

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Monday, January 13, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Organizational Meeting LSO Research Intern, Cailin Casey, Ph.D.	

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 13, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen (Hatch), Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Boyle, Miller

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

Chairman Mendive welcomed the members of the committee to the 2025 Legislative Session. As the committee has some new members the Chairman introduced himself, and **Vice Chairman Shepherd**, who will oversee the full committee during the Administrative Rule review, and invited him to say a few words about himself.

Chairman Mendive introduced the Committee Secretary, **Andrea Blades**, and Committee Page, **Blyss Miller** and explained their roles supporting the committee. Each was invited to say a few words about themselves.

Chairman Mendive invited each committee member to introduce themselves and say a few words about their backgrounds, and each member in the room did so.

Chairman Mendive shared thoughts on what to expect in this committee. He explained the committee meets on odd number calendar days at 1:30 p.m., and is an electronic "hybrid" committee. Members were given options between electronic or paper copies in meeting folders. The use of the committee "OneDrive" shared folder was explained and the importance of confidentiality surrounding RS's was reviewed.

Chairman Mendive introduced LSO Research Fellow **Dr. Cailin Casey**, and she briefly explained to the members what kind of research services she can provide during the session.

Chairman Mendive asked for member volunteers to proof meeting minutes. **Rep. Church** and **Rep. Sauter** volunteered and were assigned.

Chairman Mendive announced that **Jeff McFarland** from LSO was on site to assist members with connection to the shared folder.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Wednesday, January 15, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31842	Natural Resources Study Committee	Rep. Raybould
RS 31873	Outfitters and Guides	Rep. Raybould

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen (Hatch)	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 15, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen (Hatch), Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

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

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

Chairman Mendive welcomed members and confirmed that everyone is able to access the shared electronic committee folder to review reports posted there.

Chairman Mendive invited **Vice Chairman Shepherd** to speak to the start up of agency Administrative Rule proposals scheduled for next week. Vice Chairman Shepherd explained Dept. of Fish and Game and the Division of Occupational & Professional Licenses (DOPL) are first up for Performance Measures or annual reports, and Administrative Rule presentations. He confirmed the committee members have been able to access the electronic shared folder and emphasized the importance of review of the proposed Rules prior to their respective agency presentations. Committee members were offered the option of printed paper copies of the Administrative Rules if they preferred.

RS 31842: **Rep. Raybould** (D34) presented **RS 31842** saying it stipulated the appointment of an interim Natural Resources Study Committee and briefly explained why it is needed.

MOTION: **Rep. Vander Woude** made a motion to introduce **RS 31842** and send it to the 2nd reading calendar.

During discussion it was stated that currently no such committee exists.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31873: **Rep. Raybould** (D34) presented **RS 31873** saying that it affords an exemption from outfitter and guide licensing for private schools in connection to student outdoor excursions. She said this exemption already exists for public schools.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Rep. Raymond** (D31) made a motion to introduce **RS 31873. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Thursday, January 23, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 15	Outfitters and guides	Rep. Raybould
	Administrative Rules Process	Ryan Bush, LSO Principal Drafting Attorney
	DOPL Agency Update	Kolby Reddish, Lead Attorney
24-3501-2401	Rules of the Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board - Pending Rule	John Price, DOPL Bureau Chief
RS 31907	Nonmotorized recreation, passport	Rep. Petzke

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 23, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Vander Woude, Miller

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Church** made a motion to approve the January 13, 2025 and January 15, 2025 meeting minutes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 15: **Rep. Raybould**, District 34, presented **H 15** and explained it provides an exemption to private schools from having to obtain an outfitters and guides license to facilitate off campus outdoor excursions for students. This change would match the exemption already afforded to public schools.

Aaron Lieberman, Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association (IOGA), testified **neutral on H 15** but mentioned some concerns.

Lawrence Christianson, Brigham Young University (BYU), spoke **in support of H 15** saying it only seems fair since public schools and universities already have this exemption. He assured the committee that student safety is always the University's highest priority in all school related activities, including student off campus outdoor excursions.

Rep. Raybould summarized all that had been said and closed the presentation.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **H 15** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Raybould** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Mendive introduced **Ryan Bush**, Principal Drafting Attorney at the Legislative Services Office (LSO), who presented a brief overview of the current and new administrative rule process, and answered some committee questions.

Chairman Mendive introduced **Kolby Reddish**, Lead Attorney at the Dept. of Professional Licensing (DOPL) who provided an annual agency report and answered a few committee questions.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

John Price, Bureau Chief at the Dept. of Professional Licenses (DOPL) presented the Agency's proposed rule changes to **Docket No. 24-3501-2401** and answered some committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to **approve Docket No. 24-3501-2401.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mendive**.

RS 31907: **Rep. Petzke**, District 21, presented **RS 31907** which involves non-motorized recreation passports. He explained the benefits of this proposed legislation, which generates additional funds to be used for trail maintenance, and answered committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to introduce **RS 31907**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Monday, January 27, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 31929	Water districts, assessments	Rep. Mickelsen
	IDFG Agency Update	Jim Fredericks, IDFG Director
	Wolf & Grizzly Management Update	Jim Fredericks, IDFG Director
	Cronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Update	Jim Fredericks, IDFG Director
13-0102-2401	Rules Governing Mandatory Education, Mentored Hunting, and Shooting Ranges - Temporary and Pending Rule	Amber Worthington, IDFG Dep. Director
13-0107-2401	Rules Governing Taking of Wildlife - Pending Rule	Amber Worthington, IDFG Dep. Director
13-0111-2401	Rules Governing Fish - Pending Rule	Amber Worthington, IDFG Dep. Director

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[**Register to Testify**](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, January 27, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

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

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

RS 31929: **Rep. Mickelsen**, District 32, presented **RS 31929** which pertains to water districts.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to introduce **RS 31929**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Jim Fredericks, Director of Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), provided an annual Agency update and addressed committee questions.

Jim Fredericks, IDFG Director, provided the committee with an update on the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Idaho and addressed questions.

Trisha Hebdon, IDFG Assistant Chief of Wildlife, was invited to answer some committee questions regarding the control of CWD in captive herds and the importing of animals from states or countries where the disease is prevalent.

Jim Fredericks, IDFG Director, provided the committee with an update on wolf and grizzly management in Idaho and addressed questions. Among other things he spoke about the effects of a Federal Injunction that has limited non-contractual hunting and trapping of wolves in the northern part of the State.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

**DOCKET NO.
13-0102-2401:** **Amber Worthington**, Deputy Director at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), presented the Agency's proposed rule changes to **Docket No. 13-0102-2401**, and addressed questions. She explained this is a temporary and pending rule and it involves a mandatory hunter education test for black and grizzly bear identification which is intended to prevent hunters from mistakenly shooting protected grizzlies.

Jon Rachael, IDFG Deputy Director of Operations, was invited to answer a committee question regarding the frequency of hunter incidental take of a grizzly bear due to mistaken identification.

MOTION: **Rep. Vander Woude** made a motion to reject the temporary and pending rule number **Docket No. 13-0102-2401**.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:** **Chairman Mendive** made a substitute motion to approve the temporary and pending rule, **Docket No. 13-0102-2401**.

