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**IDAPA 13
TITLE 01
CHAPTER 17**

**13.01.17 – RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF BAIT AND TRAPPING
FOR TAKING BIG GAME ANIMALS**

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission is authorized under Sections 36-104(b) and 36-1101(a), Idaho Code, to adopt rules concerning the use of bait and trapping for taking big game animals. (4-4-13)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. Title. These rules shall be cited in full as IDAPA 13.01.17.000, et seq., Idaho Fish and Game Commission Rules IDAPA 13.01.17, “Rules Governing the Use of Bait and Trapping for Taking Big Game Animals.” (4-4-13)

02. Scope. These rules establish the methods for using bait for taking and trapping big game animals in the state of Idaho. (4-4-13)

002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.

In accordance with Section 67-5201(19)(b)(iv), Idaho Code, this agency has written statements which pertain to the interpretation of the rules of this chapter, or to the documentation of compliance with the rules of this chapter. These documents are available for public inspection and copying at cost at the headquarters office at 600 South Walnut, Boise, Idaho. (3-30-01)

003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.

All contested cases shall be governed by the provisions of IDAPA 13.01.01, “Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission.” (3-30-01)

004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

There are no documents that have been incorporated by reference into this rule. (3-30-01)

005. OFFICE -- OFFICE HOURS -- MAILING ADDRESS AND STREET ADDRESS.

The principal place of business of the Department of Fish and Game is in Boise, Idaho. The office is located at 600 South Walnut, Boise, Idaho and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays. The mailing address is: P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707. (3-30-01)

006. -- 099. (RESERVED)

100. USE OF BAIT FOR HUNTING.

Bait for hunting is defined as any substance placed to attract big game animals, except synthetic liquid scent for deer and elk. Bait may be used to hunt ONLY black bear and ONLY under the following conditions, EXCEPT gray wolf may be taken incidentally to bear baiting. (4-11-19)

01. Time. (7-1-93)

a. No bait or bait container may be placed for the purpose of attracting or taking black bear prior to the opening of black bear take season EXCEPT bait may be placed one (1) week prior to the opening of bear season in Units 10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26 and 27. (4-4-13)

b. All bait, bait containers and materials must be removed and all excavations refilled no later than seven (7) days after the close of each season (spring, fall, or black bear dog training); EXCEPT bait, bait containers, and materials may remain in Units 10 and 12 between the dog training season and the fall hunt. (4-4-13)

02. Location. (7-1-93)

a. No bait site may be located within two hundred (200) feet of any water (lake, pond, reservoir, year

round free flowing spring and year round free flowing stream). (3-29-17)

b. In all regions except the Panhandle and Clearwater Regions, no bait site may be located within two hundred (200) yards from any maintained trail or any established roadway that is open to the general public for motorized traffic and capable of being traveled by full-sized automobiles; in the Panhandle and Clearwater Regions, no bait site may be located within two hundred (200) feet from any maintained trail or any established roadway that is open to the general public for motorized traffic and capable of being traveled by full-sized automobiles. (3-29-17)

c. No bait site may be located within one-half (1/2) mile of any designated campground or picnic area, administrative site, or dwelling. (7-1-93)

03. Types. (7-1-93)

a. No person shall use any part of a domestic or wild origin game bird, big game animal, upland game animal, game fish, or protected nongame wildlife for bait or scent. (4-7-11)

b. The skin must be removed from any mammal parts or carcasses used as bait. (7-1-93)

c. No person shall use salt in any form (liquid or solid) for bait. (3-29-10)

04. Containers. (7-1-93)

a. No bait may be contained within paper, plastic, glass, metal, wood or other nonbiodegradable materials, except that a single, metal container with a maximum size of fifty-five (55) gallons may be used if securely attached at the bait site. (7-1-93)

b. No bait may be contained in any excavated hole greater than four (4) feet in diameter. (7-1-93)

05. Establishment of Bait Sites. (7-1-93)

a. Any structures constructed at bait sites using nails, spikes, ropes, screws, or other materials must be removed by the permit holder within seven (7) days after the close of each season; spring, fall, or black bear dog training. (3-29-10)

b. All bait sites must be visibly marked at the nearest tree or on the bait container using a tag supplied by the Department. (7-1-93)

101. -- 199. (RESERVED)

200. BAITING PERMIT.

01. Baiting Permit. (7-1-93)

a. Baiting permits are issued by mail or in person from Idaho Department of Fish and Game regional and subregional office beginning March 1 of each year. (7-1-93)

b. Baiting permits will be valid for the calendar year in which they are issued. (7-1-93)

