

Idaho Fish and Game Commission
April 16, 2020
9:00 A.M. MDT
Meeting Conference Call
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Boise, Idaho

April 16

A special meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order with Commissioners Brad Corkill, Tim Murphy, Greg Cameron, Lane Clezie and Derick Attebury participating.

IDFG staff present: Director Ed Schriever, Deputy Directors Paul Kline and Scott Reinecker; Kathleen Trever; IDFG staff participating via phone: Owen Moroney, Sharon Kiefer, Michael Pearson, Kim Rau, Mary Boyer, Jon Rachael, Greg Wooten, Jeff Knetter, Toby Boudreau, Chip Corsi, J.J. Teare, Brad Compton, Craig White, Dan Garren, Jim White and Tom Curet.

MISCELLANEOUS

Covid-19 Update

Director Schriever provided the update.

1. The Governor's "Stay at Home" order has been extended through April 30, 2020, with some changes to the original order, such as travel restrictions and quarantine information.
2. Customer Service needs are being met.
3. Outdoor recreational use is being monitored.
4. IDFG is working with Federal and County government to provide outdoor opportunities for the public.
5. IDFG will continue with the Commission temporary rule set on April 4, 2020, with some minor adjustments to certain conditions such as allowing bear bait permits to be issued to those who already purchased a bear tag prior to the Commission rule.

SEASON SETTING AND RULES

Season Setting: 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird

Jeff Knetter, Upland Game & Migratory Bird Coordinator, presented the 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird proposals (Appendix 53, Exhibit 39). Idaho's migratory game bird seasons are set within frameworks established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), after they consult with all state fish and wildlife agencies.

The Adaptive Harvest Management process determines the general duck season framework.

- adopted by Service in 1996; used to evaluate duck habitat and populations annually to select the optimal season framework for U.S. duck seasons.
- special harvest strategies are used for some of the less common ducks (i.e., pintail, scaup).

- goose seasons are determined by Flyway Management plans for each goose population.

Staff recommendation: The Department recommends taking the maximum allowed number of hunting days and bag limits allowed by federal framework. The proposed daily duck bag limit would be 7 ducks, but not more than 2 female mallards, 2 scaup, 2 redheads, 1 pintail, and 2 canvasbacks. The proposed daily bag limit for Wilson's snipe would be 8 and the proposed daily bag limit for coots would be 25. The proposed daily bag limit for Canada geese would be 4 (except in Zone 4 during September 1-15, when the daily bag limit would be 5), the proposed daily bag limit for white-fronted geese would be 10, and the proposed daily bag limit for snow and Ross's geese would be 20. The proposed possession limit would be three times the daily bag limit.

There is no daily bag limit for American crows.

The proposed daily bag limit for doves would be 15 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate.

The proposed daily and season limit for sandhill cranes is 2 cranes.

20-35 Commissioner Corkill moved and Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion to adopt the staff recommendations for the 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird seasons. Motion carries.

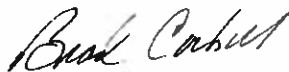
Jeff Knetter reported that the 2 days designated as youth and veterans-active military personnel waterfowl hunting days in addition to the regular duck season presented in the staff recommendations will require an administrative rule change to the current limitation for the "youth only" waterfowl season. Staff are asking for a head nod from the Commission to conduct negotiated rule-making to make this change. The Department will conduct negotiated rulemaking in time for the Commission to consider a temporary and proposed rule that could take effect for the fall 2020 season. The Commission approved the request.

MISCELLANEOUS

Upcoming Meeting Planning

The upcoming May 14, 2020 Commission Meeting will be conducted via WebEx format with video. Commissioners will attend the meeting from each of their Regional Offices. Public Comment is currently being solicited.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30



Brad Corkill
Chairman



Ed Schriever
Secretary

