



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT  
LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES  
DIRECTOR

November 9, 2010

The Honorable Michelle McManus, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Natural Resources  
S-2 Capitol Building  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

The Honorable Michael Lahti, Chair  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Natural Resources  
S-1489 House Office Building  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7514

Dear Senator McManus and Representative Lahti:

Pursuant to Section 802, PA 118 of 2009, the report of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment's (DNRE) Bovine Tuberculosis related activity during the third and fourth quarters of Fiscal Year 2009-2010 is attached.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sharon M. Schafer  
Administration Division  
Assistant Chief, Finance  
517-373-1750

Attachment

cc: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Members  
House Appropriations Subcommittee Members  
Mr. Josh Sefton, Senate Fiscal Agency  
Ms. Viola Wild, House Fiscal Agency  
Mr. Robert Emerson, State Budget Director,  
Department of Management and Budget (DMB)  
Mr. Jacques McNeely, DMB  
Ms. Jennifer Harrison, DMB  
Director Rebecca Humphries, DNRE  
Ms. Arminda Koch, Deputy Director, Resource Management, DNRE  
Mr. Gary Owen, DNRE  
Mr. Russ Mason, DNRE  
Mr. Mark Bouvy, DNRE



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**Bovine Tuberculosis Program Legislative Report**  
**April 1 – September 30, 2010**  
Prepared by the Wildlife Health Section

This report is in response to PA 118 of 2009, Sec. 802 : "From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department shall submit quarterly reports to the state budget director, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on natural resources, and the senate and house fiscal agencies that provide detail about enforcement actions taken to eradicate bovine tuberculosis (TB), the number of infected deer found, new science it is working on to detect bovine TB, and other relevant information about the department's efforts to address the presence of bovine TB in the state."

**Disease Surveillance in Wildlife**

The majority of samples received for bovine tuberculosis testing in white-tailed deer April through September were from non-hunt sources such as road killed and out-of-season permits (disease control and deer damage permits). Samples began to be received from the early hunting seasons in September. There is mandatory TB sample submission from all deer shot on disease control permits and for all hunter-harvested elk.

**Wild White-tailed Deer Lab Results for Bovine TB  
by County, April 1 - September 30, 2010**

The laboratory did not find any suspects for bovine TB during this period. All deer tested negative.

Four moose and 14 elk were submitted during this time period and all tested negative for bovine TB.

**Definitions:**

- Pending - Initial laboratory results were negative, still waiting for final results.
- Suspect - bacterial culture is pending and intermediate testing has been positive, still waiting for final results.
- Positive - final culture results were received from MDCH.
- Negative - no lesions were found at the Wildlife Disease Lab or culture results were final negative.

Wild White-tailed Deer Tested for Bovine TB, by County  
April 1 - September 30, 2010

County	Total Tested
Alcona	4
Alpena	14
Antrim	45
Barry	2
Berrien	1
Branch	1
Calhoun	1
Cass	3
Charlevoix	19
Cheboygan	11
Clinton	1
Crawford	1
Dickinson	1
Eaton	3
Emmet	7
Gratiot	2
Hillsdale	1
Huron	1
Ionia	1
Iosco	1
Kalamazoo	2
Kent	61
Livingston	1
Montcalm	2
Muskegon	1
Newaygo	1
Ogemaw	2
Oscoda	1
Otsego	1
Ottawa	2
Presque Isle	4
Sanilac	1
Shiawassee	2
Tuscola	1
Washtenaw	1
Wexford	1
Unknown Location	25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>229</b>

Ninety-five of these were taken on  
Disease Control Permits.

