

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
February 19, 2009
Boise, Idaho**

Present in the Director's Office: Director Groen, Deputy Director Moore; Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Kathleen Trever, Deputy Attorney General; Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director - Policy; Lance Hebdon, Inter-Governmental Policy Coordinator; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Mike Keckler, Chief, Communications; Jon Heggen, Chief, Enforcement; and Bonnie Butler, Governor's Office.

A special meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Wright with Commissioners McDermott, Trevey, Barowsky, Budge, and Power participating. Commissioner Wheeler was excused.

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

MICELLANEOUS

Recent Governor Guidance about FY2009-2010 spending and the federal stimulus Executive Order 2009-06

Director Groen briefed the Commission on the Governor's memo dated February 13, 2009. Director Groen noted that the revenue forecast for the state came in at \$33 million less. Directions from the Governor are to look at expenditures, approval of spending through DFM, Hiring Freeze, no overtime, no employee compensation, out of state travel must be approved by DFM, and no spend downs at the end of the year and is focused on the general fund.

Director Groen stated that the Department has been asked to submit projects to the Governor's office for the stimulus package. Examples of the projects are Deyo Pond, resident fish hatcheries, habitat restoration, and Fish Creek. A group of individuals assigned by the Governor's office will review all of the request proposals.

JFAC will post pone the budget hearings until the stimulus package is reviewed.

Bonnie Butler, Governor's office reported that the Governor's office is reviewing the 1,100 page Stimulus package. The Governor wants to make sure that these are projects that Idaho will not have to continue to pay for after the stimulus money is gone.

Review of 10th Amendment Memo

Attorney General, Kathleen Trever briefed the Commission on the 10th Amendment final summary document (Appendix 42, Exhibit 14). Attorney General Trever stated that the

memo can be used to answer constituent questions that may come up. The 10th amendment does not really work in terms of challenging wolves or any other endangered species act issues. If people pursue it ends up costing the state legal costs and can also affect the ability to proceed with delisting.

LEGISLATION

Revised Revenue Proposal

Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director – Policy, reported that the print hearing scheduled for February 13, 2009 for the revised revenue proposal was withdrawn from the calendar. Ms. Kiefer noted that this request was requested by leadership. When a new print hearing is assigned the proposal will require a privileged committee for introduction.

New Bill Discussion

(Appendix 42, Exhibit 15)

House Joint Memorial 1 – Wolf delisting (Statement to President urging delisting)

HB 138 – Actions/negligence, non-native animals (creates civil cause for action for negligence if injury or death)

Analysis sheet will be prepared for next conference call

HB 139 – Wolves, Canadian gray wolves (creates felony for protecting wolf causing human death)

Analysis sheet will be prepared for next conference call

HB 150 – License plates, fees (puts a new fee on specialty and personalized plates for highways)

Analysis sheet will be prepared for next conference call

Department is working with ITD

House Concurrent Resolution Number 18 – Continue Natural Resource Interim Committee

SB 1098 – Off-highway vehicles (amends definitions, increases registration fee)

HB 161 – Security breaches, notify attorney general (guidance to agencies)

House Concurrent Resolution Number 22 – Identify theft/state agencies (guidance to agencies)

HB 116 – conservation agreements (amends implementation of conservation easement)

Update on Analyzed Bills

SB 1008 – Disabled veterans hunt program

Passed Senate, waiting for a hearing in the House Resources and Conservation Committee

SB 1015 – Directs IDFG to contact states to solicit interest in getting wolves

Passed Senate, waiting for a hearing in the House Resources and Conservation Committee

No hearings have been set yet for SB 1020, SB 1022 or HB 16. SB 1035 was withdrawn by sponsor.

Department Staff will give a presentation on wolf collaring and mortality to the House Resource and Conservation Committee on February 19, 2009.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The Commission meeting adjourned at 8:42 a.m.

Wayne Wright
Chairman

Cal Groen
Secretary