



## Why is a White-tailed Deer Management Plan needed?

NPS is in the early stages of developing a plan for white-tailed deer in the Sandy Hook Unit.



Two deer standing in a field at Sandy Hook.  
Photo credit: NPS

## Plan Purpose

The purpose of managing deer in the Sandy Hook Unit would be to support protection and enhancement of natural resources, preservation of cultural resources, and visitor use and experiences consistent with the park's General Management Plan.

## Need for a Plan

The NPS is concerned about deer impacts on:

- Natural regeneration of native vegetation and vegetation communities, leaving native biodiversity at risk and creating conditions that facilitate the establishment and spread of non-native invasive species;
- Rare and unique habitats (such as the globally imperiled maritime holly forests and the maritime red cedar woodland) and species of special concern, including federally listed species;
- Cultural landscape preservation and rehabilitation treatments; and
- Resource-based visitor uses and experiences that provide enjoyment for current and future generations of park visitors.

**We want to hear from you!**  
**Comment period closes May 23, 2026.**

