

## "GREEN SHEET"

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**Meeting:** December 4-5, 2009  
**Agenda Item 6:** White-tailed Deer Management Plan Status – Briefing  
**Prepared By:** Jerry Nelson  
**Presented By:** Jerry Nelson, Ph.D., Deer and Elk Section Manager, Wildlife Program

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**Background:**

Species specific management plans are developed by the Department to articulate and prioritize the objectives and spending priorities for that species within a given time frame. When finalized the White-tailed Deer Management Plan will guide the management and research of white-tailed deer conducted by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The White-tailed Deer Management Plan functions as a step-down planning document under the umbrella of the Game Management Plan 2009-2015. This briefing is intended to bring the Commission up to date on the process and express some of the key elements of the plan.

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**Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration:**

Policy decisions related to management strategies to be implemented for white-tailed deer populations for the next 5 to 7 years.

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**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

None. This is a briefing only.

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**Action requested (identify the specific Commission decisions you are seeking):**

None. This is a Commission request from the September 11-12, 2009 Commission meeting.

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**Draft motion language:**

N/A

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**Justification for Commission action:**

N/A

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**Communications plan:**

- The basic concepts of white-tailed deer management objectives have been publicly vetted through the Game Management Plan process.
  - More specific white-tailed deer management objectives related to hunting season structures have been publicly vetted through the three-year hunting season (2009-2011) package process.
  - Public review of the plan with an opportunity to comment will take place after the external peer review has been completed.
  - The Department will continue to dialogue with all interested stakeholders on white-tailed deer issues.
  - The plan itself is a communication tool intended to convey the Department's management objectives for white-tailed deer management and research.
  - When finalized the plan will be posted on the Agency's web site.
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