

Wyoming Wildlife Taskforce

May 2, 2022

Senator Affie Ellis and Representative Jamie Flitner
Co-Chairs of the Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee
200 West 24th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Dear Senator Ellis and Representative Flitner,

The Wyoming Wildlife Taskforce's (Taskforce) charge is to study top-priority wildlife policy issues facing the state related to the allocation of hunting opportunity, sportsperson access and other issues, and to make recommendations to the proper decision making body regarding solutions to these issues.

Following multiple discussions over several meetings, the Taskforce voted to recommend a substantial change to the manner in which bighorn sheep and moose licenses are issued for both residents and nonresidents specific to the use of preference points. There are three primary components of the changes recommended: 1) Transition from a prescriptive draw where 75% of licenses are drawn from the top point holders to a system that is completely random. 2) Transition to a weighted bonus point system where an applicant's advantage in the draw increases exponentially with each subsequent year they continue to apply. The Taskforce recommends this be implemented by squaring an applicant's total number of bonus points. 3) Delay implementation by up to four years from the date the law is effective to provide long term applicants with the highest numbers of preference points a transition period. This was approved by the Task Force on December 3rd, 2021:

The task force solicited and received public feedback and comments in a variety of ways.

The Taskforce votes on this recommendation are recorded as follows:

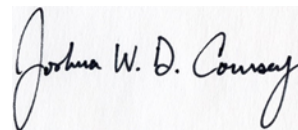
14 Yes - Adam Teten, Sy Gilliland, Pete Dube, Pat Crank, Liisa Anselmi, Josh Coursey, Rusty Bell, Tony Lehner, Lee Livingston, Jamie Flitner, Brian Nesvik, Joe Schaffer, Jen Scoggin, Elissa Ruckle: 2 No - Duaine Hagen, Albert Sommers: 2 Absent - Larry Hicks, Ogden Driskill.

The Taskforce voted to provide this recommendation for your consideration during the interim study period in 2022. Task Force members and staff from the Game and Fish Department are prepared to provide testimony and information during an interim study if you decided to take this on and it is approved by the Management Council. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this recommendation.

Sincerely,



Rusty Bell, Co-Chair



Josh Coursey, Co-Chair

(This letter supersedes the previous letter dated December 21, 2021, and any other version of the same subject, from the Wyoming Wildlife Task Force.)