

# Southeast Idaho Mule Deer Advisory Committee



# Outline

- ◇ Goals
- ◇ Season Setting vs Rules
- ◇ Habitat Programs
- ◇ Group Breakouts/Discussion
- ◇ Refinement of Ideas
- ◇ Identify what information is needed for next meeting
- ◇ Wrap up





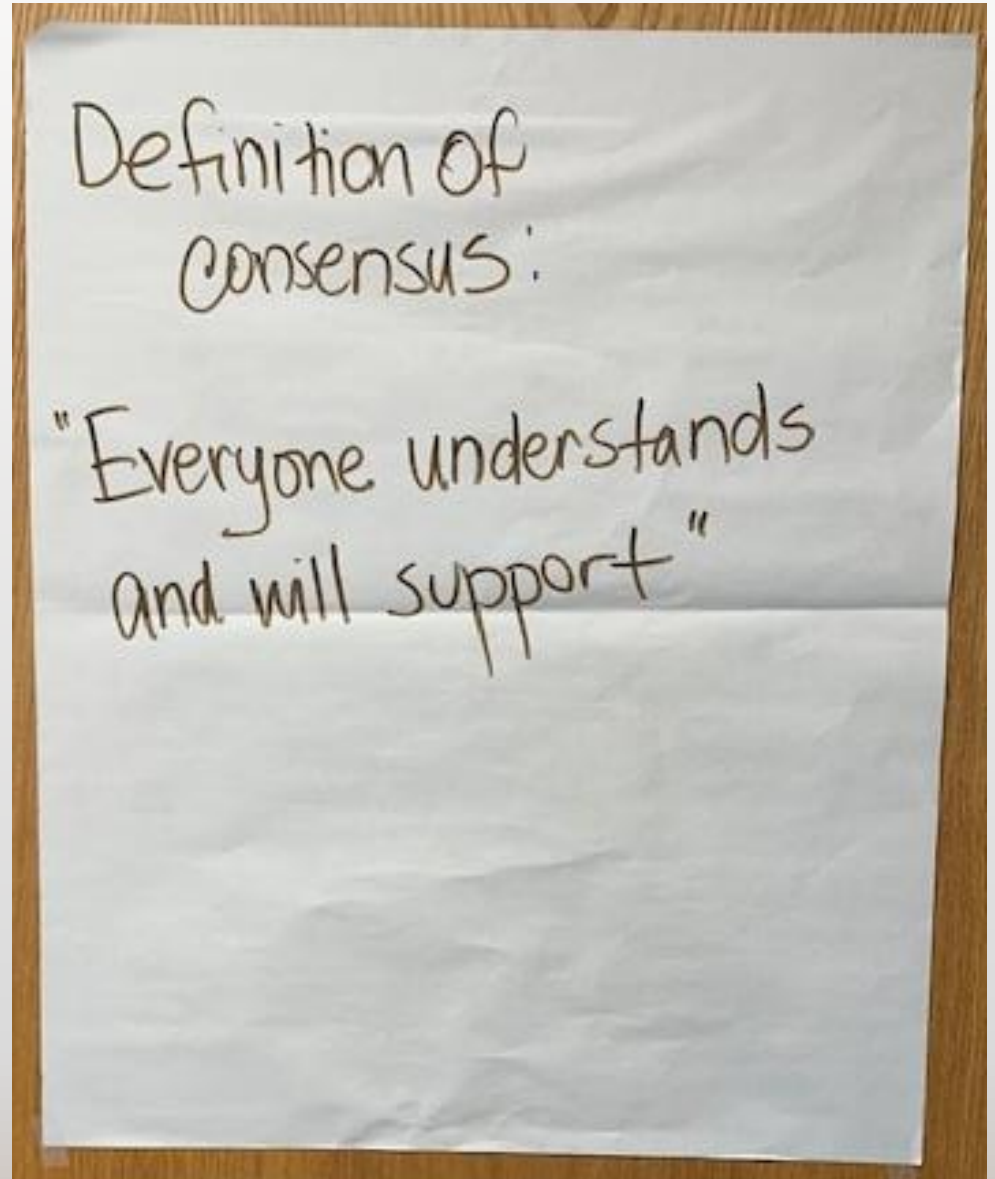
# Objectives

- ◆ Develop proposals/rule changes for Department and Commission consideration that will:
  1. Maintain Idaho's general OTC deer hunting opportunity
  2. Improve hunter experience and satisfaction during mule deer seasons
  3. Increase buck abundance and age structure



# What is consensus?

- ◆ As a group, how do you determine what proposals/ideas are carried forward?
  1. Split decisions will not be successful
  2. Compromises will be important
  3. Majority vote?





# Authority & Process

- ❖ This group is a recommending body only
- ❖ Decisions are made by the Governor appointed 7-member Commission
- ❖ 2-types of Laws governing wildlife in Idaho
  - ❖ Biological – season dates, bag limits
    - ❖ Public, Staff, Commission – 2 year season setting process
  - ❖ Non-biological – weapon restrictions (e.g. muzzleloader bullets or lighted nocks), wait periods for successful controlled hunt applicants, shed antler season
    - ❖ Requires legislative approval – different process and timeline
- ❖ This group can pursue biological and/or non-biological changes



# Timeline Meeting Dates

- ◆ July 1<sup>st</sup> – Overall Orientation, Intro to Mule Deer Ecology and Management
- ◆ August 5<sup>th</sup> – Harvest Strategies (deep dive) – Committee Discussion
- ◆ September 9<sup>th</sup> ? – Committee Discussion/Idea Development
- ◆ October 7<sup>th</sup>– Staff Topic Presentation? – Possible Committee Suggestion Development (Soda Springs)
- ◆ November 4<sup>th</sup>– Finalize Committee Suggestions/Proposals (Pocatello)
- ◆ December 2<sup>nd</sup> – If necessary – Finalize Committee Suggestions/Proposals



# Idaho Fish and Game Habitat Program

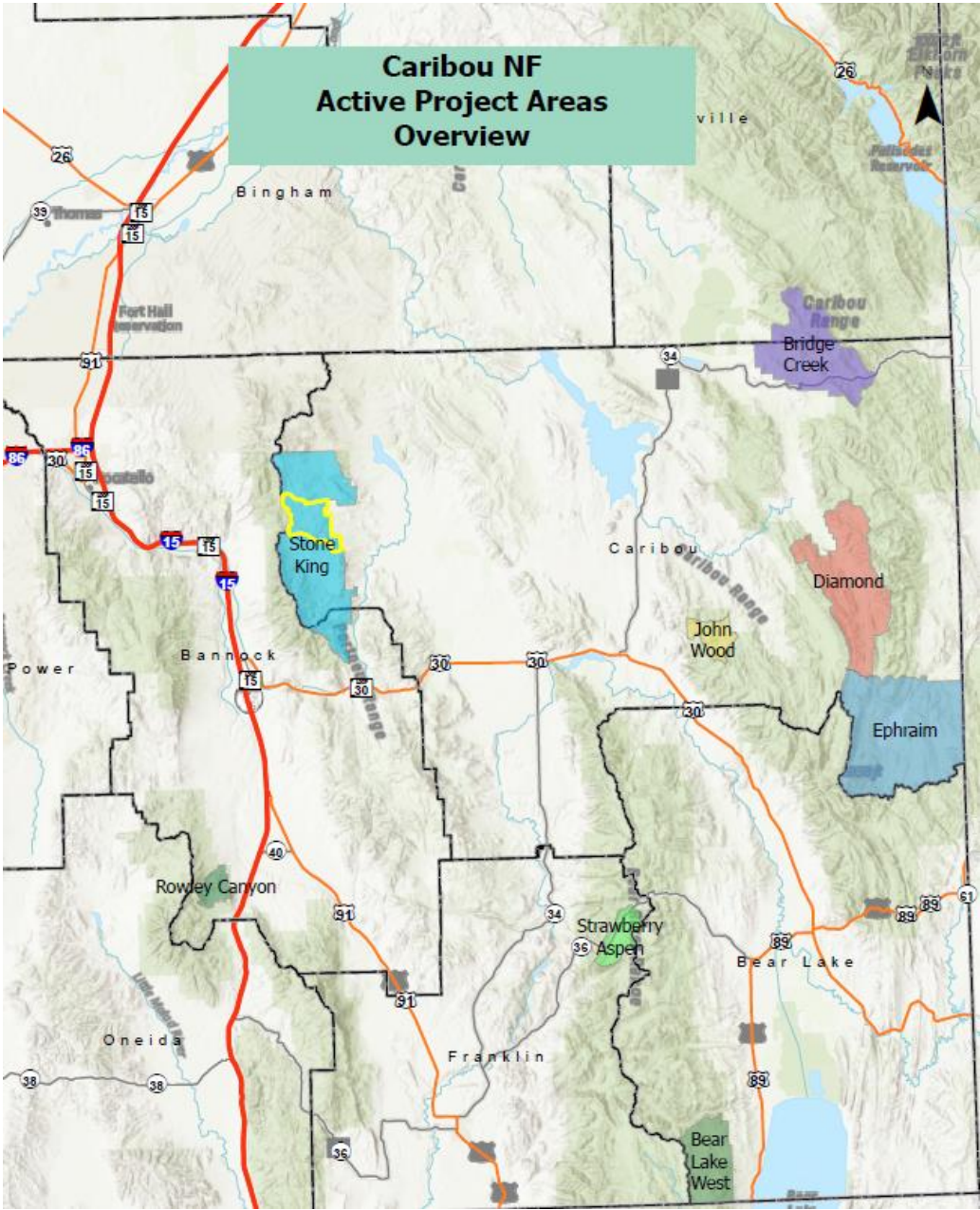
# Staff

- Statewide
  - Roughly 60 fulltime biologists, technicians, and HQ staff.
    - Jumps to 140 or so during the summer with temporary technicians
- Regionally
  - 4 full-time staff 1 supervisor and 3 biologists.
    - Summer techs range from 2-6 depending on funding annually.
    - 2 biologists work on 5 WMAs across the region and with partners
    - 1 biologist is primarily Farm Bill Programs
      - CRP-SAFE
      - EQIP



# Partnerships

- Federal (50%)
  - BLM
    - Big Desert, Pleasantviews, Bear Lake Plateau, portions of Curlew NG
  - USFS
    - CFI
    - Current Projects
      - Multiple projects planned, several thousand acres (66A, 70, 71, 75, 77, 76, 78)
- State (3%)
  - IDL
    - 72 on Chesterfield Range
- Easements
  - SSLT – Mink Creek(77), Rocky Point, Crystal Summit, Century Heights



# Survey Data - Use

- Technical Assistance Managers
  - Development, mines, energy development
  
- Habitat Projects
  - Fed Partners come to IDFG and ask where they should do work.



# Group Exercise

- ◆ Ideas left out – Motorized Hunt Rule, Doe Hunting, Habitat, Winter Feeding, Livestock grazing, Elk
  
- ◆ Keep group goals in mind as you look at each idea
  
- ◆ Rank each rule and season setting idea from 1 – 5
  - ◆ 1 = strongly opposed
  - ◆ 2 = somewhat oppose
  - ◆ 3 = neutral
  - ◆ 4 = somewhat favor
  - ◆ 5 = strongly favor
  
- ◆ Edit, modify, tweak ideas as you see fit, Add new ideas if they come up



# Groups

- ◆ Group 1 – Travis Hobbs, Brock Maynard, Chris Burger
- ◆ Group 2 – Dustin Rowe, Max Winward, Justin Bergholm
- ◆ Group 3 – Jon Meyers, Daniel McGregor, Rick Berg
- ◆ Group 4 – David Vedder, Gary Peck, Bracken Anderson

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