FISHERY MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATIONS

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OPINIONS AND PREFERENCES OF IDAHO ANGLERS – RESULTS OF THE 2017 ANGLER OPINION SURVEY

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OPINIONS AND PREFERENCES OF IDAHO ANGLERS DURING 2017

ABSTRACT

Idaho has approximately 330,000 resident and 160,000 non-resident fishing license holders annually. Understanding angler opinions and preferences is critical to managing Idaho's fisheries resources and to developing the State's Fisheries Management Plan. In 2017, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Angler Opinion Survey (AOS) collected angler opinion and preference data. The randomized paper survey was completed and returned by 3,048 anglers, equaling a 28.5% response rate. The distribution of licensed anglers largely reflected population densities, with the Southwest Region having 42% of the state's anglers. For the randomized paper survey, the most common license types held were Resident Combination (29%), Resident Annual Fishing (23%) and Senior Combination (21%) licenses. The sample frame for the randomized paper survey was composed of 72% males and 28% females, with survey responses showing a similar distribution (73% male, 27% female). The modal age for paper survey recipients was 39, while the modal age of respondents was 65. Anglers age-60 and older made up only 32% of the randomized paper survey recipients, yet accounted for 59% of the surveys returned.

Consistent with historical trends, trout remain the most sought after group of fishes in Idaho, with bass ranked second, followed by "anything that bites". The top-3 highest rated fishing experiences were trout fishing in rivers/streams, followed by alpine lakes, and lakes/reservoirs. The highest ranked factors in deciding where to fish included: (1) natural beauty of the area, (2) presence of a favorite kind of fish, and (3) solitude. The proportion of tackle being used "occasionally" and "often" for each gear type was: lures (36%), bait (33%), flies (28%) and archery (3%), suggesting anglers use a variety of methods. Anglers consistently rank "protecting and improving fish habitat" as their most important Department fisheries management activity. About 93% of anglers rated this management activity as either "very important" or "somewhat important. The most preferred option to reduce harvest to protect fish populations was to restrict the number of fish that can be kept, with 86% of respondents answering either "strongly support" or "somewhat support". During the last five years, only 13% of anglers indicated they fished for anadromous Chinook Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, while 29% indicated they fished for steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. The top three factors for improving anadromous angling satisfaction were: (1) more updates on rule changes, (2) more detailed fishing reports, and (3) improved maintenance at access sites. Across the entire sampling frame, only a small percentage of anglers participated in tournaments, with support for tournaments being greatest for bass in lakes (35%) and trophy fishing in large lakes (32%).

Overall, age distribution (and associated bias), and preferences from email respondents were similar to the randomized paper survey with a few exceptions. Email respondents showed higher support for bass tournaments, and were more critical of the Department's management of salmon/steelhead, but ranked most priorities similarly. We recommend increasing efforts to collect angler email addresses to more efficiently collect opinion data and increase funding for fish habitat improvement projects to better align spending with angler opinion. Future surveys should carefully weigh trade-offs between traditional paper surveys and email surveys.

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INTRODUCTION

Idaho has approximately 330,000 resident fishing license holders, with an approximately 160,000 additional non-resident anglers annually. Understanding angler preferences is critical to managing Idaho's fish and aquatic resources and to developing the State's Fisheries Management Plan. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has conducted statewide angler opinion surveys every 5-10 years since 1967. These surveys, in conjunction with other public processes, provide a broad basis for developing fisheries programs, to better meet public expectations. More recently, the survey has been scheduled more frequently (6-year interval) to coincide with the schedule for updating the statewide Fisheries Management Plan (IDFG 2019). Survey questions aim to identify preferences for fish species and fishing methods, opinions on harvest rules and gear restrictions, fishing access and facilities, and preferred methods for receiving fishing-related information from the Department. Additionally, questions on angler satisfaction with various IDFG fisheries programs are included. Similar surveys were conducted in 1967, 1977, 1987, 1994, 1999, and 2006 (see Willard et al. 2007). However, in 2011, the size of the survey was significantly reduced to focus instead on more contemporary issues. The objective of the Angler Opinion Survey (AOS) are to: (1) provide the Department with angler opinion and preference data to assist in establishing and/or modifying fisheries management goals and programs, and (2) document anglers satisfaction opinions, preferences and expectations over time.

In addition to the randomized paper mail survey, the 2017 survey was also administered online via email invitation. This was primarily an attempt to evaluate the potential of email surveys to replace traditional (and costly) paper surveys, but also an effort to increase sample size and offer anglers an alternative to the paper survey. Electronic surveys are the fastest growing form of surveys in the Unites States because of speed, low cost and economies of scale (Dillman et al. 2014). Now, the vast majority of adults in the United States have internet access. Data from the Pew Research Center indicates that 96% of Americans now own a cell phone, and that 81% of them own smartphones, up from just 35% in 2011 (Pew Research Center 2019). The proliferation of internet access and the increasing use of mobile devices has increased the relevancy and potential power of internet surveys. If internet surveys could produce similar results to traditional mail surveys, they could be a compelling alternative by reducing costs and time invested in obtaining survey data.

We chose to administer an internet survey via email in addition to the standard mail survey for several reasons. Administering the survey online through email invitations presents several significant potential advantages. However, there may be serious drawbacks and barriers to realizing benefits associated with email surveys. Email surveys can be much more cost effective, since there are no printing or postage costs. With the low cost to contact recipients, the survey can potentially be delivered to many more recipients, in our case tens of thousands easily. There are also significant cost savings in personnel. Paper survey data entry requires extra labor to open returned mail, sort completed surveys, record returns from bad addresses, as well as the costs of manual data entry and quality checks. With internet surveys, data are recorded electronically by the online survey platform, almost eliminating the need for manual data entry. Online surveys can reduce the number of unanswered or incorrectly answered questions by making questions required and restricting answers to correct formats, which improves response data quality. Responses to open-ended or fill-in-the-blank questions are typed, or can be replaced with clickable selection menus, reducing errors from poor handwriting.

Drawbacks to email surveys may be significant and present a challenge for interpreting the results. One of the primary problems with email surveys is establishing a statistically valid

sample. For a survey to be unbiased, each member of the population must have an equal chance of participating. Unfortunately, it is seldom possible to have a representative sample of recipients with email address and internet access (Duda and Nobile, 2010). For Idaho, only a minority of anglers in our population have provided a valid email address, so our email survey has some bias inherent to the design. Respondents to email surveys are more likely to be interested in the topic (avidity bias), can easily filter and delete survey invitations (non-response bias), or have multiple email addresses making some respondents more likely to be selected. All these factors (and more not discussed here) can contribute to biased results (Duda and Nobile 2010). Despite these potential pitfalls, we decided to administer the survey to investigate and understand those potential limitations and biases.

METHODS

The sample frame for this survey was defined as all Idaho anglers, stratified into IDFG regions (seven regions) and nonresidents for eight total strata. We used the IDFG License Database to develop the sample survey list of recipients. The survey sample was randomly selected from the pool of all anglers from 2016 active fishing or combo license, or equivalent 3-year license from 2014, 2015 (this was about 53 different license types included) and also included non-residents (as a separate stratum). Appendix A shows all the license types included to generate the sample frame. Respondents were then randomly selected from this pool to develop the list of recipients.

When developing the questionnaire for the 2017 survey, we were careful to focus on a selected subset of core questions. The first step in developing the questions was to review previous AOS surveys. We then chose primary questions that allowed for the best opportunity to compare angler preferences through time (i.e. to previous surveys). Despite the temptation to 'improve' question verbiage, we limited changes to text/format of core questions to keep responses comparable to previous surveys. For this reason, many of the core questions remained unchanged from the 2011 survey. We avoided questions specific to individual Regions or waterbodies to keep the survey short and focused on a statewide perspective. Several additional new questions were added about salmon/steelhead fishing, communications preferences, and experiences with aquatic education programs. The survey was distributed using three different modes: a randomized paper mail survey (with the option to respond online), an email-only invitation to internet survey, and an internet survey open to anyone. Appendix B includes a copy of the randomized paper mail survey, while Appendix C includes a copy of the email invitation to the internet survey.

Anglers that received the paper mail survey were given the option to complete the survey online. The paper-to-online option, along with the email and open internet surveys therefore required three different parallel webpages to collect online responses for: (1) the paper, (2) email, and (3) the open internet methods. A press release describing the survey, including the email, paper, and open internet surveys was posted to the IDFG website on October 23. The press release was intended to add legitimacy to the survey if anglers came to the IDFG website to research it. This was intended to improve survey response rates, hoping that anglers would not think the email/mail surveys were spam. The press release alerted anglers that they might be receiving a survey by mail or email with the intent of increasing the response rates. The press release described the purpose of the survey and how to respond if anglers received a questionnaire, and also invited those not randomly selected in the paper mail/email surveys to participate in the open internet survey. We issued a follow-up press release to remind people about the open survey on November 6, 2017.

Paper mail survey

Paper surveys were mailed out beginning October 23, 2017. We randomly selected 12,000 anglers that held a fishing license (any license with fishing privileges) valid in 2016. Junior license types (ages 14-17) were also included. The sample selected 1,500 recipients from each IDFG administrative region (about 3.2% of resident anglers), as well as 1,500 nonresidents (1.2% of nonresident anglers). The number of samples for each stratum was based on the desire for approximately 400-500 completed survey responses from each IDFG Region, which would provide a sufficient sample size for each stratum with reasonable confidence bounds. The printed survey was mailed to each recipient and included a pre-paid return envelope. Additionally, the survey included optional instructions for recipients to complete the survey online. Six weeks after the initial mailing, we mailed a second paper survey to all recipients that had not yet responded. We closed the online response option to paper surveys on December 8. Anglers were asked to respond to the survey questions based on their last five years of fishing in Idaho. We did not contact survey recipients that did not return the survey.

We incentivized recipients to return the survey by entering respondents into a random drawing for one of four $100 gift cards to a fishing tackle vendor of their choosing. I compiled a list of all survey respondents from the paper mail survey. Anyone who responded to the paper survey was compiled into one list. This included responses mailed in as well as those that filled out the paper survey with the online option. I then numbered the list and used RANDBETWEEN function in Excel to draw four random numbers between the first and last recipients in the list.

While equal numbers of surveys were mailed out in each Department region, the statewide results were weighted based on the proportion of license buyers in each region. Data were first summarized by each strata (IDFG region, nonresidents). These summarized results were then expanded by the weighting factor (total number of individuals in the strata per number of respondents to the questions by strata) to develop the statewide weighted summary. Counts of each response to each question were converted into percentages where applicable.

Email internet survey

The email survey was an online version of the paper survey. We sent an email invitation to all anglers in the sample frame (license types described above) that had an email address in their License Database customer profile, but had not already been randomly selected to receive the paper survey. A copy of the email invitation is shown in Appendix C. Recipients were invited by email and provided with a link to the survey, and issued a unique PIN number to verify them upon starting the survey. This PIN# was then used to link individuals to demographic data and allowed removal of unwanted duplicate entries (friends sharing their email/PIN# and taking the survey multiple times. Such duplications were removed during data analysis). The email invitations were initiated on October 24, 2017 (Appendix C). After removing invalid email address, unsubscribe requests, etc., invitations were delivered to 50,352 recipients (about 98.5%), including about 44,000 residents. After three weeks, we sent a reminder email to all the recipients that had not yet responded to the first invitation.

Open internet survey

Open internet surveys present additional bias, but do provide an opportunity for everyone to comment if desired. With a survey available on an agency website open to anyone, the researchers have no control over sample selection. This results is self-selection bias, in addition to the bias associated with the requirement of internet access (Duda and Nobile, 2010). Results

from the open internet survey are presented in Appendix M. However, due to the inherent bias associated with this method, the results will not be discussed in this report.

Data Management and Analysis

A trained IDFG survey crew administered the survey and performed data entry. Survey administration and response data were both managed using a Microsoft Access database specifically created for this angler survey. The database was used to check-in surveys as they were returned, query lists for reminder survey mailings, and handle other administrative tasks for conducting the survey. Survey responses for the paper mail survey were entered manually into the database (which required 2-4 technicians and approximately 630 hours). Following initial data entry, all data were double-checked for errors. Survey responses were coded numerically to reduce the size of the database and make queries run more efficiently.

We summarized the survey responses using pivot tables and slicers in Microsoft Excel. Responses were first summarized by each strata (Region, nonresidents). These summarized results were then expanded by the weighting factor (total number of individuals in the strata per number of respondents to the question by strata) to develop the statewide summary, which was converted into percentages where applicable.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Response Rates and Demographics

Our ability to describe angler opinions and preferences is dependent on an angler's willingness to voluntarily respond to surveys. In order to encourage participation, we offered several means for anglers to respond and reminded them to participate repeatedly. This resulted in above average response rates; however, it is likely that some avidity and age biases affected our ability to accurately describe the "true" statewide opinion and preferences of Idaho anglers. We acknowledge these limitations, but did not possess the resources to correct for or estimate potential biases associated with these sources of error. Survey design and many questions have not changed appreciably within the last several decades so responses at a minimum reflect trends in angler opinions and preference. Furthermore, opinions and preferences reported within this report were expressed by anglers willing to be involved in providing their thoughts. It is likely these anglers are more avid and more likely to participate in public opinion scoping or commission processes that shape fisheries management in Idaho.

