

## Summary Sheet

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**Meeting dates:** May 20, 2016

**Agenda item:** Hunting Rules Amendment - Decision

**Presenter:** Mick Cope, Game Division Manager, Wildlife Program

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**Background summary:**

After receiving public comments and a presentation of the issue by department staff, the Fish and Wildlife Commission passed WAC 232-28-359 – Deer special permits on April 8, 2016. Since that meeting, department staff found that modifications to two quality buck hunts in the archery category (Chiliwist and Entiat) created a season overlap with modern firearm seasons. It has been typical practice to not have archery and modern firearm seasons overlap as doing so creates an unsafe hunting scenario. For that reason, the department is requesting that the Commission amend their April 8 motion by changing the season dates for the archery hunts from November 19-27 to November 21-30. The proposed change will revert the archery hunt dates back to dates that have been in place for several years.

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

- Special permit deer hunting season dates
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**Public involvement process used and what you learned:**

Requests for comments were sent to over 28,000 individuals and organizations through the original rulemaking process. Additionally, these individuals and organizations were informed of the opportunity to provide verbal testimony at the March 18-19, 2016 Commission Meeting at Moses Lake. No additional public involvement was solicited for this amending action.

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**Action requested:**

Amend WAC 232-28-359.

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**Draft motion language:**

I move to amend the motion that was previously adopted by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission on April 8, 2016 regarding WAC 232-28-359 – 2016 Deer Special Permits by changing the season dates for the Chiliwist and Entiat quality buck archery permits from November 19 - 27 to November 21 - 30.

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**Justification for Commission action:**

- The change will eliminate a season overlap between modern firearm and archery hunters, increasing hunter safety.
  - The resulting season is the same as archery hunters have experienced over the past several years
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**Communications Plan:**

WDFW Website  
Hunting Pamphlet  
Notification to special permit drawing winners

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