**Table S3**. White-tailed population development and application of classic population genetic theory (eq. (1) in the main text). Classic theory works in steps of a generation time (T) and we assumed a generation time of 4 years. Census population size (Nc) is based on data in Table S1. For the first generation (the founders), the effective population size (Ne) is assumed to equal Nc, but is after that assumed to be 70% of Nc (because calves and yearlings are part of the census). The heterozygosity (H) of each generation is calculated for three putative scenarios of H of the founder population. Initial H (H0) was either the same as in the USA (Oklahoma), maximal or minimal (see main text). Because of the high population growth rate, the predicted H quickly converges to its final value (Frankham et al. 2004).

**–––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––**

Year T Nc Ne Initial Heterozyosity (H0)

 ––––––––––––––––––––

 USA maximal minimal

–––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––

1934 0 4 4 0.74 1 0.39

1938 1 8 5.6 0.65 0.88 0.34

1942 2 20 14 0.59 0.80 0.31

1946 3 40 28 0.57 0.77 0.30

1950 4 120 84 0.56 0.75 0.29

1954\* 5 100 0.56 0.75 0.29

1958 6 200 140 0.55 0.75 0.29

1962 7 1000 700 0.55 0.74 0.29

**–––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––––**

\* Census not available, extrapolated value