

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
April 28, 2011
Boise, Idaho**

Present in the Director's Office: Deputy Director Jim Unsworth; Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Sharon Kiefer, Assistant Director - Policy; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Peter Hassemer, Anadromous Fish Manager; Gregg Servheen, Wildlife Program Coordinator and Sam Sharr, Fisheries Anadromous Coordinator.

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, Budge, Wheeler and Power participating.

LANDS

Land Acquisition: ITD Donation

Gregg Servheen, Wildlife Program Coordinator presented the Land Acquisition Donation (Appendix 44, Exhibit42) to the Commission.

As per Commission direction, on November 6, 2009, the Department acquired a 46-acre parcel located in Kootenai County, adjacent to Lane Marsh in the Lower Coeur d'Alene River Valley. The property was acquired through the Albeni Falls Wildlife Mitigation Project funded by BPA and is currently managed as part of the Coeur d'Alene River WMA. Adjacent to the property is 5.8 acres of mitigation ground owned and managed by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). ITD has agreed to transfer ownership of the 5.8-acres to the Department via a quitclaim warranty deed for purposes of the Department managing the parcel as wildlife habitat and to allow restoration of these two parcels.

Currently, the ITD 5.8 acre parcel consists of reed canary grass mounds and Robinson Creek is straightened and ditched along a county road. Acquisition of the ITD property will allow the Department and partners to restore Robinson Creek so it will flood the parcel, thereby providing uncontaminated foraging habitat for tundra swans and other waterfowl species. The restoration project will also increase waterfowl hunting opportunities and provide educational experiences on habitat restoration for local school children.

No buildings are part of the acquisition. IDFG pays a fee in lieu of taxes (FLIT) for all fee-title properties larger than 10 acres, so this property does not qualify for FILT payments.

The property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session on January 27, 2011.

The Lands Committee recommends proceeding with the donated acquisition.

11-43 Commissioner McDermott moved and Commissioner Barowsky seconded a motion to accept the staff recommendation and proceed with the donated acquisition. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

RULES

Extend the Steelhead Fishing Season in the Upper Basin to May 15

Peter Hassemer presented the proposal (Appendix 44, Exhibit 43) to the Commission to extend the season for the steelhead fishery from April 30 to May 15 for the section of the Upper Salmon River from Salmon to Sawtooth Hatchery south of Stanley. Mr. Hassemer reported that a number of anglers had requested this season extension due to the weather conditions.

11-44 Commissioner Power moved and Commissioner Budge seconded a motion to extend the steelhead fishing season in the Upper Basin to May 15. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Tony McDermott
Chairman

Virgil Moore
Secretary