

Meeting Date: June 16, 2020

Agenda Item No. 1

Agenda Item: Season Setting, Spring Chinook Salmon Fisheries

Bureau Chief Approval:



Prepared by: Lance Hebdon, Anadromous Fish Manager

Background:

This agenda item concerns the season setting for a Chinook salmon targeting adult anadromous Chinook salmon returning to the upper Salmon River.

Staff will present updated forecasts of the return of hatchery salmon which indicate sufficient abundance to allow limited sport fisheries.

Specific boundaries will be described in a separate season proposal.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Idaho Statute 36-104(b)2 gives the Commission the authority to make a rule or proclamation establishing seasons and methods for the taking of fish. Fishing Rules are provided in IDAPA 13.01.11

Public Involvement Process:

Scheduled public meetings were cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve staff recommendation

Justification:

Salmon and steelhead mitigation hatcheries were built to mitigate or compensate for fishing opportunity lost as a result of hydropower development. The proposed seasons would provide anglers the opportunity to fish for returning adult hatchery Chinook salmon produced at Idaho mitigation hatcheries.