



Alternative 1

No active management of elk and vegetation within the elk range inside the park

Elk Population Management

- Population would fluctuate outside of natural range of variation - 2,200 to 3,100 elk
- No active management of elk inside the park
- Hunting would continue outside the park

Vegetation Management

- No active management of aspen or willow on the primary elk range

No redistribution techniques to reduce elk densities



Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative

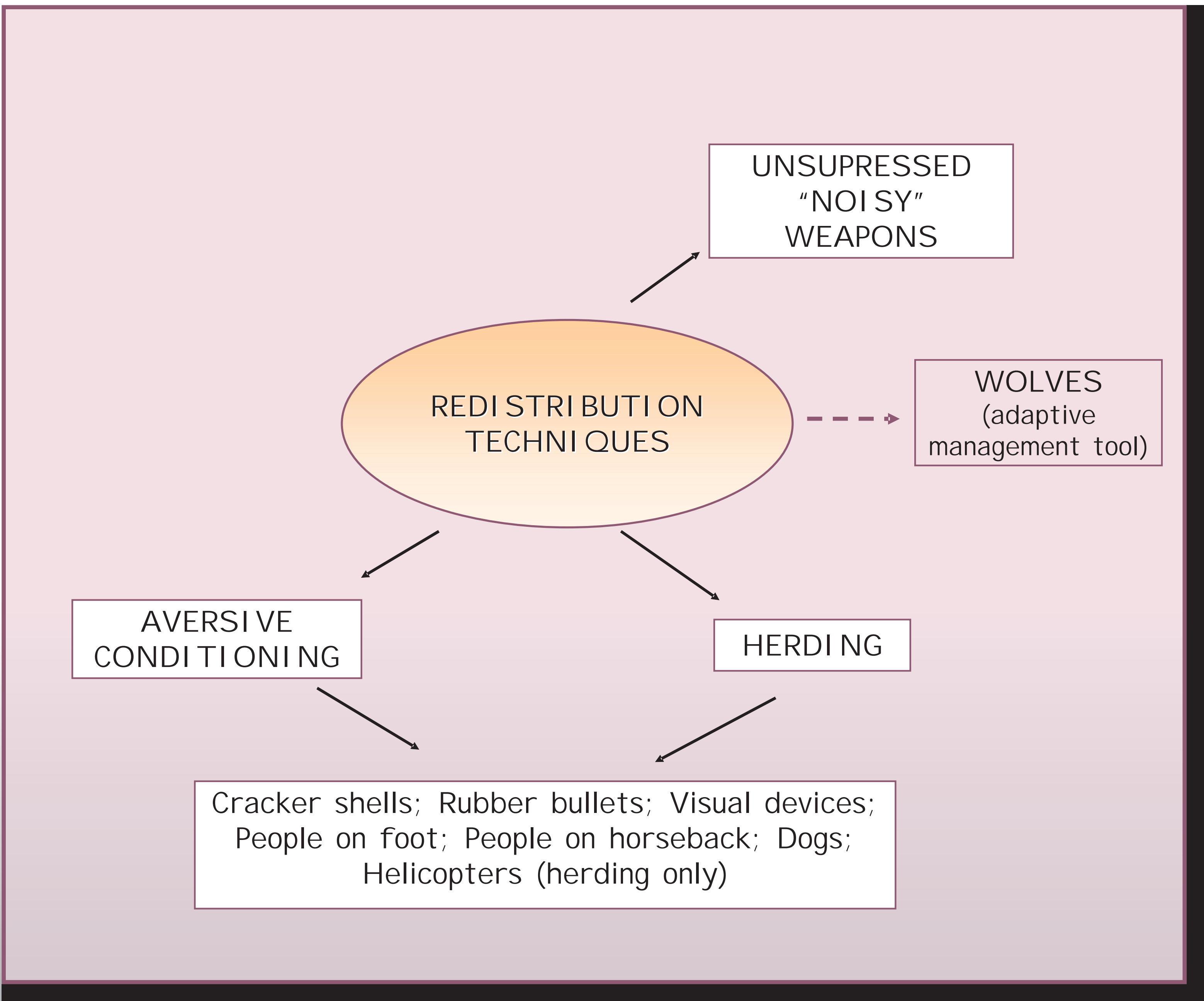
Rapid reduction of the elk population by lethal reduction combined with redistribution methods

Elk Population Management

- Population target - 1,200 to 1,700 elk
 - Year 1 – 4: 200 to 700 elk per year lethally removed
 - Year 5 – 20: 25 to 150 elk per year lethally removed
- Lethal reduction by NPS staff or contractors
 - Preferred Method: Noise suppressed weapons
 - Additional methods: Unsuppressed “noisy” weapons and darting followed by lethal injection
 - Capture facility could be used
- Reductions could occur any time of year and in any location

