



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

November 13, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Private-Land Disease Management Firearm Deer Hunt for Certain Lands in Alpena County

Authority:

The Department may issue orders under Part 401 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994 designating the kind of deer that may be taken and the geographic area in which a license is valid, when advisable in managing deer. A disease management deer hunt may be established in accordance with Section 3.101 of the Wildlife Conservation Order. The Director is authorized to establish a disease management deer hunt lasting no longer than nine days between January 2 and March 31 where additional harvest is deemed necessary to meet disease management objectives.

Disease Management Firearm Deer Hunt for Certain Lands in Alpena County:

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that is close to being eradicated in the United States, but still poses a significant risk to domestic livestock, wildlife, companion animals, and humans throughout the world. The Department is part of the Michigan Bovine TB Eradication Project (Project) involving a multi-agency team of experts from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Michigan State University (MSU), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

On October 29th and November 1st, MDARD hosted a public meeting for citizens in Alpena and Alcona counties in order to discuss the 73rd livestock infected herd identified in Michigan and to educate attendees regarding the importance of biosecurity to stop the spread of the disease. Over 440 free-ranging, white-tailed deer have been tested for TB in Alpena County and two have been confirmed as positive for the disease.

Accordingly, the Department recommends establishing a disease management firearm antlerless deer hunt on private land only in a certain area of Alpena County from January 3 through January 6, 2019 and from January 10 through January 13, 2019 in order to help manage the free-ranging deer population. The disease management firearm deer hunt is recommended to take place in the area of Alpena County south of M-32.

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The following measures are recommended to be established:

- Licenses, including a deer license, deer combination license, or a private-land antlerless deer license for DMU 487 are valid.
 - Only antlerless deer may be tagged.
- All rules and regulations for the firearm deer season apply.
- Previously issued disease control permits are eligible to be used during this time period.

Administrative:

The Department recommends extending the purchase date for licenses valid in DMU 487 to January 13, 2019.

Recommendation:

We recommend the disease management firearm deer hunt be established as described above.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



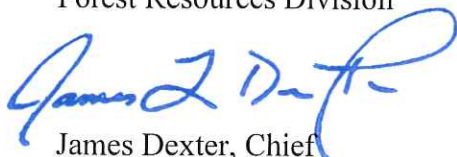
Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



For Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



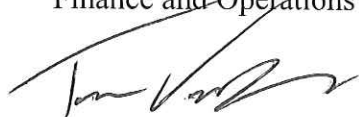
Kristin Phillips, Chief
Marketing and Outreach Division



Sharon Schafer, Chief
Finance and Operations Division



Mark Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer



For William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy

I approve the staff recommendation with an effective date of November 13, 2018.



Keith Creagh, Director

11/20/2018

Date