

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 238

BY RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO FISH AND GAME; AMENDING SECTION 36-201, IDAHO CODE, TO CLASSIFY CERTAIN WOLVES AS GAME ANIMALS AND CERTAIN WOLVES AS PREDATORY WILDLIFE AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 36-201, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

36-201. FISH AND GAME COMMISSION AUTHORIZED TO CLASSIFY WILDLIFE. With the exception of predatory animals, the Idaho fish and game commission is hereby authorized to define by classification or reclassification all wildlife in the state of Idaho. Such definitions and classifications shall include:

(a) Game animals, including wolves in game management units 15, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 21, 26, and 27;

(b) Game birds;

(c) Game fish;

(d) Fur-bearing animals;

(e) Migratory birds;

(f) Threatened or endangered wildlife;

(g) Protected nongame species; and

(h) Unprotected wildlife.

Predatory wildlife shall include:

1. Coyote;

2. Jackrabbit;

3. Skunk;

4. Weasel;

5. Starling;

6. Raccoon; and

7. Wolf, with the exception as provided in paragraph (a) of this section. Within fourteen (14) days of a person taking a wolf that is classified as a predator, the person shall report the taking to the department of fish and game. In addition to any other manner of take authorized in this title, those taking wolves may do so from an ATV, UTV, or snowmobile as defined in section 67-7101, Idaho Code, and through the use of powered parachutes. The provisions of this paragraph 7. shall be in effect as long as there are more than fifty (50) packs, consisting of at least five hundred (500) wolves, in the state of Idaho. In the event the number of packs falls to fifty (50) packs, consisting of at least five hundred (500) wolves or less, the commission is authorized to review wolf management policies and take appropriate action to restore the number of packs of wolves in the state to a minimum of fifty (50) packs, consisting of at least five hundred (500) wolves or more.

1 Notwithstanding the classification assigned to wolves, all methods of take
2 including, but not limited to, all methods utilized by the United States
3 fish and wildlife service and the United States department of agriculture
4 wildlife services, shall be authorized for the management of wolves in
5 accordance with existing laws or approved management plans. It is the expect-
6 tation of the legislature that wolf collaring will be continued as one of the
7 proactive management tools for packs that are predisposed to depredation on
8 domestic livestock.