

Deer Management Program

Deer Drone Population Survey And Next Steps

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6/26/2025



**ARLINGTON
VIRGINIA**

Parks & Recreation



Overview

- Drone survey conducted March 2025
- Covered almost all of Arlington (except certain federal lands & urban high-rise zones)



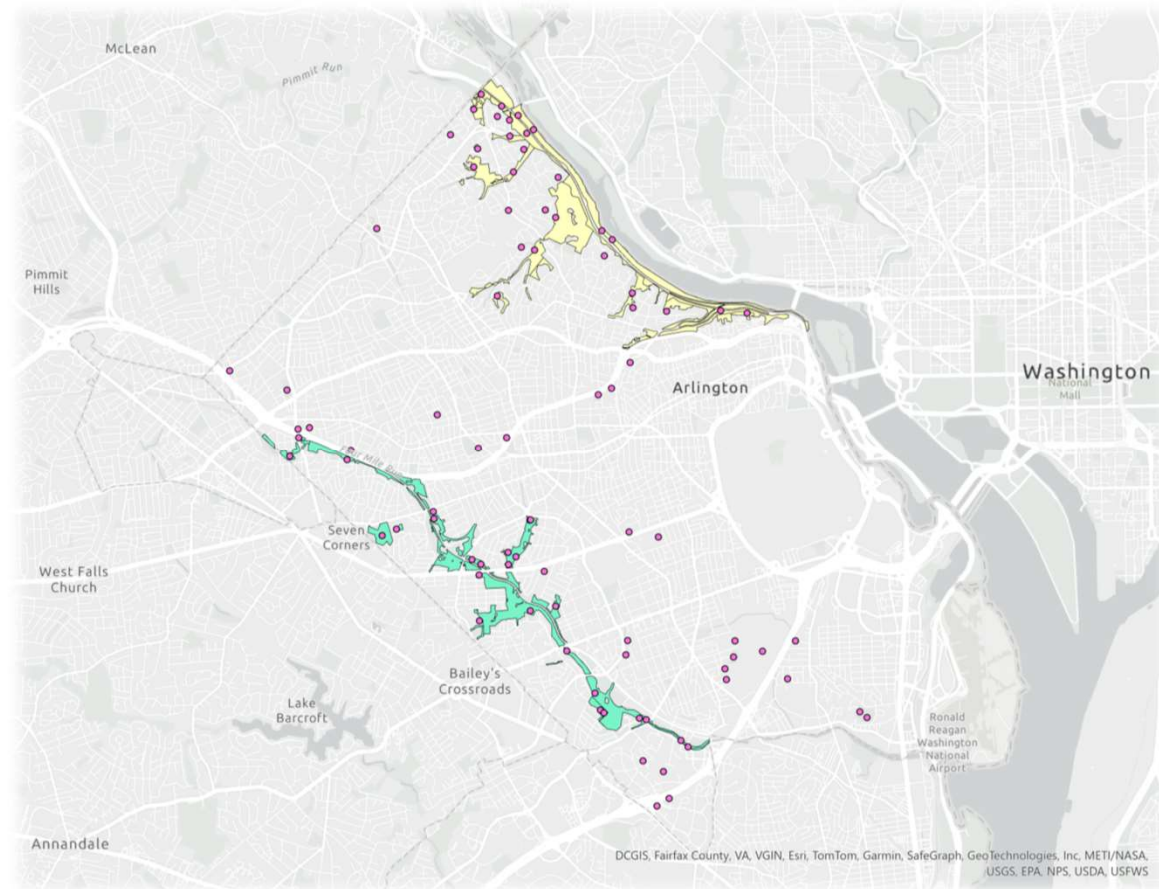
Core Takeaways

- The observed deer population has decreased since the 2021 drone survey
- The observed deer population is **still 3x to 6x recommended levels** in key wildlife corridors
- **Ongoing management is still indicated** to support forest health and protect biodiversity



