

Large Mammal Advisory Committee

Approved Project

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Big Game Project Updates

April 2014

Investigating Factors that Limit Black-tailed Deer Populations in Western Siskiyou County

The pilot phase of this project was initiated on private lands in Scott Valley where a total of 11 black-tailed deer was captured using helicopter net gunning and chemical immobilization. All deer were extensively sampled and equipped with GPS and VHF monitoring collars. One deer has died where the cause of death was determined to be capture related due potentially to an undiagnosed respiratory abnormality observed during processing. Serology results indicate deficiencies in micro nutrients and high seroprevalence rates for pathogens shared between wildlife and domestic ruminants. All deer tested were pregnant and had low fat deposition scores. Deer are being monitored remotely and on the ground.