

# Deer – HD 413



## **Draft Changes for 2022-2023 Hunting Regulations:**

Change the mule deer hunting opportunity on the general license to 'antlered buck only' from 'either-sex'.

Change the mule deer B license 413-00 quota to 100 antlerless mule deer licenses; maintain the quota range at 5 – 500.

Eliminate the 496-00 whitetail B licenses and replace with a second, region-wide whitetail B license.

## **Biological Implications:**

Combining Deer/Elk HD's 413 and 432 is being considered.

Deer in the two hunting districts can be managed together.

Harvest and survey data suggest mule deer numbers are below the long-term average in Deer/Elk HD 413. Switching to 'antlered buck only' will allow the mule deer populations in Deer/Elk HD 413 to grow via reduced annual antlerless mule deer harvest.

Continuing to make available 100 mule deer B licenses may not significantly impact population growth but help with localized game damage situations via limited antlerless harvest in localized areas.

White-tailed deer numbers are above the longterm average in many areas and a region-wide B license to replace hunting-district-specific B licenses may improve harvest opportunity by allowing hunters to more opportunistically harvest an antlerless white-tailed deer.

## **Social Implications:**

Occasional instances of localized mule deer game damage are expected as the mule deer population grows. As handled in the past, qualifying landowners may receive assistance through FWP's Game Damage Program.

This change is consistent with changes in nearby hunting districts with similar habitat.