

NON-RESIDENT TAG ISSUANCE ADVISORY GROUP CHARTER

1) Purpose:

The purpose of the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group (Advisory Group) is to review current processes for how the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) issues general season deer and elk tags to nonresidents, and to develop recommendations to the Commission on potential changes and improvements. This group will review options, including using a draw system and enhancing the current over-the-counter system. To ensure input from a range of perspectives, the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group includes representation from the Idaho Legislature, Idaho hunters, rural economic interests, and the outfitting industry. Recognizing modifications to the existing system may require legislation or rulemaking in 2025 and/or 2026, the intent is for the Advisory Group to finalize recommendations before the end of the year.

Idaho's non-resident hunting framework and associated outfitter tag allocation is a complex system. Additionally, non-resident hunters, both guided and unguided, play an important role in supporting Idaho's rural economy and providing a significant portion of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's budget via the purchase of non-resident hunting licenses and tags. Any potential changes to the current non-resident hunting framework will need to consider impacts to all hunters, rural communities, and the agency.

2) Authority:

- a) Working under the guidance of the Commission, IDFG manages the fish and wildlife of the State of Idaho. Idaho Code (Section 36-103) states "All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho. It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. It shall only be captured or taken at such times or places, under such conditions, or by such means, or in such manner, as will preserve, protect, and perpetuate such wildlife, and provide for the citizens of this state and, as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping."
- b) One of the major goals of IDFG's Strategic Plan is to improve public understanding of and involvement in fish and wildlife management. One of the objectives to accomplish this is to improve citizen involvement in the decision-making process.
- c) IDFG holds the following Core Values with relevance to the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group:
 - i) Public Service – IDFG believes in having open, two-way communication with the public, facilitating understanding and participation in management decisions, and providing diverse hunting-based recreational opportunities.
 - ii) Science – IDFG believes that scientifically developed knowledge and information are the foundation of wildlife management, and that the Department is obligated to develop, use, and share such knowledge and information.
 - iii) Sustainability – IDFG believes our management responsibility is to foster solutions to wildlife issues that are ecologically viable, economically feasible, and socially acceptable.
- d) The authority of the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group is limited to developing recommendations for the Commission on improvements and/or changes to the non-resident deer and elk tag sales process, the user experience, and outfitter tag allocation. Recommendations developed by the Advisory Group can include the rationale for IDFG staff, the Commission, and the public as to why they will best meet the needs of IDFG, hunters, rural communities, the outfitting industry, and the resource.

3) Advisory Group Sideboards

- a) There are 5 requirements identified by IDFG that the Advisory Group must either acknowledge or address with any future recommendations:
 - i) As a dedicated fund agency that is entirely self-funded, IDFG must remain financially whole
 - ii) Maintain customer demand

- iii) Legally required to allow for a minimum of 10% non-resident hunter participation
- iv) All recommendations are contingent upon the technological capabilities of Brandt, IDFG's third party vendor
- v) The Commission will make the ultimate decision on the recommendations brought forth by the Advisory Group

4) Expectations and Time Frame:

To hold a meeting where business is discussed, there will need to be a majority of the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group members present (6 members). The goal of the Advisory Group is to have consensus on final recommendations to the Commission. However, if consensus is not possible, the Advisory Group will vote, requiring a 3/4's majority (8 members) for any recommendation to move forward. The reason(s) for the dissenting vote will be conveyed in the final recommendations to the Commission. The Advisory Group is expected to meet monthly (up to 6-8 meetings) in an effort to provide practical solutions for review by the Commission in time to conduct rulemaking or advance legislation in 2025. The Advisory Group should be available to respond to comments and questions that IDFG staff and the Commission may have until the purpose of the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group is achieved and the Advisory Group is disbanded.

5) Roles and Responsibilities:

- a) Members of the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group are expected to:
 - i) Read and become familiar with information provided to them throughout this process.
 - ii) Regularly attend scheduled meetings.
 - iii) Articulate interests, concerns, and perspectives on issues pertaining to the non-resident deer and elk hunting framework.
 - iv) Complete Advisory Group assignments as needed.
 - v) Maintain an open mind regarding the views and/or concerns of other group members.
 - vi) Work as a team member to address the responsibilities of this working group.
 - vii) Participate collaboratively in group decision-making.
 - viii) Constructively manage conflict between group members.
 - ix) Communicate on a regular basis with constituents of the group each individual member was selected to represent. Contact information for members of this working group, including a short bio outlining their area of interest, will be made available to the public.
 - x) Not actively seek to undermine group decisions.
 - xi) Commit to participate in the working group until the purpose of the Advisory Group is fulfilled, and the group is disbanded.

- b) IDFG personnel are expected to:
 - i) Post information on IDFG's website about the Advisory Group including their purpose, membership, contact information, and affiliation.
 - ii) Provide draft agendas for meetings.
 - iii) Organize facilities where meetings will occur.
 - iv) Facilitate meetings fairly and without bias.
 - v) Take notes and capture decisions by the group.
 - vi) Be available to answer questions honestly and without bias.
 - vii) Provide the best information available concerning management of non-resident deer and elk hunting framework.
 - viii) Provide IDFG press releases of recommendations the Advisory Group may make.
 - ix) Review broad public input on proposals the Advisory Group develops.

6) Funding and Support:

The Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group operating expenses (meeting facilities/equipment/ etc.) will be funded by IDFG. Meals, snacks, and/ or drinks will be provided at the discretion of IDFG during in-person meetings. Any travel and housing needs for in-person meetings will be covered by members. Meetings will

predominantly be done virtually, with the understanding that some in-person participation will be expected. In-person meetings will likely occur at IDFG Headquarters in Boise, but ultimately will be determined by members of the Advisory Group and involved IDFG staff.

I have read and understand the Non-Resident Tag Issuance Advisory Group Charter. I desire to be a participant, and I agree to make every effort to fulfill the roles and responsibilities as outlined in this charter.

Name _____ Date _____