

Meeting Date: January 24, 2019

Agenda Item No. 10

Agenda Item: Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan

Bureau Chief Approval: 

Prepared by: Jon Rachael

Background:

Staff presented an overview of the status and content of Mountain Goat Management Plan revision at the Commission's November meeting.

The intent of a revision to the mountain goat management plan is to provide guidance for the Department and their partners to implement management actions that will aid in protection and management of mountain goat populations in Idaho and guide harvest season recommendations. This plan will function as the action plan for mountain goat management in Idaho. Major issues that affect mountain goats are identified, which set overall direction for mountain goat management during the next 6 years (2019-2024). This plan will guide the Department in annual work plan development and program prioritization, and provide guidance on development of regulatory recommendations.

Staff will provide a review of the draft plan at the meeting.

Following the Commission meeting the current draft will be posted on the Department website to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment. Agency partners, interested organizations and individuals will be notified of the opportunity to comment. After consideration of public input, a final plan will be prepared to present to the Commission for adoption in March.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission administers state wildlife policy through supervision and management of the Department (Idaho Code 36-104). Species Management Plans are the guiding documents to manage wildlife and are a direct reflection of the Department Strategic Plan. The Mountain Goat Management Plan will function as the action plan for mountain goat management in Idaho.

Public Involvement Process:

After the draft Mountain Goat Management Plan is approved for release, the Department will seek further input on the completed draft plan from the public, interested groups, and affected agencies. This draft Mountain Goat Management Plan will be posted on the Department's website in late January for three weeks to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment. Comments will be considered as the draft is revised into a final document that will be presented to the Commission for adoption.

Justification:

This agenda item is for Commission information on the current status on the revision of our mountain goat management plan. The Commission sets policy and provides direction, considers input from the public, and has the authority to adopt, amend, or reject Department-recommended plans.

Staff Recommendation:

This agenda item is an update for Commission information. No action is requested at this time.