In 2017, there were 330,050 resident license buyers and 129,438 non-resident license buyers in the survey sampling frame. The greatest numbers of resident anglers live in the Southwest (42%) and Panhandle (15%) regions, while the least live in the Salmon Region (1%). This distribution is very similar to the 2011 survey, with Southwest Region having increased from 40% to 42% of the states total anglers. The majority of nonresident respondents lived in WA (26%) and UT (20%), followed by CA (10%) and OR (9%).

Response Rates

The paper survey resulted in 3,048 responses. After correcting for invalid mailing addresses where the survey was not delivered (n = 1,315), the corrected survey response rate was 28.5% (compared to 35% in 2011, and 45% in 2006). The vast majority of respondents to the paper survey chose to fill out the paper by hand. Most paper surveys were returned during

the first mailing (57%) or second reminder (26%), while 17% of paper surveys were completed using the online option. The email invitation had a 16% unique open rate, and we received 4,770 responses to the email survey. This is about a 9.4% response rate after correcting for undelivered email addresses (*n* = 748). The email survey provided some significant advantages to the traditional paper, most notably the lower costs. In addition, data management was much more efficient, as there was no manual data entry, and data quality was much higher, since the online interface allowed for responses to be standardized and required fields reduced incomplete or illegible answers.

For comparison, the 1994 AOS only had one stratum, for which 2,000 surveys were mailed out. The 1994 survey had 1,029 responses with a response rate of 51%. The 1999, 2006 and 2011 surveys were more comparable to our 2017 design, where eight strata were used (seven IDFG regions and nonresidents). The 1999/2006 surveys and the 2011 surveys contacted 1,200 and 2,000 respondents per strata, respectively. The 1999 survey had 5,620 responses with and a response rate of 58%. The 2006 survey had 4,361 responses, with a response rate from residents and nonresidents of 45% and 48%, respectively. By 2011, response rates continued to decline, showing only 5,600 completed surveys and a response rate of 35%. Our response rate (28.5%) seems to correspond with the declining trend in response rates noted in many surveys, including natural resourced-focused mail surveys (Connelly et al. 2003), as well as mixed-mode surveys (Wallen et al. 2016). We anticipated our email response rate would be low (9.4%), but it was much lower than the 29% reported by Wallen et al. (2016). However, we still received over 4,700 completed surveys, provide a robust (yet potentially biased) sample size.

License Types

The distribution of licensed anglers across the state largely reflected population densities, with the Southwest Region having 42% of the state's anglers. The Panhandle (15%), Magic Valley (12%), Upper Snake (11%) had similar numbers of anglers, while the Clearwater (8%) and Salmon regions (1%) had the fewest anglers.

For the randomized paper survey, the most common license types held by survey respondents were Resident Combination (29%), Resident Annual Fishing (23%) and Senior Combination (21%) licenses. Resident Annual Fishing license holders appeared to be less likely to return the survey based on the observed and expected proportion of the sample population. However, combination and Sportsman's Package holders made up a higher than expected proportion of returned surveys, perhaps as a function of higher avidity (Figure 1).

For the email survey responses, the predominant license types were Resident Combination (35%), Resident Sportsman's Package (20%) and Senior Combination (13%). Sportsman's Package and Senior Combination licenses had higher than expected responses (Figure 2). Resident Annual Fishing licenses only accounted for 12% of recipients in the email survey, but only 7% of respondents, suggesting these license holders returned fewer surveys than expected. This suggests that anglers with fishing-only licenses (not combos) are not readily providing email addresses, which is likely a function of avidity. Anglers holding combination and Sportsman's Package licenses are likely much more avid and eager to receive email communication than anglers with just an annual fishing license.

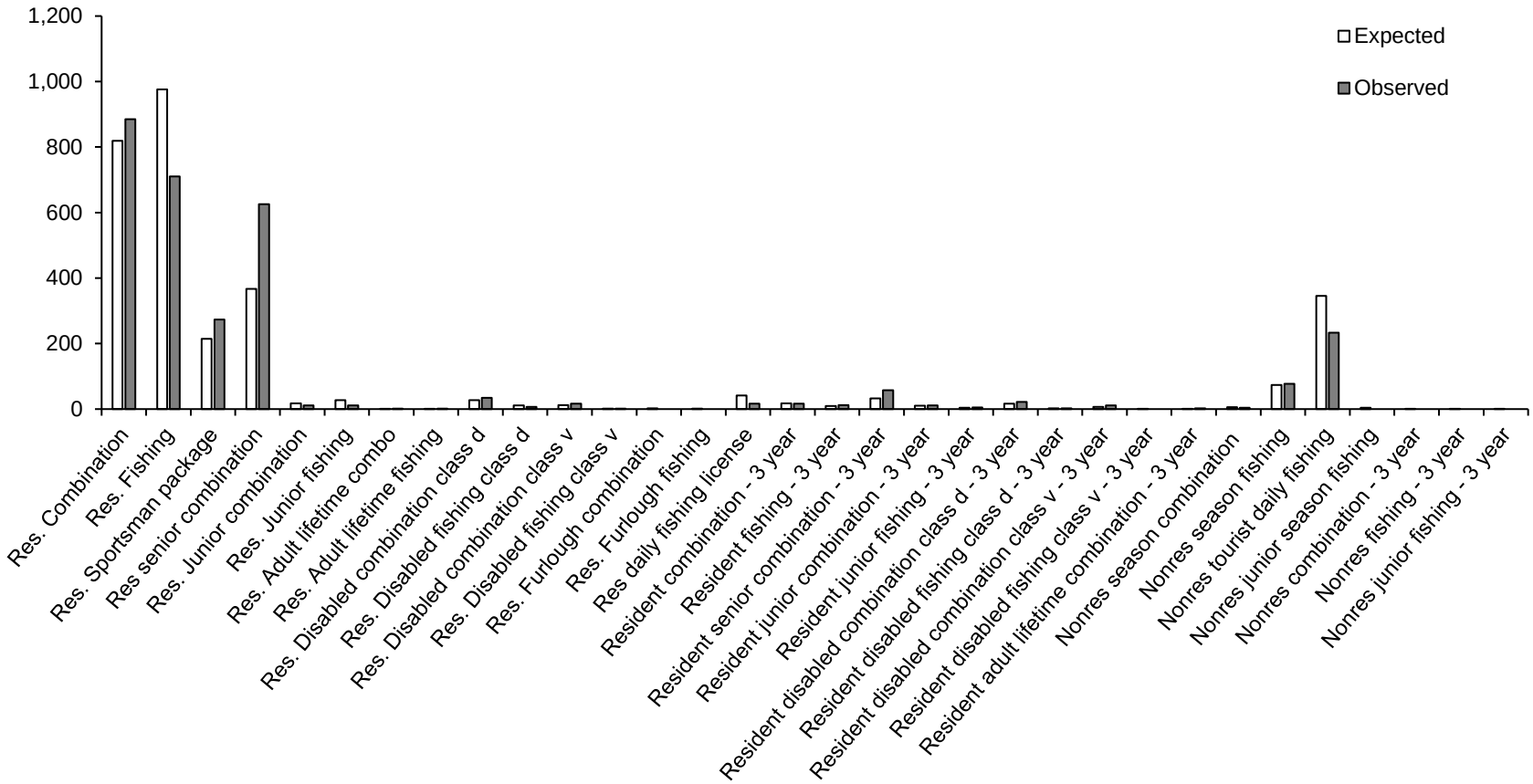


Figure 1. Count of random, paper-survey responses (observed) and expected count (based on the proportion in the sample frame) by license type.

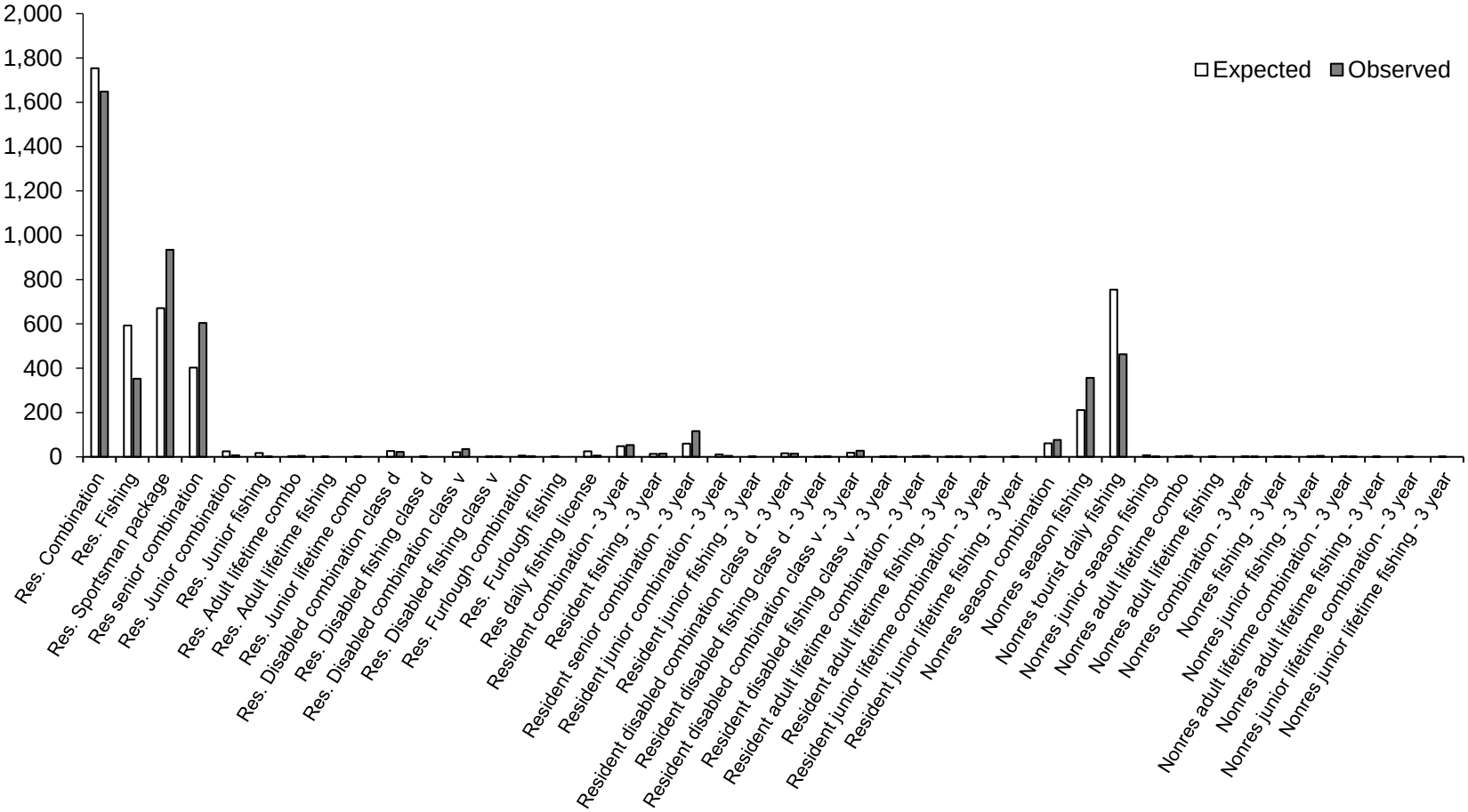


Figure 2. Count of email survey responses (observed) and expected count (based on the proportion in the sample frame) by license type.

Gender and Age

The sample frame for the randomized paper survey was composed of 72% males and 28% females, with survey responses showing a similar distribution (73% male, 27% female). This suggests the paper mail survey results are not biased by gender. In contrast, the sample frame for the email survey was composed of 86% males and 14% females. However, survey responses were 93% male. This suggests the email survey results are inherently biased towards men, who are disproportionately represented in the sample frame, and are also slightly more likely to respond to the survey.

The mean age of anglers in the paper survey sample frame was 46, while the mean age of respondents was 53. The median age of anglers in the paper survey sample frame was 45, while the median age of respondents was 56 (Figure 3). Anglers older than age-55 were much more likely to respond to the survey, in both the paper and email surveys, suggesting that responses disproportionately represent those of older anglers (Figure 4). This trend is most apparent in the modal age (number that occurs most often). The modal age for paper survey recipients was 39, while the modal age of respondents was 65. Anglers age-60 and older made up only 32% of the randomized paper survey recipients, yet accounted for 59% of the surveys returned.

