

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Headquarters  
November 19-20, 2025  
Lewiston, Idaho**

**November 19**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Public Meeting**

Chairman Dave Bobbitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. PST and reviewed the rules of conduct for the hearing and reported that all public comments would be reviewed by the Commission at the Thursday business meeting. Commissioners Dave Bobbitt, Don Ebert, Tim Murphy, Mike Roach, Jordan Cheirrett, Brody Harshbarger, and Ron Davies were present.

**November 20**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Chairman Bobbitt called the meeting to order at 8:00 am PST. Commissioners Dave Bobbitt, Don Ebert, Tim Murphy, Mike Roach, Jordan Cheirrett, Brody Harshbarger, and Ron Davies were present.

**Review of Public Comment**

Director Fredericks provided a summary of public comments. There were thirty members of the public in attendance with fourteen individuals providing testimony.

- A commenter from White Bird, Idaho, raised concerns about overcrowding in Unit 14, noting that non-resident participation exceeds 10%. He asked the Commission to reduce non-resident allocation by 1% per year until the 10% threshold is reached.
- A commenter recognized the long-standing contributions of a Department staff member and provided written comments for the Commissioners to review.
- A commenter representing the Idaho Wildlife Federation expressed support for the HAT Working Group recommendations, specifically the exception for transmitting trail cameras on private property. He also congratulated the Department on updating its Strategic Plan.
- A commenter with previous experience at Clearwater and Dworshak Hatcheries raised concerns about in-river smolt migration and the effects of elevated gas saturation levels caused by local dams.
- A commenter representing Citizens for the Preservation of Fish and Dams voiced concerns regarding a recent court decision in Portland, OR, allowing maximum spills through dams. He encouraged the Department to remain engaged in these discussions.

- A commenter representing the Wild Sheep Foundation expressed support for augmenting the California bighorn sheep herd in the X region, noting that the herd would benefit from increased biological diversity.
- A commenter with Citizens for the Preservation of Fish and Dams presented data illustrating how fish and dams can function together, referencing records dating back to 1938.
- A commenter, a pilot and consultant forester, raised concerns about wild turkey overpopulation and its impacts on landowners. He asked the Department to consider longer seasons.
- A commenter representing the Idaho Conservation League expressed interest in the Strategic Plan Update and the Wildlife Diversity Program and Funding Overview. He also highlighted concerns about the prevalence of CWD in Idaho and encouraged Department involvement with HB591.
- A commenter representing the Foundation for Wildlife Management raised concerns about the HAT Working Group recommendations and asked the Department to reconsider restrictions on transmitting trail cameras.
- A commenter from Lewiston who hunts in Unit 10A expressed concerns about stagnant elk populations and asked the Department to improve management in that area.
- A commenter representing the Foundation for Wildlife Management reiterated concerns over the HAT Working Group's recommendation to restrict the use of transmitting trail cameras.
- A commenter who owns land and hunts in Unit 11A noted a decline in white-tailed deer populations due to disease and expressed concern about extending certain hunts.
- A commenter who hunts in the Dworshak Zone requested additional restrictions on non-resident hunters in the area.

### **Consent Calendar**

#### Minutes

- March 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, May 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025
- June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- July 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

#### Financial Report

**25-72** Commissioner Davies made a motion to accept the consent calendar as presented. Commissioner Harshbarger seconded the motion. Motion carries.

### **Summary of Western State Hunting Technology Regulations**

Ellary TuckerWilliams, Legislative and Community Engagement Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 71).

## **LEGISLATION**

### **Administrative Rules: Adoption of Pending Rules – Zero Based Regulation**

Amber Worthington, Deputy Director, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 72).

**25-73** Commissioner Davies made a motion to move the Commission adopt the pending rules for Chapters 13.01.03, 13.01.04, 13.01.16, 13.01.17, 13.01.19, as presented, with authority for the Department to make non-substantive edits in the proofreading process that do not alter the sense, meaning or effect of the rules. Commissioner Cheirrett seconded the motion. Motion carries.

**25-74** Commissioner Murphy made a motion to move the Commission adopt the pending rules for Chapter 13.01.08, as presented, with authority for the Department to make non-substantive edits in the proofreading process that do not alter the sense, meaning or effect of the rules. Commissioner Davies seconded the motion. Motion carries.

**25-74S** Commissioner Cheirrett made a motion to move the Commission adopt the pending rules for Chapter 13.01.08, as presented, with the exception of striking the revised language surrounding transmitting trail cameras, and with authority for the Department to make non-substantive edits in the proofreading process that do not alter the sense, meaning or effect of the rules. This substitute motion was not seconded. Nor was it voted on.

