

## IDAPA 13 – IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

### Wildlife Bureau

#### 13.01.17 – Rules Governing the Use of Bait and Trapping for Taking Big Game Animals

##### **Who does these rules apply to?**

*These rules apply to individuals who use bait for hunting black bear or traps for taking gray wolf.*

##### **What is the purpose of these rules?**

*These rules govern the use of bait and trapping for taking big game animals. These rules govern permit requirements, establishment of bait sites and container types and bait types for using bait to attract black bear. These rules also govern the use of traps (ground set snares and foothold traps), trapping hours, mandatory check and reporting requirements for trapping gray wolf. These rules regulate the take of wildlife so that Idaho continues to have wildlife populations to support public use and enjoyment in the future. These rules also promote public safety and manage social aspects to provide a range of opportunities and balance different public interests and preferences.*

##### **What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?**

*This rule implements the following statutes passed by the Idaho Legislature:*

Fish and Game -

Fish and Game Commission:

- [Section 36-104, Idaho Code](#) – General Powers And Duties Of Commission
- [Section 36-409, Idaho Code](#) – Game Tags – Permits – Fees – Penalty

Protection of Animals and Birds:

- [Section 36-1101, Idaho Code](#) – Taking of Wildlife Unlawful Except by Statute or Commission Rule or Proclamation – Methods Prohibited – Exceptions
- [Section 36-1105, Idaho Code](#) – Report of Trappers – Penalty for Failure to Report

##### **Who do I contact for more information on this rule?**

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

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

Sections 36-104, 409, and 36-1101, Idaho Code, authorize the Commission to adopt rules concerning the use of bait and trapping for taking big game animals. (3-20-20)

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

The title of this chapter for citation is IDAPA 13.01.17, “Rules Governing the Use of Bait and Trapping for Taking Big Game Animals.” These rules govern the use of bait and trapping for taking big game animals. (3-20-20)

**002. – 009. (RESERVED)**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Bait (Hunting).** Bait for hunting purposes is any substance placed to attract big game animals, except synthetic liquid scent for deer and elk. (3-20-20)

**02. Bait (Trapping).** Bait for trapping purposes is defined as any animal parts; except bleached bones or liquid scent. (3-20-20)

**03. Established Roadway.** A roadway open to the general public for motorized traffic and capable of being traveled by full-sized automobiles. (3-20-20)

**04. Ground Set.** Any foothold trap, body-gripping trap, or snare originally set in or on the land (soil, rock, etc.), which includes any traps elevated up to a maximum of thirty-six (36) inches above the natural ground level. (3-20-20)

**05. Public Trail (Trapping).** Any trail designated by any city, county, state, or federal transportation or land management agency on the most current official map of the agency. (3-20-20)

**011. -- 099. (RESERVED)**

**100. USE OF BAIT FOR HUNTING BIG GAME.**

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. (3-20-20)

**01. Time.** (3-20-20)

**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. (3-20-20)

**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 season. (3-20-20)

**02. Location.** (3-20-20)

**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). (3-20-20)

**b.** No bait site may be located within two hundred (200) yards from any maintained trail or any established roadway; except 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. (3-20-20)

**c.** No bait site may be located within one-half (1/2) mile of any designated campground or picnic area, administrative site, or dwelling. (3-20-20)

**03. Types.** (3-20-20)

**a.** No person may 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. (3-20-20)

- b. The skin must be removed from any mammal parts or carcasses used as bait. (3-20-20)
- c. No person may use salt in any form (liquid or solid) for bait. (3-20-20)
- 04. Containers.** (3-20-20)
  - a. No bait may be contained within paper, plastic, glass, metal, wood or other non-biodegradable 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. (3-20-20)
  - b. No bait may be contained in any excavated hole greater than four (4) feet in diameter. (3-20-20)
- 05. Establishment of Bait Sites.** (3-20-20)
  - 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). (3-20-20)
  - b. All bait sites must be visibly marked at the nearest tree or on the bait container using a tag supplied by the Department. (3-20-20)
- 101. -- 199. (RESERVED)**
- 200. BAITING PERMIT.**
  - 01. Baiting Permit.** (3-20-20)
    - a. Baiting permits are issued by mail or in person from Department offices beginning March 1 of each year. (3-20-20)
    - b. Baiting permits are valid for the calendar year in which they are issued. (3-20-20)
  - 02. Use of Baiting Permit.** (3-20-20)
    - a. All persons placing bait must possess a baiting permit issued by the Department. (3-20-20)
    - b. Each hunter may possess only one (1) baiting permit each year and may maintain up to three (3) bait sites, except the number of bait sites maintained by outfitters will be that specified by the land management agency in the outfitter's operating plan. (3-20-20)
    - c. No person may hunt over an unlawful bait site. (3-20-20)
    - d. Guides and clients of outfitters are exempt from possessing a baiting permit, provided they have a copy of the outfitter's permit in their possession while placing bait or hunting over the outfitter's permitted bait site. (3-20-20)
- 201. -- 399. (RESERVED)**
- 400. TRAPPING BIG GAME ANIMALS.**