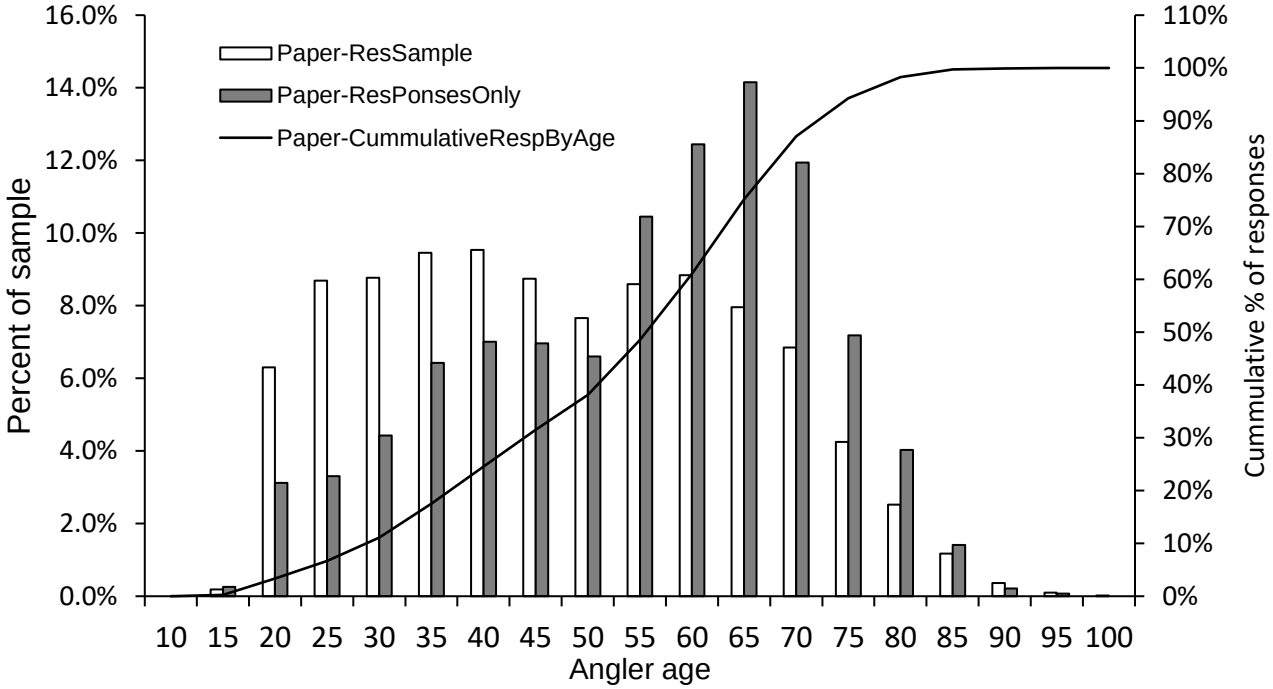


Figure 3. Age distribution of anglers receiving the random, paper-mail survey (white bars) and those who responded to the survey (gray bars). The curve shows a cumulative percent of survey responses across ages.

Older anglers appear to be much more likely to respond to the survey. While age may play a role, this might be explained by underlying generational traits. For example, during the 1987 Idaho Angler Opinion survey, the 30-39 and 40-49 age groups had the highest response rates

(Reid 1989). This same generation of anglers (the Baby Boomers) appears to have disproportionately responded to our 2017 survey 30 years later, but are now in the 60-69 and 70-79 age groups.

As with the paper survey, the email survey also indicated that anglers older than age-55 were more likely to respond to the survey (Figure 5). The mean age of anglers in the email survey sampling frame was 47, while the mean age of respondents was 53, which is comparable to the paper survey. The median age of anglers in the email sampling frame was 46, while the median age of respondents was 55. However, the modal age for email survey recipients was 36, which was quite different from that of respondents (age-65). In the future, we recommend that angler opinion surveys should consider weighting responses to reduce bias from age.

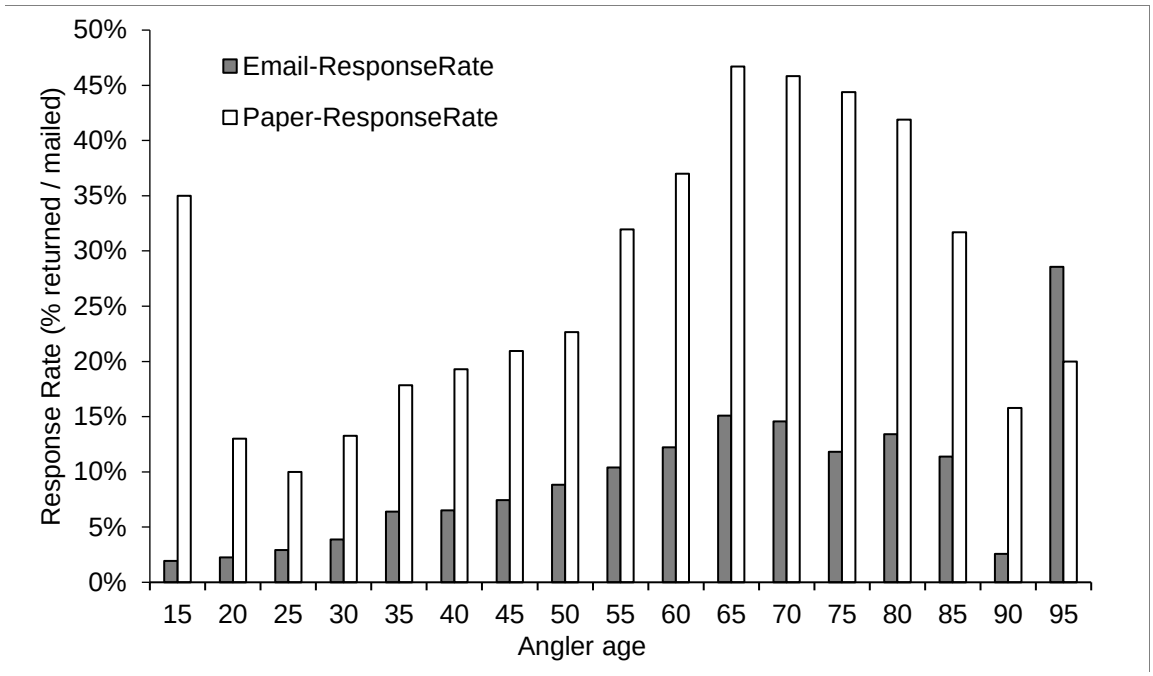


Figure 4. Survey response rate by age group for both email (gray bars) and paper mail surveys (white bars).

Survey cost estimate

We estimate the 2017 Angler Opinion survey to have cost a minimum of approximately $39,000. This is a minimum estimate, because it does not include the personnel hours of key staff to plan, administer and analyze the survey, including Martin Koenig (Program Coordinator), Ben Studer (Webmaster), Patrick Perkins (Web programmer) and Vicky Osborn (mass email assistance). However, we did keep track of the costs for most major survey components, excluding wages and benefits of permanent staff. The bulk of the survey costs were incurred from printing/mailing the survey ($15,508), of which $10,507 was for the first mailing, and $5,001 for the second mailing (reminders). Other expenses included business reply and mailing postage ($11,400), and data entry personnel hours ($9,173, billed through temporary agency). Survey

response data entry was split across four technicians and required approximately 627 hours of labor.

While we did not keep track of the costs for administering the email survey, we can confidently conclude the email survey presented a significant cost savings. The email survey did not require any printing costs, or postage. Data were collected electronically, eliminating the labor costs (and potential errors) for data entry. Additionally, since there was not manual data entry, analysis could have started several weeks earlier. Administering the email survey did take several days of effort from key website staff to program the survey, as well as managing email invitations.

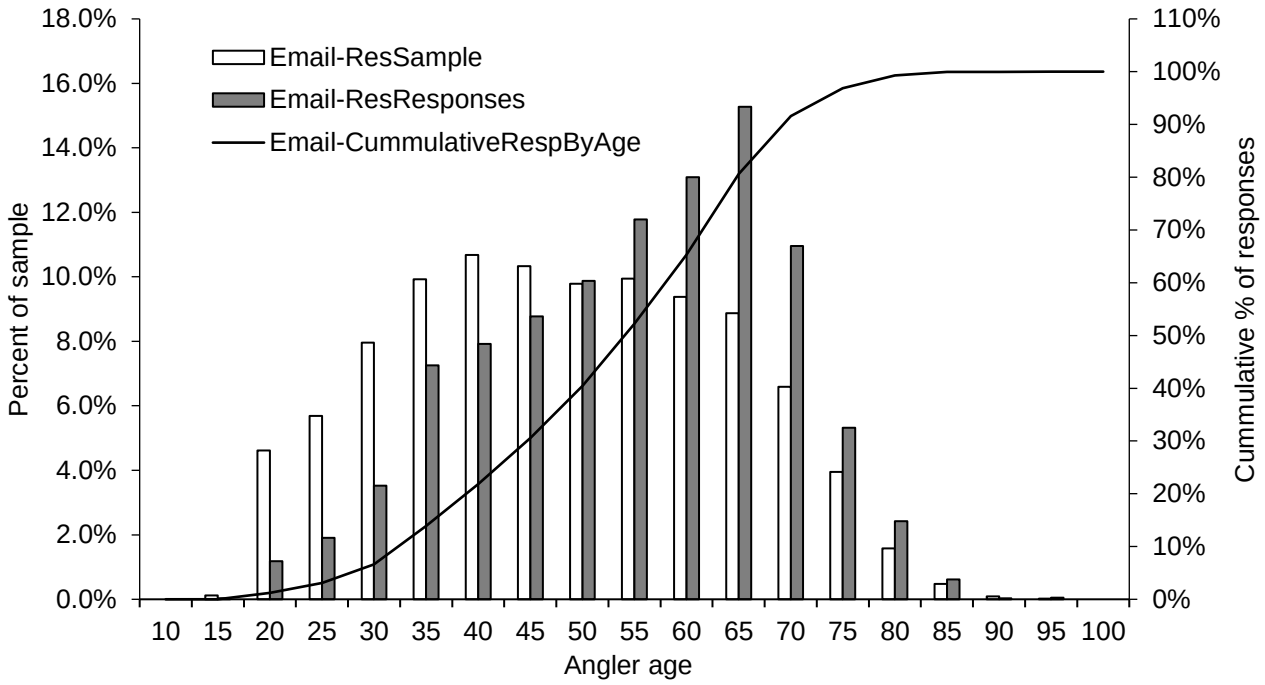


Figure 5. Age distribution of anglers receiving the email survey (white), and those who responded to the email survey (gray). The curve shows a cumulative percent of survey responses across ages.

Fishing Habits and Species Preference

Trout remain the most sought after fish in Idaho (Table 1). Anglers wrote in their first, second and third most favorite species from a provided list. We ranked each species by weighting the count in each response category. Trout were by far the most favorite species and received the vast majority of responses for “most favorite”. When asked how often anglers fish for each species, over 42% of anglers listed trout as a species they “occasionally” or “often” fished for when combining these scores (Table 2). “Anything that bites” (28%) was second in fishing frequency with “Bass” ranked a close third (25%).

Trout have been the #1 most favorite species in every survey even back to the 1970s. Bass and “anything that bites” are consistently either #2, or #3, so preferences are very strong

and consistent for at least the top 3 species. Idaho has 12 native game species, most of which are salmonids that are widely distributed across the state (IDFG 2019). The consistent preference from anglers in Idaho for trout is not surprising, but is not reflected nationally. At a national scale, “black bass” are the most preferred game fish, followed closely by “panfish,” while “trout” were are distance third place. Nationally, anglers reported fishing for trout about 50% fewer days a year than “black bass” (USDI 2016). Considering the national perspective, it’s not surprising that anglers in Idaho consistently rank bass second in preference. Anglers were also asked how often (never, occasionally, often) they fished for a host of fish species during the last five years (Question #2). “Anything that bites” was listed second (28%). This suggests that many anglers are generalists or have a low level of specialization. Other popular species included bass (25%), Bluegill/crappie/perch (20%), steelhead *Onchorhynchus mykiss* (15%) and kokanee *Oncoryhnchus nerka* (15%).

We asked anglers to rate their general feeling about their various types of fishing experiences during the past five-year period (Question #3). This question intended to gauge general public satisfaction about the relative quality of each fishery type. Each fishery was ranked according to the weighted distribution of responses in each category. The top-3 highest rated fishing experiences were trout fishing in rivers/streams, followed by alpine lakes, and lakes/reservoirs third (Table 3). Fishing for Walleye *Stizostedion vitreum* and Chinook Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* in lakes/reservoirs were the lowest ranked options, but also had fairly low participation rates across the state, which may have affected the results.

Question #4 asked anglers to rate the importance of various factors when deciding what location to fish. We assigned an average score to each factor based on the counts of each category and the number of responses. The highest ranked factors included: (1) natural beauty of the area, (2) presence of a favorite kind of fish, and (3) solitude (Table 4). Special fishing rules and the availability of licensed fishing guides were relatively unimportant factors in deciding where to fish. While the ranking of most factors remained largely the same back to the 1999 survey, some factors differed from the most recent 2011 survey. Anglers showed a stronger preference for a “chance to catch a variety of fish” which moved from #13 (2011) to #4 in 2017. The “Chance to catch a big fish” also declined in importance from #3 (2011) to #12 in 2017.

Table 1. Most favorite fish by rank from Question #1: “From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?” Rank was assigned assigning a score to the count of responses as [first favorite + (second favorite x 2) + (third favorite x 3)]. The percent of responses by species are calculated within each column.

Rank	Species	1 Most Favorite	2 Second Favorite	3 Third Favorite
	Randomized postal mail survey			
1	Trout	55%	18%	13%
2	Bass	13%	21%	14%
3	Anything that bites	3%	3%	21%
4	Steelhead	7%	17%	8%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	6%	13%	11%
6	Kokanee	5%	9%	7%
7	Chinook Salmon	3%	7%	8%
8	Catfish / bullhead	3%	4%	7%
9	Walleye	3%	4%	3%
10	Northern Pike	1%	1%	3%
11	White Sturgeon	1%	1%	2%
12	Whitefish	0%	1%	2%
13	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	1%
14	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	0%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%
	Email survey			
1	Trout	53%	16%	10%
2	Bass	12%	19%	13%
3	Steelhead	10%	21%	10%
4	Anything that bites	2%	2%	21%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	7%	12%	12%
6	Chinook Salmon	5%	7%	9%
7	Kokanee	6%	10%	7%
8	Walleye	3%	4%	4%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1%	3%	5%
10	Northern Pike	1%	2%	2%
11	White Sturgeon	1%	1%	2%
12	Whitefish	0%	2%	2%
13	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	1%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	1%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

Table 2. Most preferred species of fish sought in Idaho by total anglers from 2013-2017 (Question #2) by survey type (randomized paper survey or email).