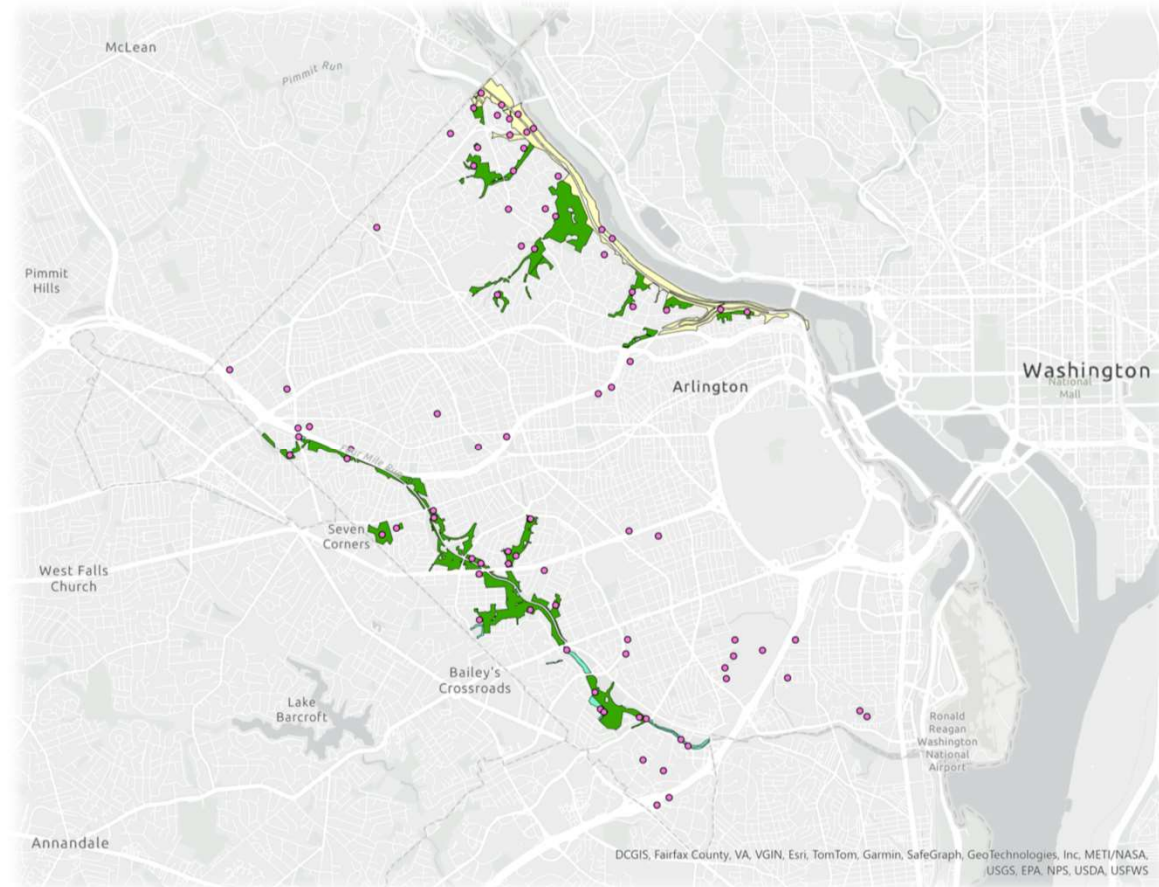
Management By Wildlife Corridor

- DPR will focus management within the Potomac & Four Mile Run Corridors
- Deer don't recognize park boundaries - they move across natural areas and neighborhoods
- Holistic approach better reflects actual deer behavior
- Field operations will occur on only DPR and select NOVA parks properties, but population density will be measured at the corridor level