## Public Education - "Don't bait for our sake" Campaign

Kelly Siciliano Carter

As bovine Tuberculosis (TB) remains a critical disease issue within Michigan, the DNRE has made a concerted effort to bring TB back to the forefront. At the end of FY 2010 a variety of information and education products were developed:

1) update of the TB brochure; 2) small handout-cards with "Don't bait for our sake" and TB web site address; 3) window car clings with "Don't bait for our sake"; 4) 3 slogan posters created for businesses, license agents, and field offices -- a) "Don't bait for our sake" b) "Baiting is not a debate it is illegal in the Lower Peninsula" and c) "Selling bait is Legal -- Using it is Not in the Lower Peninsula"; and 5) TB educational poster for all kids in the TB area with pencils; and 6) new banner displays to be used at public meetings and outdoor shows with the Don't bait for our sake and TB information.

In addition, letters from Chief Mason were sent to 9000 individuals that hunted in Deer Management Units (DMU) 452/487 last year; included with the letter was a brochure, small card, and window cling. Letters were sent to ~5000 potential bait sellers (gas stations and feed stores) with the 3 slogan posters for them to display. Letters were sent to license agents/DNRE offices along with 3 slogan posters. And, educational posters were sent to all the elementary students in the five-county TB area.

It is the DNRE intention that this campaign will once again bring the seriousness of TB to all Michigan citizens.

## Research Activities

Details for the following projects outlined in previous reports.

### **Title: Trap, Test and Cull Project**

This project is ongoing. The results are encouraging, showing that a relatively high number of deer could be trapped and tested and that positive animals could be detected and removed.

### **Title: Evaluating Acceptance of Free-Ranging White-Tailed Deer Bovine Tuberculosis Management Strategies**

This project is ongoing. Primary Investigator: Brent Rudolph, Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Div.

### **Title: Bovine Tuberculosis Spatial Model for White-tailed Deer**

This project is ongoing. Primary Investigator: Dr. Daniel O'Brien, Wildlife Veterinarian, Wildlife Div.

## Meetings Attended by Wildlife Division Personnel and other TB Activities

- **Dr. Steve Schmitt, MDNRE Wildlife Veterinarian, Wildlife Health Section Supervisor**
  - 4/5-4/8/2010: Attended Midwest Fish and Wildlife Health Initiative Meeting
  - 4/13/2010: Conference Call with USDA regarding bovine TB research
  - 4/19/2010 & 5/18/2010: Meetings on USDA CAP grant program
  - 4/20/2010: Meeting with Producers in Emmet Co.
  - 4/23/2010: TB Work Group meeting, Grayling, MI
  - 4/26/2010: TB Coordinator's meeting at USDA-Wildlife Services
  - 4/29/2010: Conference Call on TB Vaccine
  - 5/11/2010: MDA/DNRE Quarterly Bovine TB Program Discussion
  - 5/17-5/20/2010: Presented at Georgia Foreign Animal Disease Conference, Georgia
  - 6/1/2010: Conference Call – Alpena News
  - 6/2/2010: Presentation at Jay's Sporting Goods, Clare, MI
  - 6/16/2010: Attended the MDA Commission Meeting
  - 6/22/2010: Attended public meetings at Harrisville & Alpena, MI
  - 7/29/2010 & 8/20/2010: Attended TB Advisory Committee Meeting and Conference Call
  - 8/9/2010 & 8/13/2010: Attended USDA-VS TB Review Meetings

- 8/11/2010: MDA/DNRE Quarterly Bovine TB Program Discussion at MDA Commission
  - 9/29/2010: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Wildlife Health Committee Annual Meeting, Grand Rapids
  - Also, participated in drafting and reviewing a variety of posters, pamphlets, decals, letters to businesses and schools, etc., concerning bovine TB as part of a renewed educational plan
- **Dr. Dan O'Brien, MDNRE Wildlife Veterinarian**
    - 4/12/2010: TB lecture for veterinary students in Dr. Paul Bartlett's class, LCS678 Government and Corporate Veterinary Practice
    - 4/23/2010: Chair TB Workgroup Meeting
    - 6/24/2010: Presentation for Elk Management Advisory Workgroup on infectious diseases of elk, which included discussion of bovine TB
    - 7/8/2010: Presentation to Natural Resources Commission on infectious diseases of black bears, which included discussion of bovine TB
    - 7/29/2010: Conference call with research collaborators at Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, Heidelberg, Victoria, Australia, and National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, Colorado, regarding spatial simulation modeling effort for TB in deer in Michigan
    - 8/11/2010: Meet with member of USDA site Review Team for Split-state bovine tuberculosis accreditation status
    - 9/7/2010 & 9/16/2010: Met with postdoctoral research fellows of Dr. Bill Porter, Boone & Crockett Endowed Chair in Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University, regarding potential research collaborations in the area of bovine tuberculosis.
    - 9/29/2010: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Wildlife Health Committee Annual Meeting, Grand Rapids.
    - Also, participated in drafting and reviewing a variety of posters, pamphlets, decals, letters to businesses and schools, etc., concerning bovine TB as part of a renewed educational plan.