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
	Randomized postal mail survey			
1	Trout	1%	10%	32%
2	Anything that bites	3%	10%	18%
3	Bass	4%	13%	12%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	5%	12%	8%
5	Steelhead	7%	9%	6%
6	Kokanee	7%	9%	6%
7	Catfish / bullhead	7%	8%	4%
8	Chinook Salmon	8%	7%	4%
9	Walleye	9%	5%	2%
10	Whitefish	10%	4%	2%
11	Northern Pike	10%	3%	2%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10%	3%	1%
13	White Sturgeon	10%	4%	1%
14	Tiger Muskellunge	11%	2%	0%
	Email survey			
1	Trout	1%	9%	31%
2	Anything that bites	4%	11%	16%
3	Bass	4%	12%	12%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	5%	12%	8%
5	Steelhead	6%	10%	8%
6	Kokanee	6%	9%	8%
7	Chinook Salmon	7%	8%	5%
8	Catfish / bullhead	8%	7%	3%
9	Walleye	9%	5%	2%
10	Whitefish	9%	5%	2%
11	White Sturgeon	10%	4%	2%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10%	3%	1%
13	Northern Pike	10%	3%	2%
14	Tiger muskellunge	11%	2%	1%

Table 3. Fishery types ranked by general experience during the last five years (Question #3) by survey type (randomized paper survey or email).

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did Not Participate
		Randomized postal mail survey					
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	21%	33%	24%	5%	17%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	13%	26%	20%	5%	35%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	12%	37%	27%	7%	18%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	8%	23%	18%	5%	46%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	7%	26%	22%	6%	38%
6	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	3%	8%	9%	4%	77%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	5%	15%	16%	6%	57%
8	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	4%	11%	16%	7%	63%
9	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	2%	7%	12%	5%	74%
10	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	4%	9%	18%	9%	60%
11	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	1%	4%	5%	4%	85%
12	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	9%	13%	7%	69%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook salmon	2%	6%	10%	8%	73%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Walleye	1%	4%	8%	7%	80%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook salmon	1%	3%	6%	23%	66%
		Email survey					
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	20%	39%	21%	4%	15%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	11%	31%	20%	3%	34%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	10%	39%	29%	6%	17%
4	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	4%	11%	10%	2%	74%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	7%	25%	21%	6%	41%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	7%	28%	24%	5%	36%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	5%	17%	16%	5%	57%
8	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	1%	6%	6%	3%	84%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	4%	14%	17%	7%	58%
10	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	2%	8%	9%	4%	77%
11	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	9%	12%	5%	72%
12	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	4%	14%	21%	11%	51%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook salmon	2%	7%	13%	11%	68%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	1%	4%	8%	8%	80%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook salmon	1%	3%	8%	9%	80%

In Question #5, we asked anglers how often they used six types of fishing access methods during the last five years. Most anglers responded having fished from the shore/bank, with 92% responding with either “often” or “occasionally”. Table 5 shows the popularity of different access methods based on the proportion of responses listed within the “often” category so that we can compare across methods. Within the non-motorized category specifically, the percentage of “often” responses increased from 9% (in 2011) to 15% in 2017, suggesting that anglers are using non-motorized craft more often. The proliferation of non-motorized craft, many of which do not require registration or generate Dingell-Johnson excises tax revenue creates a partial loop-hole in the traditional user-pay model for funding the development and maintenance of access sites. Continuation of this trend without adjustment may lead to inequities in that motorboat users may disproportionally fund access site development and maintenance.

Anglers indicated they use a variety of fishing tackle with no clear statewide preference in major gear categories (lures, bait, flies). Archery equipment is decidedly much less popular (Figure 6). The utility of this question is limited because of how the question was structured. Anglers could check “occasionally” or “often” for multiple gear types, so it is difficult to compare the relative popularity of each gear. If we calculate the proportion of responses (“occasionally” and “often”) for each gear type, they rank out as lures (36%), bait (33%), flies (28%) and archery (3%), but this is not likely an accurate comparison of the relative popularity of each gear type, since anglers were not asked to pick their most-often used tackle. Respondents could have indicated they fished with multiple gear types “often”, making clear distinctions of gear preference difficult. Regardless, there is no clear preference in major gear types, but the popularity or bow fishing (archery) remains low. This question should be restructured for future surveys if comparisons of popularity between tackle types are important.

Table 4. Factors important to deciding where to go fishing over the last five years, ranked by average weighted score (based on the counts of responses by category) from Question #4 by survey type (randomized paper survey or email).

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
			Randomized postal mail survey			
1	Natural beauty of area	48%	39%	10%	2%	2%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	42%	41%	12%	3%	2%
3	Solitude	34%	44%	16%	4%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	29%	47%	16%	6%	2%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	25%	45%	19%	7%	3%
6	A place my family likes	29%	39%	19%	6%	8%
7	Chance to catch native or wild fish	25%	38%	24%	6%	6%
8	Vehicle access	22%	43%	22%	7%	6%
9	Chance to keep some fish	25%	34%	17%	10%	14%
10	Availability of information on fishing	19%	33%	28%	10%	10%
11	Nearness to camping facilities	15%	36%	27%	11%	11%
12	Chance to catch a big fish	11%	33%	35%	13%	9%
13	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	18%	27%	27%	12%	16%
14	Nearness to home or cabin	9%	35%	31%	11%	13%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	9%	25%	44%	11%	12%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	10%	28%	32%	16%	14%
17	Special rules	8%	14%	44%	12%	22%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	4%	8%	29%	16%	42%
			Email survey			
1	Presence of favorite kind of fish	47%	40%	10%	2%	1%
2	Natural beauty of area	46%	41%	10%	2%	2%
3	Solitude	38%	47%	11%	3%	1%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	28%	53%	15%	4%	1%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	21%	50%	20%	7%	2%
6	Chance to catch native or wild fish	27%	37%	25%	7%	5%
7	A place my family likes	25%	42%	20%	5%	8%
8	Vehicle access	18%	42%	24%	9%	8%
9	Chance to keep some fish	23%	36%	16%	11%	14%

Table 4 (continued)

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
10	Availability of information on fishing	17%	35%	29%	11%	9%
11	Chance to catch a big fish	8%	37%	36%	12%	7%
12	Nearness to camping facilities	11%	37%	29%	12%	11%
13	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	18%	30%	24%	12%	15%
14	Narness to home or cabin	8%	38%	30%	11%	12%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	8%	27%	40%	12%	12%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	6%	31%	33%	15%	15%
17	Special rules	7%	18%	43%	13%	19%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	2%	7%	25%	15%	50%

Table 5. Proportion of each access method indicated within the “often” used category (Question #5) for the randomized paper survey and email survey.

Rank	Most Often Used Access Method	% "Often"
	Randomized paper survey	
1	Shore/Bank	55%
2	Wade	29%
3	Motor boat	29%
4	Non-motorized boat	15%
5	Float tube/kick boat	11%
6	Ice Fishing	7%
	Email survey	
1	Shore/Bank	51%
2	Wade	35%
3	Motor boat	34%
4	Non-motorized boat	17%
5	Float tube/kick boat	11%
6	Ice Fishing	10%

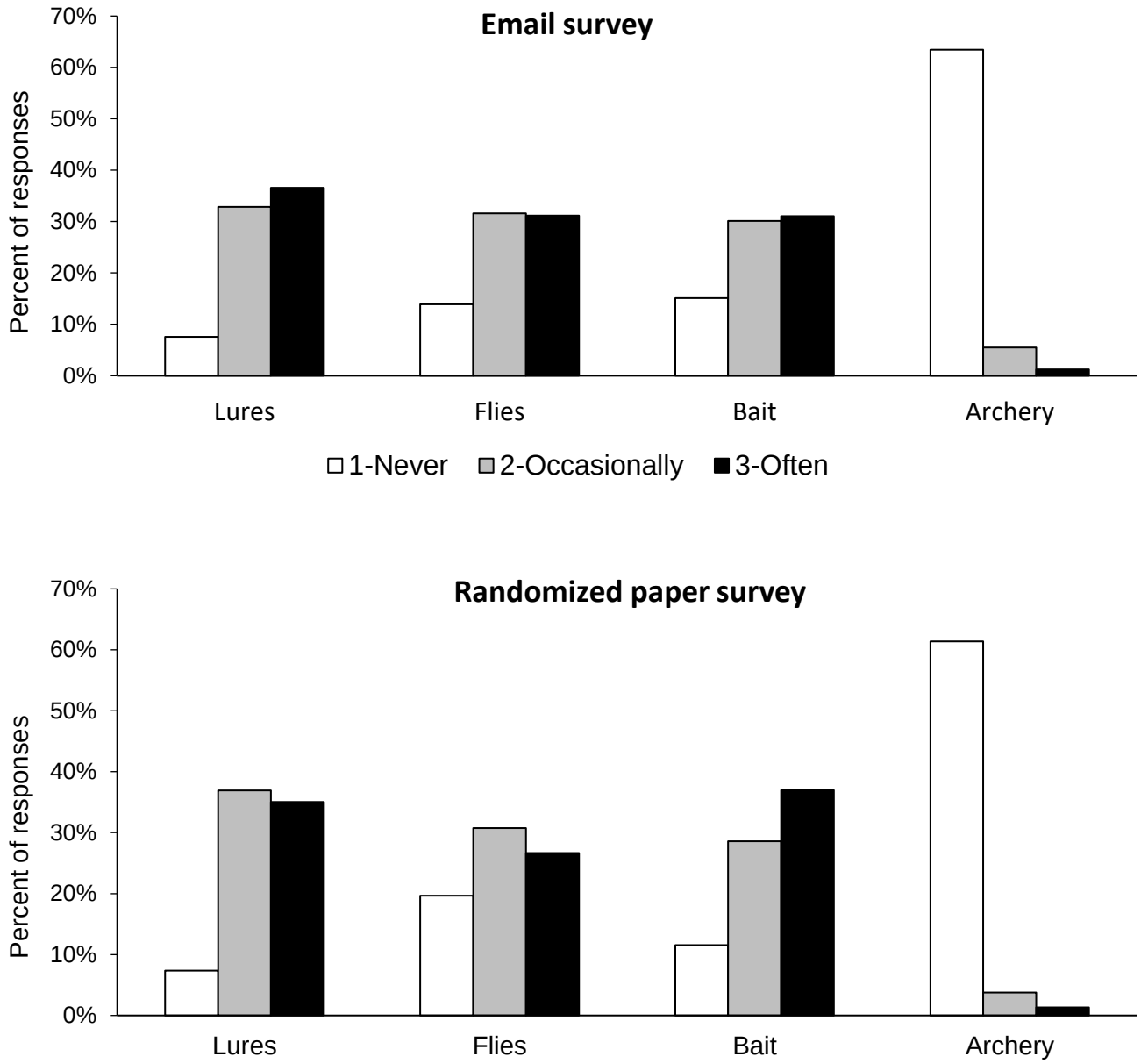


Figure 6. Count of statewide responses (weighted) for how often anglers use each gear type (Question #6). Anglers could mark any category for each gear type.

Fisheries Management

The 2017 angler opinion survey included questions regarding angler satisfaction with various fishery types, the importance of Department management activities, special rules, salmon/steelhead fishing, and fishing tournaments. Responses to these questions will provide guidance to IDFG for managing various fisheries resources across the state.

IDFG implements a number of management activities to improve the quality of public fisheries in Idaho. Question #7 presented anglers with a list of fish management activities and asked them to rate how important each was to anglers (very unimportant to very important). In Table 6, each fisheries management activity is ranked according to its average weighted score, consistent with previous survey methods. Table 6 shows ranks for each management activity for importance and for how well the Department is performing that activity.

The rankings remain largely unchanged compared to 2011 survey results, with anglers consistently citing “protecting and improving fish habitat” as their most important Department management activity. In 2017, about 93% of anglers rated this management activity as either “very important” or “somewhat important”. Using the same criteria (somewhat or very important), “maintaining and improving fishing access sites” (83%) and “managing for native trout fisheries” (78%) were also very important to anglers. Rounding out the top five Department management activities were “providing places for family fishing” (73%) and “managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams” (72%).

Anglers have consistently prioritized protecting and improving fish habitat as the most important fish management activity for the department. As such, the Department has made efforts to implement strategies to develop a statewide fish habitat program (IDFG 2019). The Department has hired a dedicated fish habitat biologist in the Potlatch River basin, and two for the Upper Salmon River basin. Additionally, fish biologists in the Panhandle, Upper Snake, and Southeast regions dedicate some of their time to fish habitat restoration. The Fish Habitat Program Coordinator provides administrative support, while most technical and construction support is provided through outside contractors.

