

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission  
March 19-20, 2014  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Trophy Room and Other Locations as Stated  
600 South Walnut  
Boise, Idaho**

**March 19**

Chairman Barowsky called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. with Commissioners Brad Corkill, Fred Trevey, Mark Doerr, Kenny Anderson and Will Naillon present. Commissioner Randy Budge joined the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Hunter Education Instructor Awards**

Don Sturtevant, Wildlife Educator, presented the Hunter Education Instructor Award to Aimee Vogt and Keith Johnson. Both Aimee and Keith achieved the highest award level in the Hunter Education program and are from the Southwest Region.

**WORKSHOP**

**Species Management Workshop**

Per Commission request the workshop was designed to update the Commission on Department species management.

Hollie Miyasaki, Wildlife Staff Biologist, gave an update on bighorn sheep, mountain goat and pronghorn management (Appendix 47, Exhibit 21).

Toby Boudreau, Natural Resources Program Coordinator, provided an analysis on Elk Transplant (Appendix 47, Exhibit 22).

Jim Hayden, Wildlife Staff Biologist, covered the species management for bear, mountain lion and wolf (Appendix 47, Exhibit 23).

**LANDS**

**Land Acquisitions**

Gregg Servheen, Wildlife Program Coordinator, presented the proposals to the Commission.

**Removal of Properties From Surplus List**

Four Department-owned properties have been requested by the respective regions to be removed from the disposal list.

Antelope Creek (Region 6, 5 acres): County road can provide access to property and change the point of ingress. Property provides public access to adjacent BLM wilderness study area Appendicitis Hills.

Lemhi power site (Region 7, 3.5 acres): Provides public access to the Lemhi River within the Salmon city limits. It also provides fishing and boating access to the lower Lemhi River, which is limited. Region 7 fisheries staff plans on installing an anadromous trap/release facility at this site.

Hood Ranch (Region 7, 15 acres): Potential to provide for Department administrative access and use for fish, wildlife, and enforcement management activities not restricted by wilderness limits. Property is adjacent to Thomas Creek airstrip, providing access and use via this landing strip.

Jimmy Smith Lake (Region 7, 192 acres): Provides public access to and Department management of Jimmy Smith Lake. The Department has invested in trails providing public access and wants to maintain the public use of this fishery.

These properties were previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in January of 2014.

There is no cost with removing properties from the disposal list.

**14-19** Commissioner Naillon moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion that the Commission adopt staff recommendations for removal of the properties from the surplus list. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### **Idaho Transportation Department / Quit Claim Deeds Region 1**

This is an exchange between the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Department) for respective properties that no longer meet their respective missions and that would better serve their sister agency's mission.

In return, two properties will be quit claimed to the Department, including an 11.86-acre parcel located along the Coeur d' Alene River approximately three miles upstream from Kingston, Idaho, off of I-90; and a 6-acre parcel directly to the east of a wildlife underpass crossing on I-95 near Silverwood. The Coeur d' Alene River parcel fits within the goals of the State Fishing Access program, such that it meets the first priority to develop fishing and float boat access along the River. Also located on the parcel is a black cottonwood-dominated floodplain plant community. The property would be managed through the Regional Fishing Access program, with some assistance from the Habitat Division. Long-term protection of the 6-acre ITD parcel on the east side of 95 will ensure that wildlife would have use and unimpeded travel through the newly constructed underpass. The underpass and planned travel corridor through an adjacent urban development is expected to provide wildlife connectivity across the valley.

No buildings are involved in any transfers of quit claim deeds. The Department pays a fee-in-lieu of taxes (FILT) for all fee-title properties.

The exchange properties were previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session on January 15, 2013.

**14-20** Commissioner Corkill moved and Commissioner Doerr seconded a motion that the Commission adopt staff recommendations for the acquisition and disposal of property. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### **Redbird Canyon Acquisition**

The 2,862-acre Redbird Canyon property is located north and east of the Department's Craig Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The property is entirely within Nez Perce County, encompassing almost the entire Redbird Creek drainage. It includes about a mile of Snake River frontage, including Redbird Beach, a sandy area within the normal high water mark that receives heavy recreation use.

