

Meeting Date: July 27, 2023

Agenda Item No. 5E2

Agenda Item: Discount Order for Bighorn Sheep
Lottery Tag Application (**Action**)

Bureau Chief Approval: SR

Prepared by: Hollie Miyasaki, Wildlife Staff Biologist

Background:

Idaho Code Section 36-408(5)(b) authorizes the Commission to issue one (1) special bighorn sheep tag each year, with the tag to be issued by the Department of Fish and Game to an eligible person as determined by lottery drawing. Under Section 36-408 the bighorn sheep “lottery tag” may be marketed by the Department or a nonprofit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation selected by the Commission.

Commission rule, IDAPA 13.01.04.800, clarifies that “tickets” for the bighorn sheep lottery tag are nontransferable controlled hunt applications. Agreements with the nonprofit organization selected for marketing the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag have identified discounted prices, including additional discounts for multiple purchases. The published brochures (season proclamation and summary of rules) for Moose/Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat have reflected these agreed-upon prices. The Commission has determined that a discount order pursuant to its authority under Idaho Code Section 36-415, is an appropriate procedural mechanism for memorializing the ticket/application prices for the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag.

Fees for all “Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag” Special Controlled Hunt Applications for the July 2024 drawings are proposed to be consistent with those in the 2023 drawing as follows:

- One (1) Ticket/Application - \$20.00
- Six (6) Tickets/Applications - \$100.00
- Fourteen (14) Tickets/Applications - \$166.75
- Twenty-Five (25) Tickets/Applications - \$250.00

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

Idaho Code Section 36-408(5)(b) authorizes the Commission to issue one (1) special bighorn sheep tag each year, with the tag to be issued by the Department of Fish and Game to an eligible person as determined by lottery drawing. Commission rule, IDAPA 13.01.04.800, clarifies that “tickets” for the bighorn sheep lottery tag are nontransferable controlled hunt applications. Idaho Code Section 36-415 authorizes the Commission to order a discount in fees for specific species, units, areas, zones, or gender as necessary to encourage increased license sales or to encourage hunting, fishing, or trapping.

Public Involvement Process:

Public comment opportunity provided for this and other agenda items on the evening prior to the Commission meeting.

Justification:

Pursuant to its authority under Idaho Code Section 36-415, the Commission finds a public need to optimize revenue from application fees for the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag Special Controlled Hunt Program through discounting application fees, including additional discounts for multiple applications.

Staff Recommendation:

Adopt discounted fees for all “Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag” Special Controlled Hunt applications for the July 2024 drawing.

Suggested Motion: That the Commission Adopt discounted fees for all “Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag” Special Controlled Hunt applications for the July 2024 drawing.