IDFG Director **Jim Fredericks**, was invited to answer committee questions about consequences connected to this rule. He explained that his directive is to be initially lenient when implementing new rules, beginning with issuing warnings. Additionally that the approval of **Docket No. 13-0102-2401** is an important step in the plan of de-listing of grizzly bears eventually.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Substitute Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0107-2401: **Amber Worthington**, IDFG Deputy Director, presented the Agency's proposed rule changes to **Docket No. 13-0107-2401**, and addressed questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0107-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 13-0111-2401: **Amber Worthington**, IDFG Deputy Director, presented the Agency's proposed rule changes to **Docket No. 13-0111-2401**, and addressed questions.

Dennis Haussler who is an independent sportsman spoke **in support of Docket No. 13-0111-2401** saying spear-fishing is a more challenging method of fishing and by allowing it for the named species, these potentially invasive fish are better managed.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 13-0111-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mendive**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Wednesday, January 29, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 32058	Livestock depredation claims	Rep. Raymond
RS 32022	Recreation clubs, liability	Rep. Shepherd

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 29, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Raybould, Petzke, Sauter

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

RS 32058: **Rep. Raymond**, District 31, presented **RS 32058** regarding livestock depredation claims. He explained this legislation corrects some legislation from last year by changing the word "validate" to "confirm". And it expands the existing ways for payment beyond "confirmed kill" and "probable kill" to include "possible kill". He does not expect claims to exceed existing available funds with this change.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Pickett** made a motion to introduce **RS 32058. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32022: **Rep. Shepherd**, District 7, presented **RS 32022** addressing recreation club liability. He assured the committee that this legislation does not waive an individual's liability if gross negligence occurs instead it aims to lighten some existing fear of law suites surrounding adult involvement and leadership in club recreational activities.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Pickett** made a motion to introduce **RS 32022. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #1
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Monday, February 03, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Agency Update Idaho Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR)	Mathew Weaver, IDWR Director
	Board Update Idaho Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR)	Jeff Raybould , IDWR Chairman
RS 32114	Grizzly bears, delisting	Rep. Raymond
RS 32146	Muzzleloader, sabots, rules	Rep. Mendive
RS 32078	Land bank fund proceeds	Rep. Rubel

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 03, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

Mathew Weaver, Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR) Director, provided an Agency update and stood for committee questions. During his presentation Director Weaver spoke about several topics including: state-wide adjudication, records management, the 2026 proposed budget, ground and surface water issues, and aquifer management activities.

Jeff Raybould, Water Resources Board Chairman, provided a Water Board update and stood for committee questions. During his presentation Chairman Raybould spoke about water project funding and provided details on several ongoing projects and active programs.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST: **Chairman Mendive** made a unanimous consent request to move **RS 32078** to the top of the agenda. There being no objection the request was granted.

RS 32078: **Rep. Rubel**, District 18, presented **RS 32078** which pertains to Land Bank Fund proceeds and simply expands existing time frames.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Shepherd** made a motion to introduce **RS 32078**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32114: **Rep. Raymond**, District 31, presented **RS 32114** which seeks to de-list Grizzly Bears from endangered species status and turn their management over to the State.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Shepherd** made a motion to introduced **RS 32114**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

RS 32146: **Chairman Mendive**, District 5, presented **RS 32146** which expands the use of muzzleloaders and sabots during hunting season.

MOTION: **Rep. Tanner** made a motion to introduce **RS 32146**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mendive**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Wednesday, February 05, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
37-0301-2401	Adjudication Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Bow, IDWR Comp. Bureau Chief
37-0302-2401	Beneficial Use Examination Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Comp. Bureau Chief
37-0303-2301	Rules and Minimum Standards for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Comp. Bureau Chief
37-0309-2401	Well Construction Standards Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Comp. Bureau Chief
37-0311-2401	Rules for Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Comp. Bureau Chief
RS 32209	Flood and control districts	Rep. Vander Woude
H 57	Nonmotorized recreation, passport	Rep. Petzke

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 05, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Mendive** made a unanimous consent request to move **H 57** to the top of the agenda. There being no objection, the agenda was reordered.

H 57: **Rep. Petzke**, District 21, presented **H 57**, which expands the current annual state park passport to include a non-motorized trail recreation passport. This proposed legislation would increase the annual state park passport fee from \$10 to \$20, and \$16 of that fee will be used as a steady stream of funding for the Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR), and \$4 to fund much needed non-motorized trail maintenance which currently depends solely on volunteers.

Tim Martin with Idaho Trails Association, **Dan Waugh** with Idaho Horse Council, **Matt Bishop** with Iron Mule Inc, **Rylee McGehee** with Miss Rodeo Idaho Inc., **Nick Fasciano** with Idaho Wildlife Federation, **Heather Eastman** with Idaho Business for the Outdoors, **Aaron Lieberman** with Idaho Outfitter and Guides Association, **Benn Brocksome** with Idaho Sportsman Access and Opportunity, and **David Clayborn** of the Idaho Recreation Council testified in support of **H 57**.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **H 57** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Petzke** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd** for the consideration of administrative rules.

**DOCKET NO.
37-0301-2401:** **Erik Boe**, Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) Water Compliance Bureau Chief, introduced the IDWR staff present to act as subject matter experts and he elaborated on the 2024-2025 rule making process IDWR engaged in.

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel back over to **Chairman Mendive**.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Mendive** made a unanimous consent request to move **RS 32209** to the top of the agenda. There being no objection, the agenda was reordered.

RS 32209: **Rep. Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **RS 32209**, which addresses flood control districts and updates the meeting locations, meeting frequency, notice of provisions, per diem, board compensation among other things allowing for modernization of the flood control district boards and meetings.

MOTION: Rep. Raybould made a motion to introduce **RS 32209. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd.**

DOCKET NO. 37-0301-2401: **Erik Boe**, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau Chief, presented the agency's proposed changes to **Docket No. 37-0301-2401** and stood for committee questions. He said the proposed changes are a Zero-Based Regulation chapter rewrite, involving a fee rule but no fee changes are involved. The Rule sets the minimum requirements for completing a notice of claim and establishes criteria for calculating filing fees, refunds, and the rejection of incomplete claims.

Craig Saxton, IDWR Water Allocation Chief, was invited to answer specific committee questions about identification of water bodies.

Erik Boe, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau Chief, continued explaining the details of the proposed changes.

Craig Saxton, IDWR Water Allocation Chief, was invited to answer specific committee questions regarding the duplication of wording already stated in statute.

Erik Boe, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau Chief, explained the details of the rule making process.

Craig Saxton, IDWR Water Allocation Chief, was invited to answer specific committee questions regarding stock water rights.

DOCKET NO. 37-0302-2401: **Erik Boe**, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau Chief presented **Docket No. 37-0302-2401** which is a Zero-Based Regulation chapter rewrite and is a fee rule however no fees are being changed.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to adjourn. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AMENDED AGENDA #2
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Friday, February 07, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
RS 32216	Water resource board, term limits	Rep. Horman
RS 32307	Deer and elk tags	Rep. Boyle
RS 32326	Eastern snake plain aquifer, goal	Rep. Boyle
RS 32336	Aquifer recharge	Rep. Boyle
RS 32266	Water districts, assessments	Rep. Mickelsen
RS 32330	Wildlife transplant, relocation	Rep. Pickett
RS 32270	Equal access to justice act	Rep. Sauter
RS 32237C1	Mule deer doe hunting moratorium	Rep. Tanner (14)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 07, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Vander Woude

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to introduce **RS 32216, RS 32307, RS 32336, RS 32266, RS 32330, RS 32270, and RS 32237C1. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32326: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **RS 32326** regarding the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.