Since the Department released Rocky Mountain bighorns into the Craig Mountain WMA in 1982, the Redbird property has been the critical lambing area and a large component of the trophy rams in this population stay on this property. Acquisition of the property is consistent with the Long Range Management Plan for the WMA and is important to the Bighorn Sheep Species Management Plan. The area does provide winter range for elk, whitetails, and mule deer as they migrate off the WMA to lower elevations. Some deer and elk stay on the property year-round. The area produces good populations of chukars, gray partridge, valley quail, ruffed grouse, and Merriam's turkeys. Remnant coveys of mountain quail still exist in the riparian zone of Redbird Creek. The ESA-listed plant, Spaulding's silene (catchfly), is also currently found on the property.

In 2007, the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation (IFWF) purchased the Redbird property and then entered into a long-term lease agreement with the Department with an option to purchase. The Department has fulfilled the lease terms as of December 2012, the Foundation has been reimbursed for their acquisition costs through the lease, and the Department has elected to exercise its option agreement to purchase the property from IFWF. The Department, with approval of the Commission, will exercise its right to purchase fee title of the property for \$1/acre plus closing costs as outlined in the option agreement. The FILT payment for the Redbird property is calculated as \$1,100.

The property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session on January 15, 2013.

**14-21** Commissioner Trevey moved and Commissioner Corkill seconded a motion that the Commission adopt staff recommendation for acquisition of the Redbird Canyon property. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

## **Executive Session**

**14-22** Commissioner Naillon moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion to hold an executive session pursuant to subsections (c) (f) of Idaho Code Section 67-2345 to discuss land acquisitions and legal. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Will Naillon, Mark Doerr, Randy Budge, Kenny Anderson, Fred Trevey, Brad Corkill and Robert Barowsky. The Commission discussed land acquisitions and water rights.

Commissioner Randy Budge recused himself from the session due to a conflict of interest in the Hagerman area.

**14-23** Commissioner Corkill moved and Commissioner Doerr seconded a motion to come out of executive session. All Commissioners voted in favor (Commissioner Budge excused from voting).

The Commission discussed legal matters regarding Hagerman water rights. The executive session ended at 5:45 p.m. with no official action taken.

The Commission went into open session.

## **LANDS**

### **Hagerman Water Rights**

The Commission discussion in support of Motion

- An agreement related to Hagerman water rights is of interest to the Commission and Department. This agreement presents an opportunity to improve the water situation for the state's hatcheries.
- The Department's interest in fish production must be kept whole through acceptable substitute water supply or hatchery production.
- The Department must be compensated for any additional costs.
- The Commission has received advice from legal counsel on this matter.

Clive Strong, Chief, Natural Resource Division, Attorney General, asked for the record to reflect that legal counsel advised the Commission of risks and opportunities regarding the Hagerman Water Rights.

**14-24** Commissioner Doerr moved and Commissioner Naillon seconded a motion that the Commission authorize the Department's director to enter into an agreement to supply up to 10CFS of Tucker Springs water to Idaho Ground Water Appropriators, Inc., subject to the conditions that any such agreement must provide the Department with a substitute water supply or hatchery production acceptable to the Department, and must compensate the Department for any additional costs attributable to implementation of the agreement. All Commissioners voted in favor (Commissioner Budge excused from voting).

## **Public Hearing**

The public hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Robert Barowsky. He introduced Commissioners Brad Corkill, Fred Trevey, Mark Doerr, Randy Budge, Kenny Anderson and Will Naillon.

Director Virgil Moore and Department personnel were introduced and the hearing was opened for public comment.

