

Meeting Date: January 26, 2023

Agenda Item No. 6B

Agenda Item: Muzzleloader Bullets

Bureau Chief Approval: JR

Prepared by: Toby Boudreau, Deer and Elk Program Coordinator

Background:

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission and Department staff have recently received comments from the hunting public regarding types of muzzleloader bullets readily available for purchase compared to those legal for use in muzzleloader-only hunts in Idaho. The Commission last adopted changes to the definition of legal muzzleloader bullets in 2006. The current rule allows only for the use of a patched round ball or conical non-jacketed projectile comprised wholly of lead or lead alloy.

Staff will present a review of muzzleloader bullets currently available to muzzleloader hunters and a discussion of their ballistics.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

IDAPA 13.01.08.406 defines the legal equipment requirements for the use of muzzleloaders in muzzleloader-only big game hunts.

Public Involvement Process:

The Commission and Department have received comments from the public regarding the current rule on allowable bullets for muzzleloaders. If the Commission chooses to have the Department initiate rulemaking to consider changes to current rule, input will be solicited from the public during that process.

Justification:

This agenda item is for Commission information only.

Staff Recommendation:

With Commission concurrence, the Department will initiate rulemaking on bullets legal for use in muzzleloader hunts.

Action Requested:

N/A