



(b)(6)

To "Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov"
<Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov>

cc

12/02/2008 08:28 AM

bcc

Subject RE: Grand Haven deer

History:

✉ This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Hi Tim, good to hear from you!! Last night, the Council finally approved our ordinance change to allow the discharge of guns (by other than law enforcement) in the city, if approved by the City Manager and Chief of Police for public safety concerns .

The next step is the final decision ...to cull or not to cull...This will be presented at the December 15th meeting. I have been officially instructed to say that there has been no decision made yet - the Council is still waiting for the official reports to make their decision (but if I were a betting gal, I would bet it will pass 3 to 2). The State Police have agreed to take their helicopter with a Flier up and perform a count for us . If it proves we have an average of over 17 per sq mile (6 sq miles) Or 102 deer, the major component of the decision will have been determined .

I did bid the project out , and besides being the lowest bidder (so you will not be in competition with the public), you are the only group able to use silencers and have experience (two requirements none of the bidders could offer).

I will be able to do a final confirmation with you after the 15th. I believe the DNR will allow us the entire month of January and a week or so in February. I hope this still works in your schedule . Let me know what you think! Thank you! Lisa

-----Original Message -----

From: Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov [mailto:Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2008 8:14 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Peter.H.Butchko@aphis.usda.gov
Subject: Grand Haven deer

Good Morning (b)(6)

Its been awhile since we last spoke , but I wanted to touch base with you to see if the city was still pursuing the idea of deer removal this winter. If they are still moving forward , has there been any more consideration of using our agency? If not, no problem. I'm just looking at a calendar for December and trying to plan projects and staffing needs for this month. Thanks! Have a good day!

Tim

Tim Wilson
Acting District Supervisor
USDA Wildlife Services
2803 Jolly Rd, Suite 100



(b)(6)

12/19/2008 02:24 PM

To 'Sara Schaefer' <schaefsm@michigan.gov>, 'G._Nik Kalejs' <KALEJSG@michigan.gov>

cc "'Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov'" <Timothv.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov>

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

bcc

Subject Permit Request Information

Hi Sara! I have attached a draft letter to request a permit for culling as well as baiting. Could you please give it a quick once-over and let me know any other information that I need to include? Thank you! (b)(6)



(b)(6)
 City Manager's Office
 519 Washington Avenue
 Grand Haven MI 49417
 (b)(6)
www.grandhaven.org



(b)(6)

December 19, 2008

Sara M. Schaefer, Supervisor
Southwestern Management Unit
Wildlife Division
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Plainwell Operations Service Center
621 N. 10th St., Plainwell, MI 49080

Dear Ms. Schaefer:

The City of Grand Haven would like to request permission to perform a white-tailed deer reduction excursive in accordance with the City's Urban Deer Management Plan. The deer reduction will occur primarily on public land, and landowner's permission will be obtained before any action is taken on private land.

Additionally, the City would like to request permission to use agricultural products to bait the white-tailed deer. We understand that it may be possible to utilize bait for such specific operations as long as very specific conditions are outlined in our permit, which would include:

1. Following the "normal" 2-gallon limit, spread out on the site
2. Removal of all bait must be picked up/removed from the site upon job completion
3. The movement of bait areas, i.e. not using the same spot continually, either during the same year or from year to year. The baiting area must be moved around to reduce animals coming to the same spot time after time.

We ask that the permit cover employees of the City of Grand Haven, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Service Division (contact Timothy Wilson) and Whitetails Unlimited volunteers (City employees and volunteers will be used only to set bait and dress/remove the deer).

We ask that the permit be issued from January 6, 2009 through February 14, 2009 or until the deer reduction operations are complete or the permit is revoked by the Department, whichever comes first. We further understand that our permit must be provided to any law enforcement officer upon request.

Please let me know if there is any additional information you may need from the City of Grand Haven. Thank you for your time and thoughtful considerations.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)



12/29/2008 05:57 PM

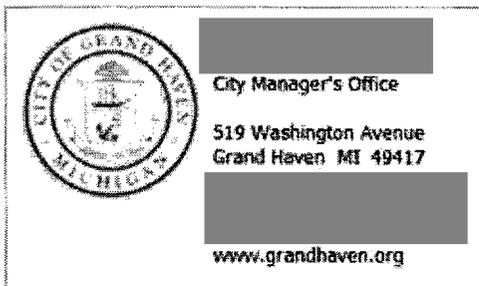
To "Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov"
<Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov>
cc
bcc

Subject Ordinance Application / APHIS Contract

Hi Tim! This is the application that I mentioned last Tuesday. It was originally made for a public hunt, however because our ordinance specifically states that there be an application, [REDACTED] wants this filled out for each individual that will be participating in the reduction efforts (actual hunters / should it be approved). There is quite a bit of the application that would be duplication, so fill out one completely and then just the pertinent info for the remaining individuals.

Also, I left a message for you today (I think it may have been your cell phone). [REDACTED] would like the dates on the contract adjusted to reflect January 6, 2009 (article 9). He would also like to see the number 50 taken out (in the work plan), since we are now not targeting 50, but the "appropriate amount". I don't know how you could quantify the numbers, then? Do you have a method you have used in any other proposals? Finally, he would like the costs also quantified differently. Can you quantify a price per deer, or per visit? Do you have any input on how I can explain how many deer we anticipate to reduce the herd buy?

I know this is much harder than it should be. I will give you a call in the morning. Thank you!!



