

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
February 18, 2010
Boise, Idaho**

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

Participating from the Clearwater Regional Office, Dave Cadwallader and Mark Taylor from the Panhandle Region.

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.

RULES

Rules

Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director, reported that a Joint hearing with both the House Resource & Conservation and Senate Resources & Environment Committees will be held on March 1st to discuss OHV motorized vehicle hunting rules, shooting from roads and vehicles, definitions of roads and so forth.

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 19)

House Bill 531 – The purpose of this legislation is to provide for the confidentiality of certain fish and game records; to prohibit harassment, intimidation and threats relating to lawful taking and control of fish and wildlife; and try to clarify that certain prohibitions shall not apply to constitutionally protected activities.

10-16 Commissioner Power moved and Commissioner McDermott seconded a MOTION TO MONITOR HB 531. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

House Bill 532 – Creates conservation license to access designated Fish and Game Lands.

10-17 Commissioner Wheeler moved and Commissioner McDermott seconded a motion TO SUPPORT HB 532. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

House Bill 562 – Allows holders of a hunting or trapping license to salvage any furbearer at any time.

10-18 Commissioner Power moved and Commissioner Trevey seconded a motion TO OPPOSE HB 562. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

HCR 43 – Resolution calling on Governor to issue an Emergency Order to reduce wolf numbers.

10-19 Commissioner McDermott moved and Commissioner Power seconded a motion TO MONITOR HCR 43. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Senate Bill 1342 – Clarifies authority to require certain taxidermy/fur buyer records.

10-20 Commissioner Trevey moved and Commissioner McDermott seconded a motion TO MONITOR SB 1342. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Senate Bill 1343 – Creates working lands fund housed by Office of Species Conservation.

10-21 Commissioner Wheeler moved and Commissioner McDermott seconded a motion TO MONITOR SB1343. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

SCR 116 – Reject final rule classifying native reptiles as protected nongame species.

10-22 Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Wheeler seconded a motion TO MONITOR SCR 116. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

SCR 118 - Stating the finding 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 meeting with similar agencies in other states to establish, through dialogue, cooperative and collaborative efforts in addressing issues relating to wolf management and control.

10-23 Commissioner McDermott moved and Commissioner Wheeler seconded a motion TO SUPPORT SCR 118. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

Status of Previously Discussed Bills

Ms. Kiefer referenced House and Senate bill status tables (Appendix 43, Exhibit 20).

Other Business

Senate Bill 1333 – Adds to existing law relating to animals to provide the regulation of the humane capture, sterilization and release of free-roaming cats by counties and municipalities.

Previously the Commission voted to monitor this bill. There is increasing concern that this is not a good public policy and is not good for wildlife.

10-24 Commissioner Power moved and Commissioner Budge seconded a motion TO OPPOSE SB 1333. The motion carried and in a unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 8:55 a.m.

Wayne Wright
Chairman

Cal Groen
Secretary