

**BEFORE THE IDAHO FISH AND GAME
COMMISSION**

IN THE MATTER OF FEE }
DISCOUNTS FOR SAGE GROUSE) **ORDER 24-19**
TAGS FOR USE IN 2024-2025)
FALCONRY SEASON)

At its July 2024 meeting, the Commission set sage grouse season dates and tag limits by zones based on spring 2024 biological data, with a requirement that hunters purchase tags specific to the zone(s) they choose to hunt. This included tags for falconry hunting of sage-grouse from August 15, 2024-March 15, 2025.

Under Idaho Code Section 36-403(a), all game tags are valid only during the time that the corresponding annual license for the tag is valid. As such, 2024 sage grouse tags expire on December 31, 2024. The requirement for game tags for sage grouse became effective July 1, 2021, applicable to seasons in the second half of calendar year 2021 and subsequent years. The Commission adopted tag discount orders (Order No. 21-67 and 22-64) applicable to 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 falconry seasons for sage grouse, with discounted tags issued to falconers in the first quarter of calendar year expiring March 15 of the same calendar year.

The Commission has considered input from falconers relative to the seasons set previously and biological information provided by the Department for the setting of sage grouse tag limits. The Commission has determined that a discount is appropriate under Idaho Code Section 36-415, with the issue subject to review in conjunction with future falconry and sage grouse season setting.

Therefore, under the authority of Idaho Code Section 36-415, based on a finding of biological and public need to support the continuation of previously set falconry seasons, while ensuring consistency with tag limits set based on 2024 biological information, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission hereby ORDERS a discount of 2025 sage grouse tags for use in falconry to the amount of zero dollars (\$0.00), with discounted tags to expire March 15, 2025.

The Commission further ORDERS that eligibility for tags discounted under this order is limited to individuals who: (1) have a valid license and falconry permit; (2) purchased a sage grouse tag for the fall portion of the applicable 2024-2025 falconry season and have not killed a bird with use of said tag, and (3) surrender to the Department the unused tag for the applicable fall portion of the season.

To ensure the smooth administration of issuing tags to a small number of individuals, the Commission further ORDERS that tags discounted under this order are only available from Department offices.

A falconry hunter who has a license and falconry permit valid for hunting in 2025 but who did not purchase a sage grouse tag for the fall portion of the applicable 2024-2025 falconry season, or who does not surrender an unused sage grouse tag, is eligible to purchase an undiscounted sage grouse tag valid for the winter portion of the falconry season through March 15, 2025, subject to the applicable tag limits set for the season and other applicable requirements.

DATED this 24th day of July, 2024.

IDAHO FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Davies", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Ron Davies, Chairman