Commission Request to Department
"Blue Sheet"

Date of Request: August 3, 2019

Title of Request: Non-toxic Ammunition

Commissioner: Thorburn

Request Due Date: Dec 2019

Priority Level (put one check in each row):

Importance: [x] High   [ ] Medium   [ ] Low

Urgency: [x] High   [ ] Medium   [ ] Low

Knowledge or Action Being Requested (narrative). Describe what you want to know. Be specific. As other lead polluting sources are controlled, ammunition continues to be a major source of environmental lead contamination. Washington rehabilitators report frequent toxic lead levels in raptors and other wildlife. Research continues to expand knowledge about wildlife lead toxicosis. Further, there is a growing body of evidence that recreational shooting causes human lead toxicity while WDFW is working to expand recreational shooting opportunities on our wildlife areas. The Peregrine Fund and its partners, including some state fish and wildlife departments, are leading voluntary efforts to encourage the use of non-toxic ammunition for hunting and other shooting activities. Objective 8 of the game management plan is "Reduce the availability and use of lead ammunition where lead poisoning of wild birds is problematic." WDFW has taken past action regarding non-toxic shot and some fishing gear. Other strategies suggested by the plan include voluntary programs to encourage hunter use of alternatives and promoting use of non-toxic ammunition for department activities. Little has been done regarding these strategies. It seems timely to move forward.

Output Requested (e.g., telephone call, memo, material from files, new report, presentation, other): Briefing by Chris Parish of the Peregrine Fund or Leland Brown of the Oregon Zoo about the state of lead and wildlife science, voluntary efforts to encourage non-toxic ammunition for hunting, and the work of the North American Non-Lead Partnership.

WAC 232-12-068 Non Toxic Shot requirements amended 2001

For Commission Executive Assistant Use

Date Assigned: Aug 6, 2019   **Assigned To:** Wildlife
[At Debrief]   [Program]

revised 8/07/12 -eg