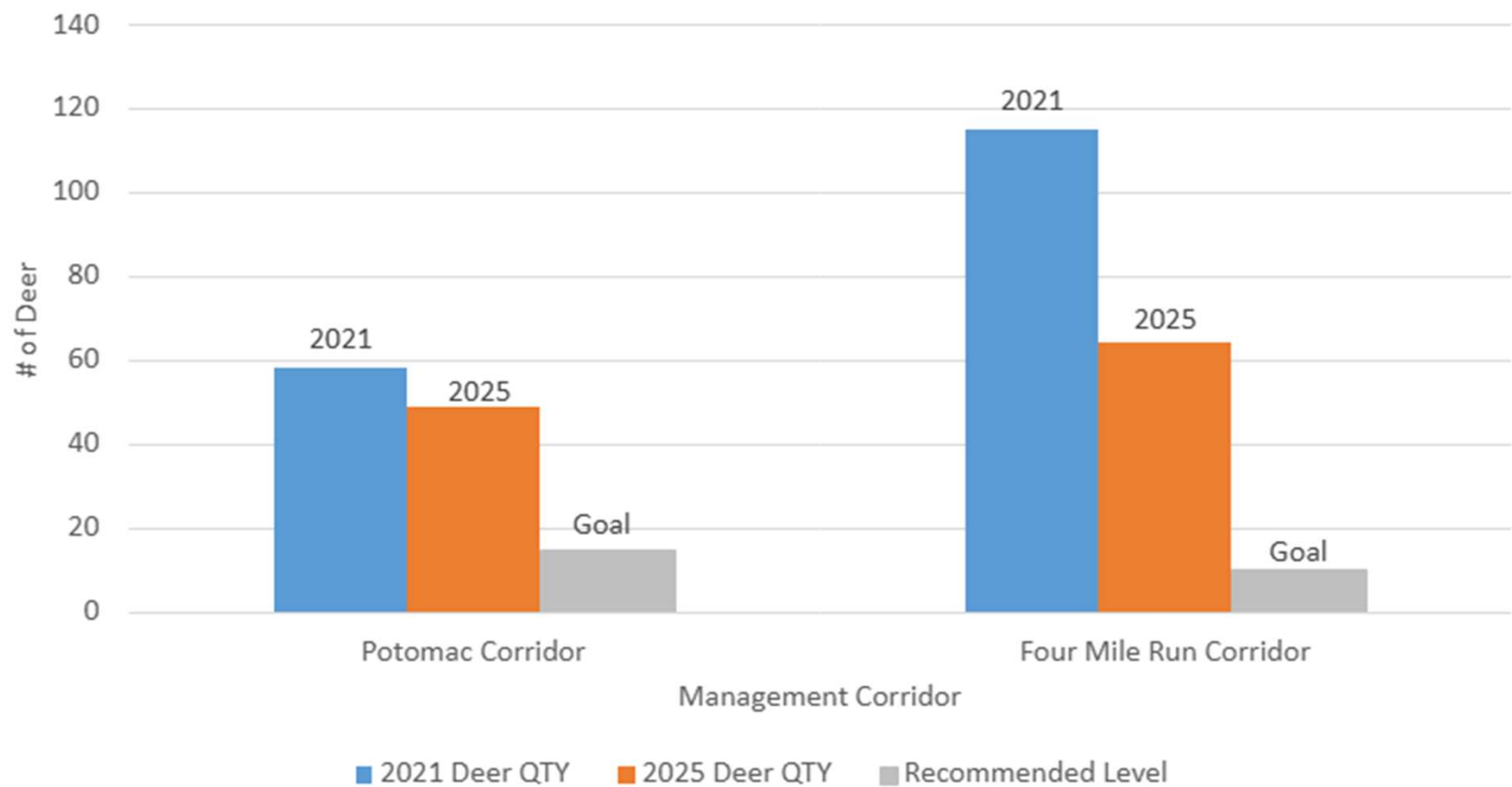


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Deer Population Reduced but Still 3x-6x Recommended Levels



