

Idaho Moose, Bighorn Sheep & Mountain Goat

2017 & 2018 Seasons & Rules



Controlled Hunt Application Period
April 1-30

idfg.idaho.gov



Who We Are

Idaho Fish and Game is a state executive agency. Our seven-member commission is appointed by the governor. The commission administers the state's wildlife policy and hires the director.

Fish and Game has about 558 full-time employees that include conservation officers, wildlife and fisheries biologists, conservation educators, engineers, information technology, public relations, customer service and administrative professionals.

Our headquarters is located in Boise with seven regional offices and one subregional office throughout the state. We work with hunters, anglers, landowners and wildlife enthusiasts statewide.

What We Do

We manage, conserve and enhance fish and wildlife resources and provide opportunity for hunting, fishing, trapping and other wildlife-related activities.

Every year, we:

- Enforce fish and game laws in urban, rural and backcountry environments.
- Provide harvest opportunity for more than 70 wildlife species.
- Provide diverse angling opportunities for about 40 species of game fish.
- Operate 10 fish hatcheries that produce trout for stocking in Idaho waters and 10 salmon and steelhead hatcheries.
- Build and maintain more than 350 fishing and boating access sites.
- Manage habitat on 32 wildlife management areas and assist private landowners and public land managers on 83,600 square miles of habitat.
- Certify more than 11,000 new hunters and bowhunters annually.
- Provide educational programs for about 200,000 children and adults annually.

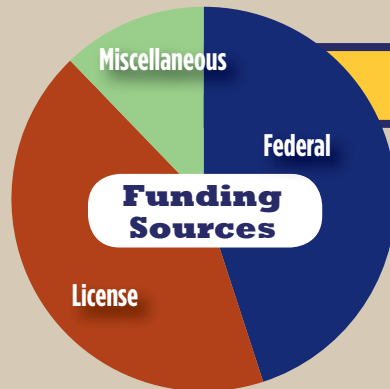
How You Help

The Idaho Fish and Game *receives no money from State taxes* to manage Idaho's wildlife. Funding relies on the sale of licenses and tags, federal excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment, and federal and private grants and donations.

You provide our agency's funding every time you:

- Buy a hunting, fishing or trapping license.
- Buy wildlife license plates.
- Volunteer.
- Check off the Nongame Wildlife Conservation Fund donation box on the Idaho state income tax form.
- Donate to the Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation at www.ifwf.org/donate.

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DIRECTOR MOORE'S OPEN LETTER TO THE HUNTERS, ANGLERS AND TRAPPERS OF IDAHO

Idaho's 2016 hunting season was another banner year. The white-tailed deer harvest topped 28,000 deer for the third year in a row, mule deer harvest exceeded 40,500 deer for the first time in 25 years, and elk hunters harvested over 23,000 elk for the second year in a row which was the best two-year period in 20 years.

Deer hunters had a 37 percent success rate in general season hunts and 56 percent success rate in controlled hunts.

Elk hunters had a 17 percent success rate in general season hunts and a 39 percent success rate in controlled hunts.

As Idaho Fish and Game director, I am happy for hunters and proud of our staff. We have worked hard to bring predator and prey populations into better balance, and to improve habitat both for wildlife and for fisheries. These goals are outlined in the Idaho Fish and Game 2015 Strategic Plan, designed to better focus on improving hunting, fishing and trapping.

While we enjoy the benefits of healthy wildlife populations, we also have to be mindful that more animals on the landscape can cause problems for many farmers and ranchers whose crops and livelihoods are threatened by wildlife depredation. That is why Idaho Fish and Game is working hard to mitigate wildlife caused damages to private property. In 2016, the agency spent \$450,000 to build 100 stack yards throughout Idaho and another \$360,000 to compensate landowners for damages. We have also increased harvest of antlerless animals and are hiring seasonal staff to help prevent wildlife depredation problems.

Because some of Idaho's most valuable wildlife habitat is located on private land, Idaho Fish and Game is recognizing landowners who conserve habitat by issuing more Landowner Appreciation Program tags. Large landowners are now receiving multiple LAP tags based on their contributions to wildlife conservation.

Resident and nonresident license sales are the strongest they've been since before the great recession, but we simply do not have enough resources to continue to proactively deal with various demands—from responding effectively to crop depredations and providing excellent hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities, to keeping various species off the Endangered Species Act list.

