

**Meeting Date:** April 11, 2019

**Agenda Item No.**

**Agenda Item:** Renew Discount Order for Super Hunt/Super Hunt Combo Application Fees

**Bureau Chief Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prepared by:** Sharon W. Kiefer, Chief, Bureau of Communications and Marketing

**Background:**

Many western state fish and wildlife agencies offer special big game auction and lottery programs to generate revenue for license funded conservation programs. Idaho's program is the Special Control Hunt Program ("Super Hunt") established by Commission rule (IDAPA 13.01.08.261) which offers forty (40) big game tags through a random lottery draw process. Lottery applications in Idaho are sold for individual species (Super Hunt tags-10 deer, 10 elk, 10 pronghorn, 2 moose tags) and for combined species (Super Hunt Combo-there are 2 tag packages that bundle 1 deer, 1 elk, 1 pronghorn, and 1 moose tag per package). These tags are good for any open controlled or general hunt for each species. By rule, income from the Super Hunt application fees is used for the sportsman access program. The majority of "first" applications each year are from Idaho resident hunters but many resident and nonresident applicants purchase additional applications for each draw

In July, 2015, the Commission approved a Discount Order that provided a consistent fee of \$6.00 per each Super Hunt application and \$20.00 per each Super Hunt Combo application that incorporated the vendor fee. This approach has demonstrated benefits for both revenue and customer simplicity.

Staff very recently realized that the 2015 Super Hunt Discount Order expired on August 10, 2018 which was the closing date for receiving all applications for the second 2018 Super Hunt draw. Advertising and sales of the 2019 Super Hunt applications at the 2018 discount price are ongoing because of the belated realization that the order had expired. If the Commission wishes to continue the 2018 discount or some other discount framework, the Commission must adopt a new Discount Order. Otherwise, the Department will reprogram fees to revert to standard control hunt application fees described below.

The Super Hunt revenue trend under the 2015 Discount Order is shown in Figure 1 on page 2.

**Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:**

The Special Control Hunt Program is established by Rule (IDAPA 13.01.08) and offers forty (40) big game tags through a random lottery draw process in Idaho. The Commission intent for this special controlled hunt program is to provide funding for the statewide sportsman access program (Rule adopted in 2006). The Rule states that application fees will be set by Commission Order under Section 36-415, Idaho Code, or will be the same as the controlled hunt application fee set in Section 36-416, Idaho Code.

The Commission adopted a uniform, flat rate discount for Super Hunt applications of \$6.00 (including vendor fee) for residents and nonresidents and Super Hunt Combo applications of \$20.00 (including vendor fee) for residents and nonresidents during the July, 2015 Commission meeting. The Super Hunt application prices default to the controlled hunt application fees in I.C. 36-416 if no action is taken.

For example w/o discount order:

Super Hunt elk = \$6.25 resident/\$14.75 nonresident (including vendor fees)  
Super Hunt Moose = \$16.75 resident/\$41.75 nonresident (including vendor fees)  
Super Hunt Combo = \$35.50 resident/\$86.00 nonresident (including vendor fees)

**Public Involvement Process:**

No public involvement has occurred other than continued participation in the Super Hunt opportunity, 80,116 applications were sold for the 2018 draws.

**Justification:**

The application fee set by Commission Order expired with the second draw in 2018 for the Super Hunt tags. A new discount Order is required to continue the discounted application fee framework.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Adopt the proposed discount via a Commission Order for a two year period beginning April 11, 2019 through August 10, 2020.

**Action Requested:** *Staff recommends the following motion:*

I move to adopt the staff recommended discount order for a two year period beginning April 11, 2019 through August 10, 2020.

Figure 1. Revenue generated through the sale of Super Hunt and Super Hunt Combo applications over the past 4 years.

