

2017-18 Wolf Count Brief

- The 2017-18 overwinter minimum wolf count is **905-944**, a 2.2% decrease from the 2016-17 minimum count of 925-956.
- 2017-18 results represent a modest decline in the population following 3 years of population growth, including a 6.8% increase last year.
- This leveling off has been anticipated and may suggest that wolves are beginning to occupy less-suitable habitat as their range has expanded in the state.
- The complete 2017 – 2018 Wolf Monitoring Report will be available this summer at www.dnr.wi.gov.

Table 1: Comparison between 2016-17 and 2017-18 overwinter minimum wolf counts

Wolf Management Zone	2016-17 Min. count	2016-17 packs	2017-18 Min. count	2017-18 packs	% change in Min. Count
1	393-398	89	349-368	91	-11.2
2	206-214	54	230-238	57	11.7
3	117-120	33	84	28	-28.2
4	37-40	11	38-41	11	2.7
5	117-123	30	144-153	34	23.1
6	55-57	15	60	17	9.1
Total	925-952	232	905-944	238	-2.2

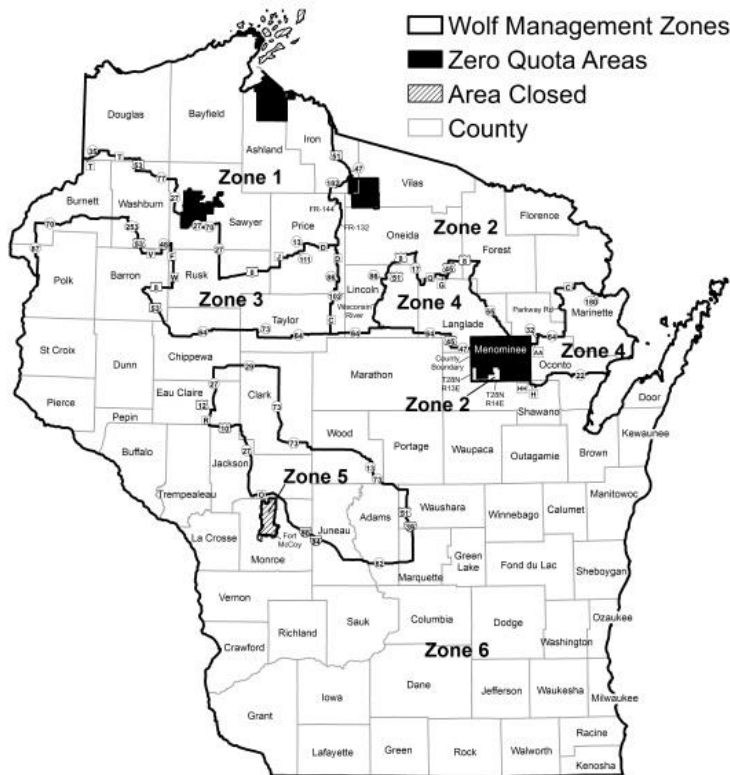


Figure 1: Wolf Management Zones

Table 2: Survey effort during 2017 – 2018 wolf count.

WMU	# of Survey Blocks*	# of Blocks surveyed	% of blocks surveyed	# of surveys	Avg. surveys/block	Miles surveyed	Avg. mi./block	Avg. mi./survey
1	42	41	98%	169	4.0	4716.2	112.3	27.9
2	47	46	98%	190	4.0	3837.8	81.7	20.2
3	19	19	100%	72	3.8	2439.7	128.4	33.9
4	14	14	100%	44	3.1	784.0	56.0	17.8
5	13	13	100%	77	5.9	1999.7	153.8	26.0
6	32	33	103%	91	2.8	2356.0	73.6	25.9
STATEWIDE	167	166	99%	643	3.9	16133.4	96.6	25.1