The following individuals testified: Bryon Hunter, John Robison, Chris Leyden, Paul Hilding, Peter Fitzimmons, Trish Woodruff, Zachery S. Jones, Brenda Spurgeon, Herb Meyr, Ann Hausrath, Larry Thorngren, Ann McClanahan, Kimberley Boester, Garrick Dutcher, Tad Sherman, Pam Conley, Gene Briggs, Judy Onderkirk, Scott Bodle, Linda-Diane Hill, Dr. Mark Lung, Shane Meredith, Douglas Setters, Ron Marquart, John Delorenzo, Christina Schaeffer, Ken Cole, Sean Gould, Leon Brown, Suzanne Stone, Mike Rust, Rusty Kramer, Emily Thorsen, John Sawyer, Alan Havsrath, Carmen Northern, Heidi Zschach, Fauna Tomlinson, Karen Balch, Craig Gehrke, Monte Mason, Dave Kellerman, Matt Borg, Andy White, Angel Lavan, Shawn Jewett, Nathan Wilson, Patrick Carney, Logan Brudenell, David Smith, Scott Ransom, Mike Gann, David Sexton, Andrea Blanquist, Tyler Carin, Mary Reiman, Tom Demorest, and Diane M. Jones.

Written comment was received from the following individuals: Daralene Finnell, John Finnell, Edward C. Northen, Carol Comtaruk, Kim Howard, Kerrin McCall, Christine Gertschen, Barbi Anne Reed, Christine N. Cole, Kaz Thea, Erin Zell, Carmen Northen, Richard Carr, Cindy Hamlin, Anita McCann, Bonnie Hovencamp, Fernanda Sammis, Connie Hoffman, Pamela Street, Mia Edsall, Sarah Jones, Dick Roberts, Muff Roberts, Char Roth, Mary Anne Pinkerton, Liza Wilson, Bernard Friedlander Ph.D., Tiffany Stewart, Tom Watson, Francie St.Onge, Karen Bohlke, Fred W. Bieker MD, Alan H. Richardson, Sharon Bockemohle, Zach Strong, EJ Harpham, Dr. Jennifer Pierce, Dr. Wayne Minshall, Dr. Colden Baxter, Dr. Benjamin Crosby, Dr. Helen Neville, Dr. Amy Haak, Dr. Brian Kennedy, Dr. Marie-Annie DeGraaf, Dr. Jesse Barber, Dr. Kevin Feris, Dr. Jan Eitel, Dr. Julie Heath, Dr. Karla Eitel, Dr. David Wilkins and Dr. Shawn Benner.

Testimony topics included: Elk management, trapping seasons and recreational issues, predator control in the Frank Church wilderness, wolf management, wolf harvest, expansion of wolf trapping south of the Snake River, bears and mountain lions in Region 1, bear baiting in Unit 60, Unit 39 Archery seasons, meeting agendas and information and the Wildlife Summit. Season Setting for deer, elk, pronghorn bear, mountain lion and wolves.

## **March 20**

### **Opening Comments**

The Commission meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Barowsky. Commissioners Brad Corkill, Fred Trevey, Mark Doerr, Randy Budge, Kenny Anderson, Will Naillon and Commission Secretary Virgil Moore were present.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Review of Public Comment

Director Moore reported that 58 individuals testified with a diverse group of comments. Eighteen of that number spoke regarding wolves in the wilderness or wolf harvest. The Commission discussed and reviewed the comments.

### Consent Calendar

The consent calendar included the following items:

- Minutes January 15-16, January 23 and January 30, 2014
- Financial Report

**14-25** Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Doerr seconded a motion to accept the items presented in the consent calendar. All Commissioners voted in favor.

## RULES

### Season Setting: Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bear, Mountain Lion, and Wolves

Jon Rachael, State Wildlife Manager, provided an overview of the big game proposals, a summary of public comments received, summary of major proposed changes and draft rules brochure (Appendix 47, Exhibit 24).