Strategies guiding the fish habitat program are presented in the 2019-2024 Fisheries Management Plan (IDFG 2019). These include a focus on native species, addressing limiting factors, effectiveness monitoring, broadening the funding base and improving collaboration and outreach. Despite strong public support, funding of the department’s fish habitat activities is almost entirely funded by federal and private sources. Most funds are tied to specific mitigation programs, and therefore focused on salmon and steelhead, and in some cases bull trout and cutthroat trout in specific drainages with existing mitigation agreements. As a result of current funding sources, the Fish Habitat Program is structured with an emphasis on implementation and evaluation of projects in the Clearwater and Salmon River basins. Little funding is dedicated to improve habitat for many of Idaho’s native trout, nongame species, (or introduced gamefish). The lack of matching non-federal funds makes it difficult to leverage other grant opportunities, making habitat restoration for resident trout species even more challenging. Diversifying funding sources to increase habitat restoration projects for underserved fish species should be a priority in order to meet angler expectations.

The rank of managing for “Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers” has increased slightly since 2011, but much more so than the 2006 survey where it was ranked last out of the 10 (slightly different) categories provided. Fluctuations in opinions regarding anadromous fisheries seem to be heavily correlated with run sizes, which presents a difficult challenge to improving satisfaction. “Conducting classes on how to fish” and “providing new urban fishing ponds” were only rated as important to 25% and 39% of anglers, respectively. As with the 2011 survey, the 2017 survey did not include “enforcing fishing regulations” as a management activity because we believe this activity is a tacitly-expected function of IDFG and expected by our angling constituents.

Using the same list, we asked anglers to rate how well they felt the Department was performing in each activity (Question #8). The top-three ranked activities were “providing places for family fishing”, “protecting and improving fish habitat”, and “managing for native trout fisheries”, respectively (Table 6). Rankings for the Department’s performance in these categories remained similar to 2011, with a few notable shifts. Compared to the 2011 survey, performance ranking for “managing for steelhead fishing” declined from #3 to #9, and “managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in river” declined from #9 to #13. Meanwhile, “managing for warm water fisheries” improved from #18 to #14. Managing for native nongame species, urbanponds, and classes on how to fish continued to be low-ranked activities (Table 6).

Anglers appear to be very happy with the Department’s performance on “providing places for family fishing” and “protecting and improving fish habitat”. However, anglers ranked the Department’s performance in some activities lower than their priority, suggesting some room for improvement. For example, anglers indicated that “maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites” was #2, while it was ranked #6 in terms of how well the Department was doing in that activity (Table 6). The Department is actively improving fishing and boating facilities statewide. Currently, there are approximately 341 sites in the Department’s Fishing and Boating Access Program, with more sites being added annually. Funding the $1.2M annual program comes primarily from the federal Sportfish Restoration Act. However, IDFG has also created a new funding source called FWATER, which allocates $5.00 (US) from each fishing license sale for the construction, repair, or rehabilitation of fishing lakes, reservoirs and fishing access. Additionally, 50% of the cost of each steelhead and salmon permit is allocated to acquire, maintain, and improve access for steelhead and salmon fishing. Other examples where the disparity between importance/performance suggested improvement included managing for trophy trout and Chinook Salmon in rivers. Anglers indicated that the Department should focus more on “maintaining/improving fishing access sites” and managing for quality trout fisheries, since there was a more pronounced disparity here in ranked priority vs. performance (Table 6).

Responses for this group of questions differed between the random paper survey and the email survey. While the rankings of the highest priority activities were similar (with the exception of steelhead fishing), email respondents were more critical of the Department’s performance on those activities. Specifically, the disparity between ‘importance’ and ‘performance’ was more pronounced for ‘managing steelhead fishing’, ‘trophy trout in lake’ and especially ‘Chinook Salmon in rivers’. Indeed, respondents to the email survey indicated a much higher participation rate in Chinook Salmon (24% in email vs 13% in paper) and steelhead fishing (43% vs 29%) than those in the randomized paper survey. This could suggest that license holders that provide an email address (and respond to the survey) may be more avid and have higher expectations on certain management activities.

Table 6. The relative importance of Department fish management activities (Question #7), and how well the Department is performing the Fisheries management activities (Question #8). Activities are ranked by order of importance based on a mean weighted score from the count of five possible responses ranging from “very important” to “very unimportant”. Responses shown for both randomized paper mail and email surveys.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Difference	Most Important IDFG Activities
			Randomized postal mail survey
1	2	-1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	6	-4	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	3	0	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
4	1	3	Providing places for family fishing
5	11	-6	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	12	-6	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	8	-1	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
8	9	-1	Managing for steelhead fishing
9	13	-4	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
10	4	6	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
11	5	6	Providing fisheries information
12	7	5	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
13	14	-1	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
14	10	4	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
15	15	0	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	17	-1	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
17	16	1	Providing new urban fishing ponds
18	18	0	Conducting classes on how to fish
			Email survey
1	4	-3	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	7	-5	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	2	1	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
4	11	-7	Managing for steelhead fishing
5	10	-5	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	14	-8	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	17	-10	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
8	1	7	Providing places for family fishing
9	8	1	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
10	3	7	Providing fisheries information
11	6	5	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
12	5	7	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
13	16	-3	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
14	18	-4	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
15	12	3	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
16	9	7	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	15	2	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	13	5	Conducting classes on how to fish

Special Rules

IDFG uses bag, length, and season restrictions as a primary tool when necessary to manage fish populations and provide different types of angling experiences. While not without controversy, establishing more restrictive fishing rules is generally supported by the angling public, especially when they understand why it is being done. We presented anglers with six options for reducing fish harvest, if and when necessary, as a method to protect fish populations and asked to what degree they would support or oppose a number of methods for doing so (ranging from “strongly support” to “strongly oppose”). The most preferred option to reduce harvest was to restrict the number of fish that can be kept, with 86% of respondents answering either “strongly support” or “somewhat support” (Figure 7). Anglers also showed strong support for restricting the size of fish that can be kept (81%), but did not support shortening the fishing season (19%). Email respondents showed slightly higher preferences for size and limit restrictions (Figure 7). These preferences suggest anglers strongly prefer harvest/size restrictions when needed, instead of reduced opportunity from shorter seasons. Preferences for each restriction were very similar to those in the 2011 survey, with a slight increase in the support for “limiting anglers use” from 38% in 2011 to 44% in 2017.

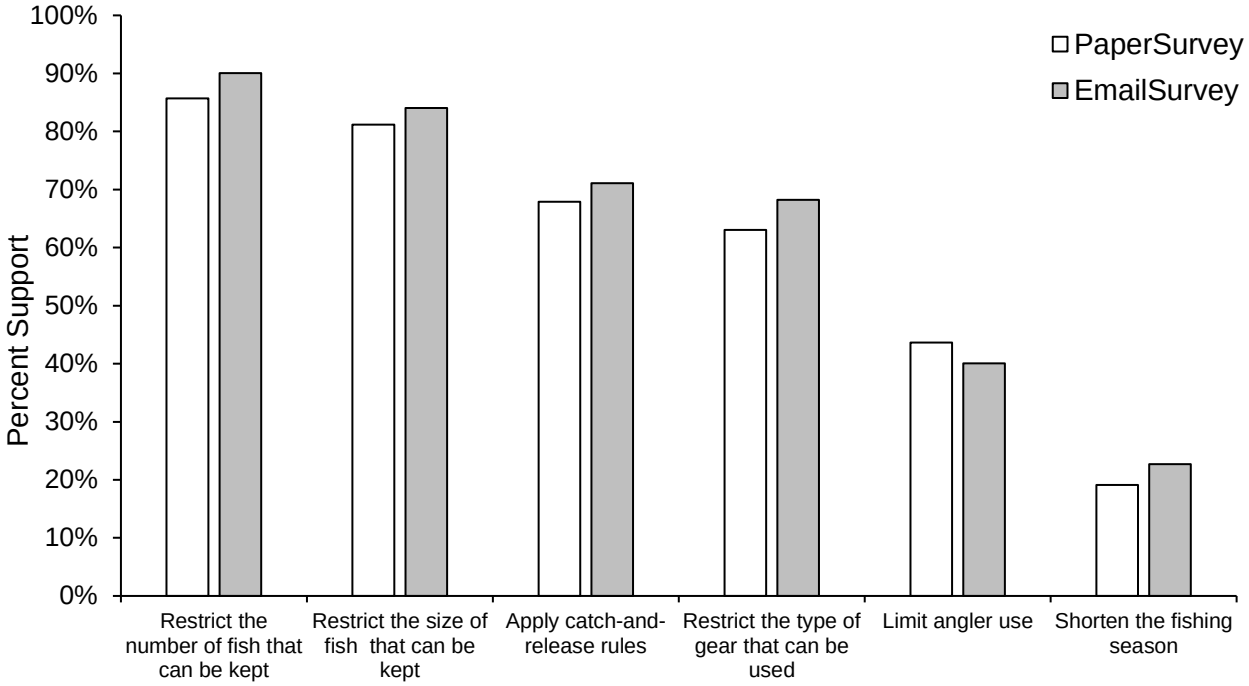


Figure 7. Percent of responses in support (“strongly support” or “somewhat support”) of each option to reduce game fish harvest when necessary to meet management goals.

Chinook Salmon and Steelhead

We asked anglers whether they fished for anadromous Chinook Salmon or steelhead during the last five years (Questions #10-13). If they had participated, we then asked them to select the style of fishery they most often participated in from a provided list for each species. During the last five years, only 13% of anglers indicated they fished for anadromous Chinook Salmon, while 29% indicated they fished for steelhead. (Of note, 24 % and 43% email survey respondents indicated they fished for Chinook Salmon and steelhead, respectively, Appendix L). Of those that participated in Chinook Salmon fishing, the most

common type of fisheries were anglers fishing large rivers with motorized boats (32%) and large rivers from the shore/bank (30%; Figure 8). Results were different for steelhead anglers, for which the vast majority indicated they used non-motorized boats on large rivers most often (53%; Figure 8). When asked if they had any interest in fishing for anadromous Chinook Salmon or steelhead in the future, 60% of all anglers indicated they were interested in Chinook Salmon, while 69% were interested in steelhead (Question #12).

The Department is interested in understanding how we could improve salmon and steelhead fishing to increase angler satisfaction when participating. Understanding these factors can also help the Department prioritize which management activities to focus on when managing salmon/steelhead fisheries. We asked anglers to rate each factor in a list from "very important" to "very unimportant" for Chinook Salmon and steelhead fishing (Question #13, #14, respectively). We ranked each factor based on the average weighted score from the distribution of the five possible ratings. The top three factors to improving anadromous angling satisfaction were: (1) more updates on rule changes; (2) more detailed fishing reports, and (3) improved maintenance as access sites (Table 7). Despite being asked separately, the rankings of each factor were identical between Chinook Salmon and steelhead, suggesting similar preferences for these fisheries.

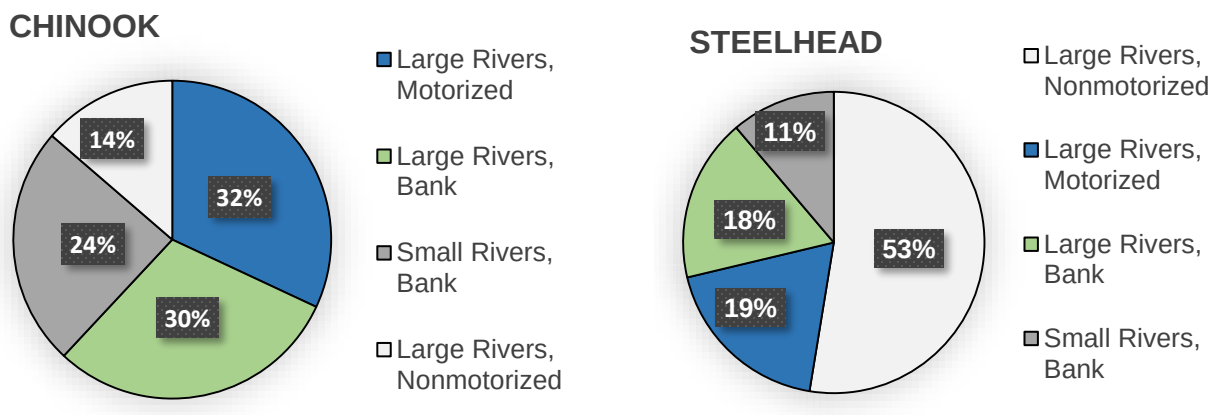


Figure 8. Percent of each type of fishing anglers indicated which type of fishing they do "most often" for ocean-run Chinook Salmon and steelhead.

Table 7. Rank of factors presented to anglers that may improve angling satisfaction with anadromous Chinook Salmon or steelhead fishing. Factors were ranked by mean weighted score of the distribution of five possible ratings from “very important” to “very unimportant”. Ranks are presented for both the randomized paper and email surveys.

Rank-Random Paper	Rank-Email	Factor to improving fishing experience
		Chinook Salmon fishing
1	1	More updates on rule changes
2	2	More detailed fishing reports
3	3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	4	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
5	5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	6	Provide more camping areas
7	7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	9	More boat ramps
10	10	Provide fish cleaning stations
		Steelhead fishing
1	1	More updates on rule changes
2	2	More detailed fishing reports
3	4	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
5	5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	6	Provide more camping areas
7	7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	9	More boat ramps
10	10	Provide fish cleaning stations

Fishing Tournaments

IDFG manages fishing tournaments to address public concerns that these permitted activities may increase boat traffic, crowd boat launches, and/or negatively affect the targeted fish population or overall fishing experience. We asked anglers whether they participated in any kinds of tournaments during the last five years (Question #15), and whether they agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for various types of fisheries in Idaho (Question #16). Across the entire sampling frame, only a small percentage of anglers participated in tournaments, with trout (3.4%) and bass (2.3%) having the highest participation. Respondents to the email survey showed higher participation in bass tournaments (3.2%), potentially suggesting a higher avidity (Table 8).

