

## Agenda Item Summary

<b>BACKGROUND</b>	This is a presentation of the annual Big Game Regulation proposals. Department staff will recommend 2014 big game controlled hunt tag numbers. Recommendations, in concept, will be presented for 2015 big game and western gray squirrel season dates and open areas, dates and locations of cooperative travel management areas, controlled hunts, and associated hunting regulations. If adopted in concept, these proposals will be returned in OAR format for final consideration at the October 2014 Commission meeting.
<b>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication with local sports groups and other interested parties.</li> <li>• Answering questions from interested persons, including the news media.</li> <li>• Public meetings (23 scheduled) to review staff preliminary proposals were held throughout the state in May 2014.</li> </ul>
<b>ISSUE 1</b>	<b>Proposed tag numbers for controlled big game hunts for 2014.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	Overall, total controlled hunt tag recommendations for 2014 are proposed to increase by two percent from 2013. Proposed minor declines in bighorn sheep and pronghorn tags are offset by increases in the proposed number of deer, elk, and Rocky Mountain goat tags.
<b>OPTIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt staff recommendations</li> <li>2. Amend staff recommendations</li> </ol>
<b>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</b>	Option 1.
<b>ISSUE 2</b>	<b>Proposals, in concept, for 2015 game mammal seasons including 2015 spring bear tag numbers, and associated hunting regulations.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	Staff will present conceptual changes and proposals for 2015 big game and western gray squirrel seasons. Controlled hunt proposals for 2015 include the deletion of 8 hunts and addition of 11 new hunts. Most of the changes are to elk hunts and reflect dynamic responses to local changes in elk populations and subsequent conflicts with elk.
<b>OPTIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve staff recommendations</li> <li>2. Amend staff recommendations</li> </ol>
<b>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</b>	Option 1.
<b>DRAFT MOTION</b>	I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 043, 065, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 073 and 075 as proposed by staff; and approve in concept the staff proposals for 2015 general and controlled big game and western gray squirrel seasons.
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	Upon Filing