Idaho Fish and Game Commission  
Special Meeting - February 10, 2022  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Legislative Conference Call  
Boise, Idaho

A meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference, attended by Commissioners Dave Bobbitt, Don Ebert, Tim Murphy, Greg Cameron, Lane Clezie, Derick Attebury and Ron Davies.

IDFG staff present: Deputy Directors Jim Fredericks and Scott Reinecker; Deputy Attorneys General Kathleen Trever and Owen Moroney; Lance Hebdon, Jon Rachael, Tricia Hebdon, Rick Ward, Mary Boyer, Valerie Taro and Roger Phillips. IDFG staff participating via phone: Director Ed Schriever, Chip Corsi, JJ Teare, Josh Royse, Craig White, Dan Garren, Jim White and Tom Curet.

Chairman Cameron called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. MST.

**LEGISLATION**

Jim Fredericks, Deputy Director provided the updates on legislation.

**Update about Commissioner Confirmation**

Commissioner Dave Bobbitt’s confirmation hearing was Wednesday, February 2, 2022 in the Senate Resources & Environment Committee. The Committee vote regarding the appointment of Commissioner Bobbitt will be at the next committee meeting.

**Update on Fish and Game Legislative Presentations (JFAC, Bills, other) and Budget**

There has not been a vote on the JFAC Budget yet.

Deputy Director Fredericks provided an update on HB 520 Fish and Game allocated tags. The Department is waiting on the hearing from the House.

Deputy Director Fredericks provided an update on HB 507 to allow lighted nocks and mechanical broadheads in Idaho for archery hunting. Sportsman groups testified in support and opposition to the bill. Deputy Director Fredericks testified on behalf of the Commission with a “Do Not Support” position on the bill. The Committee sent the bill to the floor with a due pass recommendation, and HB507 was filed for 3rd reading February 10, 2022.

**New Bill Analysis for Discussion/Update on Pending Legislation / Action for Policy Position**

Deputy Director Fredericks provided an analysis on RS 29462 Fish and Game Violations.
Current Law/Background:

- Violations of Fish and Game rules (IDAPA Chapter 13) are classified as misdemeanors unless specifically identified as an infraction in Idaho Code 36-1401 (Violations). During the 2021 Legislative Session, legislation related to the Sage Grouse Tag prompted a discussion between some legislators and Department staff about the appropriateness of the penalties associated with violations. The Department committed to reviewing Fish and Game rule violations and identifying those with penalties that may be more appropriately classified as an infraction than a misdemeanor.

- The review was recently completed by Chief Wooten in coordination with Regional Conservation Officers and relevant staff from the Fish and Wildlife bureaus. Staff considered the appropriateness of infraction versus misdemeanor based on enforcement experience in the field, as well as the nature of the violation and similarity of those violations currently identified in 36-1401 as infractions. Staff provided the summary of violations to consider adding to 36-1401 as infractions to Representative Boyle. Representative Boyle presented a Routing Slip to the House Resources and Conservation Committee on February 9, and the Committee voted to print the bill.

22-14 Commissioner Davies moved and Commissioner Bobbitt seconded a motion that the Commission support RS 29462. Motion carries.

**Big Game Season Setting Considerations for Scoping Related to Unit 14 Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)**

Rick Ward presented season proposal alternatives for scoping related to Unit 14 CWD (Appendix 55, Exhibit 6). The objectives for Unit 14 are to reduce the overall deer densities, manage for a younger age structure in deer, and increase CWD surveillance samples in both deer and elk. Mr. Ward presented the Unit 14 proposals for scoping. The Department will seek public input and then report the findings at the March Commission meeting. All Commissioners were in support of moving forward with the Scoping proposal as presented.

Adjourn

[Signatures]

Timothy M. Murphy  
Chairman

Ed Schriever  
Secretary