## **New deer harvest regulations related to bovine TB eradication strategies in DMU 487 (Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Presque Isle counties)**

See the Wildlife Conservation Order at [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Wcao\\_134367\\_7.html](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Wcao_134367_7.html)  
**Discussions from the NRC POLICY COMMITTEE ON WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**

May 16<sup>th</sup> - Natural Resources Commission  
**Brent Rudolph, Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Div.**

Mr. Rudolph proposed antler point restrictions for DMU 487, which is restricting buck harvest to greater or equal to three on one side. Future assessments will consider if this increased antlerless deer harvest and if there was a decrease in prevalence.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Natural Resources Commission  
**Brent Rudolph, Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Div.**

In the northern Lower Peninsula, deer are at or slightly below desired densities (northwest), a continued emphasis on deer reduction in the bovine tuberculosis zone (TB) (northeast), and all the private land licenses in DMU 487 through that individual unit.

The recommendations for DMU 487 include combination and firearm licenses for antlerless deer during the firearm season, and greater than three points on one side. Combining these will shift harvest pressure from young bucks to antlerless deer and older bucks to hopefully increase antlerless harvest and decrease TB prevalence.

July 8<sup>th</sup> - Natural Resources Commission  
**Russ Mason, Chief of Wildlife Division**

DMU 487 Public Meetings: The DNRE has been able to talk with folks in the TB zone. Both of the meetings were very well attended. In Harrisville there was a lot of frustration and very few comments on antler point restrictions, but more focused on the decline in hunter satisfaction. In Alpena people were much more open in discussing the possibilities, as well as much more optimism.

## Law Enforcement Division Activities

(Covering April 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010)

Overall compliance appears mixed in the seven counties of the core TB area.

This reporting period is typically a slow time period for baiting or feeding issues for law enforcement. Violations have picked up after Labor Day with interest in the upcoming hunting seasons.

Counties	RAP Bait/Feed Complaints	(non-RAP) Bait Complaints	(non-RAP) Feed Complaints	Tickets Issued	Warnings	Group Bait or Feed Patrols	Bait or Feed Flights
Alcona	3	11	3	1	1		
Alpena	1						
Iosco	6	1			1		
Montmorency	2						
Oscoda	2	11		2	2		
Otsego		5					
Presque Isle		1					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Patrol Efforts:** During this time period patrol efforts mainly are in response to complaints or working areas of prior violations and complaints. Responses by officer's change during September, as officers find evidence of fresh tracks, bait bags, etc. in hunting areas. Many violations are discovered during regular patrols by conservation officers.

**Complaints:** RAP complaints are complaints called to the Department's Report All Poaching hotline. Non-RAP complaints are calls to an officer from all other sources such as citizen's calling the officer or a department office, reports from other agencies, etc. Non-Rap complaints went from 5 in 2009 to 29 this year for the same reporting period.

**Tickets & Warnings Issued:** Tickets and warnings went down mainly due to loss of snow early when normally officers would be following up on feeding issues.

