Proposed Orders

• For Information – Director
  • Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park (Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 3 of 2017)
  • State-Licensed Commercial Fishing (Fisheries Order 243.17)

• For Information – NRC
  • Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park; Tobico Marsh Boundaries (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 7 of 2017)

• For Action – NRC
  • Antlerless Deer License Quotas 2017-2019 (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 5 of 2017)
  • Deer Management Assistance Permits and Antler Point Restrictions (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 6 of 2017)
NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Chief Update
  - State-Licensed Commercial Fishing (FO 243.17)
  - All Species Tournament Registration; Bass Registration Report

- Wildlife Chief Update
  - Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park (LUOD # 3 of 2017)
  - Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park; Tobico Marsh Boundaries (WCO # 7 of 2017)
  - Deer Management Assistance Permits and Antler Point Restrictions
Michigan Fishing Guide

• 2-year guide
  • Twice failed
  • Re-printed in May 2017

• Return to 1-year guide
  • Retain 2-year regulation review
  • Start shift to digital format
  • Focus on low-connectivity areas
  • 750,000 print run in 2018
Questions?
FO 243 – State Licensed Commercial Fishing

• Director’s authority lies within Part 467 and regulations held in statute, admin. Rule and FO

• Propose to renew for one year

• Regulations: trap net depths, lake whitefish seasons/size limits, etc.
Thank You!

Questions?
Fishing Tournament Information System

Tom Goniea, Biologist
Fishing Tournament Liaison
Background

• During the 2015 Regulation Review
  • How many bass tournaments?
  • How many anglers participate?
  • How many bass are weighed/released?
  • Where are bass tournaments held?
Fish Order 215.15A

• Bass Fishing Tournament Requirements:
  • Online Registration
  • Online Reporting
Fishing Tournament Info System

• Significant Investment
  • $200K spent
  • Game & Fish
• Staff Time
  • No new hires

• Launched in April 2016
  • Registration
  • Reporting
  • Searches
2016 Registrations

• 2,096 tournaments
  • 243 directors
  • 270 waterbodies
    • #1 = St. Clair w/ 87*
    • #2 = Austin L. w/ 61
    • 105 hosted 2 or fewer

*Ranked in the top 10 nationally by BASSMASTER Magazine.
Non-Resident Participation

• Between 10-15% of 243 tournament directors were non-resident directors/clubs
  • Indiana & Ohio

• Those non-resident directors/clubs registered about 7% of the 2,096 tournaments
2016 Results: Statewide

• Reporting Compliance was 84.1%

• Tournament Size:
  • Range: 2-109 boats
  • AVG: 13.7 boats
  • Range: 2-216 anglers
  • AVG: 25.7 anglers
Results: Statewide
continued…

• Number of bass weighed: 65,006 fish
  • AVG number weighed / event : 39.6 fish
  • Number of SMB weighed: 17.6%
  • Number of LMB weighed: 82.4%
2016 Results: Statewide continued…

Heaviest “Big Bass” Reported

1. 7.60 lb. Cheboygan R. Cheboygan
2. 6.95 lb. Lake St. Clair Macomb

There were 23 “big bass” 6 lb. or greater reported

The average “big bass” reported was 3.9 lb
2016 Summary Report

- 500 hard copies
  - NRC/meeting
  - Directors

- PDF Downloadable
  Link on FTIS
Feedback

• Positive
  • DNR interest in bass fishing
  • FTIS Website
  • Showcasing Story / Video

• Negative
  • DNR Interest in bass fishing
    • “Picking on bass”
  • Double booking access sites
  • Unregistered tournaments
  • Too many, ramp congestion, fishing under docks, dead bass, etc. (public)
2017 Registrations
2017 Registrations cont.

• 2,284 tournaments registered so far
  • 236 directors
  • 286 waterbodies
    • #1 = St. Clair w/ 97
    • #2 = Austin L. w/ 66
Program Updates & Expansion
Order Update

- Fish Order 215 will be submitted in September to expand the program beyond bass

- Preparations already underway
FTIS Updates

• Things learned in 2016

• Program expansion in 2018
  • Other species
  • Tournament types (ice and bow fishing)

*These updates are already live
Expansion Outreach

• Planning an outreach strategy in anticipation of program expansion

• Presentations to the citizen advisory committees
Promotional Video

• Promotional video of fishing tournaments around Michigan
Thank You
Chief Update

• Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative Annual Report
• “Adopt a State Game Area” program with Pheasants Forever
• Elk
Chief Update cont.

