Habitat analysis of white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) in an urban environment using home range analysis.

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) in urban environments present a unique challenge to wildlife managers. Movement patterns and home ranges vary depending on the habitat available to the animals and the time of year. This study investigated the effect snow depth and temperature had on the movement of deer in Schmeeckle Reserve, a forested habitat located adjacent to an urban environment, during the winters of 2012 and 2014. Climate data will be obtained from the National Climatic Data Center and a t-test will be used to compate the snow depth and temerature throughout the winter months of 2012 and 2014. Deer were trapped using modified Stephenson Box Traps (Anderson and Nielson 2002) and adult deer were radio-collared and ear tagged for identification. To date, we have radio telemetry data from four adult deer during the 2012 winter months. We have five additional adult deer that are fitted with VHF radio collars upon which data collection for the 2014 winter is still in progress. We will construct Kernel home range estimates for each animal and a t-test will be used to compare the average home range size between two separate winters. Data analysis is ongoing and will continue as more data are collected. This analysis will provide insight into managing on an ever expanding urban landscape.

Poster
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