

Amendment to Adjustments to 2022 Big Game Regulations for 2023 Season

Submitted by Vice Chair Tabor

Motion: I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the amendments to the license-permit type quotas and quota ranges and hunting district legal descriptions as presented by the department in the coversheet and accompanying amendment sheet with the following amendment: Restore HD 313 to a general license five-week general firearm season for Brow-Tined Bull (BTB) elk.

Background: This comes about as I discussed in the August Commission meeting when the department disclosed that there are no longer biological concerns about elk populations in this district. That was a major reason for me proposing a decrease to the wolf quota for this district. The outfitting businesses like the rest of the businesses have been severely hurt due to the flooding. Several constituents reached out with this request, and it seems appropriate to restore opportunity back to the district.

FWP Response: This amendment would eliminate the 313-45 Brow-tined Bull Elk Permit during the last two weeks of the general firearm season and change the last two weeks of the general firearm season to allow a general elk license to be valid for Brow-Tined Bull (BTB) elk. This would also have the effect of making the general elk license valid during the muzzleloader season for BTB elk as well. While potentially influencing the numbers and average age of bull elk in HD 313, the amendment will cause no biological harm to the elk population in HD 313.