

Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
February 25, 2010
Boise, Idaho

Present in the Director's Office: Director Groen, Deputy Director Moore; Deputy Director Unsworth; Kathleen Trever, Deputy Attorney General; Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director - Policy; Lance Hebdon, Inter-Governmental Policy Coordinator; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Mike Keckler, Chief, Communications; Jon Heggen, Chief, Enforcement and Bonnie Butler, Governor's Office.

Participating from the Clearwater Regional Office, Dave Cadwallader; Magic Valley Regional Office, Jerome Hansen and Sally Rose.

A special meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Wright with Commissioners McDermott, Trevey, Barowsky, Wheeler, Budge and Power participating.

LEGISLATION

New Bill Analysis

Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director, provided a legislative update to the Commission. Commissioners were provided via email bill analysis sheets and discussion handouts (Appendix 43, Exhibit 21).

SCR122 – Rejects a Fish and Game fish rule that was misprinted in the pending rule docket (IDFG requested the rejection). The rule that was printed correctly when it left the Department. In the printing of the rule docket in the legislative rule book a statement that said it was unlawful to catch fish with your hands and somehow the un got dropped and it became lawful to catch fish with your hands.

New Bill FYI

Senate Bill 1344 – Clarify authority of law enforcement agencies to assist in enforcement of the Idaho Invasive Species Act, defines conveyance, clarifies prohibited actions and Hold Orders by Director of Agriculture. Ms. Kiefer stated that the Department does have some fiscal effect. In the past year the Enforcement Bureau has spent \$16,000 in license funds assisting with invasive species compliance and education.

Status of Previously Discussed Bills

Ms. Kiefer referenced House and Senate bill status tables (Appendix 43, Exhibit 22). Ms. Kiefer stated that as bills come up for hearing that the Commission has reviewed and taken a position on, the Department continues to provide technical testimony.

The Department was contacted by Representative Phil Hart regarding House Bill 563 asking for review and technical input.

SCR 118 – Stating the findings of the Legislature and strongly encouraging and urging the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Governor's Office of Species Conservation to take the lead in arranging meetings with similar agencies in other states to establish, through dialogue, cooperative and collaborative efforts in addressing issues relating to wolf management and control.

Out of the 10th order, unanimous consent and did pass.

Upcoming Committee and House/Senate Action

Ms. Kiefer reported that the Joint House and Senate Resource Committee meeting is March 1st. The Department has been requested to provide agency testimony including IDFG, BLM, and USFS about: roads, ATV's, hunting, Public Access; road closures on public lands; definition of established roadway and definition of hunting from vehicle.

Ms. Kiefer reported that JFAC will be setting the Department budget on Friday morning and staff will attend.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 a.m.

Wayne Wright
Chairman

Cal Groen
Secretary