

MINUTES  
**HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 15, 2015

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

**PLACE:** Room EW40

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Raybould, Vice Chairman Gestrin, Representative(s) Moyle, Andrus, Shepherd, Wood, Boyle (Purdy), Vander Woude, Gibbs, Miller, Bateman, Burtenshaw, Mendive, VanOrden, Youngblood, Pence, Erpelding, Rubel

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Moyle

**GUESTS:** W. Dallas Burkhalter, Idaho Department of Fish & Game; Brandt Bullock, Idaho Water Users Association; Sharon Kiefer, Idaho Department of Fish & Game; and John Foste, Kestral West.

**Chairman Raybould** called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**DOCKET NO. 13-0102-1401:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, stated this rule refers to the law passed in the 2014 legislative session lowering the hunting age from 12 years of age to 10 years of age for hunting big game. The Mentored Hunting Program must be amended to reflect that youth at 10 years of age can hunt big game.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wood** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0102-1401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1402:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, said nonresident disabled American veterans are eligible to receive a reduced fee hunting license and, as a result, certain tags must be amended to comply with new law.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Youngblood** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0104-1402. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1403:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, stated rules that reference qualified organizations for the disabled veteran big game tag program must be amended to add I.R.S. status for 501(c)(4) and 501(c)(19) organizations to comply with the new law. Ms. Kiefer explained these additional organizations will allow more disabled veterans to participate in the program.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Erpelding** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0104-1403. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0104-1404:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, stated this rule would implement discretionary authority to the Commission to add bear tags to the Landowner Appreciation Program.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0104-1404. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0108-1402:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, indicated the rule would allow the Commission to designate specific unlimited controlled hunts for deer and elk as "first choice only". Some unlimited controlled hunts have resulted in higher hunter numbers as some hunters select these hunts as their second choice when applying for a more desirable hunt.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0108-1402. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0108-1403:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, stated this rule change is to revise the hunting age (from 12 years of age to 10 years of age) to comply with state law for hunting big game animals.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Bateman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0108-1403. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0108-1404:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, stated reorganizing elk zone descriptions would allow the Idaho Department of Fish and Game the ability to better manage elk populations for balanced hunting opportunities.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Miller** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0108-1404. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 13-0109-1401:** **Sharon Kiefer**, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, explained this rule allows the Commission flexibility to modify shooting hours for game birds on wildlife management areas for the purposes of safety, upland game bird stocking and distribution, and to reduce the conflict between hunters utilizing the same property.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wood** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0109-1401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Rep. Gibbs** addressed the House Resources and Conservation Committee regarding mussels found in Utah waterways. Rep. Gibbs explained preadult mussels are microscopic and difficult to visually detect through invasive species checkpoints. These mussels are transported by water vessels, such as boats, and could threaten Idaho's irrigation, hydroelectric power, city facilities (water and sewer), and waterways by clogging pipes, equipment, and irrigation drainage, if infected watercraft utilize Idaho's waterways.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

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Representative Raybould  
Chair

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Jennifer Smith  
Secretary