

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: 10/14/2020

ISSUE:	Should the application deadline dates for the Secondary Draw and Fall Turkey Draw be changed to provide additional customer benefits?
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DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

This issue paper is requesting changing the annual application deadline dates for the Secondary Draw and Fall Turkey Draw to the last business day of the month in June and May respectively. This will result in shortening the application periods for the Secondary and Fall Turkey Draws starting for the 2021 hunting seasons, but it will allow CPW staff to provide additional benefits to our customers.

Shortening the Secondary draw window from a month to two weeks, will have the following benefits:

- **Allowing more fail-to-pay licenses from the Primary Draw to be placed in the quota pool for the Secondary Draw instead of being held and placed on the Leftover List.** This is possible by lengthening the time between the Primary Draw payment deadline and Secondary Draw applications opening by around a week.
- **Being able to run the Secondary Draw earlier in the year.** This will allow us to ship licenses sooner to successful customers. This is particularly helpful for archery or early season hunters to ensure they receive their license with plenty of time prior to the start of the season and with time to return that license for a refund, or exchange if so desired. This also gives more time to address licenses lost in the mail.

Shortening the Fall Turkey draw window from 2 months to 1 month, and moving the application period to the month of May will have the following benefits:

- **Allowing Fall Turkey draw licenses to be utilized as qualifying licenses for Secondary Draw applications.**
- **Being able to run the Fall Turkey draw earlier in the year.**
 - Allowing us to ship licenses sooner to successful customers.
 - Providing additional time for customers to return that license for a refund, restoration of preference points, or exchange if so desired.
 - Providing more time to address licenses lost in the mail.
- **Brings the Fall Turkey application period more in line with the rest of drawn species in terms of length.**

We do not believe these changes will be detrimental to customers, as the vast majority of our customers still wait until the last seven days of the application period to apply (greater than 80%). We will still be providing twice that amount of time for Secondary Draw and four times as many days for Fall Turkey.

Included is a 2021 calendar breakdown for these two changes compared to the dates from 2020. Four distinct changes will allow Primary draw fail-to-pays to be added to the Secondary draw.

1. Moving the Primary draw posting and payment period earlier. (1+ weeks)
2. Opening the Secondary draw applications slightly later. (2 weeks)
3. Closing Secondary draw application earlier. (1 week)
4. Conducting the Secondary draw slightly earlier.

Additional changes or benefits:

- LPP voucher winners from Primary draw will be notified via email of primary draw results.
- Fall Turkey licenses could be used as a qualifying license for Secondary draw.
- Licenses from the Secondary draw will be in the mail before July 15, which is more than 30 days before the earliest season (Aug 15). This will alleviate customers not receiving their Secondary draw in time to return it for a refund.
- It will be more efficient to include the fail-to-pays from the Secondary draw in the initial Leftover Day list.
 - Note: the initial Leftover Day list will still be released at the end of July so that as many of

the returned licenses (not the fail-to-pays) can be included.

DRAFT 2021 DRAW TIMING – PROPOSED

	2020 Dates	2020 Duration	2021 Dates	2021 Duration	2021-2020 Timing Difference
Primary Apps Open	Mar 1		Mar 1		0
Primary Apps Close	Apr 7	38	Apr 6	37	-1
Primary Draws Begin	May 8	32	May 6	31	-2
Primary Results Posting Begin	Jun 5	29	May 24	19	-12
Primary Payment Deadline	Jun 19	15	Jun 11	19	-8
Secondary Apps Open	Jun 3	-15	Jun 16	6	13
Secondary Apps Close	Jul 7	35	Jun 30	15	-7
Secondary Draws Begin	Jul 16	10	Jul 2	3	-14
Secondary Results Posting Begin	Jul 17	2	Jul 6	5	-11
Secondary Payment Deadline	Jul 31	15	Jul 16	11	-15
Leftover List Available	Jul 25	-5	Jul 28	13	3
Leftover Day	Aug 4	11	Aug 3	7	-1
Fall Turkey Apps Open	May 19		May 1		-18
Fall Turkey Apps Close	Jun 30	43	May 31	31	-30
Fall Turkey Draw	Jul 2	3	Jun 4	5	-28
Fall Turkey Results Posted	Jul 6	5	Jun 7	4	-29
Fall Turkey Payment Deadline	Jul 16	11	Jun 15	9	-31

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARTY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

These changes have been discussed and supported internally by the Product Planning and Coordination Team and by statewide staff. No public input has been solicited on these changes, but the changes are aimed at addressing customer complaints we heard in 2020 after the first Secondary Draw year.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Change the Fall Turkey application deadline to the last business day in May annually. Change the Secondary Draw application deadline to the last business day in June annually and add a fall turkey license to the list of eligible qualifying licenses for participating in a limited big game drawing. <i>This will require changes in both Chapters W-2 and W-3.</i></p> <p>2. Status Quo- No change to these application deadlines or associated qualifying licenses.</p>	
Issue Raised by:	John Frano, Mary Lloyd, Sherri Huwer
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Danielle Isenhart
CC:	
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Danielle Isenhart, Lauren Truitt
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Licensing and Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should mandatory reporting regulations requiring hunters to complete reports accurately be standardized across species?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Colorado Parks and Wildlife requires mandatory reporting for several types of hunting licenses and species. Sportspersons are required to fill out a mandatory report regardless of whether they harvest an animal if they hold any type of license for mountain goat, bighorn sheep, and moose or an auction or raffle licenses for deer, elk, and pronghorn. For these license types, sportspersons who do not harvest are required to submit a questionnaire which asks for details like whether they hunted, the number of days & county(ies) hunted, and if they used the service of a guide. Additionally, sportspersons who harvest animals on these licenses must submit their animals for inspection by a CPW official. Mandatory reports, including an inspection by a CPW official, are also required for any bear, mountain lion or bobcat harvested in the state. Current mandatory report forms asks for a kill/trap location along with numerous other questions such as harvest method, gender of animal, age/age class of animal, and date of kill. This information is used for law enforcement purposes and for biological/harvest data.

Law Enforcement: As animals are harvested and report forms are filled out, a copy of the form is given to the District Wildlife Manager (DWM) in the district where the animal was harvested. This is to ensure that all laws were followed during the harvest of that animal. For example, if a bear form comes in and the location of kill is on private property and the local DWM gets a tip on a violation or landowner complaint, an accurately completed form is now traceable and the DWM can go find any remaining parts at the kill site. It may also be possible to extract DNA from the kill site and compare to the animal the hunter possesses. It is also important to look at the kill site and confirm all portions of the required edible meat was taken off the animal's carcass if the hunter does not present the entire bear carcass.

Biology: Monitoring and tracking hunter success rates, age of harvested animals, and the location of harvest is also important to biologists, as their goal is to maintain and provide a sustainable population of species on the landscape. Therefore, it is important to have accurate data when making management decisions.

Currently, the only viable enforcement options for false reporting on a mandatory report form is a Title 18 class 3 misdemeanor (M3) pursuant to 18-8-111(1)(III), C.R.S. False reporting to authorities, a Title 18 class 5 felony (F5) pursuant to 18-5-102 (1)e as forgery is also applicable. No Title 33 violations fit the situation, nor does a viable regulation exist.

It would be extremely useful and beneficial for Colorado's wildlife officers to have a better regulation to write instead of a Title 18 class 3 misdemeanor or Title 18 class 5 felony when a hunter false reported in order to conserve his hunting area or lead future hunters in the wrong area. A lesser offense in minor violations is more useful and not as stringent or penalizing as a Class 3 misdemeanor or felony conviction. This lesser offense would still hold hunters and outfitters as accountable on mandatory reports.

2 CCR 406 2-#241-C.4 for black bear and 2 CCR 406 2-#242-C.1.a for mountain lions require that the mandatory report form "shall be completed accurately by the hunter". However the same verbiage of "shall be completed accurately by the hunter" is not included in the mandatory check language in: 2 CCR 406 2-#220.A (bighorn sheep); 2 CCR 406 2-#228.A (mountain goat); 2 CCR 406 2-#229.B.9 (auction & raffle licenses); 2 CCR 406 2-#270.C.2 (moose); or 2 CCR 406 3-#324-B.2.a (bobcat).

An incorrect and inaccurately filled out mandatory form has potential to mislead CPW in the areas of law enforcement and biology. Varying language amongst regulations for different species is also confusing to the public. Therefore, we are asking the Parks and Wildlife Commission to add language in 2 CCR 406 2-#209 (Special regulations) that covers all big game. This alternative would then capture all animals that require a mandatory report, including both current and any future species.

Additionally, it should be noted to mirror this language for bobcat when Chapter 3 is open for consideration (2 CCR 406 3-#324-B.2.a). Thus making all mandatory check requirements consistent.

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***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

All big game and bobcat hunters, outfitters, guides, and officers.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** 2 CCR 406 2-#209 G - For big game species requiring mandatory reporting, all questionnaires and check reports shall be accurately completed by the hunter.

2. Status quo

Issue Raised by:	Zachary Baker District Wildlife Manager (Area 13 Leadville District)	
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):		
CC:	Travis Black	
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman	
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	SE Region	
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should the season closure date for hunt code DM391P5R be changed to November 30?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Hunt code DM391P5R includes Game Management Units (GMUs) 391 & 461 that are part of DAU D-17 (Figure 1). GMUs 391 and 461 contain very little huntable public lands. The majority of deer hunting opportunity and harvest occurs on private land. Deer in this DAU concentrate on private lands and open space where achieving harvest is challenging. A high proportion of bucks reside on private land and the 5-year average sex ratio estimate in this DAU is 42 bucks/does, which is above the objective range of 20-30 bucks/does. Based upon 2019 Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) testing, CWD prevalence is estimated at 5.4% in adult male deer. In an effort to increase buck harvest and reduce the sex ratio, in 2016 the majority of male license allocation shifted from the regular rifle seasons to mostly private-land-only tags. Although buck harvest has increased slightly, success rates have decreased. There is a need to increase buck harvest to address the high sex ratio and reduce CWD prevalence below the 5% threshold outlined in the CPW CWD response plan. Based upon the last 5 years of estimated harvest, an increase to buck license quotas with current hunt codes is not projected to increase buck harvest. A change is needed to current hunt codes to increase buck harvest to a level where reducing the sex ratio can be achieved.</p> <p>Currently, the DM391P5R season dates begin with the start of the 2nd rifle season and end the last day of 4th rifle season (2020 season dates range October 24 to November 22). We recommend extending the close of the season for DM391P5R to November 30th to offer more hunting opportunities and increase buck harvest. Extending the season to November 30 in DM391P5R is in alignment with season dates in adjacent GMU Private Land Only (PLO) buck licenses. We recommend maintaining the opening data for DM391P5R on the start of the 2nd rifle season and change the closing date to November 30th annually.</p> <p>Lengthening the season for DM391P5R to close November 30th will standardize the PLO season structure with adjacent GMUs, provide additional hunting opportunity, and increase buck harvest, which is recommended to reduce the sex ratio estimate and CWD prevalence.</p>	



Figure 1: GMUs 391 and 461

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Deer hunters and private landowners in GMUs 391 and 461.

No formal outreach was conducted but opposition to this change is not expected.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Extend the closing date of DM391P5R to November 30.
2. Status quo.

Issue Raised by:	Areas 1 and 5 Staff
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Kirstie Yeager, Wildlife Biologist, Areas 1 & 5 Scott Murdoch, DWM, Conifer - Area 1
CC:	Mark Lamb, Matt Martinez, Shannon Schaller, Mark Leslie
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Mark Leslie
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	NE Region
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should Private Land Only (PLO) antlered and antlerless licenses be issued in Game Management Unit (GMU) 102?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Game Management Unit (GMU) 102 is part of the Arikaree Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-55 in northeast Colorado. Within this DAU, private land accounts for the majority of the land area. Yet, much of the hunter harvest and most of the hunting pressure occurs on public land in GMU 102. Aerial surveys have shown that deer are concentrating on the private lands due to the high hunting pressure on public lands and the limited hunting pressure on private land. This raises concerns that deer are concentrating on private lands in high enough densities that Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) may continue to persist and perpetuate in this DAU. Likewise, complaints of overcrowding on public lands in GMU 102 have increased in recent years as license numbers have been increased in attempts to manage CWD and maintain this DAU at objectives. The increased crowding has also raised safety concerns and reduced quality hunting opportunities, yet the harvest has not increased to the level necessary to maintain population objectives and deer densities remain very high on private lands. PLO buck and doe licenses have been issued in other NE Region DAUs like the South Platte River DAU, D-44, since 2000 and 2005. These licenses have been very successful in reducing hunting pressure on public lands by distributing hunters and deer harvest more evenly throughout the DAU.</p> <p>Therefore, in an effort to reduce crowding on public lands in GMU 102 and offer more hunting opportunity on private lands in this unit, we propose adding limited PLO antlered and antlerless licenses in GMU 102 for the regular and late plains rifle seasons.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
<p>External publics include deer hunters and landowners in GMU 102. Input has been gathered internally through meetings and modeling sessions between the terrestrial biologist and Area personnel. Informal external comments have been gathered hunters and landowners and all of the comments were in support of the proposed changes, citing reducing crowding for hunters and more opportunity to draw a license on private land from landowners.</p>	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Preferred Alternative*: Establish limited Private-Land-Only (PLO) antlered and antlerless licenses in GMU 102 for the regular ((DM102P1R and DF102P1R) and late plains rifle seasons (DM102P5R and DF102P5R). 2. Status quo. 	
Issue Raised by:	Marty Stratman – Wildlife Biologist
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Area 3, Todd Schmidt, Shannon Schaller, Brian Dreher, and Mark Leslie

APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Mark Leslie
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	NE REGION
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should Season Choice Whitetail-Only (WTO) deer licenses be issued in Game Management Units (GMUs) 87 and 88?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Season Choice deer licenses were introduced along the South Platte River in GMUs 91, 92, and 96 in 2009 to increase harvest of antlerless deer on private lands. Season Choice licenses allow hunting during any and all deer seasons within a GMU until the license is filled and a hunter is only restricted by method-of-take and associated regulations valid during each specific season.</p> <p>In 2012, Season Choice whitetail-only (WTO) licenses were issued in the North Tablelands deer herd, D-5, to reduce white-tailed deer numbers in this area. Currently in D-5, these licenses are only valid in GMUs 89, 90, and 95, with GMUs 87 and 88 on the west end excluded. In D-5, which is primarily high plains habitat favored by mule deer, the management goal has been to suppress white-tailed deer numbers and manage the DAU for mule deer. To achieve this goal, whitetail deer suppression should be applied throughout the DAU. Thus, we recommend making the current Season Choice WTO deer licenses in D-5 that are valid in GMUs 89, 90, and 95 to also be valid in GMUs 87 and 88. This will provide hunters more opportunity to harvest a whitetail deer throughout the entire DAU.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
<p>External publics include white-tailed deer license applicants and hunters in DAU D-5. Input has been gathered internally through meetings and discussions between the terrestrial biologist and Area personnel. External comments have been collected informally and all supported this proposed change to expand whitetail deer hunting in GMUs 87 and 88 without the need to use their primary license as it is currently.</p>	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Preferred Alternative*: Add GMUs 87 and 88 to the valid units for DE089O2X & DF089O2X Season Choice WTO deer licenses. (new hunt codes: DE087O2X & DF087O2X) 2. Status quo. 	
Issue Raised by:	Marty Stratman-Wildlife Biologist, Troy Florian-DWM
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Area 4, Schaller, Dreher, Leslie
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Mark Leslie
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code D-F-004-S4-R be created in the northern portion of Game Management Unit (GMU) 4 to manage high prevalence of chronic wasting disease?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code does not exist in GMU 4. GMU 4 is one of seven units included in Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-2 with an estimated deer population of 36,000 (Figure 1).

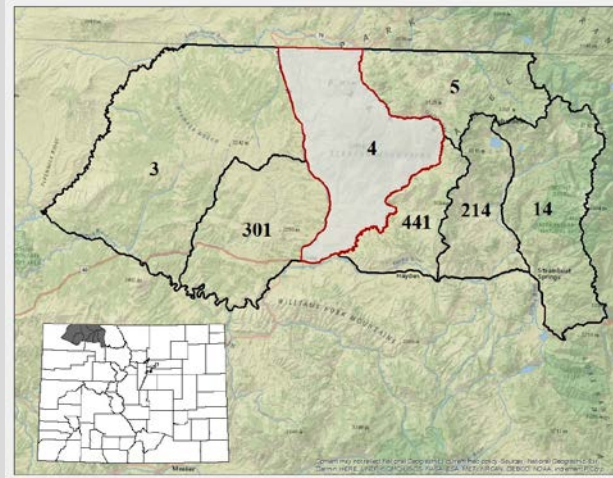


Figure 1. Mule Deer DAU D-2.

GMU 4 provides critical winter range for this herd (Figure 2).

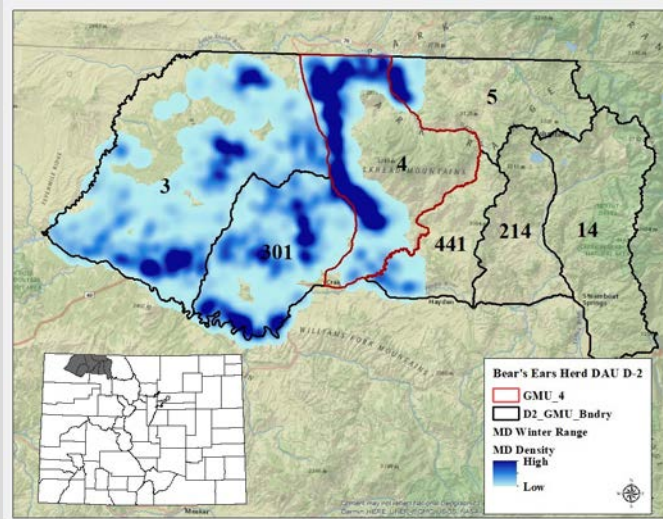


Figure 2. Mule Deer DAU D-2 relative winter range density based on sex and age classification flight data 2003-2017.

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) prevalence in GMU 4 was 23.9% (n=545) in 2018 after mandatory CWD testing for the D-2 herd (Figure 3).