Applicant Information for Animal Control Permit PDF.pdf



City of Grand Haven

519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven MI 49417

Applicant Information for Animal Control Permit

Personal Information

Full Name: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

City *State* *ZIP Code*

Home Phone: () _____ Alternate Phone: () _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birthday (mo) **(day)** **(year)**

Primary Vehicle Year **Make** **Model** **Color** **Plate #**

Secondary Vehicle Year **Make** **Model** **Color** **Plate #**

Driver's License:

Animal Control Information

Specify proposed method (circle) bow gun

Number of years you have been licensed to hunt deer: _____

Number of deer you have harvested: _____

Identify any hunting proficiency or safety courses you have completed: _____

Have you ever injured yourself or another person while hunting? If so, please describe the incident and outcome: _____

Have you ever caused property damage while hunting? If so, please describe the incident and outcome: _____

Have you ever been cited for any violation or infractions of hunting laws or regulations? If so describe the incident and outcome: _____

Do you have insurance coverage against third-party liability claims for loss, injuries, or damages arising out of your participation in urban animal control? _____

If so, please identify your insurance carrier: _____ policy number _____
date of expiration: _____ coverage limits: _____

Please provide any other information which might support your application or reveal your qualifications to hunt deer in an urban setting [attach written qualifications]

Presentation and copy of photo I.D.[attach copies to application]

Presentation and copy of valid and current State of Michigan License [attach copies to application]

Emergency Contact Information

Full Name: _____
Last *First* *M.I.*

Address: _____
Street Address *Apartment/Unit #*

City *State* *ZIP Code*

Primary Phone: () _____ Alternate Phone: () _____

Relationship: _____



>
01/06/2009 03:56 PM

To 'Sara Schaefer' <schaefsm@michigan.gov>, "Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov" <Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov>, G. Nik Kalejs
cc "Becktold, Blain - Grand Haven, MI" <blain.becktold@mi.usda.gov>, [REDACTED]
bcc [REDACTED]

Subject Grand Haven Deer Herd Reduction

History:  This message has been replied to and forwarded.

Last night, after 3 hours of public comment and discussion, the City Council voted 3 to 2 to allow a deer herd reduction to take place. I have attached the resolution that authorizes the action, with the contingency that Harbor Island and the Airport be included in the areas to be considered for culling. The resolution was further amended to require records of calls and accidents to be documented; to have a yearly census completed; and an investigation of replacement costs for the natural understory.

Since the project is under time constraints, I need to make sure that we are organized, prepared and focused.

PERMIT I sent a draft letter to Sara and Nik regarding a request for permits that include baiting, gun suppression, evening/night reduction activities; that APHIS be granted the approval for the removal efforts as well as Whitetails Unlimited volunteers and City of Grand Haven employees be approved for the preparation and assistance during the removal effort; and that that the permit be issued from January 6, 2009 through February 14, 2009 or until the deer reduction operations are complete or the permit is revoked by the Department, whichever comes first. Should we add anything to that request in order to obtain a permit?

BAITING / NOTIFICATION I need to schedule a meeting with Tim and coordinate the Whitetail volunteers, Nik and representatives from our Public Safety department to be at the meeting in order to discuss specifics of the hunt that include where and when the baiting will take place. Public Safety has been charged with the responsibility to confirm the baiting and shooting sites and then developing a plan for a perimeter during the reduction efforts. This will include posting signs prior to the action and personnel during the action. Due to a concern of privacy, WU will not release the names of volunteers to the City in order to avoid an FOIA request. We also need to determine how and when the public will be informed regarding the deer reduction.

SCHEDULE One of the items we need to thoroughly cover at the meeting is deciding how the shoot will pan out...how many observation days, what type of weather and how that decision will be arrived at. We will need to discuss the volunteer schedule for baiting and observation and who each responsibility will lie with. Blain has obtained several trail cameras that we will also be able to use for observation.

FIREARM / AMMO I also need to know what type of firearm/ammo APHIS will use. There has been great concern about stray bullets. I want to be able to intelligently relay the type of firearms used, shots that will be taken, and what trajectory will be used, etc.

HEADSTONES Another big concern is any blood on the headstones - we have been told that blood will immediately penetrate the stone and not be able to be removed. I need to be able to relay that we are not shooting near stones, and that there will be personnel / volunteers to keep

the deer from running into the headstone areas.

FIELD DRESSING / SUPPLIES

(b)(2)High

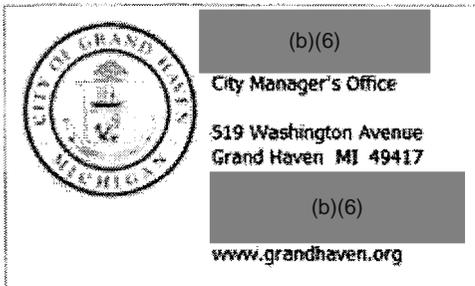
DNR RESEARCH We need to know what research the DNR would like to have performed (weight, measurements, heads, blood samples?) and if they will have someone present to record the data or if we need to have it recorded.

PROCESSING / DISTRIBUTION

(b)(2)High

The processor is a member of WU and will process the deer for \$45 each, of which WU will pick up the cost. If we want a local processor to do it, it will cost \$65 per deer and the City will need to pick up the difference (\$20 per deer). Love Inc can take all of the meat, Salvation Army can take 50 to 100 lbs, and the People's Center is still pending. We should plan on providing transportation of the meat to the final destination.

Ok...what have I missed??



