

FINAL REPORT
2019 Deer Management Program
Town and Country, Missouri
by
White Buffalo, Inc.
14 February 2019

INTRODUCTION

The City of Town and Country contains a matrix of suburban and commercial development, parks, and other open-spaces. The absence of any deer management combined with fertile soils allowed the local deer population to increase to a level incompatible with some land use and human activities prior to our involvement. Although deer physical condition is not an issue, there is ongoing concern regarding numerous deer/vehicle collisions and damage to garden and landscape plantings. This is the 10th year in which a deer population management program was implemented.

METHODS

Pre-baiting was conducted from 3-21 January 2019. Sharpshooting efforts were conducted from 22 January – 10 February 2019. Eighteen days of fieldwork were required to achieve the harvest of 150 deer.

We followed the operations protocol outlined in the contract and changes agreed to verbally prior to the onset of site preparations. Fourteen sites were available throughout the area of operation.

RESULTS

The entire data set generated from harvested deer is represented in the spreadsheet entitled "City of Town and Country - Deer Harvest: 22 January – 10 February 2019 (Appendix A). The overall harvest demographics are summarized in Table 1. Harvest by day is summarized in Table 2. Harvest breakdown based on Ward is summarized in Table 3. We expended 363 person-hours for sharpshooting activities (150 deer harvested) resulting in 2.4 person-hours per deer harvested. This was a 27% reduction over the previous year's effort (3.3 person-hours per deer).

Table 1. Sex and age class of deer harvested in Town and Country, Missouri from 22 January - 10 February 2019.

AGE	# MALE (%)	# FEMALE (%)	# COMBINED
Yearling/Adult	62	52	114
Fawns	20	16	36
Total	82	68	150

Table 2. Number of deer harvested by day during the 18 days of field operations.

DATE	# Harvested	DATE	# Harvested	DATE	# Harvested	DATE	# Harvested
1/22/19	8	1/27/19	11	2/2/19	9	2/8/19	9
1/23/19	12	1/29/18	6	2/3/19	8	2/9/19	7
1/24/19	6	1/30/18	7	2/4/19	5	2/10/19	5
1/25/19	13	1/31/19	14	2/5/19	9		
1/26/19	8	2/1/19	12	2/6/19	1		

Table 3. Deer harvest by Ward

Ward	# Harvested
1	7
2	73
3	46
4	24

Pregnancy rates

It was too early in pregnancy to identify and count fetuses.

Population estimates

See attached population estimation report.

DISCUSSION

Fourteen sites were utilized as part of the 2018 Town and Country, MO deer management program. One new site was added to the property list. We had slightly higher efficiency than last year because we did not reduce the population to the same density (i.e., ~25 deer/mile² in 2018 and ~32 deer/mile² this year). We would have had to remove another ~60 deer this year to achieve the same density as at the conclusion of last year. We will need to cull ~200 deer next year to reach similar densities as at the conclusion of the 2018 effort.

The harvest result in Ward 1 was 5% of the total harvest. Development on a key property resulted in loss of a very productive site in this part of the municipality. Ward 2 continued to produce the highest removal numbers accounting for 49% of the harvest, similar to the 2018 program. Two sites in Ward 3 contributed 42 deer to the total harvest (28%). The harvest in Ward 4 decreased slightly to 16% from 20% in 2018.

Harvest results from specific sites ranged from a high of 27 deer to a low of 0. Two sites along the western edge of Queeny Park in Ward 3, contributed 42 deer to the total, resulting in 28% of the harvest. One site along the eastern edge of Queeny Park in Ward 2 contributed an additional 17 deer, 11% of the harvest total.

Queeny Park continues to pose a major challenge to the reduction of deer numbers within areas of Town and Country that are located proximate to the Park. Lack of management by the County park system has created a safe haven, in which the deer are able to use the park as a refuge during the day and then transition into the adjoining residential areas at night.

We tagged and labeled 62 of the deer harvested for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) testing by Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). This was part of a larger sampling effort by MDC to screen for the disease in areas proximate to the detection made previously in Franklin County. Only adult male deer was sampled for testing.