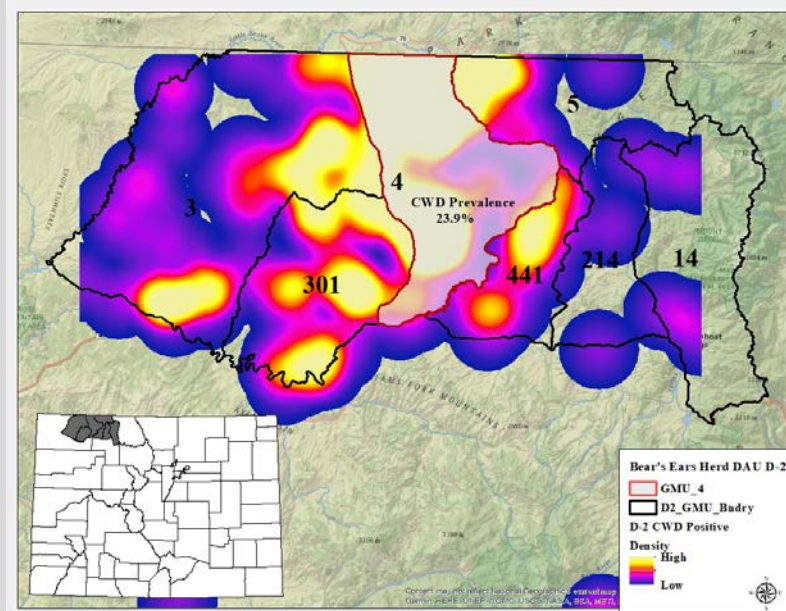


Figure 3. Mule Deer DAU D-2 relative density of positive mule deer based on sampling efforts 2018.

The Colorado Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018, Section VII Management Actions and Recommendations to Control CWD Prevalence recommends the following tactics:

- Reduce Population or Density: if the 5% prevalence threshold for adult males is met or exceeded in a herd, the CWD management response may be to reduce the population or density of animals in specific areas.
 - Increase female and/or either sex hunting licenses.
 - Increase harvest in later seasons or high prevalence areas.
 - Increase harvest by creating a Special Hunting Season for Disease Management in Big Game.
 - Increase hunter access of all types through specialized strategies or programs.
- Maximize Ability to Remove Diseased Animals at the Smallest Scales Possible (hot spots): CWD-positive animals are not uniformly distributed in a herd or over land area. Of great value to managers is an understanding of how CWD-positive animals are distributed at the smallest scale possible. This is because the most effective way to reduce CWD prevalence is to expeditiously remove concentrations of infected animals.
 - Create male and female hunt codes that provide the capability to establish focused hunts at small scales.

Surveillance efforts from mandatory CWD sampling conducted in 2018 identified northern portions of GMU 4 as a CWD hot spot (*Figure 4*).

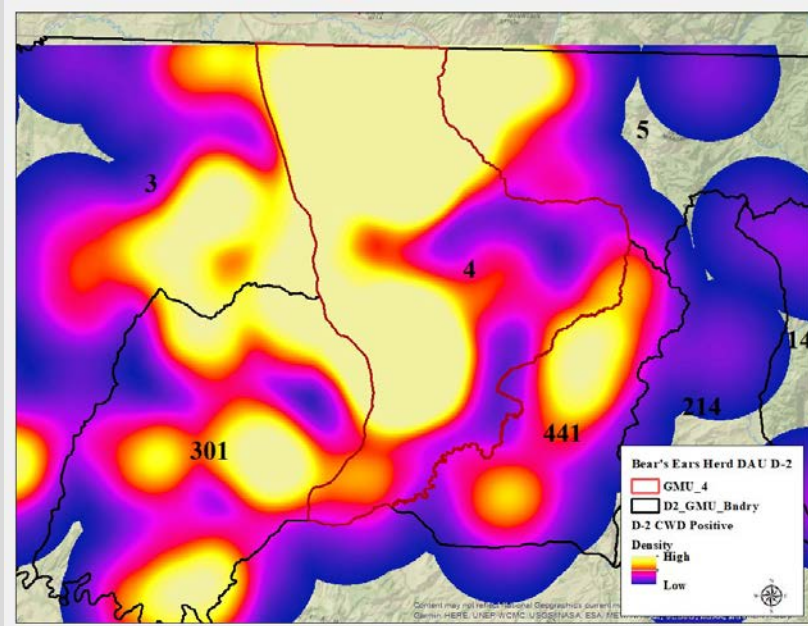


Figure 4. CWD hot spots within GMU 4 based on surveillance efforts in DAU D-2.

In an effort to reduce CWD prevalence, staff recommends creating a 4th season antlerless hunt code in GMU 4, D-F-004-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by WY; on E by Moffat CR 1; on S by Moffat CR 38; on W by Colo. 13/789. (Figure 5). The hunt code is intended to target CWD hot spots in a specific geographic area. In addition to the high CWD prevalence and high deer densities, public lands open to hunting within this geographic area in GMU 4 provides for hunter access that will help in achieving harvest objectives (Figure 6).

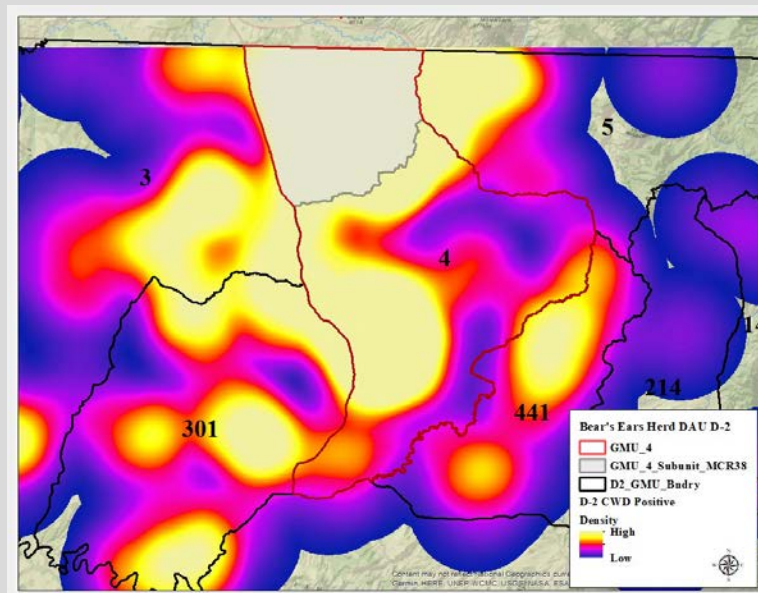


Figure 5. Proposed 4th season hunt boundary in northern portion of GMU 4.

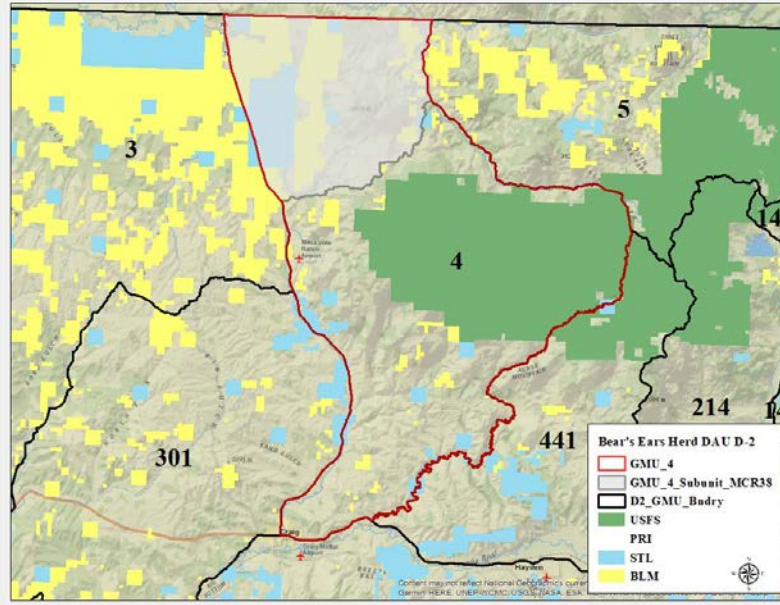


Figure 6. Surface landownership within proposed 4th season antlerless subunit of GMU 4.

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***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

CPW staff have engaged stakeholders at a CWD public meeting to share results from and findings from the 2018 mandatory CWD testing

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create a 4th season antlerless hunt code for GMU 4 D-F-004-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by WY; on E by Moffat CR 1; on S by Moffat CR 38; on W by Colo. 13/789.
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Area 6 Staff: DWM Johnathan Lambert, Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, Senior NW Bio Brad Banulis
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code D-F-011-S4-R be created in the northern portion of Game Management Unit (GMU) 11 to manage high prevalence of chronic wasting disease?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code does not exist in GMU 11. GMU 11 is one of nine units included in Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7 with an estimated deer population of 36,000 (Figure 1).

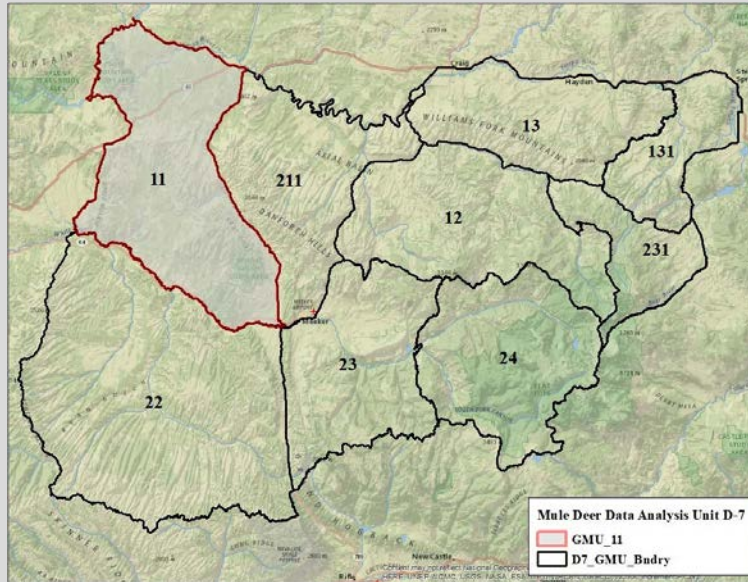


Figure 1. Mule Deer Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7.

GMU 11 provides critical winter range for this herd (Figure 2).

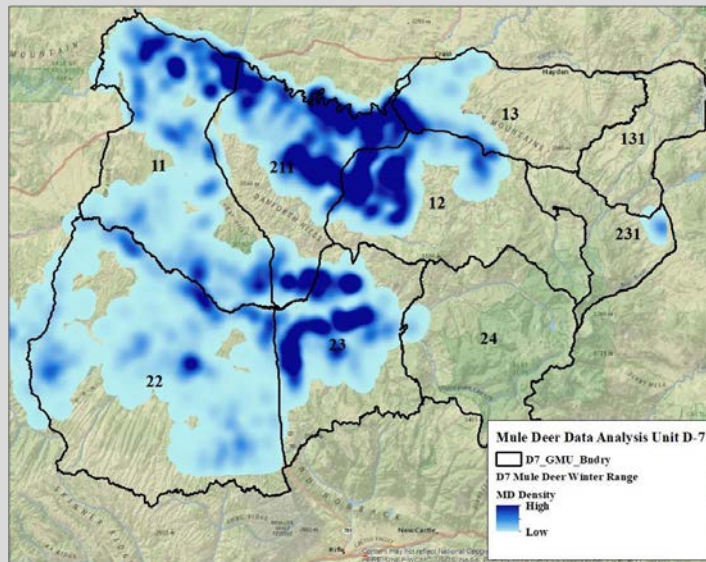


Figure 2. Mule Deer Data Analysis Unit D-7 relative winter range density based on sex and age classification flight data 2003-2017.

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) prevalence in GMU 11 was 11.3% (n=214) in 2017 after mandatory CWD testing for the D-7 herd (Figure 3).

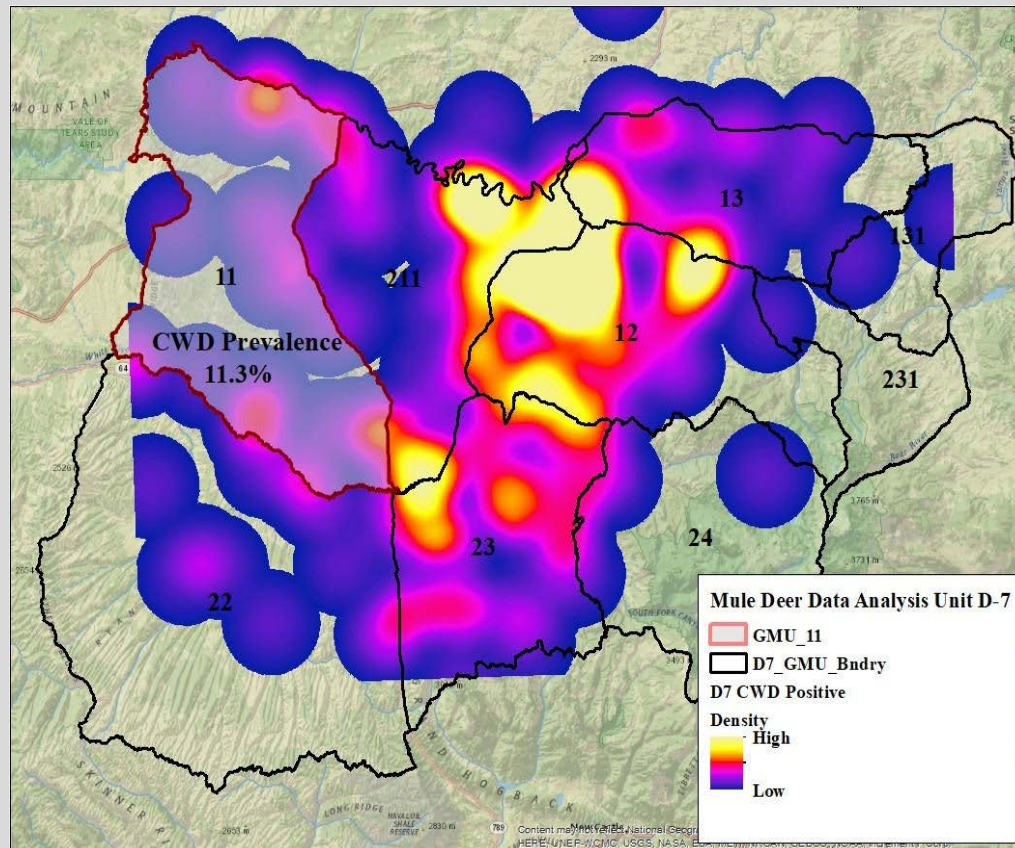


Figure 3. Mule Deer DAU D-7 relative density of positive mule deer based on sampling efforts 2003-2017.

The Colorado Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018, Section VII Management Actions and Recommendations to Control CWD Prevalence recommends the following tactics:

A. Reduce Population or Density: if the 5% prevalence threshold for adult males is met or exceeded in a herd, the CWD management response may be to reduce the population or density of animals in specific areas.

- Increase female and/or either sex hunting licenses.
- Increase harvest in later seasons or high prevalence areas.
- Increase harvest by creating a Special Hunting Season for Disease Management in Big Game.
- Increase hunter access of all types through specialized strategies or programs.

D. Maximize Ability to Remove Diseased Animals at the Smallest Scales Possible (hot spots): CWD-positive animals are not uniformly distributed in a herd or over land area. Of great value to managers is an understanding of how CWD-positive animals are distributed at the smallest scale possible. This is because the most effective way to reduce CWD prevalence is to expeditiously remove concentrations of infected animals.

- Create male and female hunt codes that provide the capability to establish focused hunts at small scales.

Surveillance efforts from mandatory CWD sampling conducted in 2017 identified northern portions of GMU 11 as CWD hot spots (Figure 4).

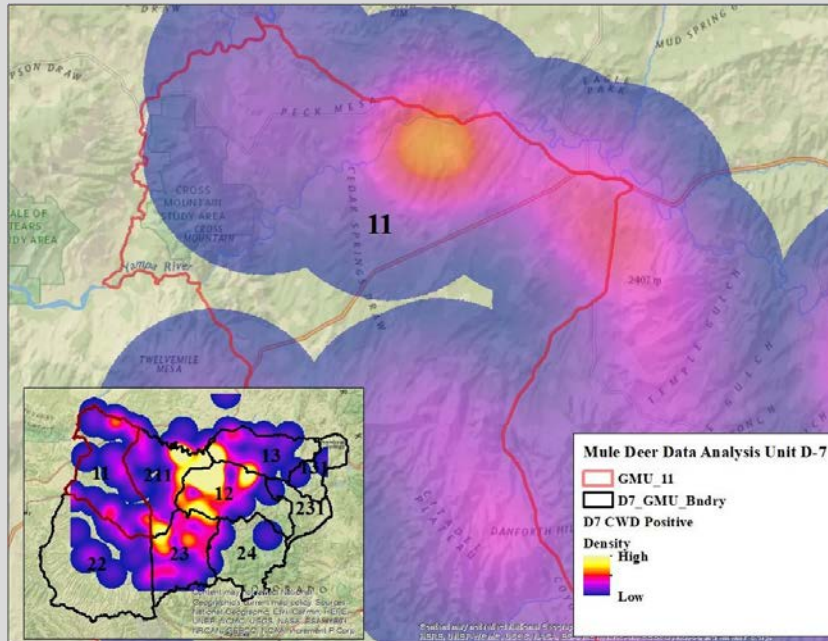


Figure 4. CWD hot spots based on surveillance efforts in DAU D-7.

In addition, there have been significant losses to the quantity and quality of winter range in the northern portion of GMU 11. A series of large-scale wildfires from 1988 - 1992 and again in the early 2000s converted these once very productive bitterbrush stands to grasslands. As a result, wintering deer have been reduced down to a smaller landscape and concentrated onto what little remnant patches of bitterbrush are still available on this very critical high-density deer winter range (Figure 5). These higher concentrations of deer creates and environment with the potential for CWD transmission rates to accelerate with increased animal to animal contact and higher prion deposition rates onto the landscape resulting in increased prevalence rates.

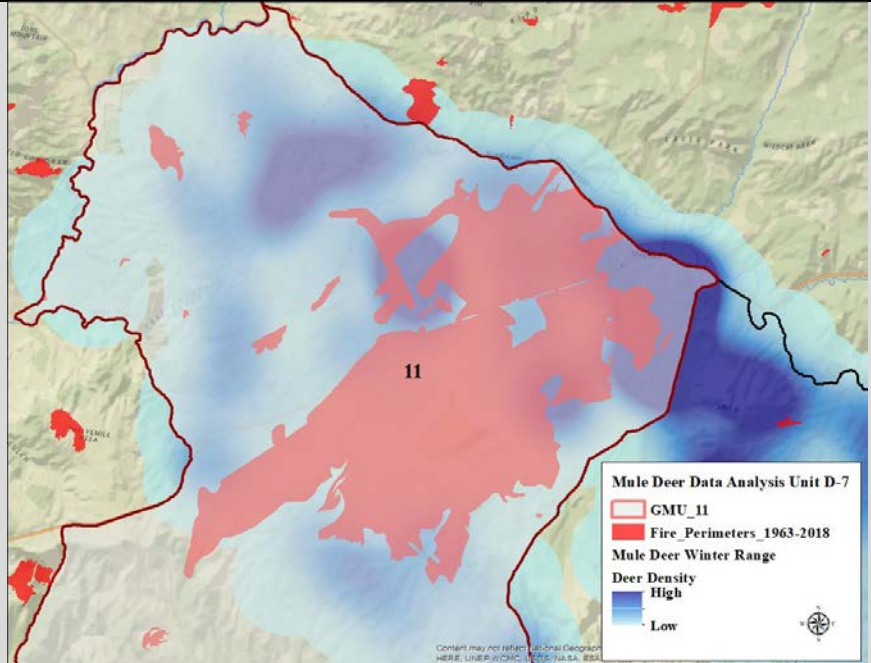


Figure 5. GMU 11 fire scars overlaid with relative densities of wintering mule deer. The figure also illustrates the significant loss of critical bitterbrush high-density mule deer winter range from wildfire.