(b)(6)



Deer Resolution 123008.pdf

CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
Resolution regarding Urban Deer Management

RESOLUTION # _____

WHEREAS, The City of Grand Haven has been contemplating the condition, size and influence of the white-tail deer herd within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully evaluate the white-tail deer impact, a City Urban Deer Task Force (the Task Force) was formed in the fall of 2007, and met for six months to consider a recommendation of action to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Task Force deliberations included consultation with a vast array of professional biologists and wildlife experts. These included individuals from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University, Michigan State University Extension, the Ottawa County Soil and Conservation District, and local private environmental consultants; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife Management professionals introduced and recommended the concept of Social and Biological Carrying Capacity in order to determine if a population of white-tail deer has become too large for an area; and

WHEREAS, the professional opinion established and presented to the Task Force that both the Social and Biological Carrying Capacity has been exceeded due to the nature of complaints including aggressive, abnormal and domesticative behavior as well as the disappearance of plant and animal species; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force released the City of Grand Haven Urban Deer Management Plan in March of 2008, and said plan was adopted by unanimous resolution of the City Council on March 17, 2008, and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 24, Article V of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Grand Haven, Michigan on December 1, 2008, and said ordinance provides that, under certain circumstances, the City Council may permit an exception to the prohibition of the discharge of firearms in the City; and

WHEREAS, the amended ordinance (effective December 22, 2008) provides that exceptions to the prohibition on the discharge of firearms in the City may be made and the harvesting or culling of wild animals may be permitted if the City Council determines that wild animals are creating a public nuisance based upon a report or recommendation from a city sponsored wildlife task force; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force recommendation to determine if a deer herd reduction should take place include signs of deer domestication, environmental damage, and upward trends in deer damage complaints, and

WHEREAS, both physical evidence as examined by wildlife professionals and complaints registered with the City in 2008 suggest that all three of the above conditions have been met; and

WHEREAS, the evidence has been presented to the city manager and the public safety director, and both find that the City Council has a reasonable basis to proceed with a finding that the deer herd represents a public nuisance, and

WHEREAS, the city manager and public safety director recommend the parcels that comprise Lake Forrest Cemetery and Mulligan's Hollow are parcels of property that are undeveloped and are of a sufficient size and topography to permit the harvesting and culling of deer pursuant to the current laws and regulations of the State of Michigan and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the city manager and public safety director recommend that professionals employed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services qualify as authorized persons pursuant to section 24-55(i) of the City of Grand Haven Code of Ordinances

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Haven City Council determines that wild animals are creating a public nuisance based upon the Urban Deer Management Plan promulgated by the Urban Deer Task Force and adopted by the City Council on March 17, 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council, in order to provide for wildlife management and control, open the parcels of land contained in Lake Forrest Cemetery and in Mulligan's Hollow to authorized professional employees of the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for the purpose of harvesting or culling wild animals that have been determined to be creating a public nuisance, and further approve the issuance of a permit to the USDA APHIS for such action.

ADOPTED this 5th day of January, 2009

Roger A. Bergman, Mayor



(b)(6)

01/06/2009 05:12 PM

To "Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov"
<Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov>

cc (b)(6)

bcc

Subject FW: Safe zones for deer hunt

Hi Tim! We have had several questions regarding the distance of bullets , etc. Could you please shed a little light on this for us ? Does State Law require a firearms hunter to stay 450' from a residential building ? As far as the ammo you are planning to use , what would be its maximum flight if it did not hit its target? Let me know if you need more info ! Thank you! (b)(6)

-----Original Message -----

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2009 5:00 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Safe zones for deer hunt

On this one, what is the statutory radius and how far will these guys ' bullets travel? We could do the maps pretty easy once we know what the distances are / Are they 150 and 500?

(b)(6)
City of Grand Haven
519 Washington
Grand Haven, MI 49417

(b)(6)

This mail and any files transmitted with it are intended for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed . Sender does, however, work for a public agency and therefore realizes that this material is a public record and you may share it with whomever you choose . If you have received this email in error please notify the originator of the message .

Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender , except where the sender specifies and with authority , states them to be the views of The City of Grand Haven .

-----Original Message -----

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2009 12:49 PM
To: (b)(6)
(b)(6)

Subject: Safe zones for deer hunt

Dear Council Members ,

Last night a majority of you voted to allow a deer hunt in the middle of the

city using high-powered rifles . In as much I and many others live in homes that border the affected area and that an elementary school is adjacent I think it would help alleviate any potential problems if the city created a map that showed "safe" zones for citizens during the hunt (s). I have already contacted the Ottawa County GIS mapping department and they have assured me that it would be quick and inexpensive for the city to have aerial maps created that would show the areas that should be avoided during the hunt (s). I would suggest having two shaded areas on the map :

One would show the immediate area of the hunt following the state 's guidelines for staying away from all buildings (150 yards I believe) with Mary A White Elementary School being highlighted .

The other would show the maximum distance a stray or errant "high powered" bullet could travel from the hunt area in to areas occupied by people (500 yards I believe depending on the caliber of the rifle)

By doing this you will provide fair warning to all of your citizens and they can take appropriate precautions during each hunt . Making it a digital GIS map will allow citizens to download it from your website as well as other sites . I sincerely believe that this would be a reasonable method to give both hunters and citizens a safe guideline during each hunt . As it appears this will be an ongoing hunt for many years it may also be handy to have at local restaurants and hotels so tourists don 't mistakenly wander in to the affected areas .

Sincerely, (b)(6)



(b)(6)



"Sara Schaefer"
<schaefsm@michigan.gov>
01/07/2009 12:16 PM

To "G. Nik Kalejs" <KALEJSG@michigan.gov>, (b)(6)
(b)(6)
'Timothy.S.Wilson@aphis.usda.gov'
cc (b)(6)
bcc

Subject Re: Grand Haven Deer Herd Reduction

Just another update.

