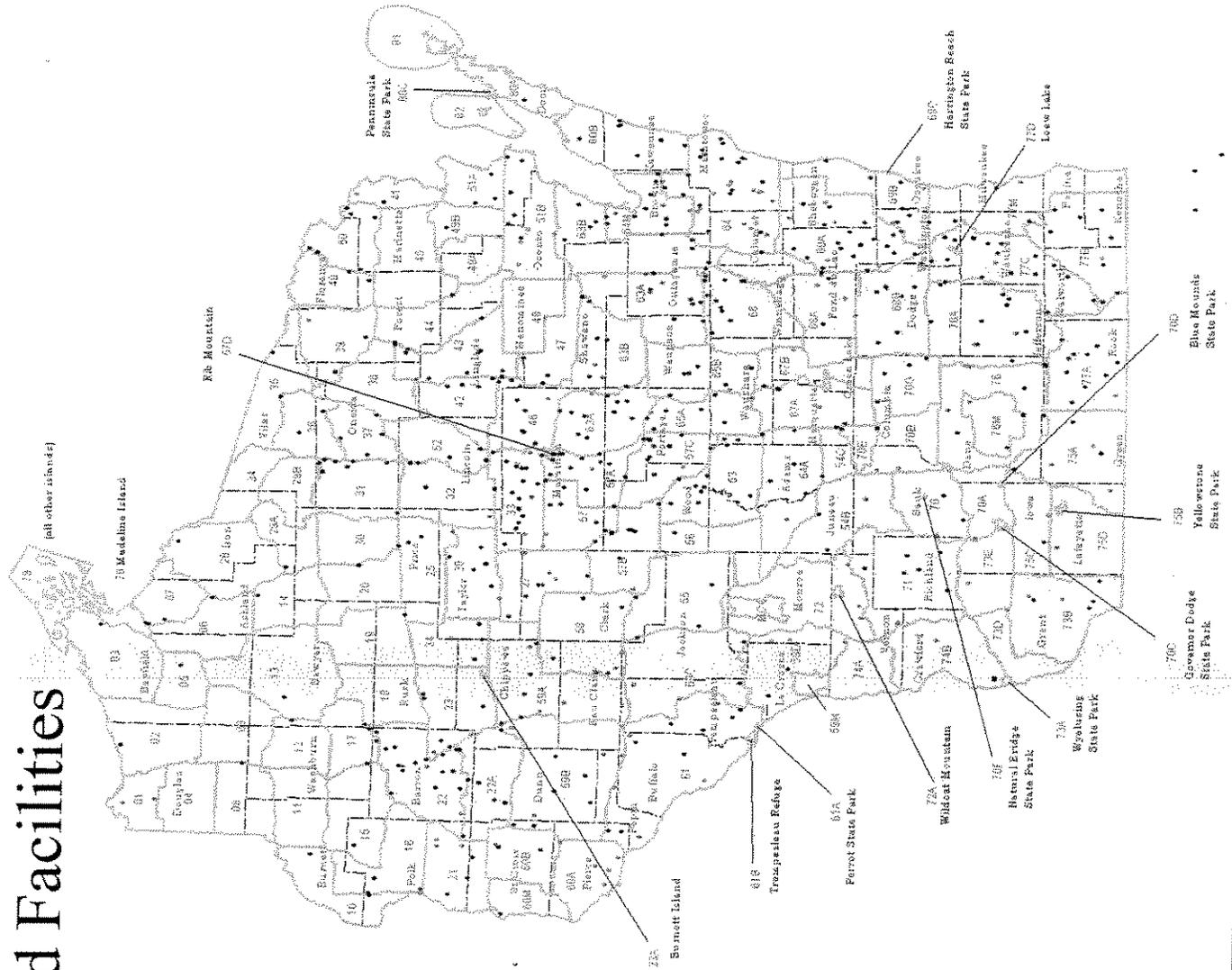
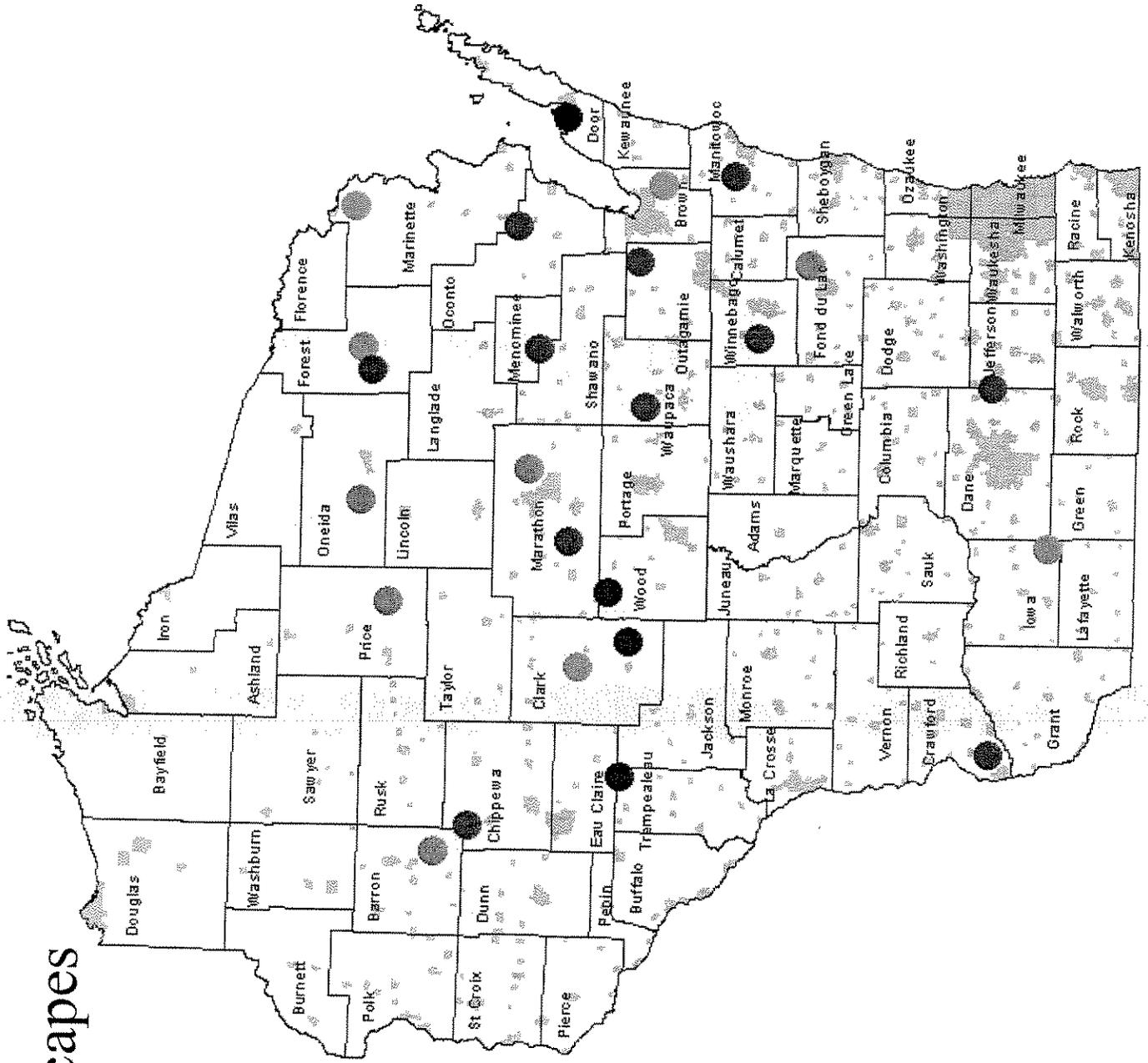


# Captive Cervid Facilities



# Known Escapes





● CWD Positive Game Fawn  
● Quarantined Game Fawn



## Potential impacts of a baiting prohibition on Wisconsin hunters

### What percentages of Wisconsin hunters use bait?

Data gathered from the 1990 – 2001 gun deer hunter surveys and the 1993, 1997 and 2001 bow hunter surveys show two differing trends in bait use (Figure 1). Bow hunters exhibited an increasing trend in the number of archers who bait (currently 40%), while gun hunters using bait has held steady at 16% after an increase in bait usage in the early 1990's.

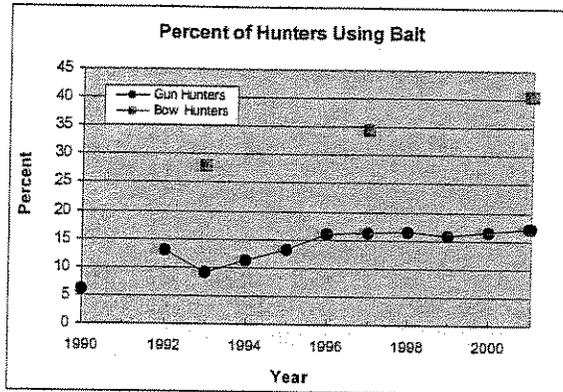


Figure 1. 1990 – 2001 Percent of Wisconsin hunters using bait.

### How does the use of bait affect hunter success?

Surveys and research conducted in Wisconsin and Michigan are our best sources for answers regarding hunter success relative to using bait.

A survey of hunters conducted in Wisconsin in 1993 found that use of bait did not increase gun hunter's success rates, 50% of bait users bagged a deer compared to 54% of hunters who did not use bait. This pattern was consistent between north and south regions (Figure 2). However, success in bagging a deer during the gun season was affected by the duration of baiting. Hunters who used bait during both gun and bow seasons had somewhat higher success during the gun season (61%) than hunters who did not use bait (55%), or hunters who used bait only during the gun season (43%).

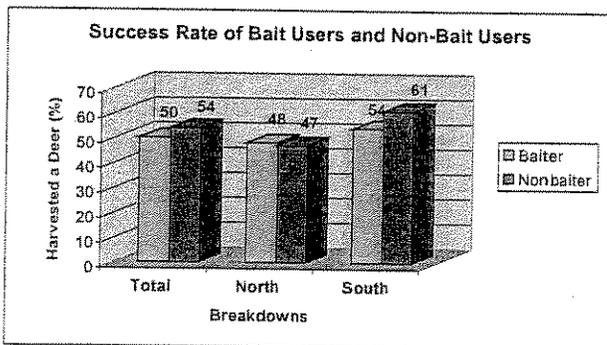


Figure 2. 1993 Baiter and nonbaiter harvest success rates.

These results were consistent with a second Wisconsin survey done in 1994 when 7,676 sportspersons were surveyed at the Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings. Success in harvesting a deer during the gun season was affected by when hunters used bait, earlier and longer baiting improved the hunter's chance of success. Non-bait users had higher success rates (44%) than bait users who baited only during the gun season (35%). However, 52% of hunters who used bait only during the bow season were successful and 47% of hunters who used bait in both the bow and gun seasons were successful.

Surveys during 1998-2001 mailed to 50,000 Wisconsin gun hunters found that use of bait had little effect on success in harvesting bucks or antlerless deer (Table 1). Twenty-nine percent of hunters using bait harvested a buck compared to 26% of hunters who did not use bait. Antlerless harvest success was the same for hunters using bait (33%) as for hunters who did not use bait (33%). In contrast, bait use appeared to affect success of Wisconsin bow hunters. Of the more than 4,700 bow hunters who responded to the 2001 bow hunter survey, 45% of bait users reported killing at least 1 deer compared to 31% of hunters who did not use bait.