Next Steps for Deer Management

■ Summer

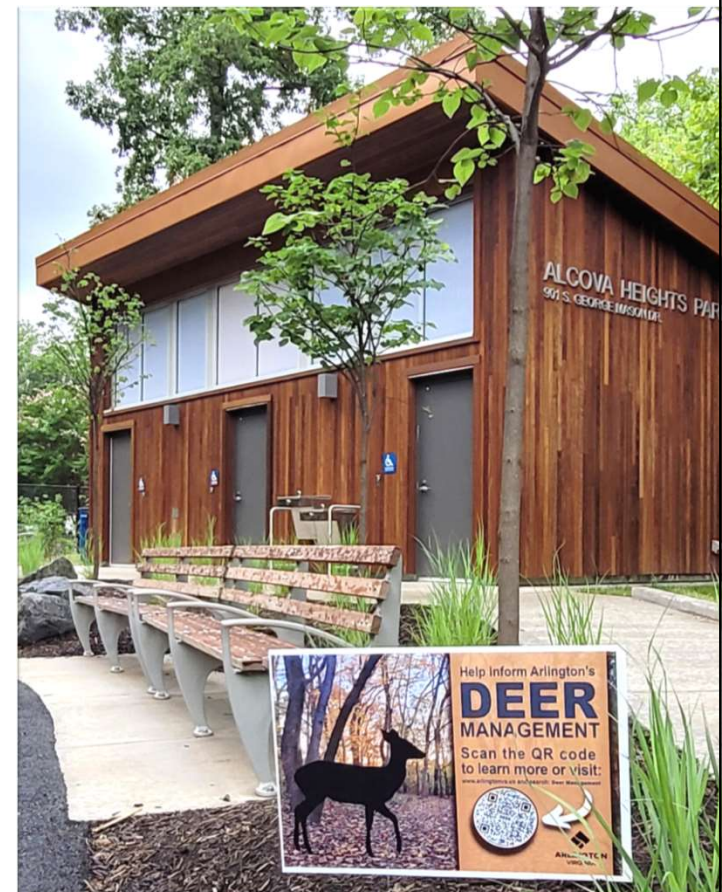
- Procure professional sharpshooting contractor
- Establish and begin annual monitoring of exclosures

■ Fall 2025:

- Establish and begin annual monitoring of randomized browse survey plots

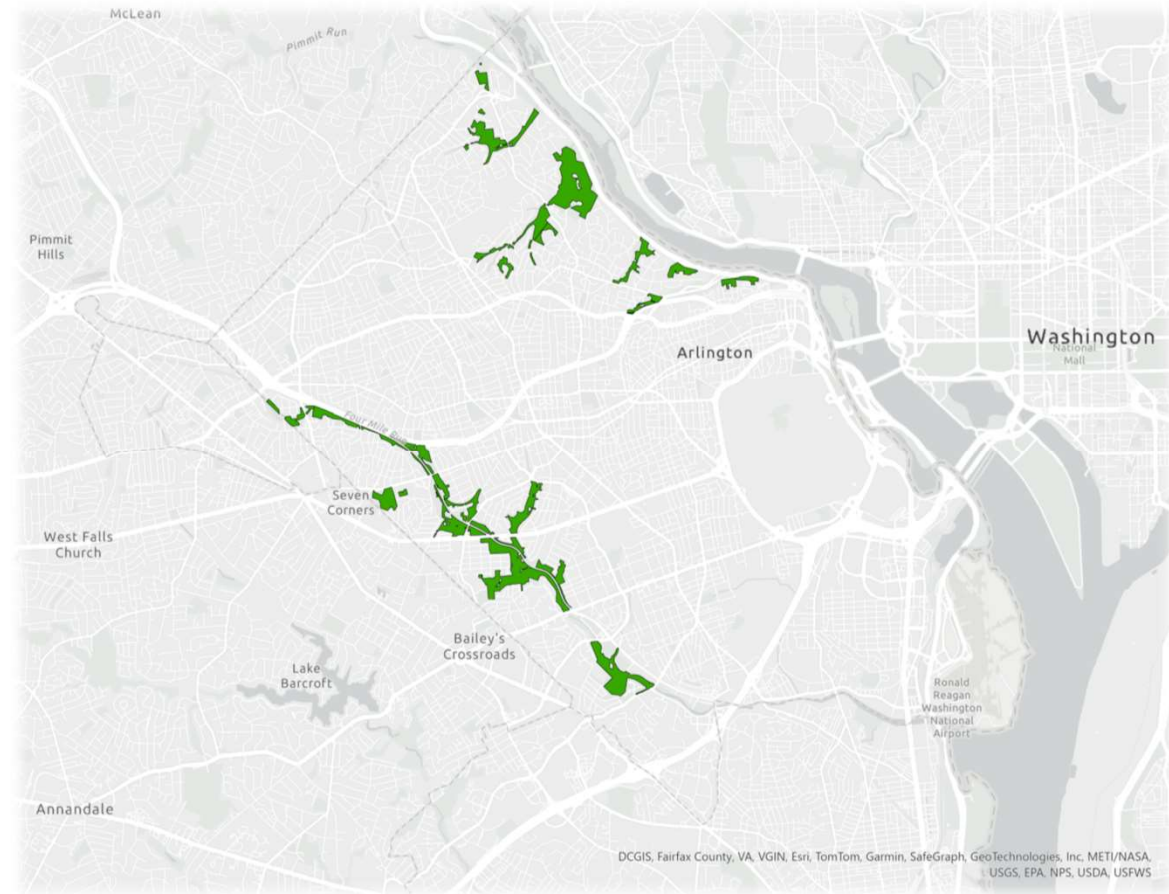
■ Jan-Feb 2026:

