Feral Ungulate Techniques And Strategies From New Zealand: Using Local Contract Hunters For Conservation

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Small Scale, Local Hunter Contracting

- Avoid public animosity
- Utilizing and encouraging local resources
- Developing local allies
- Open systems
- Long term projects
- Watershed goals
- Cross boundary application
Te Urewera Location
General Contract Specifications for both Deer and Goat

• Bid on hunt per hour rate in specified block
• DOC supports with facilities
• GPS extensively utilized
• Monitoring via fecal pellet counts and palatable seedling plots
• No restrictions on meat retrieval
• 1,000,000 general liability coverage required
• On average contractors make around $40 per hour NZ
DOC Facility Infrastructure

- Huts
- Trails
- Helicopter
- Radios
GPS Application

- GPS units provided by DOC
- All hunt hours tracked
- All kills recorded on GPS
- Random auditing
Seedling and Pellet Monitoring
Best Value Contracting

• Performance
• Certifications
• Dog Experience
• Price
Red Deer Control Contracts

- 2,500 hectares
- 550 red deer removed
- Target numbers versus hunt hours
**TABLE 4.5.1 HUNTING EFFORT AND NUMBER OF KILLS FOR DEER AND PIGS HUNTED BY CONTRACT HUNTERS AND DOC STAFF IN THE OTAMATUNA DEER CONTROL AREA, NORTHERN TE UREWERA, 1997/98 - 2004/05**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINANCIAL YEAR</th>
<th>HOURS HUNTED (CONTRACTORS)</th>
<th>NO. OF ANIMALS KILLED BY DOC CONTRACTORS</th>
<th>NO. OF ANIMALS KILLED BY DOC STAFF</th>
<th>TOTAL NO. OF ANIMALS KILLED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DEER</td>
<td>PIGS</td>
<td>DEER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997/98</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998/99</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999/00</td>
<td>1240.5</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/01</td>
<td>1072</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001/02</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002/03</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>404</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goat Control Contracts

• 75,000 hectare area
• 10,500 goats removed
• Directed by DOC aerial hunting and surveying
• Judas goats
Possible Ko’olau Application

- Two cabins
- Remote location
- Absence of fencing plans or funding
- Abundant local resource
- Dense population
- Koolau Mountains Watershed Partnership
- Outreach opportunities
- Monitoring possibilities
- KST 1930-1931: 3834 pigs
Mahalo

Darren Peters, DOC Head Office
Lindsay Wilson and Shane Gebert DOC Opotiki Area Office
Michelle Mansker, Stephen Mosher, Kapua Kawelo and the entire O’ahu Army Natural Resources Crew