Michigan studies conducted over the past 20 years did not show a consistent effect of bait on hunter success. In a 1984 survey, Langenau et al. (1985) discovered that hunters who used bait were only slightly more efficient in harvesting deer (2.4 deer per 100 days) than those who did not use bait (2.2 deer per 100 hunter days). In 1992, Winterstein (1992) reported that hunters using bait were 20 percent more effective in harvesting deer (3.8 deer harvested per 100 days of hunting) than those who did not use bait (3.1 deer per 100 days of hunting). In contrast, a 1999 phone survey conducted by the Michigan DNR reported that in a specific deer management area in northeast Michigan 44 percent were successful using bait, while 52 percent were successful without bait. In the most recent Michigan study, archers who baited were more efficient in harvesting deer (4.9 deer/100 days) than non-baiting archers (1.8 deer/100 days), but little difference was seen between baiting (8.3 deer/100 days) and non-baiting (7.4 deer/100 days) firearm hunters.

### What impact would a ban on baiting have on the deer harvest?

Given the apparent higher success rate of archers who bait, a logical question to ask is will an elimination of baiting lead to a major reduction in the antlerless harvest making it more difficult to control deer populations? To answer this question, we can take a look at the antlerless bow kill in the Northern Forest during 2001. Because the differences in success rates for gun hunters who use bait and those who do not is so small and statistically insignificant, it is not necessary to conduct the same calculations for gun hunters (Table 1).

## What impact would a ban ... continued.

Table 1. Responses to Baiting Questions from the Gun Deer Survey 1998-2001.

Year	Baiting Status	% Doe Harvest Success	% Buck Harvest Success
2001*	Baiter	27.8%	27.5%
	Non-Baiter	25.5%	23.6%
2000	Baiter	39.1%	35.3%
	Non-Baiter	36.9%	29.7%
1999	Baiter	34.4%	27.9%
	Non-Baiter	32.7%	26.7%
1998	Baiter	35.9%	26.7%
	Non-Baiter	39.7%	24.7%

\* Number of gun deer hunters surveyed was 10,000 per year in 1998-2000 and 20,000 in 2001.

From the 1997 bow hunter survey, we can estimate that 24% of bow hunters hunted in the Northern Forest. The total number of bow licenses sold in 2001 was 257,571. Assuming a similar distribution of bow hunters as in 1997, we would estimate there were 61,800 Northern Forest bow hunters in 2001.

The 2001 bow hunter survey found that 40% of bow hunters used bait and 60% did not use bait. Assuming that bait use is uniform among regions, we can estimate that there were 24,720 baiters and 37,080 nonbaiters among Northern Forest bow hunters. Also, 23.9% of baiters reported killing at least 1 doe compared to 14.2% of nonbaiters.

Using this information we can calculate that baiters killed 7,169 antlerless deer and that nonbaiters killed 6,304 antlerless deer for a total antlerless bow kill of 13,473. If we assume that the success rate for bow hunters who use bait would drop to the nonbaiter success rate if baiting was banned, then we would estimate that the antlerless bow kill would decrease from 13,473 to 10,506. This would amount to a 22% reduction in the Northern Forest antlerless bow harvest.

While this is a significant reduction in the antlerless bow harvest, it is important to consider this in the perspective of the total antlerless harvest. In 2001, the antlerless bow kill amounted to 17% of the total antlerless harvest in the Northern Forest. Therefore, if there was no compensatory increase in the antlerless gun kill the reduced bow kill would only result in a 4% reduction in the total antlerless kill in the Northern Forest.

## How much bait is used in Northern Wisconsin?

This question has never been asked in one of the DNR's surveys, and the issue is open for discussion. However, for the purpose of this document, we will use the information we know about the Wisconsin deer hunter and provide a list of assumptions and information from other states to provide a conservative estimate of the number of bushels used by our hunters.

Based on data from the 2001 deer bow hunter questionnaire we can estimate that there were approximately 24,720 hunters in the Northern Forest who used bait during the archery season and that on average archers hunted 23 days. That equates to 568,560 hunting days for archers that baited in northern Wisconsin.

Using hunter data from the 2001 gun hunter questionnaire we can estimate that there were approximately 208,000 gun hunters who hunted the northern forest in 2001 and that 17% of gun hunters reported using bait, resulting in approximately 35,355 hunters in northern Wisconsin who baited. The gun hunter survey found that gun hunters who baited averaged 6 days in the field. This equates to 212,130 gun hunting days.

If we assume hunters are using one bait site and are only using ten gallons of bait, which we assume will need replenishment every 2nd hunting day, that gives a rough estimate of over 450,000 bushels (~ 4 million gallons) of bait present in northern Wisconsin during the 2001 deer season. This equates to 8 bushels per northern deer hunter that baited in 2001. We consider this a minimum estimate because hunters probably tend more than one bait site and may bait more frequently than every other day. For instance Winterstein (1992) in a survey of Michigan hunters found 40 bushels were being utilized per hunter during the 1990 deer season. If Winterstein's (1992) estimate for Michigan hunters is consistent with Wisconsin hunters who bait, then this would equate to 2,403,000 bushels (over 19 million gallons) of bait placed by hunters in 2001 in northern Wisconsin. However, it is important to note that Michigan hunters were not restricted by a 10-gallon limit, as are hunters in Wisconsin.

For an economic perspective, if we assume on average a bushel of bait costs a deer hunter \$3. Based on our conservative estimate that is \$1.5 million.

## How might a ban on baiting affect deer behavior?

Hunters commonly report that access to bait piles causes deer to "go nocturnal", essentially using bait piles during the night and becoming less visible during legal hunting hours. Research on deer behavior in response to supplemental feeding supports this. Garner (2000) studied radio-collared deer with access to several baiting and feeding stations in northern Michigan. He found that all ages and sexes of deer quickly change their behavior in response to large amounts of supplemental food.



### *Behavior...continued*

Bucks were especially wary and were more likely to switch over to nighttime feeding exclusively. When supplemental food was limited to 5 gallons deposited during the day, deer became habituated to the feeding schedule and the available food was quickly eaten. This created competition and Garner (2000) observed more daytime feeding by bucks.

Garner (2000) reported that relative to natural conditions and regardless of the feed or feeding techniques, fall baiting and winter feeding of deer fostered higher amounts of face-to-face contacts among deer as well as higher local deer densities. He concluded that these conditions would maintain as well as enhance the spread of TB in Michigan. Paradoxically, restricting baiting to 5 gallon limits given daily resulted in "drastically" higher face to face contacts because of competition for feed over a smaller area. Garner (2000) reported that large piles tended to freeze during winter and he witnessed deer using the warmth from their mouths and nostrils to thaw and consume food. This behavior tended to produce semi-permanent piles of food that were "dented with borrows made from deer noses". He suspected that a deer feeding in this manner "leaves much of its own saliva and nasal droppings in the feed pile at which it's working".

Social strife at supplemental feeding sights is commonly reported (Ozoga and Verme 1982, Lewis 1990, Garner 2000). Dominant does typically eat their fill and control access to feed sites for their social groups. Less dominant individuals and social groups may mill around the periphery of the feeding station waiting their turn at the feed pile (Ozoga and Verme 1982). Consequences of this increased activity at the baiting sight is that natural browse may be more heavily impacted (Doenier et al. 1997) and feeding sites can be fouled by urine and feces (Garner 2000). Dominance hierarchies are established by fighting, sparring, and threat displays.

The presence of supplemental food affects movement behavior of deer in complex ways. Deer may show fidelity to 1 feeding site or may access several feeding sites. In general, does are less likely to travel between several feeding sites, and bucks are more apt to have a network of feeding sites (Ozoga and Verme 1982).

Deer will alter their home ranges slightly to access supplemental food but drastic change in movement behavior is unlikely; the ability of food piles to draw deer from large distances is limited (Ozoga and Verme 1982, Garner 2000).

Research clearly demonstrates that different social groups of deer will establish overlapping home ranges in order to access supplemental food. Moreover, social groups will tolerate each other in very close proximity such that extensive face-to-face contact occurs between individuals of different social groups (Garner 2000).

Changes in short-term movement behaviors (e.g. home ranges) can eventually become long-term changes in deer behaviors such that seasonal migration traditions break down. Local areas in the north that have a long history of baiting and

feeding have a higher proportion of deer that do not migrate between distant summer and winter ranges (Lewis 1990). Consequently, a ban may restore natural seasonal movements for Wisconsin deer.

### *Take Home Points:*

- ❖ The use of bait is greater among Wisconsin bow hunters than among gun hunters.
- ❖ The percentage of bow hunters using bait increased throughout the 1990s while the percentage of gun hunters using bait has stabilized during the past 6 years.
- ❖ The effect of bait on harvest success differs between bow and gun hunters and is influenced by the duration of baiting.
- ❖ Bow hunters who use bait have higher success rates than those who do not use bait.
- ❖ While the elimination of baiting may lower bow hunter success, it would have little effect on overall antlerless harvest and the ability to control deer populations.
- ❖ A conservative estimate of 487,391 bushels (3,983,450 gallons) of bait was used by deer hunters in northern Wisconsin during the 2001 deer season.
- ❖ Elimination of artificial feeding and baiting will reduce face-to-face contacts among family groups and individuals.

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# DEER FEEDING AND BAITING

## IMPACT ON DISEASE TRANSMISSION

June, 2002

(Revised 11/04/2002)

**ISSUE:** The practice of artificially supplementing the diet of free-ranging white-tailed deer through feeding and baiting has the effect of concentrating deer and facilitating animal to animal contact. A possible consequence of the increased opportunity for contact is the increase in transmission of infectious disease among deer.

**BACKGROUND:** The discovery of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and more recently hemorrhagic disease in Wisconsin free-ranging white-tailed deer has intensified an ongoing state dialog about how deer feeding and baiting may increase the risk for infectious disease transmission and establishment in Wisconsin's deer population. Though concern at the moment is focused on managing deer feeding and baiting as part of the state's efforts to eradicate CWD, it is important to consider how state-wide feeding and baiting practices put the wild deer population at higher risk for a variety of serious diseases which could include anthrax, brucellosis, hemorrhagic disease, vesicular stomatitis, leptospirosis, listeriosis, bovine tuberculosis, tularemia, anaplasmosis, and brain worm.

Any of these diseases, all of which have been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in North America, could be spread more readily in situations where deer are artificially concentrated and deer to deer contacts, as well as contact with urine, feces and saliva, are increased (Hurley 1995). Additionally, concern has been expressed about biotoxins, such as aflatoxin, commonly found in grains sold as wildlife feed and their potential to poison deer exposed by feeding or baiting (Schweitzer et.al, 2001).

Specific research on the health impacts of baiting and feeding is limited because baiting deer is illegal in many states, baiting and feeding are variably practiced in different states, and to date they have not been widely viewed as management issues (Dawson 1988). However, current ongoing studies in Michigan on these practices, and general research on the relationship between disease transmission and density and congregation of animals are useful when considering the disease impacts of feeding and baiting.

