



# MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION FWP PROPOSAL AND INFORMATION SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

**Meeting Date:** June 20, 2024

**Agenda Item:** Correction to Elk Season Dates in Hunting District 280

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 minutes

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**Background:** During December 2023, the commission adopted season structures and dates for most game seasons for the 2024 and 2025 biennium. Inadvertently, the department made an error in the recommended dates for elk seasons in hunting district (HD) 280. Because this error results in a one-day lapse mid-season without a biological rationale, the department is recommending a correction so that the hunting season may continue uninterrupted.

**Public Involvement Process and Results:** The public brought the error to the attention of the department. The public will be able to comment on the recommended correction at the commission meeting on June 20.

**Analysis and Alternatives:**

Alternative A: The commission may choose to adopt the department's recommendation to adjust the brow-tined bull or antlerless season dates for the general license in HD 280 from Sept. 27 – Dec. 1 to Sept. 26 – Dec. 1.

Alternative B: The commission could choose to retain the current general license season dates of Sept. 27 – Dec. 1, which would leave a one-day gap between the end of the brow-tined bull season, which ends on Sept. 25 and the beginning of the brow-tined bull or antlerless elk season or amend the proposal in some other fashion.

**Agency Recommendation and Rationale:** The department recommends the commission adopt the correction to elk season dates in HD 280 as presented.

**Proposed Motion:** I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve the correction to elk season dates in HD 280 for general license brow-tined bull or antlerless elk for the dates of Sept. 26 – Dec. 1 in 2024 and 2025.