



Who is the Donor State?

- Our HOPE is Kentucky
- No formal agreement yet, but we have met
- Current elk herd of 10,000+
- Never a case of CWD in their wild elk or deer
- Our request is for 150 elk over 3 years
- As early as 2015, if approved



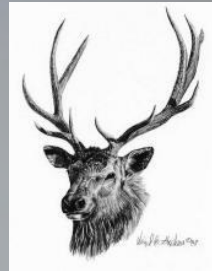


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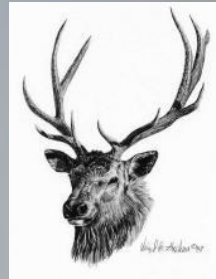


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Reintroduction Concerns

- Common Concerns:
 - Impacts of Predators
 - Cost of Importing
 - Long-term Management Cost
 - Potential for vehicle accidents
 - Threat of Disease
 - Reduced Access
 - Crop Damage



Impacts of predators



Import Costs of Additional Wild Elk

~\$500,000 total

Funding Sources:

- RMEF - \$300,000+
- Ho-Chunk Nation - \$150,000
- Jackson County Wildlife Fund - \$50,000
- Chippewa Tribes
- Jackson County Forest and Parks
- Other partner support



Long Term Management Costs

- Current Annual Budget: ~ \$200,000
 - Fish and Wildlife Segregated Funds and General Program Revenue
 - Future Budget
 - Cautiously optimistic for 2015 public hunt
 - Elk hunt application fees and license sales:
~ \$400,000/year
 - Continued partner contributions
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- A photograph of a brown elk standing in a field of green ferns. The elk is facing right and has a red collar around its neck. The background is a dense field of green ferns.

Threat for Disease

- Legislation required to allow for import (passed)
- All currently available tests will be conducted
 - TB, Brucellosis, CWD
- Seek disease-free donor (best option is Kentucky)
- Sample deer within CL and BR elk range prior to importation of new elk



Crop damage



*Elk are covered under the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program

Vehicle Collisions



Reduced Recreational Access

- No road Closures



Hunting Season



Where we're at...

- **Visit to Kentucky in 2012**
- **Amendment to elk management plan**
 - **Public review**
 - **On-line surveys**
 - **NRB approval**
- **New legislation allowing import of wild elk**
- **Multiple administrative rule changes**
- **CWD sampling in elk ranges**
- **Secured funding**
- **Formal agreements are drafted**
- **Grouse trapping plan (WI) and KY management plan**
- **Health Team trip back to Kentucky this month**
- **Trip to Kentucky and Virginia in April**
- **Politics, politics, politics!**

Group Effort





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