

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

Department staff will recommend Management Objectives (MOs) for winter Population and Buck Ratios for Mule Deer, and winter Population and Bull Ratios for Rocky Mountain and Roosevelt elk. MOs are Addendums to *Oregon's Mule Deer Management Plan* and *Oregon's Elk Management Plan* and replace the Addendum approved in 2005.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- District Biologists and Wildlife Division Staff developed preliminary recommendations.
- Local review committees (LRC) were formed in each wildlife district and were comprised of hunter representatives, landowners, land managers, OSP and other public to review Department proposals and provide comments and recommendations of their own. There were approximately 197 participants at the 20 review committee meetings held around the state.
- Department recommendations and review committee recommendations were provided to the public on the Department website and at Big Game Regulation public meetings. There were 20 Big Game Regulation Public meetings held in 19 cities with 249 participants.
- Proposed changes by the Department and Local Review Committees were posted on the ODFW website following a news release.

ISSUE 1

Mule Deer and Elk Management Objectives.

ANALYSIS

The Department proposes 10 changes to mule deer and elk winter Population MOs and 12 changes to Buck and Bull Ratio MOs. Seven of the proposed changes to Population MOs were originally proposed by the Department and supported by the LRC, two were originally recommended by the LRC, and one was proposed by the Department and the LRC recommended a different change. Ten of the proposed changes to the Buck and Bull Ratio MOs were originally proposed by the Department and supported by the LRC. Two proposed changes for Buck and Bull Ratio MOs were recommendations from the LRCs that are supported by the Department. Most LRC recommendations that are not supported by the Department would have resulted in a reduction of hunter opportunity.

The attached addendum and tables of proposed changes summarize all Committee recommendations and Department Proposals.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt Staff Recommendations
2. Amend Staff Recommendations

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option 1

DRAFT MOTION

I move to amend OAR Chapter 635 Divisions 160 and 190 establishing Management Objectives for mule deer and elk in Oregon as proposed by staff.

Upon Filing

EFFECTIVE DATE

Addendum 1.
**Proposed Management Objectives for Rocky Mountain Elk,
Roosevelt Elk, and Mule Deer**

The establishment of management objectives is referenced in OAR 635-160-0010. Tables 1 and 2 are added to *Oregon's Elk Management Plan* (OAR 635-160-0000) to reference desired management objectives for Rocky Mountain and Roosevelt elk.

The establishment of management objectives is referenced in OAR 635-190-0010. Table 3 is added to *Oregon's Mule Deer Management Plan* (OAR 635-190-0000) to reference desired management objectives for mule deer (replaces Table 1, page 12).

Strikeout and bold-underlined replacement is shown in tables for comparison purposes as part of this exhibit only.

Table 1. 2016 Rocky Mt Elk Winter Population and Bull Ratio Management Objectives (MO).

Unit No.	Unit	2005 2016 Winter Population	
		MO	2016 Bull Ratio MO
60	Minam	2,000	20
61	Imnaha	800 2000	15
53	Catherine Cr	700 1000	10
63	Keating	400	10
62	Pine Cr	650 800	15
64	Lookout Mt	300 600	15
Wallowa Zone Total		6,800	
59	Snake River	3,800 4500	15
58	Chesnimnus	3,500	10 15
57	Sled Springs	2,750	10
56	Wenaha	4,250	15
55	Walla Walla	1,800	15
54	Mt Emily	5,700	10
Wenaha-Snake Zone Total		22,500	
52	Starkey	5,300	10
49	Ukiah	5,000	10
51	Sumpter	2,000	10
50	Desolation	1,300	10
48	Heppner	5,000	10
45	S. Fossil	400	10
45	N. Fossil	600	10
Umatilla-Whitman Zone Total		19,600	
47	Northside	2,000	10
46	Murderers Cr	1,700	15
65	West Beulah	1,300 500	15
65	East Beulah	EDA	EDA ^a
66	Malheur River	1,500	15
72	Silvies	2,200	15
37	Ochoco	4,500	20
38	Grizzly	1,500	15
36	Maury	1,400	20
Ochoco-Malheur Zone Total		15,300	
35/77	Paulina/E. Ft Rock	1,600	20 15
42	Hood	120	10
41	White River	1,030	10
40/43/44	Maupin/Biggs/Col. Basin	EDA	EDA ^a
74	Warner	500	20
^b	South Central ^b	3,000	20
^c	High Desert ^c	1,000 1600	20
High Desert Region Total		7,850	
Rocky Mountain Elk Total		72,050	

^a EDA indicates the area is an Elk De-emphasis Area.

