



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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Boise, Idaho 83707

Brad Little / Governor
Jim Fredericks / Director

Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group MEETING MINUTES

November 22nd, 2024

Ellary TuckerWilliams, Legislative and Community Engagement Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Members attending in-person included: Aaron Lieberman, Benn Brocksome, Brad Compton, James Petzke, Mark Harris, Michael Fuller, Mike Veile, Ned Burns, and Tyrel Stevenson.

IDFG staff in attendance included: Ellary TuckerWilliams, Tara Reichert, Rick Ward, and Elizabeth Page.

In compliance with open meeting law, members of the public had the opportunity to attend in-person at and Idaho Department of Fish and Game Headquarters Building, or virtually, through a Zoom meeting link.

Virtual Meeting Ground Rules Reminder:

Ellary TuckerWilliams reiterated the ground rules for the meeting, as established in a prior meeting on July 29th, 2024.

Overview of Public Comments Received:

Members of the public had the opportunity to submit public comments, which were summarized and provided to the advisory members prior to the meeting. Public comments received after November 21st, 2024, will be summarized and provided to the advisory group at the next meeting.

Since the last meeting, two additional public comments were received. The first was a request for a resident of Washington asking to become a committee member. The second was a non-resident expressing concerns with the current OTC system (no group hunt options, proxy sales/tag sales).

Review of Staff Assignments from Previous Meeting:

Rick Ward presented data on:

- Hunter participation estimates for general and controlled hunts (not counting allocated tags) over the last 2-years, and last 5-years.
- Outfitter tag allocation use over the last 2-years.

- Outfitter tag allocation use over the last 2-years, if you limited NR's to 10% (if under 15% allocation based on historical-use), and 15% (if over 15% allocation based on historical-use).
- Outfitter tag allocation use over the last 2-years, if you limited NR's to 10%.

Open Discussion:

Members explored the implications of a 10% cap on non-resident (NR) tags. Implementing such a cap would require significant effort from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) with a potential financial loss of approximately \$4.25 million. Significant discussion centered around if a 3-4% overall reduction in NR participation would be noticeable enough to justify a noteworthy increase in resident tag prices to offset the revenue loss. While the advisory group ultimately decided against making a recommendation to reduce NR participation to 10%, there was general agreement that if there was any reduction in NR participation, residents, unguided NRs and guided NRs would need to make up the cost deficit (evenly).

The advisory group collectively directed staff to develop draft recommendation language which would transition IDFG from the current over-the-counter non-resident general season deer and elk tag system to a draw system based off of feedback received.

Significant conversation centered around outfitter allocation within a non-resident general season deer and elk tag draw framework. Advisory group members are aware of the complexities of this issue and have identified concerns from both sides. The advisory group asked IDFG staff to develop a suite of drafted recommendations for consideration including but not limited to the following:

- Consider recalculating capped elk zone allocation and providing pros and cons of the advisory group
- Recalculating capped elk zone allocation based off historical use at frequency set by the Commission
- Recalculating capped elk zone allocation based off historical use while limiting allocation to no more than 30% of any unit or zone, excluding backcountry units,
- Maintaining the newly limited allocation process in a draw framework.

Review and Summation:

Ellary TuckerWilliams thanked the advisory group members for their time and effort. She will send out a Doodle poll to schedule the next meeting, which will take place over Zoom.

At the next meeting, IDFG will present draft recommendations for the finalization and formal voting including:

- Specifics related to transitioning from a non-resident deer and elk tag over-the-counter tag system to a draw system
- Multiple outfitter allocation modification options specific to capped elk zones and newly limited units and zones

Adjourn: 4:00 p.m.