In an effort to reduce CWD prevalence, staff recommends creating a 4th season antlerless hunt code in GMU 11, D-F-011-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by Colo. 318 and U.S. 40; on E by Deception Creek-Strawberry Creek Rd. (Moffat CR 57); on S by Moffat CR 23 and U.S. 40; on W by Twelvemile Gulch Rd., Moffat CR 25, Yampa River and Little Snake River (Figures 6).

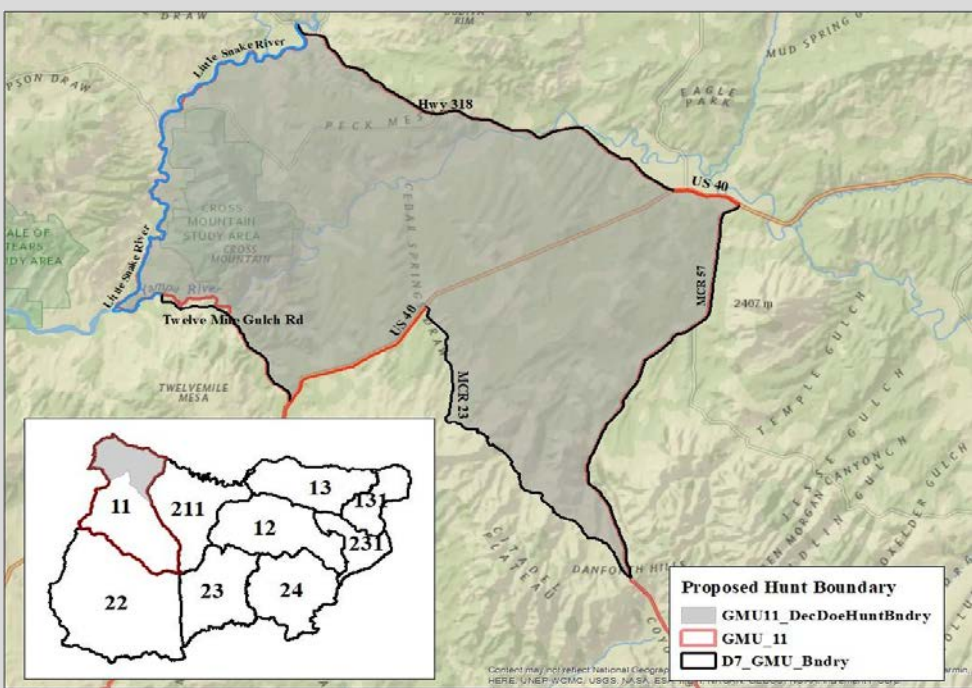


Figure 6. Proposed 4th season hunt boundary in northern portion of GMU 11.

The hunt code is intended to target CWD hot spots in a specific geographic area that has also been identified as having high rates of malnutrition on high-density deer winter range (Figures 7 & 8).

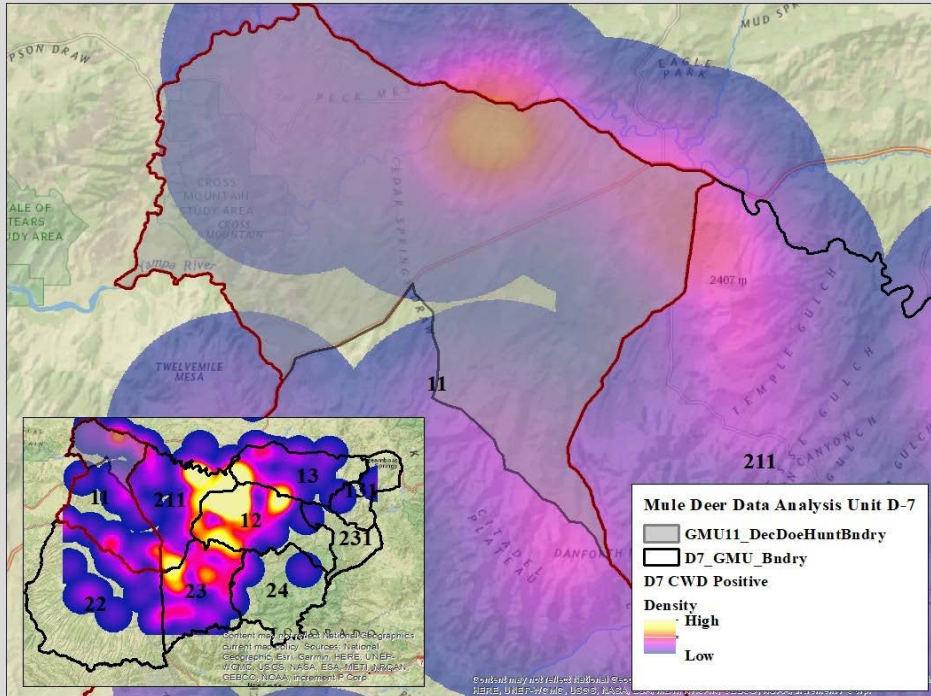


Figure 7. Proposed hunt code boundary showing CWD hot spots.

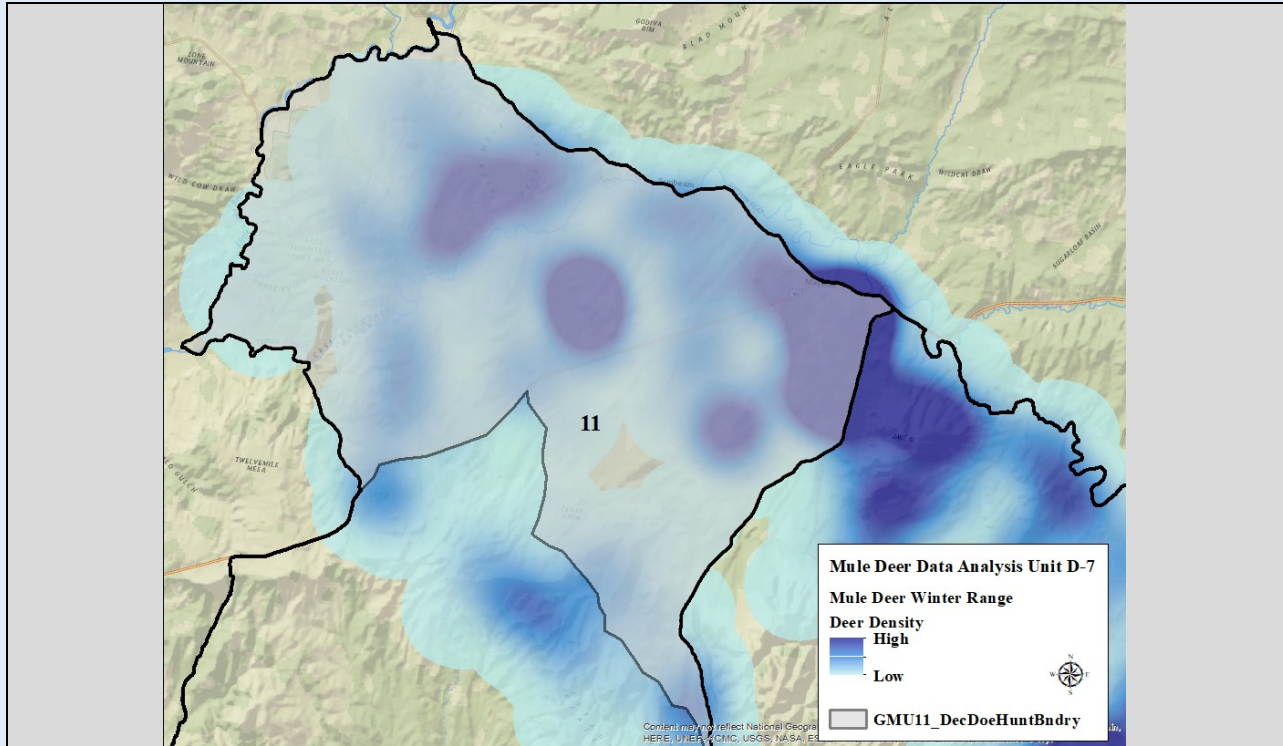


Figure 8. Proposed hunt code boundary for northern portion of GMU 11 showing high-density mule deer winter range.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Sportsmen groups
 Private landowners
 Resident and non-resident hunters
 (CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at multiple CWD public meetings and surveys, and D-7 herd management public meetings and surveys over the last two years)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create a 4th season antlerless hunt code for GMU 11, D-F-011-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by Colo. 318 and U.S. 40; on E by Deception Creek-Strawberry Creek Rd. (Moffat CR 57).; on S by Moffat CR 23 and U.S. 40; on W by Twelvemile Gulch Rd., Moffat CR 25, Yampa River and Little Snake River.
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Area 6 Staff: DWM Ross McGee, DWM Evan Jones, DWM Garrett Smith, Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)

APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code D-F-211-S4-R be created in the northern portion of Game Management Unit (GMU) 211 to manage high prevalence of chronic wasting disease?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently a 4th season antlerless deer hunt code does not exist in GMU 211. GMU 211 is one of nine units included in Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7 with an estimated deer population of 36,000 (Figure 1).

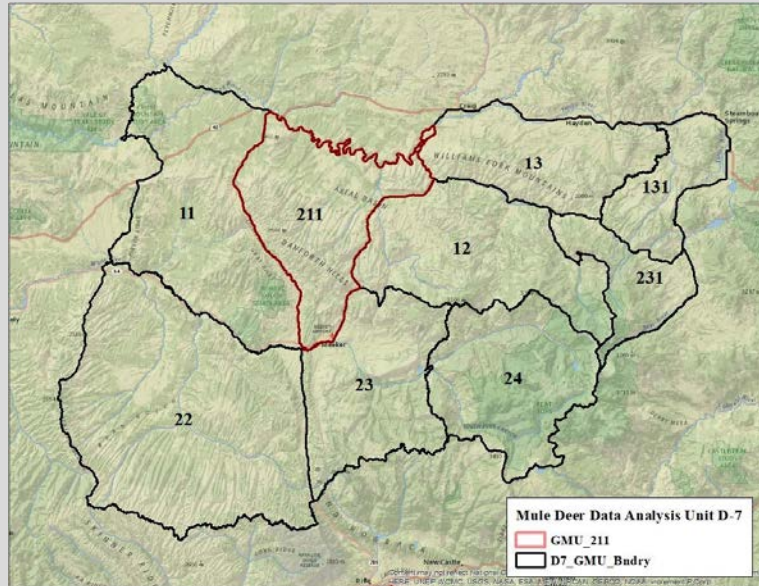


Figure 1. Mule Deer Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7.

GMU 211 provides critical winter range for this herd (Figure 2).

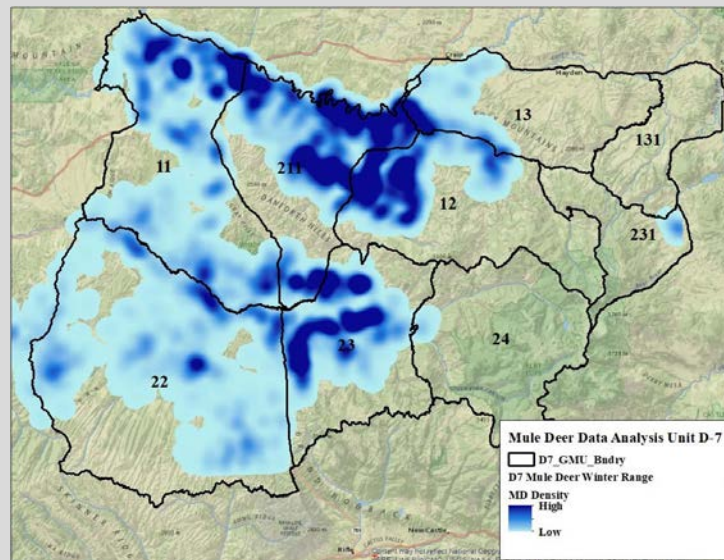


Figure 2. Mule Deer Data Analysis Unit D-7 relative winter range density based on sex and age classification flight data 2003-2017.

Surveillance efforts from mandatory testing for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in 2017 resulted in a prevalence rate of 26.7% (n=150) in GMU 211 (Figure 3).

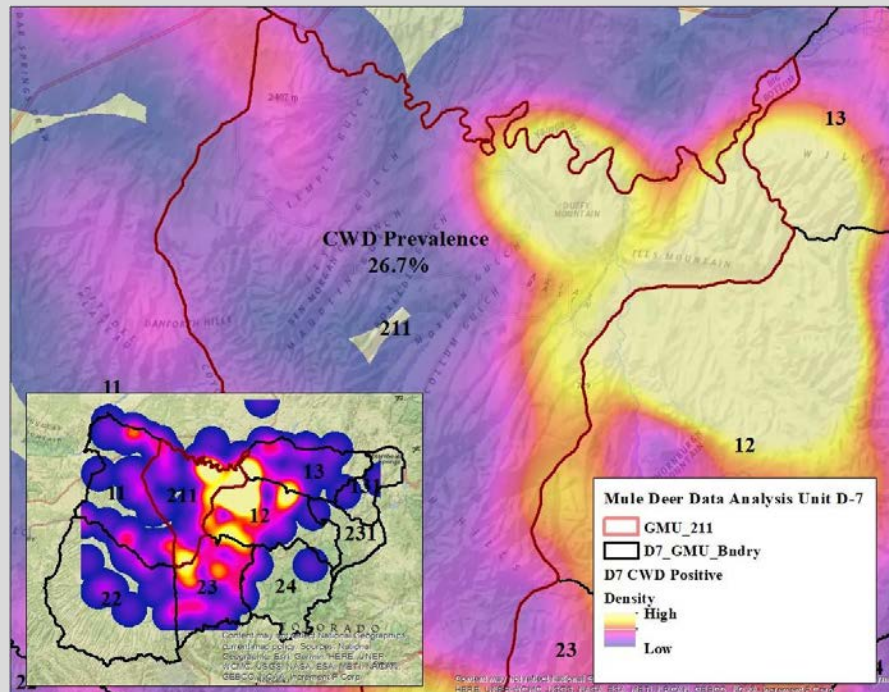


Figure 3. CWD hot spots in GMU 211 based on surveillance efforts for D-7 2003-2017.

The Colorado Chronic Wasting Disease Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018, Section VII Management Actions and Recommendations to Control CWD Prevalence recommends the following tactics:

A. Reduce Population or Density: if the 5% prevalence threshold for adult males is met or exceeded in a herd, the CWD management response may be to reduce the population or density of animals in specific areas.

- Increase female and/or either sex hunting licenses.
- Increase harvest in later seasons or high prevalence areas.
- Increase harvest by creating a Special Hunting Season for Disease Management in Big Game.
- Increase hunter access of all types through specialized strategies or programs.

D. Maximize Ability to Remove Diseased Animals at the Smallest Scales Possible (hot spots): CWD-positive animals are not uniformly distributed in a herd or over land area. Of great value to managers is an understanding of how CWD-positive animals are distributed at the smallest scale possible. This is because the most effective way to reduce CWD prevalence is to expeditiously remove concentrations of infected animals.

- Create male and female hunt codes that provide the capability to establish focused hunts at small scales.

In addition, the quality of winter range habitats in the northern portion of GMU 211 are in very poor condition. Persistent drought and herbicide application to control hoary cress (whitetop) has resulted in sagebrush mortality combined with high deer densities on winter ranges continue to contribute to degradation of range conditions. The high malnutrition rates being observed in radio-collared deer that are a part of the D-7 mule deer survival study in the northern portions of GMU 211 are evidence of the poor range conditions (Figure 4).

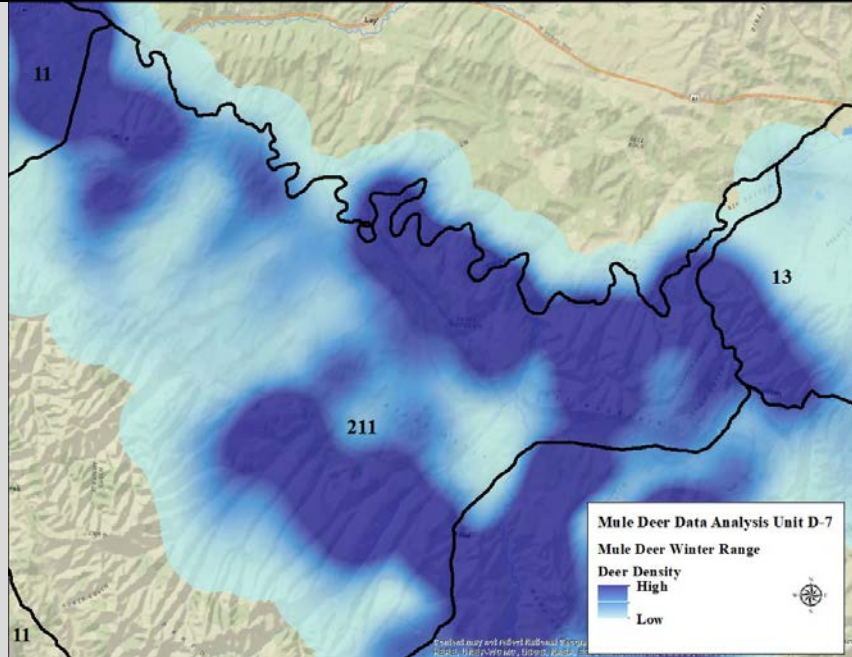


Figure 4. High-density mule deer winter ranges in the northern portion of GMU 211.

In an effort to reduce CWD prevalence, staff recommends creating a 4th season antlerless hunt code in GMU 211, D-F-211-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by U.S. 40 and Yampa River; on E by Colo.13/789; on S by Moffat CRs 17, 51 and 32, on W by Deception Creek-Strawberry Creek Rd. (Moffat CR 57) (Figure 5).