I discussed this with the research biologist for deer in Lansing. He would like to collect additional data like they did in the other urban situation. Some of the items he mentioned were, age, sex, weight, and hind foot length. I am getting a final list, but it is not difficult stuff. He also informed me that the contractor collected the information in the other urban cull. So I guess we need to discuss more about whether WU or the contractor would be willing to take the measurements.

I am also double checking with the disease lab to make sure they want us to collect the deer heads.

Sara

>>> (b)(6) 01/06/2009 3:56 PM >>>

Last night, after 3 hours of public comment and discussion, the City Council voted 3 to 2 to allow a deer herd reduction to take place. I have attached the resolution that authorizes the action, with the contingency that Harbor Island and the Airport be included in the areas to be considered for culling. The resolution was further amended to require records of calls and accidents to be documented; to have a yearly census completed; and an investigation of replacement costs for the natural understory.

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FIELD DRESSING / SUPPLIES

(b)(2)High

(b)(2)High

DNR RESEARCH We need to know what research the DNR would like to have performed (weight, measurements, heads, blood samples?) and if they will have someone present to record the data or if we need to have it recorded.

PROCESSING / DISTRIBUTION

(b)(2)High

(b)(2)High

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(b)(6)
City Manager's Office
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven MI 49417
(b)(6)
www.grandhaven.org



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

Date: 1-15-09

Name of Recipient:
Leadsheet +
Company:
Subject:
Fax Number:
Telephone Number:
Name of Sender:
Division

(b)(6)

9 U

DNR

Damage Permit

616-842-0085

(b)(6)

S. Schaefer

Wildlife

Telephone number: 269-685-6851
Fax Number: 269-685-1362

Comments:



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Law Enforcement / Wildlife

DAMAGE AND NUISANCE ANIMAL CONTROL PERMIT

Issued under the authority of Act 451 P.A. 1994, as amended.
Failure to comply with the provisions of this permit may result in criminal prosecution.

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Name of Complainant City of Grand Haven | Complaint No. OTT-09-1A | District Complaint No. OTT-09-1A | Date 01-16-2009 |
| Address of Complainant 519 Washington Avenue | County Ottawa | Party-Section-Town-Range | |
| City, State, ZIP Grand Haven MI 49417 | Estimated number and kind of birds or animals causing damage 50 | | |
| Type and Extent of Damage: The goal of this permit is to reduce deer numbers in the City of Grand Haven area. See attachment 1 for more details. | | | |

CONTROL PERMIT

Under authority of Section 324.40114(3), Act 451, P.A. 1994, and orders established there under, permission is hereby

granted to control by (See attachment 2) the depredations of 50 white-tailed deer

at the above described location, or (See attachment 1). Animals and birds taken shall be

reported to Nik Kalejs (local biologist) 231-788-5035

and disposed of as follows: see attachment 2.

Duration of Permit: From 01-16-09 To 01-31-09

Suzanne Schneider 1/14/09 David W. Swann 01/14/09
Signature (Biologist/Conservation Officer Issuing Permit) Date

NOTICE TO PERMITTEE

Michigan courts have held the State is not liable for damage caused by wildlife. There is no statute that imposes on the State a legal duty to protect landowners from damage of wildlife.

Permits shall expire on or before December 31 of the year issued. Normally, permits should not be in effect on lands or waters open to hunting and/or trapping for game animals during their respective seasons.

Initial investigation will be made as soon as possible after receipt of complaint. Preliminary reports will be submitted for deer damage complaints only.

This permit will allow the permittee to engage others, individuals, as well as nuisance animal control companies, to effect control of depredations under conditions as set forth in the permit. The cost of any control measures so undertaken is the responsibility of the permittee.

Control of damage caused by protected migratory birds requires acquisition of a Federal permit prior to consideration of a state permit. If issued, the federal permit countersigned by a state official will be your state permit and this separate state permit form will not be required.

Actions taken outside of the authority granted by this permit, or violations of the terms and conditions of this permit, may result in criminal prosecution.

Permittee hereby releases, waives, discharges and covenants not to sue the State of Michigan, its departments, officers, employees and agents, from any and all liability to Permittee, its officers, employees and agents, for all losses, injury, death or damage, and any claims or demands thereon, on account of injury to person or property, or resulting in death of Permittee, its officers, employees or agents, in reference to the activities authorized by this permit.

Permittee hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify and save harmless, the State of Michigan, its departments, officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims and demands, for all loss, injury, death or damage, that any person or entity may have or make, in any manner, arising out of any occurrence related to (1) issuance of this permit; (2) the activities authorized by this permit; and (3) the use or occupancy of the premises which are the subject of this permit by the Permittee, its employees, contractors, or its authorized representatives.

I understand that I am required by law to complete the FINAL REPORT portion of this permit upon completion of control activities or expiration of this permit, whichever occurs first, and submit to the address specified on the Final Report (page 2).

I have read this permit and the instructions and agree to the terms and conditions as stated.

Permittee Signature _____

Date _____

DAMAGE AND NUISANCE ANIMAL CONTROL PERMIT FINAL REPORT

Complete this FINAL REPORT upon completion of control activities, or expiration of this permit (December 31 of year issued), whichever occurs first, and submit to the address specified below.

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|------|
| Permittee | Complaint No. (if known) | District Complaint No. | Date |
| Address | County | Party-Section-Town-Range | |
| City, State, ZIP | Date control activities ceased | | |
| Number and type of birds and animals taken | Method of disposal of birds and animals taken | | |

I certify that I have complied with all the provisions of this permit as stated upon page 1.

