

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: August 29, 2013

Agenda Item: 2013 Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Waterfowl Regulations

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Approval of Final Rule

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

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Background

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the State of Montana have entered into a positive, cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Reservation that provides for presentation and approval of Tribal bird season frameworks to the FWP Commission. Regional FWP staff is included in the development of Tribal waterfowl regulations, which are set within federal frameworks in the Pacific Flyway. Tribal recommendations are first presented to the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board. The board votes on tentative proposals and opens them to general public review and comment. The board then meets for final adoption. Adopted final proposals are then presented to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council. FWP commission endorsement is subject to final Tribal Council approval.

Other than text style, format and/or presentation, the significant differences between these Tribal regulations and the current or proposed FWP waterfowl regulations are:

Tribal shooting hours are sunrise to sunset for all game birds;

A requirement that only non-toxic shot be used for all game birds on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Public Involvement Process & Results

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal process includes public comment.

Alternatives and Analysis

None considered at this time.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

Recommend endorsement of Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes waterfowl regulations subject to Tribal Council approval.

Proposed Motion

I move that the Fish and Wildlife Commission endorse the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes waterfowl regulations as presented and subject to final Tribal Council approval.