

Urban Deer Population Control Pilot Program

Senate Bill 373



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

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Salem

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Presentation Overview

Outline

- **Urban Deer Population issues**
- **Senate Bill 373 (2017)**
- **Rule Development**
- **Proposed Administrative Rules**

Urban Deer Population Issues

- Deer are protected within city limits and rarely leave
- Numbers continue to grow (lack of predators and abundance of food)
- Damage, safety concerns, collisions – all require ODFW, OSP, or local law enforcement to help

Senate Bill 373

Key Points

- **Deer and lethal take only**
- **Cities must**
 - ✓ **Restrict certain deer attracting behaviors**
 - ✓ **Declare that deer populations have risen to levels that constitute a public nuisance**
- **Department must**
 - ✓ **Specify means and manner of take**
 - ✓ **Requires all deer taken be salvaged for human consumption**
 - ✓ **Prescribe terms and conditions for hides and antlers**
 - ✓ **Determine number to be taken to resolve the public nuisance concerns**

Rule Development

- **Internal working group of field biologists and division staff**
- **Developed draft rules**
- **Consulted with:**
 - ✓ **Cities of Hines and Burns**
 - ✓ **Oregon League of Cities**
 - ✓ **Oregon Food Bank**

Proposed Administrative Rules

Before requesting to conduct urban deer population control the city must:

- 1. Adopt and enforce an ordinance restricting placing, depositing, distributing, storing or scattering food, garbage or any other attractant so as to knowingly constitute a lure, attractant or enticement for deer**
- 2. Adopt an ordinance, resolution or order declaring that deer populations have risen to levels that constitute a public nuisance**
- 3. Following the passage by a city of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the city can petition the Department for kill permits necessary to reduce deer population levels within city limits**

Proposed Administrative Rules

The Department will:

- Designate dates when take is allowed
- Determine the number and sex of deer to be taken
- Issue the appropriate kill permit(s) to the city

The City will:

- Designate areas within city limits where deer are to be taken
- Determine the manner of taking deer
- Designate an agent(s) with appropriate authorities to take deer

Proposed Administrative Rules

Manner of taking deer:

- **Euthanasia must comply with American Veterinary Medical Association standards**
- **Non-lead ammunition**
- **Live capture: traps must be checked at least once per day, animals must be immediately euthanized and not relocated or released**
- **Follow Department approved capture methodology, and handling requirements**
- **It is unlawful to use any poisoning, immobilizing, or tranquilizing drug or chemical to take or euthanize deer**

Proposed Administrative Rules

- **Any agent of the city who takes a deer on property other than city owned property must have in possession written authority to act as the agent of the landowner or lawful occupant of the property**
- **Any agent who takes deer under this program must immediately report the taking to the Department or a person authorized to enforce the wildlife laws**

Proposed Administrative Rules

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- **The city may sell hides and antlers within thirty days of take to persons licensed under ORS 498.019 to offset the cost of the program**

Proposed Administrative Rules

- Any deer taken, to the extent feasible, shall be salvaged and delivered to a “food bank or other charitable organization” for distribution
- Any processing and distribution fees shall be at the expense of the city
- The city may sell hides and antlers from deer within thirty days of take to persons licensed under ORS 498.019 to offset the cost of the program
- **The Commission is not liable for any loss or damages arising out of the recovery, possession, transportation or consumption of deer pursuant to a kill permit**

Questions?

