

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting – May 18, 2023
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Boise, Idaho**

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

IDFG staff present: Directors Amber Jim Fredericks; Owen Moroney, Deputy Attorney General; Connor Liess, Mary Boyer and Valerie Taro. IDFG staff participating via phone: Joe Dupont, Clay Hickey, Art Butts, Mike Peterson, James Brower, and Tom Curet.

Members of the public in attendance: The Clearwater Region had one member of the public present.

Chairman Ebert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. MDT.

SEASON SETTING AND RULES

Season Modifications, Spring Season Chinook Salmon Fisheries

John Cassinelli, Anadromous Fisheries Program Manager, presented season modifications for Spring Chinook Salmon due to lower than forecast returns for the Rapid River hatchery. The proposed season modification would still provide anglers the opportunity to fish for returning adult hatchery Chinook Salmon produced at Idaho mitigation hatcheries while spreading out the harvest and ensuring broodstock collection across the run. The proposed season modifications will begin on Monday May 22, 2023.

The modification is as follows:

MODIFICATION

Salmon River and Little Salmon River

- Daily = Four (4) Chinook Salmon, only one (1) may be an adult
- Possession = Twelve (12) Chinook Salmon, only three (3) may be adults

23-45 Commissioner Davies moved and Commissioner Murphy seconded a motion to approve the proposed season modifications as presented by staff. Voice vote, motion carries.

2023 Big Game Hunt Modification Proposals

Rick Ward, State Wildlife Manager, presented Landowner Appreciation Program (LAP) big game hunt modifications for 2023.

On May 11, 2023, the Commission adopted the following changes to seven deer and pronghorn controlled hunts for the 2023 season based on winter severity.

The following deer hunts were converted to antlered only for the 2023 hunting season:

- Controlled Hunt No. 1099 (Controlled Hunt Area 73A, 20 tags, either sex)
- Controlled Hunt No. 1100 (Controlled Hunt Area 74, 20 tags, either sex)

The following deer hunt was closed for the 2023 hunting season:

- Controlled Hunt No. 1064 (Controlled Hunt Area 60-1, 100 tags, antlerless only)

The following pronghorn hunts were closed for the 2023 hunting season:

- Controlled Hunt No. 4022 (Controlled Hunt Area 60A-1, 15 tags, either sex)
- Controlled Hunt No. 4025 (Controlled Hunt Area 76-1, 5 tags, either sex)
- Controlled Hunt No. 4043 (Controlled Hunt Area 60A-1, 40 tags, either sex)
- Controlled Hunt No. 4052 (Controlled Hunt Area 61-1, 25 tags, either sex)

Each controlled hunt above has an accompanying Landowner Appreciation Program (LAP) hunt. LAP tags are awarded through a lottery system to registered landowners. Staff is proposing the seven LAP hunts tied to the parent hunts above be modified or closed for the 2023 hunting season to align with changes to the parent hunts.

Staff recommend the following deer hunts be converted to antlered only for the 2023 hunting season:

- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 1378 (Controlled Hunt Area 73A, 2 tags, either sex)
- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 1379 (Controlled Hunt Area 74, 2 tags, either sex)

Staff recommend the following deer hunt be closed for the 2023 hunting season:

- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 1351 (Controlled Hunt Area 60-1, 10 tags, antlerless only)

Staff recommend the following pronghorn hunts be closed for the 2023 hunting season:

- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 4321, (Controlled Hunt Area 60A-1, 2 tags, either sex)
- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 4324 (Controlled Hunt Area 76-1, 1 tag, either sex)
- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 4332 (Controlled Hunt Area 60A-1, 4 tags, either sex)
- LAP Controlled Hunt No. 4341 (Controlled Hunt Area 61-1, 3 tags, either sex)

23-46 Commissioner Cheirrett moved and Commissioner Bobbitt seconded a motion to adopt modifications to the 2023 big game hunting seasons recommended by staff. Voice vote, motion carries.

Adjournment



Don Ebert
Chairman



Jim Fredericks
Secretary