

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
GIBBS SUBCOMMITTEE
Department of Fish and Game Rules

DATE: Monday, January 23, 2012
TIME:
PLACE: Room EW40
MEMBERS: Chairman Gibbs, Representatives Wood(35), Moyle, Wood(27), Hagedorn(Tucker), Harwood, Pence
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Moyle
GUESTS: Dallas Burkhalter, Deputy AG, Sharon Kiefer, Deputy Director, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game

Subcommittee Chairman Gibbs called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.

DOCKET NO. 13-0102-1101: **Sharon Kiefer**, Deputy Director, Dept. of Fish and Game, said this Rule change came through legislative inquiry, and it is relative to the large number of military personnel interested in hunting. She said this change would not exemption them from the overall hunting education, but would exemption them from the live fire exercise since they have already been trained in firearms. She said they would still need an affidavit from the individual saying they have been trained.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(35)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0102-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said this Rule change is designed to implement **H 143** which allows non-resident disable hunters to receive reduced fees on licenses and tags. She said this reduction in fees would be the same as what is currently provided to resident disabled hunters in an association with a qualified organization.

In answers to questions from the Committee, **Ms. Kiefer** said this rule will also provide specific rules for bighorn sheep auction tags to accommodate proxy bidders, but prevent tag resale.

MOTION: **Rep. Pence** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0104-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1102: **Ms. Kiefer** said last year the Committee approved substantial changes to the conduct of the Landowner Appreciation Program. She said these changes will provide for consistency in tag allocation and also will provide for incentives to landowners who provide benefits for wildlife, wildlife habitat and sportsmen.

Ms. Kiefer said in answers to Committee questions that a landowner could still barter or market trespass rights onto his land.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0104-1102** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0105-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said these Rule changes will clarify the definition of a fishing contest. Ms. Kiefer responded to questions from the Committee saying this gives direction to large fishing contests and relaxes requirements for smaller tournaments. She said they are trying to set the threshold of who needs a contest permit and the oversight for that.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0105-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0106-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said this Rule change defines certain protected and classified animals, it changes the name of a fish species, and adds Bluehead sucker to the nongame protected species list.

MOTION: **Rep. Harwood** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0106-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0108-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** explained there were Rules passed last Session governing the taking of big game animals in expectation of a wolf trapping season. She said they believe these Rules are necessary for a productive and ethical wolf trapping season. She said this allows for a wolf trapping class at the recommendation of wolf trappers and she outlined the requirements for the class, the license and tags. Ms. Kiefer said there are also several housekeeping changes in this Rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(35)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0108-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0109-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said this change will move references to season limits, bag limits and possession limits into Commission proclamation. She said there is another change in the clarification of turkey tags.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0109-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0110-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** explained this issue was brought to the Department and prompted research with other states regarding the salvage of animals that are not naturally dead (killed by vehicle). She said they found the didn't actually have anything in the rules or in statute regarding the salvage of animals killed by vehicle collision. She said they created a definition for this salvage rule and added new sections to deal more specifically to animals that died of accidental death. She also said that the Commission has no authority to govern over public safety rules and those rules still apply when salvaging these types of animals.

MOTION: **Rep. Harwood** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0110-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0111-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said they have made significant progress with the biannual fishing rule to make them easier to understand. She said the first part of the Rule is definitions, she gave a review of the definitions. She said they created a new rule relating to the collection and process of steelhead and salmon to make it easier for anglers to care for the fish and transport them home. Ms. Kiefer also said this Rule will prohibit the marking and releasing of fish without a collecting permit.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(27)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0111-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0112-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said this Rule change removes the mountain sucker from the commercial fish list.

MOTION: **Rep. Harwood** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0112-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0116-1101: **Ms. Kiefer** said the Legislature upheld the wolf trapping rules, but there was still concerns from the Trapping Association. She said this Rule makes equipment modifications for wolf trapping in the Furbearer Chapter. Ms. Kiefer said these changes explain the types of traps, the requirements for ground set snares, the requirements for break away devices and sets jaw spread requirements for foot hold traps. She said trappers are generally comfortable with these changes and they did not receive any letters of concerns.

MOTION: **Rep. Wood(35)** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 13-0116-1101** to the full committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Representative Marc Gibbs
Chairman

Susan Werlinger
Secretary