Chairman Mendive put the committee at ease at 1:36pm.

Chairman Mendive reconvened the meeting at 1:38pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to reconsider the previous motion. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Chairman Mendive** made a motion to withdraw the previous motion to introduce **RS 32216, RS 32307, RS 32336, RS 32266, RS 32330, RS 32270, and RS 32237C1. Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 32336: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **RS 32336** regarding aquifer recharge.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to introduce **RS 32336** with the following changes: line 14, strike "on average annual basis" and add "for that irrigation season."
Motion carried by voice vote.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to introduce **RS 32216, RS 32307, RS 32326, RS 32266, RS 32330, RS 32270, and RS 32237C1. Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:51pm.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Tuesday, February 11, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 129	Land bank fund proceeds	Rep. Rubel
26-0137-2401	Rules Governing Test Procedures and Instruments for Noise Abatement of Off Highway Vehicles (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Seth Hobbs, IDP R Program Manager
	Dept. of Parks & Recreation Agency Update	Susan Buxton, IDPR Director
H 81	Recreation clubs, liability	Rep. Shepherd
H 82	Livestock depredation claims	Rep. Raymond
H 161	Flood control districts	Rep. Vander Woude

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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Phone: 332-1136
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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 11, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

H 129: **Rep. Rubel** explained **H 129** is a one word change from five years to ten years. This pertains to the Land Bank, when the state sells its Endowment Land, the proceeds go to the Land Bank allowing them five years to buy new Endowment Land. The land yields return to the state and allows recreation to the public. If land isn't purchased, the money goes back to the permanent Endowment Fund.

Rep. Vander Woude addressed the importance of extending this time frame so land can be purchased and money reinvested, not moving it to the permanent Endowment Fund.

Jonathan Oppenheimer, Idaho Conservation League; spoke **in support** of the bill explaining investment in lands helps to smooth out volatility in the market, promotes stable investment and solid returns, further noting in specific North Idaho counties having Endowment Lands provides a sustainable supply of timber to the mills and other revenues.

Committee members raised questions regarding the bill and the funds, and if they are strictly used for land purchase, rules regarding buyback or if the Land Board can place the funds in the permanent fund at any time, reinvestment requirements, rate of return on investment fund, a call to action or guidance for the Land Board.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **H 129** to the floor with **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Rubel and Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

DOCKET NO. 26-0137-2401: **Seth Hobbs**, Rules Review Officer, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation presented **Docket No. 26-0137-2401** Rules governing test procedures and instruments for noise abatement of off-highway vehicles. This pending rule will repeal the chapter and remove redundancy. The Society of Automotive Engineered Testing Standards being used are covered in Idaho Code 67-7125, and by removing this chapter, Idaho law enforcement agencies will have a single location for testing instructions, county law enforcement support this chapter repeal to simplify their code enforcement. Negotiated rule making was conducted and received no opposition from the rule making public hearings. Seth Hobbs confirmed the request is for the entire rule to be repealed.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 26-0137-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Susan Buxton, Director, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation presented an agency update for the Department to include general information about Idaho Parks & Recreation; visitation numbers, addressing decades of deferred maintenance, trail maintenance and cattle guard installation, and a new reservation and registration system. Other details covered activities with the most public appeal (campground, fishing docks, trails, archery ranges, OHV areas, hunting and shooting, skateparks, disc golf courses). She concluded by reviewing a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026, to include additional park personnel, media campaigns, land/facility development, equipment needs. The Department goal is to increase participation/revenue by 3% per year.

H 81:

Rep. Shepherd presented **H 81** regarding the potential for frivolous lawsuits against recreation clubs and understanding there is a certain risk associated with recreating. Legal support is available to answer and address any questions.

In answering a question, **David Claiborne**, attorney, Sawtooth Law Offices and representing Idaho Recreation Council, by request, provided clarification and stated a day care charging a fee and not participating in a recreational activity would not fall under this bill and typical rules of day care liability apply.

David Claiborne continued with testimony representing the Idaho Recreation Council and the Idaho State ATV Association, **in support of H 81**. Explaining the intent is to protect clubs, directors and volunteers from claims of liability for injuries to persons who might get hurt while engaged in a club activity. The clubs organize and conduct recreation activities, educate members on responsible recreation and where to recreate, build camaraderie among themselves and goodwill with land owners and managers, serving the public good and their formation and activities should be encouraged. This bill only applies to an official non-profit organization that coordinates recreational activities; formed with the Secretary of State and have a non-profit purpose. The definition is also careful to state there is no fee associated with the activity, other than the club membership dues.

As an organized recreation club, there is no liability to injuries to the participant/club member. Exceptions that would allow for a claim include equipment provided by the club and said equipment causing the injury, gross negligence and reckless conduct. Ordinary negligence would include a members direct responsibility for inattentive or careless actions. The club should have no duty to warn the member to make the activity safe, there is an element of self responsibility. This is to avoid club closures, or diverting significant funds to insurance due to threatened liability.

Questions from committee members included exclusions such as crimes against minors such as assault or abuse; using waivers as release of liability; limitation of duties and reasonable standard of care; exceptions relating to equipment failure and owner liability; protection parameters and who is included; exceptions for 501c3 non-profit versus for-profit club, charging fees for activities and limitations of duties.

David Claiborne addressed a final question and stated there is a two year statute which is not changing in this bill.

Kate Haas, representing self and founding member of a local running club spoke **in support of H 81**. The club is a non-profit, has purchased insurance and requests their members sign waivers. This will protect their club with new participants or someone checking out the club for the first time.

Barbara Jordan, Idaho Trial Lawyers, spoke **in opposition**, requesting the need to initiate negotiation with the sponsor for an amendment to page 2 line 38 thru 41 and removal of the last two sentences in the bill.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to send **H 81** to the floor with **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote Reps. Galaviz, Manwaring, Tanner, and Vander Woude** requested to be recorded as **NAY**] **Rep. Shepherd** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 82: **Rep. Raymond** presented **H 82** to provide clean up from last years **H 592**, changing the word validate to confirmed loss as result of investigation, probable loss and adding the third rung for payment of possible loss; and if there is money in the fund the loss would be paid for. The wolf and grizzly losses have been great in Eastern Idaho and other parts of the state, this addition will add more flexibility to the investigator and provide guidance to the State Department of Agriculture regarding compensation.

Committee members asked various questions regarding the definition of probable and possible; actual compensation claims that substantiate the definitions of confirmed, probable and possible; the investigative services branch and how it relates to the state records and statistics; U.S. Wildlife Services agreement to this new level and determination; predators in the area and return rate of animals; the number one category of cases paid out; and comment included the winter conditions and animal disturbance of the site allowing the investigator to use their discretion in claims categorization; and of the three tiers what is the top category of classification and compensation.

Dexton Lake, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, spoke **in support of H 82** stating wolves and grizzlies have been forced into the state causing a lot of havoc. Aspects of "possible" hover above 50% killed by a predator with no recourse. This provides a common sense way to extend the fund that already exists to pay claims.