Permittee Signature _____

Date _____

Submit Final Report to:→

| |
|--|
| <p>MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Mailing Address City, State, ZIP</p> |
|--|



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

January 14, 2009

(b)(6)

City Manager's Office
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Dear (b)(6)

By way of this letter, the Department of Natural Resources is permitting you to use agricultural products to bait white-tailed deer as part of the deer reduction effort in the City of Grand Haven. Bait is authorized to be used with the Wildlife Damage Control Permit issued to the City of Grand Haven. Baiting may occur on city owned property or private land with the landowner's permission. Bait may be used only at designated shooting locations.

The volume of bait at any shooting site cannot exceed two (2) gallons. If a designated shooting location will be abandoned for greater than five (5) days, all bait must be removed prior to abandonment.

This permit also covers any contracted shooters or designated individuals working on this project under your supervision. This permit must be provided to any law enforcement officer upon request. The permit is valid until January 31, 2009, or until the deer reduction effort is completed, or until the permit is revoked by the Department, whichever comes first.

Please direct any questions regarding this permit to Sara Schaefer, Wildlife Unit Supervisor, at 269-685-6851 ext 114.

Sincerely,

G. Nik Kalejs, Wildlife Biologist
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Muskegon State Game Area Wildlife Office
7600 E. Messinger Rd.
Twin Lake, MI 49457
231-788-5055

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • John Madigan • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

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Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors!



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

Attachment 1 – City of Grand Haven 2009

January 14, 2009

Recognition of a Request for a Wildlife Damage Investigation and Control Permit

The Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division received a request from the City of Grand Haven to harvest fifty (50) white-tailed deer between January 15, 2009 through January 31, 2009. The request is for a permit to conduct an out-of-season population reduction of urban white-tailed deer within the City of Grand Haven, (specifically the parcels of Harbor Island, Grand Haven airport, Lake Forrest Cemetery and Mulligan's Hollow) in efforts to reduce the population and negative human-deer conflicts.

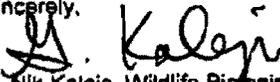
The City of Grand Haven has held public meetings where the public has presented evidence and opinion related to the deer population for several years. An Urban Deer Task Force was formed in the fall of 2007 and met for six months to consider a recommendation of action to the City Council. The task force deliberations included consultation with a vast array of professional biologists and wildlife experts. These professionals introduced and recommended the concept of Biological and Social Carrying Capacity and how these concepts are utilized in order to determine population management goals for an area. The task force released the City of Grand Haven Urban Deer Management Plan in March of 2008 and the plan was adopted by unanimous resolution of the City Council on March 17, 2008. The City Council adopted an amendment to a city ordinance (effective December 22, 2008) that provides under certain circumstances, the City Council to permit an exception to the prohibition of the discharge of firearms in the City. One of these exceptions is for the harvesting of wild animals if the City Council determines that wild animals are creating a public nuisance based upon a report or recommendation from a city sponsored wildlife task force. The Grand Haven City Council has determined that deer have become a public nuisance based upon the City of Grand Haven Urban Deer Management Plan promulgated by the Grand Haven Urban Deer Task Force and adopted by the City Council on March 17, 2008.

Based on the low acceptance indicated by the public meeting attendees regarding the current density of white-tailed deer in the City of Grand Haven area, the negative impacts of white-tailed deer activities on the surrounding natural areas and green space within the city, the negative impacts of white-tailed deer activation on the surrounding dune ecosystem associated with Lake Michigan and the generally high density of deer per square mile in Ottawa County; the MDNR Wildlife Division and Law Enforcement Division have concluded that an out-of-season kill permit for the mid-winter population reduction of white-tailed deer in the City of Grand Haven is justified. Population reduction of white-tailed deer in the area will need to continue over a minimum of several consecutive years for results to be realized.

A permit will be issued to the City of Grand Haven to complete control activities in 2009. The permit will be issued by Sara Schaefer, Wildlife Division, and Lt. David VanSumeren, Law Enforcement Division, and will contain guidelines and protocol for methods of culling, data collection, and reporting. Questions regarding City of Grand Haven sharp shooting of white-tailed deer should be directed to permittee and City of Grand Haven representative,

(b)(6)

Sincerely,


G. Nik Kalejs, Wildlife Biologist
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Muskegon State Game Area Wildlife Office
7600 E. Messinger Rd.
Twin Lake, MI 49457
231-788-5055

