

MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: June 25, 2020

Agenda Item: 2020 Mountain Lion Quotas Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 20 Minutes

Background: Proposed harvest quotas for mountain lion are based on research, surveys, harvest and mortality data, and public comment. Below are proposed changes from 2019 quotas and subquotas. All other quotas and subquotas are proposed as unchanged from 2019 levels. Quotas apply to "any legal lion" unless otherwise noted and as influenced by subquotas.

Region 3

- Mountain lion HD 350, 370: decrease total quota from 4 to 3, while maintaining female subquota at 1.
- Mountain lion HD 392: increase total quota from 3 to 4, while maintaining female subquota at 1.
- Mountain lion HD 390, 391: increase total quota from 10 to 11, while maintaining female subquota at 5.
- Mountain lion HDs 322, 326, 330: decrease total quota from 7 to 6, while maintaining female subquota at 2.
- Mountain lion HDs 323, 324, 325, 327: decrease total quota from 7 to 6, while maintaining female subquota at 2.

Region 4

- Mountain lion HD 422, 423, 424, 425, 442: decrease total quota from 13 to 12 and male quota from 8 to 7, while maintaining female quota at 5.
- Mountain lion HD 447, 405, 471: increase total quota from 7 to 8 and male quota from 4 to 5, while maintaining female quota at 3.

Public Involvement Process and Results: Formal public comment period ran through 5 p.m. Monday, May 25, 2020. No changes have been adopted since the commission heard this proposal in April 2020. In total, about 32 comments were received from the public.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale: The department recommends approval of final quota adjustments as well as the no-change proposals in other HDs. Supporting rationale includes mountain lion population management accommodating human tolerance, safety, prey populations, and hunter opportunity.

Proposed Motion: I move that the commission adopt as final the 2020 mountain lion quotas and subquotas as presented by the department.