• Dedication of Augusta Creek SWA as the Gordon Guyer SWA
LUOD No. 3 of 2017

• Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park
  • Re-designates the park to its original name
  • Seasonal refuge closure from September 1 to December 15
WCO No. 7 of 2017

• Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park; Tobico Marsh Boundaries
  • Correctly notes the name change
  • Defines the Tobico Marsh where hunting and trapping have historically been allowed
  • Moves the boundary line to provide an additional recreational activities
  • Any hunting and trapping during the seasonal closure will require approval from the wildlife regional supervisor
  • Defines a 145-acre high traffic area near the boundary line as an annual hunting and trapping closure unless permitted by the Department
Thank You
Recap of Remaining Deer Regulations of 2017-2019

Chad Stewart
Deer Program
Wildlife Division
July 13, 2017
Issues held over from May

• Sunset provision on APR’s in NW12
• Antler Point Restrictions in DMU 487
• Drummond Island Regulations
• South Fox (DMU 245) APR removal
• DMAP structure
Northwest 12 APRs

• Trends observed in NW12 relative to other areas of the NLP:
  • Accelerated decline of yearling buck harvest
  • Increased antlerless harvest
  • Decreased antlered harvest
  • Similar satisfaction levels
  • Strong support for the regulation
## NW 12 Surveys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012 Survey</th>
<th>2016 Resurvey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support MAPR’s</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommend removing APR sunset from NW12 and continuing APR’s.
APR’s in DMU 487
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inside DMU452</th>
<th>5-County Outside DMU452</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>(no testing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>2.3%*</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Yearling Buck Harvest

First Year MAPR
First Year HC
First Year HC

DMU 487
No Restriction
MAPR
Leelanau
# Harvest Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlered Deer</th>
<th>2010-2012 Average</th>
<th>2013-2015 Average</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DMU 487</td>
<td>12,318</td>
<td>14,839</td>
<td>20.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Restricted</td>
<td>26,653</td>
<td>26,045</td>
<td>-2.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW 12</td>
<td>25,380</td>
<td>21,203</td>
<td>-16.45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antlerless Deer</th>
<th>2010-2012 Average</th>
<th>2013-2015 Average</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DMU 487</td>
<td>13,196</td>
<td>12,895</td>
<td>-2.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Restricted</td>
<td>24,241</td>
<td>20,260</td>
<td>-16.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW 12</td>
<td>18,870</td>
<td>21,312</td>
<td>12.94%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bovine TB

- Proposed Addition of 3 point APR to Deer license
  - DMU 487 and 452
- Continuation of Antlerless Options with both deer license and combo license

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deer License</th>
<th>Deer Combo License</th>
<th>Regular Tag</th>
<th>Restricted Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archery</td>
<td></td>
<td>or 3+</td>
<td>or 4+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearm</td>
<td></td>
<td>or 3+</td>
<td>or 4+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muzzleloader</td>
<td></td>
<td>or 3+</td>
<td>or 4+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Non-Regulatory Actions

- Continued use of Disease Control Permits
- Utilize USDA shooters in high risk areas
- Contract personnel to develop deer management cooperatives
- Improve hunter access to private lands
- Align habitat grants with TB surveillance goals
Additional APR Recommendations
Drummond Island Comprehensive Planning Process

- Spanning 2009-2012
- Public Input/Review process
- Plan approved by Director in 2015
  - Deer Hunting Recommendations aimed at producing older/larger bucks
    - 3-point on a side
    - One-buck
South Fox Island

- Remove 2 pt APR
- Remove existing restriction for hunters
- Eliminate requirement to obtain permit
- Season dates for archery/firearm align with statewide seasons
DMAP’s
5 County Pilot Area

• Firearm Use During Archery Season
  • 2014-2016- Applicants who qualify allowed to use firearms with DMAPs all of archery season except for October 1-4 and November 10-14
    • Remainder of state only allowed to use October 1-14

• Allowed for harvest of one antlered deer per permittee per year on a DMAP
  • Remainder of state prohibits taking of antlered deer
Current Order Proposal

• Order proposes to remove the sunset clause on the 5 counties in the NW currently under a pilot program

• Allows the use of firearms to be used statewide October 1-14

• Allows the take of up to one antlered deer per DMAP statewide
  • Would incorporate decision tree developed for exception in 5 county pilot
Reconvening Group

• June 23
  • MUCC, Farm Bureau, QDMA, Michigan Bow Hunters

• Consensus to continue pilot and current regulations one year for further deliberation
Recommendations

• Given the outcome of the June meeting between all partners:
  • Recommend extending pilot in 5 counties one additional year
  • Allows for further discussion in hopes of achieving consensus for next year

• Meetings begin in August
  • Final recommendations provided for information no later than May 2018
Thank You

www.michigan.gov/dnr