

# *Maryland DNR, Wildlife and Heritage Service Regulation Concepts Meeting*

---

On February 18, 2010 the Hunting Season Regulation Concepts for 2010-11 and 2011-12 Stakeholder's meeting was held at Gwynnbrook WMA in Owings Mill. The Stakeholder groups invited were comprised of individuals who represent various interests across Maryland. While all hunting, trapping and public shooting entities were given the opportunity to comment/make suggestions, this doesn't mean they will be included in the final Regulation Concepts offered for public comments through public meetings and DNR's web site!

Maryland QDMA members and QDMA was represented by E.W. Grimes President/Director of the Maryland State Chapter QDMA and in with keeping our membership informed I'm reporting on the White-tailed Deer part of this meeting:

1. DNR proposed change: Move the Region A boundary east into Washington County to include all of harvest units 250 and 251.

Rationale/Goal: (in-part) The western portion of Washington County would then be under the Region A seasons and bag limits. Deer populations in western Washington County have been appropriately reduced since the inception of the liberal antlerless bag limits. We recognize the need to work with farmers in the area who experience crop damage issues.....

2. We suggested: With deer populations in this area being appropriately reduced this would provide the opportunity include

Antler restriction by spread as to provide needed data for deer management plans in the future.

3. We also suggested: Bonus Antlered Deer be required to be regulated by outside spread (15" Rule).

Rationale/Goal: This will increase the educational aspect of protection of yearling antlered deer. This will have little or no effect on total antlered harvest state wide.

4. We also suggested: Kent County countywide and for all seasons Antlered Deer be regulated by outside spread.

Rationale/Goal: While Kent County leads the state in Voluntary QDM efforts, 47% of antlered harvest is still yearling's by numbers 534 antlered yearlings (08-09 no#), crop damage harvest has more than doubled from 06-07 to 08-09. This change would provide much needed effects of (AR) Antler Restrictions by county while being able monitor if (AR) will increase antler-less (doe) harvest and lessen crop damage while increasing hunters' satisfaction by increased numbers of older bucks. The suggestion we made at this meeting does and will provide an opportunity to collect deer management data for our state from within our state.

5. Another suggestion made (Joe from MWC) was to change opening bow season to the first of September.

Response: We support any opportunity for deer hunters to increase time afield to manage our deer herd.

6. Others suggested trading 2 weeks off the end of bow season in January for small game hunters.

Response: While this may be a good gesture I don't see how it will have any good effect on managing our deer.

If these suggestions should be included in DNR's final proposed Regulation Concepts, **IT's VERY IMPORTANT that QDMA members and deer hunters respond by e-mails to DNR's web site and /or attends PUBLIC Meetings!!!!!!!**

**It's your deer herd, you do have a say!!!!!!**

Respectfully

E.W. Grimes

President/Director

Maryland State Chapter QDMA