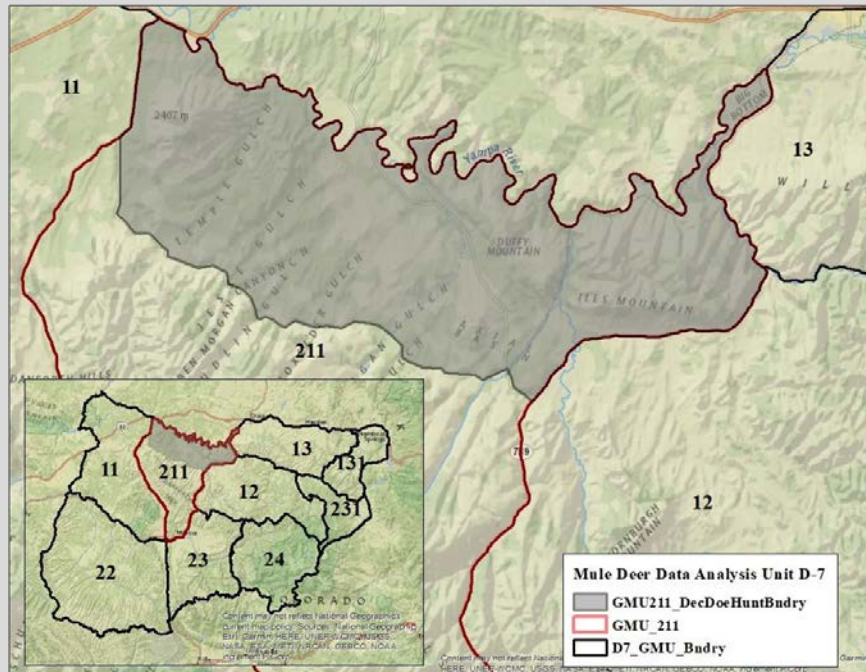


Figure 5. Proposed 4th season antlerless hunt boundary in northern portion of GMU 211.

The hunt code is intended to target CWD hot spots in a specific geographic area that has also been identified as having high densities of deer on winter range (Figure 6). The high deer densities across this

winter range are causing range degradation and likely contributing to accelerated rates of CWD transmission, higher prevalence, and increased deposition of prions onto the landscape (Figure 7).

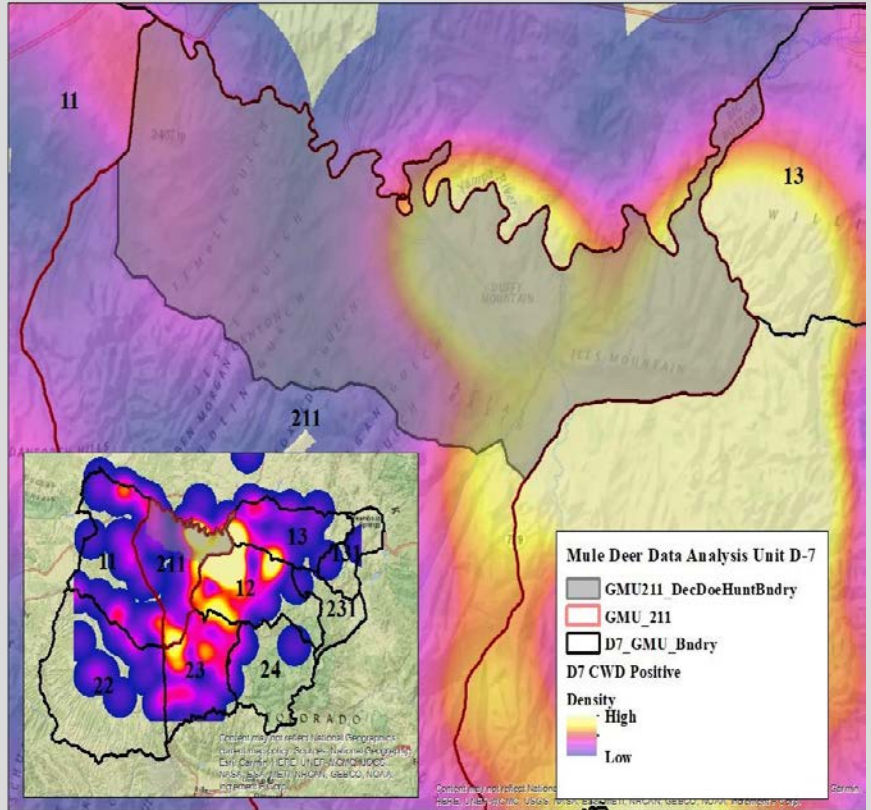


Figure 6. Proposed 4th season antlerless hunt code boundary showing CWD hot spot in northern portion of GMU 211.

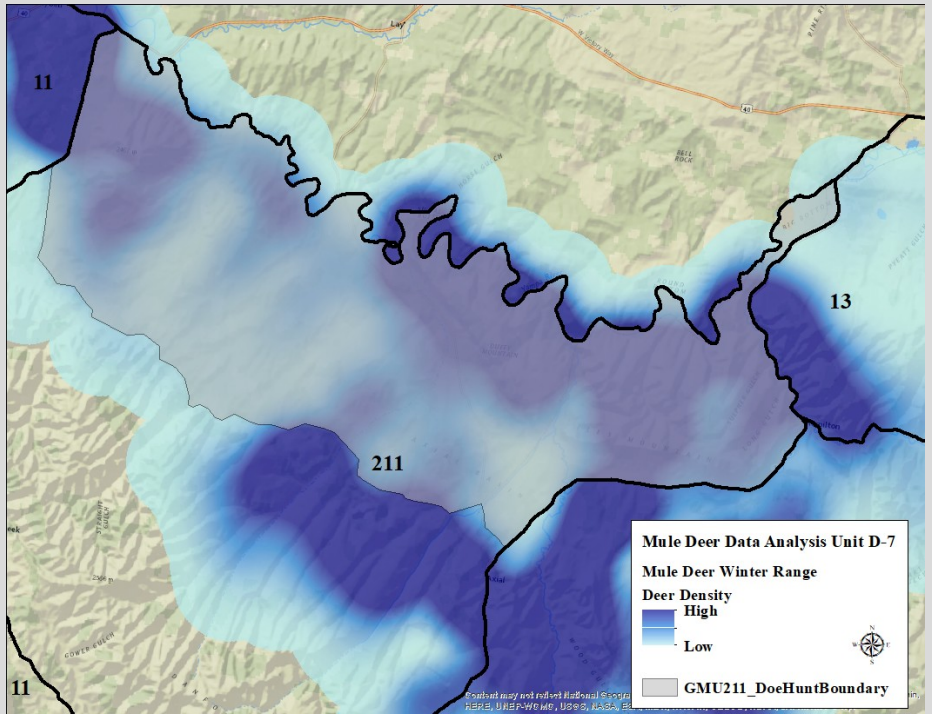


Figure 7. Proposed 4th season hunt code boundary for northern portion of GMU 211 showing high-density mule deer winter range.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Sportsmen groups
 Private landowners
 Resident and non-resident hunters
 (CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at multiple CWD public meetings and surveys, and D7 herd management public meetings and surveys over the last two years)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create a 4th season antlerless hunt code for GMU 211, D-F-211-S4-R. The geographic boundary for the proposed hunt code is as follows: bounded on N by U.S. 40 and Yampa River; on E by Colo.13/789; on S by Moffat CRs 17, 51 and 32, on W by Deception Creek-Strawberry Creek Rd. (Moffat CR 57).
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Area 6 Staff: DWM Ross McGee, DWM Evan Jones, Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a private land only (PLO) either sex deer hunt code, DE003P4R, be created for the 4th rifle season in Game Management Units (GMUs) 3 and 301?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently, only hunt code DM003O4R exists for antlered deer during the 4th rifle season within GMUs 3 and 301 (Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-2) valid on public and private land. Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code would provide for additional hunting opportunity on private lands.

Deer are distributed across winter range during 4th season in GMUs 3 and 301. Landownership across deer winter range in GMUs 3 and 301 is about 56% privately owned. Just over 84% of mule deer winter range within GMU 301 is private, while only about 44% private ownership occurs in GMU 3 (Figure 1). Increasing hunting opportunity on private lands within GMU 3 and 301 where high densities of wintering deer occur will allow the potential to better distribute harvest and aid in achieving desired management objectives (Figure 2).

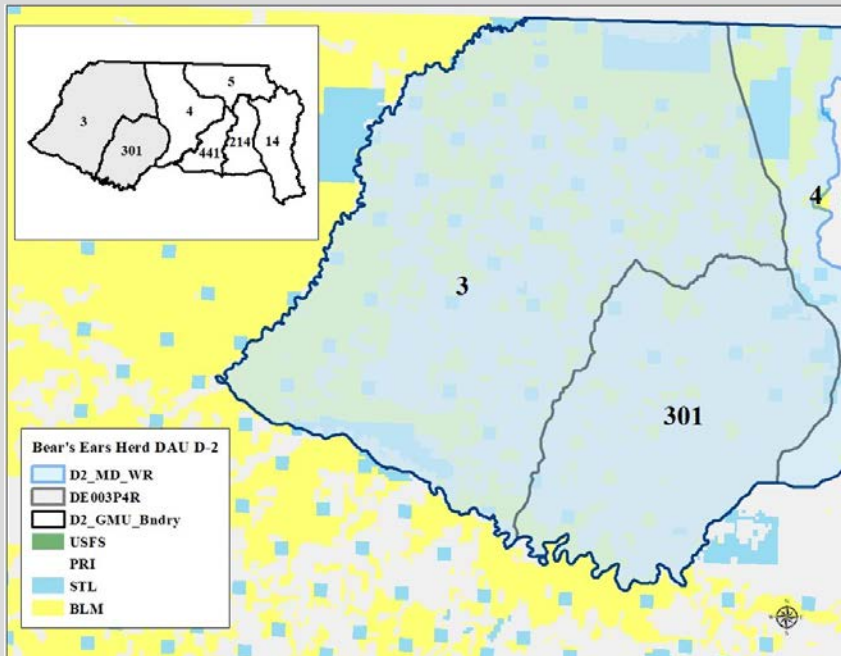


Figure 1. Mule deer winter range and landownership within proposed hunt code DE003P4R.

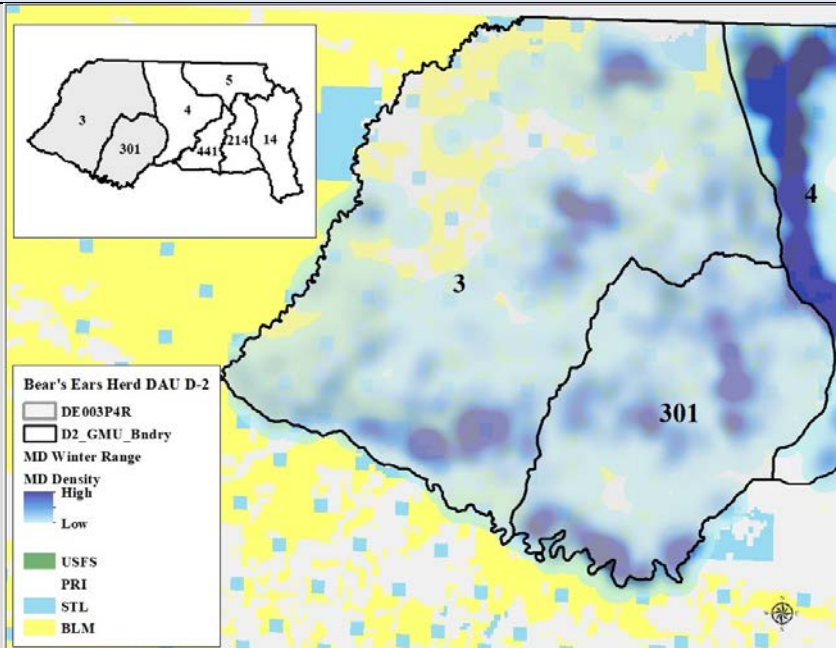


Figure 2. Relative density of mule deer on winter ranges within proposed hunt code DE003P4R based on sex and age classification flights 2003-2018.

Creating a 4th season either-sex PLO hunt code would allow for additional management alternatives including increased opportunity to achieve herd sex ratio objectives and a management tool to reduce CWD prevalence. Results from CWD surveillance efforts conducted in GMUs 3 (n=591) and 301 (n=294) during the 2018 hunting season showed male prevalence rates of 11% and 16.3%, respectively. Large CWD hot spots occur within the northern and central portions of GMUs 3 and 301 as well as the southeastern portions of both units. Land ownership within hot spots is mixed so having the ability to provide increased opportunity on private lands would be beneficial to achieving management objectives (Figure 3). Creation of a 4th season PLO hunt code is supported as one of the management tactics recommended in the CWD Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018 to increase availability of PLO licenses to increase male harvest in later seasons.

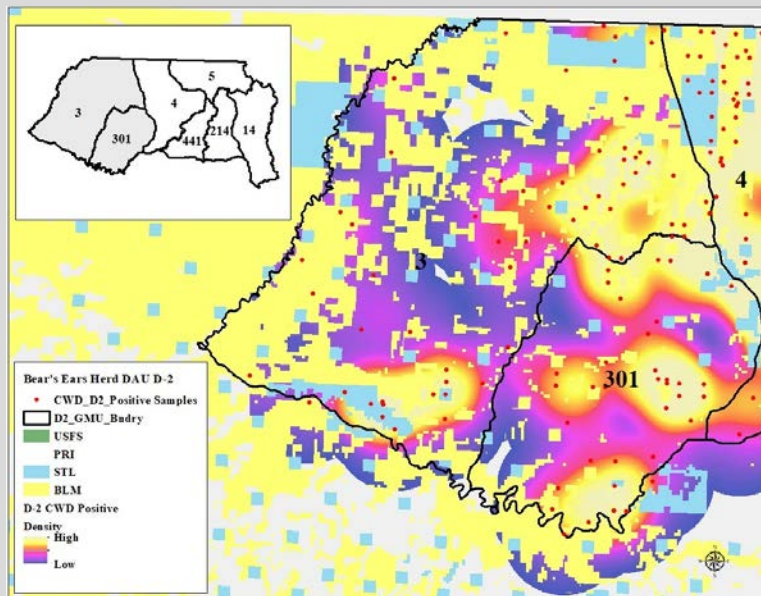


Figure 3. Relative density of CWD positive deer during 2018 surveillance efforts.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Internal: This issue has been discussed at an Area 6 and Regional level between the DWM, Terrestrial Biologist, and AWM.

External: Sportsmen groups, private landowners
(CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at CWD public meetings over the last two years)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create an either sex 4th rifle season PLO hunt code DE003P4R valid for GMUs 3 and 301.
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley, DWM Johnathan Lambert, DWM Jeff Goncalves
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AWM Kris Middledorf, AAWM Mike Swaro, AAWM Josh Dilley, DWM Justin Pollock
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a private land only (PLO) either sex deer hunt code, DE004P4R, be created for the 4th rifle season in GMUs 4 and 441?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently, only hunt code DM004O4R exists for antlered deer during the 4th rifle season within GMUs 4 and 441 (DAU D-2) valid on public and private land. Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code would provide for additional hunting opportunity on private lands.

Deer are distributed across winter range during 4th season in GMUs 4 and 441. Landownership across deer winter range in GMUs 4 and 441 is predominantly private (67.5%%) (Figure 1). Increasing hunting opportunity on private lands within GMU 4 and 441 where high densities of wintering deer occur will allow the potential to better distribute harvest and aid in achieving desired management objectives (Figure 2).

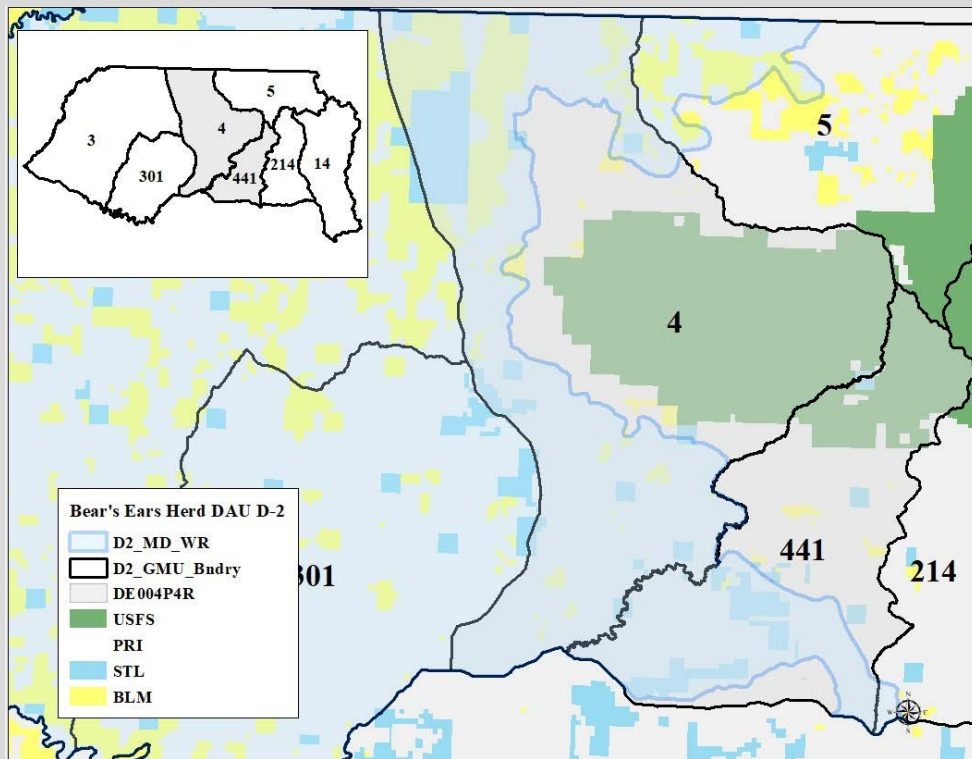


Figure 1. Mule deer winter range and landownership within proposed hunt code DE004P4R.

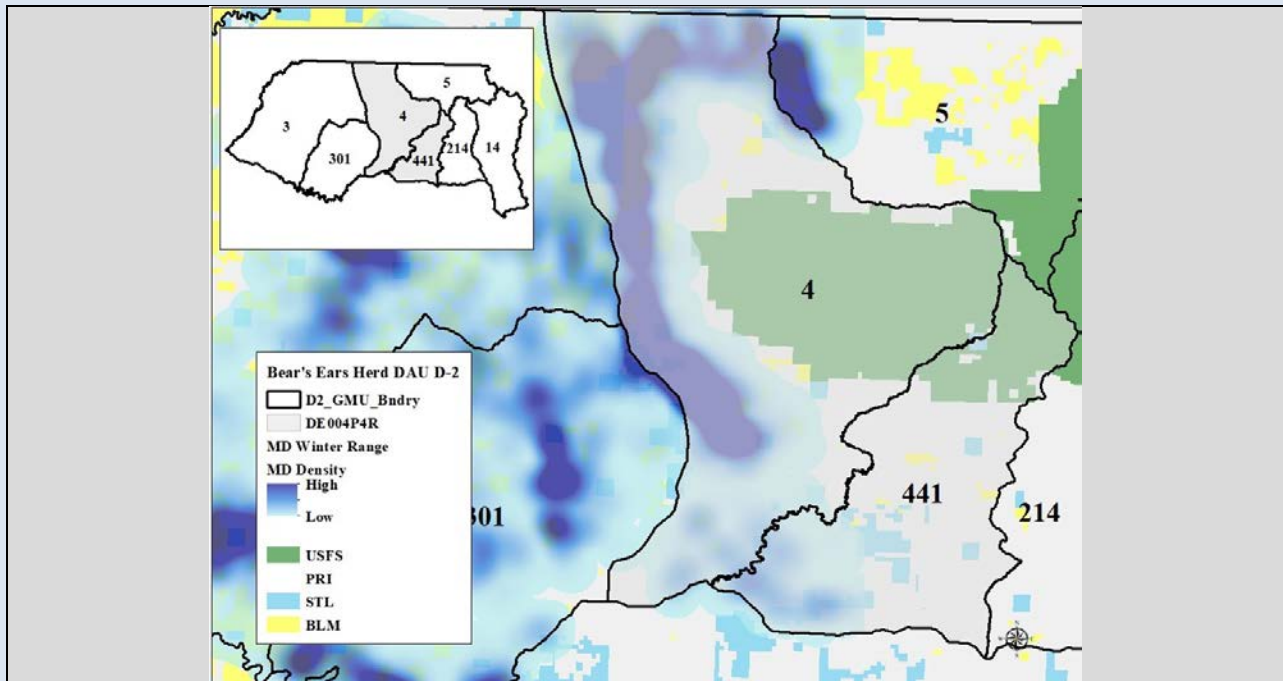


Figure 2. Relative density of mule deer on winter ranges within proposed hunt code DE004P4R based on sex and age classification flights 2003-2018.

