

Meeting Date: November 14 , 2018

Agenda Item No. 8

Agenda Item: Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan

Bureau Chief Approval: _____

Prepared by: Hollie Miyasaki, Wildlife Staff Biologist, and Laura Wolf, Regional Wildlife Biologist

Background:

Staff will present an overview of the Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan and seek Commission approval to release the draft for a 30-day public comment period.

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 an overview of the draft plan at the meeting.

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. Public input will be sought during November-December 2018.

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:

No formal action is requested at this time. Staff seeks Commission concurrence to release the Draft Mountain Goat Management Plan to the public, agency partners, and interested organizations for further comments. Staff will revise the draft based on input received with intent to complete a final plan to present to the Commission for approval and adoption at their January 2019 meeting.