



## IDAHO FISH AND GAME GOLDSHEET

### **November 2025 Commission Meeting**

**Agenda Item:** *Avian Predation Management Plan  
(Piscivorous Birds)*

**Presented by:** *Joe Kozfkay and Michelle Kemner*

**Position/Title:** *State Fisheries Manager, Wildlife Ecologist*

**Agenda Item No.:** 14

**Supervisor Approval:** SR

### **Background:**

In May 2016, the Commission approved a 10-year Management Plan for the Conservation of American White Pelicans in Idaho. The plan described management actions to reduce impacts from pelican predation on native trout and other sport fisheries through 2025.

When considering revising or updating the plan, staff recognized that bird-fish conflicts are more widespread and include additional piscivorous bird species (i.e., pelicans and cormorants have been determined to limit fish populations within several Idaho waters). Additionally, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is heavily involved in the conservation of all migratory birds, substantial piscivorous bird conservation planning occurs through other channels, and substantial predation conflicts in Idaho are often directed by a predation management plan developed in accordance with the Department's Policy for Avian and Mammalian Predation. This led to the conclusion that an Idaho management plan focused on one piscivorous bird species (pelicans) was not the most effective way to plan the management of bird-fish conflicts and a predation management plan would be more appropriate. An interdisciplinary Department team was formed to develop the Predation Management Plan to Reduce Impacts to Fisheries Resources by American White Pelicans and Other Piscivorous Birds in Idaho (aka Avian Predation Management Plan).

### **Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:**

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission is charged with administering state wildlife policy through supervision and management of IDFG (Idaho Code 36-104). The Policy for Avian and Mammalian Predation provides the Department direction in managing predator populations consistent with meeting management objectives for prey species populations.

### **Public Involvement Process:**

The public will have the opportunity to comment on this new predation management plan during the Commission public meeting.

### **Justification:**

Revise the document guiding the management of American white pelicans in Idaho to refocus on its primary purpose, management of piscivorous bird predation on important fisheries, and align it with the existing Department Policy for Avian and Mammalian Predation.



## IDAHO FISH AND GAME GOLDSHEET

**Staff Recommendation:**

No action requested. This presentation is for Commission information only.