

Meeting Date: August 16, 2010

Agenda Item No. 5.A.a

Agenda Item: Briefing About Trapping Rule: Public trail definition and placement of traps

Bureau Chief Approval: _____

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Background:

During scoping in 2010, the Department received input from the Commission, public in general, and some trappers that trap placement along roads and trails and at trailheads, campgrounds, and picnic areas were raising public, livestock, and pet safety concerns. Staff considered a proposal for trap set placement that raised concerns with trappers that the proposal was too limiting to legitimate trapping opportunity and the Commission subsequently directed staff to do further work with the Idaho Trappers Association (ITA) and the Upper Snake River Trappers Association of Idaho (USRT) to address their concerns. After further work by staff and a new proposal, the current rules defining “Public Trail” and defining placement of trap sets on maintained public trails were adopted by the Commission in 2010 and upheld by the 2011 Legislature as final rules (Attachment A).

This is informational per request of the Commission to discuss these specific current trapping rules. There have been intermittent concerns expressed by the non-trapping public about the current trap set placement rule, similar to the concerns that prompted the original rulemaking.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

IDAPA 13.01.16 established the rules governing the trapping of predatory and unprotected wildlife and the taking of furbearing wildlife.

Public Involvement Process:

During 2010, staff solicited input from the Idaho Trappers Association (ITA), Upper Snake Rivers Trappers of Idaho (USRT), individual trappers, other resource users, and other members of the public.

Justification:

Commission has requested discussion about these rules.

Staff Recommendation:

Provide policy guidance to staff for any further rulemaking to revise these current rules or to further communicate the basis of the current rules to the public.