

Meeting Date: May 16,2024

Agenda Item No. 9

Agenda Item: Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation Report

Bureau Chief Approval: AW

Prepared by: Hilarie Engle

Background:

Commission has requested updates about the Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation activities.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

None

Public Involvement Process:

None

Staff Recommendation:

Present update as follows.

Justification:

Requested by Commission.

1. IFWF Update:

- a. In 2023, IFWF received \$26,666, the remainder of the Magic Valley estate. The funds were designated to be used for public access. IFWF worked with Department staff to put out an RFP to regions for project funding.

The Clearwater Region was awarded the funds to be utilized for the following:

Winchester Lake: parking lot resurfacing. This access point receives more effort than any other lowland lake in the Clearwater Region. The main parking area was paved over 25 years ago, and now has reached a condition where it is riddled with potholes and anglers are complaining about it.

This project would entail pulling up all the old pavement and hauling it away and then resurfacing the parking lot with gravel.

- b. IFWF Competitive grant cycle closed April 30th. The IDFG Regional Competitive grant cycle closes May 30th.
- c. IFWF will hold the next quarterly meeting on August 9-10th in Soda Springs, Idaho.

2. Wildlife License Plate Update

The wildlife license plates continue to see growth year after year, especially with renewals. Total sales (new and renewal) from 2021-2023 increased by 16,261. All plates (new and renewal) are showed growth in 2023.

New Sales 2022-2023

Bluebird- 5,248, 10.69% increase from 2022

Elk- 8,283, 7.11% increase from 2022
Trout- 4,936, 3.31% increase from 2022

Overall new total increase 7.04% increase from 2022

Renewals 2022-2023

Bluebird- 19,688, 14.71% increase over 2022
Elk- 31,370, 14.96% increase over 2022
Trout- 16,761, 16.32% increase over 2022

Overall renewal total increase 15.22% increase over 2022.

Total Plates Sales/Renewals: 86,646

IDFG Non-game program (Bluebird):	\$1,472,091.00
Dept of Ag (Elk):	\$ 35,940.75
IDFG Disease Lab	\$ 35,940.75
IDPR (Trout):	\$ 35,117.50
 Total Plate Sales:	 \$1,579,090.00

In March, the Foundation launched the wildlife plate art contest. The contest will close May 24th. The artists who design the winning plate will receive \$1,000. The contest has had a huge response from Idaho residents.