



April 8, 2013

Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Secretary Stepp,

I write today to urge Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff to review administrative rules relating to protections for albino and white deer as they consider rule implementation of the Wisconsin White-Tailed Deer Trustee and Review Committee's "A 21st Century Model for Deer Management in Wisconsin: Final Report and Recommendations", commonly referred to as the Deer Trustee Report.

Albino and white deer are generally designated as 'protected' in Wisconsin. These deer may not be killed, transported, or possessed unless authorized by the DNR. However, in 2008 protections for albino and white deer were lifted in chronic wasting disease (CWD) management zones by Clearinghouse Rule 08-013.

As you know, DNR and members of the public have already begun work that will lead to implementation of the Deer Trustee Report. Full implementation of the report will require revisions to administrative rules; I believe this is an appropriate time to review restoring protections for albino and white deer.

The Deer Trustee Report recommends the DNR adopt a more passive approach to managing CWD in management zones. As the DNR begins to shift its focus and strategy as it relates to CWD management I would ask that the Herd Health/Chronic Wasting Disease Action Team consider restoring protections for albino and white deer in CWD management zones as well as review the definition of an albino or white deer in NR 10.02.

Last November two white deer were shot near the community of Leland, a rural Sauk County community home to about a dozen white deer. Because Leland is located in a CWD management zone these albino and white deer are not allotted the same protections as in other parts of the state.

I look forward to discussing this issue with you and your staff in greater detail. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

FRED CLARK
State Representative
81st Assembly District