

**TOWN OF HANCOCK**  
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RECEIVED  
7/20/16

Samuel N. Rowe Jr., Supervisor  
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Patrick J. O'Brien, Councilman  
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Ann L. Green, Town Clerk  
Leonard E Sienko Jr., Attorney  
Neil B. Emerich, Jr., Hwy Superintendent

July 19, 2016

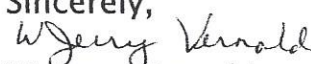
Dear Town Supervisor:

I have been in contact with Larry Bafaro of NYS DEC regarding the possibility of making wildlife management units 4O and 4W part of the Southern Zone Early Bear Season. He said this is something that he has been working on and he feels having the support of the surrounding Towns would only help his effort. The increased bear population has created increased amount of nuisance complaints and safety issues. The increase in economic benefit would also be significant. As such, we are asking the NYSDEC to consider making wildlife management units 4O and 4W part of the Southern Zone Early Bear Season next year.

According to the NYS DEC 2015 Black Bear Harvest report, of the 10 WMU's currently making up the Southern Zone Early Bear Season, only two have a higher total than 4W. The Towns of Hancock, #1 with 47, and Colchester, #5 with 23 are among the top 5 Townships in NYS. With Hancock very nearly doubling #2 Wawarsing's total of 23. After the extreme winter two years ago the deer population suffered significant decline and removing some of these bears will help the deer herd rebound.

Therefore, I am asking if your Town would adopt a resolution supporting this request and send it back to me by the end of August. My email address is [depsup@hancock.net](mailto:depsup@hancock.net) if that would be more convenient. I will then hand-carry all of the resolutions to Stamford.

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Sincerely,  
  
W. Jerry Vernold,  
Deputy Supervisor