Support for tournaments varied across water and management types as well as by species, but was greatest for bass in lakes (35%) and trophy fishing in large lakes (32%). Compared to 2011, support for fishing tournaments has declined across all types compared to past surveys, most notably for anadromous species and trout tournaments (Table 9). Interestingly, email survey respondents showed slightly higher support for bass tournaments, but lower support for other tournament types. Anglers indicated little support for tournaments in rivers for salmon/steelhead (16%) or backcountry trout waters (14%; Table 10). There was a relatively high percentage (44–51%) of respondents who replied with a “neutral/no opinion” answer to these options, which was much higher than in the 2011 survey (27–40%). Rankings for each tournament (based on support) were similar between random paper and email survey respondents. However, email respondents had higher opposition to tournaments in most categories. These

data indicate there is no strong consensus among anglers as to how IDFG should handle this issue. Opinions were close to split for many tournament types and the high neutral/no opinion response rate suggests anglers are either apathetic or conflicted about fishing tournaments. If public support for some specific types of fishing tournaments continues to decline, the Department may need to consider additional efforts to more fully understand angler perceptions of tournaments of these sorts to further inform how tournaments are regulated.

Our sample encompassed a large variety of angler types across the entire state. Participation and opinions regarding fishing tournaments would likely change if the data were examined at finer scales to segment anglers based on demographic factors (age, license type, region of residence) or answers to previous questions. For example, when using only responses from anglers that listed “bass” as their most-favorite fish in Question #1, the support for fishing tournaments increases noticeably overall (Table 11). For bass tournaments specifically, support increased from 35% to 51% (38% to 54% for email results) when filtering only for bass anglers (Table 11). Finer examination of these data are possible for region-specific needs, but are beyond the scope of this document at a statewide perspective.

Table 8. Percent of respondents that indicated “yes” as to whether they participated in one of the listed types of fishing tournaments during the last five years.

Percent of anglers participating	Tournament Type
	Randomized paper survey
3.4%	Trout
2.3%	Bass
1.7%	Other
1.7%	Steelhead
1.1%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.8%	Kokanee
0.6%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
0.5%	Walleye
	Email survey
3.6%	Trout
3.2%	Bass
2.3%	Other
1.5%	Steelhead
0.8%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.8%	Kokanee
0.6%	Walleye
0.4%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)

Table 9. Percent support for various types of fishing tournaments for the statewide randomized paper survey with weighted results, compared to recent angler opinion surveys conducted in 2006 and 2011.

Tournament type (2017)	Tournament type (prior)	2006	2011	2017	2017 Email
Bass in lakes/reservoirs	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	41%	48%	35%	38%
Trophy fishing in large lakes	Trophy fishing in large lakes	41%	43%	32%	28%
Hatchery-supported trout waters	Hatchery-supported trout fishery	-	42%	31%	28%
Bass in rivers	Bass in rivers	30%	38%	28%	28%
Kokanee in large lakes	-	-	-	26%	24%
Catch-and-release trout waters	Catch-and-release trout waters using boats	27%	28%	22%	16%
-	Catch-and-release trout waters by wading	27%	34%	-	-
Quality trout waters	Quality trout waters by wading	27%	34%	22%	16%
-	Quality trout waters using boats	26%	29%	-	-
Steelhead on large rivers using boats	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	22%	28%	16%	14%
-	Steelhead on small rivers	14%	16%	-	-
Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	20%	27%	16%	13%
-	Chinook Salmon on small rivers	13%	16%	-	-
Backcountry trout waters	Backcountry trout waters	15%	19%	14%	8%
-	Profit-oriented catch-and-release tournaments	-	27%	-	-
-	Profit-oriented harvest tournaments	-	20%	-	-

Table 10. Percent of respondents that indicated support, opposition, or neutral as to whether tournaments were appropriate by the types listed.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
	Randomized paper survey			
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	35%	47%	18%
2	Trophy fishing in large lakes	32%	45%	24%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	31%	47%	22%
4	Bass in rivers	28%	51%	22%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	26%	50%	24%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	22%	47%	31%
7	Quality trout waters	22%	44%	34%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	16%	49%	35%
9	Chinook salmon on large rivers using boats	16%	49%	35%
10	Backcountry trout waters	14%	45%	42%
	Email survey			
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	38%	41%	21%
2	Bass in rivers	28%	45%	27%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	28%	44%	28%
4	Trophy fishing in large lakes	28%	41%	30%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	24%	45%	31%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	16%	40%	44%
7	Quality trout waters	16%	38%	46%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	14%	41%	45%
9	Chinook salmon on large rivers using boats	13%	41%	46%
10	Backcountry trout waters	8%	37%	55%

Table 11. Support/opposition by tournament type, summarized only from data where respondents selected “bass” as their most favorite fish in Question #1, shown for both the randomized paper survey and email survey.

Rank most support	Tournament type	Percent support	Neutral / no opinion	Percent opposed
	Randomized paper survey			
1	Trophy fishing in large lakes	51%	36%	13%
2	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	51%	36%	13%
3	Bass in rivers	41%	41%	18%
4	Hatchery-supported trout waters	33%	52%	15%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	30%	54%	15%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	29%	50%	21%
7	Quality trout waters	28%	51%	21%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	23%	52%	25%
9	Chinook salmon on large rivers using boats	23%	51%	26%
10	Backcountry trout waters	18%	50%	32%
	Email survey			
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	54%	27%	18%
2	Bass in rivers	45%	31%	24%
3	Trophy fishing in large lakes	39%	37%	23%
4	Hatchery-supported trout waters	32%	47%	21%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	29%	47%	24%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	20%	45%	35%
7	Quality trout waters	20%	42%	38%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	17%	45%	38%
9	Chinook salmon on large rivers using boats	17%	45%	38%
10	Backcountry trout waters	14%	40%	47%

Communications Preferences

Questions #17-19 asked anglers to provide feedback on what sources of information they use to plan fishing trips, whether they are interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Department, and how they might prefer to receive such information. Friends and family were by far the most important source of information used when deciding where to go fishing when planning a trip (Table 12). Tackle shops, social media friends, and the Department website were also important, but much less so. Rankings of information sources for planning fishing trips were largely the same for both random paper and email survey respondents.

Table 12. Sources of information for planning where to go fishing in order of importance based on ratings of “never”, “occasionally” or “often” shown by survey type.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
	Randomized paper survey	
1	Friends/Family	46%
2	Tackle shops	23%
3	Social Media - friends	18%
4	Fish and Game website	15%
5	Other websites	11%
6	Social Media - groups	10%
7	Newspapers	6%
8	Fish and Game offices	6%
9	Magazines	5%
10	Online forums	6%
11	Television	3%
12	Radio	2%
	Email survey	
1	Friends/Family	45%
2	Tackle shops	20%
3	Fish and Game website	20%
4	Social Media - friends	18%
5	Other websites	14%
6	Social Media - groups	9%
7	Newspapers	5%
8	Fish and Game offices	5%
9	Online forums	9%
10	Magazines	4%
11	Television	2%
12	Radio	2%

About 56% of respondents in the paper mail and email surveys indicated they were interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Department, respectively. Angler preference for how they receive this information varied by the type of content (Table 13). However, the Department website, e-mail, and postal mail were very important in most categories regardless of content type. In contrast, postal mail was ranked low in most content categories by respondents to the email survey, except for surveys, suggesting this audience prefers electronic communications (Appendix L). Email was either second or first in all categories except “rules”, suggesting a strong opportunity to communicate directly with anglers. The consistent preference for email is particularly interesting because of the relatively low proportion of anglers that have an email address in their customer database profile (only about 15% at this time). Additionally, 44% of respondents checked the “yes” box at the end of the survey

to receive email updates. About 65% of respondents in the email survey indicated they were interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Department. However, their communications preferences were noticeably different, showing a much stronger preference for social media channels in several types of content (Table 13).

High interest in receiving information and a general preference for email suggest that improving efforts to collect email addresses from anglers should be a Department communications priority. License vendors remain an important source of information for distributing fishing rules, but less so for other types of information. More recently, popular communication methods such as Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook might be more appealing to a growing segment of anglers, as indicated by responses from the email survey. A more detailed analysis that filtered responses by angler demographics or other preferences might change the ranks of these communication channels and improve Department communications, marketing, and survey efforts.

We asked anglers to report where they used the internet to research fishing information (from four available choices). Only 14% of paper mail respondents indicated they did not use the internet, which is slightly lower than the 19% estimated by National Telecommunications and Information Administration (Idaho Department of Labor, 2017) but slightly higher than the 11% national average reported by the Pew Research Center (Pew Research Center, 2018). Only 6% of email survey respondents indicated they did not use the internet to find fishing information. Next to home use, mobile devices are very common with all anglers accessing the internet, highlighting the importance for developing mobile-friendly content (Table 14).

Outreach and Education

The last two questions of the survey asked anglers to describe their experiences with three common Department outreach activities: “Take-Me-Fishing” trailer clinics, Trout in the Classroom, and Free Fishing Day. We asked anglers to describe whether they participated (Question #21), and how that participation may have influenced their decision to go fishing (and subsequently purchase a fishing license) as a result (Question #22). Only a small percentage of anglers indicated they had ever participated in one of these three programs (Figure 9), with Free Fishing Day having the largest participation (27%). Interestingly, 53% of respondents indicated they had never heard of the Take-Me-Fishing Trailer clinics, while 72% had never heard of Trout in the Classroom. This may not be surprising, since these programs are relatively new and targeted at youth and new anglers, while our sampling frame only included license holder (age-14 and up) and respondents were likely to be older than age-50. Many first-time anglers are often recruited by other anglers. Advertising these programs to increase awareness among current anglers might help recruit potential new anglers and improve program success. Responses to the outreach and education questions from the email survey were similar, and are shown in Appendix L.

Table 13. Communications method ranked by preference for each type of content. Anglers were asked to pick one most preferred method for each content type shown by both randomized paper and email survey responses.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
			Randomized paper survey		
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	E-mail	E-mail
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website
4	Facebook	Direct postal mail	Text message	Facebook	Public meetings
5	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor
6	Instagram	Facebook	Facebook	Public meetings	Facebook
7	Text message	Twitter	Public meetings	Text message	Text message
8	Public meetings	Text message	Twitter	Twitter	Twitter
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram
			Email survey		
1	Instagram	Twitter	E-mail	Facebook	Public meetings
2	Facebook	Public meetings	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail
3	Fish & Game website	Facebook	Twitter	E-mail	Facebook
4	E-mail	E-mail	Public meetings	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor
5	Twitter	Instagram	Facebook	Text message	Text message
6	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Instagram	Fish & Game website
7	Public meetings	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Fish & Game website	Twitter
8	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Direct postal mail	E-mail
9	Text message	Fish & Game website	Instagram	Twitter	Instagram

Table 14. Location where anglers indicated they use the internet to research fishing information by randomized mail and email survey respondents.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
	Randomized paper survey	
1	Home	45%
2	Mobile device / phone	29%
3	I don't use the Internet	14%
4	Work	12%
	Email survey	
1	Home	49%
2	Mobile device / phone	30%
3	Work	16%
4	I don't use the Internet	6%

