

Mary Throckmorton
Lincoln County
LD 1965

Chairs and members of the committee,
LD 1965 is a concept draft so it is difficult to determine if it is targeted for the land that has been budgeted for purchase for deer habitat, or if it applies to all State owned lands.

If it applies to all State owned lands, I oppose it. Deer are just one small part of Maine's ecosystem. According to Maine's deer specialist, there are too many deer. In fact, under certain circumstances, a person can now harvest up to FIVE deer a season.

With climate change breathing down our necks on 50 mph winds and torrential rains, there are far more valuable uses Maine lands can be used for rather than focusing on one species, which would be to the favor of less than 15% of Maine's population.
(licensed hunters)

Additionally, "managing for deer" usually includes "predator control"-targeting the species which consume mice that carry black-legged tick nymphs and spread Lyme disease- among other tick borne illness-which negatively impacts the lives of MANY Mainers.

If you want to buy land specifically for deer management, fine. But please do NOT pass legislation that would legally bind Maine to management it's State owned land for one purpose when there are many other issues to consider other than harvesting MORE deer.

Thank you,
Mary Throckmorton
Lincoln County.