Snapshot Wisconsin: Making Observations
The following images are from Snapshot Wisconsin trail cameras. Cameras capture hundreds of images each year, these example photos are meant to give you an idea of what activity happens at these trail camera sites.

Disclaimer: we are not able to give the total “picture” in just six images – there are animals at these sites that aren’t reflected in these photos. Please keep this in mind while making observations. Enjoy!
Part 1: Making Observations

Example Observations:

• What species of animal?

• Are there multiple animals? Or species?

• How are the animals behaving?

• What is the habitat? What plants?

• Are the animals interacting with their environment?

• What time of day is it?

• Do you expect to see this animal this time of day?
Example Observations:

“There is a deer foraging in the foreground of the photo, and a big group of cranes in the background. They aren’t flying away so the deer might not be a predator.”

“The habitat looks grassy with water, maybe a wetland? The trees have no leaves and the ground looks brown.”

“I haven’t saw cranes here in the winter, they might be migrating.”

“The sun is rising. These animals may be active in the mornings.”
Part 1: Making Observations

Single Photo Observations
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (8:35 AM)

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (9:37 AM)

Red-tailed hawk
*Buteo jamaicensis*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (10:03 AM)

Wild turkey
*Meleagris gallopavo*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (3:31 PM)

Easter gray squirrel
Sciurus carolinensis
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (3:34 PM)

Woodchuck

*Marmota monax*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (5:12 PM)

White-tailed deer

Odocoileus virginianus
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime Observations (6:57 PM)

Elk
*Cervus canadensis*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (11:05 PM)

Porcupine
*Erethizon dorsatum*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (12:09 AM)

Raccoon
*Procyon lotor*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (2:36 AM)

Striped skunk
*Mephitis mephitis*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (3:07 AM)

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (5:02 AM)

American badger
_Taxidea taxus_
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Nighttime Observations (5:55 AM)

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Daytime / Nighttime Comparison
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

Black bear
*Ursus americanus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

River otter
*Lontra canadensis*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

Snowshoe hare
*Lepus americanus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

Wild turkey
Meleagris gallopavo
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer Observations

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

Wild turkey
Meleagris gallopavo
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

Snowshoe hare
*Lepus americanus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Winter Observations

Coyote

*Canis latrans*
Part 2: Observations Across Time

Summer / Winter Comparison
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Black bear
*Ursus americanus*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Elk
Cervus canadensis
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Fisher
*Martes pennanti*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Coyote
*Canis latrans*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Black bear
*Ursus americanus*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Northern Lakes and Forests Ecoregion

Gray wolf
*Canis lupus*
Sandhill crane
*Grus canadensis*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Southern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

Raccoon
*Procyon lotor*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Southern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

Cedar waxwing
*Bombycilla cedrorum*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Southern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 3: Observations Across Space

Southern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

Coyote

*Canis latrans*
Part 3: Observations Across Space
Southern Wisconsin Till Plains Ecoregion

White-tailed deer
*Odocoileus virginianus*
Part 3: Observations Across Space

Ecoregion Comparison