Update on:
4-Poster Tick Management and
White-tailed Deer Management

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4-Poster Tick Management System

Employees affected by ticks account for the highest number of visits annually to the Occupational Medical Clinic

- 4-Poster Tick Management System
  - Is a delivery system to kill ticks on deer
- NYSDEC required supplemental testing
  - Experiments conducted 2010-2011
  - Human and wildlife associated risks
  - Permethrin residues
  - Efficacy
  - NSYDEC authorized use in Nassau & Suffolk Counties 2/12
4-Poster (cont.)

- Studies conducted in North Haven, Shelter & Fire Islands found:
  - Car deer accidents didn’t really change
  - Deer didn’t move out of home ranges
  - Raccoons, squirrels, mice, birds did use devices
  - Residue transfer to meat non-conclusive
  - Efficacy overall – 86% reduction in ticks

- BNL ready to order 14 devices

- NYSDEC added a requirement – “Authorization to Feed Deer”
  - An application was submitted for “Authorization”
  - NYSDEC -“Authorizations” need additional SEQRA review and a Deer Management Plan.
    - May require that BNL wait a year

Questions on 4-Poster?
Deer Management - Review

- Working toward deer management since 1998
  - Many discussions on various concerns regarding potential impacts and draw backs of management
- 2000 – began routine deer surveys to determine population - fluctuates between 400-1000+ animals
- 2003 – Wrote Natural Resource Management Plan with community input
Deer Management - Review

- Historical Review:
  - Worked on regional approach without success
  - NYSDEC extended hunting season out as much as possible w/unlimited take.
  - 2005 - 2006 - Monitoring indicated pine barrens are not regenerating – implicating high deer population
  - Lab gathered employee input on deer management alternatives –
    - Wide range of opinions
    - Preferred management method: not definitive – archery hunt and a culling operation considered
  - Actions have been on hold until present
Environmental Assessment

- **Current Status:**
  - Adopting two existing EAs
    - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service EA for Deer Management at Wertheim NWR
      - Utilize the environmental analysis due to close similarities of habitat
    - USDA – Wildlife Services EA for Deer Management in New York
      - Utilize the methodologies for Integrated Wildlife Damage Management approach
Environmental Assessment

- **Purpose and Need**
  - Reduce deer population to achieve levels supportive of ecosystem health and improve human health and safety
  - Because:
    - Car-deer accidents
    - Human-deer accidents
    - Damage to landscape vegetation
    - Impacts on ecosystem – migratory birds, small mammals, threatened and endangered species, rare plants
    - Impacts on deer health
Path forward

- June 2012 - Complete environmental assessment
- Fall 2012 - Continue planning for deer removal
  - Planning documents
  - Identify and secure funding – estimated $150K/year
  - Secure contract with USDA – Wildlife Services
  - Secure agreements with processor(s)
  - Secure agreements with soup kitchens
Questions?