

Meeting Date: January 28, 2021

Agenda Item No. 12

Agenda Item: 2021 Migratory Game Bird Briefing

Bureau Chief Approval: TB

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Background:

In 2019 and 2020, the Department conducted mail and web-based surveys to obtain input from hunters on how to structure migratory game bird (i.e., ducks, geese, and doves) seasons and zones, within confines of the federal framework, which includes flexibility in start and end dates. This information was used to guide Idaho waterfowl season and zone structure recommendations for the 2020-2021 seasons. However, constituents in north Idaho expressed dissatisfaction with the season structure for ducks in Zone 3: Monday October 19 through Sunday January 31. Staff will present season option considerations for the 2021-2022 seasons and provide an update on duck zone configuration options for 2022-2025.

The Commission will set Idaho's migratory game bird seasons during their April 15 conference call.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

Idaho Code 36-104(2) grants authority to the Commission to determine when an open season may be declared for the taking of wildlife. IDAPA 13.01.09.301 establishes rules regarding the take of migratory game birds.

Public Involvement Process:

N/A. This agenda item is for Commission information.

Justification:

N/A.

Staff Recommendation:

This agenda item is for Commission information. No action is required. Staff recommendations for migratory game bird seasons will be presented in April.