

Game Management Plan

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Wildlife Program



Questions for Committee:

1. Shall we move forward with the 2-pronged approach?
2. Are you comfortable with the roles of Committee and Commission?
3. Are there additional considerations before we finalize the phases? If not, are you comfortable with the sequencing?



Purpose of Game Management Plans

- Guide the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's management of hunted wildlife.
- Provide the public an opportunity to weigh-in through a formal process on high level game management issues.
- Identify data gaps and future research and monitoring needs.
- Provide direction on sustainable hunting management.
- Identify existing and potential limiting factors affecting game populations.
- Give broad direction on addressing known limiting factors.
- Provide a basis for work planning.
- Identify funding needs.

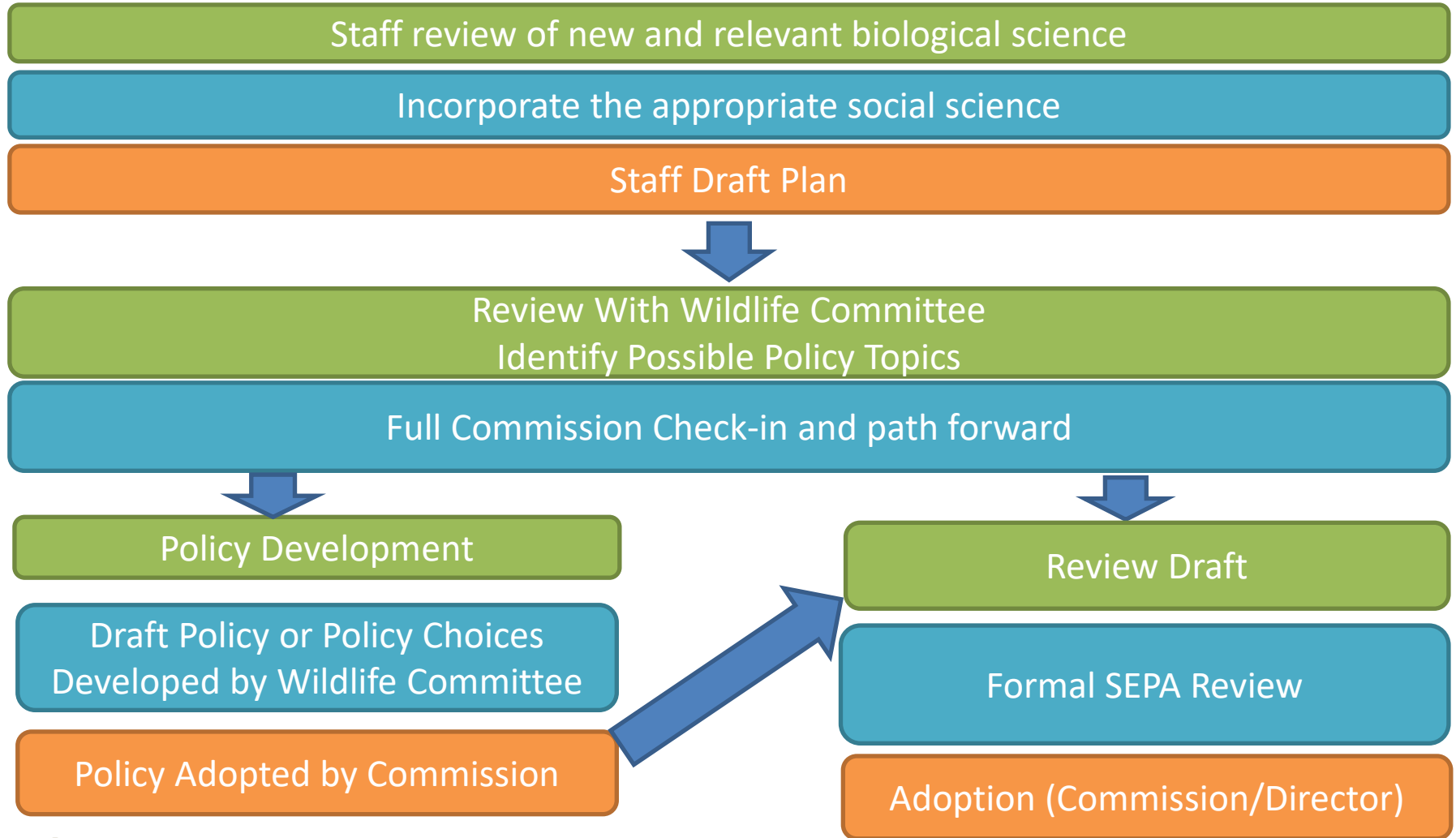


High level Summary of Steps

- Overarching plan and individual species and guild plans that will be produced over a specific time period
- All plans will go through SEPA using a phased review approach
- Commission will contemplate policy considerations that may inform individual plans
- Wildlife Committee/Commission will provide case appropriate review during the internal review process prior to public SEPA review



2-Pronged Approach Flow chart



Committee and Commission Roles in GMP Development

Committee

- Overall guidance for game management plans
- Review draft objectives
- Identify policy choices for Commission consideration
- Recommend when a plan may require a formal policy to Commission
- Develop draft policies for Commission consideration

Commission

- Receive periodic updates on progress
- Approve Commission policies originating through Committee process
- Vote on policy choices brought to Commission from Committee

