

Meeting Date: March 20, 2024

Agenda Item No. 10

Agenda Item: Wild salmon & steelhead monitoring and trends **Bureau Chief Approval:** LH

Prepared by: Tim Copeland, Wild Salmon and Steelhead Program Coordinator

Background:

This agenda item is a non-action overview of the Department's monitoring work conducted to track the status of wild salmon and steelhead populations in Idaho. Staff will also present selected trends in abundance and density that have been collected over time.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission administers state wildlife policy through the Department (Idaho Code 36-104). The Department is charged preserving, protecting, perpetuating, and managing the state's wildlife (Idaho Code 36-103). Abundance (number of animals) and population trend are important metrics monitored by the Department to assess population status and the effect of harvest seasons and other management actions.

Public Involvement Process:

The public is interested in information on wild salmon and steelhead in Idaho, including population size and trends over time. The Commission and Department receive input from the public on salmon and steelhead management throughout the year via social media, email, phone calls, public meetings and hearings, and other events.

Justification:

Information will aid Commissioners as they respond to requests, recommendations, or other input from the public.

Staff Recommendation:

None. This agenda item is presented for Commission information.

Action Requested:

None.