**14-26** Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion to:

1. Set big game seasons for 2014 consistent with staff recommendations, with the following modifications:
  - Unit 1, Black Bear: ending date of June 15
  - Unit 4 and 4a, Black Bear: ending date June 20
  - Trapping season for Wolves, opening date of October 10 in: Lolo Zone (10 & 12) and Selway Zone (16A, 17, 19, and 20), and Units 7, 9, and that portion of Unit 6 comprising the N. Fork St. Joe River drainage
  - Trapping season for wolves on private land only in Unit 45, consistent with seasons & harvest limits for 43 and 44
  - Allowance of use of salvaged wildlife parts for trapping of wolves pursuant to IDAPA rule to apply statewide
  - Year-round wolf hunting season on private land (including corporate timberlands) in Clearwater Region
  - Controlled Hunt 39-3 (Landowner permission extra antlerless elk) with 300 tags instead of 400 tags as proposed
2. Table discussion of setting seasons for 2 year period including 2015 season

3. Direct staff to scope consideration of biennial seasons for future Commission discussion

All Commissioners voted in favor of.

### **Unit 39 Mountain Goat Tag Adjustment**

During 2012 and 2013, fire closure restrictions closed access to most of mountain goat Hunt Area 39 during the early part of the season. As a result, the Department offered rain checks to the two tag holders in 2012 and to the two tag holders in 2013. One of the rain check holders from 2012 did elect to hunt after restrictions were lifted in 2013. There are now 3 tag holders with rain checks for Hunt Area 39 for the 2014 season. Mountain goat hunting seasons and tag numbers were set by the Fish and Game Commission for the 2013 and 2014 hunting seasons at their January 2013 meeting. Two tags are scheduled to be issued for Mountain Goats in Hunt Area 39 for the 2014 season.

Staff recommends that the Commission release only 1 of the 2 mountain goat tags scheduled to be issued for Hunt Area 39 for the 2014 season.

Suggested Motion: Commission adopt staff recommendation to issue only 1 mountain goat tag for Controlled Hunt #6017 for Hunt Area 39 in the 2014 season.

**14-27** Commissioner Naillon moved and Commissioner Corkill seconded a motion to adopt the staff recommendation to issue only 1 mountain goat tag for Controlled Hunt #6017 for Hunt Area 39 in the 2014 season. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### **Elk Plan Implementation of New Elk Zones**

In January the Commission adopted the 2014 Elk Management Plan which included a reorganization of some of the elk zones to account for elk migration and movement patterns.

Zone changes:

- Split the Owyhee South Hills Zone into the Owyhee Zone and South Hills Zone
- Move GMU 56 from the Bannock Zone to the South Hills Zone
- Dissolve the Teton Zone, moving GMU 65 to the Palisades Zone and GMU 62 to the Island Park Zone
- Combine the Smoky Mountains and Bennett Hills Zones to create the Smoky-Bennett Zone.

This agenda item provided a summary of the elk zone changes set forth in the 2014 Elk Management Plan under 13.01.08 Rules Governing Big Game (Section 605 Elk Zone Descriptions). A temporary rule must be adopted in order for the zone changes to occur before the next hunting season. This rule change will allow the Department to manage elk populations more effectively and efficiently.

The staff recommends the Commission adopt the temporary and proposed rule that reorganizes the elk zone boundaries to begin implementing the 2014 Elk Management Plan.

**14-28** Commissioner Doerr moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion to adopt a temporary and proposed rule to redefine elk management zones as recommended by the 2014 Elk Management Plan. All Commissioners voted in favor.

## **LANDS**

### **Declare Ashton Hatchery Surplus**

Gary Byrne, Fish Production Manager, provided a report on the Ashton Fish Hatchery surplus property. It was determined in September 2013 that the efficiency of the resident fish hatchery program would be improved if fish production was concentrated at the most cost-effective stations. Comparison of resident trout hatcheries' financial data and physical properties showed that the Ashton facility had the lowest water flow, lowest water temperature, and highest cost per pound of fish produced. The station's fish and property inventories were subsequently distributed to more efficient hatcheries, and permanent staff were reassigned to different duty stations. As of February 12, 2014, the Ashton Hatchery was winterized and utilities shut off.

