

Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting
March 15, 2012
Boise, Idaho

Present in the Director's Office: Director Moore, Deputy Director Sharon Kiefer, Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General; Mary Boyer, Executive Assistant; Mike Keckler, Communications Chief and Jon Heggen, Enforcement Chief.

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

LEGISLATION

Deputy Director Kiefer provided a legislative update on the following items (Appendix 45, Exhibit 30).

Fish and Game Sponsored Bill Analysis/Discussion

House Bill 543, Revise youth age to carry a firearm for hunting. (Replace H 456)
House Bill 457, Allow designation of control hunt tag to minor child or grandchild.
House Bill 458, Add wolf tag to Sportsman's Pak.
House Bill 459, Integrate 3 day fishing license into nonresident hunting license.

Deputy Director Kiefer reported that HB 543 and HB549 are complete and are ready for Governor signature.

HB 458 had its first hearing in the House Resources and Conservation Committee; Representative Marcus Gibbs is the floor sponsor.

HB 457 as amended in the Senate is up for the 3rd reading in the Senate and will go back to the House for a vote.

Previously Reviewed Bill Analysis/Discussion

SB 1282 received a do pass on the Senate side. Senator Brackett, sponsor of the bill requested that bill be put into the 14th order which is the amending order.

SB 1256 has passed the Senate and will have a hearing in the House Resource and Conservation Committee today. The Commission has opposed this bill and will be providing testimony in House Resource Committee today.

HB 461 has passed both the House and the Senate and will be sent to the Governor for signature.

HJR No. 1 has had a hearing in House State Affairs and was kept in committee for amendment. Another hearing is scheduled for this morning.

HB 496 has passed the House and is waiting to be heard in the Senate.

HB 525 has passed both the House and Senate and will be sent to the governor for signature.

HB 542 as amended is up for its 3rd reading and will be heard in the House today. The Department has been working with folks who are behind the bill to look at alternatives that would work for them and work for the Department in preserving the Commission authority.

HB 544 and HB 545 have not had a hearing yet at this time. The sponsor of the bill has been advised of policy implications of these bills.

SB 1321aa – Restrict use of Winter Feeding Account funds and create new report requirement. SB1321 aa has passed the Senate and sent to the House floor. Staff will continue to speak with key house members to inform them of the ramifications of this bill and to articulate that the Commission does not support this bill and the rationale of why this is not a good policy direction to go.

SJR 106 the Constitutional right to hunt, fish and trap no hearing yet at this time. We are expecting a new draft for this bill.

SCR 121 is up on the House floor for a second reading.

HB 651 the Department budget is on the 3rd reading on the Senate floor. Representative Eskridge is the House sponsor and Senator Brackett is the Senate sponsor.

MISCELLANEOUS

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8.45 a.m.