

**TOWN OF HARVARD  
DEER MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES  
ZOOM MEETING 6:16 – 7:15 pm  
Thursday March 11, 2021**

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**Members present:**

**Robert Douglas (chair), Tom Cotton, Ben Urquhart, Paul Willard, Joe Pulido**

**Public Present:**

**Eve Wittenberg, Daniel Tracy, Michelle Mazzu**

**Called to Order 6:17 PM by Douglas.**

**Bromfield Student Volunteer Report:**

**Michelle Mazzu, a senior at the Bromfield School, installed DMS trail cameras at Williams and Great Elms Conservation Lands. She had some guidance from Don Osmer as to locating the cameras to potentially maximize capturing pictures of deer and other wildlife. In addition to deer she reported that coyotes, rabbits and squirrels were also observed. One camera was stolen, which was reported to the Harvard Police Department. She discovered an illegal tree stand which will be removed by DMS.**

**The Committee thank her for her work.**

**Report for 2020 Season**

**Urquhart: The current draft is looking good. Suggested including the post-season survey results as an appendix, with a summary of the survey in the report.**

**Douglas: Want to include the post-season hunter interviews in the report as an appendix.**

**Douglas: Will ask Mass Fish and Wildlife for data on the deer season results in Harvard to include in the report.**

**Douglas: Will include report from dispatch as to how that worked out.**

**Tracey: Will the comments from participants [Michelle Grzenda, Kristen O'Brien] in the last meeting [2/18/2021] be included in the report?**

**Wittenberg: Request that the report 1) compare participation by resident and non-resident hunters, and 2) that the post-season survey results be correlated with the log data from the season.**

**Urquhart: Can work on the correlation of those two databases.**

**Committee targeting to get this report to ConCom for their April 1 meeting.**

**Recommendations for the 2021 Season**

**Pulido: I have visited two properties, plan to visit more.**

**Douglas: 12 potential properties to evaluate; may take some time.**

**Urquhart: Should try to get recommendations to ConCom sooner rather than later.**

### **Pellet Survey 2021**

**Douglas:** Mass F&W plan to do transects 131 (Oxbow NWR/Fruitlands) and 134 (Delany WMA) this spring. DMS will try to do transect 130 which covers Damon/Stephenson land. F&W will provide transect details to DMS for that transect.

**Urquhart:** A reminder there is a small window of time to complete a pellet count.

**Urquhart:** Motion to approve doing these three transects this spring.

**Willard:** Seconded the motion.

Approved unanimously.

**Wittenberg:** Asked which transects F&W will do this spring. Asked which transects were done in 2020 as it was not clear from the data. Douglas agreed to provide that.

### **Stand removal:**

**Douglas:** Would like to tag stands found on ConCom land. Planning on the weekend of March 13<sup>th</sup>. Cotton and Pulido volunteered to help.

### **New Items:**

#### **Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program**

**Douglas:** Will contact Robert Wernerehl, PhD, State Botanist with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, to arrange a meeting with him.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Douglas:** Approve the minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting.

No corrections noted.

**Willard:** Motion to accept.

**Urquhart:** Seconded.

Unanimous vote to accept.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.