PROPOSED PROCESS SCHEDULE FOR BIENNIAL SEASON SETTING FOR 2028–2029 AND 2029–2030 SEASONS

DATE	ACTION	PROCESS OWNER	EXPLANATION
Scoping Phase			
December 2026	Present timeline as informational item to commission and solicit scoping items from them	Game Bureau, Commissioners	New step to better engage Commission and make sure they understand timelines.
Jan, Feb, March 2027	Eary scoping outreach. Use input to develop concepts. Target at least one meeting with public and Commissioner.	Regions, Commissioners	Discussions and harvesting ideas from public; biologists present biological information and collect general input on season setting. Commissioners engaged to participate.
April 1, 2027	Meet to discuss and develop statewide concepts. Define expectations and roles of staff in the season setting process.	Game Bureau, Regions	Select statewide concepts for presentation, Inform DO of concepts.
April 15, 2027	Gauge public support for any Commissioner concepts	Human Dimensions	Short survey monkey questions.
April 15, 2027	Gauge public support for statewide concepts, post survey on website for public	Human Dimensions	Short survey monkey questions.
April 15, 2027	Post survey on website for public	Comm Ed	Contrast random survey with general public comment
June 2027	Evaluation of concepts and develop preliminary proposals. Align regions and Game Bureau on preliminary proposals.	Regions, Game Bureau	Based on our assessment of what we have heard, what do we carry forward?
June 30, 2027	Review of preliminary proposals	Regions, Game Bureau, DO	Game Bureau, Division HQ, DO review for consistency and compliance with prior direction

July 30, 2027	Post preliminary proposals in mockup with web portal survey	Game Bureau, Regions, Comm Ed	Seek feedback on preliminary proposals
August 2027	Public Comment Meetings	Game Bureau, Regions, Commissioners	Scope preliminary proposals and take public comment. Expect Commissioners to attend.
September 1-8, 2027	Adjust preliminary proposals based on feedback, amend proposals in regs database	Regions, Game Bureau, Comm Ed	New opportunity to incorporate public feedback and adjust proposals. Update preliminary proposals to become proposals.
Finalization			
September 9, 2027	Present to Director's office for final review	Game Bureau	Affirm support on direction. WMD, GB, and DO review for consistency and compliance with prior direction.
September 10, 2027	Finalize Proposals. Transition to Commission Process. Pause for Hunting Season		
Commission Process			
November 1, 2027	Proposals Posted	Director’s Office	Post final proposals
November 1- Dec 31, 2027	Public comment period	Comm Ed	Web portal input
December 2027	Optional Commission Work Session	Regions, Game Bureau, Commission, DO	Opportunity to discuss proposals and potential amendments.
December 2027	Publish Final Commission Agenda	Regions, Bureau, Comm Ed	Make agenda available to the public, and share with pubic
January 12-13, 2028	Commission presentations	Game Bureau	Final adoption of regulations over two-day Commission meeting.
January 17, 2028	Layout, proof, and submit regulations for printing	Comm Ed, Game Bureau, Regions	Limited printed regulations prior to application period. Time to post regulations by March 1.

Definitions

Concept – an idea that is articulated to generally describe how a change to hunting season structure might be employed in a preliminary or formal proposal. For example, a concept might describe a season structure whereby elk and deer seasons may be scheduled so that they do not overlap with one another.

Proposal – a proposal may be a preliminary proposal or a final proposal. Both versions of a proposal would have concrete parameters such that they may be described in a regulation mockup. For example, a preliminary proposal might have elk seasons that occur for archery during Sep 1–15 and general seasons from Sep 20–October 15 and archery deer seasons that run from Oct 20–31 and general deer seasons that run from Nov 5–31. A proposal may be laid out specifically in a mockup, although it may be described precisely in words.