

MINUTES
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, February 05, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW40

MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Shepherd, Representatives Boyle, Vander Woude, Blanksma, Manwaring, Yamamoto, Raybould, Durrant, Hill (Brown), Mickelsen, Nelsen, Pickett, Raymond, Tanner, Burns, Necochea, Galaviz

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

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.

Rep. Galaviz made a request for a privilege to introduce American Falls FSA, a student group from American Falls observing today.

RS 30907C1: **Rep. Kingsley**, District 7, presented **RS 30907C1**. He explained in 2015 Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game (IDFG) changed their seasons setting cycle from yearly to every two years and this proposed legislation would return it to the original annual setting. It would strictly apply to deer, elk, moose, and mule deer.

MOTION: Rep. Kinsley, responding to a committee question, explained the changes IDFG made in 2015 were not made through legislative action. **Rep. Mickelson** made a motion to introduce **RS 30907C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 31119: **Rep. Raymond**, District 31, presented **RS 31119** which creates an Idaho fund to pay out on livestock depredation claims when losses involve grizzly bear and or wolf attacks. The fund has two parts, \$150,000 is dedicated to depredations and \$75,000 is dedicated to conflict prevention and education. The intent of the legislation is simply to pay claims to those who experience livestock losses due to grizzly and wolf attacks.

MOTION: **Rep. Galaviz** made a motion to introduce **RS 31119**.

Rep. Raymond responded to some committee questions about prevention, education, and federal money dedicated to livestock losses.

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

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

Susan Buxton, Director of Idaho. Dept. of Parks & Recreation (IDPR) provided an agency 2025 performance report. She spoke about the agency's mission to improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship and how IDPR operates 30 state parks, and maintains 2,500 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails. IDPR hosts the 7.1 million annual park visitors with 138 full time employees. IDPR is a dedicated fund agency acquiring 95% of its funding from visitor/user fees, recreational vehicle registrations, and federal grants. She described several projects connected to a deferred maintenance list that spans decades, plus some newly completed upgrades and expansion projects, and explained the funding connected to these expenditures. In addition to full time employees seasonal employees provide 13,000 hours of work at 23 different

state parks. Visitors are camping year around in many areas. There has been a significant increase in the use of off-highway vehicle (OHV) by visitors at parks, especially RV's, and this year's IDPR budget request includes an enhancement for off-highway vehicle (OHV) enforcement and education which has become necessary due to public complaints. She covered the agency's performance measures and answered several committee questions, mostly pertaining to deferred maintenance planning and funding.

- DOCKET NO. 26-0110-2301:** **Susan Buxton**, IDPR Director presented **Docket No. 26-0110-2301**. She began by explaining that this rule has not been changed for 30 years and it increases specific temporary use permit and processing fees from \$100 to \$300, and specific assignment fees are increasing from \$25 to \$50. These fee increases will simply cover agency costs.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Mickelson** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 26-0110-2301**.
Director Buxton responded to committee questions pertaining to the fee increases and inflation.
- SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Rep. Vander Woude** made a substitute motion to **hold Docket No. 26-0110-2301**. He explained the Senate had concerns with **Docket No. 26-0110-2301** and even though they passed it, some time to confer and review seemed necessary to determine how to proceed.
- ROLL CALL VOTE:** The Chairman was in doubt of the voice vote. Roll call vote requested. **Substitute motion failed by a vote of 6 AYES, 9 NAYS, 3 Absent/Excused. Voting in favor** of the motion: **Rep. Shepherd, Boyle, Vander Woude, Durrant, Tanner, Mendive. Voting in opposition** to the motion: **Rep. Yamamoto, Raybould, Mickelsen, Nelson, Pickett, Raymond, Burns, Necochea, Galaviz. Rep. Blanksma, Manwaring, Hill was absent/excused.**
- VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Shepherd** called for a vote on the original motion. **Original motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Vander Woude and Rep. Tanner** requested to be recorded as voting **NAY**.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Andrea Blades
Secretary