



## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

### BACKGROUND

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) annually submits big game season and regulation proposals to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission for consideration and adoption. The department will overview big game population trends and recommend 2022 big game and western gray squirrel season dates and open areas, dates and locations of cooperative travel management areas, tag numbers for big game controlled hunts, and associated hunting regulations.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public outreach and opportunity for public input has been extensive. The department advised the public when draft proposals were published on the agency website in early July 2021 through both a news release and a direct email to 6,600 interested publics. The department held 17 public meetings in July to provide information and gather input on draft proposals.

### ISSUE 1

**Propose tag numbers for 2022 controlled big game hunts.**

### ANALYSIS

Overall, total controlled hunt tag recommendations for 2022 are proposed to increase by approximately 7% from 2021. Summaries for each of the big game species is provided in Attachment 3. Most of the increase is a result of the Commission decision at their August 6, 2021 meeting to move archery elk hunting in 13 units and three sub-units in eastern Oregon from a general season with unlimited tags, to controlled hunting.

### OPTIONS

1. Adopt staff recommendations
2. Amend staff recommendations

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Option 1

## ISSUE 2

### Proposals for 2022 game mammal seasons and associated hunting regulations.

## ANALYSIS

Staff will present proposals for 2022 big game and western gray squirrel seasons. Controlled hunt proposals for 2022 contain season date and structure changes including deletion of hunts, addition of new hunts, combining hunt areas, and expanding hunt boundaries. Most of the changes are to deer and elk hunts and reflect responses to local changes in populations as well as changes to implement controlled archery elk hunts in eastern Oregon. Proposals for hunting regulation changes include calendar year date shifts, modification to cooperative travel management area rules, and modifications to wildlife area rules.

## OPTIONS

1. Adopt staff recommendations
2. Amend staff recommendations

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Option 1

### **DRAFT MOTION:**

I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Divisions 008, 010, 045, 060, 065, 066, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072, 073, and 075 as proposed by staff.

**Effective Date:** *Upon Filing*