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

Attachment 2 – City of Grand Haven 2009

Addendum to City of Grand Haven Damage Control Permit

- Permittee is City of Grand Haven, and (b)(6) is representing the City of Grand Haven.
- Authorized shooters are the specified USDA APHIS employees (See **Attachment 3**) for shooter contact information). Shooting from a platform and/or a blind is allowed. Shooting from a vehicle is prohibited.
- All shooters and staff on site during herd reduction activities must have personal picture identification and a copy of the damage control permit on their persons at all times.
- All vehicles used by authorized shooters and personnel on site during herd reduction activities must be marked (visible identification on side of vehicle).
- Permittee authorized to take up to 50 deer. The focus of this effort is to reduce the population by taking primarily antlerless deer. Antlered deer may be taken.
- Shooters must use centerfire rifles or shotguns with slugs.
- The use of sound suppression is allowed in accordance with a federally issued permit.
- Shooting is allowed ½ hour before sunrise to 11:00 PM (2300 hours); during night hours (½ hour after sunset to 11:00 PM) artificial lights must be used.
- Local law enforcement (Ottawa Central Dispatch) must be notified of shooting activity times and dates.
- The use of bait at designated shooting locations is permitted (bait material may be of any agricultural food type; the volume of bait at any shooting site cannot exceed two [2] gallons). If a designated shooting location will be abandoned for greater than five (5) days, all bait must be removed prior to abandonment.
- Permittee must collect and record specific biological data from each deer taken under the authority of this permit. Data to include: age, sex, whole body weight, hind foot length measurement, note (and collect if possible) any observed parasites, and comments on the general physical condition of the deer. Fifteen (15) adult female deer and all male deer greater than 2 years old must have heads submitted for disease testing. All submitted heads will be tested for CWD and Bovine TB. Arrangements can be made to drop off deer heads at the; Muskegon State Game Area Wildlife Office, 7600 E. Messinger Rd., Twin Lake, MI 49457, phone number 231-788-5055. Protocol for data collection is included in **Attachment 4**. Data sheets are provided in **Attachment 5**.
- All deer exhibiting signs of disease must be killed and the whole carcass submitted for target animal disease testing (this can be in addition to the 50-deer limit authorized under this permit and the samples mentioned above). See **Attachment 6** for symptoms that may indicate a deer is sick and should be killed for targeted testing.
- All deer must be donated to a charitable organization and used for human consumption (excluding target animals).

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Attachment 2 – City of Grand Haven 2009
Addendum to City of Grand Haven Damage Control Permit
Page 02

- All deer taken must be tagged using the provided Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) kill tags. Once the tag is attached, the postcard portion must be mailed within twenty-four (24) hours to MDNR Wildlife Biologist Nik Kalejs. Kill Tag numbers issued are: 65140-65190. Fifty (50) kill tags will be issued initially. Upon request, additional kill tags may be issued for deer killed for targeted disease testing (deer displaying disease symptoms). Tags may be mailed to (b)(6) upon request or picked up at the Muskegon SGA office.
- Permittee will provide a weekly report of shooting activities via fax to MDNR Wildlife Biologist Nik Kalejs at 231-788-3697.
- Permittee will provide, within seven (7) working days of completion of shooting activities, to MDNR Wildlife Biologist Nik Kalejs a gross summary of number of deer taken (including sex composition).
- Permittee will provide, within ten (10) working days, a copy of the data collected to MDNR Wildlife Biologist Nik Kalejs.

Permittee Signature


DNR Wildlife Biologist Signature

Date
01/15/09

Date



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIE
DIRECTOR

Attachment 4 – City of Grand Haven 2009

R. Kalej — 01/15/09

Procedures for Collecting Biological Data from White-tailed Deer

Data Collection Arrangements:

Permittee and/or USDA APHIS must collect biological data from deer culled in accordance with the Wildlife Damage Investigation and Control Permit issued to City of Grand Haven. Attached data sheets (*Attachment 5*) must be filled out and submitted to the Muskegon SGA office at 7600 Messinger Rd., Twin Lake MI 49457 when control activities are completed. Collectors should practice safe handling of culled animals and should wear rubber gloves, minimize handling of brain and spinal material, and thoroughly wash hands and instruments after handling.

Aging Deer:

All deer will be aged by people experienced with aging deer. The method used will be the evaluation of the condition of lower cheek teeth. Animals that are known to be adults (1½ years old or older) can be recorded as "A", animals that are known to be adults older than 1½ years can be recorded as "AA". Animals that were born in 2008 and do not yet have all of their adult molars and incisors should be recorded as "½" or "0.5" year old.

Body Weight:

The full body weight of each culled deer will be measured using a scale (spring or other). Weight should be recorded in pounds (lbs.); however, kilograms (kg) are acceptable if specified on data sheet.

Hind Foot Length Measurement:

You are basically measuring the heel to toe of the deer. Measure using flexible measuring tape (e.g. sewing measuring tape) – unit of measure should be millimeters (mm); however, inches is an acceptable unit of measure if specified on data sheet. Bend the leg of the deer and measure from the "heel" (Tuber calcis) to the tip of the hoof.

Samples for Disease Testing:

Fifteen (15) adult female deer and all antlered male deer 2 years of age and older, must have heads submitted for disease testing. All submitted heads will be tested for CWD and Bovine TB. Heads need to be tagged with an orange Wildlife Division CWD Sample Disease Tag and submitted to the Muskegon SGA office where the samples will be held and transported to the Wildlife Disease Lab for testing. These tags need to be filled out accordingly and secured around the mandible of the individual deer (these tags will require information on the sex, age, collection date, county, town, range, and section). Make arrangements with the Muskegon SGA staff to accept the samples at (231) 788-5055.

Target Animal Disease Testing:

White-tailed deer that are observed exhibiting signs of disease and are shot as target animals for disease testing must have the whole carcass submitted to the Muskegon SGA where the samples will be transported to the Wildlife Disease Lab. The mandible of target deer must be tagged with the orange Wildlife Division CWD Sample Disease Tag. The front of the tag must be filled out completely and behavioral and physical conditions of the target animal should be noted on the back of the tag (approximately 3 inches from the top of the tag).

Other Information:

Make note of the body condition of each animal (especially if abnormal) and collect any parasites or body parts of interest. Label collected samples as to the date the animal was killed, the date the sample was taken and submitted, the age and sex of the individual from which the sample was collected, the location that animal was killed, and the part of the body from which the sample was collected. Collected parasites and other samples can be submitted to the Muskegon SGA office. Follow the same protocol for delivery as that for "Disease Testing".

