

Game Management Plan

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Overview

- Summary of previous discussion & Game Division work
- We have heard Commissioners' values and expectations
- Staff working internally to envision a revised process that:
 - Identifies and implements Commission policy discussions
 - Creates distinct guidance plans for species, species guilds, and other management
 - Incorporates SEPA processes

Ground today's conversation with GMP history and purpose



History

- GMP is not required by RCW or WAC
- Existing RCW and WAC considerations
 - Game designations
 - Agency mandate
- The initial 2002 GMP
 - WDFW chose to do a 6-year planning cycle
 - Developed Objectives and Strategies
 - 2 supplementals followed
 - Met our needs for 2 decades
 - Established an ecological baseline



WDFW uses the GMP to:

- Assist work planning and establishing and managing process timelines
- Provide harvest management guidelines for informed decision making
- Inform priorities for survey, monitoring and research
- Communicate issues and potential strategies
- Support future budget requests
- Provide guidance but not establish rule or deprive the agency of discretion



We value a process that:

- Provides for staff, public, and Commission input at appropriate levels
- Clearly delineates game species management guidance from policy
- Is informed by science and policy
- Includes a SEPA process
- Builds trust



Recommended Path Forward

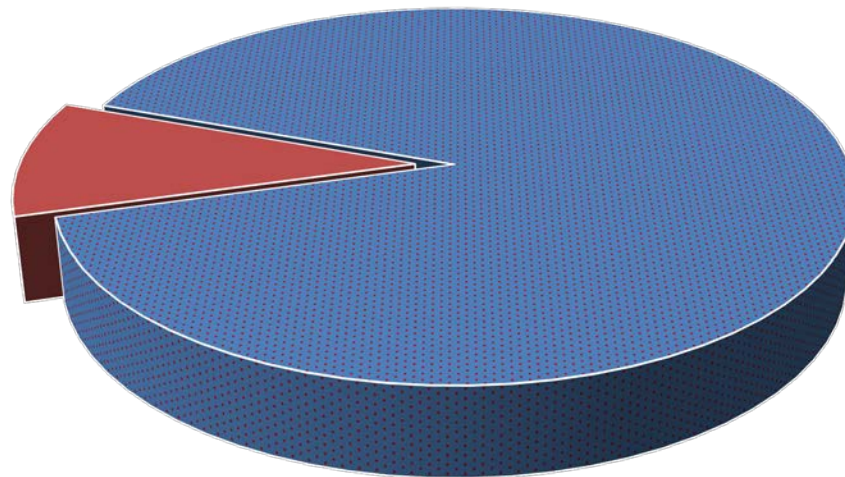
- Work with the Commission to identify policy topics
- Develop species, species guild and management guidance documents
- Appropriate SEPA processes will be followed
- Prioritize planning based on need and available agency resources
- Acknowledge persuasive value of existing GMP will diminish over time



Commission Policy and Dept. Guidance

Planning

**Formal
Commission
Policy directs
agency action or
rulemaking**



**Internal
operating
guidance for
agency
actions and
rulemaking**

■ Internal Guidance ■ Commission Policy



Proposed May 31 Meeting Agenda

- Share species, species guild, and management plans topics
- Discuss development of a process for the Commission to generate policy topics
- Brainstorm a draft list to potentially share with the full Commission



Discussion