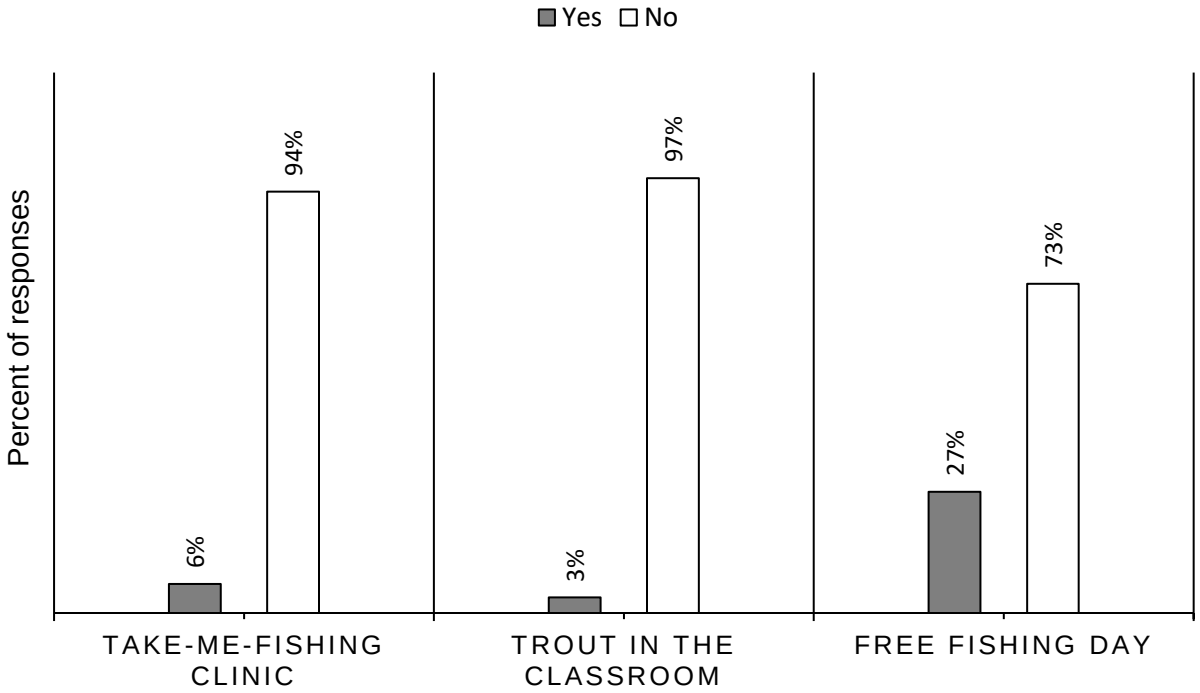
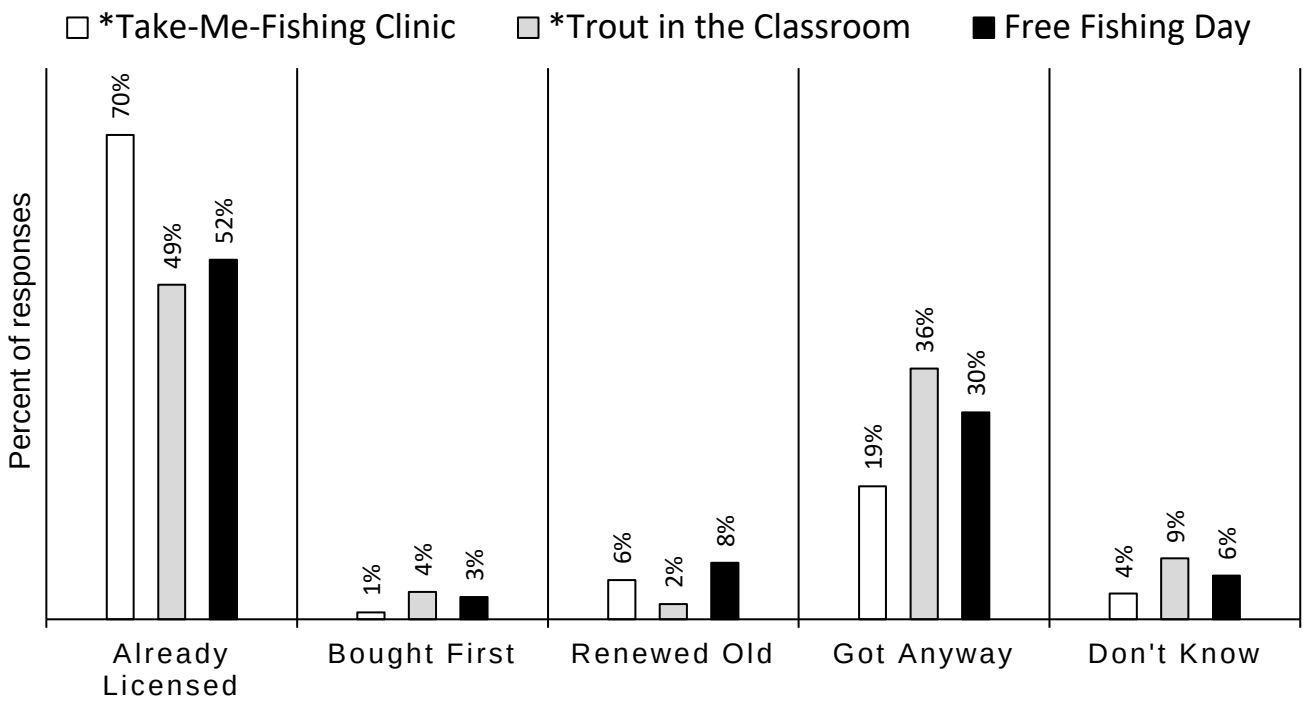


Figure 9. Percent of anglers that indicated they had every participated in one of three common Department outreach programs/events (Question #21).

For tabulating how participation may have affected the decision to continue fishing or purchase a fishing license, we selected only those respondents that indicated they had participated in Question #21 (Figure 10). Unfortunately, this left us with a very small number of responses for the Take-Me-Fishing Trailer clinics (n = 164) and Trout in the Classroom (n = 95). Additionally, the responses for this question suggest anglers were confused or misunderstood the question. Many Trout-in-the-Classroom participants indicated they were “already licensed” or “got one anyway”. This is illogical since most participants in this program are children, predominantly under age-14 who do not require fishing licenses.

The low sample size and confusing responses suggest this question was not well structured and results may likely be spurious.



* Sample sizes were very low for Take-Me-Fishing-Trailers (*n* = 164) and Trout in the Classroom (*n* = 95). For Free Fishing Day, *n* = 716.

Figure 10. How participation three outreach events/programs may have influenced anglers decision to continue fishing or purchase a fishing license. Responses filtered only for those having selected "yes" to participating in one of these programs in Question #21.

CONCLUSIONS

Consistent with historical trends, trout remain the most sought after fish in Idaho, with bass ranked second, followed by "anything that bites". The top-3 highest rated fishing experiences were trout fishing in rivers/streams, followed by alpine lakes, and lakes/reservoirs third. The highest ranked factors in deciding where to fish included: (1) natural beauty of the area, (2) presence of a favorite kind of fish, and (3) solitude. The proportion of tackle being used "occasionally" and "often" for each gear type was: lures (36%), bait (33%), flies (28%) and archery (3%), suggesting anglers use a variety of methods, while archery remains a small proportion of angler's effort. Anglers consistently rank "protecting and improving fish habitat" as the most important Department fisheries management activity. About 93% of anglers rated this management activity as either "very important" or "somewhat important. The most preferred option to reduce harvest to protect fish populations was to restrict the number of fish that can be kept, with 86% of respondents answering either "strongly support" or "somewhat support". Anglers indicated the Department could improve on maintaining fishing access sites, managing for trophy trout and Chinook Salmon and steelhead in rivers, and managing for quality trout fisheries. During the last five years, only 13% of anglers indicated they fished for anadromous Chinook Salmon, while 29% indicated they fished for steelhead. The top three factors to improving anadromous angling satisfaction were: (1) more updates on rule changes, (2) more detailed fishing reports, and (3) improved maintenance as access sites. Across the entire sampling

frame, only a small percentage of anglers participated in tournaments, with support for tournaments being greatest for bass in lakes (35%) and trophy fishing in large lakes (32%).

Overall, age distribution (and associated bias) and preferences from email respondents were similar to the randomized paper survey with a few exceptions. Email respondents showed higher support for bass tournaments, and were more critical of the Department's management of salmon/steelhead, but ranked most priorities similarly. In light of the declining trend of response rates, our randomized paper mail survey had a moderate 29% response rate, and still generated robust sample sizes across each IDFG Region. This provided enough data to confidently summarize angler preferences both at the Regional and statewide scales. However, we should be cognizant of the age-specific biases we found in responses in both the email and randomized paper surveys, and we recommend future surveys should be weighted to account for that.

Despite relatively low email address rates for licensed anglers (about 15%), we still managed to collect responses from over 4,700 individuals. Low coverage and potential avidity bias from email respondents is potentially an issue with email surveys. Wallen et al. (2016) found several underlying socioeconomic differences between email and paper survey respondents. However, the majority of angler motivations and preferences reported were similar across survey modes, which has little impact on the survey outcomes. Other than for a few minor exceptions, angler preferences were similar between randomized paper and email surveys. Additionally, the email survey also presented a significant cost and time savings. Most email responses were collected within 3 days, and data were available immediately with no need for manual data entry. Future surveys should consider the relative trade-offs between traditional randomized paper surveys, and the potentially significant cost savings, reduced data entry time, and better data quality from an online survey interface.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Future surveys should consider weighting survey responses by age to account for age-related response bias

2. Future surveys should restructure questions regarding gear preference to clearly demonstrate which gear types anglers fish most often. The current survey language doesn't allow for a clear distinction between the relative popularity of flies, lures, bait and archery.

3. Increase efforts to collect email addresses from fishing/combo license holders to improve survey capabilities and outreach.

4. Future angler opinion surveys should be conducted using email. While our email survey showed some bias, the results were similar relative to the traditional paper surveys. The significant savings in cost and time are compelling justification.

5. Dedicate license funds specifically for resident (non-anadromous) fish habitat improvement/restoration projects to more closely align angler preferences with department spending.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A. List of fishing license types included when developing the sampling frame. Survey recipients were drawn randomly from a pool these license types active during 2016, and corresponding 3-year license types also active during 2016.

License type code	License type description	License type code	License description
101	Res. Combination	201	Nonres season combination
103	Res. Fishing	203	Nonres season fishing
104	Res. Sportsman package	204	Nonres tourist daily fishing
105	Res senior combination	206	Nonres tourist 10-day fishing
106	70+ combination	210	Nonres junior season fishing
107	Res. Junior combination	217	Nonres adult lifetime combo
109	Res. Junior fishing	219	Nonres adult lifetime fishing
111	Res. Adult lifetime combo	220	Nonres junior lifetime combo
113	Res. Adult lifetime fishing	222	Nonres junior lifetime fishing
114	Res. Junior lifetime combo	241	Nonres combination - 3 year
116	Res. Junior lifetime fishing	243	Nonres fishing - 3 year
118	Res senior fishing 65 years	244	Nonres junior fishing - 3 year
119	Nonres adult lifetime fishing	247	Nonres adult lifetime combination - 3 year
120	Nonres junior lifetime combo	249	Nonres adult lifetime fishing - 3 year
122	Nonres junior lifetime fishing	250	Nonres junior lifetime combination - 3 year
125	Res. Disabled combination class d	252	Nonres junior lifetime fishing - 3 year
126	Res. Disabled fishing class d		
127	Res. Disabled combination class d		
128	Res. Disabled fishing class d		
129	Res. Disabled combination class v		
130	Res. Disabled fishing class v		
131	Res. Furlough combination		
132	Res. Furlough fishing		
135	Res daily fishing license		
141	Resident combination - 3 year		
143	Resident fishing - 3 year		
145	Resident senior combination - 3 year		
147	Resident junior combination - 3 year		
149	Resident junior fishing - 3 year		
150	Resident disabled combination class d - 3 year		
151	Resident disabled fishing class d - 3 year		
152	Resident disabled combination class v - 3 year		
153	Resident disabled fishing class v - 3 year		
161	Resident adult lifetime combination - 3 year		
163	Resident adult lifetime fishing - 3 year		
164	Resident junior lifetime combination - 3 year		
166	Resident junior lifetime fishing - 3 year		

Appendix B. Invitation cover letter and survey form for the 2017 Angler Opinion Survey that was mailed to 12,000 recipients.

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
600 South Walnut/P.O. Box 25
Boise, Idaho 83707

C.L. "Butch" Otter / Governor
Virgil Moore / Director

November 2017

«FNAME» «MI» «LNAME»
«ADDR1»
«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP»

PIN #: «Survey PIN»

Dear «FNAME»:

In late October, you may have received a request to participate in the enclosed Angler Opinion Survey. In case you did not receive the survey, or otherwise were unable to fill it out and send it back in, we are sending you another copy. If you have recently returned the survey in the mail, thank you!

Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) conducts this statewide survey every six years to collect angler opinions to help us better manage fishing in the public interest. As a 2016 Idaho fishing license holder, you were randomly selected to participate in this survey. This survey covers a variety of important topics for the future of fisheries management in Idaho. Idaho's fisheries belong to everyone and we value your opinion in shaping fisheries management.

The survey is simple and should only take a few minutes. Please return the enclosed survey in the postage paid envelope by **December 4th**, if you do not want to participate in the survey you can return it blank and we will not contact you again.

Filling out the survey online is quick and easy! It also helps IDFG save on mailing costs. You can complete this survey on our website here:

https://idfg.idaho.gov/angler-opinion-survey-2017

Just enter your personal PIN # and last name to get started.

If you would rather respond by mail, just complete the survey and return in the postage paid envelope included. All your responses will remain strictly confidential and will only be used by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game for statistical purposes.

Return your questionnaire by December 4, 2017 for a chance to win one of 4 gift certificates of $100.00 to the fishing tackle vendor of your choice!
Your opinions on managing Idaho's fishery resources are greatly appreciated! If you have any questions regarding this survey, please call our Fisheries Bureau at 208-334-3791.

Sincerely,

Virgil Moore
Director

2017 IDAHO ANGLER OPINION SURVEY

1. From the following list please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Bluegill/perch/crappie	Kokanee
Bass	Whitefish
Walleye	Sturgeon
Catfish/bullhead	Carp/sucker/other nongame fish
Steelhead	Tiger Muskie
Chinook Salmon	Northern Pike
Trout	Anything that bites

1 - Most favorite: _____

2 - Second favorite: _____

3 - Third favorite: _____

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?
Please check how often for **each** type of fish.

