

Meeting Date: January 27-28, 2021

Agenda Item No. 11

Agenda Item: 2022-2024 Fishing Season and Rules
Setting Process (informational only)

Bureau Chief Approval: JF

Prepared by: Jim Fredericks

Background:

The purpose of this agenda item is to inform the commission of the upcoming process and timeline for establishing fishing seasons and limits for 2022 - 2024. With the exception of Chinook Salmon, Idaho fishing season, bag, and possession limits are set on a triennial basis.

Though staff collects input from anglers year-round, the formal scoping process is scheduled to begin in mid-March 2021 with staff engaging the public and seeking input through a variety of media. We anticipate the scoping phase will be mostly virtual. Staff will consider public input along with biological information related to fish populations and develop potential changes to seasons and limits. In May, staff will seek approval from the Commission to present proposed changes to the public for comment. Final proposals will be presented to the Commission at the November meeting, to take effect January 1, 2022.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Authority vested in the Fish and Game Commission under Title 36-104 and 36-901.

Public Involvement Process:

The Department anticipates public scoping in spring 2021, and a public comment period in May-September, prior to finalizing for Commission approval in November.

Staff Recommendation:

No recommendation; informational only.

Justification:

This agenda item is to keep Commission informed prior to the beginning of the process for setting fishing setting seasons and limits for 2022-2024.