

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25584

This is the trailer appropriation bill to H230, the Idaho Fish and Game fee increase. H230 created a new fee to increase funding for wildlife depredation compensation, prevention of wildlife damage to private land, and sportsman access programs. The full-year fiscal impact was estimated at \$2 million. Furthermore, resident license fees were increased and a Price Lock discount order was provided, which would provide a discount, for at least five years, for eligible resident sportsmen who purchase a license annually. The full-year fiscal impact was estimated at \$3 million. The statement of purpose stated, "The new revenue will restore inflationary losses in programs and will fund sportsman desired program enhancements."

This appropriation bill provides funding as follows: 1) \$500,000 for depredation prevention; 2) \$419,300 for seven landowner sportsmen coordinators (one for each district); 3) \$500,000 for depredation payments to landowners; 4) \$400,000 for enforcement training and equipment costs; 5) \$60,000 for fish food and operation of remote fish spawning stations; 6) \$250,000 to address deferred hatchery maintenance; 7) \$50,000 for pheasant stocking; 8) \$100,000 for challenge grant cost share; 9) \$419,100 for fish stocking; 10) \$120,000 for boating and fishing access maintenance; 11) \$250,000 from license moneys matched with \$750,000 from federal Pittman-Roberson moneys for wildlife management area maintenance; 12) \$250,000 from license moneys matched with \$750,000 from Pittman-Robertson moneys for deer and elk management; 13) \$200,000 for predation management of fox, racoons, skunks, and feral cats; 14) \$75,000 for improving the sportsman digital information network; and 15) \$100,000 from license moneys matched with \$300,000 from Pittman-Robertson moneys for shooting range development.

FISCAL NOTE

This is an FY 2018 trailer appropriation to the Department of Fish and Game in the amount of \$5,493,300. Of the total, \$2,693,300 is from the Fish and Game (Licenses) Fund, \$500,000 is from the Fish and Game Set-aside Fund, \$500,000 is from the Expendable Big Game Depredation Fund, and \$1,800,000 is from the Fish and Game (Federal) Fund. The bill authorizes seven (7) additional full-time equivalent positions.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).