

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

At the October 5, 2012 meeting, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission approved the 2013 big game seasons. Staff also provided a draft copy of the publication, "2013 Oregon Big Game Regulations," which became Oregon Administrative Rules by reference.

At this time staff is proposing three edits to the rules adopted October 5, 2012.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

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

ISSUE 1

Clarify that those hunters who don't report by the specified deadline for deer and elk tags will be required to pay the \$25 penalty but will not be required to complete a late report.

ANALYSIS

There has been some confusion between various drafts of OARs and staff Commission Packets. Staff would like to clarify that there is no expectation for hunters who miss the reporting deadline to submit a late report. The deadlines were selected to provide information for biologists to help them develop recommendations due in the early spring. Because of the relative timing of the deadlines penalized hunters could be reporting too late to provide useful information and after summaries and reports had already been compiled and distributed.

For example:

- Elk hunter misses January 31, 2013 deadline
- Goes in to purchase 2014 license May 15, 2014 to apply for hunts, 16 months after the reporting deadline.

The Mandatory Reporting system is complicated enough; keeping reporting tied to the current year with one definite deadline will maintain a level of consistency and relative simplicity.

ISSUE 2

Add Pennsylvania as a state from which import of certain cervid parts are restricted.

ANALYSIS

Since the October Commission meeting, but before the 2013 Big Game Regulations went to press, Chronic Wasting Disease was found in deer in Pennsylvania.

Staff is proposing to add Pennsylvania to the list of states from which only the following parts of deer or elk may be imported:

- ✓ Meat that is cut and wrapped commercially or privately
- ✓ Meat that has been boned out
- ✓ Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached
- ✓ Hides and/or capes with no head attached
- ✓ Skull plates with antlers attached that have been cleaned of all meat and brain tissue (velvet antlers are allowed)
- ✓ Antlers with no tissue attached (velvet antlers are allowed)
- ✓ Upper canine teeth (buglers, whistlers, ivories)
- ✓ Finished taxidermy heads

ISSUE 3

Delete Antlerless Elk Hunt 225C, "Coffee Butte"

ANALYSIS

Since the hunt was adopted, the landowner of the entire hunt area has withdrawn their support for the hunt. This was a "Master Hunter" hunt; hunters who drew the hunt were provided keys and allowed to drive into the area.

Problems have occurred with keys being used by unauthorized individuals. The landowner will not be providing keys to hunters. However, they will allow walk-in access and tag numbers may be increased in another hunt that overlays the area to compensate for the loss of this small hunt (5.5 square miles, 11 tags).

OPTIONS

1. Approve staff proposals for edits to the 2013 Big Game Regulations.
2. Amend staff proposals.
3. Reject staff proposals.

**STAFF
RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1.

DRAFT MOTION	I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 065, and 070 as proposed by staff in Attachment 3.
EFFECTIVE DATE:	Upon Filing