Elory Tucker Williams, Legislative & Community Engagement Coordinator for Idaho Department Fish & Game, provided an overview **in support of H 82**, with discussion this conflict isn't new and dates back before statehood. One thing that is agreed upon, livestock owners and producers are disproportionately impacted by wolves and grizzly bears and should not bear the entirety of the cost. This further aligns terminology and allows compensation for depredations deemed possible and could help alleviate some of the current financial stress.

Nick Fasciano, Executive Director, Idaho Wildlife Federation, **supports H 82**, he said he had many discussions with people about the classifications and sometimes there may not be a lot of evidence to work with, this ensures recourse available to those affected.

Patxi Larrocea-Phillips, Idaho Cattle Association, **supports H 82**, if an animal has died for unknown reasons and is the bottom tier in a lot of cases, adding this third rung may allow them to receive compensation.

MOTION: **Rep. Sauter** made a motion to send **H 82** to the floor with **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Raymond** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 161: **Rep. Vander Woude** presented **H 161** regarding flood control districts and changes in statute, to office space. He said this legislation allows for meeting notices as needed and follows open meeting laws for public. It discusses board member compensation set by resolution, and takes out information regarding procurement to conform with current statutes.

Paul Arrington, Idaho Water Users Association, spoke **in support of H 82**.

Roger Batt, Batt & Associates, spoke regarding a vote of the commissioners board to set compensation and aligns with drainage districts compensation and current statute.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **H 161** to the floor with **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Michele Coburn
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Thursday, February 13, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
	Idaho Dept. of Lands Annual Update	Dustin Miller, IDL Director
20-0313-2401	Administration of Cottage Site Leases on State Lands (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Roger Hall, IDL Real Estate Bureau Chief
20-0314-2401	Rules Governing Grazing, Farming, and Conservation Leases (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Addie Faust, IDL Natural Resources Leasing Program Manager
20-0315-2401	Rules Governing Geothermal Leasing on Idaho State Lands (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Pending Rule	Roger Hall, IDL Real Estate Bureau Chief
20-0316-2401	Rules Governing Oil and Gas Leasing on Idaho State Lands (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Pending Rule	Roger Hall, IDL Real Estate Bureau Chief
20-0401-2301	Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Josh Harvey, IDL Fire Management Bureau Chief
20-0402-2301	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Josh Harvey, IDL Fire Management Bureau Chief
20-0702-2401	Rules Governing Conservation of Oil and Natural Gas in the State of Idaho (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	James Thum, IDL Oil and Gas Program Manager

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[***Register to Testify***](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 13, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church.

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representatives Raybould, Mickelsen, Tanner (14), Galaviz.

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

Chairman Mendive put the committee at ease at 1:31pm to recognize the page.

Chairman Mendive reconvened the meeting at 1:32pm.

Dustin Miller, Director, Idaho Department of Lands, and **Chris Anton**, Manager, Idaho Endowment Fund Investment Board, presented the Idaho Department of Lands annual update.

Committee inquired regarding projecting need for equipment and staffing, recognition of wildland firefighters as first responders, forest service land management, use of cameras to replace lookout towers, firefighter bonuses for recruitment and retention, loss from burning compared to cutting, policy impact and authority on permanent endowment fund, clarification of distribution practices, determination of inflation rate, repurchase time-lines, impact of changing markets, rates of return, nimbleness of agreement with Department of Parks and Recreation, and interactions with Idaho Geological Survey.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

DOCKET NO. 20-0313-2401: **Jason Laney**, Leasing Section Manager, Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0313-2401** regarding administration of cottage site leases on State lands.

Committee inquired regarding changes in annual rent and leases, and status of rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0313-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 20-0314-2401: **Addie Faust**, Natural Resources Leasing Program Manager, Idaho Department of Lands, and **Dustin Miller**, Director, Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0314-2401** regarding rules governing grazing, farming, and conservation leases.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau, testified **in opposition** to **Docket No. 20-0314-2401**. He explained section 050.02 specifically presents a problem because the length on a lease is very important and if a rancher is suddenly given 180 days notice to evacuate it really leaves them hanging and poses a big problem. Average leases range from 10-20 years and if after only two years the lease is pulled it is very difficult to find alternative grazing for a cattle operation. He suggested letting the term of the lease run and making land use changes at the end of the lease, saying it would serve the State better to stand by their commitments.

Committee inquired regarding clarification of opposition by example, ranges of lease time-lines, interaction with Bureau of Land Management leases in open grazing areas, impact on property rights, intent of agency regarding known conflict, basis for lease termination, constitutional mandate to maximize revenue, obligation of State to honor contracts, and legislative intent of rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0314-2401** with the exception of the amendments to section 050.02.

Lauren Smyser, Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Bureau Chief, Department of Financial Management, provided assistance with language for motion.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd put the committee at ease at 3:27pm.

Vice Chairman Shepherd reconvened the meeting at 3:29pm.

MOTION: **Rep. Miller** made a motion to reject **IDAPA 20.03.14.050.02**.

Rep. Pickett declared Rule 80 stating a possible conflict of interest.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Due to time constraints, **Docket No. 20-0315-2401**, **Docket No. 20-0316-2401**, **Docket No. 20-0401-2301**, **Docket No. 20-0402-2301**, and **Docket No. 20-0702-2401** will be carried over to the next meeting.

MOTION: **Chairman Mendive** made a motion to adjourn. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Monday, February 17, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 148	Private Counsel, Atty Gen, Fed Gov	Rep. Bruce
HJM 4	Grizzly Bears, Delisting	Rep. Raymond
HJM 6	Equal Access to Justice Act	Rep. Sauter
H 195	Wildlife Transplant, Relocation	Rep. Pickett

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[***Register to Testify***](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 17, 2025
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW40
MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Tanner (14)
GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

Chairman Mendive introduced the new page, **Hanna Van Orden**, and announced **H 195** will be removed from the agenda at the sponsor's request.

H 148: **Rep. Bruce** presented **H 148** and explained Idaho citizens involved in legal proceedings with the federal government regarding grazing and water rights, can request state assistance from the Constitutional Defense Fund. It specifies criteria and the procedure for constitutional defense counsel to consider such requests and provide details on types of assistance offered. Sets up the qualifications, whether it is important to society, benefits the sovereignty of the state, and if funds are available. The process hasn't been available previously and if the federal government is overreaching, and benefits the state, it is worth the argument rather than bankrupting the citizen. However, the government has discretion on whether or not they take on the case. Also noted is a thirty day time frame to petition the counsel. This addresses new cases moving forward, not to encompass past cases.

Committee members raised questions around the bill relative to payment of legal fees; if the usage of the fund is expanding and the expectation increasing in costs from the fund; the requirement to petition the counsel before, after, or in the middle of the lawsuit or what time frame they can petition for assistance; the legal costs involved based on prior court cases; holding taxpayers liable for large attorney costs where the state doesn't want to pay legal fees; if the case is agreed upon is it part of the Constitutional Defense Fund or the Attorney General's budget; current legislation not supporting statement of retroactive cases are not included; making the verbiage more clear to assure issues of past cases would be addressed; provisions for other types of lawsuits; existing similar statutes; and clarification of public versus private lands.

Jonathan Oppenheimer, Idaho Conservation League, spoke **in opposition** to **H 148**.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau, spoke **in support** of **H 148**, stating the policy provides opportunity for reimbursement and moving forward is common sense as to when the state gets involved.

