

FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: February 11, 2016

Agenda Item: 2016-2017 Moose Hunting Season, Quota Ranges and HD Boundaries

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background

Season structures and hunting district boundaries are adopted biennially for most game species. This happens every other year between December and final adoptions in February. In proposing regulations to the Commission, FWP proposes adopting the existing (2015) structure except for specific changes. Proposals are based on population status and/or other circumstances.

For the 2016 and 2017 moose season structure changes include reducing antlered bull licenses in HD 250 from three to one, some changes to quota ranges, and two proposals to combine adjacent individual hunting district licenses into one license valid in multiple hunting districts.

FWP proposes no changes to proposals adopted at the December meeting.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Moose season comments were received during scoping and included comments about drawing odds and lower moose populations. Public comment ran from Dec. 10 to Jan 22. We received 37 comments that spoke to a variety of issues including support for proposals, low moose numbers, predation, once in a lifetime, reduce licenses in some areas, and increase licenses in some areas. All comments are in the Commission packet.

Alternatives and Analysis

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2015 (status quo). No change would challenge the supporting justifications behind proposals.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

Rationale for individual proposals was included in the Dec. 10th Commission information packets and may be further articulated at the Feb. 11th Commission meeting.

Proposed Motion

I move the Commission adopt the final 2016 and 2017 Moose Hunting Seasons and Hunting Districts as presented by FWP. I also move to adopt all other portions of the previous 2014-2015 moose season regulations not affected by the Commission's actions today.