^b South Central Includes: Silver Lake, Interstate, Klamath Falls, and Sprague WMUs.

^c High Desert Includes: Steens Mt., Owyhee, Whitehorse, Beatys Butte, Wagontire, Juniper & S. Malheur River WMUs

Table 2. 2016 Roosevelt Elk Winter Population and Bull Ratio Management Objectives (MO).

Unit	Unit Name	2005-2016 Winter Population	
		MO	2016 Bull Ratio MO
11	Scappoose	2,200	10
10	Saddle Mountain	7,800	20
12	Wilson	4,800	10
14	Trask	5,200	10
17	Stott Mt.	1,500	10
18	Alsea	6,500	10
20	Siuslaw	3,500	10
15	Willamette	EDA ^a	EDA ^a
North Coast Total		31,500	
24	Tioga	8,000	15
25	Sixes	2,500	10
26	Powers	2,500	10
27	Chetco	2,500	10
28	Applegate	EDA ^a	EDA ^a
23	Melrose	EDA ^a	EDA ^a
Southwest Total		15,500	
31/33	Keno/W. Sprague	700	10
34	Upper Deschutes	700	10
39	Metolius	700	10
16	Santiam	5,200	10
19	Mckenzie	5,000	10
21/77	Indigo/W. Ft. Rock	4,700 4500	10
22	Dixon	3,750	10
29	Evans Creek	900	10
30/77	Rogue/S. Ft. Rock	3,800	10
77	W. Fort Rock	200	10
Cascade Total		25,450	
Roosevelt Elk Total		72,450	

^a EDA indicates the area is an Elk De-emphasis Area.

Table 3. 2016 Mule Deer Winter Population and Buck Ratio Management Objectives (MO).

Unit	Unit Name	2005-2016 Winter Population	
		MO	2016 Buck Ratio MO
60	Minam	7,000	25
61	Imnaha	7,000	15
53	Catherine Creek	4,300	15
63	Keating	4,600	15
62	Pine Creek	3,700	15
64	Lookout Mountain	5,000	15
Wallowa Zone Total		31,600	
59	Snake River	6,400	25
58	Chesnimnus	5,700	12
57	Sled Springs	11,000	12
56	Wenaha	4,000	12
55	Walla Walla	1,900	15
54	Mt. Emily	5,000	15 20
Wenaha-Snake Zone Total		34,000	
52	Starkey	3,000	15
49	Ukiah	8,500	15
51	Sumpter	7,000	15
50	Desolation	2,500 1500	15
48	Heppner	12,000	12
45	Fossil	10,000	12
44	Columbia Basin	10,000	12
Umatilla Whitman Zone Total		52,000	
47	Northside	15,500	15
46	Murderers Creek	9,000	15
65	Beulah	15,000	12 15
66	Malheur River	15,000	12 15
72	Silvies	12,000	12 15
37	Ochoco	20,500	15
38	Grizzly	8,500	15 20
36	Maury	5,200	15 20
Ochoco-Malheur Zone Total		100,700	
43	West Biggs	3,300	12 15
43	East Biggs	3,500	12
40	Maupin	3,000	12 15
41	White River	9,000	25
42	Hood	1,400	25
Columbia Zone Total		20,200	

Table 3 Cont. 2016 Mule Deer Winter Population and Buck Ratio Management Objectives (MO).

Unit	Unit Name	<u>2005-2016 Winter Population MO</u>	<u>2016 Buck Ratio MO</u>
39	Metolius	6,200	25
35	Paulina	16,500	15
34	Upper Deschutes	2,200 2000	15
77	Fort Rock	11,200	15
76	Silver Lake	10,300	12 15
33	Sprague	2,200	12
32	Klamath Falls	6,200	12 15
31	Keno	3,200	15
75	Interstate	14,800	15
74	Warner	5,500	
74	North Warner		25
74	South Warner		15
Central-South Zone Total		78,100	
73	Wagontire	2,500	15
70	Beatys Butte	2,800	15
71	Juniper	2,300	15
69	Steens Mountain	11,000	25
68	East Whitehorse	3,200	15
68	Trout Creek Mtns.	2,800	25
67	Owyhee	5,000	15
Southeast Zone Total		29,600	
Mule Deer Total		346,200	