**14-29** Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Naillon seconded a motion to declare the Ashton Fish Hatchery surplus and authorize the Department to pursue sale or long term lease of the property and thus the funds to be used to enhance the resident fisheries in other parts of the state. All Commissioners voted in favor.

## **RULES**

### **Season Setting: 2014 Spring Season Chinook Salmon Fisheries**

Ed Schriever, Chief, Fisheries, presented the proposal (Appendix 47, Exhibit 25) for the 2014 spring Chinook salmon fisheries. Mr. Schriever provided a summary of public comments (Appendix 47, Exhibit 26). The opening date is scheduled for April 26, 2014.

**14-30** Commissioner Trevey moved and Commissioner Doerr seconded a motion to approve the proposed 2014 fishing seasons for Chinook salmon in the Snake River, Lower Salmon River, Little Salmon River, Mainstem Clearwater River, North Fork Clearwater River, South Fork Clearwater River and Lochsa River. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### **Modify Spring Steelhead Seasons**

In the fall of 2013 the Commission approved a restriction on the length of steelhead that could be harvested in the mainstem, Middle Fork and North Fork Clearwater rivers during the fall 2013 and spring 2014 steelhead seasons. The length restriction was implemented to protect larger 2-ocean fish that could contribute to hatchery brood stock. Run-size updates at that time indicated a very poor return of B-run steelhead to the Clearwater River. A reduction in harvest in those waters was also implemented at that time.

Steelhead spawning is now underway at Dworshak National Fish Hatchery and managers there are optimistic that egg-take objectives will be met. Fisheries Bureau staff is recommending that the length restriction on fish that can be harvested in the mainstem Clearwater, Middle Fork Clearwater and North Fork Clearwater rivers be rescinded. No change in bag limits is being proposed at this time.

**14-31** Commissioner Trevey moved and Commissioner Doerr seconded a motion to rescind the length restriction that only fish less than 28 inches total length may be harvested in the mainstem Clearwater River downstream of Orofino Bridge and the North Fork Clearwater Rivers. All Commissioners voted in favor.

## **LEGISLATION**

### **Legislative Update**

Deputy Director Sharon Kiefer updated the Commission about legislative activity since the last Commission legislative call and provided preliminary assessment of Department action needed to implement new legislation. The updated bill tracking table was provided showing what action is needed for implementation of laws to be signed by the Governor (Appendix 47, Exhibit 27).

## **REPORT**

### **Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

Ann Dehner, Executive Director, provided the report.

- The Foundation wishes to express its appreciation for the good work involved to complete the transfer of ownership of the Redbird Canyon property in Region 2 to the Commission. The Foundation's Board of Directors is pleased that this property will remain available for public benefit under the management of the Department of Fish and Game.
- The Foundation is seeking proposals for its 2014 grants program. Requests for proposals have gone out to the Department and nonprofit organizations with shared goals. Supported projects include those that preserve or restore wildlife habitat and conservation education programs. The deadline for applications is May 30, and the Board will award a total of \$25,000 in grants at its August Board meeting.
- The Foundation has elected a new member to its Board of Directors. Rob Santa joins us from the Ketchum/Hailey area in Region 4. Mr. Santa brings extensive professional and community experience in many aspects of the outdoor recreation industry. In addition to wholesale and retail operations, he's been an outfitter for fly-fishing, mountain-biking, skiing and hiking. He brings a strong business acumen, outdoor expertise and an impressive track record for community service.

- The Foundation continues to hold many conversations with Department staff to further develop the organizations' working relationship and service opportunities. The Board recently approved a new initiative to create greater awareness of the Foundation and its mission. The initiative also includes the creation of a new fundraising program where the Foundation will use the internet to communicate funding needs for projects in each region that are identified in partnership with the Department. The fundraising program is also intended to grow the Foundation's annual grants program.
- The Foundation wishes to extend its appreciation to Chairman Bob Barowsky for his service as the Commission's liaison to the Foundation and to extend a welcome to Mark Doerr as he joins this role. The next Board meeting of the Foundation will be May 4 in Nampa.

