red Planet glides below Saturn, coming closest on the 25th. On the 31st, the two planets form a triangle with a fat crescent moon.

The moon, too, is at play. It becomes full at 1:09 p.m. on the 10th, less than an hour before reaching perigee, the closest point to Earth in its orbit. This is the closest perigee of the year, so the moon will be big and beautiful; however, it won't rise over our area of the planet until at least 8 o'clock that night—after waiting for seven hours.

On the night of the 12th-13th, the moon will be past full but plenty bright enough to wash out many of the Perseid meteors at the shower's peak. Perseids are often bright themselves, though, so look to the northeast in the late evening or predawn hours and hope for the best.

A note about full moons past and future. July's full moon was hailed as a "super-moon" because it fell within a day of perigee. In the Twin Cities, the best time to see that moon full and still above the horizon was around 5:45 a.m. on July 12, some 21.5 hours before perigee. In September, the interval between perigee and the best time to see it close to full will be nearly the same, but this time fullness occurs in early evening, not first thing in the morning.

So if you missed the show in July, September's should rival it and happen at a more convenient hour for us in the Midwest. (August's full moon is also super—astronomers use the term perigee moon rather than supermoon—especially on the other side of the Atlantic, where it rises much closer to full.)

In the morning sky, Jupiter climbs steadily above the eastern horizon. Because it's farther from the sun than Mars, it orbits more slowly; thus, Earth gains on Jupiter faster, making it climb faster in the morning sky. On the 18th, Jupiter sails close by Venus, which is sinking as it begins its next trip behind the sun.

The Milky Way now stretches across a broad swath of the evening sky. Ornamenting it high in the

Planets at play in August.

southeast is the Summer Triangle of the bright stars Vega, Deneb, and Altair. Deneb, at the Triangle's northeast corner, is both the tail of Cygnus, the swan, and the top of the Northern Cross. At the northwest corner, brilliant Vega presides over the parallelogram-shaped Lyra, the lyre of Orpheus. At the southern point is Altair, the brightest star in Aquila, the eagle.

Above Altair, use a star chart to find needle-thin Sagitta, the arrow that, according to one myth, Hercules used to kill the mythical Aquila. And just above and right (west) of Sagitta, use binoculars to find the almost upside-down Coathanger of stars, not quite halfway from Altair to Vega.

If you're up in the pre-dawn hour (or two), look for the faint zodiacal light in the east, along the sun's

path. This lovely glow comes from sunlight reflecting off dust in the plane of the solar system.

The University of Minnesota offers public viewings of the night sky at its Duluth and Twin Cities campuses. For more information and viewing schedules, see:

■ Duluth, Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium: www.d.umn.edu/planet

■ Twin Cities, Minnesota Institute for Astrophysics (during fall and spring semesters): www.astro.umn.edu/outreach/pubnight

■ Check out the astronomy programs at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum ExploraDome: www.bellmuseum.umn.edu/ForGroups/ExploraDome/index.htm

■ Find U of M astronomers and links to the world of astronomy at <http://www.astro.umn.edu>

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