Vegetation Management

- No fencing of suitable willow habitat due to lower elk population target





Alternative 3

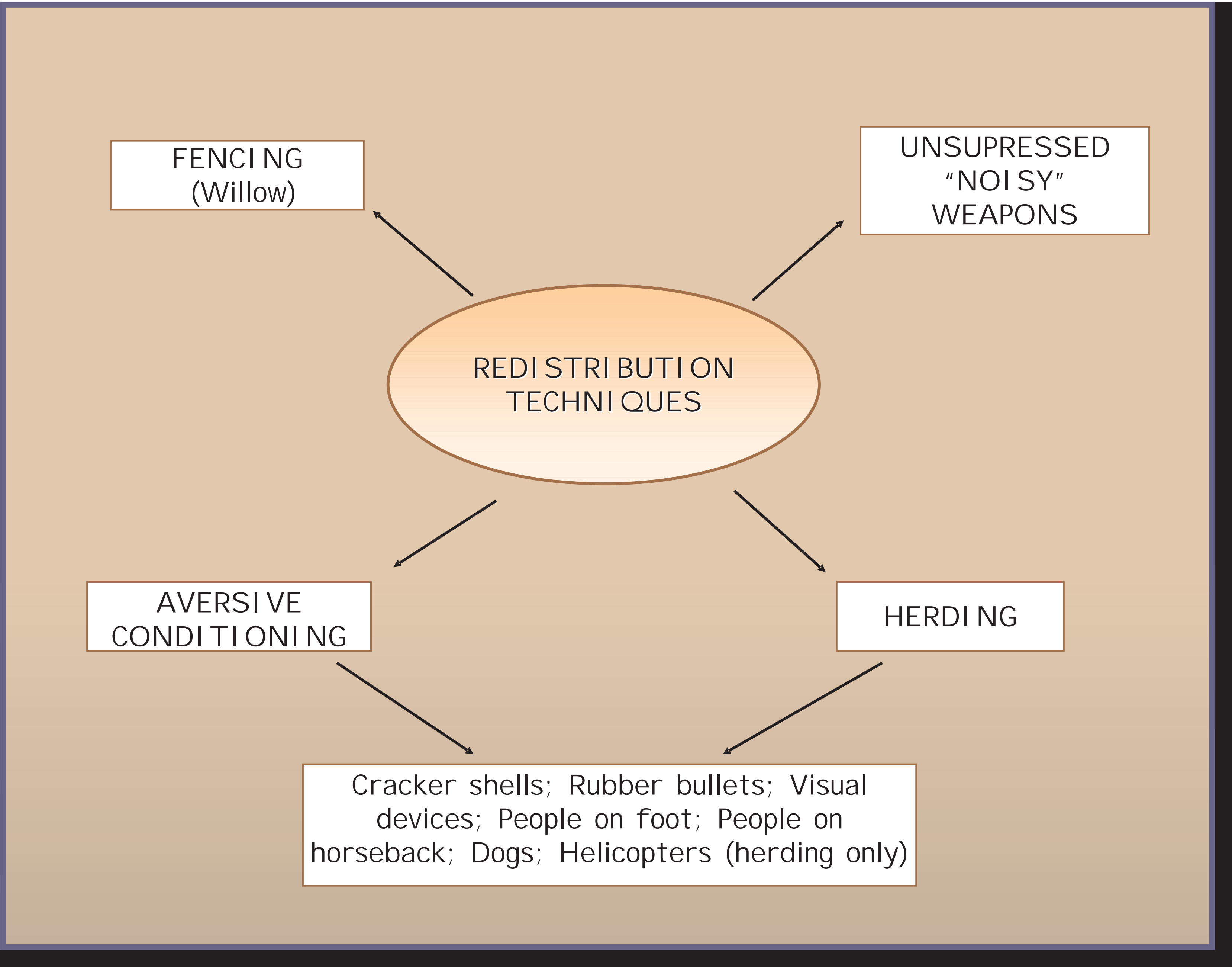
Gradual reduction of the elk population by lethal reduction combined with fences and redistribution methods

Elk Population Management

- Population target - 1,600 to 2,100 elk
 - Year 1 – 20: 100 - 200 elk per year lethally removed
- Lethal reduction by NPS staff or contractors
 - Preferred Method: Noise suppressed weapons
 - Additional methods: Unsuppressed “noisy” weapons and darting followed by lethal injection
 - No capture facility would be needed
- Reductions could occur any time of year and in any location

Vegetation Management

- Up to 860 acres of suitable willow habitat could be fenced due to higher elk population target
 - Temporary fences installed commensurate with reduction in elk population size





Alternative 4

Gradual reduction of the elk population by lethal reduction and fertility control combined with fences and redistribution methods

Elk Population Management

- Population target - 1,600 to 2,100 elk
- Fertility control with short-term agent
 - Year 1-4: Treat 400 elk per year
 - Year 5-20: Treat 200 elk per year
 - Treatment by hand injection or remote delivery
 - Capture facility may be used to treat and mark elk
 - Reductions could occur any time of year and in any location
- Lethal reductions by NPS staff or contractors
 - Year 1-20: Lethally remove 80 to 150 elk per year

Vegetation Management

- Up to 860 acres of suitable willow habitat could be fenced due to higher elk population target
 - Temporary fences installed commensurate with reduction in elk population size