**BIOLOGY:** The primary biological consideration of baiting deer is the increased potential for disease transmission whenever animals are concentrated (Leopold 1933). The provision of artificial food sources encourages unnatural congregation of animals, thereby increasing contact and enhancing the transmission of infectious agents (Barlow 1996). The repeated placement of bait and feed in the same locations amplifies these concerns. Additionally, augmenting available food and therefore energy sources, can enhance the reproductive productivity of deer, and therefore allow the size of a population to reach artificially high levels (Waller and Alverson 1997). Maintaining deer populations within the limits of the habitat carrying capacity probably is the single most effective means of reducing density dependent problems including infectious diseases (Davidson 1981).

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) was detected in Michigan free-ranging white-tailed deer in 1994, the first time TB has been found as an established disease in North American wild deer. Scientists, biologists, epidemiologists, and veterinarians who have studied this situation have concluded that the most logical explanation is that high deer densities and the focal concentration caused by baiting and feeding are the factors most likely responsible for the establishment of self-sustaining bovine TB in free-ranging Michigan deer (Schmitt et al. 1997). As part of the evaluation of the TB eradication process in Michigan, research is being conducted to determine the effects of feeding and baiting on deer movement, migratory patterns, and behavior, and disease transmission. Concentration of deer leads both to close animal-to-animal contact and stress that are likely to be important in the transmission of bovine TB. Baiting and feeding provide ideal conditions for transmission of bovine TB via both inhalation of infectious aerosols and ingestion of bovine TB contaminated feed. Types of food commonly used for baiting and feeding, such as corn or apples, can harbor infectious TB bacteria for at least 28 days, especially at low temperatures (Whipple and Palmer 2000).

Chronic wasting disease, which is also an infectious disease, has been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in Wisconsin, and free-ranging deer and elk in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Saskatchewan, New Mexico and just last week in Illinois. Experimental and epidemiologic evidence suggests infected deer and elk transmit the disease through animal-to-animal contact and/or contamination of food or water sources with saliva, urine, and/or feces (Williams and Young 1980, Miller, et al 1998, Sigurdson et al 1999). The World Health Organization (WHO) concludes in the summary document of the Consultation on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) that the epidemic dynamics of CWD most closely resemble those of scrapie in sheep, another TSE where transmission between animals through close contact is important (WHO 1999). The highest CWD infection rates documented (20-

50%) have occurred in captive cervid populations housed in farm or research settings (WHO 1999; B.Morrison,pers.com.). However, CWD prevalences of 15%-20% have also been found in wild deer populations in Colorado, specifically in dense peri-urban populations and associated with artificial (illegal) feeding (M. Miller, pers.com.) This has led CWD researchers to conclude that prohibiting feeding and baiting of deer and elk should be considered in strategies to prevent, control, and eradicate CWD (Gross and Miller, in press).

A compromise that has been suggested is to limit a baiting and feeding ban to a smaller geographical area, rather than imposing a statewide ban. Considering recent detection of CWD on deer farms this is not a viable alternative currently in Wisconsin. There are approximately 950 captive cervid facilities located throughout Wisconsin. Recently, CWD positive deer have been found for the first time on captive cervid farms in central and southeastern Wisconsin. As a result the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (WDACP) has quarantined five captive cervid farms. Considering numerous escapes have been documented from captive facilities in the past, including an escape from one of the quarantined farms, there is concern statewide regarding the security of the captive/wild interface. Until Wisconsin can control the risk of introduction of CWD across the captive/wild interface the best management decision is to control situations that could increase the possibility of establishment of CWD in other areas of the state, such as preventing the congregations of deer by eliminating baiting and feeding.

Another potential risk for the introduction of CWD, that is not currently not being controlled, is the inter- and intrastate movement of possibly infected deer carcasses. Although there is a great deal that is unknown regarding indirect environmental transmission of CWD, it is known that high levels of infected tissue exist in specific organs and body parts of diseased animals, such as the spine, brain and lymph system. While there is no documentation of transmission of CWD through carcasses, it remains theoretically possible. Department hunting license records show that hunters have traveled from across the state to hunt in the current CWD Intensive Harvest Zone in previous years and have likely transported and disposed of carcasses across the state. Based on the possible risks associated with disease introduction through infected carcasses, controlling practices that concentrate deer such as baiting and feeding and eventually may lead to the establishment of CWD in additional areas should be a management priority.

Until the risks of introduction of CWD can be completely controlled, the DNR and WDACP Inter-agency Health and Science Team (2002) has deem that the entire statewide deer herd is a single at risk population for the purpose of CWD management and therefore management recommendations to control CWD should be initiated statewide. Based on this recommendation, practices that could lead to the establishment of CWD in new areas such as baiting feeding should be eliminated.

It has been suggested that an acceptable compromise to the banning of feeding and baiting would be putting limits on the amount of foodstuffs that could be fed. This is unlikely to be effective in controlling the spread of disease. A recent study completed in Michigan concluded that the number of nose to nose contacts per deer was greatest over a 5 gallon bait pile of corn, the smallest amount studied (Garner 2000). Thirty five different deer (multiple family groups) have been documented visiting a 2-gallon feed site in Wisconsin. While only a few deer eat the entire supply, the other deer keep coming to inspect and perhaps lick the site (M. Beaufaux, pers. comm.).

Larger piles of feed attracted more deer for longer periods of time and were more likely to be contaminated with bodily fluids. While large bait piles carry an increased likelihood that a diseased deer would be among those gathered, the higher rate of contacts over the smaller piles cannot be ignored in developing a disease control strategy (Garner 2000).

**SUMMARY:** Elimination of baiting and supplemental feeding of deer may reduce the deer population as the herd density responds to the carrying capacity of the land, and, of critical importance, will decrease contact among deer and, consequently, contact with potentially infectious urine, feces and saliva. Artificial feed supplies (baiting and supplemental feeding) increase the density of deer and focus their browsing activity to the extent that other resources are damaged (Doenier et al. 1997, Waller and Alverson 1997). Even if the deer herd density is not artificially inflated, the presence of feed and bait encourage unnatural congregation of the animals, thereby increasing contact among deer and enhancing the transmission of infectious agents (Barlow 1996).

Although there is no precedent for attempting to manage a TSE in free-ranging wildlife (Miller and Kahn 1999), scientists feel that there is strong evidence for increased risk of infectious disease transmission associated with deer feeding and baiting as it is currently practiced in Wisconsin. The magnitude of this increased risk is impossible to quantify. However, in the context of the state's current expensive and difficult efforts to eradicate CWD, taking measures to eliminate the risks posed by feeding and baiting are prudent, do-able, and important imperatives. <Until we reduce risk of introduction we need to limit establishment

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**DNR Testimony to JCRAR  
CWD Emergency Rule Extension  
Presented by Secretary Darrell Bazzell  
November 7, 2002**

**Good morning! I want to thank the Chairs and members of the committee for taking the time to consider this important matter and for the opportunity to appear before you this morning.**

**Act 108 that the legislature passed back in May authorized your Committee to extend the effective date of the CWD emergency rules to September 1, 2003. We are here today to request the committee to take such action. We need the emergency rule to remain in effect until a new permanent rule can be put in place. Your committee has already provided such an extension to the Department of Agriculture's captive deer and elk farm emergency rule and we now need similar action for the state's wild deer herd. No committee action means that the current rules will expire on November 30<sup>th</sup>, and stop the progress the State of Wisconsin is making to eradicate CWD within the wild white-tailed deer herd.**

**Let me quickly review some of the major things that the rules do and what CWD control will be lost if they are not extended:**

**The rules define the boundaries for the CWD Zones. The current 3-zone system, the Intensive Harvest, Management, and Eradication Zones would cease to exist. This would eliminate:**

The ability to focus harvest pressure to selected geographic areas to achieve different population goals. (Normal deer goal versus 10 deer/mi<sup>2</sup> in the management zone or near zero in the eradication zone).

The rules set the deer hunting seasons for both the CWD Intensive and Management zones. These seasons were designed to maximize the deer harvest, lower the deer population and reduce the opportunity of CWD transmission between animals. If not extended, the hunting seasons will revert to the normal framework.

In the Intensive Zone the gun deer season would be shortened by 61 days.

In the Management Zone, the gun deer season would be shortened by 28 days.

Hunters would not be required to shoot an antlerless deer prior to shooting a buck.

All special state parks hunting in the CWD management zones would cease.

The rules also establish the registration requirements for any deer killed by hunters. If not extended, a hunter could legally transport a deer from the Intensive Zone, the zone where we know CWD is present in the deer herd, to almost most anywhere in the state to register the deer.

**We would lose the ability to collect critical tissue samples from this deer, and Increase public concerns about transporting potentially infected tissue to other parts of Wisconsin.**

**A hunter would not need to register their deer in the CWD zones by 5 p.m. the day after it was killed.**

**This means many deer will not be registered in timely fashion to collect useable tissue samples for CWD monitoring.**

**With No Eradication Zone defined, all special CWD landowner permits would become invalid beginning November 31. This would mean that landowners and hunters would need to purchase a deer-hunting license to finish the deer gun season.**

**Landowners would also no longer be able to shoot deer from their tractors**

**The final important provision of the emergency rule is the statewide ban on the baiting and feeding of deer. The ban is the most debated part of the rule and likely is the reason most folks are attending today's hearing. In June, the then proposed ban was widely publicized and the Natural Resources Board listened to the testimony of nearly 50 citizens on this topic for several hours.**

**Historically, the practice of baiting and feeding has been controversial in Wisconsin's hunting community. Historically, DNR has stayed out of this debate, preferring to let hunters choose the best method for them to use in the field.**

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, it all changed. We discovered CWD in our wild deer herd and it has changed the landscape of deer management in this state. An interagency health advisory committee was put together to review all of the available scientific information on CWD, assessing what we know and what we did not know about CWD in our state. The interagency committee, the DNR staff and ultimately the Natural Resources Board concluded that a ban on baiting and feeding should be put into place. Let me explain why we reached that conclusion.

I'll start with the transmission of the disease. Science has not yet nailed down the exact mechanism for animal to animal transmission, but the leading researchers all believe transmission through saliva, feces or urine is highly likely. They conclude this in large part because of the early and strong presence of CWD prions in organs like tonsils and lymph glands associated with the mouth or gut tract. Given this, it is highly likely that an CWD-infected deer can contaminate food piles put out through baiting and feeding activities as has been recently demonstrated with bovine tuberculosis.

So where are the CWD-infected deer in Wisconsin? The answer to that question is the same now as it was in June, when the Natural Resources Board approved this rule. We do not yet know the true distribution of CWD in Wisconsin, but we are working very hard to find out. The massive sampling of wild deer we have undertaken this fall will give us a very good idea of where the disease is found. The new deer and elk farm rules administered by DATCP are causing many more CWD tests to be done and will also tell us a lot about the health of those herds.

Since June, four new cases of CWD have been detected near or in Wisconsin that confirm that we have very good reason to be cautious. This summer Minnesota found CWD in an elk farm in Aitken County, about 50 miles from our western border. In September and October, CWD was found in two deer farms in Portage and Walworth counties. Finally, on November 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois announced that a CWD-positive wild deer was found just 10 miles south of our southern border.

As the state agency charged with natural resource protection for the State of Wisconsin, it our professional judgement that the ban on baiting and feeding should stay in place until we know a lot more than we do now about the distribution of the disease in Wisconsin. We simply don't want to unintentionally help this disease spread, or become more common where it is found, by bringing healthy and sick deer together at the same food site.

