# 2023 Deferral Concerns

The Department has doubled the number of approved deferrals from 2022 to 2023. 39 total in 2022, 88 total in 2023 (as of 10/19/23). This number may grow as the 2023 hunt season progresses.

#### Medical and Death deferrals

2023 - 77 2022 - 32 Military Deferrals 2023 - 4 2022 - 4 Diseased 2023 - 3 (1 is a PIW Antelope tag) 2022 - 1 Non-resident Guided

2023 – 4 2022 - 2

#### Quota

- 88 tags, so far, will be approved quota numbers but will not be issued through the main draw.
- If deferrals take the entirety of a quota for a hunt unit/s, there will be no tags issued through the main draw. Quotas aren't released before the draw opens and if a deferral takes the entirety of a hunt's quota, the Department will be required to manually pull all applications from that hunt choice and notifying each individual applicant about their updated hunt choices within 4 or less days from the time the quotas are approved by Commission to the time the application period closes.
- Manually removing applicants from a list due to 0 tags available in the main draw would result in 0 alternates for that specific hunt in the event a deferred tag is returned to the Department.

# **Vetting Medical Deferrals**

- The Department must be subjective when reviewing medical deferrals, with no medical background on many of the injuries or illnesses submitted for deferral.
- The burden and time constraints required by administrative staff to vet supporting documentation of deferral requests is of concern to the Department.

# Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Hunt (NRGH)

- Guides are allowed no more than 30 successful clients from the NRGH per year pursuant to NAC 502.4237. The AMS system has no way to cap an individual guide who has deferred tag clients to ensure they do not go over the 30-client limit.
- Guides that are being called to ensure they can hunt a successful alternate tag holder, before we issue the alternate tag, are wanting the client to accept the tag and then knowingly turning that alternate tag back in to be deferred until the following year.

# **Specialty Tags**

- Deferring specialty tags could result in no quota for the next year and no applications taken during the main draw application period.
  - PIW Tags
  - Silver State Tags
- The Department has no way to award another customer a specialty tag issued by third party vendor. The Department has no direction on how to handle the quota of deferred specialty tags issued by a 3rd party vendor.
  - o Dream Tags
  - Heritage Tags

# Alternate and FCFS Tags

- Customers approved for a deferral being issued an alternate tag for another species at a later time and requesting a deferral for the alternate tag.
- Deferring tags and buying FCFS tags

# Management/Depredation/Emergency Tags

- The Department is requesting the following tags to be excluded from participation in the deferral program. These hunts are needed to manage herds within the current hunting season.
  - Management One Horn Ram
  - Management Wilderness Only Bighorn Sheep
  - Depredation Elk and Antelope hunts
  - Any potential emergency hunt that is issued