02. Use of Baiting Permit. (7-1-93)

a. All persons placing bait must possess a baiting permit issued by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. (3-15-02)

b. Each hunter may possess only one (1) Idaho Department of Fish and Game baiting permit each year and may maintain up to three (3) bait sites, except the number of bait sites maintained by outfitters will be specified by the land management agency in the outfitter's operating plan. (7-1-93)

- c. No person may hunt over an unlawful bait site. (7-1-93)
- d. Guides and clients of outfitters are not required to obtain a baiting permit, but they must have a copy of the outfitter's permit in their possession while hunting over a bait site. (7-1-93)
- 201. -- 399. (RESERVED)**
- 400. TRAPPING BIG GAME ANIMALS.**
Trapping may be used to take ONLY gray wolf and ONLY under the following conditions. (4-4-13)
- 01. Defined Terms.** (4-4-13)
- a. 'Bait' for trapping purposes is defined as any animal parts; except bleached bones or liquid scent. (4-4-13)
- b. 'Ground set' is defined as any foothold trap, body-gripping trap, or snare originally set in or on the land (soil, rock, etc.). This includes any traps elevated up to a maximum of thirty-six (36) inches above the natural ground level. (4-4-13)
- c. For trapping purposes, a 'public trail' is defined as any trail designated by any city, county, state, or federal transportation or land management agency on the most current official map of the agency. (4-4-13)
- 02. Methods of Take When Trapping.** No person trapping gray wolf shall: (4-4-13)
- a. Use any set, EXCEPT a ground set. (4-4-13)
- b. Use for bait or scent, any part of a domestic or wild origin game bird, big game animal, upland game animal, game fish, or protected nongame wildlife; EXCEPT: (4-4-13)
- i. Gray wolves may be trapped near a big game animal that has died naturally and the carcass has not been repositioned for trapping purposes. Natural causes shall not include any man-caused mortality. (4-4-13)
- ii. Gray wolves may be trapped using a carcass of a legally taken gray wolf with the hide removed. (4-4-13)
- iii. Gray wolves may be trapped using the parts of accidentally killed wildlife salvaged in accordance with IDAPA 13.01.10, "Rules Governing the Importation, Possession, Release, Sale or Salvage of Wildlife," Subsections 300.02.c. and 300.02.d. in Game Management Units as identified by the Commission's Big Game Season Proclamation. The Proclamation is published in a brochure available at department offices and license vendors. (4-4-13)
- c. Use any set within thirty (30) feet of any visible bait; including bait allowed in Subsection 400.02.b.i., 400.02.b.ii., and 400.02.b.iii. (4-4-13)
- d. Use a dirt hole ground set with bait unless the person ensures that the bait remains covered at all times to protect raptors and other meat-eating birds from being caught accidentally. (4-4-13)
- e. Use live animals as a bait or attractant. (4-4-13)
- f. Place any ground set on, across, or within ten (10) feet of the edge of any maintained unpaved public trail. (4-11-19)
- g. Place any ground set on, across, or within any public highway as defined in Section 36-202, Idaho Code; EXCEPT ground sets may be placed underneath bridges and within and at culverts that are part of a public highway right-of-way. (4-4-13)
- h. Place any ground set incorporating snare, trap, or attached materials within three hundred (300) feet

of any designated public campground, trailhead, paved trail, or picnic area. Cage or box live traps are permitted within three hundred (300) feet of designated public campgrounds, trailheads, paved trails, or picnic areas as allowed by city, county, state, and federal law. (4-11-19)

i. Place or set any ground set snare without a diverter; or without a break-away device or cable stop incorporated within the loop of the snare. (4-4-13)

j. Place any ground set incorporating a foothold trap with an inside jaw spread greater than nine (9) inches. (4-4-13)

k. Trap any gray wolf within one-half (1/2) mile of any active Department of Fish and Game big game feeding site. (4-4-13)

l. Trap gray wolf within two hundred (200) yards of the perimeter of any designated dump ground or sanitary landfill. (4-4-13)

03. Trapping Hours. Trapped gray wolves may be dispatched any time of day or night. (4-4-13)

04. Wounding and Retrieving. No person shall wound or kill any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it and reduce it to possession. (4-4-13)

05. Unlawful Methods of Take. No person shall take big game animals as outlined in IDAPA 13.01.08, "Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals in the State of Idaho" Section 410; EXCEPT trapped gray wolves may be dispatched with any rimfire rifle, rimfire handgun or any muzzleloading handgun. (4-4-13)

401. -- 449. (RESERVED)

