

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND	This is a presentation of the annual Big Game Regulation proposals. The Department will recommend 2016 and 2017 big game controlled hunt tag numbers. Recommendations will also be presented for 2017 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.
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with local sports groups and other interested parties. • Answering questions from interested persons, including the news media. • Public meetings (20 scheduled) including a Live Twitter Chat, to review staff proposals were held throughout the state in May 2016.
ISSUE 1	Proposed tag numbers for controlled big game hunts for 2016 and 2017.
ANALYSIS	Overall, total controlled hunt tag recommendations for 2016 are proposed to decrease by one percent from 2015. Much of the decrease is because a higher percentage of tags drawn in 2015 were purchased, resulting in a lower correction factor which reduced tags offered for 2016 hunts. Tags proposed for 2017 are much the same as for 2016, except for new hunts proposed to be added, and 2016 hunts proposed to be dropped.
OPTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt staff recommendations 2. Amend staff recommendations
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	Option 1.
ISSUE 2	Proposals for 2017 game mammal seasons and associated hunting regulations.
ANALYSIS	Staff will present proposals for 2017 big game and western gray squirrel seasons. Controlled hunt proposals for 2017 include the deletion of 7 hunts and addition of 17 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.
OPTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve staff recommendations 2. Amend staff recommendations
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	Option 1.
DRAFT MOTION	I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 008, 045, 060, 065, 066, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072, 073, 075, and 200 as proposed by staff.
EFFECTIVE DATE	Upon Filing