**Aircraft Support:** Air support was not used during this reporting period.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Summary of Michigan Wildlife Bovine Tuberculosis Surveillance**

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Disease Lab  
 October 22, 2010

Initial Occurrences In 1975 a 9 year-old female white-tailed deer from Alcona County, and in 1994 a 4 year-old male deer from Alpena County were submitted with lesions consistent with and testing positive for Bovine TB.

**White-tailed Deer TB Surveillance**

Year	Number of Deer Positive	Total Deer Tested
Initial Occurrences	2	2
1995	18	403
1996	56	4,966
1997	73	3,720
1998	78	9,057
1999	58	19,496
2000	53	25,858
2001	61	24,278
2002	51	18,100
2003	32	17,302
2004	28	15,131
2005	16	7,364
2006	41	7,914
2007	27	8,316
2008	37	16,309
2009	31	5,722
2010 - ongoing	6	998
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>184,936</b>

**Elk Surveillance**

- 2,538 elk have been tested since 1996
  - Five elk have tested positive
    - o 1 - Montmorency 2006
    - o 2 - Presque Isle, Montmorency, in 2003
    - o 1- Montmorency in 2001
    - o 1- Montmorency in 2000

**Moose Surveillance**

66 moose have been tested since 2003  
 All have tested negative

**Carnivore (Non-cervid) Surveillance**

1,517 carnivores (16 species) have been tested since 1996  
 43 tested positive for bovine TB:
 

- o 19 coyotes, 8 raccoons, 7 black bears, 4 bobcats, 3 red foxes, 2 opossums

**APPENDIX B**  
**2010 DISEASE CONTROL PERMIT (DCP) PROGRAM UPDATE**  
**3rd Quarter Report**

**Permits for Livestock Producers**

This initiative was designed to make it simpler for livestock producers in areas where bovine tuberculosis (TB) is established to control deer numbers on their farms. Use of the DCPs may help reduce the risk of transmission of TB from free-ranging deer to livestock. Current plans are to make the DCPs available in this manner for three years beginning January 2008, and then evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

**Northeastern Michigan, the 5-county TB Area**

Wildlife Disease Lab (WDL) mailed out DCPs to most livestock producers in Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Presque Isle Counties. Each producer was initially mailed five kill tags; more may be available upon request when the original five are filled. The permits are valid for a year, and may be used year-round.

**Northeastern Michigan, outside the 5-county TB Area**

Letters of invitation were mailed to many livestock producers in Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Ogemaw, and Otsego Counties. With a few exceptions, these DCPs are not valid during any deer hunting season and expired on 8/31/2010.

**Shiawassee County TB Surveillance Circle**

Due to finding of a TB positive wild deer in Shiawassee in the fall of 2007, letters explaining the program were mailed to Shiawassee and Clinton County cattle producers located in a 10-mile radius around the positive deer. The permits are valid for a year, and may be used year-round.

**Permits for Private Landowners (non-agricultural) in DMU 452**

Following changes to Section 5.7 of the Wildlife Conservation Order by the Natural Resources Commission in November 2007, private landowners, other than cattle producers, may be issued DCPs if they own property, 1) in a county where TB is found in any species, or 2) within a 30-mile radius of a location where TB is found in any species.

In particular, participation in the DCP program is being offered to private landowners in DMU 452. Consequently, letters of invitation were mailed in December 2009 to many hunt clubs and larger landowners in DMU 452 to inform them of this additional opportunity to take deer. These DCPs are not valid during any deer hunting season. Many of the permits expired on 4/30/2010; the rest expired on 9/30/2010.

