



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES  
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: August 29, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Rehabilitation and Possession of Wild Deer  
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 17 of 2008  
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

The Department adopted the Michigan Surveillance and Response Plan for Chronic Wasting Disease of Free-Ranging and Privately-Owned Cervids (CWD Plan) on August 26, 2002. The CWD Plan requires various surveillance and control measures to be implemented when CWD is documented.

Measures of the plan to be implemented are that the rehabilitation of free-ranging cervids will become illegal statewide, as will live transport of free-ranging cervids anywhere in the state.

On August 25, 2008, the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa confirmed CWD in a deer from a privately-owned facility in Kent County. The confirmation from Ames, Iowa triggered these control measures required in the CWD Plan.

An interim order by the Director was issued on August 29, 2008 prohibiting the rehabilitation and possession of wild deer. The interim order expires on February 28, 2009.

This amendment replaces the Director's Interim Order on the rehabilitation and possession of wild deer.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • Darnell Earley • John Madigan • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING • P.O. BOX 30028 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7528  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) • (517) 373-2329

***Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors!***

Rehabilitation and Possession of Wild Deer  
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 17 of 2008  
Page 2  
August 29, 2008

Recommendation:

This order is being submitted for information and consideration. This item appeared on the September 2, 2008 Department Calendar and is eligible for action on October 9, 2008.

Douglas A. Reeves, Acting Chief  
Wildlife Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief  
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

Gary Hagler, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division

Arminda S. Koch  
Resource Management Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries  
Director

# **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER**

## **Amendment No. 17**

Under the authority of sections 40107 and 40113a, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being sections 324.40107 and 324.40113a of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources orders that, effective October 10, 2008 the following sections of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

### **5.74a Animals of special concern, possession, transportation and disposal.**

Sec. 5.74a. Animals of special concern are as follows:

- (1) Deer of special concern - all wild free ranging deer. Live wild deer shall not be possessed.
- (2) Skunks and bats of special concern – all wild skunks and bats. Live skunks and bats shall not be possessed.
- (3) Raccoons of special concern – all wild raccoons. Live raccoons may be possessed and released only as follows:
  - (a) Raccoons shall be released only in the same county where captured and shall be isolated in a manner to prevent physical contact with animals not originating from the same county. Each cage shall be tagged by the permittee with the county of origin and date of capture.
  - (b) Cages and areas used to hold raccoons for release shall be constructed of materials that can be effectively disinfected.
  - (c) If the capture point of a raccoon cannot be positively confirmed to be from a particular county, the raccoon shall be isolated from physical contact with other raccoons and humanely euthanized within 24 hours of receipt. If a raccoon has come into physical contact with a raccoon originating from another or unknown county of origin, both raccoons shall be isolated from physical contact with other raccoons and humanely euthanized within 24 hours of exposure.
- (4) Elk of special concern – all wild free ranging elk. Live wild elk shall not be possessed.
- (5) Moose of special concern – all wild free ranging moose. Live wild moose shall not be possessed.

Issued this 9th day of October, 2008.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Keith J. Charters, Chairman  
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries  
Director