

## Agenda Item Summary

### BACKGROUND

In the past, the department has generally written into management plans the provision for a five year review. As the number and complexity of plans has increased, it has become apparent the arbitrary five year review may not be appropriate for various reasons (discussed in the analysis section below).

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Communication with local sports groups and other interested parties.
- Questions from other interested persons were answered.
- Correspondence, both mail and email.

### ISSUE 1

Requirement in rule for a five year review of the following wildlife management plans:

- **Division 120 Bighorn Sheep and Rocky Mountain Goat**
- **Division 135 Oregon Wild Turkey**
- **Division 160 Elk**
- **Division 170 Black Bear**
- **Division 180 Cougar**
- **Division 190 Mule Deer**
- **Division 195 Black-tailed Deer**

### ANALYSIS

Historically the wildlife division incorporated a 5 year review period into each of its management plans adopted by the Commission. With the addition of new management plans covering virtually all big game species, the department finds it necessary to commit staff to full-time planning reviews and revisions. Consequently, the department has not been able to focus on implementation and analysis of management plan actions. For example:

- Ongoing projects such as cougar target areas, mule deer research in south central Oregon, and Mule Deer Initiative activities all need to be completed and analyzed before any plan revisions move forward.
- In some cases habitat and species conditions may not have changed, resulting in little need to review a plan.
- With the current schedule multiple plans are due for review at the same time, such as the mule deer and elk plans.

The department proposes the Commission amend certain management plan rules to remove the five year review period requirement from the OARs. Revisions are proposed for the following plans: Bighorn Sheep and Rocky Mountain Goat, Wild Turkey, Elk, Black Bear, Cougar, Mule Deer, and Black-tailed Deer Management Plans.

The department recognizes the interest that members of the public and the Commission have expressed in implementation of these species plans. To address this interest the department will provide regular updates to the Commission in the form of Species Plans Implementation Briefings that will highlight the actions taken for each of the plans. These briefings will be provided to the Commission every March or upon Commission request. The public will be provided the opportunity to provide comments to both the department and the Commission on the various plans and the implementation actions associated with those plans.

**OPTIONS**

1. Approve staff proposals.
2. Modify staff proposals.
3. Reject staff proposals.

**STAFF  
RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1.

**DRAFT MOTION**

I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 120, 135, 160, 170, 180, 190, and 195 as proposed by staff.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

Upon Filing