

Managing Hunting and Trapping in Apostle Islands NL

The legislation that created the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore mandates hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with appropriate laws of Wisconsin and the United States. The National Park Service is working with state and tribal partners to update the Harvestable Species Plan for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. This plan provides direction for managing the park's harvestable species.



Deer on Sand Island (Inset: Hunting on Oak Island)

Deer Hunting

- The islands within the park (except Long) have special WDNR regulations that increase deer hunting opportunities. Regulations include an October muzzleloader season, an archery season, and Apostle Islands specific tags.
- The Mainland Unit and Long Island are managed consistent with larger State management units.

Other Hunting and Trapping

- Bear, furbearers, small game, waterfowl and wild turkey are managed consistent with larger state management units.

Needed Updates

- Wolves were recently (2012) taken off the list of Federally Endangered and Threatened Species. Under the park's 2007 Harvestable Wildlife Plan, wolves were addressed as a Federally protected species. They are now a state managed species subject to harvest.
- The 2007 plan did not address the harvest of plant species.

Species Included in the Harvestable Wildlife Plan

- white-tailed deer
- black bear
- furbearers (e.g., otter, fisher, mink, beaver)
- wolves
- small game
- waterfowl
- wild turkey