Creating a 4th season either-sex PLO hunt code would allow for additional management alternatives including increased opportunity to achieve herd sex ratio objectives and a management tool to reduce CWD prevalence. Results from CWD surveillance efforts conducted in GMUs 4 (n=545) and 441 (n=78) during the 2018 hunting season showed male prevalence rates of 24.1% and 26%, respectively. Large CWD hot spots occur within the northern and western portions of GMU 4 and central portions of GMU 441. Landownership within hot spots is predominantly private land (Figure 3). Creation of a 4th season PLO hunt code is supported as one of the management tactics recommended in the CWD Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018 to increase availability of PLO licenses to increase male harvest in later seasons.

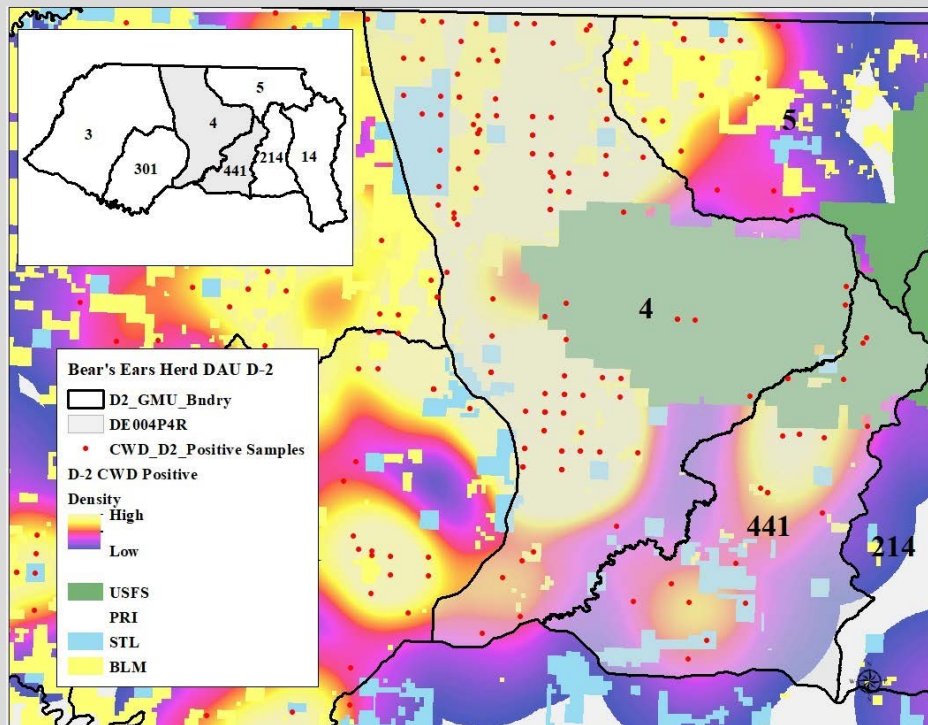


Figure 3. Relative density of CWD positive deer during 2018 surveillance efforts.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Internal: This issue has been discussed at an Area 6 and Regional level between the DWM, Terrestrial Biologist, and AWM.

External: Sportsmen groups, private landowners
(CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at CWD public meetings over the last two years)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create an either sex 4th rifle season PLO hunt code DE004P4R valid for GMUs 4 and 441.

2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley, DWM Johnathan Lambert
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AWM Kris Middendorf, AAWM Mike Swaro, AAWM Josh

	Dilley, DWM Justin Pollock, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a private land only (PLO) either sex deer hunt code, DE005P4R, be created for the 4th rifle season in Game Management Unit (GMU) 5?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently, only hunt code DM005O4R exists for antlered deer during the 4th rifle season within GMU 5 (Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-2) valid on public and private land. Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code for GMU 5 would provide for additional hunting opportunity on private lands.

Deer are distributed across winter range during 4th season, primarily lower elevations in the western portions of GMU 5. Landownership across deer winter range in GMU 5 is a mix of private and public land (Figure 5). Public access in this portion of the unit is limited to two separate Bureau of Land Management (BLM) parcels with three legal access points. With such limited access to these relatively small BLM parcels, hunter crowding is a major issue and requires CPW managers to be conservative with deer licenses making it difficult to achieve desired harvest objectives.

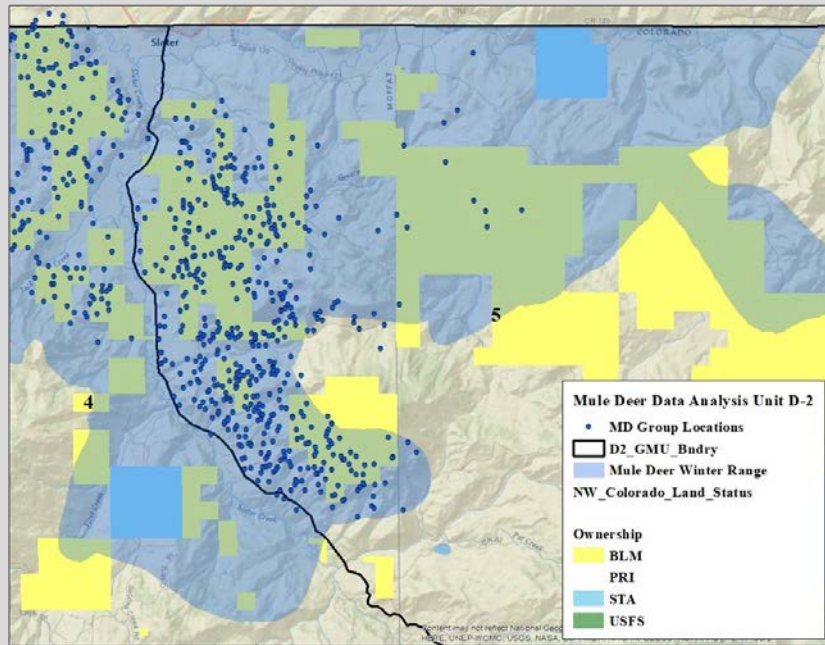


Figure 1. Mule deer distribution on winter ranges based on winter classification flight observations.

Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code would allow for additional management alternatives including an increased opportunity to achieve herd sex ratio objectives and a management tool to reduce CWD prevalence. Results from CWD surveillance efforts conducted in GMU 5 during the 2018 hunting season showed a 23.7% prevalence rate with a hot spot in the northwestern portion of GMU 5 (Figure 2).

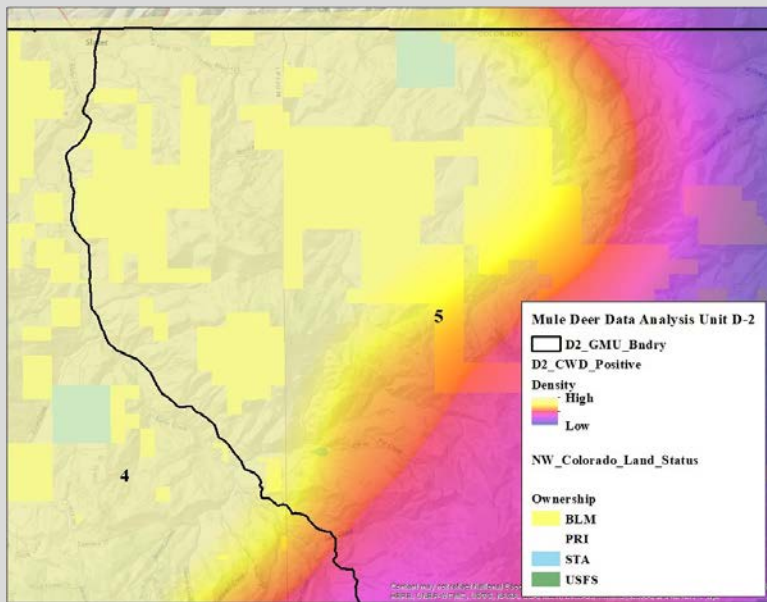


Figure 2. Relative density of CWD positive deer during 2018 surveillance efforts.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Internal: This issue has been discussed at an Area 6 level between the DWM, Terrestrial Biologist, and AWM.

External: DWM discussions with hunters, local outfitters, ranch managers, and landowners about past issues observed, such as an increase in trespass complaints, when license numbers are increased to the existing hunt code of DM005O4R.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create an either sex 4th rifle season PLO hunt code DE005P4R for GMU 5.
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	DWM Johnathan Lambert and Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, AWM Kris Middledorf, AAWM Josh Dilley, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a private land only (PLO) either sex deer hunt code, DE011P4R, be created for the 4th rifle season in Game Management Units (GMUs) 11 and 211?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently, only hunt code DM011O4R exists for antlered deer during the 4th rifle season within GMUs 11 and 211 (Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7) valid on public and private land. Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code would provide for additional hunting opportunity on private lands.

Deer are distributed across winter range during 4th season in GMUs 11 and 211. Landownership across deer winter range in GMU 211 is 58% private and 32% private within GMU 11 (Figure 1). Increasing hunting opportunity on private lands within GMUs 11 and 211 where high densities of wintering deer occur will allow the potential to better distribute harvest and aid in achieving desired management objectives (Figure 2).

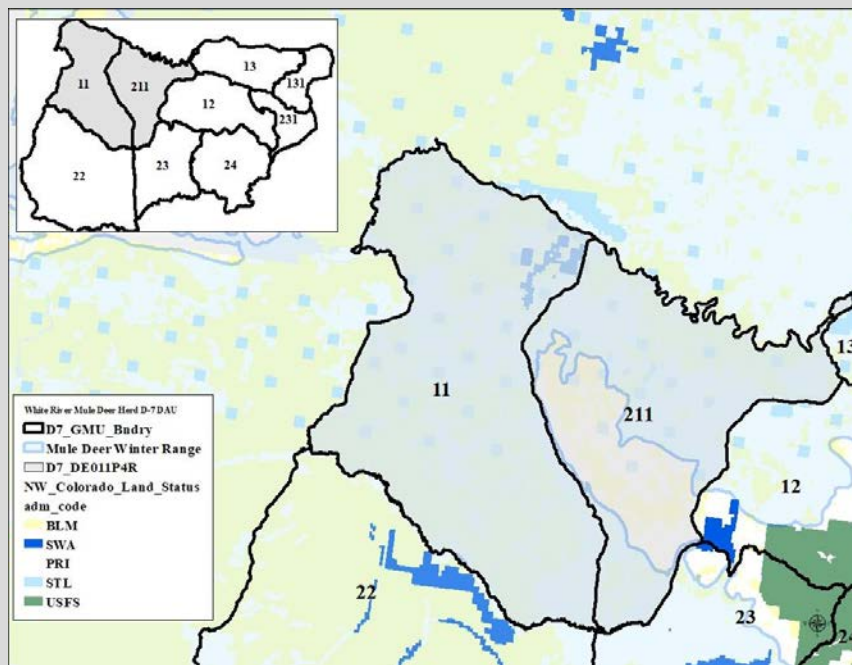


Figure 1. Mule deer winter range and landownership within proposed hunt code DE011P4R.

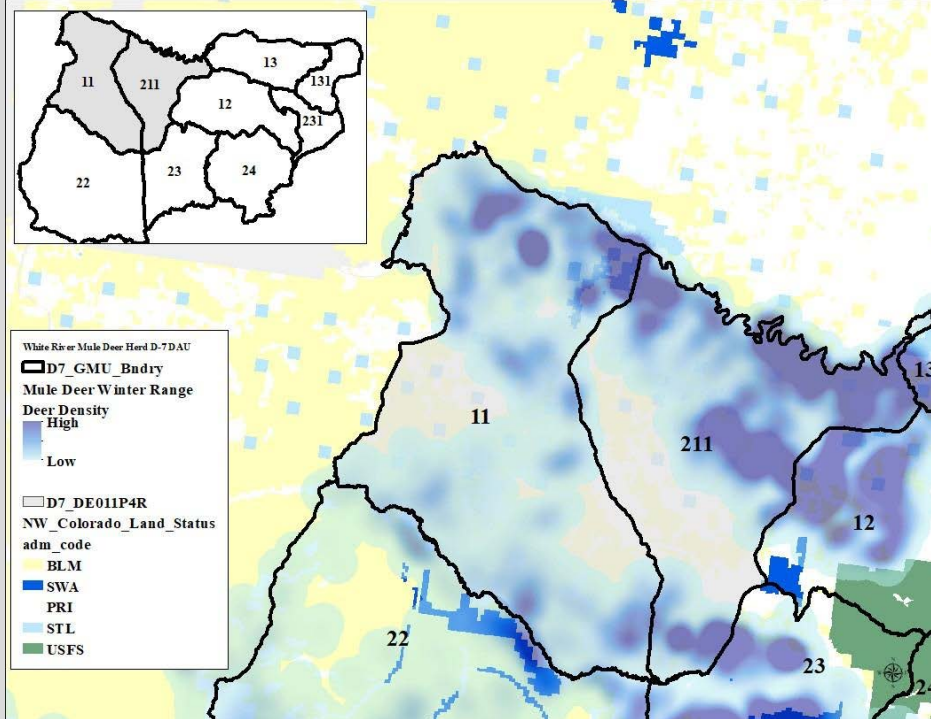


Figure 2. Relative density of mule deer on winter ranges within proposed hunt code DE011P4R based on sex and age classification flights 2003-2018.

Creating a 4th season either-sex PLO hunt code would allow for additional management alternatives including increased opportunity to achieve herd sex ratio objectives and a management tool to reduce CWD prevalence. Results from CWD surveillance efforts conducted in GMU 11 and 211 during the 2017 hunting season showed prevalence rates of 11.2% and 26.7%, respectively, with a large hot spot in the northeastern portion of GMU 211 centered around private land as well as smaller hot spots in the north-central and south-central portions of GMU 11 (Figure 3). Creation of a 4th season PLO hunt code is supported by one of the management tactics recommended in the CWD Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018 to increase availability of PLO licenses to increase male harvest in later seasons.

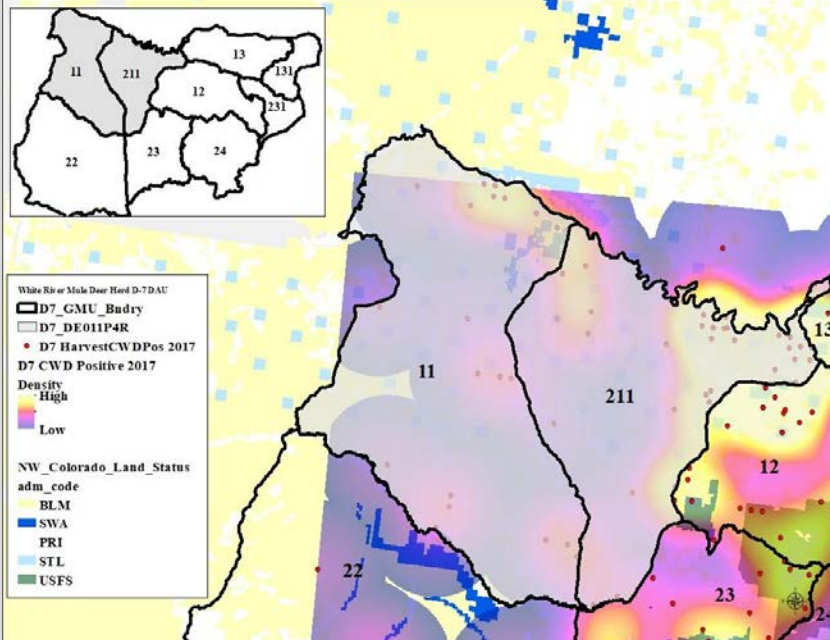


Figure 3. Relative density of CWD positive deer during 2017 surveillance efforts.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Internal: This issue has been discussed at an Area 6 and Regional level between the DWM, Terrestrial Biologist, and AWM.

External: Sportsmen groups, private landowners, resident and non-resident hunters. (CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at multiple CWD public meetings and surveys, and D7 herd management public meetings and surveys over the last year)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create an either sex 4th rifle season PLO hunt code DE011P4R valid for GMUs 11 and 211.
2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley, DWM Ross McGee, DWM Evan Jones, DWM Garrett Smith, DWM Tom Knowles
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should a private land only (PLO) either sex deer hunt code, DE012P4R, be created for the 4th rifle season in Game Management Units (GMUs) 12, 13, 23 and 24?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Currently, only hunt code DM012O4R exists for antlered deer during the 4th rifle season within GMUs 12, 13, 23 and 24 (Data Analysis Unit (DAU) D-7) valid on public and private land. Creating a 4th season either sex PLO hunt code would provide for additional hunting opportunity on private lands.

Deer are distributed across winter range during 4th season in GMUs 12, 13, 23 and 24. Landownership across deer winter range in GMUs 12, 13, 23 and 24 is predominantly private (76.8%) (Figure 1). Increasing hunting opportunity on private lands within GMU 12, 13, 23, and 24 where high densities of wintering deer occur will allow the potential to better distribute harvest and aid in achieving desired management objectives (Figure 2).

