

Dennis Bracale  
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With gratitude to the honorable members of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I have a masters degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Virginia and have practiced on Mount Desert Island for the past 35 years. Over that time I have designed over 270 Estates, worked for private businesses and for the National Park Service. I believe that the proliferation of deer on the island constitutes a severe problem for the following reasons: 1- Lyme disease is rampant and just within my family three members were stricken with this debilitating disease. 2 Deer are so bold as to walk right into the villages and by doing so create untold damage and cost to citizens 3 Deer go from plants they like, often decimating a population as they move from plants they like to lesser desirable plants. Acadia NP was originally created in part because it is a meeting place of multiple ecological zones each with unique plant habitats. These habitats are severely stressed due to the fact that one of the most efficient herbivores have, for the first time in history, been allowed to go unchecked. It is time to create a reasonable balance and I believe a deer hunt is more than reasonable. Sincerely, Dennis Bracale. Gardens By Design, Inc. 45 Breakneck Road. Bar Harbor, ME 04609 dbracale@icloud.com