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.

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BEFORE THE IDAHO FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF DISCOUNTING
FEES FOR CONSECUTIVE ANNUAL
LICENSE PURCHASE

ORDER NO. 17-39

The Commission supports stable funding adequate for the Department to carry out Idaho’s Wildlife Policy, Idaho Code Section 36-103(a) while keeping license prices reasonable.

Idaho Code Section 36-415 authorizes the Commission to order a discount in fees to encourage the purchase of licenses in consecutive years.

Chapter 195 of 2017 Idaho Session Laws (House Bill 230) increased resident license, tag, and permit fees, beginning with 2018 license sales as of December 1, 2017. Consistent with legislative intent expressed in Section 10 of this Law, and with Idaho Code 36-415, the Director recommended the Commission offer a “Price Lock” discount, whereby items remain at 2017 prices, for Idaho residents through license year 2022 to acknowledge consistent license buyers and to encourage intermittent buyers to purchase licenses every year. Also consistent with legislative intent, the Director recommended annual review of this discount.

Pursuant to its authority under Idaho Code Section 36-415, the Commission voted at its June 23, 2017 meeting to authorize the Price Lock discount for Idaho residents for sport license, tag, and permit purchases for license years through 2022, ending December 31, 2022. The Commission will report annually to the Legislature about the participation and fiscal effect of Price Lock. Further, the Commission will re-evaluate this Order by no later than its March 2022 meeting to determine if adjustment or renewal is warranted.

The Commission determined that eligibility for Idaho residents for the Price Lock discount for 2018 license year purchases is the holding of a license valid for 2017, through purchase of an annual or multi-year license (hunting, fishing, combination, Sportsman’s Pak, trapping, 3-year, or lifetime). Eligibility for Idaho residents for the Price Lock discount for subsequent license years (2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022) requires obtaining, without revocation, a license for each consecutive year, through purchase of annual or multi-year licenses.

Additionally, any Idaho resident who purchases a three-year license or lifetime license certificate at any time during the effective date of this Order becomes eligible for the Price Lock discount for the remaining term of the Order, with eligibility for subsequent years dependent on the obtaining, without revocation, licenses for consecutive years.

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Consistent with legislative intent, the Commission finds it beneficial to apply the provisions of the Price Lock discount to residents of Idaho that are absent from the state for religious purposes, not to exceed two (2) years, or full-time educational purposes, not to exceed five (5) years, who do not claim residency in any other state or country for any purpose, irrespective of whether such individuals purchase any form of season license during the period of allowed absence. Further, the Commission finds it beneficial to apply the provisions of the Price Lock discount to Idaho residents who are in the military service of the United States, together with their spouse and children under eighteen (18) residing in the household, who have been officially transferred, stationed, domiciled and on active duty in another state or country, and maintain Idaho as their official state of residence as shown on their current leave and earnings statement, irrespective of whether such individuals have purchased any season license during the period of allowed absence.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION HEREBY ORDERS:

Idaho residents will receive a Price Lock discount (i.e., items at 2017 prices) for sport license, tag, and permit purchases for license years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 as set forth herein.

An Idaho resident will receive the Price Lock Discount for license year 2018 purchase (annual license, permit, tag, or Sportsman’s Pak; multi-year license; or lifetime certificate) if the resident holds an Idaho license valid for 2017, through purchase of an annual or multi-year license (hunting, fishing, combination, trapping, Sportsman’s Pak, 3-year license, or lifetime certificate). An Idaho resident will receive the Price Lock Discount for purchases for each subsequent consecutive license year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022), during which the resident obtains, without revocation, an Idaho license, through annual, multi-year, or lifetime license purchase.

Any Idaho resident who does not hold a license valid for 2017 will receive a Price Lock Discount by purchasing a three-year hunting, fishing or combination licenses or lifetime license certificate for license years covered by this Order. Such Idaho resident will receive a Price Lock discount for purchases (including license, permit, and tag) for each subsequent
license year through license year 2022, so long as the resident obtains, without revocation, an Idaho license, through annual, multi-year or lifetime license certificate.

An Idaho resident that is absent from the state for religious purposes, not to exceed two (2) years, or full-time educational purposes, not to exceed five (5) years, who does not claim residency in any other state or country for any purpose, will not have to obtain an annual license for a season during which the resident is absent from the state to remain eligible for the Price Lock discount under this Order.

Any person, who is in the military service of the United states, together with that person’s spouse and children under eighteen (18) residing in the household, who has been officially transferred, stationed, domiciled and on active duty in another state or country, and maintains Idaho as their official state of residence as shown on the current leave and earnings statement, will not have to obtain an annual license for a season during which that person is absent from the state to remain eligible for the Price Lock discount under this Order.

The Department will report annually to the Senate Resources and Environment Committee and the House Resources and Conservation Committee about the participation and fiscal effects of the Price Lock discount.

The Department will provide a five-year evaluation of this Order to the Commission by no later than its March 2022 meeting to determine if adjustment or renewal is warranted in concert with legislative review.

This Order is effective December 1, 2017 and expires December 31, 2022. This Order does not authorize any discount for the 2023 license year, for which licenses, tags, and permits go on sale as of December 1, 2022.

DATED this 23rd day of June 2017.

[Signature]

Lane W. Clezie, Chairman

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