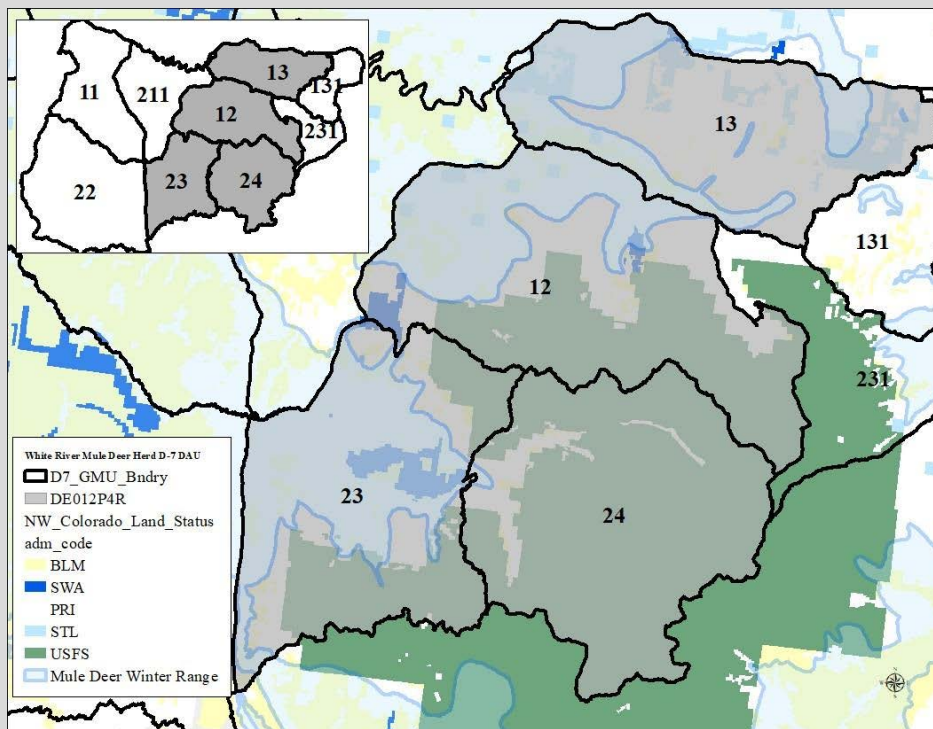


Figure 1. Mule deer winter range and landownership within proposed hunt code DE012P4R.

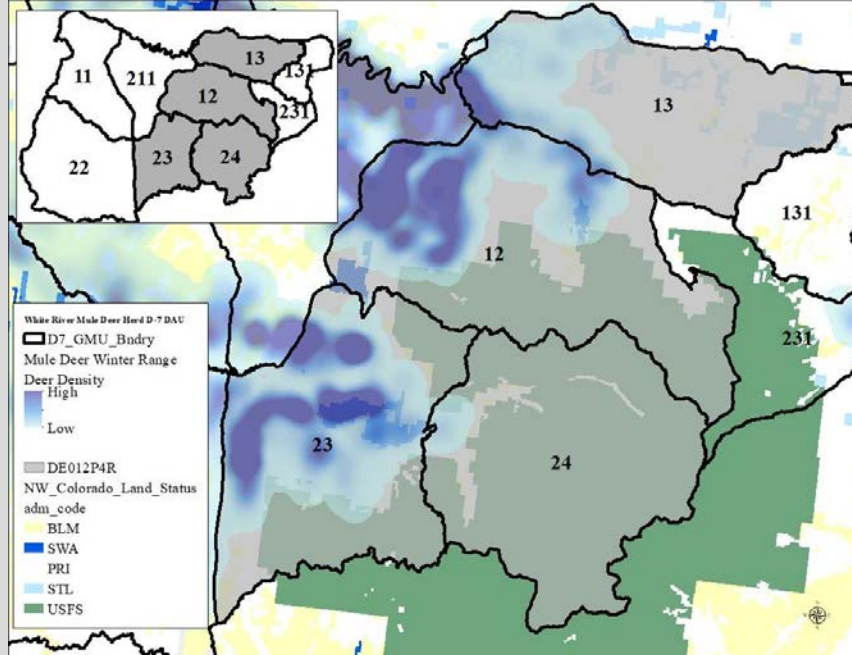


Figure 2. Relative density of mule deer on winter ranges within proposed hunt code DE012P4R based on sex and age classification flights 2003-2018.

Creating a 4th season either-sex PLO hunt code would allow for additional management alternatives including increased opportunity to achieve herd sex ratio objectives and a management tool to reduce CWD prevalence. Results from CWD surveillance efforts conducted in GMUs 12, 13, 23, and 24 during the 2017 hunting season showed prevalence rates of 25%, 23.8%, 17.7%, and 10.7%, respectively. Large CWD hot spots occur within the northwestern portion of GMU 12, western portion of GMU 13, and east-central portions of GMU 23. Landownership within hot spots in GMUs 12 and 13 are predominantly private land and the majority of CWD positive bucks harvested during the 3rd season in GMU 23 were on private lands (Figure 3). Creation of a 4th season PLO hunt code is supported as one of the management tactics recommended in the CWD Response Plan approved by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in December 2018 to increase availability of PLO licenses to increase male harvest in later seasons.

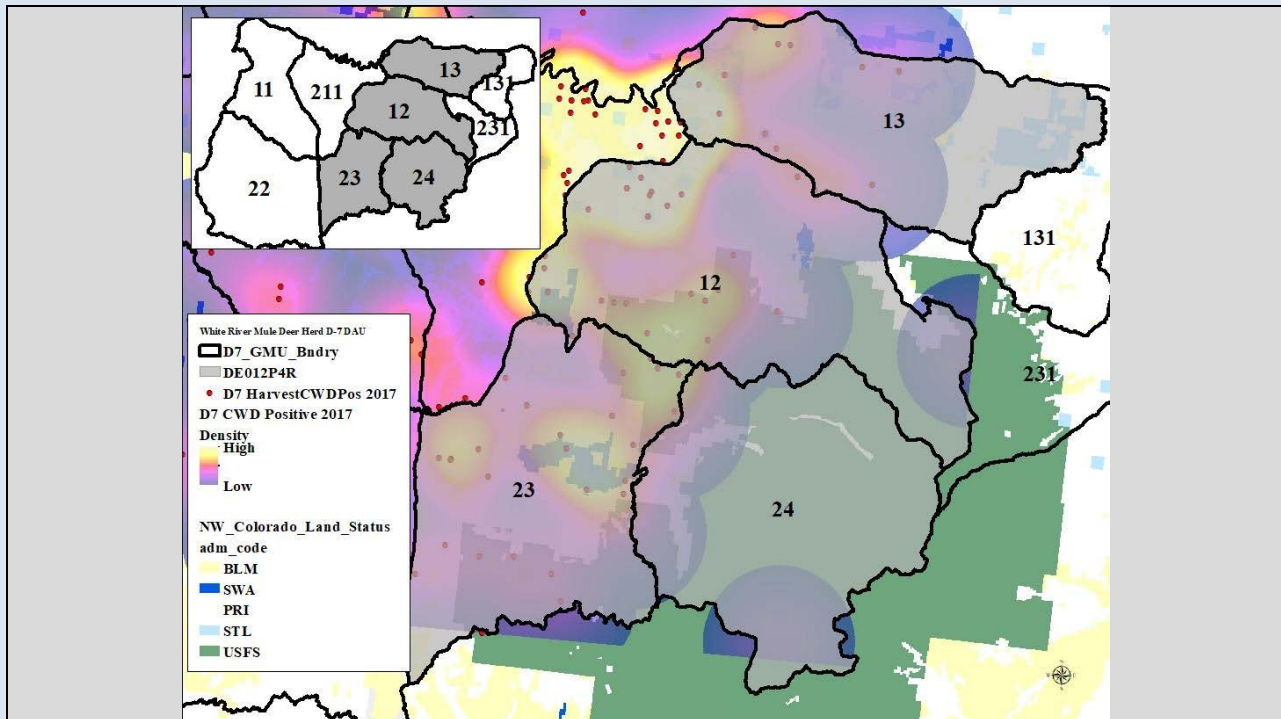


Figure 3. Relative density of CWD positive deer during 2017 surveillance efforts.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Internal: This issue has been discussed at an Area 6 and Regional level between the DWM, Terrestrial Biologist, and AWM.

External:

Sportsmen groups, private landowners, resident and non-resident hunters (CPW staff have engaged these stakeholders at multiple CWD public meetings and surveys, and D7 herd management public meetings and surveys over the last year)

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Create an either sex 4th rifle season PLO hunt code DE012P4R valid for GMUs 12, 13, 23 and 24.

2. No change

Issue Raised by:	Terrestrial Biologist Darby Finley, DWM Evan Jones, DWM Bailey Franklin, DWM Ross McGee
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Darby Finley, A6 Terrestrial Biologist
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), AWM Bill deVergie, AAWM Mike Swaro, Brad Banulis (NW Senior Biologist)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should hunt code DF481L1R be converted to DF481P5R?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

The D-15 (Cottonwood Creek) deer herd includes Game Managements Units (GMUs) 48, 56, 481, and 561, west of the towns of Salida, Buena Vista, and Leadville along the Collegiate Range and east of the Continental Divide (Figure 1). While this population has declined since the 1980s and is below the population objective (Figure 2), year-round deer densities in the urban interface surrounding the towns of Buena Vista and Salida have increased in recent decades. The DF481L1R and DF056L1R hunt codes (valid Sept 1 – Oct 31) were established in 2011 to target urban deer in and around Buena Vista and Salida and reduce human conflict. However, Area 13 staff believe the DF481L1R hunt code would be more effective if converted to DF481P5R, as deer occurring on very limited public land in the far north boundary of the unit are disproportionately being targeted rather than the intended urban deer.

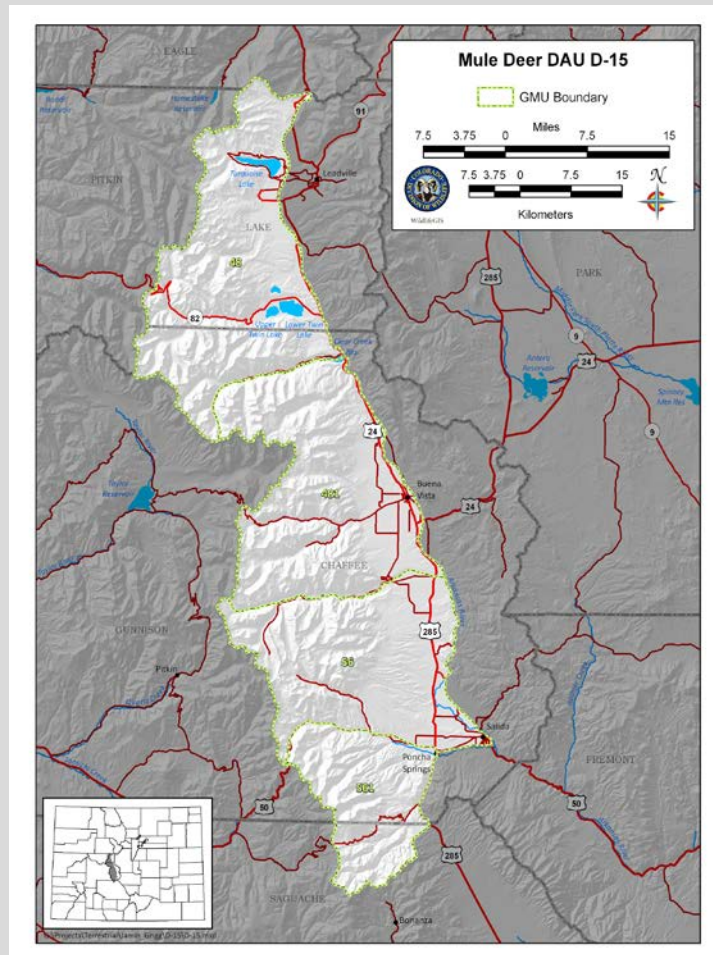


Fig. 1. Mule Deer DAU D-15 (Cottonwood Creek Deer Herd).

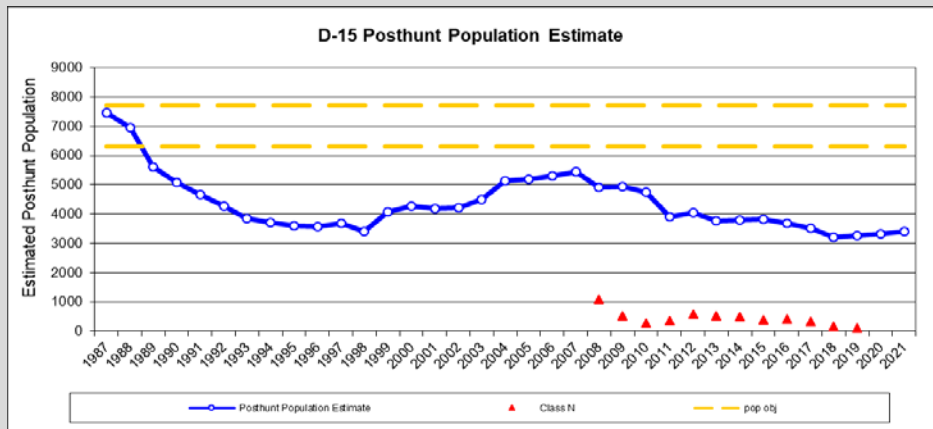


Fig 2. D-15 (Cottonwood Creek Deer Herd) population estimate.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

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D-15 deer hunters, town of Buena Vista.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. *Preferred Alternative*: Create hunt code DF481P5R and eliminate hunt code DF481L1R, effectively converting the hunt code to a Private Land Only (PLO) hunt code. The boundaries of DF481P5R will be private lands within the huntable area bounded on the N by Chaffee CRs 384A and 384; on E by Arkansas River; on S by Chaffee CR 306, 337, Gregg Drive, Chaffee CR 319 and U.S. 24; on W by Chaffee CR 361.

2. Status quo

Issue Raised by:	Area 13 staff
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Jamin Grigg, Wildlife Bio, Area 13
CC:	Ackerman, Black, Aragon, Stiver
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should EF009L1R season dates be changed to September 1-November 30 and status changed to list B?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

GMU 9 is primarily private property and city/county owned lands. All antlerless elk harvest occurs on private land and Red Mountain Open Space, owned by Larimer County. There is a limited hunting program on Red Mountain Open Space where hunters must apply to draw an access permit to hunt the Red Mountain property. Currently, there are three hunting access permits available on Red Mountain Open Space.

Over the past few decades, the cow elk population has become a permanent year-around herd in GMU 9 and the herd has grown in size to approximately 250-300 animals. Each year, the District Wildlife Manager is contacted by numerous landowners about damage to crops and hay fields from resident elk. Larimer County is interested in increasing harvest on their property to reduce vegetative damage. There is a need to increase antlerless elk harvest in GMU 9 in order to reduce the population and reduce landowner conflicts from resident elk.

The Red Mountain Open Space hunting program has harvested only one cow with 30 hunters in ten years (3% success rate). The low hunter success can be attributed to cow elk moving off Red Mountain Open Space before the start of the season in October. Increasing the hunting access permits is not expected to result in an increased harvest on Red Mountain Open Space.

There are two hunt codes available for antlerless elk hunting in GMU 9, EF009L1R and EF009P5R. License allocation, licenses sold and estimated harvest in each hunt code are listed in the table below.

YEAR	E-F-009-L1-R Licenses	E-F-009-L1-R Licenses Sold	E-F-009-L1-R Harvest	E-F-009-P5-R Licenses	E-F-009-P5-R Licenses Sold	E-F-009-P5-R Harvest
2019	45	10	0	145	139	21
2018	45	13	0	145	139	50
2017	45	15	3	145	148	36

Currently, EF009L1R is a list A license. It is recommended to change EF009L1R to list B status to increase hunting opportunities and increase the number of cow elk harvested. It is also recommended to lengthen the season in EF009L1R to run from September 1- Nov.30th. Opening the season on September 1st will give Red Mountain Open Space hunter access permit holders a better probability of harvesting a cow elk during the period when elk are residing on Red Mountain Open Space property.

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There have been discussions with NE Terrestrial, Area 4 staff, and Red Mountain Open Space staff on this issue and all approve of these changes proposed. There will need to be landowner education about the change in GMU 9.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

- *Preferred Alternative*:** Change the season dates for EF009L1R to September 1-November 30 and change the status to list B.

2. Change the season dates for EF009L1R to September 1-November 30.	
3. Status quo.	
Issue Raised by:	Angelique Curtis
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Area 4, Jason Surface, Shannon Schaller, and Mark Leslie
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Mark Leslie
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should the season dates for EF085L1R be changed from January 1- January 31 to December 15- December 31?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>The Trinchera Elk Data Analysis Unit (DAU) E-33 is located in south-central Colorado (Figure 1). The DAU includes the San Luis Valley (Game Management Unit (GMU) 83) on the west side of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and GMUs 85, 140, and 851 to the east. The population objective for the DAU is 14,000-16,000 elk. Historically, the elk population was over objective and wildlife managers increased cow harvest through liberal antlerless licenses, either-sex licenses, and late seasons to bring populations down to management objective. After several years of harvest, populations have been successfully decreased, especially in GMUs 85, 140, and 851. Additionally, landowners in these GMUs have expressed concern to CPW field staff about the elk population numbers and elk distribution in these eastern GMUs.</p> <p>The late antlerless seasons are valid in GMUs 85, 140, and 851, and include two private-land-only licenses (EF085P5R & EF085P6R) and one general license (EF085L1R). Given both the landowner concerns and the trajectory of the elk population towards objective, CPW recommended a decrease in antlerless licenses in these three hunt codes for the 2020 season (-485 total licenses).</p> <p>EF085P5R is valid from 10/10-11/30, EF085P6R is valid from 12/1-12/31, and EF085L1R is currently valid from January 1-31. Landowners in GMUs 85, 140, and 851 have expressed concerns to CPW field staff about the hunting pressure on the elk population during the January season. However, this hunt code currently provides antlerless hunting opportunities on public lands in the DAU and CPW staff would like to maintain this opportunity.</p> <p>Here, we propose changing the season dates for EF085L1R from January 1- January 31 to December 15- December 31. This will retain some hunter opportunity to public land antlerless hunting while removing the season from the January timeframe. One bonus with this season is that youth hunters will have the opportunity to hunt in this late season over their Winter Break.</p>	

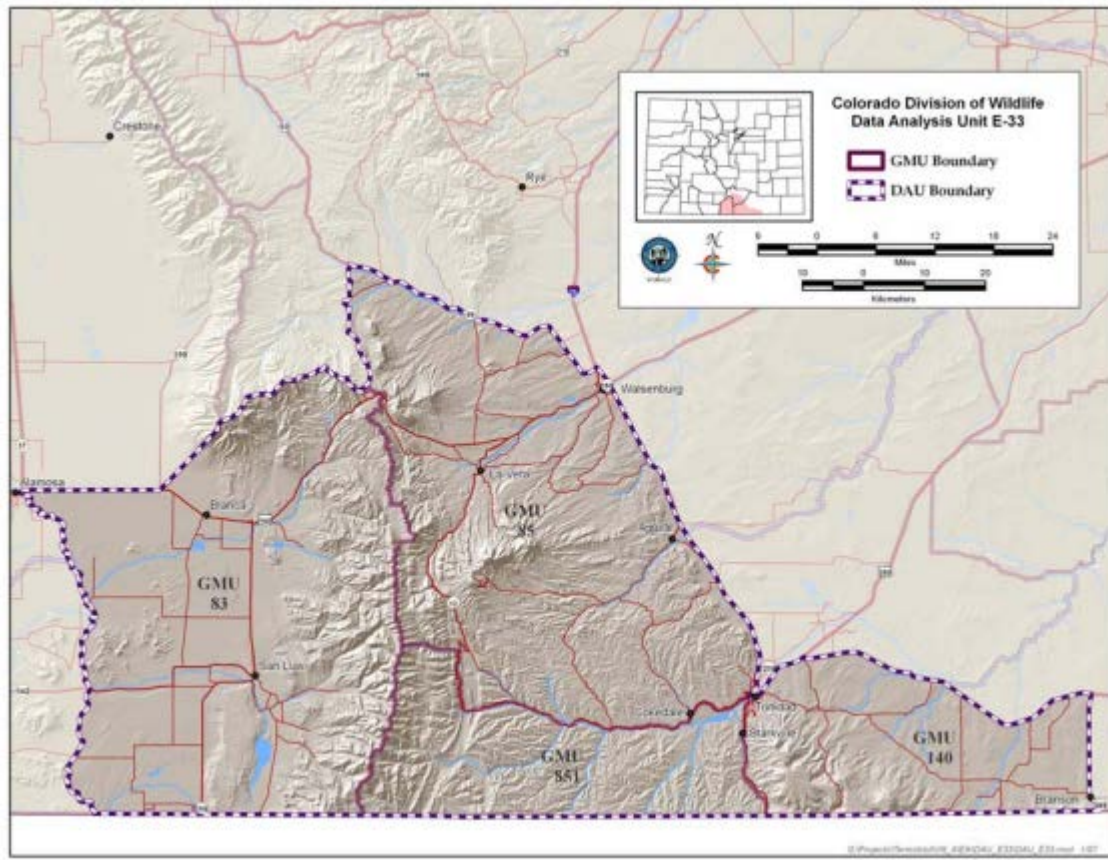


Figure 1. E-33 Trinchera Elk Data Analysis Unit

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Discussions about the January hunting season have been ongoing since its creation. Numerous hunters, public and landowners have advocated for the season removal and license number reduction.

