

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: June 9, 2016

Agenda Item: 2016 Mountain Goat Quotas Outside Biennial Quota Ranges

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 Min

Background

FWP proposes to reduce either-sex mountain goat licenses in HD 460 (Highwood Mountains) from 4 to 2 for the 2016 season, and change the quota range from 3 – 7 to 1 – 7. The reduction is necessary because of poor kid production in recent years. Supporting material is found in the season change justification included in the Commission packet.

Public Involvement Process & Results

There is support from local wardens, area sportspeople and local landowners on the current goat management objectives in the Highwood Mountains. Area wardens Wendy Kamm and Bob Hammer were contacted regarding the proposal. Both were in support of the proposed license reduction. Public comment was open until Friday, May 20 and we received 4 comments: one supporting the proposal, one advocated more licenses in HDs 222 and 223, one wanting more information be made available, and one advocating wise goat management.

Alternatives and Analysis

No alternatives were considered.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP recommends that the Commission approve the proposed change to reduce either-sex mountain goat licenses in HD 460 (Highwood Mountains) from 4 to 2 for the 2016 season, and change the quota range from 3 – 7 to 1 – 7.

Proposed Motion

I move that the Commission approve the proposed change to reduce either-sex mountain goat licenses in HD 460 (Highwood Mountains) from 4 to 2 for the 2016 season, and change the quota range from 3 – 7 to 1 – 7 as recommended by FWP.