

Anne Swann
Bar Harbor
LD 1438

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing against LD 1438 – to allow public deer hunting on Mount Desert Island

As a 45 year resident of Bar Harbor, and with property in Tremont, I am completely against allowing deer hunting on MDI.

The salient points are ---

- a)Rep. Faulkingham et al should have no jurisdiction on suggesting changes to communities out of his jurisdiction. It is a massive massive overstep
- b)Residential properties around Acadia National Park are dense and it would be difficult to safely discharge a firearm within the Maine Statute 11209 rules, while also staying off park land.
- c)The deer population has been locally known to be stable. Deer are more visible in towns because of feeding and incidental foraging. We have a stable deer/coyote population. If this is not true, there should be a population study done by the state and Acadia National Park to assess the actual population and if it needs culling. If it does need to be culled, then a highly managed one-time hunt should be the answer. And that decision should be made by the affected towns.
- d)Traditional deer hunting season in Maine begins Nov 1st. Mount Desert Island is still a vibrant tourist destination at that time of year. The number of tourists that are hiking in and out of Acadia is too high for a public hunting season here.
- e)My personal safety is important. I want to move about freely in the woods on MDI without the threat of a hunter making a misstep.. harming my family or my animals.

Please do not allow this proposal to go forward.

Respectfully submitted –

Anne Swann