

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission**  
**Special Meeting**  
**April 2, 2009**  
**Boise, Idaho**

Present in the Director's Office: Director Groen, Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Kathleen Trevor, Deputy Attorney General; Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director - Policy; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Bonnie Butler, Governor's Office; Mike Keckler, Communications Chief; Lance Hebdon, Inter Governmental Policy Coordinator; Jim Lau, Administration Chief; and Deputy Directors Vigil Moore and Jim Unsworth.

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, Barowsky, Budge, Power and Wheeler participating. Commissioner Trevey was excused.

**LEGISLATION**

Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director-Policy provided an update on legislation (Appendix 42, Exhibit 32).

**New Bill Analysis**

SB – 1175 Amends existing law relating to fish and game to provide that the department shall take specified action relating to the relocation of bighorn sheep, to provide that specified domestic sheep and livestock operations shall be held harmless from adverse impacts by the state of Idaho, to provide for the relocation or control of certain bighorn sheep by the Director of the Department of Fish and Game to delete reference to provisions relating to the employment of certain veterinarians by the Department of Agriculture.

Effects to Department Management/Wildlife Resources: S1175 would place new administrative and management burdens on bighorn sheep transplant and relocation actions in areas of domestic sheep and livestock operations or allotments.

Fiscal Effect to Department: Fiscal effect could be significant if the State accepts the implied liability and requires IDFG to provide financial contribution if there is monetary compensation to domestic sheep and livestock producers for "adverse impact" from future bighorn sheep transplant and relocation.

**09-39 Commissioner Wheeler moved and Commissioner Power seconded a motion TO OPPOSE SB 1175. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.**

### **Previously Analyzed Bills**

SB –1141 aa,aa – IDFG Revenue Increase

The first amendment to SB 11441 removed most resident fee increases and left the nonresident fee increases intact as in the original proposal but increased the deer and elk tag fees.

The seconded amendment 1) removed the increased resident fee for an Elk B tag, making this tag the same resident price as an Elk A tag at current fee of \$29 and 2) created a deer and elk control hunt tag at the same price as current resident fee of \$18 (deer) and \$29 (elk) for residents and \$300 (deer) and \$145 (elk) for nonresidents. The second amendment did not restore the control hunt permit and associated fee of \$6.00 which was left out of the first amendment.

SB 1141 passed the Senate 31-4 on April 1.

Staff is looking at the financial effects of SB 1141 aa,aa to the Department.

**09-40 Commissioner Wheeler moved and Commissioner Barowsky seconded a motion TO SUPPORT THE ORIGINAL FEE BILL SB 1141 SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.**

### **Review of HB 138 as amended**

HB 138 – Adds to existing law relating to actions for negligence to provide for negligence actions against certain individuals in the event of injury or death to a person caused by a nonnative animal species or subspecies introduced into the state of Idaho by a governmental agency.

Previously the Commission position was to oppose HB 138; consensus of the Commission is to continue to oppose the amended HB 138.

### **Review of HB 194 as amended**

HB 194 – Sport Shooting Activities – Adds to and amends existing law relating to sport shooting activities to provide for a limitation of liability on certain sport shooting activities and to provide exceptions; and to provide an exception to governmental liability relating to certain sport shooting ranges.

The Department is concerned about the new definition of “Sport shooting official” but feels that they can work with the sponsor of the bill and the NRA to clarify how this would work for the Department.

### **New Bill Information**

HB 263 STATE SPENDING - SEARCHABLE DATABASE - Adds to existing law to require the State Controller in cooperation with the Division of Financial Management

and the Legislative Services Office to construct and compile a searchable budget database for state spending.

HB 264 -- COMPREHENSIVE AQUIFER MANAGEMENT PLAN - Adds to existing law to provide that the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer is approved as a component of the Comprehensive State Water Plan; to provide that the Idaho Water Resource Board shall prepare and submit a funding mechanism to the Legislature for approval; to provide criteria related to the funding mechanism; and to provide that implementation of Phase I of the plan is subject to legislative approval of a funding mechanism.

### **Status Update for Bills of Concern**

See House and Senate Bill tables (Appendix 42, Exhibit 33).

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **WOLF UPDATE**

Director Groen reported that the final rule to delist wolves is expected to be published in the federal register today.

### **Adjournment**

The Commission meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

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Wayne Wright  
Chairman

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Cal Groen  
Secretary