

# **FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** April 14, 2017

**Agenda Item:** 2017 Mountain Lion Quotas

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Proposed

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 30 Min

---

## **Background**

Hunting districts listed in the table below have proposed changes in Regions 3 and 4 from the 2016 mountain lion quotas. All other quotas/subquotas not listed are proposed to be unchanged from 2016 levels. Note that Region 3 uses total quotas with a female subquota while Region 4 has separate quotas for males and females.

In their respective areas, the proposals address issues and concerns such as harvest opportunity, lion populations, predation, primarily on mule deer and bighorn sheep, livestock depredations, and human-lion encounters in subdivisions and campgrounds. More detailed information is found in the justification for each proposal in the Commission packet.

### **Proposed Adjustments – Montana 2017 Mountain Lion Quotas**

Hunting District(s)	Current Quota	Proposed Quota
312, 393	7 total with 2 female subquota	9 total with 4 female subquota
320, 333	6 total with 2 female subquota	4 total with 1 female subquota
331	7 total with 3 female subquota	5 total with 2 female subquota
410, 417, 419, 471	3 males & 8 females	5 males & 8 females
405, 447, 471	3 males & 2 females	4 males & 3 females
422, 423, 424, 425, 442	11 males & 4 females	8 males & 5 females

## **Public Involvement Process & Results**

Area landowners, sportsmen and FWP wardens are generally supportive of these proposals and have specifically called for a lion quota increase in the Missouri Breaks. All proposals have been vetted with some public in each area. Formal public comment will be taken at this meeting and continue through 5 p.m., May 14. Any final action will take place at the Commission meeting in June.

## **Alternatives and Analysis**

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, or no change from 2016 as per staff justifications, public comment and Commission discussion.

## **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

FWP recommends approval of proposed quota adjustments with no changes in other hunting districts. Rationale includes mountain lion population management accommodating human tolerance, safety, prey populations and hunter opportunity.

## **Proposed Motion**

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve for public comment the proposed 2017 lion quotas/subquotas as presented by FWP.