Form 1100-001
(R 9/07)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 3.B.2

SUBJECT: Preliminary report on harvest ratios during the second year of a trial elimination of the October 4-day antlerless deer season.

FOR: DECEMBER, 2007 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Keith Warnke, Big Game Biologist

SUMMARY:

The 2006 deer season rule, WM-29-05, initiated trial hunting seasons with the requirement of harvesting specific ratios of antlerless to antlered deer utilizing a December antlerless only season that was favored by hunters. If minimum harvest ratios identified in Administrative Code are not met then the October hunt is reinstated.

Department staff will deliver a report based on preliminary deer harvest information.

If the average antlerless:antlered harvest ratio in 2006 and 2007 combined does not equal or exceed two antlerless deer per buck, then the four-day October antlerless deer gun hunt will return in 2008. Under this scenario, the start date would be the Thursday nearest October 15 and it would occur in DMUs where a regular season of buck plus quota will not bring the population to within 20% of the over-winter goal.

In 2006, the harvest ratio of 1.7 in 2006 was high enough to continue the trial season in 2007.

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No	☑	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No	☑	Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No	☑	Background Memo	Yes ☐	Attached

APPROVED:

Bureau Director, for Tom Hauge — Date 11/27/07

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf — Date 11/27/07

Secretary, Matt Frank — Date 11/28/07

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5
Laurie Osterndorf - AD/5
Barbara Zellmer - WM/4
Bill Vander Zouwen - WM/4
Randy Stark - LE/5
Diane Brookbank - GEF 3
Vance Rayburn - AD/5
Susan Crawford - AD/5
Regional LE Supervisors
Tribes/GLIFWC
Conservation Congress Exec. Council