Patxi Larrocea-Phillips, Idaho Cattle Association, for all benefits and interests, **supports H 148**, grazing and water rights are important for all citizens and constituents of the Cattle Association.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to send **H 148** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Bruce** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

HJM 4: **Rep. Raymond** presented **HJM 4**, requesting Congress delist grizzly bears and management returned to the states. This memorial requests Congress review the Endangered Species Act and Chevron Doctrine specifying courts need to go to scientific evidence. Grizzlies were delisted for a short time, courts reversed the decision before the state had a chance to implement the plan and he believes a good plan is currently in place.

Committee members brought up issues such as why the target keeps moving; introducing species and setting goals and if there is a specific plan in place. Other committee members commented in support of the memorial.

Steve Nadeau, representing Self/The Bitterroot Grizzly, LLC, discussed factors of listing or delisting; curtailment of habitat; inadequate regulatory mechanisms; habitat and range supporting bear movement and survival; and Fish and Wildlife giving the state a trial run.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau spoke in **support** of **HJM 4**, members in Eastern and North Idaho are living with the negative effects of increasing numbers of bears and fully support delisting.

MOTION: **Rep. Sauter** made a motion to send **HJM 4** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Raymond** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

HJM 6: **Rep. Sauter** presented **HJM 6**, it addresses the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), enacted by Congress in 1980, with a purpose to provide plaintiffs an opportunity to collect legal fees in certain departments of the federal government who have violated or misinterpreted certain laws or regulations of the United States. There is belief it was started to protect Vietnam Vets and their struggles with the government over veteran services or Social Security. Since the inception, resources and environmental issues are tied up in court because of the EAJA. This joint memorial calls for the U.S. House and Senate to reevaluate the effectiveness of the EAJA for environmental and natural resource matters, not for Social Security or Veteran Services. Further noting in Boundary County more than 2/3 of the terrain is Forest Service and there will be no timber sales for the next two years partially because of the court cases. EAJA is used to fight development, land use, and agriculture issues. The memorial is respectfully requesting federal intervention with legislation to amend EAJA, only involving environmental and natural resource issues.

Committee members offered all positive comments **in support** of **HJM 6**.

Russ Hendricks, Idaho Farm Bureau spoke **in support** of **HJM 6**, he said this issue has concerned members for a long time, and he appreciates the State support.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **HJM 6** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Sauter** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Michele Coburn
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Wednesday, February 19, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
H 226	MINES AND MINING – Amends and adds to existing law to provide for the adjustment of line license tax allocations, the expenditures of reclamation funds, voluntary contributions, the establishment of an advisory committee, the responsibilities of the department of lands, and the setting of reclamation priorities.	Rep. Manwaring

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[***Register to Testify***](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
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MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 19, 2025
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW40
MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church
ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative(s) Tanner(14)
GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.
Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
H 226: **Rep. Manwaring**, District 29, presented **H 226** which pertains to Idaho Mining tax allocations and he walked the committee through the details and stood for questions.
Benjamin Davenport, Executive Vice President of the Idaho Mining Association, explained what the abandoned mine fund is, why it was created, and how this legislation interacts with and supports that fund. He responded to committee inquiries about the advisory board representatives, and offered his testimony **in support of H 226**.
MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **H 226** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.
Benjamin Davenport responding to committee inquiries explained the function of the advisory board, what its representatives are compromised of, their authority and compensation, and fund's revenue source.
Rep. Manwaring responded to committee questions regarding the use of funds.
VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Manwaring** will sponsor the bill on the house floor.
ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Tuesday, February 25, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
37-0303-2301	Rules and Minimum Standards for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Water Comp. Bureau Chief, RRO
37-0309-2401	Well Construction Standards Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Water Comp. Bureau Chief, RRO
37-0302-2401	Beneficial Use Examination Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Phill Hummer, IDWR Water Rights Section Manager
37-0301-2401	Adjudication Rules (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Craig Saxton, IDWR Allocation Bureau Chief
37-0311-2401	Rules for Conjunctive Management of Surface and Ground Water Resources - Pending Rule	Erik Boe, IDWR Water Comp. Bureau Chief, RRO

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 25, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Pickett, Tanner(14), Petzke

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

DOCKET NO. 37-0303-2301: **Erik Boe**, Idaho Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR) Water Compliance Bureau Chief, presented **Docket No. 37-0303-2301** pertaining to the construction and use of injection wells. He imparted the details of the rule making process, explained the proposed rule changes and stood for several technical committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Andrus** made a motion to approve the changes to **Docket No. 37-0303-2301**.

Jason Van Glider, Director, City of Middleton Public Works, testified **in support** of **Docket No. 37-0303-2301**.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 37-0309-2401: **Erik Boe**, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau Chief, presented **Docket No. 37-0309-2401** pertaining to well construction standards. He imparted the details of the rule making process, explained the proposed rule changes and stood for several technical committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to approve the changes to **Docket No. 37-0309-2401**.

Roger Batt representing the Idaho Ground Water Association, testified **in support** of **Docket No. 37-0309-2401**.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 37-0302-2401: **Phill Hummer**, IDWR Water Rights Section Manager, presented **Docket No. 37-0302-2401** pertaining to examination rules. He provided the details of the rule making process, explained the proposed rule changes and stood for committee questions.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to approve the changes to **Docket No. 37-0302-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 37-0301-2401: **Craig Saxton**, IDWR Allocation Bureau Chief, presented **Docket No. 37-0301-2401** pertaining to adjudication rules. He provided the details of the rule making process, explained the proposed rule changes and stood for committee questions.

MOTION: Rep. Raybould made a motion to approve the changes to **Docket No. 37-0301-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 37-0311-2401: Erik Boe yielded the presentation of **Docket No. 37-0311-2401** to IDWR Director **Matthew Weaver**. The rules in this section pertain to the management of surface and ground water resources. He provided the details of the rule making process, explained the proposed rule changes and stood for committee questions.

MOTION: Rep. Raymond made a motion to approve the changes to **Docket No. 37-0311-2401. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mendive**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Representative Shepherd
Vice Chairman

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Thursday, February 27, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
SCR 110	Eastern Snake aquifer, plan, goals	Rep. Mickelsen
H 194	Water districts, assessments	Rep. Mickelsen
S 1003	Fish and game, permits, fines	Rep. Petzke
H 128	Muzzleloader, sabots, rules	Rep. Mendive

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 27, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Galaviz

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

SCR 110: **Rep. Mickelsen**, District 32, presented **SCR 110** regarding the Eastern Snake River aquifer recharge goals.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Shepherd** made a motion to send **SCR 110** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mickelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 194: **Rep. Mickelsen**, District 32, presented **H 194** pertaining to water district assessments. She explained this legislation addresses some problems that surfaced as a result of water districts consolidating.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **H 194** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mickelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1003: **Rep. Petzke**, District 21, presented **S 1003** pertaining to Dept. of Fish and Game (IDFG) permits and fines. He explained this legislation stipulates outstanding fines for violation of this title must be paid before new IDFG licenses can be issued.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1003** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Ellary Tucker-Williams representing Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game (IDFG) spoke **in support** of **S 1003** and yielded to **Greg Wooten**, IDFG Enforcement Bureau Chief to address specific committee inquiries. He explained how long individuals can currently go without paying fines and the details surrounding IDFG's collection process.