That is why Idaho Fish and Game is discussing its Price Lock proposal with lawmakers in 2017. A dozen years have passed since Idaho residents last saw their license fees increase. None of us like to pay higher fees but most of us recognize how important responsive, professional wildlife management is and we need to be able to keep our momentum going and continue to serve the hunters, anglers and trappers, landowners, and the citizens of Idaho to the best of our ability.

I invite you to learn more about the Price Lock proposal by visiting the Idaho Fish and Game website at: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/>

Thank you for supporting Idaho Fish and Game and wildlife conservation in Idaho and I wish you great hunting, fishing and trapping in 2017.

Virgil Moore, Director
Idaho Department of Fish and Game



Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Idaho Wildlife Policy

“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 be only 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.”

— Idaho Code Section 36-103

Idaho Fish and Game Commission

- Brad Corkill, Panhandle
- Daniel Blanco, Clearwater
- Blake Fischer, Southwest
- Greg Cameron, Magic Valley
- Lane Clezie, Southeast
- Derick Attebury, Upper Snake
- Jerry Meyers, Salmon

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- Virgil Moore, Director
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Regional Offices

- Panhandle Region..... 208-769-1414
2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d’Alene ID 83815
- Clearwater Region 208-799-5010
3316 16th St., Lewiston ID 83501
- Southwest Region 208-465-8465
3101 S. Powerline Rd., Nampa ID 83686
- McCall Subregion..... 208-634-8137
555 Deinhard Lane, McCall ID 83638
- Magic Valley Region 208-324-4359
324 S 417 E; Suite #1, Jerome ID 83338
- Southeast Region 208-232-4703
1345 Barton Rd., Pocatello ID 83204
- Upper Snake Region 208-525-7290
4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls ID 83401
- Salmon Region 208-756-2271
99 Highway 93 N., Salmon ID 83467

Idaho Fish and Game offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday except state holidays. Offices in the Panhandle and Clearwater regions are in the Pacific Time Zone; all others are in the Mountain Time Zone.

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit:

- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- By credit card, within the United States call 1-800-554-8685. Outside the U.S., use the Internet or mail.
- From your computer or mobile device, go to idfg.idaho.gov. A service fee is added for online and telephone transactions.
- Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

To report wildlife crimes, call Citizens Against Poaching at 1-800-632-5999.

Emergency information can be relayed to Fish and Game personnel through any Idaho law enforcement agency.



Other Information Numbers

Rules booklets, nonresident license applications: 208-334-3700

U. S. Forest Service:

Southern Idaho www.fs.usda.gov/r4

Northern Idaho..... www.fs.usda.gov/r1

Bureau of Land Management: www.blm.gov/id

Idaho Relay Service (TDD) 1-800-368-6185

For more information on laws in this rule book, visit the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act at <http://adminrules.idaho.gov>.

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Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code.

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Information in this brochure summarizes rules and is an official proclamation of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission for the taking of wildlife and/or fish. The official rules are available from the Office of Administrative Rules, Department of Administration, Statehouse Mail, Boise, ID 83720, and may be reviewed in some libraries. Maps are for general reference only.

Idaho Department of Fish & Game
2017 & 2018 Moose, Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat

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WHAT'S NEW

The 2017 and 2018 moose and bighorn sheep seasons include changes in tag numbers and controlled hunt areas in response to population changes and past harvest success rates.

Moose – Overall moose tags were reduced by 68 (45 antlered and 23 antlerless), to a total of 805 statewide. Some controlled hunt area boundaries were modified in Unit 1.

Bighorn Sheep – Net increase of eight tags (six Rocky Mountain, two California), to a total of 99. Controlled area boundaries were changed in the following hunts: controlled hunt area 11, 27-4, 28-1, and 28-2. New hunts were added in controlled hunt areas 28-3, 54-1 and 54-2.

Mountain Goat – No changes were made. 50 tags available.

Drawing Odds: For drawing odds by species, visit <http://idfg.idaho.gov/CHodds>

Tag Transfer to Child or Grandchild Rule Clarified: If an adult designates his or her “once in a lifetime” moose, bighorn sheep or mountain goat tag to their child or grandchild, and the child harvests using the tag, then the child has fulfilled their “once in a lifetime” eligibility and will no longer will be eligible to apply for that species. Also, resident adults can only transfer tags to resident youth; Nonresident adults can only transfer tags to nonresident youth.