



## IDAHO FISH AND GAME GOLDSHEET

### **July 2025 Commission Meeting**

**Agenda Item:** Elk Controlled Hunt Area 36A-3 Addition

**(Action)**

**Presented by:** Rick Ward

**Position/Title:** State Wildlife Manager

**Agenda Item No.:** 5H

**Supervisor Approval:** SR

### **Background:**

Due to the migratory patterns of elk inhabiting the north and west sides of GMU 50 during the hunting season, the harvest management of those elk has traditionally been combined with the management of adjacent GMU 36A. At the March 2025 meeting, the Commission set big game seasons for the 2025 and 2026 hunting seasons. Staff simplified the boundary definitions of controlled elk hunts in GMU 36A during that process but accidentally omitted the inclusion of the portions of GMU 50 in those boundary definitions.

Creation of an elk controlled hunt area "36A-3" with the following definition would rectify the omission and maximize elk hunting opportunity for the public:

*Hunt Area 36A-3 - All of unit 36A, and that portion of unit 50 north of Trail Creek Road and west of U.S. Highway 93, and that portion of Unit 50 north of the Doublespring Pass Road east of U.S. Highway 93.*

The newly created hunt area would then be applied to the following controlled elk hunts for the 2025 and 2026 seasons:

- Controlled Hunt 2133 - Muzzleloader Only (Either Sex), 250 tags
- Controlled Hunt 2182 - Outfitter Allocated Muzzleloader Only (Either Sex), 3 tags
- Controlled Hunt 2429 - LAP Muzzleloader Only, 25 tags

### **Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:**

Idaho Statute 36-104 authorizes the Commission to establish by proclamation seasons and bag limits for the taking of wildlife consistent with state policy.

### **Public Involvement Process:**

Public have the opportunity to comment on this topic at the July Commission public hearing.

### **Justification:**

Correct elk controlled hunt boundary to align with herd-level elk population management and maximize opportunity for sportsmen/sportswomen.



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**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommend the Commission create new controlled elk hunt area 36-3 as presented and apply the hunt area to elk controlled hunts 2133, 2182, and 2429 for the 2025 and 2026 hunting seasons.

**Suggested Motion:**

I move the Commission create elk controlled hunt area 36-3 as presented by staff and apply that controlled hunt area to existing controlled elk hunt numbers 2133, 2182, and 2429 for the 2025 and 2026 hunting seasons.