Discussions have occurred with local staff, including biologists, DWMs, AWMs and commissioners, along with numerous members of the public. No formal input has occurred.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Change the season dates for the EF085L1R hunt code to December 15 to December 31 annually
2. Status quo with a January 1- January 31 season

Issue Raised by:	Area 11 Field Staff
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Allen Vitt, Area 11 Wildlife Biologist
CC:	Julie Stiver, Mike Trujillo, Bob Holder, Travis Sauder, Adam Friedel
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman

REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	YES X NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should either-sex elk licenses in muzzleloader, first season and fourth season rifle (excluding PLO licenses) in GMU 70 be changed to sex specific licenses?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Elk populations in southwest Colorado reached a high around the turn of the century and were over management objectives. Wildlife managers began increasing cow harvest at that time through liberal antlerless licenses, either sex licenses, and late seasons to bring populations down to management objective. After several years of aggressive harvest, populations successfully decreased. Many people both within the agency and from the public believed populations decreased too much. Around 2007 the number of limited antlerless and either-sex licenses were reduced in attempts to stabilize populations at first, and then to increase elk populations. Those licenses have continued to be reduced to date.</p> <p>Although cow elk harvest has decreased, elk populations have not rebounded. Part of this is due to low calf recruitment. Around 2006, a decrease in the calf-to-cow ratio began to be observed and has continued to trend downward since then. In E-24 (which includes GMU 70), the calf-to-cow ratio averaged 41:100. The past five year average was 26:100, and in 2019, it was 23:100. The cause of this is unknown, but has been experienced across southern Colorado. It is currently being researched by CPW. In the meantime, wildlife managers are doing what they can to try to increase elk numbers through harvest management.</p> <p>Cow licenses for rifle and muzzleloader hunters have decreased over the past thirteen years. This has resulted in a decrease in cow harvest by muzzleloader and rifle hunters. In 2017, either sex rifle and muzzleloader licenses were changed to sex-specific licenses in all of the other GMUs in E-24. In 2020 over-the-counter, either sex archery licenses were made into limited, sex-specific licenses. The either sex rifle and muzzleloader licenses in GMU 70 are the only either sex licenses that have not been changed to sex-specific licenses in the DAU. It is the desire of wildlife managers to change these licenses to specified antlered (bull) and antlerless (cow) licenses so there is more management control on female harvest.</p> <p>E-24 has been below population objective for the past two years. The E-24 Herd Management Plan (HMP) is being revised with a proposed management objective to increase the population.</p>	
<p>STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:</p> <p>*IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.</p>	
<p>During the Herd Management Plan (HMP) revision process, public meetings and an online survey were available to gather public attitudes towards elk management. There was overwhelming concern from sportsman and landowners about the low elk numbers and desire to increase the population. Either sex licenses are not a conducive management tool for increasing hunted populations.</p>	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Convert ES licenses to sex specific</p> <p>Hunt Codes to be changed:</p>	

E-E-070-O1M – change to E-M-070-O1M (a cow hunt code already exists for the muzzleloader season)

E-E-070-O1R – change to E-M-070-O1R and E-F-070-O1R

E-E-070-O4R – change to E-M-070-O4R (a cow hunt code already exists for the fourth season)

2. Status quo with either sex licenses

Issue Raised by:	Brad Weinmeister, Wildlife Biologist
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Scott Wait, Renzo Delpiccolo
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Cory Chick
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should the hunt code E-F-074-P5R be eliminated?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>The hunt code E-F-074-P5R was created in 2006 to address agriculture conflicts created by an increasing local population of elk on private lands along the Animas River, north of Durango. Since that time, elk populations in the Data Analysis Units (DAUs) E-30 and E-31 have decreased. The number of elk in the Animas Valley have also decreased. This hunt code at one time had 400 licenses (2011). Now it has only 25.</p> <p>Herd management plans (HMPs) for E-30 and E-31 were revised this year, with draft plans presented to the Parks and Wildlife Commission at the July 2020 PWC meeting. It is anticipated that the HMPs will be adopted by the PWC, which would create new population management objectives and place elk populations below objective. With the goal of increasing the population, antlerless elk harvest will be further restricted in the DAUs.</p> <p>As part of the HMP revision, several public meetings were held and an online public survey conducted. There was overwhelming concern by the public, including landowners, about low elk numbers and a desire to increase elk populations. People supported decreasing elk hunting opportunity for the health of the herds. Antlerless licenses in both DAUs have already been reduced by as much as 80% over the past several years in an effort to increase elk populations. As part of a different effort earlier this year, over the counter (OTC) either sex archery licenses were changed to limited sex-specific licenses based in part on public demand.</p> <p>Agriculture conflicts in the Animas Valley are rare now days. DWMs have not had any complaints of elk from landowners for several years. If this hunt code was eliminated, agriculture/elk conflicts could be addressed through game damage licenses and other means.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
<p>Sportsman, landowners, travelers on Hwy 550</p> <p>There was an overwhelming concern about low elk numbers and a desire to increase elk populations. This included landowners who were involved. There were also questions by some about private land only (PLO) antlerless elk hunts and the continued need for them.</p>	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Preferred Alternative*: Eliminate hunt code E-F-074-P5R Continue with the hunt code, but reduce license numbers to a minimum 	
Issue Raised by:	Brandon Dye, DWM, Steve McClung, DWM, Brad Weinmeister, Terrestrial Biologist
Author of the issue paper	

(if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Matt Thorpe, AWM, Scott Wait, Senior Biologist
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Cory Chick
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should all antlerless elk list B licenses be converted to list A in Game Management Unit (GMU) 521?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>GMU 521 is part of the Grand Mesa elk herd (E-14, GMUs 41, 42, 52, 411, 421, and 521). The 2010 Herd Management Plan approved for the Grand Mesa elk herd calls for maintaining a stable elk population. Over the last ten years, the estimated elk population declined from approximately 19,000 elk in 2010 to its current (post-hunt 2019) estimate of approximately 15,300 elk. Calf to cow ratios observed during winter classification declined over the last ten years as well, from approximately 50 calves per 100 cows ten years ago down to 40 calves per hundred cows during the last several years. While the current estimated population is still within the Herd Management Plan’s objective range of 15,000 to 19,000 elk, it is evident from CPW staff observations as well as complaints and comments from hunters, outfitters, landowners, and longtime residents of the communities of the Grand Mesa that the current elk population on the Grand Mesa is too low. The vast majority of the complaints and comments are specific to GMU 521. To stabilize and reverse the declining elk population trend, rifle and muzzleloader antlerless elk licenses were reduced over the last several years with systematic reductions in antlerless elk rifle season licenses specific to GMU 521 beginning in 2017.</p> <p>To better align the license list type with the strategy of reduced antlerless harvest in GMU 521, we propose converting all the list B antlerless elk licenses to list A in GMU 521.</p> <p>GMU 521 is currently included in the antlerless elk muzzleloader and first rifle hunt codes (E-F-041-O1-M and E-F-041-O1-R) that are valid for all the GMUs of E-14 and are list B. New hunt codes would need to be created for GMU 521 specific antlerless elk muzzleloader and first rifle seasons (E-F-521-O1-M and E-F-521-O1-R), which would be list A. GMU 521 would be then be removed from the list of GMUs open under the current DAU wide hunt code for antlerless elk muzzleloader and first rifle, which would remain list B.</p> <p>GMU 521 is currently open for antlerless elk unlimited over-the-counter (OTC) archery hunting as a list B license. (In GMU 521 over the last 3 years, an average of 125 hunters per year purchased the antlerless elk OTC license and harvested 22 antlerless elk per year using that license. Across the entire DAU, an average of 424 antlerless elk OTC archers per year harvested an average of 58 antlerless elk harvested per year over the last 3 years.)</p> <p>To convert the antlerless elk OTC archery licenses from list B to list A, we propose to remove it from GMU 521 altogether, as the opportunity to hunt cow (and bull) elk with archery on an unlimited basis is still available with the either-sex unlimited OTC list A license. (In GMU 521 over the last 3 years, an average of 1,026 either-sex elk OTC archers per year harvested 94 bulls and 30 cows per year. Across the entire DAU, an average 3,707 either-sex elk OTC archers per year harvested an average of 280 bulls and 138 cows per year with the either-sex elk OTC license in E-14.)</p> <p>Game damage caused by elk does occur on private agricultural lands in E-14 but can be addressed on a case-by-case basis using damage hunts.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING	

STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Landowners and hunters have contacted CPW regarding the low numbers of elk in the Grand Mesa elk herd, especially in GMU 521, requesting changes in management that will increase elk populations.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative*:** Convert all antlerless elk licenses in GMU 521 from list B to list A. Hunt codes to be changed:

Archery- E-F-000-U1-A- remove GMU 521 from list of valid GMUs and map

Muzzleloader- E-F-041-O1-M- remove GMU 521 from list of valid GMUs

Muzzleloader- create new E-F-521-O1-M that is list A

Rifle- E-F-041-O1-R- remove GMU 521 from list of valid GMUs

Rifle- create new E-F-521-O1-R that is list A

Rifle- E-F-521-O2-R, E-F-521-O3-R, E-F-521-O4-R- convert from list B to list A

2. Status quo

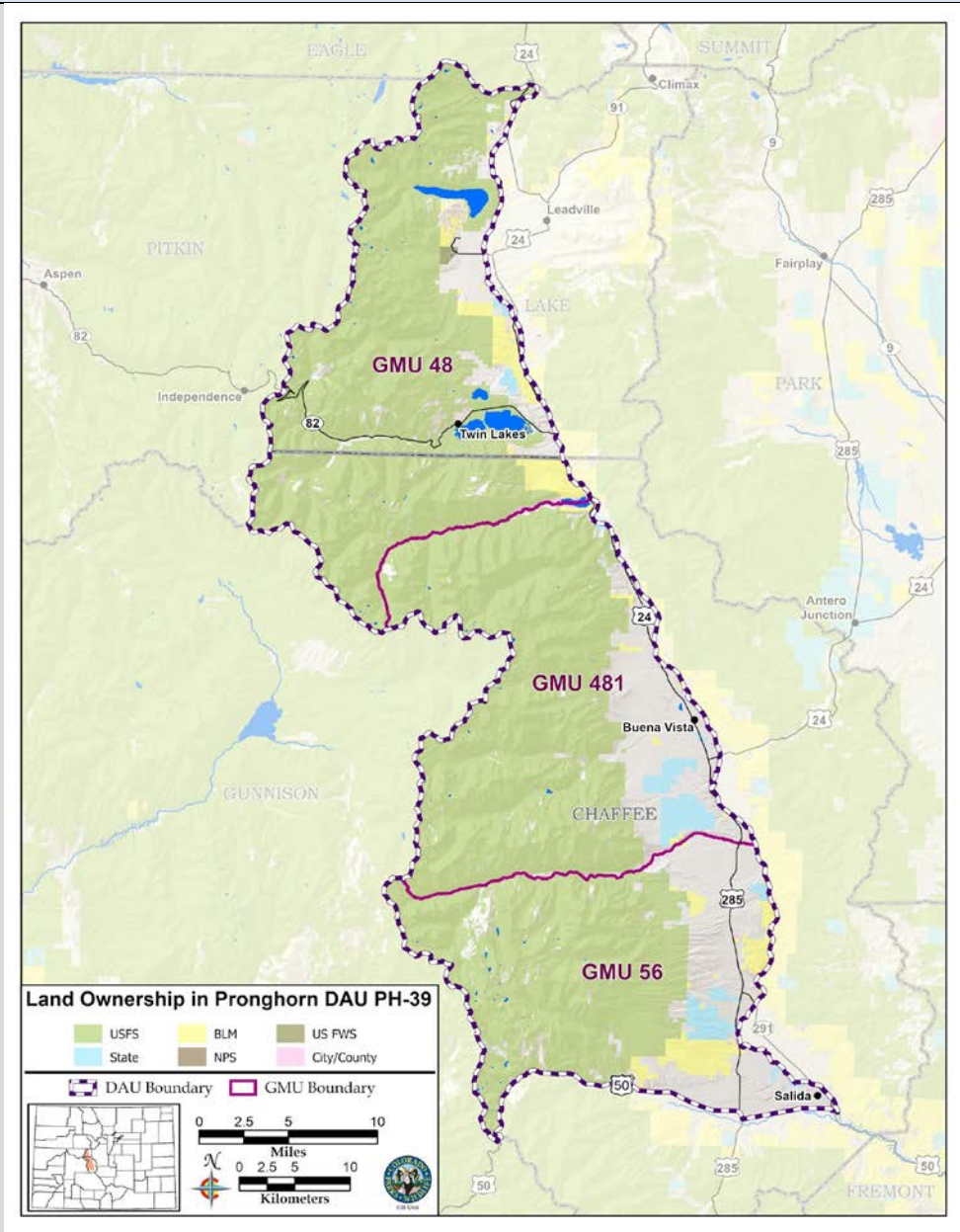
Issue Raised by:	Andrew Taylor DWM, J Wenum AWM
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Evan Phillips
CC:	J Wenum, Scott Wait, Brian Dreher, Cory Chick
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Cory Chick
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should late season private land only (PLO) doe pronghorn hunt codes be established in Game Management Units (GMUs) 89 & 95?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Currently in Data Analysis Unit (DAU) PH-1, late season pronghorn hunting is available on private land in GMUs 87, 88, and 951. The season is open from Nov 1-Dec 31 providing landowners in those units with an option for redistributing or harvesting pronghorn on private land that are concentrating in large herds and causing damage after the regular rifle season has concluded. In recent years, in GMUs 89 and 95 in PH-1, there has been a growing number of complaints from landowners about large pronghorn concentrations and game damage on winter wheat fields prompting an increase in the number of damage or dispersal licenses being issued during the winter. Game damage claims are currently not significant in these units, but very localized concentrations of pronghorn in winter can create significant losses for individual landowners. With the herd at objective, the addition of a late PLO doe season in these GMUs would not necessitate a large increase in doe licenses or harvest, but would likely represent a redistribution of doe licenses and hunting pressure to later in the year on private land.</p> <p>Thus, we recommend creating late-season PLO pronghorn doe hunt codes in GMUs 89 and 95 to be valid from Nov 1 – Dec 31, to be consistent with other GMUs in PH-1. These licenses will provide additional pronghorn doe hunting opportunity while addressing landowner complaints about pronghorn damage and high concentrations on winter wheat fields.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
External publics include landowners, pronghorn hunters, land management agencies in GMUs 89 and 95. Input process has been largely internal discussions at area meetings. Informal landowner input has been solicited and comments received were in favor of this proposal.	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Preferred Alternative*: Create late-season PLO pronghorn doe hunt codes in GMUs 89 (new hunt code: AF089P5R) and 95 (new hunt code: AF095P5R) to be valid from November 1 – December 31. 2. Status quo. 	
Issue Raised by:	Marty Stratman, Wildlife Biologist
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	Area 3, Todd Schmidt, Shannon Schaller, and Mark Leslie
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Mark Leslie
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	NE Region
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should PH-39 (Game Management Units (GMUs) 48, 56, 481) archery licenses be changed from unlimited, Over-The-Counter (OTC) to limited draw licenses and should GMU 561 be removed from the list of valid units for the either-sex OTC pronghorn archery license?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>PH-39 is a small pronghorn herd (~200 animals) existing in the upper Arkansas River valley between Salida and Leadville. The post-hunt population and sex ratio objectives for PH-39 are 150-200 pronghorn and 20-25 bucks per 100 does, respectively (approved March 2020 by the CPW Commission). The 2020-modeled post-hunt projections for PH-39 are 200 pronghorn and 12 bucks per 100 does. In August 2020, CPW personnel estimated the pre-hunt sex ratio to be 18 bucks per 100 does. Therefore, the herd is at the population objective but is below the post-hunt sex ratio objective.</p> <p>Currently, the game management units (GMUs) in PH-39 are included in the list of valid units for the either-sex unlimited Over-The-Counter (OTC) archery license, while muzzleloader and rifle licenses are limited to 10 buck and 5 doe licenses per season, respectively. Participation during the OTC archery season in PH-39 has increased by approximately 400% since 2010 (from 23 hunters in 2010 to more than 100 hunters in 2019). Area 13 field staff are proposing switching PH-39 archery licenses from OTC to limited draw licenses for two reasons. First, since the herd is below the buck to doe objective, limiting buck harvest for all manners of take, including archery, will be necessary to move the sex ratio to objective.</p> <p>Second, there are concerns over hunter crowding in the unit. During the PH-39 Herd Management Plan public input process, CPW personnel heard from hunters, landowners, and CPW field staff who believe the OTC archery season is causing hunter crowding on public lands and pushing pronghorn onto private lands. This is a problem throughout the west as large ranches are increasingly leased to outfitters, subdivided, prohibit hunting, or are owned by absentee landowners. Pronghorn are a highly intelligent and mobile animal that learn from past hunting activities. Often they will move onto private land refuges during the archery season and become difficult for public land hunters to access during the muzzleloader and rifle seasons. CPW encourages hunting on private lands but does not have ultimate control. In PH-39, much of the grassland, shrub land, and agricultural habitat along the valley floor where pronghorn reside is privately owned. While some public land hunting does occur in this unit, hunting pressure on public lands often moves pronghorn onto private property creating a refuge situation which effectively reduces hunting opportunity.</p> <p>In addition to limiting archery in PH-39, we propose removing GMU 561 (to the south of PH-39) from the list of valid units for the OTC either-sex pronghorn archery license. The GMU does not include viable pronghorn habitat and no pronghorn are known to exist in that GMU. However, the Area 13 CPW office receives calls from hunters with an OTC archery pronghorn license asking where they can find pronghorn in that GMU. Therefore, removing the GMU from the OTC list will reduce confusion for hunters.</p> <p>If approved, two new limited, draw-only archery hunt codes will be created for this unit: AM048O1A and AF048O1A (valid for GMUs 48, 56, and 481). GMUs 48, 56, 481, and 561 will be removed for the pronghorn archery OTC list.</p>	



STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Comments were received from hunters, landowners, and CPW field staff during the PH-39 Herd Management Plan planning process. The herd management plan (HMP) was approved by the Commission in March 2020.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. ***Preferred Alternative***: Create hunt codes AM048O1A and AF048O1A (valid for GMUs 48, 56, and 481), while removing GMUs 48, 56, 481 and 561 from the list of units valid for OTC pronghorn archery.