450. TRAPS.

01. Checking Traps. (4-4-13)

a. No person shall place snares or traps for gray wolves, without visiting every trap or snare once every seventy-two (72) hours and removing any catch therein. (4-4-13)

b. Trappers acting under authority of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services are exempt from this rule. (4-4-13)

02. Removing Trapped Animals of Another. No person shall remove a gray wolf from the trap or snare of another person. (4-4-13)

03. Release of Non-Target Catches. (4-4-13)

a. All non-target species caught alive shall be released immediately. Non-target species are defined as any species caught for which the season is closed. (4-4-13)

b. Any trapper who catches a non-target species that is dead shall: (4-4-13)

i. Prior to removing the animal, record the date and species of animal caught. This information must be included in the mandatory furtaker harvest report. (4-4-13)

ii. Remove the animal from the trap and take it into possession. (4-4-13)

iii. Notify the Department of Fish and Game through the local Conservation Officer, Sub-Regional or Regional office within seventy-two (72) hours to make arrangements to transfer the animal to the Department. (4-4-13)

iv. The Department will reimburse trappers ten dollars (\$10) for each bobcat, wolverine, otter, or

fisher caught accidentally and turned in. (4-4-13)

04. Identification Tags for Traps. All traps or snares shall have attached to the snare or the chain of every trap, a metal tag bearing: (4-4-13)

a. Name and Address. In legible English, the name and current address of the trapper; or (4-4-13)

b. Number. A six (6) digit number assigned by the Department. (4-4-13)

i. Any person wishing to mark his traps and/or snares with a six (6) digit number must make application to the Department at a Regional office, the McCall office, or the Headquarters office. (4-4-13)

ii. Any person who has been assigned a six (6) digit number to mark his traps and/or snares must notify the Department in writing at a Sub-Regional office, Regional office, or the Headquarters office within thirty (30) days of any change of address. (4-4-13)

451. -- 459. (RESERVED)

460. MANDATORY CHECK AND REPORT REQUIREMENTS.

01. Wolf Telephone Report. Any trapper taking a gray wolf must report the harvest within seventy-two (72) hours by calling the Wolf Reporting Number, a toll-free telephone number published in the Big Game Season Proclamation. The Proclamation is published in a brochure available at Department offices and license vendors. (4-4-13)

02. Harvest Report and Presentation of Animal Parts. In addition to other reporting requirements, any trapper taking a gray wolf must, WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF DATE OF KILL, comply with the mandatory check and report requirements by: (4-4-13)

a. Completing the relevant harvest report (big game mortality report or other report form as required) for the species taken. (4-4-13)

b. Present the following animal parts so that Department personnel may collect biological data and mark the animal parts: (4-4-13)

i. Gray Wolf: Skull and hide to be presented to a Conservation Officer or Regional Office for removal and retention of a premolar tooth, and to have the hide marked. No person who does not possess a fur buyer or taxidermist license and/or appropriate import documentation shall have in possession, except during the open season and for ten (10) days after the close of the season, any raw gray wolf pelt that does not have an official state export tag attached (either Idaho's or another state's official export documentation). (4-4-13)

03. Trapping Report Completion. All trappers shall fill out the mandatory furtaking harvest report provided by the Department. Trappers shall return the completed mandatory report to the Department of Fish and Game, Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707, by July 31. Any trapper failing to make such a report by July 31 shall be refused a license to trap animals for the following year. (4-4-13)

461. MANDATORY WOLF TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASS.

Individuals interested in trapping wolves must purchase a trapping license and successfully complete a wolf trapping education class held by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game prior to trapping for wolves. A certificate of completion and trapping license will be required to purchase tags for wolf trapping. Trappers who complete the class will not be required to take the class again in the future. (4-4-13)

462. -- 499. (RESERVED)

500. IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS THAT LEGALLY MAY BE TAKEN; TAG VALIDATION AND ATTACHMENT AND PROXY STATEMENT; IDENTIFICATION OF SEX, SIZE, AND/OR SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.

Gray wolves may only be trapped and taken, and legally possessed in accordance with all rules outlined in Sections 300, 320, and 350 in IDAPA 13.01.08, “Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals in the State of Idaho.”
(4-4-13)

501. -- 504. (RESERVED)

505. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING, AND TRAPPING ON GAME PRESERVES AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS.

Gray wolves may only be trapped and taken, and legally possessed in accordance with all rules outlined in IDAPA 13.01.08, “Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals in the State of Idaho,” Section 500, and in accordance with all rules outlined in IDAPA 13.01.16, “The Trapping of Predatory and Unprotected Wildlife and the Taking of Furbearing Animals,” Sections 600 and 650.
(4-4-13)

506. -- 999. (RESERVED)

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