Colton Bennett representing himself spoke **in opposition** to **S 1003** saying it is a constitutional right to hunt and it can not be taken away because of fines.

Nick Fasciano representing the Idaho Wildlife Federation spoke **in support** of **S 1003** acknowledging it is a necessary enforcement mechanism.

In closing the presentation **Rep. Petzke** yielded to IDFG Enforcement Bureau Chief **Greg Wooten** to answer specific inquiry about the IDFG appeals process and any available payment plans. The committee was assured that IDFG does everything they can to work with individuals with outstanding fines.

**VOTE ON
MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Tanner (14)** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY.** **Rep. Petzke** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd**.

H 128: **Chairman Mendive**, District 5, presented **H 128** and stood for committee questions. He explained his motivation behind this bill, sabots are a useful tool for muzzleloader's which serves to enhance the hunter's accuracy and impact and thereby reduce shots that only wound or injure large animals but do not result in a successful harvest.

MOTION: **Rep. Tanner** made a motion to send **H 128** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Ellary Tucker-Williams, representing the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, spoke **in opposition** to **H 128** saying polls indicate a split of hunters preference on this matter and because sabots increase the chances of hunter success it runs against current regulations stipulating projectiles and make the most of hunter opportunity.

Greg Wooten, IDFG Enforcement Bureau Chief was invited to return to the podium to respond to committee inquiry, including questions surrounding primitive hunting. After answering several questions he ended by saying if sabots become law they really do not expect the harvest rate to change all that significantly.

Nick Fasciano, representing the Idaho Wildlife Federation spoke **in opposition** to **H 128** saying he would like to see these kind of hunting changes involve hunter input and participation instead of being legislated.

Ellary Tucker-Williams representing IDFG was invited back to the podium to address some specific committee questions.

Chairman Mendive closed the presentation and responded to additional committee questions.

Committee discussion considered the fact that last year's similar bill did not stimulate an IDFG rule-making process.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Chairman Mendive** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel over to **Chairman Mendive**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Monday, March 03, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>20-0315-2401</u>	Rules Governing Geothermal Leasing on Idaho State Lands (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Pending Rule	Mike Murphy, IDL Minerals Leasing Program Manager
<u>20-0316-2401</u>	Rules Governing Oil and Gas Leasing on Idaho State Lands (ZBR Chapter Rewrite, Fee Rule) - Pending Rule	Mike Murphy, IDL Minerals Leasing Program Manager
<u>20-0401-2301</u>	Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Josh Harvey, IDL Fire Management Bureau Chief
<u>20-0402-2301</u>	Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	Josh Harvey, IDL Fire Management Bureau Chief
<u>20-0702-2401</u>	Rules Governing Conservation of Oil and Natural Gas in the State of Idaho (ZBR Chapter Rewrite) - Pending Rule	James Thum, IDL Oil & Gas Program Manager

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 03, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Reps. Vander Woude, Tanner (14), Sauter

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Chairman Mendive turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Shepherd** for the consideration of administrative rules.

DOCKET NO. 20-0315-2401: **Mike Murphy**, Minerals Leasing Program Manager at the Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0315-2401**, a Zero-Based Regulation rewrite of a chapter regarding geothermal leasing on state lands.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Murphy** explained there are no significant changes in policy in this rule.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0315-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 20-0316-2401: **Mike Murphy**, Minerals Leasing Program Manager at the Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0316-2401**, a Zero-Based Regulation rewrite of rules covering oil and gas leasing on state lands.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Murphy** noted there are currently no oil wells currently in place on state lands, though a few natural gas wells exist on non-state lands. He noted a reference to "the director" on page 54 refers to the director of the Idaho Department of Lands, not the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0316-2401**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 20-0401-2301: **Josh Harvey**, Fire Management Bureau Chief at the Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0401-2301**, a Zero-Based Regulation rewrite of rules regarding forest fire protection. The chapter covers burn permitting, fire safety, and workplace safety regulations, and there are no substantive changes in the rewrite.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Harvey** explained regulations requiring loggers to carry 5 gallons of water on steep ground instead of small fire extinguishers is due to the need to spray water uphill in case of a machine malfunction in order to extinguish wayward sparks, creating the ability to muster a proactive safety response.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0401-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 20-0402-2301: **Josh Harvey**, Fire Management Bureau Chief at the Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0402-2301**, a Zero-Based Regulation rewrite of rules covering burning requirements and slash hazard reduction standards.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0402-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 20-0702-2401: **James Thum**, Oil and Gas Program Manager at the Idaho Department of Lands, presented **Docket No. 20-0702-2401**, a Zero-Based Regulation rewrite of regulations covering the procedures for regulating oil and gas exploration and development on public and private lands. The substantive changes include reducing the public comment period from 15 days to 10 days to conform with other sections of Idaho code; limiting the amount of time a well can remain in "active" status without production, and limiting the amount of time a well can remain "inactive" before it must be plugged and abandoned.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Thum** explained a change allowing access to be given by a landowner to an operator with less than the usual 30 day waiting period is intended to allow quick response in case of an emergency such as a seismic event.

MOTION: **Chairman Mendive** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 20-0702-2401**. **Motion carried by a vote of 11 AYE, 4 NAY, 3 Absent and excused.** **Voting in favor** of the motion: **Chairman Mendive, Reps. Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Dygert, Petzke, Galaviz, Church.** **Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Vice Chairman Shepherd, Reps. Boyle, Miller, Andrus.** **Absent and excused: Reps. Vander Woude, Tanner (14), Sauter.**

Vice Chairman Shepherd turned the gavel back over to **Chairman Mendive**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Representative Shepherd
Chair

Cameron Douglas
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M.
Room EW40
Wednesday, March 05, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<u>H 334</u>	STATE WATER PLAN – Adds to existing law to provide for the establishment of a Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer managed recharge goal in the state water plan.	Rep. Mickelsen
<u>S 1040</u>	WATER – Amends existing law to revise provisions regarding irrigation district contracts.	Rep. Mickelsen
<u>S 1041</u>	WATER – Amends existing law to revise provisions regarding distributing laterals, ditches, or other conduits.	Rep. Mickelsen
<u>S 1013</u>	FISH AND GAME – Amends existing law to provide for trapping education and licensing.	Rep. Boyle
<u>S 1012</u>	IDAHO DEPREDATING WILDLIFE APPEALS BOARD – Amends and adds to existing law to establish the Idaho Depredating Wildlife Appeals Board and to exempt the board from open meeting requirements.	Rep. Boyle

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive
Vice Chairman Shepherd
Rep Boyle
Rep Vander Woude
Rep Manwaring
Rep Raybould

Rep Mickelsen
Rep Nelsen
Rep Pickett
Rep Raymond
Rep Tanner (14)
Rep Miller

Rep Andrus
Rep Dygert
Rep Petzke
Rep Sauter
Rep Galaviz
Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 05, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church (Caldwell)

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Tanner (14)

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

MOTION: **Rep. Sauter** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23, January 27, February 11, and February 17. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 334: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **H 334**, which creates a managed recharge goal for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. She noted Mile Post 31 works as a dividing line between regions for aquifer recharge purposes because recharge rights come into place in different places in the water system. She also explained the testing requirements at injection wells during the recharge process.

