



## Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation Summary Sheet

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**Meeting date:**

11/18/2022

**Agenda item:**

Petition to initiate rule making that would contemplate a 2023 spring black bear recreational hunting permit season.

**Presenter(s):**

Anis Aoude, Game Division Manager, Wildlife Program.

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**Background summary:**

The existing spring bear rule WAC 220-415-080 authorized the 2021 spring black bear hunting season and sits idle after the Commission did not authorize a 2022 season. The Commission has directed the Department not to initiate rulemaking for a spring black bear season until they create a policy related to future spring bear recreational hunting opportunity.

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**Staff recommendation:**

The staff recommendation is to deny the petition. This recommendation is based on the existing direction that the Commission gave the Department to delay rule making until the Commission formulates a policy related to future spring bear recreational hunting opportunity.

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**Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:**

If this petition is denied no rule making will take place to contemplate a 2023 spring black bear recreational hunting season.

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**Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:**

The fiscal impact of this discussion is minimal and is not different from the status quo, based on commission direction.

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

The public were given notice of this petition and encouraged to comment. There was no public involvement directly related to this petition prior to its submission. A public engagement process will occur if rule making occurs in the future.

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**Action requested and/or proposed next steps:**

Dependent on Commission decision.

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**Draft motion language:**

I move we deny the petition.

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**Post decision communications plan:**

Communicate the outcome of the Commission's decision to the petitioner.

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