Trapping may be used to take ONLY gray wolf and ONLY under the following conditions. (3-20-20)

  - 01. Methods of Take When Trapping.** No person trapping gray wolf may: (3-20-20)
    - a. Use any set, EXCEPT a ground set. (3-20-20)
    - 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: (3-20-20)

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 do not include any man-caused mortality. (3-20-20)

ii. Gray wolves may be trapped using a carcass of a legally taken gray wolf with the hide removed. (3-20-20)

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, adopted and published in accordance with Section 36-105(3), Idaho Code. (3-20-20)

c. Use any set within thirty (30) feet of any visible bait; including bait allowed in Subsection 400.01.b. (3-20-20)

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. (3-20-20)

e. Use live animals as a bait or attractant. (3-20-20)

f. Place any ground set on, across, or within ten (10) feet of the edge of any maintained unpaved public trail. (3-20-20)

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. (3-20-20)

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, except cage or box live traps may be placed within these areas as allowed by city, county, state, and federal law. (3-20-20)

i. Place or set any ground set snare without a break-away device or cable stop incorporated within the loop of the snare. (3-20-20)

j. Place any ground set incorporating a foothold trap with an inside jaw spread greater than nine (9) inches. (3-20-20)

k. Trap for any gray wolf within one-half (1/2) mile of any active Department big game feeding site. (3-20-20)

l. Trap for gray wolf within two hundred (200) yards of the perimeter of any designated dump ground or sanitary landfill. (3-20-20)

m. Place or set any ground set snare without two (2) diverters in an area identified by Commission Proclamation as requiring their use (based on levels of non-target catch of animals whose capture may be avoided by diverter use). (3-20-20)

**02. Exceptions for Dispatch.** A trapped gray wolf may be dispatched any time of day or night, and a trapped gray wolf may be dispatched with any rimfire rifle, rimfire handgun or any muzzleloading handgun in exception to IDAPA 13.01.08, "Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals," Sections 400 and 410. (3-20-20)

**401. -- 449. (RESERVED)**

**450. TRAPS.**

The requirements for identification of traps, checking traps, removing trapped animals of another, and release of non-

target catches, set forth in Sections 100 and 200 of IDAPA 13.01.16, “Trapping of Predatory and Unprotected Wildlife and Taking of Furbearing Animals,” apply to trapping gray wolf. Only a licensed trapper with wolf trapper certification and written permission of the trap owner may remove a wolf from another’s trap or snare. (3-20-20)

**451. -- 459. (RESERVED)**

**460. MANDATORY CHECK AND REPORT.**

**01. Harvest Report and Presentation of Animal Parts.** Mandatory check and report requirements as provided by IDAPA 13.01.08.420, “Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals,” apply to any trapper taking gray wolf. (3-20-20)

**02. Trapping Report Completion.** By July 31, all trappers must fill out the mandatory fur-taking harvest report, including both target and non-target catch, for the trapping license year by submission via the Department website, at a Department office in person, or by mail to the Department at Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707. Any trapper failing to make such a report by July 31 will be refused a license to trap animals for the following year until a late report is submitted. (3-20-20)

**461. MANDATORY WOLF TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASS.**

Successful completion of a wolf trapping education class held by the Department is a prerequisite to wolf trapping. A certificate of class completion and trapping license are necessary to purchase tags for wolf trapping. (3-20-20)

**462. -- 499. (RESERVED)**

**500. TAG VALIDATION AND ATTACHMENT AND PROXY STATEMENT; IDENTIFICATION OF SEX, SIZE, SPECIES IN POSSESSION AND DURING TRANSPORTATION OR SHIPMENT.**

Gray wolf may only be taken and possessed in accordance with Sections 300, 320, and 350, IDAPA 13.01.08, “Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals in the State of Idaho.” (3-20-20)

**501. -- 504. (RESERVED)**

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

Gray wolf may only be taken and possessed in accordance with Section 500, IDAPA 13.01.08, “Rules Governing the Taking of Big Game Animals in the State of Idaho.” No person may trap for gray wolf in areas closed to trapping under Sections 600 and 650, IDAPA 13.01.16, “The Trapping of Predatory and Unprotected Wildlife and the Taking of Furbearing Animals.” (3-20-20)

**506. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

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