



## **DRAFT**

elk populations? Bears and wolves are also implicated, but cougars remain the top predator issue with the public. We know much about wolves already from the annual wolf status report, but their predation impacts should be discussed along with the other predators.

These issues hit at the core the Department's mission to preserve and protect wildlife, and to maximize sustainable hunting opportunity. These issues are tops among the many current, significant, and acrimonious controversies before the Department and Commission. Therefore, I think it is an urgent issue to address. The public deserves some answer to these queries.

### **Output Requested (e.g., telephone call, memo, material from files, new report, presentation, other):**

New report and presentation to the Commission and public at a regular or wildlife committee meeting. Ideally, the presentation would be made at an eastern Washington Commission meeting (see above for 2022 dates), or otherwise at a web/hybrid meeting. The report need not be an exhaustive literature review.

I would think much of this information is already being assembled for the 2022 Game Status and Trend Report. The requested report, anyway, would be important information to include in the 2022 GST Report. The blue-sheet report could be less than 10 pages if tables and graphs were used with explanatory text. Or, you could make it as long as you think appropriate to answer the questions.