Work Done So Far

- Internally evaluated and updated the Issue Statements from the existing GMP
- Identified Authors and process owners for the new Game Management Plans
- Mapped the timelines for current and future work
- Completed the human dimensions survey





What's Next

Phasing Consideration

We have organized the plans into phases based on consideration that include:

- Available staff
- Public and commission interest
- Possible policy implications
- Overarching plans that influence other plans
- Commission schedules



Plans to be drafted –

- Vision, Dept. Authority, and General Game Management Plan
- Waterfowl & Migratory Game Birds Management Plan
- White-tailed Deer Management Plan
- Black Bear Management Plan
- Cougar Management Plan
- Predator-Prey Management Plan
- Elk Management Plan
- Black-tailed Deer Management Plan
- Bighorn Sheep Management Plan
- Mountain Goat Management Plan
- Moose Management Plan
- Small Game, Furbearers, and Unclassified Species Management Plan
- Upland Game Bird Management Plan
- Mule Deer Management Plan
- Pronghorn Antelope Management Plan



Plan	Phase	Planned completion	Lead Authors	Process Owner
Vision, Dept. Authority, and General Game Mgmt. Plan	1	June 2023	Anis A	Anis A
Waterfowl & Migratory Game Birds Mgmt. Plan	1	June 2023	Waterfowl Specialists	Kyle S
Black Bear Management Plan	2	Oct. 2023	Carnivore Specialist	Vacant
Cougar Management Plan	2	Oct. 2023	Carnivore Specialist	Vacant
Predator-Prey Management Plan	2	Oct. 2023	Anis A	Anis A
Elk Management Plan	2	Oct. 2023	Ungulate specialists	Vacant
White-tailed Deer Management Plan	2	Oct. 2023	Ungulate specialists	Vacant



Plan	Phase	Planned completion	Lead Authors	Process Owner
Black-tailed Deer Management Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Ungulate specialists	Vacant
Bighorn Sheep Management Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Ungulate specialists	Vacant
Mountain Goat Management Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Ungulate specialists	Vacant
Moose Management Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Ungulate specialists	Vacant
Small Game, Furbearers, and Unclassified Species Mgt. Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Furbearer specialist	Vacant
Upland Game Bird Management Plan	3	Aug. 2024	Upland game specialist	Vacant
Mule Deer Management Plan	4	June 2025	Ungulate specialist	Vacant
Pronghorn Antelope Management Plan	4	June 2025	Ungulate specialist	Vacant



Game Management Plans Phases and Timeline

Phase 1 Game Management Plans

9/2022 - 6/2023

Internal Review (Nov-Dec 2022)

Public Comment (Mar-Apr 2023)

Phase 3 Game Management Plans

11/2023 - 8/2024

Internal Review (Feb-Mar 2023)

Public Comment (July-Aug 2023)

Phase 2 Game Management Plans

10/2022 - 10/2023

Internal Review (Feb-Mar 2023)

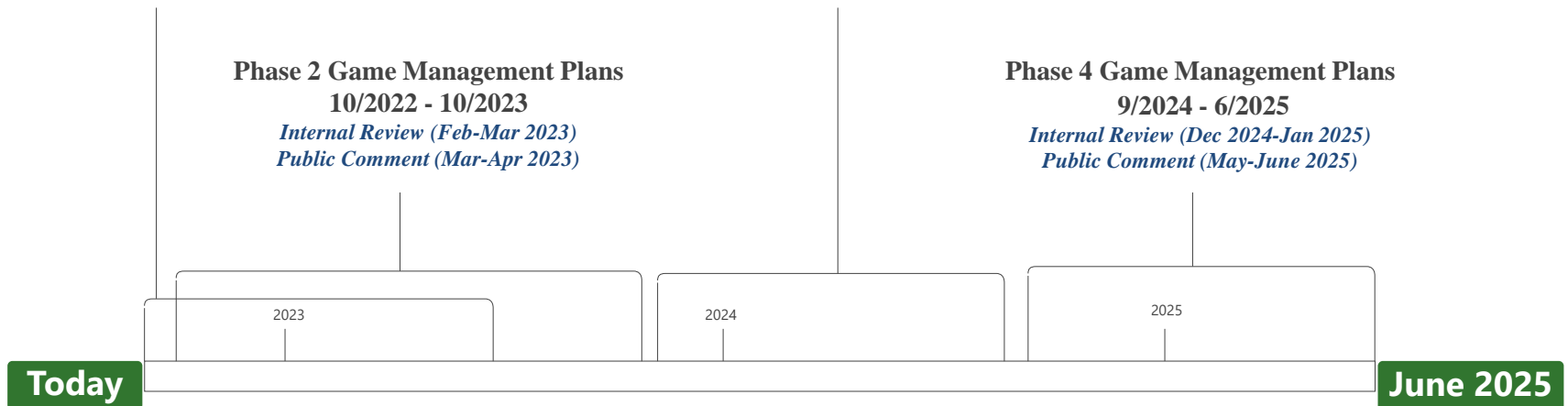
Public Comment (Mar-Apr 2023)

Phase 4 Game Management Plans

9/2024 - 6/2025

Internal Review (Dec 2024-Jan 2025)

Public Comment (May-June 2025)



Commission Touch Points

- Initial check in on each plan
- Post draft review and policy discussion
- Public comment briefing
- Adoption



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Questions?

