

South Florida Deer Research Project Quarterly Update July – September 2016

Capture Activities

- No capture activities during this period.

Survival Monitoring

- We investigated 10 (6 males and 4 females) mortalities.
- The 10 mortalities were categorized as follows: 7 panther predation events, 1 suspected bear predation event and 2 non-predation events (1 research related, 1 unknown). In some instances we cannot definitively eliminate the possibility of scavenging, and the causes of all mortality data should be considered preliminary until all reviews are completed.
- We are currently monitoring 100 radio-collared deer

Camera Trapping

- We continued to monitor the 180 cameras in the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge and Big Cypress National Preserve.
- Each camera trap was visited at least three times during the quarter to download data and to maintain the trap site (i.e., clear vegetation, replace batteries, and exchange any malfunctioning cameras).

Other Activities

- We continued to compile and process photo data, to date 290,915 images have been processed and catalogued by species.
- We also continue to compile and process GPS collar data. To date, approximately 350,000 deer locations have been acquired via GPS-telemetry.

Remote sensing cameras used in the deer project provide information on several aspects of deer ecology, including timing of the antler cycle. In South Florida, peak breeding occurs in mid-August, thus by July a majority of bucks in are in hard antler.



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