

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
September 30, 2009
Director's Office
600 South Walnut
Boise, Idaho**

Present in the Director's Office: Director Cal Groen; Deputy Director Virgil Moore, Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Kathleen Trever, Deputy Attorney General; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Mike Keckler, Communications Chief; Jeff Gould, Chief of Wildlife; Ed Schriever, Chief of Fisheries; Pete Hassemer, Anadromous Fish Manager; and Sam Sharr, Program Coordinator.

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 Randy Budge, Fred Trevey, Tony McDermott, Robert Barowsky, Cameron Wheeler and Gary Power participating.

RULES

Proposal for Amending Bag, Possession, and Season Limits for the 2009/2010 Fall and Spring Steelhead Fisheries in the Snake, Salmon and Little Salmon Rivers

Pete Hassemer, Anadromous Fish Manager, presented the department proposal (Appendix 42, Exhibit 82) for amended bag, possession, and season limits for the 2009/2010 fall and spring steelhead fisheries in the Snake, Salmon and Little Salmon Rivers. Mr. Hassemer reported that by September 27 slightly more than 132,000 summer steelhead had passed over Lower Granite Dam. Since 1999 the portion of the annual return of steelhead over Lower Granite by September 27 has averaged 33%. Based on that average it is likely that the steelhead return to Lower Granite Dam in 2009 may be far larger than previous high return of 251,000 steelhead over Lower Granite Dam in 2001. The proposed bag, possession and season limit changes are intended to provide anglers increased opportunities to harvest these large A-run hatchery returns.

09-100 Commissioner Trevey moved and Commissioner Barowsky seconded a motion TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED BY STAFF WITH THE ADDITION THAT THE SPRING SEASON LIMIT BE INCREASED TO 40. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Direction of Animal Damage control Board Funds

Director Groen reported that on September 16th he met with cattle producers, county commissioners, 3 area legislators, Wildlife Services, and Regional Supervisor Scott Reinecker in Cambridge to discuss a chronic depredating wolf pack, the Blue Bunch Pack. Wildlife Services

has not been able to control this pack of wolves. Kill permits have been issued to Council Mountain Grazing Association, East Pine Rush Creek and Indian Mountain Grazing Associations ending October 31st. The County and the grazers have contributed to maintaining trapper services but are short \$7,500 to retain the trapper services for this area. In this difficult and emergency situation that the Department recommends a onetime transfer of \$10,000 from the Animal Damage Control Board Funds. A request letter will be sent (Appendix 42, Exhibit 83) to Idaho State Animal Damage Control Board.

09-101 Commissioner Barowsky moved and Commissioner Power seconded a motion THAT IN COMPLIANCE WITH IDAHO STATUTE 36-112 AND 36-115(C) TO REQUEST THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS \$10,000 FROM THE ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL BOARD (ADCB) FROM THE MULE DEER INITIATIVE ACCOUNT TO THE GENERAL ACCOUNT SUPPORTING THE CURRENT MOU BETWEEN THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND ADCB. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Conference Call Schedule

Director Groen stated that a Commission conference call is needed for the ratification of rules. Commission consensus is to set the call for October 29th at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 am.

Wayne Wright
Chairman

Cal Groen
Secretary