Brian Murdock, a farmer from Blackfoot, and **Paul Arrington**, Executive Director at the Idaho Water Users Association, testified **in support of H 334.**

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **H 334** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mickelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1040: **Rep. Mickelsen** presented **S 1040**, which clarifies code to ensure irrigation districts can sign contracts to collaborate with private water users.

Rep. Mickelsen yielded to **Paul Arrington**, Executive Director of the Idaho Water Users Association, who explained there is current language in code to prevent members of irrigation district boards from receiving profits; the legislation is designed to ensure they do not profit off such agreements but to ensure they can continue to make those partnerships.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1040** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Mickelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1041: **Paul Arrington**, Executive Director of the Idaho Water Users Association, presented **S 1041**, which allows canal companies or similar entities to help resolve disputes between water users connected to private ditches or laterals.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Arrington** explained the request for mediation would not necessarily need to be more formal than a letter, and the process for mediation would be similar to what the Department of Water Resources is currently empowered to do. He noted the expertise held by the canal company staff would be helpful in resolving disagreements.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1041** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Nelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1013: **Rep. Boyle** presented **S 1013**, which allows outfitters to train people in trapping and sets out what people should learn in such training, including weapon safety, trespass laws, species identification, first aid, and wilderness survival. This exempts people guided by licensed outfitters from licensing requirements for trappers.

Ellary Tucker-Williams, Legislative and Community Engagement Coordinator at the Idaho Fish and Game Commission; **Dexton Lake**, of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation; **Nick Fasciano**, Executive Director of the Idaho Wildlife Federation; and **Justin Webb**, of the Foundation for Wildlife Management, testified **in support** of **S 1013**.

MOTION: **Rep. Raymond** made a motion to send **S 1013** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1012: **Rep. Boyle** presented **S 1012**, which creates a Depredation Appeals Board. This would allow ranchers to submit evidence from their initial discovery of an animal in the event a trapper could not reach the scene in time to conclusively discover what had killed their livestock. The members of the board would be the Director of the Department of Agriculture, Director of the Department of Fish and Game, and a large animal veterinarian nominated by the Governor.

In response to questions from the committee, **Rep. Boyle** noted once a kill is conclusively determined to be from a wolf or a grizzly bear, the rancher could then receive compensation, and this bill would allow ranchers an additional avenue to receive that compensation for their lost animal.

Dexton Lake, of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, testified **in support** of **S 1012**.

Megan Smith, Program Director at Living With Wolves, testified **in opposition** to **S 1012**.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1012** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 PM.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Cameron Douglas
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Tuesday, March 11, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1011	Winter feeding advisory committees	Rep. Wheeler
S 1061	Water rights, orders	Rep. Mickelsen
S 1082	Irrigation dist, assessment liens	Rep. Raymond
S 1083aa	Domestic water use	Rep. Pickett
S 1084	Water supply bank, forfeiture	Rep. Raybould

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[***Register to Testify***](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

VOTE ON MOTION: **Rep. Church** made a motion to approved the January 29, February 3, February 5, February 7, and March 3, 2025 meeting minutes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

S 1011: **Rep. Wheeler**, District 35, presented **S 1011** and stood for committee questions. He explained that this legislation strengthens the effectiveness of winter feeding advisory committees by ensuring that one member is an agricultural producer and all members are residents of the germane district.

MOTION: **Rep. Mickelsen** made a motion to send **S 1011** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Jamie Hass representing self, and **Dexton Lake** representing the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation yielded their testimony **in support** of the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Wheeler** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1061: **Rep. Mickelsen**, District 32, presented **S 1061** and stood for committee questions. She explained that this legislation clarifies the Idaho Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR) orders are issued timely, not when crops are in, and sets up dates and rules for methodology so farmers can plan. She explained the difference between the current process and the new plan set forth, and the importance of the December 1 methodology announcement.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1061** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Paul Arrington representing the Idaho Water Users Association yielded his testimony **in support** of the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Mickelsen** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1082: **Rep. Raymond**, District 31 presented **S 1082** and stood for committee questions. He explained this proposed legislation states liens for irrigation assessments have a first priority on the property assessed, and makes them second to tax liens.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **S 1082** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Paul Arrington representing the Idaho Water Users Association and **Jamie Hass** representing self yielded their testimony **in support** of the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Raymond will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1083aa:

Rep. Pickett, District 27, presented **S 1083aa** and stood for committee questions. He explained this legislation is the result of long standing efforts of concerned groups and it speaks to the cumulative impact of water use, including domestic water use, on Idaho's water resources. Over the past 20 years 56,000 domestic wells have been drilled resulting in significant main source penetration, potential contamination, and unregulated water diversion, mainly for domestic use. This legislation attempts to develop some oversight and planning structure connected to this continuing expansion by beginning to consider the factor of cumulative domestic use and working to improve overall efficiency.

MOTION:

Rep. Andrus made a motion to send **S 1083aa** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Paul Arrington representing the Idaho Water Users Association was invited to provide response to committee inquiry about well inspections and monitoring, and testified **in support** of the motion.

Brian Murdock representing Murdock Farms spoke **in opposition** of **S 1083aa** saying it does introduce water use regulations on domestic water use and expands existing limits beyond farmers, but it does not go far enough.

Seth Grigg representing the Idaho Association of Counties yielded his testimony **in support** of the motion.

Braden Jensen representing the Idaho Farm Bureau spoke **in support** of the motion.

Rep. Pickett summarized and closed the presentation.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Pickett will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1084:

Rep. Raybould, District 34, presented **S 1084** and stood for committee questions. She explained this legislation clarifies forfeiture under water bank rights.

MOTION:

Rep. Raymond made a motion to send **S 1084** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Paul Arrington representing Idaho Water Users Association and yielded his testimony **in support** of the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Raybould will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Monday, March 17, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1020	Fed power act, moneys	Rep. Shirts Kristina Fugate, Legal Council, Office of Energy & Mineral Resources
SJM 103	Stibnite mine	Rep. Shirts
SJM 101	Water storage	Rep. Furniss
H 389	Fires, federal land	Rep. Boyle
SJM 102	Mineral processing	Rep. Andrus

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 17, 2025

TIME: 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Mickelsen, Petzke, Galaviz

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Mendive** made a unanimous consent request to move **H 389** to the top of the agenda. There being no objection the request was granted.

H 389: **Rep. Boyle**, District 9, presented **H 389** and stood for committee questions. She explained this legislation declares range or forest fires a public nuisance allowing the Governor to declare an emergency, and deploy State resources to suppress and extinguish fires burning on State or Federal land when they begin.

Mark Mahon representing Tom Mahon Logging and the Associated Logging Contractors of Idaho spoke **in support** of **H 389** saying the US Forest Service has demonstrated a lack of incentive to suppress fires resulting in larger and more dangerous fires, and excessive property damage. He spoke about past regrets to employ loggers in early fire suppression when they are driven by the potential loss of their livelihood. After the Lava Ridge fire loggers have organized, equipped themselves, and obtained US Forest Service VIPER training for the purpose of being prepared to respond to future fires on State, Federal, or private land at the direction of Dept. of Lands (IDL). And they qualify for reimbursement.

Jonathan Oppenheimer representing Idaho Conservation League registered to testify **in opposition** to **H 389**.

