

Deer Muzzleloader Hunt Draw Information

Baseline Barrens Nature Preserve

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a reserved draw hunt opportunity. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

You must be properly licensed to hunt deer prior to applying. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt deer. Visit our [Deer Hunting](#) page to learn more about deer hunting requirements.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

Equipment	Specifications
Muzzleloading Rifle/Shotgun	Barrel caliber: .40" minimum Bullet diameter: .357" minimum • Single bullet, loaded from muzzle. Powder may be loaded from the breech • Saboted bullets permitted
Muzzleloading Handgun	Barrel Length: 12" minimum, measured from the base of the breech plug (excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown) Barrel caliber: .50" minimum Bullet diameter: .44" minimum • Loaded from muzzle and single shot

Bag Limit:

- Deer harvested at this hunt count toward your statewide bag limit of one (1) antlered deer and six (6) antlerless deer. Multi-season antlerless licenses are permitted. All [county antlerless bag limits](#) apply.

Hunting Hours:

- Legal hunting hours for all deer seasons are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunt Period:

- The hunt period at Baseline Barrens Nature Preserve is the 2026 deer muzzleloader season, which starts December 5, 2026, and continues through December 20, 2026.

Hunt Information:

Three (3) hunters will be drawn for this opportunity. Successfully drawn hunters will receive a hunt information packet with access permits included. Hunting partners are not permitted at Baseline Barrens Nature Preserve. Successfully drawn hunters must sign in each day of their hunt at the self-service box before entering the field. Access permits must be filled out and returned to the box on the property at the conclusion of their hunt period.

Tree stands must display your name, address, and telephone number legibly written and able to be read from ground level. Tree stands or any equipment associated with tree stands may not penetrate the bark of a tree more than ½ inch. Stands can be installed starting December 1, 2026, and must be removed by December 22, 2026.

Area Information:

Baseline Barrens Nature Preserve (NP) is a natural area of 82 acres, of which 70 acres will be open during the reserved hunt. It is located southwest of the town of Salem in Washington County. It was created for nature preservation. Hunting and all access must be restricted to designated hunting units.

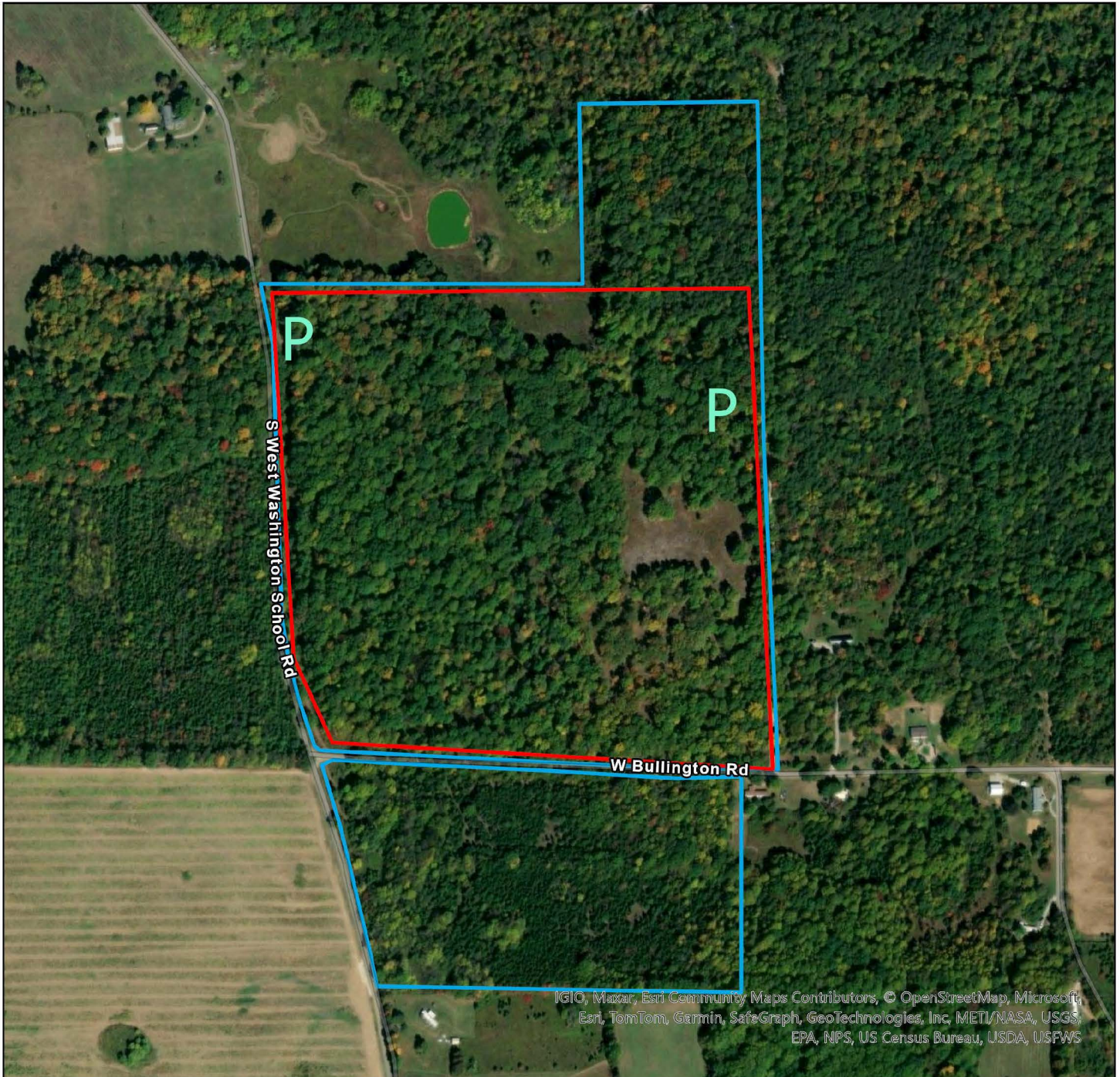
Habitat consists of forest, open areas of barrens/prairie and surrounding, non-IDNR owned ground. Agricultural land interspersed with woodland areas creates ideal habitat for the white-tailed deer.

A map is attached below showing area location and parking.

Contact: If you have further questions, please contact ecologist Jason Larson at jl Larson@dnr.IN.gov or 812-525-1870.

Baseline Barrens Nature Preserve

Muzzleloader Deer Hunt



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