

FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: October 17, 2018

Agenda Item: 2019 Fishing Regulations

Division: Fisheries

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background:

The fishing regulation process is based on a four-year cycle. The first year of each cycle is dedicated to actively soliciting ideas for changes from the public. During the other three years of the cycle (“off-cycle” years), ideas are only solicited internally from FWP biologists, fish managers and enforcement personnel. Proposals developed during off-cycle years are proposed to the commission only if they meet certain criteria: achieve certain enforcement needs, provide clarification for regulations, are important for the conservation of a fish species, make changes to regulations no longer relevant, or fulfill direction provided in management plans. Since 2019 is an off-cycle year and there are no current proposals that meet the criteria outlined above, the Fisheries Division is proposing rolling over the 2018 regulations into 2019. The next full review of the fishing regulations will be for the 2020 fishing season, with public scoping and review of proposals occurring in spring and summer of 2019. It is anticipated that FWP will present proposed 2020 fishing regulations at the August 2019 commission meeting.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

Since the 2019 fishing season is an off-cycle year, public input was not solicited directly. Seven regulation changes that met the criteria outlined above were approved by the commission in 2018. Public input will be solicited in developing and evaluating the 2020 fishing regulations.

Alternatives and Analysis:

Since there will be an extensive review of fishing regulations next year, there are currently no proposed changes to the 2019 fishing regulations.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

Since there are currently no proposed changes to the 2019 fishing regulations, and since there will be extensive review and public input for the 2020 fishing regulations, FWP recommends adopting the 2019 fishing regulations as proposed.

Proposed Motion:

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt FWP’s proposed fishing regulations for the 2019 fishing season.