## LANDS

### Oil and Gas Leasing of Commission Lands in SW Idaho

Tom Hemker, Wildlife Habitat Program Manager, reported that the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) has held several auctions in recent years to lease Endowment land for exploratory drilling for natural gas and potential well development. An informational presentation by staff and IDL at the March 2012 Commission meeting outlined the leasing process and stipulations that are included in these leases. In May 2012, IDL leased 386 acres of Payette WMA for oil and gas exploration with a stipulation of no surface occupancy. The potential lease income is about \$1/acre at the lease award and \$1-\$2 annually for the length of the lease. Potential royalty income to IDFG is, by state rule, 12.5% of the value of any oil or gas sold. Some of these lands were purchased with federal funds and extraction can occur if it does not conflict with the original purpose of the grant.

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission holds mineral rights associated with 21 parcels totaling 1,853 acres of Idaho Fish and Game Commission land in the Southwest Region. Exploration companies have expressed interest in leasing these parcels. These mineral right leases could be auctioned during a 2014 IDL, auction of other State land.

Staff recommendation: Approval of leasing the rights for oil and gas development on 1,853 acres of Commission land in the Southwest Region with a stipulation of no surface occupancy.

**14-32** Commissioner Naillon moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion to approve the release of 1,853 acres to be leased for oil and gas development with no surface disturbance. All Commissioners voted in favor.

## REPORT

### Mayfield Private Land and Elk Depredation Update

Scott Reinecker, Regional Supervisor, provided an update to the Commission. He noted that Fish and Game staff have been very responsive and have maintained weekly contact with private

landowners in the Mayfield area the past 2 months. Staff have developed an action plan (Appendix 47, Exhibit 28) to reduce private land wildlife conflicts and will be working with individual landowners and others to implement effective immediately.

Use of private land by deer, elk, and pronghorn has been a growing concern by landowners in the Mayfield area of Unit 39. The Elk and Pony Complex fires of last summer will have temporary effect on domestic livestock grazing allowances and forage availability for wildlife, exacerbating the concern for wildlife damage to private land forage and fences.

The current Landowner Appreciation Program is not meeting the needs of some landowners. Both the House and Senate resource committees hosted hearings during the 2014 legislative session; allowing landowners an opportunity to articulate their concerns over conflicts created by wildlife using private land.

## **RULES**

### **Clarification on Big game Season Setting for Hunt 39-3.**

Commissioner Barowsky stated that during the big game season setting portion of the meeting he referenced that Hunt 39-3 reduction of 100 tags was on private land only. That is not the case; it is on both private and public land with a 20 day overlap for rifle and archery hunters. Commissioner Barowsky asks for a motion to clarify his intentions.

**14-33** Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Anderson seconded a motion clarifying that Hunt 39-3 is on both private and public lands. All Commissioners voted in favor of.

### **Nonbiological Rules Update on LAP/LT and Natural Bear Bait**

Jeff Gould, Chief, Wildlife, presented an update on negotiated rulemaking proposals for the Landowner Appreciation Program and Natural Bear Bait. The Department is advancing 2 nonbiological rule proposals through the negotiated rulemaking process. The two proposed rule changes were posted on the Department website for public input during January 1-22, 2014. The Department received 122 and 178 comments on the LAP and natural bear bait rules, respectively.

Mr. Gould presented a copy of a draft proposal for PLT-LAP Option 2 (Appendix 47, Exhibit 29). Commission discussion followed with the Commission suggestion to reconsider and include provision of sale to Option 2 and report back to the Commission at the May meeting.

### **Nonbiological Rules Briefing For All Game Animals Proposals For Future Rulemaking**

Annually or biennially, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission considers proposed changes for two types of hunting rules, season setting (biological) and IDAPA rules (nonbiological). The Commission has unique authority to establish seasons via proclamation, rather than through IDAPA rulemaking. Proclamations are published annually (i.e. Big Game, Waterfowl) or biennially (e.g. Moose, Bighorn Sheep, and Mountain Goat; Upland Game) and include seasons,

limits, size, sex, and harvestable species. IDAPA (nonbiological) rules include all other rules adopted by the Commission.