Are we being alarmists? We don't think so. In your packet is a picture of a bait site what without the ban was perfect legal last year and would be again if the ban were not extended. What's special about this bait site? It happens to be right next to the fence on a deer farm where a CWD-positive deer was detected this October. We can't assume activities that we have done for years don't pose a health risk to the deer herd now that we have a serious disease in our state. As I mentioned earlier, the landscape of deer management has changed and the old assumptions no longer hold true.

Is there pain with this recommendation? Absolutely! There are very real economic and hard impacts to many businesses and families that sold deer feed and bait. Many northern Wisconsin deer hunters are also upset that a favorite hunting method has been discontinued. Department staff and I are very aware of the disruption they are experiencing.

We don't take the pain these good folks are feeling lightly. However, CWD has the potential to cause considerably more pain throughout the state for a very long time period. We have to make sound, tough management decisions now that will give us the best chance to minimize the damage CWD will do in our state. CWD has already had drastic impacts on the deer and elk farmers in Wisconsin. Deer hunting has been radically changed in 9 counties in southwest Wisconsin. It may have changed forever.

This winter our Department will begin work on a permanent rule that after all the public dialogue and legislative review must be in place by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 when this emergency rule will expire. The permanent rule will cover all of the aspects that the emergency rule covers. By the time the rule is approved by the NRB, we will have much better information on the distribution of CWD in Wisconsin and what our direction our management should be. I offer my commitment to this committee that we will make sure the many interested citizens in this state will get ample opportunity to help shape and provide input to the final rules.

**Thank you for this opportunity to speak to the committee on this request for an extension. We are happy to respond to any questions that committee members may have.**

## Sargent, Justin

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**From:** Flury, Kelley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2002 8:33 AM  
**To:** Sargent, Justin  
**Subject:** FW: Unanimous vote to extend emergency rules

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

From: Greg Meissner [mailto:meissner@itol.com]  
Sent: Friday, November 08, 2002 3:50 PM  
To: Sen.Cowles@legis.state.wi.us; Sen.Welch@legis.state.wi.us;  
Sen.Hansen@legis.state.wi.us; Sen.Grobschmidt@legis.state.wi.us;  
Sen.Robson@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Hebl@legis.state.wi.us;  
Rep.Turner@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Gunderson@legis.state.wi.us;  
Rep.Seratti@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Grothman@legis.state.wi.us  
Subject: Unanimous vote to extend emergency rules

Dear JCRAR committee members,

On behalf of all the Wisconsin bucks and does which are presently preoccupied with more important matters (for non-hunting members, it's the whitetail breeding season) thanks for the unanimous vote to extend the DNR emergency baiting/feeding rules. This vote shows concern for our whitetail deer resource and respect for the expert advice from our wildlife scientists, biologists and managers.

Thanks again,  
Sincerely,

Greg Meissner  
E4919 County T  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

## Sargent, Justin

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**From:** Flury, Kelley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2002 8:32 AM  
**To:** Sargent, Justin  
**Subject:** FW: Extend Feeding & Baiting



happy hunters.bmp

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

**From:** Hansmann, Brett [mailto:BRETT\_HANSMANN@earthtech.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 08, 2002 3:03 PM  
**To:** Cowles Robert (E-mail); Grobschmid Richard (E-mail); Grothman Glenn (E-mail); Hansen Dave (E-mail); Hebl Thomas (E-mail); Robson Judith (E-mail); Seratti Lorraine (E-mail); Welch Robert (E-mail)  
**Subject:** Extend Feeding & Baiting

Greetings JCRAR State representatives and senators

I'm in support of extending the baiting and feeding ban on deer in Wisconsin and would like to see it a permanent ban. From what I have read the science shows deer concentrated around feeding sites spreads TB and most likely CWD. I have bow and gun hunted for 22 years and harvested 38 deer on public land. Half in the Northern Highlands State Forest and the other half in the Sheboygan Marsh and never used feeding or baiting once. You don't need to feed and bait to kill deer, or even trophy bucks.

With the authority installed in you please do what is right to protect and save the deer heard in WI, and improve the ethics of this beloved sport. I'm teaching my 7 year boy at home the joy of the outdoors and things I know about deer hunting, I hope and pray some day he can share those same moments with his boy, for deer hunting have given me some fond memories.

Thank you for your time

Brett Hansmann Earth Tech  
4135 Technology Parkway  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
920-451-2468  
920-458-0537 (fax)  
e

<<happy hunters.bmp>>

## Sargent, Justin

---

**From:** Flury, Kelley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2002 8:31 AM  
**To:** Sargent, Justin  
**Subject:** FW: CWD

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

**From:** paul.warkaske@aurora.org [mailto:paul.warkaske@aurora.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 08, 2002 1:56 PM  
**To:** sen.robson@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** RE: CWD

Dear Senator Robson:

I applaud your foresight and your decision to extend the ban on baiting. I am a 39 year old resident of Milwaukee, who went bow hunting for the first time this November. I have learned much about CWD from many different sources, and although the hard scientific evidence is slow in coming, all signs point to sloppy, unsterile troughs as the source of spreading the disease.

I look forward to the DNR's determinations, and conclusions. I feel very sorry for the business, restaurant, bar, and resort owners of Wisconsin who have been hurt by last year low snow winter, and this years CWD scare. However, you have the opportunity to contain a localized problem before it becomes a state wide epidemic.

Sloppy trough baiting is the lowest common denominator in deer hunting. The only hunters this ban discriminates against are those too lazy to move their butts to where the deer are, and rather choose to lure the deer to their "back door". I found it very hard to believe that 40% of bow hunters rely on baiting.

Thank you again for your ability to see the larger state wide picture.

Paul Warkaske  
Milwaukee

## Sargent, Justin

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**From:** Flury, Kelley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2002 8:31 AM  
**To:** Sargent, Justin  
**Subject:** FW: Deer Testimony - Note to Rep. Grothman

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

**From:** McCaffery, Keith R  
**Sent:** Friday, November 08, 2002 1:27 PM  
**To:** Sen.Cowles; Sen.Weich; Sen.Hansen; Sen.Grobschmidt; Sen.Robson; Rep.Hebl; Rep.Turner; Rep.Gunderson; Rep.Seratti; Rep.Grothman  
**Subject:** Deer Testimony - Note to Rep. Grothman

### JCRAR HEARING - 07NOV02

I am Keith McCaffery. I attended St. Olaf College and the University of Minnesota and have a Masters degree in natural resources management. I have hunted deer with both firearm and bow for 50 years. Plus, I have been a professional deer biologist for 40 years. I have a life-long commitment to responsible deer management that continues into my retirement today.

I'm here to ask you to support the continued prohibition of baiting and feeding of deer. Science has demonstrated that CWD can be transmitted orally by eating CWD-contaminated food. The infectious agent of CWD is believed to be shed in saliva and/or feces. The repeated replacement of foods to a location results in the area (if not the food itself) becoming increasingly contaminated with saliva, urine, feces, and pathogens. The conditions that allowed CWD to occur in southwest Wisconsin will continue to exist statewide (even after testing). And, artificially concentrating deer and their activity around a food pile is never a good idea.

This prohibition by itself will not solve the problem of CWD transmission. But, it is part of a comprehensive package that seeks to contain and hopefully eradicate CWD from the state. There are relatively few tools available to address CWD. Failure to sustain the bait-feed prohibition would unwisely remove one of these tools.

I have heard that the baiting prohibition has resulted in fewer hunting licenses being sold. Late reports indicate that total sales are down by about 20%. What is not clear is how much media-driven concerns about venison safety are driving this trend.

I have heard about economic dislocation experienced by some northern feed mills, and we can be sympathetic as there may be millions of dollars in lost feed sales. However, this must be weighed against the risk to a world-class deer herd that generates from one to three BILLION dollars of economic activity each year.

I have heard that baiting and feeding deer is no different than deer congregating in a winter yard. This is totally false as natural foraging is fundamentally different than artificial feeding. A paramount difference is bait and feed is repeatedly replaced to a location. The spatial distribution of natural foods in a deer yard is dramatically different. Face-to-face contact and potential contact with infected material is much reduced under natural conditions, even in a yard.

I have heard that hunters cannot be successful in the absence of bait. This seems preposterous as the vast majority of hunters have always hunted without bait.

Recent surveys indicate that 40% of bowhunters and 16% of gun hunters admit to baiting. That means about 100,000 archers and slightly more than 100,000 gunhunters bait deer. Earlier surveys showed that more than 85% of archers also gunhunt. To what degree

are we talking about the same 100,000 out of a deer hunting public of 700,000 hunters? Even if these numbers are somewhat additive, we are talking of a small minority.

Clearly, herd control is a major concern. Simply removing artificial feeds from the woods could have a much greater effect on subsequent deer herd size than allowing bait for hunters.

We know that acorn crops profoundly increase deer productivity and survival. However, acorn crops naturally occur infrequently and only where there are oak trees. Baiting, alone, is like having an acorn crop every year everywhere. Keeping this artificial "energy" out of the woods will allow overabundant deer herds to naturally adjust downward as populations respond to habitat and weather conditions.\*

Again, we should not be fostering conditions favorable for the establishment and transmission of any of about a dozen deer diseases, especially TB and CWD. Congregating deer around artificial feed sources is clearly not a good thing.

You and I know that the eyes of the world are on Wisconsin and, even now, on this Committee. If there ever was a time to listen to science, logic, and common sense, it is now. I urge you to sustain the rule prohibiting baiting and feeding of deer.

\*Note to Rep. Grothman: Natural population control mechanisms are usually far more subtle than direct starvation. Although starvation is clearly one of those mechanisms during severe winters, the more subtle mechanism is changes in productivity. Prescribed harvest is the preferred method of regulating deer herds, but the Natural Process should also be allowed to operate.

If you have further questions, feel free to contact me: 715-365-2641 days or 715-352-3566 nights.

Keith McCaffery, deer biologist (retired?)  
State volunteer

**Sargent, Justin**

---

**From:** Flury, Kelley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 11, 2002 8:35 AM  
**To:** Sargent, Justin  
**Subject:** FW: Emergency Rule NR 10 and 45

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

**From:** Dennis Maki [mailto:dgmaki@medicine.wisc.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 08, 2002 1:25 PM  
**To:** Sen.Robson@legis.state.wi.us  
**Cc:** Rep.Grothman@legis.state.wi.us  
**Subject:** Emergency Rule NR 10 and 45

November 8, 2002

Senator Judith Robson and  
Representative Glenn Grothman  
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules

Dear Senator Robson and Representative Grothman:

I'm sorry that I was unable to attend the public hearing dealing with Emergency Rule NR 10 and 45, relating to the control of chronic wasting disease. I just returned Thursday morning from a scientific meeting on the West Coast.

I believe very strongly that this EMERGENCY RULE should be extended *indefinitely*, to prevent further spread of chronic wasting disease in the white-tailed deer population in Wisconsin. I think we all recognize the threat of CWD not only to the deer herd, but, potentially, to the food animal population, particularly dairy cows, and, possibly, even humans. There is abundant evidence that baiting and feeding of deer contributes to the spread of disease in deer, including bovine tuberculosis, and there is good reason to believe it contributes to the spread of CWD. I would hope that your Committee and the Legislature will see fit to extend this ban indefinitely.

Thank you.

