

IDAPA 13 – IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

13.01.09 – RULES GOVERNING THE TAKING OF GAME BIRDS IN THE STATE OF IDAHO

DOCKET NO. 13-0109-1701

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PROMULGATE RULES – NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING

AUTHORITY: In compliance with Sections 67-5220(1) and 67-5220(2), Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that this agency intends to promulgate rules and desires public comment prior to initiating formal rulemaking procedures. This negotiated rulemaking action is authorized pursuant to Section: 36-104(b)(5), Idaho Code.

MEETING SCHEDULE: A public meeting on the negotiated rulemaking will be held as follows:

**Tuesday, March 7th, 2017
6:00 p.m. (MST)**

**Best Western Inn
800 N. Overland Ave
Burley, ID 83318**

The meeting site will be accessible to persons with disabilities, if needed. Requests for accommodation must be made not later than five (5) days prior to the meeting to the agency address below.

METHOD OF PARTICIPATION: Persons wishing to participate in the negotiated rulemaking must do the following:

Respond to this notice by contacting the undersigned either in writing, by email, or by calling the phone number listed below. To be considered, responses must be received by March 22, 2017.

Should a reasonable number of persons respond to this notice, additional negotiated meetings will be scheduled and all scheduled meetings shall be posted and made accessible on the agency website at the address listed below.

Failure of interested persons to respond to this notice of intent or the lack of a sufficient number of responses to this notice of intent may result in the discontinuation of further informal proceedings. In either event the agency shall have sole discretion in determining the feasibility of scheduling and conducting informal negotiated rulemaking and may proceed directly to formal rulemaking if proceeding with negotiated rulemaking is deemed infeasible.

Upon conclusion of the negotiated rulemaking, any unresolved issues, all key issues considered, and conclusion reached during the negotiated rulemaking will be addressed in a written summary. The summary will be made available to interested persons who contact the agency or, if the agency chooses, the summary may be posted on the agency website.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The following is a statement in nontechnical language of the substance and purpose of the intended negotiated rulemaking and the principal issues involved:

Decades ago the Department closed several areas around the state to goose hunting. These areas were designed to give migrating goose populations a place to stop over and not be hunted (i.e., refuge), to meet a management objective to keep migrating geese around longer for hunting. Goose populations at the time were much lower than current populations.

The Department proposes to eliminate the goose hunting closure in the area upstream of Milner Dam. The area currently closed to goose hunting in the area up stream of Milner Dam is open for duck hunting and has been for decades.

The number of migrating geese throughout the Snake River Valley has increased substantially over the past several decades; therefore, a goose closure is no longer warranted. Removing this closure may provide additional goose hunting opportunities.

The purpose of the proposed rule is to increase goose hunting opportunities in the area upstream of Milner Dam.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS, OBTAINING DRAFT COPIES: For assistance on technical questions concerning this negotiated rulemaking or to obtain a preliminary draft copy of the rule text (if available), contact Jeff Knetter (208) 334-2920. Materials pertaining to the negotiated rulemaking, including any available preliminary rule drafts, can be found on the Idaho Department of Fish and Game web site at the following web address: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/>.

Anyone may submit written comments regarding this negotiated rulemaking. All written comments must be directed to the undersigned and must be delivered on or before March 22, 2017.

DATED this 30th day of January, 2017.

Jeff Knetter
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