

# Idaho Upland Game, Turkey & Furbearer

2018 & 2019 Seasons and Rules



*Effective February 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020*

*See Migratory Bird Seasons and Rules for Crow, Doves and Sandhill Crane*

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



Last fall, a dream came true for me. I harvested a bull moose along the South Fork of the Snake River, and some of my closest friends were there. It meant a lot to me to share the experience with them, and to have their help cleaning, skinning and quartering the bull then hauling him back to camp.

Another favorite moment was stopping by my daughter and son-in-law's house on my way home and showing the skull and antlers to my grandsons Thatcher and Cameron (ages 5 and 2). Both of these little fellows are lifetime license holders, and I want to see all young Idahoans have the same hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities in the future that we enjoy today.

Last winter, the Idaho legislature and Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter did their part by approving the first resident fee increase in a dozen years as part of House Bill 230. From a fiscal perspective, the bill does three main things.

- Supports the Fish and Game Commission to use their discount authority so that Idahoans can exempt themselves from paying the higher fees by purchasing any annual license in 2017 and each subsequent year for at least the next five years ("Price Lock").
- It provides more resources (about \$3 million annually) for fish and wildlife management.
- Includes an access/degradation surcharge with the purchase of an annual resident or nonresident license. The annual fee provides new funding to improve sportsman's access, wildlife depredation prevention and depredation compensation.

Idaho Fish and Game last summer launched the first phase of an aggressive multi-year marketing campaign to inform Idahoans about the advantages of Price Lock. The success of Price Lock depends on how many Idahoans "lock-in" by purchasing an annual license in 2017, and by continuing to buy an annual license each year after.

Resident license fees for 2018 increased by about 20 percent for those who didn't buy an annual license in 2017. If the Price Lock concept works by more Idahoans purchasing annual licenses every year rather than intermittently, Fish and Game will have the resources to be effective for a longer time before the need arises for a future fee increase.

Those Idahoans who are "price locked" also pay lower 2017 prices for all tags and permits in addition to their annual license.

The Fish and Game Commission is also applying Price Lock to all 3-year resident licenses, meaning if you missed out on Price Lock by not purchasing an annual license in 2017, you can purchase a 3-year license in 2018 or during any of the following four years and get locked in at 2017 prices for licenses, tags and permits. Three year license purchasers will also see a one-third discount on their Access/Depredation fee.

Nothing like Price Lock has ever been tried by another fish and wildlife agency. The Idaho Legislature and the Fish and Game Commission will review Price Lock after at least five years to determine whether it should continue.

Here's how Fish and Game is using the Price Lock license revenue:


- Modernizing hatcheries and increasing fish production
- Conducting more population surveys to support game management decisions
- Spending more to improve and maintain public shooting ranges
- Improving Fish and Game's website and communication with sportsmen and women
- Increasing fish and wildlife predation management and noxious weed control

In recent years, Idaho hunters have enjoyed some of the best big game hunting in decades. Most of them recognize that by managing deer and elk at high levels, Idaho Fish and Game must respond effectively when those animals cause problems for private property owners.

The new access/degradation fee provides benefits both for sportsmen and for farmers and ranchers. The surcharge (\$5 for residents, \$10 for nonresidents) is paid prior to a person purchasing his or her first annual Idaho hunting or fishing license each year. The fee will provide an additional \$1 million each year for sportsman's access and \$1 million annually for wildlife depredation compensation and prevention.

With the added resources from Price Lock and the Access/Depredation fee, Idaho Fish and Game is better equipped and positioned to increase fish and wildlife populations, to manage deer and elk impacts to private landowners, and to continue Idaho's hunting and fishing legacy for our kids and grandkids.

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

  
**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

## Idaho Department of Fish and Game

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**208-334-3700 • [idfg.idaho.gov](http://idfg.idaho.gov)**

- Virgil Moore, Director
- Sharon Kiefer, Deputy Director
- Ed Schriever, Deputy Director

## 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](http://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.

## Other Information Numbers

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

U. S. Forest Service:

Southern Idaho ..... **[www.fs.usda.gov/r4](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r4)**

Northern Idaho..... **[www.fs.usda.gov/r1](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r1)**

Bureau of Land Management:..... **[www.blm.gov/id](http://www.blm.gov/id)**

Idaho Relay Service (TDD) .....1-800-377-3529

## 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.



*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 at **<https://idfg.idaho.gov/rules>** or 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.*

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# Idaho Department of Fish and Game

## Upland Game, Turkey and Furbearer Rules 2018 & 2019

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### What's New?

#### Upland Game

- Closing date for cottontail rabbits was extended to March 31 statewide. See page 17.

#### Turkey

- Daily bag limit was increased to 2 bearded turkeys during spring statewide. In fall, the daily bag limit is equal to the number of tags possessed. See page 20.
- Closed the general spring season in Unit 70 in the Southeast Region. See page 20.
- Increased the length of the fall season by moving the season opener to August 30 in units of the Panhandle and Clearwater regions. See page 20.
- Eliminated the split in fall seasons and removed the limitation to hunt only on private lands in the Clearwater Region. See page 20.
- Increased spring and fall controlled hunting opportunities in the Southwest and Salmon regions. See pages 24 & 25.

#### Trapping

- New to trapping? For information on Idaho's new mandatory trapper education requirement, see pages 35 & 41.
- Red fox hunting and trapping has been expanded throughout Valley and Adams counties. See page 30.
- Two new beaver controlled trapping units were added; the closure in Miner and Cedar creeks was eliminated; and controlled trapping units were modified in the Southeast Region. See page 31.

#### Red Squirrel

- There may be a red squirrel season in 2018; however, the legislature and commission need to approve a reclassification of this species to an Upland Game Animal. Any change to this classification and associated seasons will be published online.

#### Turkey Controlled Hunt Application Dates:

- Spring hunt application period: February 1 - March 1  
Results available by March 20
- Fall hunt application period: May 1 - June 5  
Results available by July 10