

Big Game Management Action Plan

Population Monitoring

	Staff Responsible	Completion
1. Evaluation of staffing needs and prioritizing work	Leif/Senior Managers	December 2013 and beyond
2. Evaluation of staff time, prioritization, and resources for population surveys, modeling, and management	Leif/Senior Managers	December 2013 and beyond
3. Evaluate methods and feasibility of increasing response rates for harvest surveys	Longmire	January 2014
4. Seek and employ more biometric/statistical assistance	Switzer/ Lindbloom	March 2014
5. Establish draft deer data analysis units (DAUs)	Lindbloom	March 2014
6. Deer season structure (management options)		
A. Draft management options (license allocation, license types, etc.) based on status of deer populations	Switzer/ Lindbloom	March 2014
B. Implement management options	Lindbloom/Regional Managers	April 2014
7. Enhance human dimensions component of wildlife management	Longmire	May 2014
8. Standardize information gathered through Landowner/Conservation Officer contacts	Keyser/ Longmire	May 2014
9. Survey protocols and methods		
A. Review wildlife survey protocols and methods	Lindbloom	May 2014
B. Implement adjustments to wildlife survey protocols and methods	Lindbloom	August 2014
10. Deer and pronghorn composition surveys		
A. Review and assess current surveys	Lindbloom	May 2014
B. Employ adjustments to composition surveys	Lindbloom	August 2014

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11. Enhance staff training for surveys and protocols	Lindbloom/Regional Managers	August 2014
12. Reevaluate mountain lion population estimate and survey methodologies	Lindbloom	August 2014
13. Evaluate and implement identified adjustments to elk herd composition surveys	Lindbloom	January 2015 and beyond
14. Enhance current and build new population models	Lindbloom	July 2016
15. Refine methodologies to obtain doe survival information for population models	Lindbloom	July 2016
16. Create winter and drought severity models	Lindbloom	July 2016

Management Plans

1. Assess and allocate sufficient staff time and resources for drafting and implementing management plans	Kirschenmann/Switzer	December 2013 and beyond
2. Clarify mountain lion plan population objective	Switzer/Lindbloom	December 2013
3. Implement periodic reviews of management plans to ensure implementation	Kirschenmann, Switzer, and Senior Biologists	December 2013 and beyond
4. Strengthen use of management plans to guide CRD process and season structures	Commission and Department	March 2014 and beyond
5. Develop a template for future management plans		
A. Specifics for unit objectives (time-bound), guidance to staff, and public input through a universally applied, structured approach	Kirschenmann/Lott	May 2014
B. Engage commissioners in planning process and formal adoption of plans	Kirschenmann/Lott	May 2014 and beyond
6. Use of human dimensions in management plans		

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A. Evaluate and determine needs of enhanced human dimensions	Longmire	March 2014
B. Implement enhanced human dimensions approaches	Longmire	May 2014
7. Establish pronghorn population objective ranges for management units	Lindbloom/Regional Managers	June 2014
8. Elk Management Plan (completion by December 2014)		
A. Public Survey	Longmire	December 2013
B. Stakeholder group and public meetings	Keyser/ Kirschenamnn	Jan/Feb 2014
C. Commission Meeting – review population objectives	Lindbloom	March 2014
D. Adopt Elk Management Plan	Commission and Department	December 2014
9. Deer Management Plan (completion by December 2016)		
A. Begin process	Switzer/Lindbloom	January 2015
B. Public opinion survey	Longmire	July 2015
C. Stakeholder group discussions and public meetings	Kirschenmann/Switzer/ Lindbloom	Fall 2015/ Winter 2016
D. Population objectives and season structure recommendations	Kirschenmann/Switzer/ Lindbloom	May 2016
E. Adopt Deer Management Plan	Commission and Department	December 2016
10. Update/revise existing management plans		
• Mountain Lion	Lindbloom	January 2016
• Turkey	Lehman	December 2015

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Communications (Internal and External)

1. Strengthen agency leaders' interaction with field staff in less formal settings	Senior Managers	December 2013 and beyond
2. Maintain environment where two-way communication is supported in the decision making processes	Senior Managers	December 2013 and beyond
3. Formalize plans for use of email lists	Simpson	January 2014
4. Stay current with advancements in communication platforms	Simpson/Schlueter/ Krause	January 2014 and beyond
5. Increase understanding of leadership priorities, policies, goals and objectives	Senior Managers	January 2014 and beyond
6. Better define roles in participatory management	Senior Managers	January 2014 and beyond
7. Launch redesigned leadership and career development program	Keyser/Simpson	March 2014
8. Assess and enhance use of social media	Simpson	March 2014
9. Use human dimension research to identify platform, content, and frequency of communication to stakeholders	Longmire	April 2014
10. Enhance electronic media, including effectiveness/layout of website	Simpson	August 2014

Commission Regulation Development (CRD) Process

1. Provide guidance and objectives to staff early in the rules recommendation process	Kirschenmann/Keyser/ Regional Supervisors	April 2014
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2. Create a standardized method of feedback summarizing any adjustments to recommendations	Kirschenmann/Keyser/ Regional Supervisors	April 2014
3. Ensure that management plans provide guidance/direction for licenses and season structure recommendations	Section Chiefs and Program Administrators	April 2014 and beyond
4. Annually train staff on the importance and use of harvest, biological, and human dimension data for developing recommendations	Switzer/Longmire	April 2014 and beyond
5. Evaluate the feasibility, pros and cons, and schedule to address regulations on a multi-year approach	Leif/Kirschenmann/Lott/ Keyser/Commissioners	July 2014
6. Develop minimum thresholds for recommended changes in regulations	Leif/Kirschenmann/Lott/ Keyser/Commissioners	November 2014
7. Identify roles and responsibilities of Commission and Department staff in the rules recommendation process		
A. Process to engage Commission and staff	Vonk/Leif/Commissioners	July 2014
B. Develop guidance document	Vonk/Leif/Commissioners	July 2015