Yours very truly,

Dennis G. Maki, MD  
Ovid O. Meyer Professor of Medicine  
Head, Section of Infectious Diseases  
Attending Physician, Center for Trauma and Life Support  
(608)263-1545 (Office)  
(608)263-4464 (Office fax)  
dgmaki@medicine.wisc.edu

Dennis G. Maki, MD  
Ovid O. Meyer Professor of Medicine  
Head, Section of Infectious Diseases  
Attending Physician, Center for Trauma and Life Support  
608-263-1545 (office)  
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email - [dgmaki@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:dgmaki@medicine.wisc.edu)

11/11/2002



November 11, 2002

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### *Prince Memo*

As you are probably aware, last Thursday the Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules extended the DNR emergency rule until April 1, 2003. The DNR had requested the rule be extended until September, 2003. The meeting lasted most of the day, with the DNR portion taking well over two hours. It is clear that the DNR is not at all interested in any form of compromise. Regardless of considerable testimony that clearly demonstrated the enormous loss of revenue and hardship being experienced as a result of their ruling regarding the total ban on baiting and feeding of deer, the DNR was relentless in their pursuit of their agenda. Many of us speaking in opposition to the ban encouraged a compromise that would allow the recreational feeding and baiting of deer in small quantities. We encouraged the committee to consider the actions and affects the ruling was having in relation to the potential risk of spreading CWD through limited feeding and baiting, especially since no evidence exist to suggest deer contract the disease through nose-to-nose contact or saliva. It was an emotional day and unfortunately we were not very successful.

However, there were a few points of interest that came out of Thursday. For example, the DNR has been using bait in the CWD eradication zone. When questioned about this they said that they had a better chance of reaching their deer kill goals using bait. Also, people that may have participated in hunts in the CWD eradication zone were able to remove the carcass from the area and take it home, wherever home may have been. Also, Indians on reservation land may continue to bait and feed. Also, it was very obvious that some overzealous DNR wardens have pushed the ruling in so far as to harass senior citizens over bird feeding. To this the Joint Committee asked the DNR wardens to cease. This morning I had a call from someone that indicated DNR wardens have been visiting feed mills and demanding to see sales records and feed tags. I have not confirmed this and hope that if you have experienced this that you please let me know. I do not believe the DNR has authority over feed production. As you all know, we are already subject to review and regulations under the department of Agriculture.

What the future holds is not at all clear. What is clear is that the DNR will say and do whatever they deem necessary to achieve their agenda. Through over two hours of testimony by the DNR this was painfully clear. My experience has been that individuals and groups that have a winner-take-all or win at all cost usually at some time in the future have a reversal of fortune. The DNR has clearly lost credibility through all of this. The number of deer killed this hunting season may fall well below what is desired. An increased deer herd, reduced revenues due to fewer hunters and reduced revenue amongst small business owners due to the ruling and reduced hunters could all have an enormous impact on the state and the DNR. If this occurs, the DNR and our legislatures will have even bigger issues to deal with.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis".

Marshfield, WI 54449-8502  
8351 County Road H  
(715) 384-3105

Web Site [www.prince-corp.com](http://www.prince-corp.com)

Kingsbury, IN 46345-9998  
Bldg R-72, Hupp Road  
(219) 393-3553

## **STOP BAIT BAN NOW!!!**

Respective committee members;

Why is the DNR using bait in the eradication zone if it is the cause of disease transmission? The DNR sharpshooters can use bait to kill deer yet if I do I get a \$2,000.00 fine. Quite the double standard, to say the least. Illinois now has confirmed it's first case of CWD and baiting/feeding was not legal there for years.

Based on Wisconsin's Wildlife Surveys August 2002, 79.1% of bow hunters stated baiting had either a positive effect or no effect on their hunt. 35.9% had no concerns over baiting and only 15% said disease transmission was a concern. While 16.8% said ethics was an issue 45.9% wanted no change to the 10-gallon limit. Only 1% wanted baiting banned altogether. 35.9% wanted feeding limited to the same amounts of baiting while 23.1% wanted feeding eliminated. I am amazed to see The Wisconsin Bow hunters Association support the ban in light of this information.

Complaints from gun hunters centered on not seeing deer and bow hunters having an unfair advantage over them. Many stated they were not seeing deer yet the survey results shows that 76.1% of them spent five days or less in the field. You have to be in the woods to see deer. They were quick to point out the bow hunters as the reason and baiting the practice to blame. Only 17.5% of gun hunters reported using bait. This ban centers on the division of hunters and their choice. Cannibalism!

Scientifically there is no evidence to warrant the ban. Anti baiters adopted CWD to bolster their cause and the DNR folded to the pressure based on individual ethics. In a speech given by Colorado State University Researcher Terry Spraker in La Crosse, he mentioned that at no time has the CWD prions been found in either feces or saliva of deer studied. This eliminates the theory of bait/feeding spreading the disease.

Michigan resumed allowing baiting in their Tuberculosis infected units after the Ames, Iowa studies concluded that feeding wildlife was not an efficient means of spreading that disease. What the ban has done is decrease the archery harvest levels by an estimated 70% and lower license sales by 35,000. That's \$700,000 of license revenues in archery alone. I do believe CWD has influenced sales to a point but, how much and how far will the hunting community tolerate? The ban has truly hindered the effort of controlling the deer herd.

My property is located in unit 67A and we border the eradication zone. My property and 400 acres of surrounding properties have seen only two doe and one buck taken since the archery opener. We had a zone T and no doe were harvested. Last year at the same time we collectively harvested nine deer. The deer are there but we can't get them out of our yards to kill them. They are eating under our fruit trees and bird feeders. Crops are scarce in our area and the deer are looking for food sources.

Estimating the harvest for 2002 based on the registration trend for the archery season, early zone T and, license sales, we may see a decline in harvest levels around 196,560 animals. The winter herd will be at an estimated total of 1,435,296 deer. If half are doe and half of them are bred we will face a herd of nearly 2,152,944 animals in the spring of 2003. A herd this large will see far more starvation, car kills and, render the attempt to eradicate CWD impossible.

Clearly we must allow all means necessary to allow the hunt community to make every effort to harvest animals as they chose. Wardens in our area have been working duck hunters during the early zone T due to lack of deer hunters in the field. Hunters ages 12-30 years of age make up only 19.3% of our population. Recruitment will be impossible as interest levels drop due to more limitations and fee increases. The ban is simply adding more difficulties in the attempt to maintain our heritage.

As the 80.8% of our age class above the age of 30 decides it has had enough, retires from the woods due to health or, dies off we will face an epidemic in Wisconsin. No hunters or money to help manage our wildlife. I urge you to re-think this ban and the impact it has had and is forecast to have on our economy, wildlife and, heritage. Who will you tax to off set the cost minus hunter dollars? I urge you to repeal the ban.

Sincerely,



---

Todd M. Mascaretti  
N 7805 County Road N  
Neshkoro, WI 54960  
920-293-8688



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Enclosed are signed petitions  
RE: CWD.

Our business is down  
considerably due to loss of  
revenue because of the ban  
on recreational feeding.

Your help in this matter  
would be appreciated.

Thank You.

# Citizens Concerned About Feeding & Baiting Deer

## Petition To Reinstate

We, the undersigned citizens, feel we have not been duly represented on the issue of banning the feeding and baiting of our deer. The Wisconsin DNR Advisory Board has overlooked and outright ignored the concerns of the northern half of the state.

We feel the DNR Advisory Board has taken action on this matter very hastily and without proper research. We, therefore, are imploring you, our elected representatives to take action on our concerns, and reinstate the feeding and baiting of deer in Northern Wisconsin.

At this time Chronic Wasting Disease is affecting a small area in Southwest Wisconsin and NOT the entire state. Furthermore there is **NO** evidence that feeding spreads the disease. To ban feeding & baiting in the entire state, without any evidence that it will stop the disease, is totally irresponsible!

You were voted into office by the people of Northern Wisconsin to be our collective voice. Please, speak out now about our concerns. As your constituents, we will use our votes in the next election to choose representatives that listen to the people of Northern Wisconsin. Will these votes be cast for you? Your actions on this issue **NOW** will determine our choices in the future.

Name

Address

1. Louis Walli 2615 E. 4th St. Superior, WI 54080
2. Daniel B Johnson Solon Springs WI
3. Melissa Saari 5905 S. County Rd K
4. Joseph J Sullivan 924 E. Winter Rd Foxboro WI 54836
5. Joe Wicklund 3505 Belknap St #47
6. Robert Shears 5913 Bayton Ave
7. Jack R Curley 4133 E Leggett Rd Sup
8. Ally E Cassel PO #475 Lake Nebagamon WI
9. Paul M Gambri PO #333 POPLAR WI

Name

Address

10. Kathy Carey N13894 Tata Dr. Wauwatosa WI
11. [Signature] 5884 sunny Ln Duluth 55814
12. Rodger Higgins Poplar WI
13. Jim Passer 3112 Huggett Ave, Superior, WI
14. [Signature] 7287 S McIVERN LN LAKE WESBACAMUN WI
15. Eric Westbrook SUPERIOR 1902 N16TH STREET
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**Attention**  
**State of Wisconsin**  
**DNR Advisory Board**  
**on Chronic Wasting Disease**

You have acted without scientific basis on the issue of banning the feeding and baiting in the state of Wisconsin. This ban has been a long standing issue with you and has nothing to do with CWD. You have abused the power given you by our Legislators. We demand the reinstatement of feeding & baiting now! Your actions have done nothing to slow the spread of CWD, it has interfered with the way we feed & hunt and has caused nothing but economic hardships on the businesses and farms across the State of Wisconsin!

- | Name                   | Address  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. William Dorothy Aho | 1765 Clover Valley Dr.   |
| 2. James Grymacz       | Duluth, MN 55804<br>8564 East Gillogie Ln. Hawthorne WI<br>Mazungwi → PO Box 113 Spencerville WI 53101 |
| 3. Dan Schoelzel       | 5488 S. LACKSON PO BOX WIS   |
| 4. Daniel B Johnson    | Solon Springs WI   |
| 5. Ron Davidson        | Duluth MN  |
| 6. Melissa Sauer       | 5905 Scandy Rd K   |
| 7. Joseph J Sullivan   | 924 E Winter Rd Foxboro WI 54831   |
| 8. Joe Wicklund        | 3505 Belknap St # 47   |
| 9. Art Freund          | 81955 AIRBART RD - PORT WINDAGE, WI  |

Name

Address

10. Thompson Duluth MN.
11. E. J. Tuomiema 5406 Superior
12. Jack & Curley 4133 E Leggate Rd Supt
13. E. J. Kettle Menong, Wis 54855
14. Robert & Marie MINNOC6 WIS 54859
15. Karen Rausch 6946 E. Co. Rd. V South Range <sup>54874</sup>
16. James Rausch 6946 E Co Rd V South Range WI 54874
17. Zubayr K. Hwangquest 3655 S Hwangquest Rd South Range WI
18. [Signature] 5884 Sunny Ln Duluth 55811
19. [Signature] 7287 M46100W LN LAKE NEBAGAMON 54849
20. Eric Westrook 1902 N 16TH Street Supt vic
21. \_\_\_\_\_
22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
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# Citizens Concerned About Feeding & Baiting Deer

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You were voted into office by the people of Northern Wisconsin to be our collective voice. Please, speak out now about our concerns. As your constituents, we will use our votes in the next election to choose representatives that listen to the people of Northern Wisconsin. Will these votes be cast for you? Your actions on this issue **NOW** will determine our choices in the future.