Looking forward, the program would benefit by obtaining additional access points in the following areas; 1) the eastern boundary of Queeny Park, 2) Amersham/Bickford/Delvin Drive, 3) Town and Country Estates, and 4) the vicinity of Clayton Road and Williamsburg Estates. This recommendation is based on the high number of deer observed in these areas during the Distance Sampling survey, in combination with a current lack of access to these areas for deer management purposes.

The project concluded ~10% under budget. This is a direct reflection of conducive weather conditions, more deer than anticipated, and a slight savings in lodging.

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for assistance provided prior to and during the culling period: Chief of Police Gary Hoelzer, Tom Thousand, Dan Coppin, Tim Randick, Fred Meyland-Smith, Lynn Wright, Erin Shank (Missouri Department of Conservation), all the cooperating homeowners, and John's Butcher Shop (venison processing for charitable donation).

Appendix A

City of Town and Country – Deer Harvest: 22 January - 10 February 2019

DATE	HARVEST #	CWD TAG #	SEX	AGE	Street
1/22/19	1	401	M	1.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	2	402	M	2.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	3	403	M	2.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	4	404	M	1.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	5	405	M	4.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	6		F	0.5	Thornfield
1/22/19	7		F	3.5	Glaizeview
1/22/19	8		M	0.5	Glaizeview
1/23/19	9	406	M	1.5	Old Colony
1/23/19	10	407	M	2.5	Old Colony
1/23/19	11	408	M	1.5	Old Colony
1/23/19	12	409	M	1.5	Old Colony
1/23/19	13	410	M	2.5	Old Colony
1/23/19	14		F	3.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	15	411	M	2.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	16	412	M	3.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	17	413	M	2.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	18	414	M	2.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	19	415	M	1.5	Barrett Station
1/23/19	20	416	M	2.5	Barrett Station
1/24/19	21	421	M	1.5	Town and Country Est.
1/24/19	22	422	M	1.5	Town and Country Est.
1/24/19	23		F	4.5+	Town and Country Est.
1/24/19	24		F	0.5	Town and Country Est.
1/24/19	25		M	0.5	Town and Country Est.
1/24/19	26		F	4.5+	Buckland Hall
1/25/19	27	423	M	1.5	Principia
1/25/19	28	424	M	1.5	Principia
1/25/19	29	425	M	2.5	Principia
1/25/19	30	426	M	2.5	Principia
1/25/19	31	427	M	1.5	Principia
1/25/19	32	428	M	1.5	Principia
1/25/19	33	429	M	1.5	Principia
1/25/19	34	430	M	3.5	Principia
1/25/19	35	417	M	2.5	Dry Ridge

1/25/19	36	418	M	1.5	Dry Ridge
1/25/19	37		F	4.5+	Dry Ridge
1/25/19	38		F	2.5	Dry Ridge
1/25/19	39		F	0.5	Dry Ridge
1/26/19	40		F	1.5	Weidman
1/26/19	41		F	2.5	Weidman
1/26/19	42		F	4.5+	Weidman
1/26/19	43	435	M	2.5	Weidman
1/26/19	44	436	M	2.5	Weidman
1/26/19	45	437	M	1.5	Weidman
1/26/19	46	438	M	1.5	Weidman
1/26/19	47	439	M	1.5	Weidman
1/27/19	48		F	3.5	Glaizeview
1/27/19	49		F	1.5	Glaizeview
1/27/19	50		F	0.5	Glaizeview
1/27/19	51	440	M	2.5	Glaizeview
1/27/19	52	441	M	4.5	Glaizeview
1/27/19	53		M	0.5	Conway
1/27/19	54	419	M	1.5	Conway
1/27/19	55	420	M	2.5	Conway
1/27/19	56		F	3.5	Conway
1/27/19	57		F	4.5	Conway
1/27/19	58		F	0.5	Conway
1/29/19	59	431	M	2.5	Thornfield
1/29/19	60		M	0.5	Thornfield
1/29/19	61		M	0.5	Thornfield
1/29/19	62		F	0.5	Thornfield
1/29/19	63		F	2.5	Town and Country Est.
1/29/19	64		F	2.5	Town and Country Est.
1/30/19	65		F	4.5+	Alsace
1/30/19	66		F	1.5	Alsace
1/30/19	67		M	0.5	Alsace
1/30/19	68	433	M	1.5	Alsace
1/30/19	69	434	M	2.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
1/30/19	70		F	4.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
1/30/19	71		F	3.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
1/31/19	72		F	1.5	Dry Ridge
1/31/19	73	432	M	1.5	Dry Ridge
1/31/19	74	442	M	4.5	Weidman
1/31/19	75		F	4.5+	Weidman
1/31/19	76		F	0.5	Weidman
1/31/19	77		F	4.5+	Weidman
1/31/19	78		M	0.5	Weidman