2. Status Quo: PH-39 archery licenses remain unlimited, OTC

Issue Raised by:	Jamin Grigg and Area 13 field staff	
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Jamin Grigg	
CC:		
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman	
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION		
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should CPW add buck and doe private land only (PLO) hunt codes for the PH-18 primary rifle season?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Pronghorn Data Analysis Unit (DAU) PH-18 is primarily private land. Less than 7% of the DAU consists of public lands that are available to the public for pronghorn hunting. The Comanche National Grasslands accounts for the majority of PH-18's public lands, and are located in Game Management Units (GMUs) 139 and 145.</p> <p>Per the recently approved PH-18 Herd Management Plan (HMP; passed in July 2020), CPW's management strategy is to set the number of doe pronghorn licenses for the primary rifle season above the previous year's level of demand. Buck license numbers are set at the level of 1st choice applicant demand. While this strategy has worked well to manage the pronghorn population, it has created a problem. Relatively high numbers of hunters purchase leftover licenses for this DAU and then hunt on the limited amount of public lands available. This results in low hunt quality on those public lands for two reasons: 1. Levels of hunter crowding can be extremely high on the public lands. 2. The pronghorn densities on public land have become disproportionately low when compared to other private land portions of the DAU.</p> <p>During the stakeholder input process for the PH-18 HMP, CPW mailed out surveys in 2019 to 500 individuals who had hunted PH-18 in 2016, 2017, and/or 2018. CPW received 157 completed surveys. In the general comments section of that survey, a high number of respondents commented about the poor hunt quality found on the DAU's public lands. Many hunters recommended limiting hunter numbers on public lands, and we identified this as an issue of concern in the HMP.</p> <p>To address this concern, in the HMP we recommended the creation of private-land only (PLO) buck and doe hunt codes. The creation of the PLO hunt codes could improve hunt quality on PH18's public lands by reducing hunter crowding. We can also meet management objectives by focusing harvest on private lands where the majority of pronghorn are found, which could also increase pronghorn densities on public lands. Following the passage of the HMP, we are bringing this issue paper forward to create the buck and doe PLO hunt codes in PH-18 for the regular October pronghorn rifle season.</p>	
<p>STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:</p> <p>*IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.</p>	
<p>Hunters: PH-18 hunter survey- 500 mailed, 157 completed surveys returned. Many hunters complained about high hunter crowding and lack of pronghorn on public lands.</p> <p>Comanche National Grassland Staff: Supported</p>	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Create 2 new PLO hunt codes for the primary rifle season: A-M-132-P1-R and A-F-132-P1-R. Both hunt codes would be valid in GMUs 132, 139, and 145.</p> <p>2. Status Quo: No added hunt codes</p>	

Issue Raised by:	Jonathan Reitz (Biologist), Brian Marsh (DWM), Kevin Mahan (DWM)	
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):		
CC:		
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman	
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	SE Terrestrial	
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	YES X NO	

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

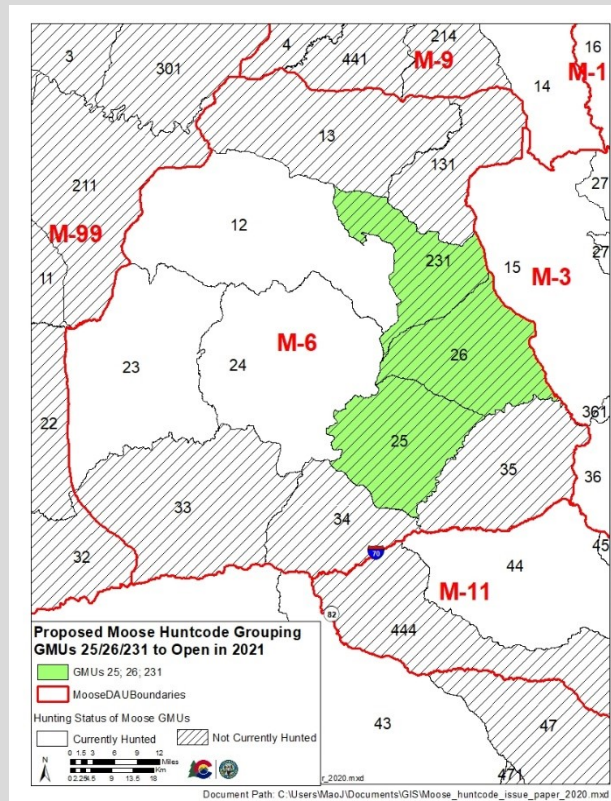
ISSUE: Should bull and cow moose hunt codes be established in GMUs 25, 26, and 231 on the east side of the Flattops?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

There is no current moose hunting in GMUs 25, 26, and 231, but the resident moose numbers have reached a point at which limited moose hunting opportunity can be made available to the hunting public.

Moose sightings in these units are becoming more common and moose of both sexes and various age classes are now regularly seen during winter deer/elk flights, particularly around Derby Creek between GMUs 25 and 26, King Mountain in GMU 26, Stillwater to Yamloco Reservoirs between GMUs 26 and 231, and in South Hunt Creek in GMU 231.

We propose opening a set of bull and cow hunt codes, valid in these three GMUs starting in 2021.



STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Hunters and local outfitters have reported seeing adequate numbers of moose in these units and have expressed interest in hunting these moose.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Open GMUs 25, 26, and 231 to bull and cow moose hunting by adding hunt codes <u>MM025O1X</u> and <u>MF025O1A/M/R</u>, valid in these three GMUs, starting in 2021.</p> <p>2. No change</p>	
Issue Raised by:	Julie Mao, Jeff Yost, Darby Finley (Terrestrial Biologists); Dan Cacho, Brian Wodrich (Area 8 DWMs); Adam Gerstenberger, Justin Pollock (Area 10 DWMs)
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), Brad Banulis (NW Sr. Biologist), Matt Yamashita & Kris Middledorf (AWMs, Areas 8 and 10)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	X YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES X NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE:	Should bull and cow moose hunt codes be established on the NE side of the Roaring Fork Valley, GMUs 47, 444, and 471?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>The northeast half of the Roaring Fork Valley, which is comprised of GMUs 47, 444, and 471, is currently closed to moose hunting. Moose sightings in these units have been slowly increasing over the past decade. Moose numbers in this area can now support limited bull and cow moose hunting to provide hunting opportunity and to proactively manage the local moose population size especially where there is potential for human-moose conflicts.</p> <p>The upper Roaring Fork Valley is particularly poised for human-moose conflicts. Moose habitat in the riparian valley bottoms coincides with residential areas, tourist destinations, and roadways. In some cases, tourists visiting from out of state are not knowledgeable about moose behavior and mistakenly get too close to the moose. In other cases, it is simply the higher odds of an encounter in places where both human activity and moose numbers are growing.</p> <p>Over the past 10+ years, individual moose have periodically showed up in the various towns in the valley and on Highway 82 itself. There is also high potential for moose-human conflicts on popular hiking trails and recreation destinations, such as North Star Preserve, Aspen ski area, and the Frying Pan River. Several incidents have required management actions such as hazing and/or tranquilizing and relocating the moose. In addition, more critically, two encounters between moose and people in Aspen along the boundary of GMUs 47 and 471 in March 2019 turned dangerous: in one case, a cross-country skier was charged by a moose, but he was able to fight off the moose with his ski poles. In the other case, CPW officers euthanized a bull moose that had charged and trampled a couple in a residential neighborhood.</p> <p>We propose opening a set of bull and cow moose hunt codes valid in GMUs 47, 444, and 471, beginning in the 2021 season.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
Informal conversations with hunters who are interested in more moose hunting opportunities.	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Preferred Alternative*: Create new bull and cow hunt codes <u>MM047O1X</u> and <u>MF047O1A/M/R</u> that would be valid in GMUs 47, 471, and 444, starting in the 2021 season. 2. No change. 	
Issue Raised by:	Julie Mao (Terrestrial Biologist); Kurtis Tesch, Peter Boyatt (Area 8 DWMs)
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), Brad Banulis (NW Sr. Biologist), Matt Yamashita (Area 8 AWM)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	NW Region
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE:	Should cow moose hunt codes be established in GMU 43?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>GMU 43 has been open to limited bull moose hunting since 2016. Based on regular sightings of moose of various age classes and both sexes, we now propose opening GMU 43 to limited cow moose hunting, both to provide additional hunting opportunity and to proactively manage the local moose population size especially where there is potential for human-moose conflicts.</p> <p>The upper Roaring Fork Valley is particularly poised for human-moose conflicts. Moose habitat in the riparian valley bottoms coincides with residential areas, tourist destinations, and roadways. In some cases, tourists visiting from out of state are not knowledgeable about moose behavior and mistakenly get too close to the moose. In other cases, it is simply the higher odds of an encounter in places where both human activity and moose numbers are growing.</p> <p>Over the past 10+ years, individual moose have periodically showed up in the various towns in the valley and on Highway 82 itself. Several of these incidents have required management actions such as hazing and/or tranquilizing and relocating the moose.</p> <p>There is also high potential for moose-human conflicts on popular hiking trails and recreation destinations within GMU 43, such as Maroon Lake/Crater Lake and Buttermilk, Snowmass, and Highlands ski areas. To avoid encounters with hikers, USFS has periodically closed segments of the trails at Maroon and Crater Lake when there have been moose lingering in the area.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
Informal conversations with hunters who are interested in more moose hunting opportunities.	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Preferred Alternative*: Open GMU 43 to cow moose hunting starting in the 2021 season by creating new set of cow hunt codes <u>MF043O1A/M/R</u>. 2. No change. 	
Issue Raised by:	Julie Mao (Terrestrial Biologist); John Groves, Kurtis Tesch (Area 8 DWMs)
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	JT Romatzke (NW Regional Manager), Brad Banulis (NW Sr. Biologist), Matt Yamashita (Area 8 AWM)
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	JT Romatzke
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	Terrestrial
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

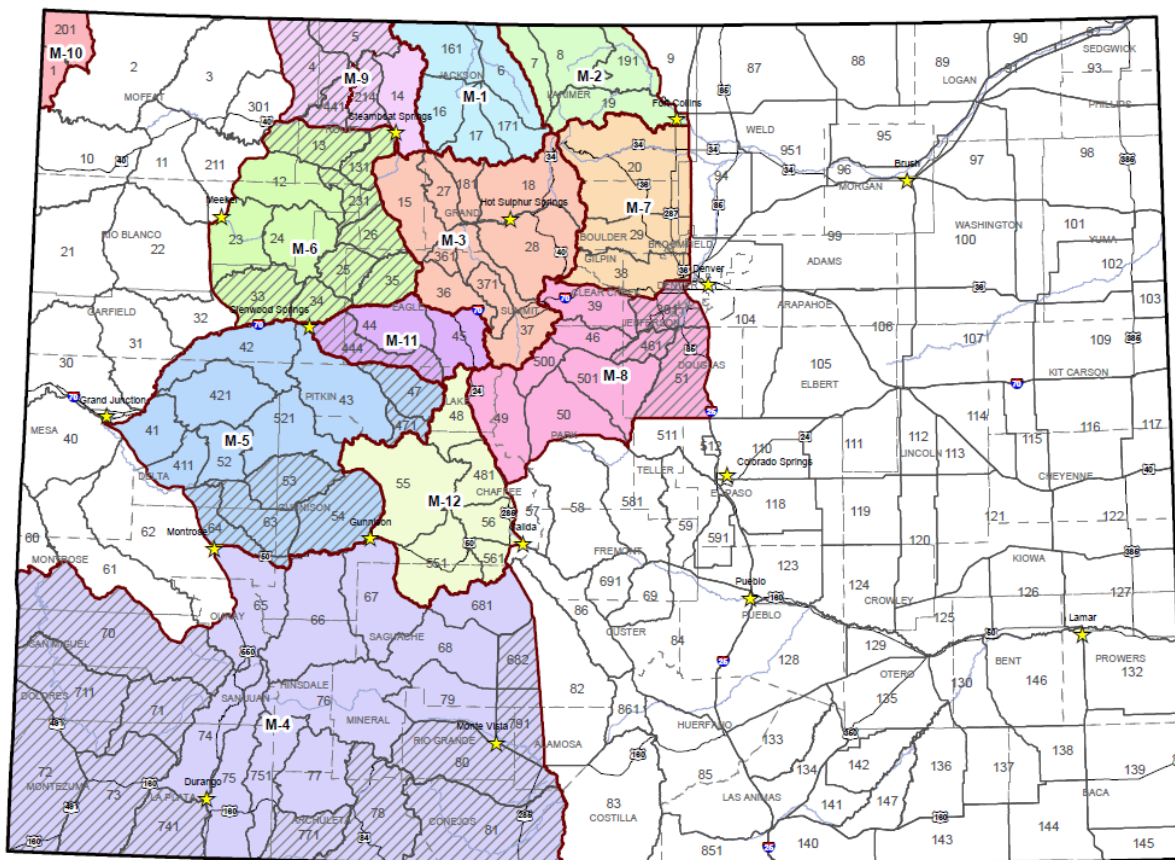
ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

ISSUE: Should hunt code MM05601X be created, valid for Game Management Units (GMUs) 56 and 561, while maintaining MM04801X valid for GMUs 48 and 481?

DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):

Moose Data Analysis Unit (DAU) M-12 is located near the towns of Gunnison, Salida, and Buena Vista along the Continental Divide. Hunt code MM04801X is currently valid for the eastern game management units (GMUs) in the DAU (GMUs 48, 56, 481, and 561) and supports two bull moose licenses. Hunter success is high, but currently much of the hunting pressure is focused into certain geographic areas along major roads, while many areas supporting moose generally are not hunted. Area 13 field staff are proposing to split the hunt into two hunt codes (MM04801X valid for GMUs 48 and 481, and MM05601X valid for GMUs 56 and 561) in an effort to spread hunters across the various GMUs. This would allow license numbers to increase while addressing hunter crowding and dispersal issues.



COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE - Moose DAUs (hunted DAUs only)

April 2018



Nonhunted GMUs

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
Moose hunters in GMUs 48, 56, 481, 561	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
1. *Preferred Alternative* : Create hunt code MM056O1X (valid for GMUs 56 and 561), while maintaining hunt code MM048O1X (but limiting to GMUs 48 and 481).	
2. Status quo	
Issue Raised by:	Area 13 staff
Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	Jamin Grigg, Wildlife Bio, Area 13
CC:	Aragon, Stiver, Ackerman, Black
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION	
RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020	
ISSUE:	Should CPW invalidate the S-M-S48-O1-R hunt code in some years in order to account for the quota allocation to the Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP) Ranches in Game Management Unit (GMU) S-48?
DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE):	
<p>Bighorn sheep GMU S-48 is located in southeastern Colorado, near the towns of Kim and Pritchett. The southern boundary of the GMU borders Oklahoma and New Mexico. Bighorn sheep are found exclusively on private lands, and historically most hunters holding the general SMS48O1R license for the GMU had to pay a trespass fee to access properties with bighorn sheep. The 2019 post-hunt population size estimate for the GMU was 50 bighorns. The quota for the SMS48O1R license was limited to 1-2 licenses prior to 2019.</p> <p>Since 2019, several ranches in GMU S-48 have been enrolled in the Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP). BSAP provides access for bighorn sheep hunting on private lands. Public BSAP licenses are awarded through the standard CPW bighorn sheep draw. In exchange for providing public access, landowners are provided vouchers for private BSAP licenses which the landowners can transfer to any person eligible to hunt in Colorado. The total license allocation and the ratio of public to private BSAP licenses is determined by a cooperative agreement between CPW and the landowner.</p> <p>Ranches enrolled in BSAP account for a large proportion of the occupied bighorn sheep habitat in S-48. As a result, a correspondingly high proportion of the ram licenses are allocated to BSAP hunt codes. To appropriately allocate quota between the general SMS48O1R hunt code and BSAP hunt codes, in some years, 100% of the quota needs to be allocated to BSAP hunt codes. However, the general SMS48O1R hunt code is still valid for the GMU, requiring a quota of at least one license per year.</p> <p>Traditionally when CPW recommends the removal or addition of a hunt code, we follow the two-step process with an issue that is first heard as an informational item at the November Commission meeting and approved at the January meeting. This proposal seeks approval to follow a one-step process that aligns with our annual changes to the sheep, goat, and lion quotas heard by the Commission every January. We are seeking the flexibility to invalidate the SMS48O1R hunt code in years when it is necessary to allocate 100% of the quota to BSAP hunt codes, based on our total quota recommendation for the GMU. This proposal does not seek to close (i.e. get rid of completely) the season/hunt code. The SMS48O1R hunt code would be valid in some years, so hunting can still occur on those ranches not enrolled in BSAP.</p>	
STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:	
IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED.	
Landowners are the primary stakeholder group. The landowners who own ranches within the primary S-48 sheep's range were invited to a public meeting in 2018. After that time, those landowners have been contacted via phone or in person to discuss BSAP enrollment, sheep license allocation, and sheep quota.	
ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Preferred Alternative*: Approve CPW to change hunt code validation on an annual basis so that the SMS48O1R hunt code is offered in some years, and not in others. Status Quo: Maintain the SMS48O1R hunt code every year. 	
Issue Raised by:	Jonathan Reitz (biologist) and Zachary Picard (DWM)

Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue):	
CC:	
APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY:	Brett Ackerman
REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO