

## Agenda Item Summary

### BACKGROUND

The 2007 Oregon Legislative Assembly enacted HB 2971 which authorizes the department to appoint agents for assisting the department in its official duties by pursuing black bear and/or cougar with dogs subject to the department's direction and control. These rules authorize two classes of agents 1) volunteer agents and 2) private contractors hired by the department on personal services contracts, for responding to specific conflict or management actions consistent with the Oregon cougar and bear management plans and/or to work on specific research projects.

Staff will provide proposed rules to implement statute put in place by HB 2971. The proposed rules detail the application and selection process as well as describes minimum information and training requirements for agents and contractors.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

These proposed rules are being considered through a permanent rulemaking process, which includes public notice, public comment period, and a hearing before the Commission. Staff communicated with organized sports groups and other interested parties.

<b>ISSUE 1</b>	Whether to adopt the proposed rules
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	The proposed rules are consistent with the requirements of HB 2971 and will provide the department with flexibility to use the most cost effective methods for taking action deemed necessary to meet objectives under the bear and cougar management plans.
<b>OPTIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt the rules as proposed</li> <li>2. Adopt the rules in some amended form</li> <li>3. Not adopt any rules on this subject</li> </ol>
<b>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</b>	Option 1.
<b>DRAFT MOTION</b>	I move to adopt OAR Chapter 635 Division 079 as proposed by staff.
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	Upon Filing.