- Conduct professional sharpshooting if indicated by data



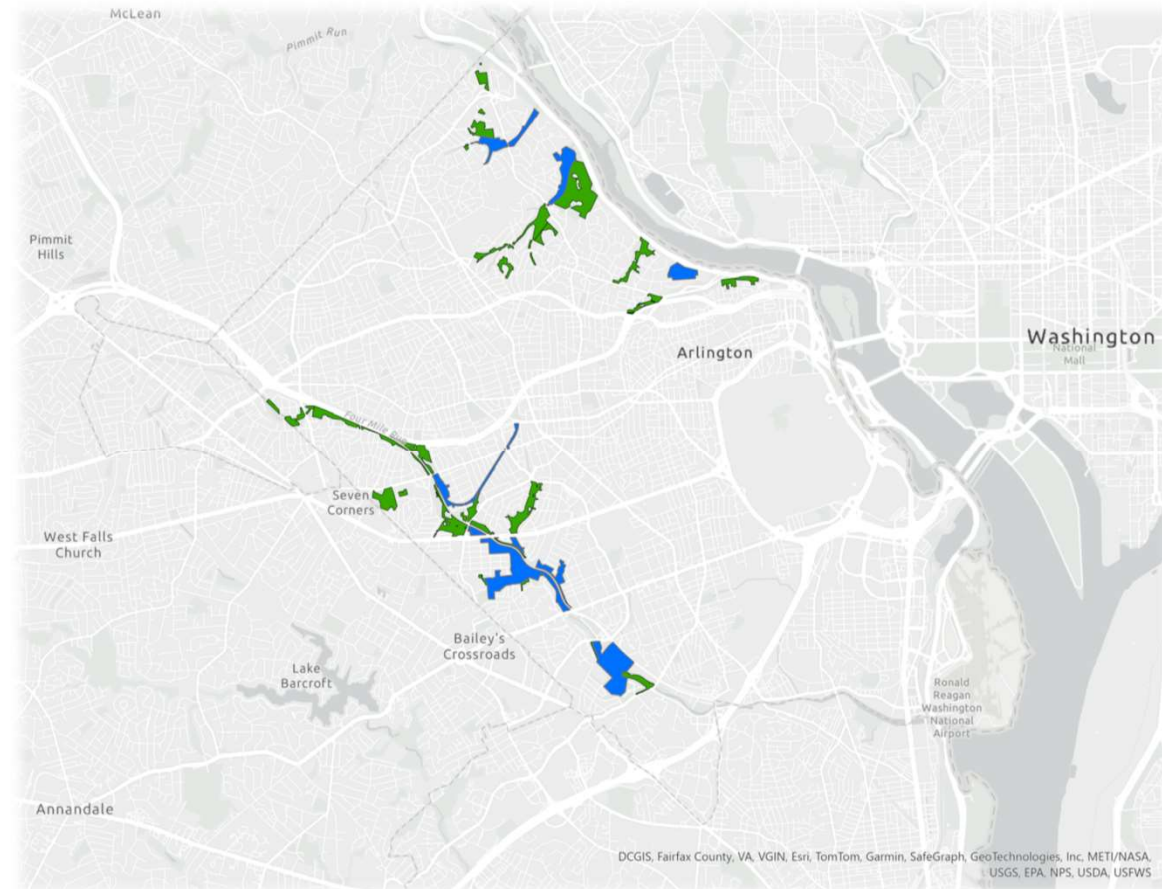
Browse Survey and Exclosure Locations

- Randomized browse survey plots will be established within the natural lands symbolized in green



Browse Survey and Exclosure Locations

- Randomized browse survey plots will be established within the natural lands symbolized in green
- One exclosure will be established within each blue park
- Both will be monitored annually



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