

Meeting Date: January 28, 2009

Agenda Item No. 9

**Agenda Item: Idaho Fish and Wildlife
Foundation Report**

Bureau Chief Approval: _____

Prepared by: Gayle Valentine

Background: Commission has requested updates about the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation activities.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues: None at this time

Public Involvement Process: None

Staff Recommendation: Present update as follows.

Justification: Requested by the Commission

1. The 2009 Online Trip Auction has acquired Active Network as a major sponsor to help offset online auction expenses. Auction scheduled for February 27 through March 9, 2009.
2. The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation welcomes new Region 3 board member, Joan Hill Yost from Boise, Idaho. Ballots are currently being gathered on a Region 4 candidate, C. David McClain from Buhl, Idaho. By February 2009, we will have 18 directors.
3. The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation conducted their board meeting in Boise on December 5 and 6, 2008. The 2009 IFWF budget proposal was approved and passed by the Board of Directors.
4. The Board unanimously passed the Craig Mountain Wildlife Management Area Enhancement Fund MOU between IFWF and IDFG at the December board meeting. The purpose is to provide a mechanism for donations to a fund to be used to enhance wildlife habitat on the Craig Mountain WMA and support other projects defined in the MOU. The fund must first attain a minimum of \$10,000. The MOU has been reviewed by legal staff and signed by Director Groen.
5. Due to the downturn in the economy, the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation agreed to not fund 2008 project funding requests. Typically \$25,000 is allocated for selected project proposals. All applicants were notified in December 2008. The IFWF Project Funding Committee and the IFWF Finance Committee will discuss ability to fund 2008 projects in Fall 2009.
6. Foundation board members expressed an interest in partnering with IDFG in the decision-making for awarding revenue from the annual online trip auction.
7. The Foundation Wildlife License Plate Committee is conducting marketing efficiency with 2009 advertising for the wildlife license plates. The Committee will continue with major city-billboard advertising, monthly traffic reports in the Treasure Valley, and renewal postcards mailed to new and renewed license buyers. New for 2009 – purchasing new elk digitized plates to replace old elk design on a portion of the IDFG fleet. Reduction in spending is commensurate with decline in royalty fees used for plate marketing.
8. The Foundation has received a 40-acre conservation easement in the Boise Foothills.
9. The Foundation's next scheduled meeting is a teleconference call on Saturday, February 7, 2009.