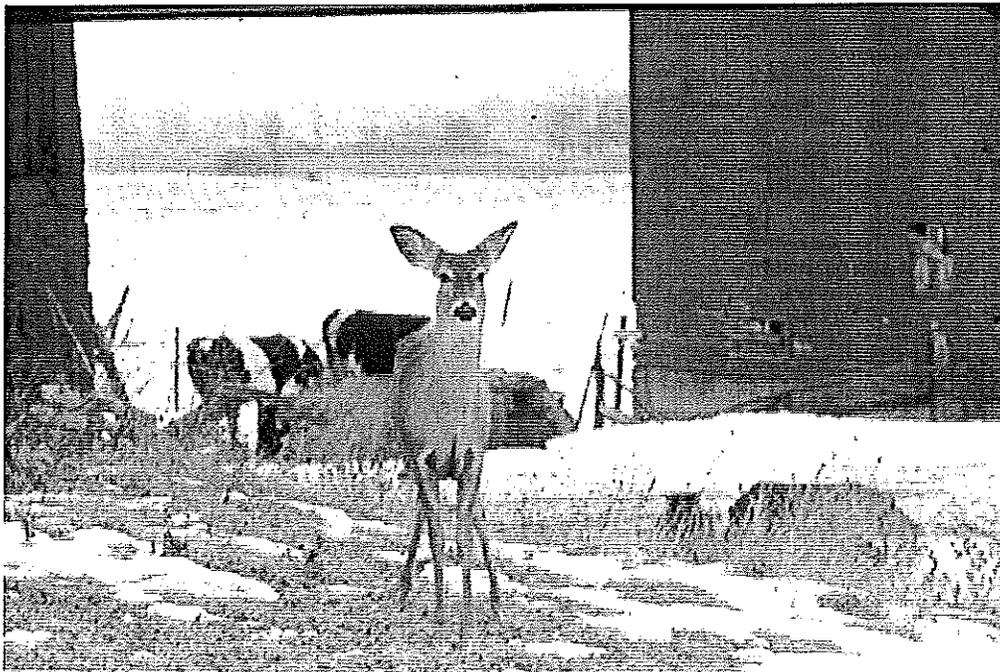
**2010 MDNR Disease Control Permit Program as of 9/30/10**

	Deer Taken	Permittees who have taken deer <sup>1</sup>	Letters of Invitation mailed	Permits mailed	Tags mailed	Signed permits received	Permittees requesting more tags <sup>1</sup>
<b>5 County TB Area Agricultural Producers</b>							
1st Quarter	65	26	0	510	2,600	111	4
2nd Quarter	3	3	0	2	10	6	0
3rd Quarter	32	17	0	3	15	19	3
4th Quarter							
<b>5 CO Ag Cumulative</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>2,625</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Northeastern Michigan, outside the 5 County Agricultural Producers</b>							
1st Quarter	135	32	317	157	940	79	12
2nd Quarter	18	7	0	7	11	6	1
3rd Quarter	30	11	0	3	20	6	3
4th Quarter							
<b>NE Mich. Ag Cumulative</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>DMU 452 Non-agricultural Landowners</b>							
1st Quarter	142	14	151	36	39	25	0
2nd Quarter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd Quarter	1	1	0	0	0	2	0
4th Quarter							
<b>DMU 452 Non-ag Cumulative</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Shiawassee Circle Agricultural Producers</b>							
1st Quarter	13	6	137	40	210	19	0
2nd Quarter	0	0	0	1	5	0	0
3rd Quarter	2	2	0	3	25	3	1
4th Quarter							
<b>Shiawassee Cumulative</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2010 Grand Total</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>3,875</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>23</b>

<sup>1</sup> The same permittee may have shot deer or requested more tags during multiple Quarters. The cumulative totals reflect the number of unique permittees shooting deer or requesting more tags.

**2010 Bovine TB Laboratory Testing Results  
For Wild Deer Taken on DCPs**

County_Name	1st Quarter Jan. 1 – Mar. 31		2nd Quarter Apr. 1 – Jun. 30		3rd Quarter Jul. 1 – Sep. 30		4th Quarter Oct. 1 – Dec. 31		Grand Total
	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive	
Alcona	16		3		1				20
Alpena	62	1	9		4				76
Antrim	12		17		16				45
Charlevoix	0		5		14				19
Cheboygan	33	1	11						45
Emmet	8		5		2				15
Iosco	0				1				1
Montmorency	78	3							81
Ogemaw	12		2						14
Oscoda	3	1	1						5
Otsego	1				1				2
Presque Isle	17		3						20
Clinton	1								1
Shiawassee	9								9
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>		<b>39</b>				<b>353</b>



**DISEASE CONTROL PERMIT REGULATIONS**

**5.77 Disease control permit; standards, conditions, records; unlawful acts. Sec. 5.77.**

(1) Disease control permits may be issued to any owner of property in a county with a confirmed case of bovine tuberculosis or lands within 30 miles of a confirmed case of a disease.

