

Meeting Date: July 24, 2024

Agenda Item No. 11

Agenda Item: December Nonresident Tag Sale

Bureau Chief Approval: JO

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Background:

The Department has traditionally sold future license year items starting on December 1 of each year for both residents and nonresidents. This date is not mentioned in rule or statute but is advertised to the public in Commission proclamation.

Sales on this date have become brisk over the past few years as nonresident interest in Idaho deer and elk tags have increased. When the Commission approved limits on nonresident deer and elk tags by unit/zone for 2021, December 1 sales dramatically increased from selling out capped zones on that date to all tags being in high demand.

Nonresident Sales for the past three years are as follows:

	Revenue	Transactions	Items sold	Customers
Dec 1, 2020	\$9.3M	16,126	51,241	22,600
Dec 1, 2021	\$13.0M	28,447	85,000	65,000
Dec 1, 2022	\$14.8M	34,204	95,447	67,000
Dec 1, 2023	\$15.8M	37,068	115,284	75,000

December 1 falls on a Sunday in 2024, and given that this isn't a standard business day, it allowed department staff to consider an alternative sale date to meet the demands of this high-volume sale. Staff is recommending a sale of Tuesday, December 10, 2024 for nonresident deer and elk tags. This date change will ensure that department staff can prioritize customer service for our Idaho residents and Auto-Renew customers, and avoids holidays and weekend dates that may not be easy to navigate for customers and license vendors.

Processing our Auto-Renew transactions, and offering next year license, permits, and tags for residents will remain on December 1. Nonresidents may also buy licenses, permits, and unlimited tags (e.g. Black Bear, Mountain Lion, etc.) beginning December 1. Nonresident Deer and Elk tags would be available for sale on December 10, 2024 at 10 a.m. MST.

This discussion will provide an overview of why December 10 would be a suitable alternative date for the Nonresident Deer and Elk tag sale for 2024.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

Idaho Code 36-106 (e) 11 (A) authorizes the Director to enter into an agreement with an independent contractor for the purpose of providing a telephone order and credit card payment service for licenses, tags, and permits.

Idaho Code 36-301 provides for the Commission to prescribe by rule the procedures for the issuance of licenses and applications by a computerized licensing system.

Public Involvement Process:

The Commission received an overview of how the licensing system is structured during high volume sales events at the March 2022 meeting. This presentation covered the sales flow from initial log in, to waiting room queue, and then entry into the site for purchase.

The Commission also provided guidance in the January 2023 meeting on how to proceed with future high volume sales.

The Commission then received an update from department staff and our license system third-party vendor during the November 2023 commission. This update included details on how the licensing system has improved to handle these high-volume sales, and a commitment to ensuring these sales continue to be as successful as possible.

Justification:

N/A

Staff Recommendation:

None. This agenda item is for Commission information.

Action Requested:

None.