Examples of IDAPA rules include methods of take, tagging requirements, evidence-of-sex requirements, and controlled hunt eligibility requirements. IDAPA rules are officially published in the Idaho Administrative Code (<http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/agyindex.htm>) and included in hunting regulation brochures. Any IDAPA rules must be published in the Administrative Bulletin for public comment and must be upheld by the Legislature to become a final rule.

Recent legislation (SB 1366, 2012) strengthened the requirement for consideration of negotiated rulemaking to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule. In short, the agency shall determine whether negotiated rulemaking is feasible or not, and proceed according to statutory procedures identified in 67-5220 (Idaho Code).

Mr. Gould presented a preliminary list of rule proposals (Appendix 47, Exhibit 30) that will be considered for future negotiated rule making. The preliminary list will undergo additional analysis and consideration before selecting a final list for Commission consideration in May.

The Commission will consider a Technology Workshop at a future meeting to begin a thorough review of concerns expressed by a broad spectrum of hunters and to changes in technology that have occurred during the last five years.

## **REPORTS**

### **Director's Report**

Director Moore referenced the Administration report in the agenda book regarding the FY 15 and FY 16 budgets. The Director's report stands as written.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Panhandle Region, Commissioner Corkill

- Reported that 85 wolves have been harvested in the Panhandle during the current hunting/trapping season, accounting for about one-third of the statewide harvest.
- Attended the "State of the Lake" meeting in Sandpoint with over 50 people attending.

Salmon Region, Will Naillon

- Receiving a number of emails regarding deer in Unit 37. The Department will work with these folks to address.
- Reports that the public meetings went well and the attendance was lower than last year.

Magic Valley Region, Mark Doerr

- Good turnouts for the public meetings.

Southeast Region, Randy Budge

- Water outlook in January was grim, seemingly mired in drought. Our water outlook now is excellent with all watersheds serving the Southeast Region substantially exceeding 100% of median and mean peak snow pack.
- The Fisheries program has received \$330K from the PacifiCorps for a new spring channel rehabilitation to benefit Bear River Bonneville Cutthroat trout, and to build three new Bonneville Cutthroat trout brood stock ponds on PacifiCorps property on the Bear River.

Upper Snake Region, Kenney Anderson

- Reports a good water and snowpack levels.
- Bear baiting discussions are ongoing with constituents.
- The Sand Creek mule deer population may be at its highest level in many years.

Clearwater Region, Fred Trevey

- The Region has held 21 Hunter Education classes and certified 524 students during the months of January – March.
- Recruiting mentors to work with these kids.
- Chinook Salmon and Steelhead spring trapping season is underway within the Clearwater Region.

Southwest Region, Robert Barowsky

- The annual Volunteer Bitterbrush & Sagebrush Planting Project began on March 1, 2014. By March 19, three hundred eight- five volunteers will have planted 18,300 bitterbrush seedlings on the 2013 Lucky Fire and Turner Gulch Fire on the Boise River WMA and on a site that burned north of Cambridge in 2012.
- Several factors have worked toward increasing detection of fraudulent license purchases and the restitution of those lost funds back to IDFG. These increased efforts have paid dividends.

Commissioner Reports stand as written (Appendix 47, Exhibit 31).

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Executive Session

**14-34** Commissioner Budge moved and Commissioner Naillon seconded a motion to hold an executive session pursuant to subsections (b) of Idaho Code Section 67-2345 to discuss personnel. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Will Naillon, Mark Doerr, Randy Budge, Kenny Anderson, Fred Trevey, Brad Corkill and Robert Barowsky.

The executive session ended at 3:35 p.m. with no official action taken.

Fred Trevey  
Chairman

Virgil Moore  
Secretary