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REBECCA A. HUMPHRIE
DIRECTOR

Attachment 6 – City of Grand Haven 2009

R. Kalij 01-15-09

Possible Symptoms Displayed by Suspect Disease Positive Deer

The following symptoms may be displayed by a white-tailed deer for several reasons; however, they are also characteristics of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) positive animals. Therefore, in efforts to increase surveillance of the disease in Michigan, deer displaying these symptoms are target animals for disease testing. If a deer is displaying these symptoms and is shot, the whole animal must be submitted for testing at the Wildlife Disease Laboratory.

- Lack of fear of humans – a person can often approach the animal within a couple yards without a major reaction from the animal
- Disoriented – sick animals often circle around and stagger
- Poor posture and lowered head – animals with neurologic problems often carry their head low and may have drooping ears
- Drooling – deer with CWD are often seen with saliva hanging from the mouth and often look as if they are staring blankly into space
- Emaciation – sick animals are often unable to put on weight and may look extremely thin and bony
- Near/in water – sick animals will often stand near or lay in water and will excessively drink water

The following is an excerpt from the DNR online document, "Frequently Asked Questions - Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) - August 2008"

How can you tell if a deer has CWD?

Infected animals may not show any symptoms of the disease for a long period of time, even years. In the later stages of the disease, however, infected animals begin to lose bodily functions and display abnormal behavior such as staggering or standing with very poor posture. Animals may have an exaggerated wide posture, or may carry the head and ears lowered. Infected animals become very emaciated (thus wasting disease) and will appear in very poor body condition. Infected animals will also often stand near water and will consume large amounts of water. Drooling or excessive salivation may be apparent. Note that these symptoms may also be characteristic of diseases other than CWD.

(From http://www.michigan.gov/documents/emergingdiseases/CWD-FAQ_247228_7.pdf)

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REBECCA A. HUMPHRIE
DIRECTOR

Attachment 3 - City of Grand Haven 2009

H. Kalji

01-15-09

Authorized Shooter List (Detailed)

USDA APHIS

Tim Wilson is lead



U.S. Department of Agriculture
APHIS
Wildlife Services

Timothy Wilson
Wildlife Biologist

2803 Jolly Road, Ste. 100 Ph (517)336-1928 Ext. 26
Owens, MI 48864 FAX (517)336-1934
Email: timothy.a.wilson@aphis.usda.gov

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(b)(6)
>
01/21/2009 05:13 PM

To (b)(6)
"Perezl@michigan.gov" <Perezl@michigan.gov>,
"shawdj@michigan.gov" <shawdj@michigan.gov>,
cc (b)(6)
bcc

Subject Grand Haven Deer Reduction

There has been a slight change of plans since most of us spoke yesterday. Since we still have limited movement in the (b)(2)High we will hold off on that area and continue to monitor it for possible action next week.

Tim Wilson is bringing two teams tomorrow for Harbor Island. I am trying to get access to the BLP SIMS plant (our power plant on Harbor Island) for a spot. If this is not arranged we will position two on the main portion of the island.

I am estimating that we will need barricades / police at 3 points on Coho Drive - the railroad tracks, Coho Drive (where it splits off Coho by the willows) and at the west end of Coho. If we include the BLP, we may need to post additional staff over by their bridge. We will need to do a sweep of the island approximately 3:30 to get any pedestrians off the island, and then keep watch to keep them off until about 7:00 PM.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE...We will have a briefing at 3:00 at the intersection of Coho by the willows. (see attached map).

Blain Bechtold is organizing Whitetails Unlimited to help with servelance and the field dressing Nik Kalejs will also assist the volunteers at the (b)(2)High to collect measurements on the deer. Tim Wilson will take the heads to Lansing for us.

(b)(6) is taking care of setting up the (b)(2)High for the field dressing, as well as providing a city truck (with cover) to transport the deer to the (b)(2)High

After field dressing, the carcasses will be delivered to Frank's for processing.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. My cell is (b)(6)



(b)(6)
City Manager's Office
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven MI 49417
(b)(6)
www.grandhaven.org



(b)(6)





(b)(6)

01/26/2009 09:48 AM

To (b)(6)

cc

bcc

Subject: Deer baiting update 1/26/09

I have left my phone in the jeep which my wife took to work so you can not reach me by phone until tonight, but I can check email throughout the day.

Both bait sites 1 & 2 are being hit now. It might be the same deer at both sites. It looks like we have either 2 groups of 4 & 5 deer hitting bait site #2 the hillside or it might just be the same group of 5. I will attach a few pictures from the trail cam.

(b)(6) I think someone has placed a large Bale of straw and a zip line between some trees on what I think is the city property so you might want to look into that.

On Friday night about 7 pm I went for a drive around Harbor Island and there were 3 deer out feeding, Than Saturday about the same time there was 1 out feeding, at 11 pm on Saturday there was no deer out feeding on the island.

I got a phone call on Friday from (b)(6) not sure about the spelling, She wanted to know how many of the doe were pregnant, I told her we did not record that information. She also asked about if we were pick up all the blood as she had found some while walking around the island on Friday, I asked if she would like to tell me where it was so we could recover it and she said NO she wanted to take pictures of it so she could so the reality of the cull. I guess she was not too worried about public safety.



CDY_0008.JPG



CDY_0026.JPG



CDY_0055.JPG



CDY_0057.JPG



CDY_0083.JPG



CDY_0098.JPG

WORK PLAN

Wildlife Species: White-tailed deer

Description of Damage: The local population of white-tailed deer within the city limits of Grand Haven has been increasing over the past 6 years to the point where severe habitat degradation is occurring. Overabundant deer are not only heavily browsing on landscaping, but the loss of groundcover in some areas is resulting in severe erosion on the sandy hillsides in some of the residential areas.

