

## White-tailed Deer Habitat Evaluation Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### A. Habitat Description

1. Habitat Type (check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young forest             | <input type="checkbox"/> Row crop field        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate aged forest | <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture field         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mature forest            | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay field             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pond                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned field       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stream                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Forested wetland      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> River                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland meadow        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchard                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban neighborhood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mowed Lawn               | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban Park         |

2. Provide a brief description of habitat:

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### B. Food

1. Abundance of woody browse available (twigs and leaves):

None or very rare	Isolated seedlings	Scattered seedlings	Abundant seedlings	Available over all of site
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2. Abundance of plants that produce soft mast (berries, fruit):

None or Very rare	Isolated individuals	Scattered small patches	Abundant in patches	Available over most of site
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3. Abundance of trees that produce hard mast (nuts and acorns):

None or Very rare	Isolated individuals	Scattered small patches	Abundant in patches	Available over most of site
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4. Agricultural crops:

Corn                  Soybeans                  Alfalfa                  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Describe any other sources of food:

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### C. Cover

1. List and describe sources of cover for:

Fawn protection \_\_\_\_\_

Winter weather \_\_\_\_\_

Escape from hunters \_\_\_\_\_

2. Evergreens

Evergreen cover from both trees and shrubs is extremely important during winter.

Record the abundance of both evergreen tree and shrub cover:

None or Very rare	Isolated individuals	Scattered small patches	Abundant in patches	Available over most of site
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### D. Water

1. List the water sources present and describe size (ex. stream, pond, wetland, vernal pool):

\_\_\_\_\_

### E. Sign

1. Note all deer sign observed while making habitat evaluation and describe:

\_\_\_ tracks - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ droppings - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ rubs - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ scrapes - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ feeding activity - \_\_\_\_\_

### F. Score

On a scale of 1-4 rate the habitat for white-tailed deer:

1 – Poor, the species would have a difficult time surviving here

2 – Fair, habitat provides some of the necessary food, cover, water, and space

3 – Good, habitat provides almost all of the necessary food, cover, water, and space

4 – Excellent, habitat provide all the necessary food, cover, water, and space

	Habitat Score	Explanation
White-tailed deer	_____	_____