

## **SHARPSHOOTING PROTOCOL**

Subsequent to a decision by the landowner/s and the state wildlife management agency to implement a controlled deer reduction using White Buffalo, Inc. the following procedures are used:

- 1) Prior to initiating any field activities the target area/s and surrounding properties are thoroughly surveyed using topographic maps and aerial photographs followed by field confirmation. By knowing the location of every occupied structure and areas of human use we are better able to work safely, discretely, and efficiently;
- 2) Bait sites are selected with the involvement of the landowner/s and the cooperating state agency. Each site is selected based on safety concerns and deer activity;
- 3) We conduct field operations during hours of lowest human activity. In addition, during the removal operation we search intensively for people and non-target animals to avoid mishaps;
- 4) Deer of all ages and sexes are harvested, however, adult does are prioritized. Deer are shot from a vehicle with a rifle during the night with the aid of spotlights. Some deer are shot over bait from a tree stand with a rifle during the day or at night. Night-vision equipment and suppressed firearms (only in states where they are legal to possess) are used to expedite field procedures and to ensure discrete operations;
- 5) During suburban deer reductions there will be continuous open communication between community members, municipality officials, and White Buffalo, Inc. to keep people well informed regarding field activities to avoid conflicts;
- 6) All deer carcasses are transported and dressed with the highest degree of discretion;
- 7) When desired, we are willing to be responsible for the disposal of all by-products and transport of deer carcasses to a USDA inspected facility for processing and subsequent donation to the needy.

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The following are reasons why White Buffalo, Inc. is on the leading edge of urban deer management:

- 1) We have the best available equipment with numerous hours of hands-on use to ensure precise shot placement. This results in safe use of equipment and humane treatment of target animals;

- 2) We have spent the last 15 years committed to improving both technology and techniques to maximize safety and efficiency for the management of white-tailed deer (i.e., ballistics testing, bullet development, baiting techniques, adaptation of other technologies for use in deer management, including night vision scopes and suppressors);
- 3) We have thoroughly tested and selected bullets, in addition to having developed specialized bullets. As a result of our extensive testing, we have found that no bullet fragments with significant size or inertia exit the target animal or ricochet;
- 4) We have extensive experience in both killing (>9000 deer) and capturing deer (>1000 deer) in a variety of human occupied environments without incident. We have used our discretion in the selection of shooting sites with complete satisfaction of both state officials and property owners;
- 5) We collect all pertinent data related to herd health, advancements in management techniques, and other aspects of each removal program which will be included in scientific journals, professional conferences, or written reports submitted to the landowner and cooperating state agency.

In conclusion, although safety is the primary issue to be considered when implementing a sharpshoot to reduce deer numbers, with the above precautionary measures and the expertise of White Buffalo, Inc., it need not be a concern.