Location: Public lands within the Grand Haven city limits

Services Provided: Wildlife Services will remove up to 50 white-tailed deer. This agreement will allow for one site visit prior to removal efforts and then up to 2 subsequent visits to remove up to 50 deer. Wildlife Services will utilize suppressed firearms from vehicles and elevated stands. The City of Grand Haven will be responsible for baiting, and retrieval, transportation, and processing of deer carcasses.

FINANCIAL PLAN

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Personnel Costs..... | \$2800 |
| Travel & Vehicle Usage..... | \$500 |
| Supplies & Equipment..... | \$150 |
| Services..... | \$ |
| Program Support..... | \$550 |
| TOTAL | \$4000 |

The distribution of the budget from this Financial Plan may vary as necessary to accomplish the purpose of this agreement, but may not exceed \$4,000.

Financial Point of Contact

Cooperator: _____ Phone _____

APHIS, WS: Vickie Roberts _____
517-336-1928
Phone _____

COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT

Agreement No.:
Accounting Code:

Between
City of Grand Haven
and the
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS)
WILDLIFE SERVICES (WS)**

ARTICLE 1

The purpose of this agreement is to cooperate in a wildlife damage management project, as described in the Work Plan on the next page.

ARTICLE 2

APHIS WS has statutory authority under the Act of March 2, 1931 (46 Stat. 1468; 7 U.S.C.426-426b) as amended, and the Act of December 22, 1987 (101Stat. 1329-331, 7 U.S.C. 426c), to cooperate with States, local jurisdictions, individuals, public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions while conducting a program of wildlife services involving mammal and bird species that are reservoirs for zoonotic diseases, or animal species that are injurious and/or a nuisance to, among other things, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal husbandry, wildlife, and human health and safety.

ARTICLE 3

APHIS-WS and the Cooperator agree:

1. APHIS-WS will provide the requested wildlife damage management services.
2. The Cooperator will provide the U.S. Department of Agriculture the sum of NTE \$4,800 to cover the costs as outlined in the Financial Plan. Payment will be made by check payable to "U.S. Department of Agriculture" by a mutually agreed upon date.
3. The Cooperator ensures and certifies that it is not currently debarred or suspended and is free of delinquent Federal debt.
4. The monies received by APHIS-WS will be used for wildlife damage management activities and upon termination of the agreement any unexpended funds will be retained by APHIS-WS and used on similar program activities.
5. All activities will be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
6. Nothing in this agreement shall prevent APHIS-WS from entering into separate agreements with any other organization or individual for the purpose of providing wildlife damage management services exclusive of those provided for under this agreement..
7. The City of Grand Haven certifies that APHIS WS has advised the City of Grand Haven that there may be private sector service providers available to provide wildlife management services that the City of Grand Haven is seeking from APHIS WS.
8. The performance of wildlife damage management actions by APHIS-WS under this agreement is contingent upon a determination by APHIS-WS that such actions are in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and any other applicable environmental statutes. APHIS-WS will not make a final decision to conduct requested wildlife damage management actions until it has made the determination of such compliance.

ARTICLE 4

Pursuant to Section 22, Title 41, United States Code, no member of or delegate to Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement or to any benefit to arise therefrom.

ARTICLE 5

APHIS assumes no liability for any actions or activities conducted under this Cooperative Service Agreement except to the extent that recourse or remedies are provided by Congress under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA), (28 U.S.C. 1346(b), 2401(b), and 2671-2680).

ARTICLE 6

The Agreement shall become effective October 1, 2008 and shall continue in effect until the completion or termination of the project. This Agreement may be amended or terminated at any time by mutual agreement of the parties in writing. Further, in the event the Cooperator does not provide necessary funds, APHIS-WS is relieved of the obligation to provide services under this agreement.

Tax Identification Number: 386004687

City of Grand Haven
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417-1486

USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services
2803 Jolly Road, Suite 100
Okemos, MI 48864

Cooperator's Signature

Date

State Director

Date

WORK PLAN

Wildlife Species: White-tailed deer

Description of Damage: The local population of white-tailed deer within the city limits of Grand Haven has been increasing over the past 5 years to the point where severe habitat degradation is occurring. Overabundant deer are not only heavily browsing on landscaping, but the loss of groundcover in some areas is resulting in severe erosion on the sandy hillsides in some of the residential areas.

Location: Public lands within the Grand Haven city limits

Services Provided: Wildlife Services will remove up to 50 white-tailed deer. This agreement will allow for one site visit prior to removal efforts and then up to four subsequent visits to remove up to 50 deer. Wildlife Services will utilize suppressed firearms from vehicles and elevated stands. The City of Grand Haven and local members of Whitetails Unlimited will be responsible for baiting, and retrieval, transportation, and processing of deer carcasses.

FINANCIAL PLAN

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Personnel Costs..... | \$3233 |
| Travel & Vehicle Usage..... | \$667 |
| Supplies & Equipment..... | \$222 |
| Services..... | \$ |
| Program Support..... | \$678 |
| TOTAL | \$4800 |

The distribution of the budget from this Financial Plan may vary as necessary to accomplish the purpose of this agreement, but may not exceed \$4,800.

Financial Point of Contact

Cooperator: _____ (b)(6) _____
 _____ (b)(6) _____ Phone

APHIS, WS: _____ 517-336-1928 _____
 Vickie Roberts Phone