

**Meeting Date:** May 14, 2020

**Agenda Item No. 5.B.1**

**Agenda Item:** Petition for Rulemaking, Lighted  
Nocks (Action)

**Bureau Chief Approval:** PK

**Prepared by:** Toby Boudreau

**Background:**

The Commission and the Department received a petition on February 10, 2020 for rulemaking to allow use of lighted nocks on arrows during any controlled or general game season archery hunt.

From 2006-2009, the Commission conducted a thorough review of archery and muzzleloader equipment rules and adopted some adjustments to regulations to address interests expressed by a broad spectrum of hunters, and to respond to changes in technology that had occurred during the previous decade. The most recent modifications to rule made for archery equipment include increasing compound bow maximum allowable “let off” to 85% and reducing minimum arrow weight.

In July 2014, staff presented a workshop to the Commission on the history of method-of-take restrictions.

**Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:**

Under Idaho Code 67-5230, any person may petition an agency requesting rulemaking. The agency must: deny the petition in writing, stating its reasons for denial, or initiate rulemaking. The Commission must act on the petition no later than its first regular meeting scheduled seven (7) or more days after submission of the petition. Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the March Commission meeting was converted to a video meeting less than two weeks before the meeting. The petitioner agreed with the Department’s proposal to delay this agenda item until the May meeting.

**Public Involvement Process:**

Comment through Department web-based e-mail address.

**Justification:**

Idaho Code 67-5230 requires the Commission to act on petitions for IDAPA rulemaking, either by initiation of rulemaking or by petition denial.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff identified no biological concerns or impact on management outcomes related to the use of lighted nocks. Staff have no recommendation on the petition.

**Sample Motion #1:**

I move the Department initiate negotiated rulemaking to consider the use of lighted nocks on arrows during controlled or general game season archery hunts.

**Sample Motion #2:**

I move to deny the petitioners’ request for rulemaking to allow use of lighted nocks during controlled or general game season archery hunts. {State rationale for denial}.