Dar Moon representing himself, a geological and civil engineer, spoke **in support** of **H 389** saying he lives near Stanley and witnessed the Wipiti Fire. He believes the best way to prevent catastrophic fire damage is to put fires out early, get them when they are small. The State is doing a demonstratively better job of this than the US Forest Service. Fire damage is about more than the loss of trees, its about the destruction of life, property, livestock, wildlife and water sheds.

Dexton Lake representing the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation spoke **in support** of **H 389** saying the livestock and wildlife that are burned up in these enormous fires should be taken into consideration as a matter of animal welfare.

Patxi Larrocea-Phillips representing the Idaho Cattle Association (ICA) spoke **in support** of **H 389** saying it give the Dept. of Lands (IDL) more options in their efforts to prevent small fires from growing into large fires resulting in such massive damage and long term consequences for everyone effected.

MOTION: **Rep. Raybould** made a motion to send **H 389** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Rep. Boyle responded committee questions about how this will play out, if loggers would be paid to fight fires, how the State would recoup fire fighting costs on Federal lands, deficiency warrants, the AG's willingness to pursue reimbursements, and State liability.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Boyle will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1020:

Rep. Shirts, District 9, presented **S 1020** and stood for committee questions. He stated this is a piece of pro-mining legislation. It allows licensor money that is remitted back to the State to be used to support the permitting costs of other mining projects, thus growing the mining industry in Idaho.

MOTION:

Rep. Raybould made a motion to send **S 1020** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Will Hart representing Idaho Consumer Owned Utilities Association spoke in support of **S 1020**.

Chairman Mendive clarified when **Rep. Raybould** left the meeting, the motion on the bill died.

MOTION:

Rep. Andrus made a motion to send **S 1020** the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Shirts** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

SJM 103:

Rep. Shirts, District 9, presented **SJM 103** and stood for committee questions. He explained this legislation communicates Idaho's strong desire to go forward with the Stibnite Gold Project in Valley County, which is actually mining antimony, and seeks Federal support in the way of accommodating permitting processes.

MOTION:

Rep. Dygert made a motion to send **SJM 103** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

The committee voiced concern over some language in the memorial which seems to mistake promises for established facts affecting the overall accuracy of the legislation. For instance, instead of stating "significant efforts will be made to prevent injury" it reads "the project will not injure".

Rep. Shirts closed the presentation by assuring the committee that the mining site will be left in better shape than it is now, as the project includes a plan for proper wrap up and clean up.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Church requested to be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Shirts** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

SJM 101:

Rep. Furniss, District 31, presented **SJM 101** and stood for committee questions. He explained this legislation declares the priority and seeks the support of Federal Agencies in the development of additional water storage solutions for Idaho. Additionally, the bill includes ideas on how this could be accomplished, including the potential rebuilding of the Teton Dam among other things.

MOTION:

Rep. Shepherd made a motion to send **SJM 101** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Paul Arrington representing the Idaho Water Users Association yielded his testimony in support of the motion.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Furniss will sponsor the bill on the floor.

SJM 102: **Rep. Andrus**, District 35, presented **SJM 102** and stood for committee questions. He explained this legislation declares the importance of this kind of economic activity in Idaho and seeks federal support in streamlining the permitting process at the State and Federal level for mining industry projects within our State.

MOTION: **Rep. Shepherd** made a motion to send **SJM 102** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Andrus** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

MOTION: **Rep. Dygert** made a motion to approved the February 13, February 19, February 25, and March 11, 2025 meeting minutes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary

AGENDA
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
Room EW40
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

For members of the public to observe the meeting, please click on the following link:
<https://www.idahoptv.org/shows/idahoinsession/ew40/>

SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
S 1146	Oil and gas conservation commission	Rep. Boyle
SJM 104	Camas national wildlife refuge	Rep. Raymond

Public Testimony Will Be Taken by Registering Through the Following Link:
[Register to Testify](#)

If you have written testimony, please provide a copy to the committee secretary.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Mendive	Rep Mickelsen	Rep Andrus
Vice Chairman Shepherd	Rep Nelsen	Rep Dygert
Rep Boyle	Rep Pickett	Rep Petzke
Rep Vander Woude	Rep Raymond	Rep Sauter
Rep Manwaring	Rep Tanner (14)	Rep Galaviz
Rep Raybould	Rep Miller	Rep Church

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Andrea Blades
Room: EW62
Phone: 332-1136
Email: hres@house.idaho.gov

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Wednesday, March 19, 2025
- TIME:** 1:30 P.M. or Upon Adjournment
- PLACE:** Room EW40
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Manwaring, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner(14), Miller, Andrus, Dygert, Petzke, Sauter, Galaviz, Church
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Manwaring
- GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.
- Chairman Mendive** called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Church** made a motion to approved the March 5, 2025 meeting minutes.
Motion carried by voice vote.
- UNANIMOUS
CONSENT
REQUEST:** **Chairman Mendive** made a unanimous consent request to move **SJM 104** to the top of the agenda. There being no objection the consent was granted.
- SJM 104:** **Rep. Raymond** and **Sen. Burtenshaw** of District 31 presented **SJM 104** which requests the Federal government expedite the permitting process to clean Camas Creek, and requests ownership and administration of the Camas National Wildlife Refuge be transferred to the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game (IDFG).
- Sen. Burtenshaw** declared a possible conflict of interest.
- Sen. Burtenshaw** explained that the Camas Creek flows through the Camas National Wildlife Refuge and provides water for agriculture, wildlife, and recreation down stream in Mud Lake, Idaho and the surrounding area. He spoke about the lack of Federal management and maintenance at the Camas National Wildlife Refuge, the documented diminishing water flow in Camas Creek over the past several years, and the excessive costs the Mud Lake community has experienced.
- The committee made numerous inquiries about the intensions and motives behind the legislation, and the water rights involved, the filing of formal complaints, and any efforts of collaboration made thus far.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Nelson** made a motion to send **SJM 104** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.
- Rep. Raymond** continued responding to committee inquiries, concerns were raised that insufficient collaboration efforts were made and the legislation goes too far in asserting State land ownership is the solution when simple collaboration might resolve the problem.

Rob Mason representing The Wilderness Society, **Lucian Davis** representing self, **Jonathan Oppenheimer** representing the Idaho Conservation League, and **Gale Buhner-Poorman** representing herself spoke **in opposition to SJM 104**. Concerns voiced surrounded the transfer of land management from the Federal government to the Dept. of Fish and Game and encouraged collaboration to resolve the problem. Concerns over potential disconnections with ongoing and future mining projects in the area, and violations to existing Federal treaty agreements with Native American Tribes like the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes were raised.

Rep. Raymond closed the presentation and addressed some concerns. He perceives communication to be at the heart of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe opposition and he feels confident that the lines of communication will not be neglected. This is not an attempt to circumvent senior-junior water rights, even an individual with senior water rights is not entitled to stop the water from flowing on to junior water right users. The point of this legislation is simply to declare the importance of this problem in hopes it will be resolved and not because the State is seeking to take over the land.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Church and Rep. Galaviz requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**. **Rep. Raymond** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1146:

Rep. Boyle, District 9, presented **S 1146** saying the Oil & Gas Commission, which is comprised of five members with unique backgrounds and qualifications, is struggling to fill a seat which requires a degree in two specific fields. This legislation seeks to widen the number of fields eligible and qualified.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Shepherd made a motion to send **S 1146** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary