

Meeting Date: November 16, 2023

Agenda Item No.15

Agenda Item: Statewide Deer Harvest Management

Bureau Chief Approval: SR

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Background:

Statewide deer management for both mule deer and white-tailed deer is an important topic for the public and hunters. The Department collects and utilizes a variety of data to manage deer populations and harvest opportunities. Many biological and social factors are considered when developing management plans and season setting recommendations.

This presentation will cover both mule deer and white-tailed deer harvest management in Idaho and will become a part of the Department's *State of Deer and Elk* informational series on our website. The goal of this series is to help inform the public about many of the factors involved in the management of deer and elk and to increase transparency of the data the Department collects and how we use it to manage deer and elk populations.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

Idaho Code 36-104(2) grants authority to the Commission to determine when an open season may be declared for the taking of wildlife. The Department is charged with preserving, protecting, perpetuating, and managing the state's wildlife (IC 36-103). IDAPA 13.01.08 establishes rules regarding the take of big game animals.

Public Involvement Process:

This agenda item is for information only.

Justification:

This presentation is informational for the Commission and a version of the presentation will become part of the Department's *State of Deer and Elk* informational video series to share with the public.

Staff Recommendation:

This agenda item is for Commission information. No action is required.