## **DISEASE CONTROL PERMIT REGULATIONS**

### **5.77 Disease control permit; standards, conditions, records; unlawful acts.**

- Sec. 5.77. (1) Disease control permits may be issued to any owner of property in a county with a confirmed case of bovine tuberculosis or lands within 30 miles of a confirmed case of a disease.
- (2) Landowners may apply for a permit by filing an application with the department. This application will include the names of desired authorized designees. This application, once signed by both the landowner and an authorized natural resources representative, shall become the permit. The number of tags issued will be determined by the department of natural resources representative.
  - (3) Property inspections may be conducted under the direction and at the discretion of the authorized department of natural resources representative.
  - (4) A disease control permit shall not be valid except during the time period for which it is authorized.
  - (5) The permittee shall keep records as may be required by the director and present them for inspection at the request of a conservation officer or wildlife biologist.
  - (6) The permittee or authorized designee shall make a reasonable effort to retrieve all deer shot under the authority of a permit.
  - (7) The permittee or authorized designee shall have a copy of the permit and a valid unused tag on their person when taking or attempting to take deer.
  - (8) A person killing a deer shall immediately affix the tag to the gambrel or jaw of the deer. The permittee or authorized designee, upon killing a deer, shall notify the department as instructed on the permit.
  - (9) All deer killed under a disease control permit shall be disposed of as specified by the permit. If required, deer heads shall be submitted to the department by the permittee.
  - (10) The permit shall be valid within the ownership boundaries of the permittee or as stated on the permit.
  - (11) Permits shall be valid for deer of either sex as noted in the permit. If the taking of an antlered deer is allowed by the permit, all antlers shall be submitted to the department.

### **5.78 Disease control permit, prohibited acts.**

- Sec. 5.78. (1) The permittee must designate no more than 3 authorized designees to implement the provisions of the permit unless additional designees are approved by the authorized department of natural resources representative.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for a permittee or an authorized designee to:
    - (a) Kill more than the number of deer authorized by the permit.
    - (b) Possess a deer killed under the authority of a permit without having a valid tag attached to the deer.
    - (c) Take or attempt to take a deer within the permit boundaries unless in possession of a valid tag. The tag shall be presented upon demand to a representative of the director.
    - (d) Use a firearm other than a centerfire rifle or shotgun with slugload.
    - (e) Possess an uncased or loaded firearm in a vehicle.
    - (f) Take or attempt to take a deer using an artificial light or from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise unless approved by the wildlife management unit and district law enforcement supervisors.
    - (g) Take or attempt to take a deer in any area except that location described on the permit.
    - (h) Take or attempt to take a deer not authorized by the permit.
    - (i) Retain antlers from deer taken on the permit if antlered deer have been approved in the permit.
  - (3) It shall be unlawful for any person other than the permittee or an authorized designee to take or attempt to take deer under the authority of a valid permit.

### **5.79 Disease control permit; revocation, suspension.**

- Sec. 5.79. (1) Pursuant to section 40118 of part 401, wildlife conservation, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being section 324.40118 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, a conviction for a violation of the provisions of sections 5.76 to 5.78 of this order shall result in the revocation of a permit.
- (2) A modification, suspension, or revocation of a permit is subject to the provisions of section 40114 of part 401, wildlife conservation, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being section 324.40114 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.
  - (3) Failure of the permittee or an authorized designee to comply with the permit provisions will make the permittee ineligible to receive disease control permits, deer damage control permits, or deer management assistance permits (DMAP) for the following calendar year.