### **REPORT**

#### **Refunds / Raincheck Report**

Jon Oswald, Chief, Administration, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 73).

**25-75** Commissioner Murphy made a motion that the Commission honor the request for a raincheck for bighorn sheep Controlled Hunt 5007 for the 2026 season and reduce the number of tags in the 2026 drawing from 5 tags to 4 tags. Commissioner Roach seconded the motion. Commissioner's Harshbarger and Cheirrett opposed. Motion carries.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Fishing Licenses for Foster Children and Foster Parents Discount Order**

Amber Worthington, Deputy Director, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 74).

**25-76** Commissioner Cheirrett made a motion that the Commission adopt discount order 25-50 for calendar years 2026 and 2027 as presented. Commissioner Roach seconded the motion. Motion carries.

#### **Harris Trust Land Acquisition**

Casey Pozzanghera, Lands/Mitigation Program Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 75).

**25-77** Commissioner Harshbarger made a motion that the Commission acquires the 280-acre Harris Trust property in Bonneville County. Commissioner Roach seconded the motion. Motion carries.

### **IDFG Strategic Plan Update – Draft Review and Public Outreach Preview**

Adam Park, Chief, Communications, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 76).

### **Non-Resident Tag Draw Updates**

Tara Reichert, License Operations Manager, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 77).

### **General IFWF Update**

Hilarie Engle, Foundation Development Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 78).

### **Selection of IFWF Commission Liaison**

Hilarie Engle, Foundation Development Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 79).

**25-78** Commissioner Cheirrett made a motion that Commissioner Murphy serves as the 2026 Commission Liaison to the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Commissioner Roach seconded the motion. Motion carries.

### **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Update**

Stacey Dauwalter, Wildlife Health Program Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 80).

### **Hemorrhagic Disease in North Idaho White-tailed Deer**

Jana Ashling, Regional Wildlife Manager, and Nathan Flyod, Regional Wildlife Biologist, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 81).

### **Wildlife Diversity Program and Funding Overview**

Rex Sallabanks, Wildlife Diversity Program Manager, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 81).

### **Avian Predation Management Plan (Piscivorous Birds)**

Joe Kozfkay, State Fisheries Manager, and Michelle Kemner, Wildlife Ecologist, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 82).

### **History of White-tailed Deer in Idaho**

Kenny Randall, Regional Wildlife Biologist, and Toby Boudreau, Deer and Elk Coordinator, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 82).

### **Jacks Creek (Owyhee) Bighorn Sheep Augmentation**

Hollie Miyasaki, Wildlife Staff Biologist, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 83).

### **Upland Game and Furbearer Season-Setting Preview**

Jeff Knetter, Upland Game and Migratory Game Bird Coordinator, and Rick Ward, Wildlife Biologist, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 84).

### **Dworshak Reservoir – Research and Management**

Tyler Zumwalt, Fishery Research Biologist, presented (Appendix 58, Exhibit 85).

### **Appoint Commissioner Representative to WAFWA**

**25-79** Commissioner Harshbarger moved, and Commissioner Davies seconded a motion to appoint Commissioner Ebert as the Commission representative to WAFWA. Motion carries.

### **Set the 2026 Commission Calendar**

The Commission discussed and agreed upon the following calendar dates for 2026.

- January 14–15, 2026, in Boise, Idaho
- March 24–25, 2026, in Boise, Idaho
- May 6–7, 2026, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- July 15–16, 2026, in Jerome, Idaho
- November 17–18, 2026, in Lewiston, Idaho

## **REPORTS**

### **Director's Report**

Director Fredericks highlighted items from each Bureau in the Director's Report.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner reports stand as written (Appendix 58, Exhibit 86).

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Planning for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be January 14-15, 2025, in Boise, Idaho.

### **Executive Session**

**25-80** Commissioner Murphy moved, and Commission Davies seconded a motion, that the Commission go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206 subsections 1 (c) and (f). Motion carries.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Dave Bobbitt, Don Ebert, Tim Murphy, Mike Roach, Jordan Cheirrett, Brody Harshbarger, and Ron Davies.

The Commission potential litigation matters/ potential purchase of property.

**25-81** Commissioner Murphy moved, and Commissioner Davies seconded a motion, that the Commission come out of executive session with the record to reflect that no final action was taken. Motion carries.

**Open Session**

**Adjourn 4:00 p.m. PST**

Dave Bobbitt  
Chairman

Jim Fredericks  
Secretary