Role Cards

Charlie Fields: Mr. Fields is a local farmer. His family has farmed this land for three generations, and he plans to pass the farm along to his children. He grows mostly grain crops on his farm. For the past five years, he has experienced considerable loss from deer eating his crops. Mr. Fields leases the hunting rights on his farm to a local group of hunters, allowing them to use both bows and rifles. The hunters have told Mr. Fields that they see very few deer during the hunting season because they all appear to move into the park. Mr. Fields is frustrated and would like the county to open the park to hunting in order to reduce the density of deer.

Dorothy Right: Mrs. Right is a local attorney who lives in one of the adjacent subdivisions. Mrs. Right enjoys hiking in the park during the evening hours with her two children. She is very concerned about the idea of hunting occurring adjacent to their subdivision and doesn't want any harm to come to her children. Mrs. Right does not oppose the lethal removal of deer from the park; she just wants to be sure things are done safely and in the least conspicuous way possible.
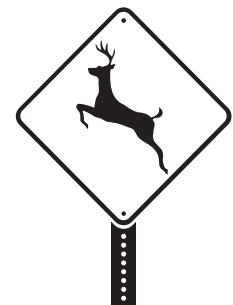
Michael Green: Mr. Green is a resident of the local subdivision and is an avid gardener. His roses were once award-winning and the envy of his friends and neighbors. Now his roses are food for the local deer herd. He is very upset and has tried several forms of repellants and fences to no avail. Mr. Green hates the deer and sees no value in their presence. He is supportive of removing all deer from the park.

Bob Stats: Dr. Stats teaches environmental biology at the local university, where he also does research on wildlife populations and factors that affect population changes. He prefers monitoring the deer herd size annually and using a combination of management techniques tailored to the population size each year.

Betty Bumper: Ms. Bumper lives at the end of a county road in an area that is quickly becoming developed with new housing. Her work schedule demands that she be on the road at sunrise and at dusk when the deer appear to be most active. She has hit several deer, and her auto insurance has increased. She is supportive of whatever means can be taken to diminish the number of deer in the area.

Role Cards

Don Dearlove: Mr. Dearlove is a member of an animal rights organization that believes that hunting of animals for any reason is cruel and unnecessary. He enjoys seeing deer in the area but is concerned about the potential for accidents and about the health of the deer herd. He feels local residents should use other methods of control.

Lynn Ranger: Ms. Ranger is a park naturalist who can testify about the reduction in the understory plant diversity of the park and how the population of deer has affected it. She has documented evidence that some rare plants are declining in number and some animal species are being affected by the declining plant diversity.

John Dodd: Mr. Dodd's son contracted Lyme disease last year, and he blames the deer. He is in favor of any means of removing the deer to diminish the threat of contracting this disease.

Brad Arms: Mr. Arms is one of the people who hunt on Charlie Fields' land. He believes that the best way to manage the deer herd is to allow regulated hunting in the park. He also sees this as an opportunity to provide hunter education to the community and to dispel some of the misconceptions about hunting and deer management. He is willing to pay for the opportunity to hunt in the park and to donate a portion of the harvested meat to food shelters in the community.
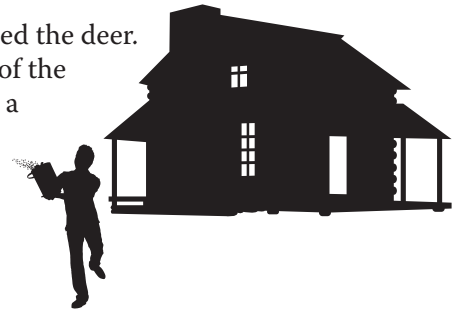
Pat Dancing Deer: Hunting deer is an important tradition among Ms. Dancing Deer's people. She would prefer hunting be available to members of her tribe, who will use all parts of the animals for food, clothing, and ceremonial purposes.

Zip Nix: Retired to a secluded cabin near the park, Mr. Nix likes to feed the deer. He believes that if there really are too many deer, nature will take care of the situation. He supports doing nothing in regards to what others view as a problem.

Irene Placid: Mrs. Placid does not want anything bad to happen to the deer herd. Any non-lethal solutions seem best to her. She knows there is another park about 50 miles away, and she advocates that there is plenty of space for the deer there.

Chase Lupus: Mr. Lupus lives north of the park along the Wolfpack River. He thinks restoring the environment to its original natural state is the best solution. Why have humans act as predators when the native predators can be brought back? He supports predator introduction.