

## **2022 - 2024 Specific Agreement:**

### **Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority and Hamilton Conservation Authority**

This agreement is to be read jointly with the Protocol made between the Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority (HWWHA) and the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) on November 3, 2011.

This agreement addresses the Dundas Valley Conservation Area (DVCA), which is administered by the HCA and specifically those parts of the Area illustrated on the attached two maps, Schedule "A" and Schedule "B".

We are reaffirming that the attached maps are the only maps to which we are referring, and that our agreement is intended to facilitate a deer harvest that is consistent with Haudenosaunee treaty rights, and is consistent with our shared standards of safety and conservation. It does not and cannot affect or diminish Haudenosaunee rights.

The following factors have helped to establish some parameters for the harvesting of deer:

1. This Specific Agreement, like the Protocol that authorizes it, has been developed in the spirit of a growing relationship between the HCA and the HWWHA based upon respect, trust, and friendship.
2. HCA staff and HWWHA members will continue to make observation of the ground conditions of the DVCA with respect to deer habitat, over grazing, and potential damage to other native species.
3. The conservation lands identified in Schedule A and Schedule B of the DVCA are available for Haudenosaunee deer harvesting. Ensuring that public and harvester safety is the overriding priority. Private property land holdings outside of the scheduled conservation lands are not covered in this agreement.
4. HWWHA will continue to provide the deer harvest communication with all harvesters. HWWHA will also continue to provide the final tally of the harvest per each scheduled area indicating the number of deer harvested following the completion of the harvest each year.

For 2022, 2023 and 2024 seasons, the number of deer harvested from the areas identified as Schedules "A" and "B" combined shall not exceed sixty deer in each year.

Deer harvesting within the Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" will take place only on HCA owned lands, and only on weekdays, excluding Fridays, between November 7 and December 1, 2022, inclusive and November 6 to December 7, 2023, and November 4 to December 5, 2024 inclusive. The HCA and the HWWHA will monitor the deer harvest and will remain in consistent contact throughout the harvesting period.

The HCA and the HWA will contact the Hamilton Police Service and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to inform them of the intent and provisions and of this agreement, and to secure their co-operation and involvement in ensuring public and harvester safety. A Task Agency meeting will be held within two weeks of the harvest commencement for each year of the agreement.

Haudenosaunee harvesters will use the safest means possible to take deer humanely. They will use archery equipment, including compound bows and crossbows. They will not use firearms, rifles, or shotguns. They will not use dogs, feed bait, or jack-lighting. They will not harvest before dawn or after dark. They will as often as possible use tree stands and blinds, such use to be determined by factors of safety and effectiveness. They may also wear blaze orange clothing to ensure they are aware of one another's presence.

The HCA will use the "Conservation Alert and Trail Closure Protocol" approved by its Board on February 3, 2011 as a basis for informing the public of the harvesting of deer pursuant to this agreement.

Specifically, public notification of "Trail Closure" will be:

- A media release to local radio, television and newspapers.
- Notification to the Board of the HCA, City Council, and the office of the City Manager of Hamilton by way of the written media release.
- Hand delivery of notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the harvest area. The notice will include telephone numbers and contacts for the HCA staff, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Hamilton Police Service.
- Posting of the "Public Notice of Trail Closure" on the HCA website.
- Posting of "Public Notice of Trail Closure" at the Dundas Valley Trail and Conservation Area gatehouse.
- Posting of "Public Notice of Trail Closure" at main trail entry points.