WYOMING WILDLIFE TASK FORCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIMITED ENTRY LICENSE ALLOCATION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

Comprehensive Plan v2
Presented at the July 7, 2022 Task Force Meeting

The following slate of propositions represent a comprehensive proposal from the Wyoming Wildlife Task Force that attempts to address issues of license allocation between resident and non-residents, equity in opportunity for residents to draw licenses in limited quota areas, especially those in the highest demand, and options to preserve the economic impact to the state as a result of those changes. While any individual proposition has merit for consideration, collectively they have a greater impact on the desired outcome and/or present a higher likelihood of garnering support for their passage.

PROPOSITION 1: ESTABLISHING HIGH-DEMAND ANTELOPE, DEER, AND ELK UNITS
The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission (herein after the "Commission") shall designate and publish high-demand and standard-demand units for antelope, deer, and elk. These units shall be determined by averaging the previous three years of resident drawing odds for each individual unit for Type 1, 2, 3, 9 and 0 licenses. High-demand, or HD Units, shall be those whose three-year average is 30% or less, and all others shall be designated as standard-demand, or SD Units. The Commission shall review and update these units not more than every three (3) years.

PROPOSITION 2: 90/10 QUOTA SPLIT IN HD UNITS – 85/15 SPLIT IN SD UNITS
The Commission shall establish regulations that designate 90% of available Type 1, 2, 3, 9 and 0 licenses in HD Units to residents and 10% to non-residents. In all SD Units the quota split shall be established by Commission rule and regulation, with 85% of Type 1, 2, 3, 9 and 0 Antelope, Deer and Elk licenses available to residents, 15% to non-residents. These quota split will be only for the initial drawing. Any unsubscribed licenses in the initial resident draw shall roll over into the non-resident initial draw. Any licenses remaining unallocated after both initial drawings (resident and non-resident drawings) shall be made available in the Leftover Draw.

PROPOSITION 3: WAITING PERIOD AFTER HOLDING A HD UNIT TYPE 1, 2, 3, 9 OR 0 LICENSE
The Wyoming Legislature shall establish through statute, and direct the Commission to develop and promulgate any necessary rules and regulations, mandatory waiting periods for any individual, excluding a qualified landowner holding a landowner license, who possessed a Type 1, 2, 3, 9 or 0 antelope, deer, or elk license for a HD Unit. Those individuals shall be ineligible to apply for another Type 1, 2, 3, 9 or 0 license for the respective species in any HD Unit for a period of three (3) years after drawing one of these licenses. Individuals in a waiting period may submit a 2nd and 3rd choice on their application in the initial draw (antelope, deer, or elk), be eligible to purchase a general license (deer and elk), or a apply for a Type 1, 2, 3, 9 or 0 license (antelope, deer, and elk) in the Leftover Draw.

PROPOSITION 4: WEIGHTED BONUS POINTS FOR RESIDENT ANTELOPE, DEER, AND ELK
The Wyoming Legislature shall establish through statute, and direct the Commission to develop and promulgate any necessary rules and regulations, a weighted bonus point system for residents who apply for limited entry licenses for antelope, deer, and/or elk. The system shall be designed where an applicant's advantage in the draw increases exponentially with each subsequent year they continue to apply, although every applicant should have the chance to draw, even first-time applicants. Each year a resident applies for a limited quota license (HD or SD units) and does not draw, they will earn one bonus point. Points are squared and one is added to determine how many entries applicants will receive for the current year's draw. Once drawn, all of the applicant's bonus points for that species are purged.

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Applicants do not lose bonus points for drawing a license on their 2nd or 3rd choice. Individuals in waiting periods are not eligible to earn bonus points as they are only earned when a 1st choice is selected and not drawn.

PROPOSITION 5: RESIDENT PREFERENCE IN LEFTOVER LICENSE DRAWING

The Commission shall establish rules/regulations, and direct the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, to implement a system where residents receive preference over non-residents in a competitive drawing for any unsubscribed (leftover) licenses from the initial drawing. Resident applicants will have their application time-stamped and they will be given a 24 hour "head start" over non-residents for entry into the Leftover Draw.

PROPOSITION 6: OUTFITTED NON-RESIDENT LICENSE POOL DRAWING

The Wyoming Legislature shall establish in statute, and direct the Commission and State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides to develop and promulgate any necessary rules and regulations, an Outfitted Non-Resident License Pool Drawing. Through statute, rule, or regulation change, eliminate the non-resident "special license" designation and establish an outfitted non-resident pool. One-half (50%) of the non-resident license quota – half of the 10% in HD Units, and half of the 15% in SD Units - shall be available in this pool. Only non-residents who are contracted with a registered Wyoming Outfitter OR who are sponsored by an eligible landowner, shall be able to enter into this drawing.

- Outfitter Eligibility - To be eligible, outfitters must be currently registered and licensed by the Wyoming State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides.

- Landowner Eligibility – To be eligible, landowners must be registered with the Wyoming State Board of Outfitters and Professional Guides, shall be located in the hunt area for which the sponsored non-resident, shall consist of a minimum of 160 deeded or leased acres and utilized by the type of big game or wild turkeys for which the applicant applied. The landowner shall demonstrate that the species of wildlife for which they are sponsoring non-resident applicants utilizes the deeded/leased land for a minimum of two thousand (2,000) days of use during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the date of landowner registration.

The fee for licenses in the outfitted non-resident pool will be set at a level sufficient to cover the anticipated reduction in revenue associated with other actions recommended in this proposal. Unsubscribed (leftover) licenses from the outfitted non-resident pool will roll over into the regular non-resident pool and be issued at the regular license rate to successful applicants.

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