The Idaho Department of Fish and Game considers the following document to be an agency guidance document for purposes of Idaho Executive Order 2020-002. The guidance document is not new law; it is the Department’s interpretation or implementation of existing law.

Department Point of Contact (to obtain additional information or provide input):

Deputy Director, Programs and Policy
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 25
Boise, ID 83707
Phone: (208) 334-3771
Email: rules@idfg.idaho.gov
BEFORE THE IDAHO FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE SETTING OF
BIGHORN LOTTERY TAG
APPLICATION FEES

ORDER NO. 20-33

BACKGROUND

Idaho Code Section 36-408(5)(b) authorizes the Commission to issue one (1) special bighorn sheep tag each year, with the tag to be issued by the Department of Fish and Game to an eligible person as determined by lottery drawing. Under Section 36-408 the bighorn sheep “lottery tag” may be marketed by the Department or a nonprofit organization dedicated to wildlife conservation selected by the Commission. Under Section 36-408, not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of gross revenue can be retained for administrative costs by such conservation organization selected by the Commission, and all net proceeds for the tag must be remitted to the Department and deposited in the fish and game expendable trust account. Section 36-408 also provides that the Department must use monies deposited in the account from bighorn lottery tag sales in solving problems between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep, solving problems between wildlife and domestic animals or improving relationships between sportsmen and private landowners.

Commission rule, IDAPA 13.01.04.800 (effective 3-20-20), clarifies that “tickets” for the bighorn sheep lottery tag are nontransferable controlled hunt applications.

The lottery tag is valid for use in any open controlled bighorn hunt, including Unit 11, in even-numbered years; it is valid for use in any open controlled bighorn hunt except Unit 11 in odd-numbered years. It has generated as much as $114,531 in 2018. In 2019 it generated $109,593, with prior odd-numbered year revenues ranging from approximately $40,000 to $66,000. The drawing for the tag is held on the last Wednesday in July.

Agreements with the nonprofit organization selected for marketing the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag have identified discounted prices, including additional discounts for multiple purchases. The published brochures (season proclamation and summary of rules) for Moose/Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat have reflected these agreed-upon prices. The Commission has determined that a discount order pursuant to its authority under Idaho Code Section 36-415, is an appropriate procedural mechanism for memorializing the ticket/application prices for the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag.
Pursuant to its authority under Idaho Code Section 36-415, the Commission finds a public need to optimize revenue from application fees for the Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag Special Controlled Hunt Program through the discounting of application fees, including additional discounts for multiple applications.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION HEREBY ORDERS:

Fees for all "Bighorn Sheep Lottery Tag" Special Controlled Hunt Applications for the July 2020 and July 2021 drawings are set as follows:

- One (1) Ticket/Application - $20.00
- Six (6) Tickets/Applications - $100.00
- Fourteen (14) Tickets/Applications - $166.75
- Twenty-Five (25) Tickets/Applications - $250.00

DATED this 16th day of June, 2020.

IDAHO FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Ed Schriever, Secretary