

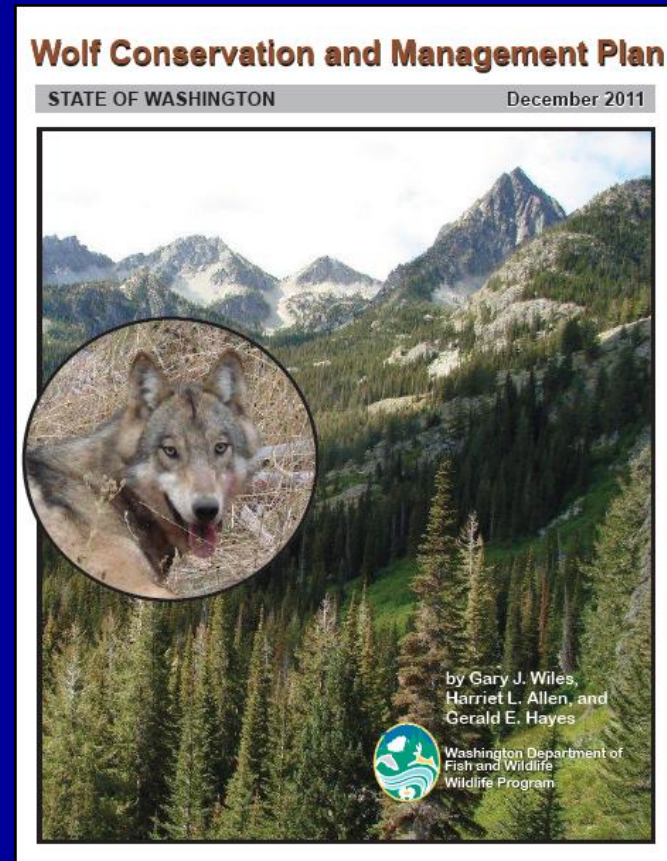
Agenda Item 8

Wildlife Interaction Rules WAC Chapter 232-36 Rule Adoption

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Need for Changes

- Wolf Management Plan
- 2013 Legislation - ESSB 5193
- Emergency Rule – Permanent
- Rule Clean-up



Wildlife Interaction Rules Background

- Filed the CR 102 – June 2013
- Monthly Wolf Advisory Group meetings
- Commission Hearing – August 2013
- Extended Public Comment – Sept. 20, 2013
- Rule Adoption – October 2013

Wildlife Interaction Rules

New and Amended Rule Proposals

- Definitions
- Human interactions and Conflict resolution
- Killing wildlife causing property damage
- Killing wolves attacking domestic animals
- Payment for damage to livestock (domestic animals)
- Application Procedure
- Dispute resolution

Wildlife Interaction Rules

WAC 232-36

- Extended Comment Period:
 - Some confusion expressed regarding when to submit comments
 - We continued our public involvement and discussion on the rules
- As a result, we made several changes to our proposal

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Definitions

- This proposal retains the language of the emergency rule and deletes an attempt to define attack
- We did not want to upset the balance achieved with the original language

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Definitions – Domestic Animal

- Need:
 - WAC 232-36-052 allows for killing a wolf caught attacking domestic animals
 - Letter from several key legislators encouraging the Commission to support an emergency rule specifically asked for the authority for domestic animals
 - ESSB 5193 allows for compensation of losses of domestic animals if there is a non-state funding source

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Definitions – Domestic Animal

- There are several places within these proposals where the terms were updated to be consistent with ESSB 5193
 - Commercial livestock
 - Domestic animal
 - Property

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Definitions – Domestic Animal

- Rationale:
 - Compensation:
 - State funding limited to cattle, sheep, horses
 - Federal funding for additional livestock and guard animals consistent with the Plan
 - Killing a wolf attacking domestic animals allows all citizens the ability to protect their pets and livestock

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Killing Wildlife Causing Damage

WAC 232-36-051

- Amended language for clarification; eliminate the term commercial in reference to livestock; allow killing of game animals attacking domestic animals
- Rationale: consistent with ESSB 5193 regarding wolves

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Killing Wolves Attacking Domestic Animals

WAC 232-36-052

- New Rule: makes emergency rule - permanent
- The Plan suggests a *permit* for lethal removal by a livestock owner and limits lethal removal authority for *livestock*, not domestic animals

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Killing Wolves Attacking Domestic Animals

WAC 232-36-052

- Rationale:
 - doesn't seem reasonable to allow a person to protect their livestock during an attack, but not their pets or other domestic animals;
 - attacks are infrequent and it would be difficult to anticipate or get a permit prior to an attack

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Killing Wolves Attacking Domestic Animals

WAC 232-36-052

- Rationale:
 - not expected to impact recovery rates
 - Director's delegated authority to enact emergency should this authority result in two or more wolves being killed in a year

Wildlife Interaction Rules

WACs 232-36-060 & 232-36-110

- Rationale:
 - Clean-up of conflict regulations

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Payment for Domestic Animal Losses

WACs 232-36-200

- Amend the language to:
 - Delete commercial
 - Use market value
 - Incorporate conditions for claims of greater than normal losses and reduced weight gains
- Rationale:
 - Make the rule consistent with ESSB 5193

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Application for Compensation

WACs 232-36-210

- Amends the language to:
 - Drop the term commercial
 - Replace “livestock” with “domestic animal”
 - Establishes and clarifies livestock payment conditions
- Rationale: make the rule consistent with ESSB 5193

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Application for Compensation

WACs 232-36-400

- Amends the language for creating the review committee for dealing with appeals of a claim
- Addresses the comments from NE County Commissioners
- Rationale: the department plans to use the wolf advisory group as the review committee

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Floor Changes

- WAC 232-36-110, page 21, subsection (7)(b): reinstate the terms “shared” and “owner and the”
- Rationale: reinstating this language allows the department to require that a claimant share in the cost of an assessment and therefore helps prevent frivolous assessments and associated costs

Wildlife Interaction Rules

Floor Changes

- WAC 232-36-400, page 32, subsection (3): replace the term “department” with “director” and add a colon after the word “least”, a semicolon after the word “owners”, and a semicolon after the word “advocates”.
- Rationale: this language clarifies that the director appoints the appeals committee members and that the make up of the committee members is “at least” the numbers shown

Questions???

