



Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society

uwss.ca

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Science-based, non-lethal urban deer and wildlife management



Objectives of Esquimalt Project



(i) Understand the community

Values based survey recommendations:

- Conduct deer inventory/track trends over time
- Co-ordinate with surrounding jurisdictions
- Provide educational resources to residents

(ii) Public Education

- Reduce human-deer conflict
- Reduce rhetoric and hyperbole

BC Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis- Summary Report for Municipalities 2010

“Public education... should be carried out by all agencies involved in managing the issue. [It] can change human attitudes or behaviours and complement other active management interventions....” p.36

(iii) Understand the deer

Annual deer counts for three years

- Understand possible fluctuations and trends

Allow for research being conducted elsewhere in the province that will provide valuable information to other communities:

- Immuno-contraception in Oak Bay
- Translocation in East Kootenays

Why Oak Bay?

- Significant & divisive public issue
- OB initially participated in RDMS pilot
- Ecological island

Objectives of Oak Bay Urban Deer Research Project:

- Population size & trends (#of males, #of females)
- Density
- Home range of bucks and does
- Migratory patterns
- General health



Pilot Project

- Immuno-contraception as a non-lethal method of deer reduction
- PUDAC funded research to assess if this is effective for urban deer management



Provincial Urban Deer Cost-Share Program

What is it?

➤ Research



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What's Involved – Behind the Scenes

- Scientific model
- Applications for funding
- Applications for permits
- Detailed scientific reports

...and

Consultation

Carved by Salish artist Charles Elliott (Temoseng), part of welcome panel at Oak Bay Municipal Hall



What's Involved – In the Field

Dr. Jason Fisher's model

- Camera traps
- GPS collars



Recommendations

- **Work with Dr. Fisher**
 - Camera traps
 - Collaring some individuals
 - Targeted management
 - Implement IC once Oak Bay study is complete and Province approves its use broadly

- **Continue with public education**
 - Long term communications plan

Thank you