



Idaho's Amphibians and Reptiles Rules for collection, possession and permitting

Great Basin Collared Lizard



Charlie Justus

Collection and Possession of Amphibians and Reptiles in Idaho

A valid Idaho hunting license is required by residents and nonresidents for taking, capturing and/or possessing any live or dead Idaho amphibians and reptiles (except bullfrogs as outlined below).

Children under 10 years of age are exempt from this hunting license requirement.

A valid fishing license is required for those persons 14 years of age or older to capture and possess bullfrogs (*Rana catesbeiana*) which are classified as a game fish by the Department.

They are not regulated under amphibian rules but under fishing rules. There is no harvest limit, but all bullfrogs harvested must be killed prior to transport. It is illegal to possess or transport live bullfrogs, bullfrog tadpoles or bullfrog eggs. See Fishing Rules Brochure for permitted methods of harvest and seasons.

Bag and possession limit is four (4) of any one species of native amphibians and reptiles. Possession includes all animals (alive or dead), at home, and/or in the field.

All captive wildlife in possession must be accompanied by proof that said wildlife was legally obtained.

Amphibians and reptiles native to Idaho may not be sold or purchased.

No wildlife may be taken alive or dead from state parks, national parks and monuments, or nature preserves except as designated by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission or permitted in writing by the Idaho Fish and Game Director and permitted in writing by the responsible land management agency.

No wildlife held in captivity for any length of time (other than while in the field at time of capture for photography or identification purposes) may be released into the wild.

Wildlife held in captivity may be disposed of by gift to another person or as directed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Wildlife gifted to another person must be accompanied by proof that this wildlife was

legally obtained. This requirement may be met by the use of a signed “proxy” statement showing taker’s name, address, license number and species and number of wildlife gifted. Gifted animals may not exceed the bag/possession limit.

Venomous reptiles must be housed in a cage having double walls and/or screens or safety glass to prevent fang penetration. All venomous reptile cages and enclosures must be locked.

All captive wildlife in possession must be made available for inspection by any Fish and Game employee, Peace Officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Fish and Game code at any reasonable time.

All wildlife held in captivity must be handled in a humane manner and kept free of parasites, sickness or disease.

Unprotected (non-native) Idaho amphibians and reptiles may be taken in any amount and at any time, provided that such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances or regulations.

The possession, importation, shipping or transportation of live bullfrogs, rough-skinned newts, red-eared slider turtles and snapping turtles, all of which are classified as invasive species, is prohibited without a permit from the Idaho Department of Agriculture.

Wildlife legally taken outside of Idaho, may be possessed and/or sold in Idaho (after import permit entry) if such sale is not prohibited in Idaho or the other state, province, or country where taken or by federal law or regulation.

Permit Requirements

No permit is required to keep amphibians and reptiles for non-commercial purposes.

A **Commercial Wildlife Facility Permit** is required for any facility where the operator obtains or possesses wildlife for any commercial purposes, including exhibition, education, entertainment or sale.

A **Scientific Collection Permit** may be issued for legitimate institutional research.

A **Wildlife Importation Permit** is required for importation of any live wildlife into Idaho except those considered to be common conventional household pets.

A **Commercial Collecting Permit** may be issued upon application to the Idaho Fish and Game Director.

Permit application should be submitted to your nearest Idaho Fish and Game regional office.

Western Rattlesnake



Evin Oneale

Buy/Sell/Import/Export/Transport Rules for Amphibians and Reptiles

No person shall buy, purchase, exchange or trade, or offer or attempt to do so, or sell, trade, barter, or offer for sale, trade, barter, or attempt to do so, any native amphibian or reptile, including the edible flesh of rattlesnakes. However, up to six (6) rattlesnake skins may be sold per calendar year.

An import permit is required to import any live wildlife into Idaho, except those considered common conventional household pets. Wildlife imported from out of state pet stores/wildlife warehouses still require permits. The permit must be in hand before the wildlife enters Idaho.

Before a permit is issued, a valid certificate of veterinary health inspection is required.

The importation of venomous reptiles (including venomoids) or crocodylians is prohibited.

If exporting legally obtained wildlife, it is the responsibility of the exporter to determine the applicability of any import/export requirements of other states and localities.

Unprotected Idaho wildlife may be used for commercial purposes, if the possessor holds a commercial wildlife facility permit.

Idaho Native Amphibians and Reptiles

Amphibians

Columbia Spotted Frog



Evin Oneale

Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog (*Ascaphus montanus*)
Western Toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*)
Woodhouse's Toad (*Anaxyrus woodhousii*)
Boreal Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris maculata*)
Sierran Treefrog (*Pseudacris sierra*)
Columbia Spotted Frog (*Rana luteiventris*)
Northern Leopard Frog (*Lithobates pipiens*)
Wood Frog (*Lithobates sylvatica*)
Great Basin Spadefoot (*Spea intermontana*)
Long-toed Salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum*)
Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*)
Idaho Giant Salamander (*Dicamptodon aterrimus*)
Coeur d'Alene Salamander (*Plethodon idahoensis*)

Reptiles

Northern Alligator Lizard (*Elgaria coerulea*)
Great Basin Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytus bicinctores*)
Long-nosed Leopard Lizard (*Gambelia wislizenii*)
Pygmy horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma douglasii*)
Short-horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma hernandesi*)
Desert Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma platyrhinos*)
Sagebrush Lizard (*Sceloporus graciosus*)
Western Fence Lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*)
Side-blotched Lizard (*Uta stansburiana*)
Western Skink (*Plestiodon skiltonianus*)
Western Whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris*)
Northern Rubber Boa (*Charina bottae*)
Racer (*Coluber constrictor*)
Ring-necked Snake (*Diadophis punctatus*)
Desert Nightsnake (*Hypsiglena chlorophaea*)
Striped Whipsnake (*Masticophis taeniatus*)
Gophersnake (*Pituophis catenifer*)
Long-nosed Snake (*Rhinocheilus lecontei*)
Groundsnake (*Sonora semiannulata*)
Terrestrial Gartersnake (*Thamnophis elegans*)
Common Gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*)
Western Rattlesnake (*Crotalus oregonus*)
Prairie Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*)
Northern Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta*)

Western Fence Lizard



Bruce Haak

For more information or to make permit application, contact:

Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters 208-334-3700
600 S. Walnut, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707

Panhandle Region 208-769-1414
2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

Clearwater Region 208-799-5010
3316 16th Street, Lewiston, ID 83501

Southwest Region-Nampa 208-465-8465
3101 S. Powerline Road, Nampa, ID 83686

Southwest Region-McCall 208-634-8137
555 Deinhard Lane, McCall, ID 83638

Magic Valley Region 208-324-4359
319 S. 417 East, U.S. Highway 93 Business Park
Jerome, ID 83338

Southeast Region 208-232-4703
1345 Barton Road, Pocatello, ID 83204

Upper Snake Region 208-525-7290
4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls, ID 83401

Salmon Region 208-756-2271
99 Highway 93 North, P.O. Box 1336
Salmon, ID 83467