

MINUTES  
**SENATE RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 16, 2012

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Pearce, Vice Chairman Bair, Senators Cameron, Siddoway, Brackett, Heider, Tippetts, Werk, and Stennett

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:** **Chairman Pearce** called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. He welcomed back the committee members, as well as members of the audience, to the first committee meeting of this Legislative Session. Birthday greetings were given to **Senator Tippetts**, who in turn, invited the Committee to his office (after the meeting) for a piece of birthday cake.

**INTRODUCTION OF PAGE:** The **Chairman** then introduced the **Committee's Page, Ryan Chapman**, and asked him to share with the Committee his goals and why he wanted to be a Page.

**Ryan** stated that he attends Boise High School and his Government teacher encouraged him to apply for the position of Page. Ryan watched the progress of the restoration and remodeling of the Capitol Building and that also intrigued him to want to work here. After graduation, he plans to attend college at the University of Idaho, work in South America, return to college and study law. Besides school and his Page duties, Ryan works part-time at a pizza restaurant.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** **Chairman Pearce** announced that the Idaho Environmental Forum has invited the Committee to the Owyhee Plaza Ballroom, Wednesday, January 18, at 1:15 P.M., to hear about the regulation of natural gas drilling in Southwest Idaho, and other issues of interest. Therefore, there will be **no meeting in this room Wednesday**.

**PASSING OF GAVEL:** The gavel was passed from the **Chairman to Vice Chairman Bair**, Chairman of the Rules Hearings.

**Vice Chairman Bair** stated that the Pending Rules for the Idaho Fish and Game Commission would be heard and welcomed **Ms. Sharon Kiefer, Deputy Director for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG)**, who will present the rules, and **Mr. Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy Attorney General, Natural Resources Division/Fish and Game**, who will provide technical/legal explanations, if needed.

**DOCKET NO. 13-0102-1101** This rule governs public safety and it provides a mechanism for exemption from the live fire requirement of hunter education certification for persons with military and peace officer training.

**DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1101** This rule governs licensing. Legislation was passed last year (H 143) that allows nonresident disabled veterans to participate in a hunt in association with a qualified organization to receive reduced fees for certain licenses and tags; provides specific rules for bighorn sheep auction and lottery tags to accommodate proxy bidders, but prevents tag resale. It also set nonresident tag and outfitter set-aside quotas.

**DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1102** This rule also governs licensing and makes improvements to the Landowner Appreciation Program to provide for consistency in tag allocation, and to provide incentives for landowners in certain units who provide benefits for wildlife, wildlife habitat, or sportsmen.

- DOCKET NO. 13-0105-1101** This rule governs fishing contests and it clarifies/simplifies the definition of "fishing contest".
- DOCKET NO. 13-0106-1101** This rule governs the classification and protection of wildlife. It changes the classification name for Leatherside chub and Bluehead sucker to comply with recent research.
- DOCKET NO. 13-0108-1101** This rule governs the taking of big game animals in the State of Idaho. It deletes references to a wolf trapping permit and clarifies the wolf trapping rules. It also allows wolf trapping near naturally deceased big game carcasses and clarifies and adjusts certain Big Game Management Unit descriptions.
- DOCKET NO. 13-0109-1101** This rule governs the taking of game birds in the State of Idaho. It amends the Youth Waterfowl Day to correspond to the federal age qualification; and amends obsolete references to seasons, bag limits, and possession limits which are set by Commission Proclamation.
- DOCKET NO. 13-0110-1101** This rule governs the importation, possession, release, sale, or salvage of wildlife. The wildlife salvage rules are amended to allow increased salvage of commercially valuable wildlife. (Accidental vehicle-collision caused mortality.)
- DOCKET NO. 13-0111-1101** This rule governs fish and it amends and simplifies definitions of certain terms. It specifies the conditions by which hatchery steelhead and salmon legally harvested may be transported without tails and heads attached. It prohibits marking and releasing fish without a collecting permit and allows the use of a gaff hook when harvesting nongame fish taken with archery equipment. It also corrects obsolete rules.
- DOCKET NO. 13-0112-1101** This rule governs commercial fishing. It removes the mountain sucker from the list of fish species that may be commercially harvested.
- DOCKET NO. 13-0116-1101** This rule governs the trapping of predatory and unprotected wildlife and the taking of furbearing animals. The Commission is giving direction to work with trappers to determine if or how trapping closures near campgrounds and picnic areas could be adjusted; provides detailed specifications on trap break-away devices; specifies allowable jaw size for foothold traps in ground sets now that wolves have been delisted; and sets wolf trap equipment specifications.
- Vice Chairman Bair** thanked **Ms. Kiefer** and **Mr. Burkhalter** for presenting the Pending Rules for the Fish and Game Commission. The Committee will vote on these rules Friday, January 20.
- PASSING OF GAVEL:** **Vice Chairman Bair** returned the gavel to Chairman Pearce.
- ADJOURN:** **Chairman Pearce** adjourned the meeting at 3 P.M.

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Senator Pearce  
Chairman

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Juanita Budell  
Secretary