Name	Address
1. Kathleen M. Storkay	4841 South 22 <sup>nd</sup> Rd Pgdar WI 54861
2. Herbert Usher	6521 Tame ave Superior WI
3. Tony Volyn	5426 S. DARR RD Superior
4. Tom Gray	P.O. Box 187 Salmon Springs WI
5. Bernice M. Cusumano	2715 E. 8th St. Superior
6. Kenneth H. Miller	53275 State Rd. 35 Superior
7. Jim Anderson	6127 Hedge Ave Superior
8. Joe Maloney	1-B HAYS CT. Superior
9. Brenda Balz	8885 S. Miller Rd Salmon Springs WI

Name

Address

10. ~~John Laska~~ 68 Hayes Superior WI
11. Dennis Magdzas 1807 Tyrol St.
12. Jan Colley 2406 Hughtitt Ill
13. Robert Fullan 727 E Ct, R2A Solon Springs WI
14. DAN MARKOW 1272 E 8<sup>th</sup> St Superior WI
15. Wm Gilbertson 2160 Moore Rd Duluth 55809
16. FREDERICK Hooker 6612 Ogden Ave Superior WI 54880
17. RICK WILSON P.O. Box 406 BUTTERNUT WI 54514
18. Dale Lindsey 7848 S. Jackson Rd. LK. Nebagamon, 54849
19. Doug McCuskey 11021 S. Bus 53 Solon Springs 54877
20. Eric Pude 30185 Mimaop 13 Ave Superior WI 54880
21. ~~William H. H. H.~~ 9754 E Cty Rd L, Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849
22. ~~Kulson~~ Summit WI
23. William D. Shugh 6934 E. Choverdale Dr. So Range WI 54877
24. ~~Preuch~~ 8725 S hyna LKRD S. Range 54874 54877
25. DAVID ZARN P.O. Box 149 Gordon WI
26. Bief Anderson 13745 E County Rd 9 Garden WI 54877
27. Brendan Dirkes 68545 Carlson Lake Nebagamon 54849
28. ~~W. P. P.~~ 5129 Howard Cramer Duluth 55803

Name

Address

29. ~~Scott Skelton~~ 5739 Pine Circle Dr.
30. ~~Walt Gerber~~ 12795 S. Ferguson Rd - Solon Springs  
- mail only
31. Linda Das PO Box 161281 - Duluth, Mn 55816
32. Liu Luoma 5929 E. Pleasant Ave So. Rang<sup>wi</sup>
33. Philip A. Melus 3316 Baxter Ave. Superior, WI 54880
34. ~~Bob Diller~~ 2140 S Beck's Rd. Maple WI 54885
35. ~~Robert Young~~ Post Wagon, WI
36. ~~John H. Kuchler~~ 2013 Lisimore Rd
37. ~~Don Pahn~~ 2401 E 7<sup>th</sup> Superior WI 54880
38. Ron Pop 5485 James Rd Barnes WI 54873
39. Phil Larson 8915 E. Peterson Rd Bennett WI 54873
40. Mary Lou Reid 3806 E. Clyd Rd B - Dup. WI 54880
41. P. M. Cingore 9255 E JACKPINE AVE, Solon Springs, WI
42. Tom Hanger 6695 E. Bayfield Rd, So. Rang, WI 54874
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**Attention**  
**State of Wisconsin**  
**DNR Advisory Board**  
**on Chronic Wasting Disease**

You have acted without scientific basis on the issue of banning the feeding and baiting in the state of Wisconsin. This ban has been a long standing issue with you and has nothing to do with CWD. You have abused the power given you by our Legislators. We demand the reinstatement of feeding & baiting now! Your actions have done nothing to slow the spread of CWD, it has interfered with the way we feed & hunt and has caused nothing but economic hardships on the businesses and farms across the State of Wisconsin!

Name	Address
1. Thomas Newham	209 EAST 5TH ST SUPERIOR
2. E. Flood	30437 <sup>th</sup> AVE SUPERIOR
3. [unclear]	3095 Starline Rd.
4. [unclear]	2140 S. Beck's Rd. Maple WI.
5. Jack Swonger	8806 E. Bebe RD Solon Spang
6. [unclear]	5559 So. Midway Rd Superior WI 548
7. [unclear]	8287 Corcoran Rd Webster WI
8. [unclear]	1213 N 13 Super via 54880
9. Tom Knight	7621 North City Rd A Superior WI 54880

Name

Address

10. Harry Maes 10661 E Saari Rd Pqbr WI
11. ~~Lambert~~ ~~Wright~~ Port Wing, WI
12. Ray Jensen 2237 E Birch Trl Superior WI
13. Debra K. Nichols 2496 S. Middle River Rd. Su Fange, WI 54874
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Name	Address
1. Robert L Severin	5252 East Roanoke Rd
2. Daniel R Wicklund	3069 E Stratford Rd Superior
3. <del>Ed Jones</del>	Richard mn
4. Ed Jones	5431 Bradford A.
5. Christine L Bay	3909 E. Co. Rd. B Superior WI
6. David Rasmussen	1705 E County Rd B Johnson WI
7. Arthur Berner	3905 E Berner Sup WI
8. Erik Flood Sr.	105 F 3RD ST. SUPERIOR WI
9. Maurice Tharrew	3614 N 21 <sup>st</sup> . Superior WI

Name

Address

10. Debra Rimolde 5230 Jean Duluth Rd. Duluth MN 55803
11. ~~Robert~~ 3462 S Westworth Rd South Range WI 54871
12. Kenneth Lindlund 34625 Westworth Rd. S Range WI 54874
13. Anne E Gjirca 3462 S. Westworth Rd South Range WI 54874
14. Deborah W. Wuland 3069 E Station Superior, WI 54880
15. Mary E Van Puyk Brock 6831 Hammond A. Sup. WI 54880
16. George Cruta 160 S Ogden A. Superior WI
17. Father Samayra 8515 So Lyman Lk So Range <sup>STATE</sup>
18. Doug Paul 5521 Cumming AV. Superior
19. Roger Schacht 5615 HAMMOND A. Superior
20. Doree S. Sorenson 5731 So. MANITOW VALLEY RD SUPERIOR
21. Charles E. Jett II 612 BAXTER AVE SUPERIOR WI
22. Jeff Johnson 6428 S CITY U SOUTH RANGE
23. Ronald J. Ring 404 15<sup>th</sup> Ave East. Superior
24. John Higgins 5515 Phoenix AVE Super.
25. Cathy Swanson 8955 S Lund Rd Bennett WI 54873
26. Dennis J. Jucker 2600 S American Power Rd South Range WI
27. John F. Wobker 2905 E. Gibson Rd Foxboro WI 54836
28. Mairi Mann 636 Cumming Superior, WI

Name

Address

29. ~~Amanda Stock~~ 5603 S. Swamp Rd S. Range  
54872
30. Herbert Jindolef 5970 S G Rd A Sup. Wis. 54880
31. A. A. Shaffer Box 6 Port Wing WI 54865
32. Donald R Lizon 3910 E 18th St Superior, WI 54880
33. Gary Bill 4433 So STRD 35 Superior 54880
34. Melissa Sear. 5905 S. county Rd K. S. Range 548  
Wis
35. Pat Quinn 2429 MIDDLE RIVER RD., SOUTH RANGE
36. ~~Gene Han~~ 1335 10th St F Bldg Wis 54820
37. Ross Ht 3645 Cty. Rd. E Sth. Range
38. Gady Schweirtz 8562 E Cty B. Hawthorne.
39. Frank Schuritz
40. William H Moyer Dredon
41. Darla Williams South Range
42. Gary Johnson 85450 Leandoe Rd Herbfster Wis 54844
43. Conrad Johnson 2794 E. MOOSE RD DARYLAND WISC
44. Kenneth Miller 5327 S. State Rd. 35 Superior
45. Tom Anderson 4070 E Cty B. Superior

# Citizens Concerned About Feeding & Baiting Deer

## Petition To Reinstate

We, the undersigned citizens, feel we have not been duly represented on the issue of banning the feeding and baiting of our deer. The Wisconsin DNR Advisory Board has overlooked and outright ignored the concerns of the northern half of the state.

We feel the DNR Advisory Board has taken action on this matter very hastily and without proper research. We, therefore, are imploring you, our elected representatives to take action on our concerns, and reinstate the feeding and baiting of deer in Northern Wisconsin.

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You were voted into office by the people of Northern Wisconsin to be our collective voice. Please, speak out now about our concerns. As your constituents, we will use our votes in the next election to choose representatives that listen to the people of Northern Wisconsin. Will these votes be cast for you? Your actions on this issue **NOW** will determine our choices in the future.

- | Name                | Address                         |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Robert L Severin | 5252 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue AD |
| 2. Daniel R Wickham | 3069 E Station Rd Superior      |
| 3. SCOTT Marshall   | 3513 E Shortcut Rd Superior     |
| 4. Ed John          | 5431 Bradford Ave               |
| 5. [Signature]      | Island MN                       |
| 6. [Signature]      | 1705 E County Rd B Farber       |
| 7. Christine Bay    | 3909 E. Co. Rd. B. Superior WI  |
| 8. Brock Flood Sr   | 605 E 3rd. St. Superior, WI     |
| 9. Amber Brown      | 3905 E Brown Rd Sup WI          |

Name

Address

10. Maurice D Shummo 3614 N 21<sup>st</sup> Superior WI.
11. Manu R 3601 Est 1<sup>st</sup> Street Superior
12. Linda Christensen <sup>2932</sup> S. City E South Range
13. Daniel & Will P 1823 Banks Superior
14. Habit Dwyer 10085 E Fire Tower Rd Bennett - WI.
15. Cheryl Mains 21287 E City Rd B, Foxboro, WI 54836
16. Joe Stotz 881 E County Rd C Superior, WI 54880
17. Bruce & Rose Erickson 609 167<sup>th</sup> Ave Two Harbor, MN 55611
18. GARY BscH 6816 EAST County Road WI South Range Wisconsin 54874
19. Phillip 3462 S Wentworth Rd South Range WI 54874
20. Sharon Wyeland 3069 E Station Superior, WI 54810
21. Kerry Wicklund 3462 S. Wentworth Rd South Range WI 54874
22. Thomas E. Girard 3462 S Wentworth Rd S Range WI 54874
23. Douglas L. Christman 1417 E. CT1 Rd BB Foxboro WI 54836
24. Nathan M. Samayra 8515 So Lyman Lk South Range 54874
25. Ray Miodozyniec 311-102nd Ave W Duluth, MN 55808
26. Ray P 5521 Central St Superior WI
27. Boze Lubel 5615 Hammond Superior
28. S.M Severson South Range Wisconsin.

