

AS 991

DATE: March 20, 1996
MEMO TO: Offices of Representative Sheryl Albers
FROM: Eric Englund
RE: Auto deer collisions/damages

Data collected by the Department of Transportation documents 24,573 auto deer collisions in 1994 in which 4 persons were killed and 794 injured. According to data from the insurance industry, the number of auto deer collisions is understated by the Department of Transportation by at least 50%. The insurance industry calculates approximately 40,000 auto deer collisions in Wisconsin per year.

The average cost of auto repair for each auto deer collision is \$2,000. Minimally the cost of auto deer collisions in Wisconsin is \$80,000,000 per year. This sum represents approximately .05 cents for every dollar that consumers spend buying auto insurance.

The cost of the personal injury and death associated with auto deer collisions is not included in this calculation and only increases the societal cost of the large deer herd we have in Wisconsin.

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: January 8, 1996

TO: Dennis Jameson

FROM: John Buss

SUBJECT: Bonus Deer Permits

*TOM,
THIS IS AN
EXCELLENT
IDEA!!
DEN*

FILE REF:

Last year in Deer Management unit 70 the Department was unable to sell all the Bonus Deer permits.

i am suggesting a change be made in the issuance of Bonus Deer permits to help reduce the deer herd and improve Department relations with landowners.

In Deer Management units where it is unlikely that all the Bonus Deer permits will be sold, the Department should issue, free of charge a Bonus Deer permit to any landowner that owns more than 100 acres of land and has a valid Deer Hunting license.

Benefits:

- 1) Landowners are more likely to harvest deer than persons not familiar with area.
- 2) Many farmers in the area, with the way the farm economy has been, will be happy for the free food source.
- 3) Landowners with over 100 acres feed many deer every year.
- 4) This is in line with the Department initiative to improve Department-landowner relations.
- 5) Other States have similar programs.

This program would be a big step in improving landowner and Department relationships. Revenue would not be lost due to the issuance of permits to landowners that already have a valid Deer Hunting license. This program would be in the best interests of landowners, the resource and the department.

*Get bill
draft*

To: SHERYL

From: JOHN BUSS.

THOUGHTS, IOPAS, COMMENTS.

FOR YOUR INFO!

Thanks.

John Buss