1/31/19	79		F	4.5	Weidman
1/31/19	80		F	4.5+	Weidman
1/31/19	81	445	M	1.5	Weidman
1/31/19	82		M	0.5	Weidman
1/31/19	83		M	0.5	Weidman
1/31/19	84		F	2.5	Weidman
1/31/19	85		F	3.5	Weidman
2/1/19	86		F	2.5	Conway
2/1/19	87		F	0.5	Conway
2/1/19	88		M	0.5	Conway
2/1/19	89	443	M	1.5	Conway
2/1/19	90		F	4.5+	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	91		F	2.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	92		M	0.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	93		F	2.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	94		F	4.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	95	446	M	1.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	96	447	M	2.5	Buckland Hall
2/1/19	97	448	M	1.5	Buckland Hall
2/2/19	98	444	M	6.5	Mason Rd
2/2/19	99		F	3.5	Mason Rd
2/2/19	100		M	0.5	Mason Rd
2/2/19	101		F	4.5+	Thornfield
2/2/19	102		F	1.5	Thornfield
2/2/19	103		F	0.5	Thornfield
2/2/19	104	247	M	1.5	Thornfield
2/2/19	105	246	M	1.5	Thornfield
2/2/19	106	214	M	2.5	Thornfield
2/3/19	107	449	M	3.5	Dry Ridge
2/3/19	108		F	3.5	Dry Ridge
2/3/19	109		F	1.5	Dry Ridge
2/3/19	110	217	M	1.5	Weidman
2/3/19	111		F	2.5	Weidman
2/3/19	112		F	1.5	Weidman
2/3/19	113		F	1.5	Weidman
2/3/19	114		F	0.5	Weidman
2/4/19	115		F	3.5	Barrett Station
2/4/19	116		F	0.5	Barrett Station
2/4/19	117		F	4.5+	Barrett Station
2/4/19	118		M	0.5	Barrett Station
2/4/19	119		F	4.5	Barrett Station
2/5/19	120		M	0.5	Buckland Hall

2/5/19	121		F	0.5	Buckland Hall
2/5/19	122		F	4.5+	Buckland Hall
2/5/19	123	450	M	1.5	Glaizeview
2/5/19	124		M	0.5	Glaizeview
2/5/19	125		F	0.5	Glaizeview
2/5/19	126	241	M	1.5	Glaizeview
2/5/19	127		M	0.5	Glaizeview
2/5/19	128		F	2.5	Glaizeview
2/6/19	129		M	0.5	Dry Ridge
2/8/19	130	225	M	2.5	Old Colony
2/8/19	131	232	M	2.5	Old Colony
2/8/19	132	235	M	2.5	Old Colony
2/8/19	133	237	M	1.5	Old Colony
2/8/19	134		F	3.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
2/8/19	135		F	0.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
2/8/19	136	242	M	6.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
2/8/19	137	243	M	2.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
2/8/19	138	244	M	2.5	Bellerive CC Grounds
2/9/19	139		F	2.5	Weidman
2/9/19	140		M	0.5	Weidman
2/9/19	141		F	1.5	Buckland Hall
2/9/19	142		M	0.5	Buckland Hall
2/9/19	143		F	4.5	Buckland Hall
2/9/19	144		F	0.5	Buckland Hall
2/9/19	145		F	4.5+	Buckland Hall
2/10/19	146		F	3.5	Mason Rd
2/10/19	147		M	0.5	Mason Rd
2/10/19	148		F	0.5	Mason Rd
2/10/19	149		F	1.5	Glaizeview
2/10/19	150		F	2.5	Glaizeview