

South Carolina Department of  
**Natural Resources**

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**DNR**

**Alvin A. Taylor**  
**Director**

Emily C. Cope  
Deputy Director for  
Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

February 15, 2016

City of Tega Cay  
7725 Tega Cay Drive  
Tega Cay, SC 29708

Per the request of the City, a deer spotlight survey was conducted December 16, 2015 to determine a population estimate. The survey lasted approximately 2.5 hours and consisted of both golf courses and a distance of 8.5 miles.

During the survey, a total of 47 deer were observed. Using a rough figure for the total acres reviewed, a population estimate of 67 deer/sq mile, or roughly 1 deer/11 acres was calculated. Although this number would be high for a wildland situation, it is not unusual in a residential situation.

It should also be noted that this was a single survey. Generally this type of survey is conducted on three consecutive nights and an average is calculated, however staff limitations prevented this option.

Without any additional information on deer health and condition, as far as a recommendation on the acceptable deer density, this will be a purely social issue. Bottom-line is whatever your residents can stand.

I understand this is short, but I will be present to answer any questions you may have and explain the process in greater detail at your next meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffery Witt". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jeffery Witt

SC DNR, Unit Biologist