

## **Regenerating Damaged Forests & the Challenge of Overbrowsing**

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<http://naturechange.org/2017/04/06/regenerating-damaged-forests-the-challenge-of-overbrowsing/>

This video presentation concerns the forest damage caused by an excessive deer population and what one forest owner is doing about it. The former Executive Director of the Leelanau Conservancy and steward of the Palmer Woods Forest Reserve, Brian Price says deer are consuming wildflowers, low shrubs and tree saplings at an incredible rate. The damage caused by this over browsing is making it very difficult to grow new trees right at a time when we really need forest regeneration.

According to Tom Nelson, Leelanau Conservancy's Executive Director, proactive management practices at the Palmer Woods Forest Reserve will help identify and demonstrate approaches to sustainable forestry. A key part of this work is providing for forest regeneration in spite of an overabundance of deer.

### **Topics Covered**

Forestry; Deer; Habitat Management; Biological Diversity; Invasive Species; Food Web; Consumers

### **Next Generation Science Standards**

- 5-LS2-1. Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment.
- MS-LS2-3. Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.
- MS-LS2-4. Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.
- HS-LS4-5. Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in: (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.