Name	Address
29. Charles E Lambert III	612 BAXTER Superior WI
30. Charles E Lambert IV	612 BAXTER Superior WI
31. Phil BRANDSON	P.O. Box 477 Spoonville, WI
32. Robert Thompson	9829 S. Thompson Rd. <del>Topland, WI.</del> 54836
33. John James	5515 Albany Ave. Sup. WI.
34. Dennis Jackson	2600 S. American River Rd. South Range
35. Rich Rootwell	4229 EAST 1ST SWANSEA WIS
36. Jewelhurst	2905 E. Carlson Rd Foxboro, WI 54836
37. Gary Bill	4433 S. ST RD 35 Superior WI
38. Arnold R Lopez	3910 E 18 <sup>th</sup> ST SUPERIOR WI 54880
39. Melissa Sauer	5905 S. County Rd K. S. Range WI 54880
40. Mark Temple	Superior
41. K.A. Alker	5270 E 1st St. Superior WI
42. Dennis J. Palle	1727 Hammond Superior WI
43. Bees Att	3645 Cty Rd E Sth. Range
44. Carolyn Madore	11732 E Co Rd B
45. Maude Shyker	CONRAD E. SWENSON 2794 E. MOOSE RD Dairyland WI

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Name	Address
1. Peggy McClatchy	1707 Washington Ave.
2. Jerel Linnatta	1821 N. 53rd St. Superior
3. Crystal Johnson	4853 S. Frontgate Rd Superior
4. John McQuinn	5901 Banks Ave Superior
5. Jack Lundgren	5413 Tower Superior
6. Melissa Lottle	11616 Central Ave Superior
7. TED Eastman	1709 Baxter Ave Superior
8. Tom Gilbert	4791 East 1/2 MI RD SUPERIOR
9. Bonnie Gilbert	4791 E. Half Mile Rd Superior WI 54883

Name	Address
10. Grace Tyson	408 Homecroft Cts.
11. Gary Bay	3909 E Co Rd B Superior
12. J. Chute	237 N. Grant Ellsworth, WI
13. J. W. Voth	NH664 Co Rd 77 Ellsworth, W.
14. Russell Voth	516 S 64th Ave W Duluth MN W.
15. Scott Bixby	416 S 5th St Eau Claire WI
16. Dewey SWANSON	W9580 Cty R & E Spooner
17. Remy Shaw	2212 W. 10th St. Duluth MN
18. Patrick A Shaw	2212 W 10th St Duluth, MN
19. J. Bonner	P.O. Box 136 Ellsworth WI
20. Zach Swartz	W9580 Cty Hwy E Spooner WI
21. Danke	2 E 10th St Duluth MN 55805
22. Tom Hagen	1018 N 14th Ave E., Duluth MN
23. J. E. Hagen	1307 Kenwood Ave Duluth MN
24. Mary Jo Hagen	2514 Nanticoke St - Duluth MN
25. Andy Hagen	6660 S St Rd 35 Superior, WI 54880
26. Jim W. Voth	P O Box 235 Ellsworth
27. Tom Young	8296 S Maki Rd Sdow Springs WI
28. Bud Hagen	6660 S St. Rd 35, Superior, WI

Name

Address

29. Karen With 516 So 64th Ave W Duluth 55807
30. Scott Pettit 9027 Est Biller Loop. Solon Springs WI 54873
31. R. Labeles 2606 Ogdan Ave. SUP, WI.
32. D. Labeles 801 North 22 St Sup. WI
33. Jim V. Lynn 4109 E 3rd St Superior, WI.
34. Daryl Ross 415 38th Ave E Superior, WI 54880
35. John G. Harley 9245 E Walnut Ave Solon Springs WI

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Meeting Oct. 1 Tues.

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6. Melissa Latta	1666 Central Ave Superior
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8. Tom Gilbert	4791 E 1/2 MI Rd SUPERIOR
9. Bonnie Gilbert	4791 E. Half Mile Rd Superior, WI 54880

Name

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10. Grace Tyson 408 Homecraft Ct
11. Gary Bay 3909 E Co Rd B Superior
12. Luane Stahl Ellsworth, WI. P.O. 585
13. Jim Hunter Box 242 Ellsworth, WI
14. John Wielt 14664 Co Rd DD Ellsworth, WI
15. Russell Futh 516 S. 64th Ave W. Duluth Minn.
16. Scott Bix 416 S 5th St Eau Claire WI
17. Remy Hall 2212 W. 10th St. Duluth MN
18. Dewey Saanson W9580 Cty Rd E Spooner
19. Buck Swanson W9580 Cty Rd E Spooner
20. Jeff Gonsky P.O. BOX 136 ELLSWORTH WI
21. Patricia A Shaw 2212 W 10 ST. Duluth, MN
22. Amber J 7 E 10th St Duluth MN 55805
23. J. Hagen 1018 N. 14th Ave E, Duluth, MN 55806
24. John E Lange 1301 Kenwood Ave Duluth MN 55811
25. Mary J Sevak 2514 Nauticake St - Duluth MN 55811
26. Bill Elliott 927 N. 40th Ave E Duluth MN 55814
27. Cindy Spier 6060 S. St. Rd. 35 Superior
28. Dan Wirth P O Box 235 Ellsworth 58500

Name

Address

29. Tom Young 8296 S Maki Rd Solon Springs WI

30. Brad Klein 4060 S. St. Rd. 35, Superior, WI

31. Karen Welch 516 So 64th Ave W. <sup>Du. hett</sup> <sub>558</sub>

32. Sant Pettit 9027 Est Biller Loop Solon Sprrn

33. R. Schuler 2606 Ogden Ave. Sup. WI. <sup>54873</sup> WI

34. David Czaynski 801 North 22 Sup. WI

35. Jim V. Huse 4109 E. 3rd St, Superior, WI.

36. Dayl Long 415 38th Ave Superior, WI

37. John Hanley 9205 E. Walnut Ave Solon Springs WI

38.

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4771 County Road J  
Stevens Point, WI 5481  
November 1, 2002

Senator Judith Robson  
Room 15 South, state capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882  
Dear Senator Robson:

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!! Allow the hunters to bait the deer. Can you prove Chronic Wasting Disease is spread by close contact at bait piles? I have seen deer in the wild touching noses and coming in close contact without a bait pile near. I do not think a ban on baiting is effective in preventing CWD. On the contrary, if several hunters in an area are each baiting, small groups of deer would be eating by each separate pile. This would help keep them apart.

There is a ban on baiting in some villages and cities where hunting is not allowed. Baiting deer should be allowed in the country to draw deer away from the residential areas. But the deer still have to eat. So instead of the 100 tons of corn, apples, and feed the hunters would buy (which also helps support the farmers), the deer will eat 100 tons of gardens, flowers, shrubs, crops, young trees, etc.

When I bought my hunting license for \$110.00 this spring, it was legal to bait. Now the DNR has changed the rules. Can I get my money back or is this an illegal maneuver to change the rules in the middle of the game, so to speak?

I believe that many hunters are not buying a hunting license because they can't bait and entice deer to come out of the woods onto unposted land. True, some hunters do not want to bait. That is their choice, but it is wrong to take the choice away from all hunters.

Deer are natural herding animals. It was common to see herds of 50 or 100 deer in the winter and early spring. The last few years bait piles have kept the deer in smaller groups and they did not have to herd up in search of a food source. Why is baiting a concern when CWD has been around for 35 years, as reported in the newspaper? It is found in elk and mule deer out west where the animals are distributed in a larger area and not as dense as they are in Wisconsin. How was it spread

in the herds out west if they did not have such close contact?

The DNR is making it harder for the hunters. Yet they have hired sharpshooters who can bait, hunt at night with lights and get paid \$100+ for each deer. Is this fair to the other hunters? I thought the DNR wanted help culling the deer herd, but they have made it harder for us. LIFT THE BAN NOW!!! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!

I have talked to other hunters and they agree with me. They do not want their names made public for fear of harassment by the wardens. They are also afraid that if there are not enough deer killed by hunting, the size of the deer herd will explode causing many, many more vehicle accidents and much more crop damage.

Could CWD be a natural disease to control the deer herd like a cycle with the rabbits, squirrels, coyotes, partridges, etc. when they die off to control the population especially when the food supply is not plentiful? Nature has a way of taking care of itself.

The deer on game farms should be quarantined and monitored to study CWD. If CWD is as contagious as the DNR says, these deer would self destruct in a short time. Maybe we could learn how it is spread. This would be better than to just shoot them all and pay the game farm owner damages.

State game farms have been importing elk, mule deer, fallow deer, red deer, etc. from out west for a long time. CWD was most likely brought into the state in this way. They could not have been tested for CWD because the animals would have to be dead to be tested. Were the elk that were introduced up north, tested for CWD?

Is it possible that other exotic animals brought in from other countries to the large shooting preserves in the U.S. have brought CWD in, but because they are naturally immune to it, has spread it to our deer and elk.

There are not enough big, trophy bucks to go around so some of us have to be satisfied to shoot a young, tender-tasting deer. Hopefully some will end up in my freezer. Please, it is not too late to lift the ban on baiting so us hunters can help bring down the deer population.

I am enclosing a newspaper article which might be helpful.. Please

feel free to call me if you want to discuss this further or need more information. 715-592-4410

A licensed hunter for 45 years,

*Roman Kizewski*

Roman Kizewski

# DEER: Officials look for diseased animals at Almond game farm

From A1

Two of them appeared to have symptoms of the disease, Lisa Hull, a spokeswoman for the state agriculture department, told the Associated Press.

The diseased buck at Buckhorn Flats was shot by a private hunter on Sept. 4, and because Hull was voluntarily participating in a DNR chronic wasting disease monitoring program, the deer's head was submitted for testing.

"He appeared fat and happy and well, and he had a heck of a rack," Hall said.

Nine DNR wardens have been combing through the game farm's records and looking over Hall's deer since last week. The wardens also have killed six more deer for testing; three have come back clean, the others await a final ruling, Hall said.

"All I can do is sit here and wait," he said.

DNR and DATCP agents are checking back five years to determine the movement of deer to and from Hall's farm. "Our first concern is the animals that might have been housed with that deer," Hauge said.

In the meantime, Hall is prohibited from selling or trading any deer, possibly for up to five years. The DNR has also discussed the possibility of killing off his herd, but Hall said that isn't likely because state law

"They'd need a pretty big wallet to do that," he said, adding that he might consider such an offer if it were made because the DNR's emergency rules covering CWD have taken most of his business from him.

Buckhorn Flats is the same game farm that caused a statewide uproar in 1998 after the DNR learned that Hall had imported a bighorn ram for a "canned hunt." A hunter from Utah paid nearly \$5,000 to shoot the animal in a small enclosed area about the size of a quarter of a city block.

Such hunts are illegal in Wisconsin for animals other than white-tailed deer and some game birds, and only with a special state license. However, it's up to local officials, such as the Sheriff's Department, to enforce the law. No such citations have ever been issued against Buckhorn Flats, and the farm has an otherwise clean record, according to Randy Romanski, spokesman for the state Department of Justice, which enforces wildlife laws for the state.

