

Meeting Date: July 12, 2023

Agenda Item No. 1a

Agenda Item: Boise River Chinook Fishery Proposal

Bureau Chief Approval: LH

Prepared by: John Cassinelli, Anadromous Fisheries Manager

Background:

This agenda item concerns a fishery targeting hatchery-origin Chinook Salmon in the Boise River.

Broodstock needs have been met at Rapid River Hatchery. The Department proposes to transport adults and jacks from Rapid River Hatchery for release into the Boise River to provide additional angling opportunity.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Idaho Statute 36-104(b)2 gives the Commission the authority to set fishing seasons. Rules governing fish are provided in IDAPA 13.01.11

Public Involvement Process:

There has been no public outreach on this topic.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the proposed Chinook Salmon fishery in the Boise River.

Justification:

Chinook Salmon mitigation hatcheries were built to mitigate or compensate for fishing opportunity lost as a result of hydropower development. The proposed season would provide anglers the opportunity to harvest Chinook Salmon returning to Rapid River Hatchery.