



IDAHO FISH AND GAME GOLDSHEET

March 2026 Commission Meeting

Agenda Item: Rulemaking and Budget Update

Presented by: Amber Worthington

Position/Title: Deputy Director of Programs and Policy

Agenda Item No.: 5A
Supervisor Approval: JF

Background:

Staff will update the Commission about rulemaking and budgetary activity since initiation of the 2026 Legislative session on January 12, 2026. Weekly legislative conference calls were initiated on February 5, 2026.

Each year, the Commission reviews potential rulemaking proposals, which may arise from new or amended state legislation, new federal laws or regulations, petitions from citizens to adopt or amend a rule, changes in agency processes or procedural requirements, or just a need to update an existing rule. The following potential rulemaking idea has been identified by staff for Commission consideration:

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Restrictions Revision: The purpose of this rulemaking idea is to revise rule language to provide the Department the ability to manage CWD Management Zones down to the specific Game Management Unit (GMU). The language revision would make moving an animal carcass between Game Management Units within a CWD Management Zone illegal, whether salvaged or taken through hunting. Current language allows movement of whole carcasses that may contain brain or spinal tissue between GMUs within a CWD Management Zone.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

The Commission has rulemaking authority. The Idaho Administrative Procedure Act (Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code) governs rulemaking in Idaho. Sections 36-103, 36-104, 36-504, and 36-506, Idaho code, authorize the Commission to adopt rules concerning Importation, Possession, Release, Sale, or Salvage of Wildlife.

Public Involvement Process:

Rulemaking updates are given to the Commission and conducted in public on a weekly basis during legislative session.

Public involvement for rulemaking would occur through the negotiated rulemaking process and Commission public input opportunity.

Justification:

This rulemaking enhances the Department's ability to further contain and mitigate the potential spread of CWD.

Staff Recommendation:



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This agenda item is for information only – no action required. Staff recommendations will be presented later in the calendar year.

Suggested Motion:

None – Informational only.