

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources

R657-74 Cooperative Agreements for Big Game or Turkey

R657-74-1. Purpose and Authority

(1) Under authority of Section 23A-2-401, this rule defines:

- (a) how the division may enter into cooperative agreements for big game or turkey use on "cleared and planted land";
- (b) management objectives for cooperative agreements entered into under this rule; and
- (c) the procedures, standards, requirements and limits for entering into cooperative agreements under this rule.

(2) The division may pay a private landowner with cleared and planted land through a cooperative agreement for big game or turkey use.

(a) The cooperative agreement may be made for up to six years

- (i) all cooperative agreements entered into under this rule shall be evaluated every three years at a minimum to determine if said agreement is still meeting the intended goals and objectives.
- (ii) a cooperative agreement can be evaluated at any point during the agreement with a written request from either party to re-evaluate the agreement.

(b) The cooperative agreement is entered into in lieu of participation in the depredation program, described in Title 23A, Chapter 7, Cooperative Wildlife Management Units Act, and Rule R657-44. The property subject to the cooperative agreement is excluded from any relief granted by those programs.

(3) The division may approve a cooperative agreement for big game or turkey use on cleared and planted land when, in the opinion of the division, such agreement:

- (a) (i) will help big game or turkey populations that are below unit population objective; or
- (ii) will help manage turkey populations; and
- (b) a cooperative agreement will result in:
 - (i) increased forage availability and nutrition for big game or turkey populations;
 - (ii) a reduction of female harvest in the population; and
 - (iii) increased hunter opportunities.

R657-74-2. Definitions.

(1) Terms used in this rule are defined in Sections 23A-1-101, 23A-6-101, 23A-1-206, 23A-8-401, 23A-8-402, 23A-8-403, 23A-8-404, 23A-8-405 and Subsection 23A-2-201(4).

(2) "Cleared and planted land" means private land or privately leased state or federal land used to produce a cultivated crop for commercial gain and the cultivated crop is routinely irrigated or routinely mechanically or manually harvested, or is crop residue that has forage value for livestock.