An effort by state Sen. Kevin Shibleski, D-Stevens Point, to pass a bill banning the practice and switching enforcement to the DNR passed the state Assembly, but then died in committee in the Senate in late 1998. Shibleski said "canned hunts" are a likely

## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CHRONOLOGY

- A chronology of chronic wasting disease in Wisconsin:
- **1967** — The disease is recognized in the United States as causing deer and elk to grow thin and die. Over the years, it is found in wild deer and elk in northeastern Colorado, southeastern Wyoming and Nebraska. It is also diagnosed in captive elk in Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Kansas, South Dakota and the Canadian province of Saskatchewan.
- **Fall 1999** — The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources begins testing for the disease by sampling about 400 deer shot by hunters each fall.
- **Feb. 28, 2002** — The DNR announces that three bucks shot the previous November near Mount Horeb tested positive for the disease, the first time it has been found east of the Mississippi River.
- **March 14** — A special hunt begins to kill 500 deer in a 415-square-mile area of Dane and Iowa counties around Mount Horeb to find out how far the disease has spread.
- **April 24** — DNR reports 11 of the 516 deer killed in the special hunt were infected with the disease, signaling 3 percent of the herd was infected.
- **April 29** — DNR Secretary Darrell Bazzoli says the state cannot guarantee hunters it is safe to eat the deer they kill this year because of the presence of chronic wasting disease in the herd.
- **April 30** — Gov. Scott McCallum sends a letter asking Wisconsin's congressional delegation to fight for \$18.5 million in federal money to battle the disease.
- **May 1** — The DNR announces a plan to kill all deer in a 285-square-mile area covering parts of Dane, Iowa and Sauk counties to try to eradicate the disease from the herd or at least slow its spread.
- **May 10** — McCallum tells a meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress that chronic wasting disease is the "most serious animal health crisis in our history." He calls a special legislative session on proposals to help fight the disease.
- **May 10** — Citizens Against Irrational Deer Slaughter announces its opposition to the DNR's plan to deal with the disease.
- **May 16** — Legislature allocates up to \$4 million and grants wildlife officials new powers to battle the disease.
- **May 22** — The DNR reports 18 deer have tested positive for the disease. The agency expands to 361 square miles the area where it wants all deer killed and announces four weeklong summer hunts to begin the process.
- **June 25** — The Natural Resources Board bans the feeding and baling of deer statewide and requires hunters to shoot an antlerless deer before they could qualify to shoot a buck during the fall hunting season in the deer eradication zone.
- **June 27** — The U.S. Department of Agriculture announces it will not certify any private laboratories in Wisconsin to test for chronic wasting disease.
- **July 1** — The DNR says it will test at least 40,000 deer shot by hunters this fall in all of Wisconsin's 72 counties to find out if the disease exists elsewhere. The sample is to include about 500 deer from each county.
- **Aug. 30** — Testing finds seven more deer with chronic wasting disease and DNR enlarges so-called eradication zone to 389 square miles.
- **Sept. 13** — Hunters kill 539 deer during the final summer hunt.
- **Sept. 19** — The state Agriculture Department reports a deer killed on a Portage County private hunting preserve Sept. 4 had chronic wasting disease, the first case of the disease in the state's captive deer herd. The preserve is quarantined as are two other deer farms in Walworth County.
- **Sept. 23** — The state says it is looking into other farms but hasn't quarantined any more.

Shibleski also tried to get fellow legislators to pass an immediate ban on the importation of deer and elk from other states.

Now that the scope of the disease and its potential for harm is known, Shibleski said he is optimistic the Legislature will change its mind once lawmakers come back to Madison in January.

places like Colorado where CWD is prevalent," he said. "In hindsight, that was just plain stupid."

Chronics can be reached at 344-6100, Ext. 2512, or at [mail\\_chronics@stevens.net](mailto:mail_chronics@stevens.net)

As all of the hunters in Wisconsin know, the state's deer herd has been infected with chronic wasting disease or CWD. When CWD was found in the Mt. Horab area, people didn't look at the western states that have had infected deer populations for 15 to 20 years and still eat and harvest the animals infected with CWD. In Wisconsin, we jumped to conclusions and made bad decisions that affect everyone.

The major decision I am talking about is the ban on baiting and feeding of deer. I just want to let you know that I know why the ban was put into place. Because you "think" CWD is transmitted by saliva, and fluid to fluid contacts. First, before any decisions were made, the disease should have been studied more, so that you know more about it (considering you know relatively little about it now) and could have made a more certain decision.

This ban, in my eyes, is ridiculous. I live in the northern part of Wisconsin where we don't have 80 acre corn fields and grade A alfalfa fields, to hunt over and feed our deer. No, we have trees, and sorry not oak trees to give the deer acorns, just maple, poplar, birches, and most evergreens. My point is we don't have the natural food availability that the southern part of Wisconsin does. Our lands are thick with swamps and hardwoods that cover thousands of acres, with no fields within miles. Baiting for the bow season is especially important, so the hunters can have a chance at getting a deer. You may say that it is unethical, to use bait, that the deer doesn't have a chance. Guess

again! Deer that come to bait aren't stupid. We the hunters don't make them come in. It is the same thing as a deer coming to a 40 acre corn field to eat only at different scales.

I know the so called main reason why baiting was banned was because it concentrated too many deer in a small area and deer to deer contact goes up. Well, if you think baiting is the only place deer come into contact with each other it's not. We do 99% of all deer walk? On deer trails for the most part, did you ever watch a couple of deer coming down a trail? They smell where previous deer have peed and pooped, and if they come in contact with another deer they usually manage to touch one another in some type of way. That supposedly spreads CWD and probably just as fast. What about deer grazing in a field? Last time I looked, if there were four deer in a field they didn't all walk away from each other. No, they walk towards each other and graze in a group and probably coming in contact with other deer's saliva. Banning baiting isn't the answer to controlling CWD.

So who cares if the people up north are mad? Well, because of the baiting ban, license sales are down 30%.

That means the DNR is losing 5 million dollars just in license sales already this year not counting sales before the gun deer opener. If you think that all you will have to do is raise the cost of license for next year to make that up guess again. If you do, people really won't buy them and the DNR will be out even more money. The ban has slowed the economy of Wisconsin businesses, fewer people are going hunting, so businesses like motels, gas stations, and hunting stores have had a drop in business. As well as putting feed mills in the northern part of the state on a day by day basis.

They sad part of it all is that the DNR has just made good law abiding citizens criminals because they feed "bambi" in their back yard for viewing pleasure, and now it is against the law. It's also forced people who have little hunting skills, who with out bait would not see a deer, to bait illegally because of there love of the sport.

My best analogy of the baiting ban is like when prohibition was in affect. Back then they called it bootlegging. You weren't supposed to drink or have alcohol but they did any way. Don't for one minute think that people aren't baiting. They are, all over the state not just in the north. People will bait law or no law. The law is just making good people criminals. So why not let the people bait.

Just for the record, as I was driving home last weekend I passed a car with 2 tree stand and 100 pounds of corn on the back of it. "Hum, I wonder what they were hunting." Also, the state has a good deer herd; some say to big. Well give it 2 or 3 years up north with a bad winter and no one feeding and no one baiting, and then we will see what kind of deer herd the state has. Also you should take some time out of your busy schedules and watch the program on the Outdoor channel by the Texas Trophy Hunter Association on CWD. Maybe you will learn something.

Sincerely,

Matt Schultz

Dear Ms. Robson,

I am writing to you because of my concerns with the current CWD problem. Three years ago I retired from Federal Law Enforcement with the title of Deputy Regional Inspector General. I tell you this just so you know I have handled a number of sensitive matters in my day.

As I have stated I have concerns about CWD, but I also have concerns about the entire impact CWD is having and will have, in the foreseeable future of this state. Because we are not a major Industrial state, we rely on other means to keep the "ship afloat". A large part comes from taxes. Taxes on everything including property and income.

As a former Government official, I would predict that after Wisconsin takes the "hit" from non-hunters, we will fall into the trap of increasing taxes and fees to bolster the coffers. That's a real mistake that I have seen time and time again. Although I feel you already know what I mean by non-hunters, I will explain. I recently registered a doe. The newspaper wrote that 19 hunters had registered deer. At that point in time last year, 79 had been registered. That's just one station, but I'm betting it is about the same throughout the State. I'm also betting the DNR gets a large portion of its budget from hunting license fees. The pie will be much smaller this year, for them as well as any other functions that receive funds from this activity. The non-hunting "hit" also goes to main treasury funds. There will be losses in revenue from tax income from hotels, gas stations, restaurants, sporting stores, grocery stores, etc. etc.

So, why do we have this problem, and what are we going to do? CWD is the bad guy, or is it? What does the State want to do? Stop CWD! What do the hunters want? Sure they want to hunt, but they also want to stop CWD. Same goal! What a team it would be to have the State and the hunters on the same team. Why are they not on the same team? Why are the hunters staying home? Some may stay away due to CWD, but everything I am hearing says baiting is the reason, not fear of CWD. We have made it hard for the hunter to get "into the game". It reads something like this: Hunters, come hunt, we need you. Oh, and by the way, there is a minor risk if you eat the deer you kill, you may die. And Oh, if that does not stop you from hunting, there will be no more baiting making it harder for you to harvest, or even see a deer. Now we really want you to hunt, so come spend your money in our hotels, restaurants, gas stations, etc..

If the goal of the State is to stop baiting, then there is no easy answer. If the goal is to stop CWD, there may be an answer. What compromise if any are we willing to make? If we bait, we risk spreading CWD. If we don't bait, the state loses hunters and its related income.

Let's look at options. Top of my head: 1) Do not allow baiting until 2 weeks before season opens, and then after it ends. Pro: Hunters will return. Con: Risk spread of CWD. How big a risk is it, and are we willing to take that risk. Your task will be to decide that. 2) Allow baiting for one or two weeks before season, and then have bait in a removable or closeable box, which the hunter can only have open while he/she is

actually at the location. Pro: Hunters will return. The one/two weeks ahead of season is needed to let the deer find the bait. My guess is the hunters will feel that is enough to increase their chances of seeing a deer. Then it's very controlled. Deer eating bait will most likely be taken, but in any case, will be shot at, causing them to leave. Either way the deer are not sharing the bait. Con: Baiting is baiting and if we want to stop baiting in addition to CWD, this will not work.

I have some thoughts about CWD also, but I feel the hunters and the State are better served if I just address baiting at this point.

We all need to get the hunters back out there. I do not feel they are afraid of CWD. I feel we took the worm off the hook and are asking them to fish anyway. Some will, but most will not. Please find a way to put the bait back on the hook. It will help the hunters, the businessmen, and the State.

Sincerely,

Howard Schuster  
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## **DNR to request extension of CWD emergency rules**

MADISON – The Department of Natural Resources will ask the legislative Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules to extend until Sept. 1, 2003 emergency rules related to controlling chronic wasting disease (CWD) in Wisconsin.

The rules, approved by the Natural Resources Board in June, will expire on Nov. 30 unless the legislative committee approves an extension. The rules establish a liberal hunting season in the CWD Management Area and a statewide ban on baiting and feeding of deer.

"The CWD emergency rules contain critical authorities for us to continue the fight to eradicate CWD in our state deer," said Tom Hauge, director of the DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management. "Among key provisions are establishing the CWD Intensive Harvest Zone, extending the hunting season in that zone to Jan. 31 and allowing liberal bag limits."

DNR is requesting the legislative committee to extend the emergency rule so it is in effect until a follow-up, more permanent rule, goes into effect after the results of the current deer hunting seasons and statewide CWD testing are known. The follow-up rule will be developed through the normal rule-making process and will include the development of an environmental impact statement and public hearings in March and April followed by legislative review in May and June of 2003.

Hauge said the DNR would lose some very important disease control options if the emergency rule is not extended, such as the gun season closing immediately rather than going until Jan. 31, closure of the archery season Jan. 3 instead of Jan. 31, loss of the "earn-a-buck" incentive that requires hunters to shoot an antlerless deer before being able to shoot an antlered deer in the CWD zone.

In addition, some state parks not normally open to hunting could become refuges with no hunting this year, free tags would become invalid, and hunters pursuing deer under landowner permit would no longer exempt from buying a hunting license, and there would be no restrictions on baiting or feeding statewide, including the CWD management and intensive harvest zones.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Hauge, (608) 266-2193, Bill VanderZouwen, (608) 266-8840, or Tim Andryk, (608) 264-9228