Type of fish	Never	Occasionally	Often
Bluegill/perch/crappie	❑	❑	❑
Bass	❑	❑	❑
Walleye	❑	❑	❑
Catfish/bullhead	❑	❑	❑
Steelhead	❑	❑	❑
Chinook Salmon	❑	❑	❑
Trout	❑	❑	❑
Kokanee	❑	❑	❑
Whitefish	❑	❑	❑
Sturgeon	❑	❑	❑
Carp/sucker/other nongame fish	❑	❑	❑
Tiger Muskie	❑	❑	❑
Northern Pike	❑	❑	❑
Anything that bites	❑	❑	❑

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Type of experience	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Did Not Participate
Mountain lakes…					
…for trout	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Ponds, lakes and reservoirs…					
…for trout	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for bass	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for bluegill/ perch/crappie	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for walleye	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for Chinook Salmon	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for kokanee	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for catfish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Rivers and streams…					
…for trout	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for whitefish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for steelhead	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for Chinook Salmon	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for bass	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for catfish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
…for sturgeon	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Possible Factors	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral / No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
Solitude	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chance to catch native or wild fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chance to catch a lot of fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chance to catch a big fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chance to catch a variety of fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chance to keep some fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Presence of favorite kind of fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Hatchery fish stocked	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Boat ramps and marina facilities present	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Availability of information on fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Nearness to camping facilities	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Opportunity for activities other than fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Availability of licensed fishing guides	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Special rules	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Vehicle access	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Nearness to home or cabin	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
A place my family likes	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Natural beauty of area	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods? Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Method of fishing	Never	Occasionally	Often
Shore/bank	❑	❑	❑
Wade	❑	❑	❑
Float tube/kick boat	❑	❑	❑
Non-motorized boat (canoe, raft, drift boat, kayak etc.)	❑	❑	❑
Motor boat	❑	❑	❑
Ice fishing	❑	❑	❑

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Type of Gear	Never	Occasionally	Often
Lures	❑	❑	❑
Flies	❑	❑	❑
Bait	❑	❑	❑
Archery	❑	❑	❑

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Management Activity	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral / No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Protecting and improving fish habitat	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for steelhead fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing places for family fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing catch-and-release fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing and conserving native nongame fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Conducting classes on how to fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing mountain lake trout fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing fisheries information	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing new urban fishing ponds	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Management Activity	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Neutral / No Opinion
Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Protecting and improving fish habitat	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for steelhead fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing places for family fishing	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing catch-and-release fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing and conserving native nongame fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Conducting classes on how to fish	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Managing mountain lake trout fisheries	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing fisheries information	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing new urban fishing ponds	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

Special Rules

Special rules are most often used to protect fish populations and include methods like restrictions on species, size or number harvested, or fishing tackle. They are also used to provide fishing experiences desired by anglers. The Department wants your opinion about using *special rules* to provide enhanced fishing opportunities.

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Methods to Reduce Harvest	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Limit angler use	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Restrict the type of gear that can be used	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Apply catch-and-release rules	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Shorten the fishing season	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

	Pick ONE	
Chinook Salmon	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) using a motorized boat
	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) with non-motorized boat (drift boat, raft, etc.)
	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) by bank/shore/wade
	❑	Small rivers (i.e. Little Salmon, SF Clearwater, SF Salmon rivers) by bank/shore/wade

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

	Pick ONE	
Steelhead	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) using a motorized boat
	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) with non-motorized boat (drift boat, raft, etc.)
	❑	Large rivers (i.e. Clearwater, Salmon, Snake rivers) by bank/shore/wade
	❑	Small rivers (i.e. Little Salmon, SF Clearwater, SF Salmon rivers) by bank/shore/wade

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	**Yes**	**No**
Chinook Salmon – ocean run	❑	❑
Steelhead	❑	❑

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Possible Factors	**Very Important**	**Somewhat Important**	**Neutral / No Opinion**	**Somewhat Unimportant**	**Very Unimportant**
Provide fish cleaning stations	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More detailed fishing reports	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More updates on rule changes	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More easy/handicap bank access to rivers	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More boat ramps	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More restrooms near fishing areas	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Provide more camping areas	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More how-to info on fishing techniques	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Improved maintenance at access sites	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Possible Factors	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral / No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
Provide fish cleaning stations	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More detailed fishing reports	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More updates on rule changes	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More easy/handicap bank access to rivers	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More boat ramps	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More restrooms near fishing areas	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Provide more camping areas	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
More how-to info on fishing techniques	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Improved maintenance at access sites	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

Fishing Tournaments

Fishing tournaments are popular in Idaho, and most require permits from the Department. This helps address some concerns that tournaments might affect general anglers by increasing boat traffic, blocking boat ramps, or crowding prime fishing spots. Please tell us your opinion about fishing tournaments in Idaho.

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Tournament/Contest Type	Yes	No
Bass	❑	❑
Trout	❑	❑
Walleye	❑	❑
Kokanee	❑	❑
Chinook Salmon (lakes)	❑	❑
Chinook Salmon (rivers)	❑	❑
Steelhead	❑	❑
Other	❑	❑

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Types of Fisheries	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral / No Opinion	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Steelhead on large rivers using boats	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Catch-and-release trout waters	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Quality trout waters	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Hatchery-supported trout waters	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Kokanee in large lakes	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Backcountry trout waters	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Bass in rivers	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Bass in lakes/reservoirs	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Trophy fishing in large lakes	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

Please tell us about yourself!

We understand these questions are personal. However, your answers help us better understand current anglers and those who may be interested in fishing in the future. The answers you provide will not be used with your personal information and is for statistical purposes only.

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Source of Information	Never	Occasionally	Often
Tackle shops	❑	❑	❑
Social Media - groups	❑	❑	❑
Social Media - friends	❑	❑	❑
Newspapers	❑	❑	❑
Fish and Game offices	❑	❑	❑
Fish and Game website	❑	❑	❑
Other websites	❑	❑	❑
Online forums	❑	❑	❑
Friends/Family	❑	❑	❑
Magazines	❑	❑	❑
Radio	❑	❑	❑
Television	❑	❑	❑

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information? Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

	Fishing-related Information (Choose ONE for each column)				
Delivery Method	**News** fish stocking, access changes, water conditions, trip ideas	**Rules** season open/close, new rules	**Reminders** license renewals, expirations	**Informative Articles** newsletters, conservation stories, blogs	**Opinion Surveys** input on rule changes, season management
Public meetings	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Fish & Game website	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Facebook	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Direct postal mail	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
E-mail	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Pick up at license vendor	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Twitter	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Text message	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Instagram	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

❑ Home

❑ Work

❑ Mobile device / phone

❑ I do not use the Internet to research fishing information.

Outreach and Education

The Department has several outreach programs to teach new anglers about fishing and encourage people to try it. The "Take-Me-Fishing Trailers" are loaded with fishing tackle and host how-to clinics at many local waters. Trout in the Classroom works with 120 schools to raise trout in classroom aquariums for science education. On Free Fishing Day, people can fish without a license at dozens of events hosted at local waters across the state. We are curious to know if you have participated in any of these programs and how that may have influenced your decision to go fishing.

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs. Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

Program	YES It was great	YES Did not like it	NO But I know about it	NO Never heard of it
"Take-Me-Fishing" trailer clinic at local pond/lake	❑	❑	❑	❑
Trout in the Classroom	❑	❑	❑	❑
Free Fishing Day event	❑	❑	❑	❑

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program.

Program	Did not participate	Already licensed	Bought my first license	Renewed my old license	Would have gotten one anyway	I don't know
"Take-Me-Fishing" trailer clinics at ponds	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Trout in the Classroom	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Free Fishing Day event	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

Would you like to receive email updates from IDFG?

☐ No thanks

☐ Yes! Please send me fishing-related news including fish management articles, changes to fishing seasons and rules and survey invitations. Email address: _____

Thank you for completing this survey! Your opinion is very valuable to us and will help guide our Fisheries Management Plan in 2018.

Appendix C. Sample email invitation to complete the 2017 Angler Opinion Survey online.

Help guide the future of fishing in Idaho

Dear Idaho Hunter or Angler ,,

You and other anglers are being asked to take part in a survey about fishing in Idaho.

Every five to six years, Fish and Game surveys the fishing public on a variety of topics, including how often people fish and their preferred fish species, types of regulations they support, and more. It helps Fish and Game understand what anglers want and how well we are meeting your expectations. The information gathered in the survey is used in building Idaho's 5-year fish plan.

Idaho Fish and Game is sending you this email because you currently have a fishing license and we want to invite you to take the online survey about fishing in Idaho. All responses will remain confidential. Survey results are important to help shape Fish and Game's next statewide fish management plan.

Click here for more information about the survey on the Fish and Game website.

Thank you in advance for participating,
Idaho Fish and Game

2017 Fishing Survey

To take the survey, please follow these steps:

1. **Click on this link:**
https://idfg.idaho.gov/surveys/aos-email
2. **Enter your unique PIN #**
0
3. **Take the survey.**

This survey should take about 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey will close Nov 13.

Please note: A laptop or computer is recommended when taking the survey.

Your responses are confidential. The results of this survey will be reported as a summary of all responses, not by individual names.

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Appendix D. 2017 Angler Opinion survey results for the Panhandle Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 392 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	39.7%	18.7%	14.5%
2	Bass	18.3%	23.9%	12.5%
3	Kokanee	15.3%	16.5%	9.6%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	7.4%	11.0%	11.3%
5	Anything that bites	4.0%	1.1%	16.5%
6	Northern Pike	3.2%	7.7%	11.0%
7	Steelhead	3.7%	7.7%	5.5%
8	Chinook Salmon	4.5%	4.4%	7.0%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1.9%	3.3%	5.5%
10	Walleye	1.3%	4.1%	4.9%
11	Whitefish	0.0%	0.8%	1.2%
12	White Sturgeon	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%
13	Tiger muskellunge	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
14.5	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
14.5	Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	1.2%	11.4%	24.3%
2	Bass	2.6%	12.6%	15.6%
3	Anything that bites	3.0%	8.4%	17.6%
4	Kokanee	4.9%	9.6%	12.6%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	4.1%	12.2%	10.0%
6	Northern Pike	6.7%	8.5%	5.9%
7	steelhead	8.1%	7.6%	2.9%
8	Catfish / bullhead	7.7%	8.0%	2.9%
9	Chinook Salmon	8.5%	6.8%	2.9%
10	Walleye	9.7%	4.3%	2.5%
11	Whitefish	10.3%	3.8%	1.0%
12	Tiger muskellunge	10.5%	2.7%	0.9%
13	White Sturgeon	11.1%	2.2%	0.5%
14	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	11.5%	1.7%	0.4%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	12%	28%	23%	5%	31%
2	Rivers / Streams	for trout	15%	26%	24%	8%	27%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	9%	21%	20%	5%	45%
4	Alpine Lakes	for trout	9%	26%	21%	6%	38%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	6%	37%	27%	7%	23%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	7%	32%	33%	8%	20%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	2%	17%	19%	7%	56%
8	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	1%	6%	8%	4%	82%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	10%	16%	11%	62%
10	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	1%	6%	16%	7%	70%
11	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	0%	5%	8%	5%	81%
12	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	0%	1%	3%	2%	93%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	1%	2%	12%	7%	78%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	1%	4%	8%	12%	76%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	3%	12%	12%	72%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	46%	41%	9%	2%	2%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	42%	42%	10%	3%	4%
3	Solitude	32%	42%	17%	5%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	32%	44%	13%	8%	3%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	28%	42%	19%	8%	3%
6	A place my family likes	28%	42%	18%	4%	7%
7	Chance to catch native or wild fish	27%	37%	23%	6%	7%
8	Vehicle access	25%	38%	24%	6%	7%
9	Chance to keep some fish	29%	39%	13%	6%	13%
10	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	27%	31%	24%	9%	10%
11	Availability of information on fishing	20%	28%	35%	10%	7%
12	Nearness to home or cabin	12%	40%	30%	8%	10%
13	Chance to catch a big fish	9%	38%	35%	13%	6%
14	Nearness to camping facilities	11%	30%	33%	13%	12%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	8%	25%	44%	9%	14%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	7%	26%	37%	15%	15%
17	Special rules	10%	9%	50%	11%	20%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	4%	6%	35%	15%	41%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	47%
2	Motor boat	44%
3	Wade	19%
4	Non-motorized boat	14%
5	Ice Fishing	7%
6	Float tube/kick boat	9%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Lures	5%	31%	42%
2	Bait	20%	34%	24%
3	Flies	11%	34%	34%
4	Archery	64%	1%	1%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	2	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	4	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
4	3	Providing places for family fishing
5	12	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
6	6	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	7	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
8	14	Managing for steelhead fishing
9	15	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
10	9	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
11	11	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
12	8	Providing fisheries information
13	5	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
14	10	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
15	13	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	16	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
17	17	Conducting classes on how to fish
18	18	Providing new urban fishing ponds

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	83%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	79%
3	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	64%
4	Apply catch-and-release rules	65%
5	Limit angler use	43%
6	Shorten the fishing season	19%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	11%
No	89%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	53%	Large Rivers, Motorized
2	23%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	14%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	9%	Large Rivers, Non-motorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	25%
No	75%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	47%	Large Rivers, Motorized
2	32%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
3	15%	Large Rivers, Bank
4	5%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	60%	40%
Steelhead	65%	35%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Improved maintenance at access sites
3	More detailed fishing reports
4	More restrooms near fishing areas
5	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More boat ramps
9	More how-to info on fishing techniques
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Improved maintenance at access sites
3	More detailed fishing reports
4	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More boat ramps
9	More how-to info on fishing techniques
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
5.1%	Trout
3.2%	Bass
3.2%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
2.2%	Other
2.2%	Kokanee
0.5%	Walleye
0.3%	Steelhead
0.0%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	41%	43%	16%
2	Trophy fishing in large lakes	41%	40%	18%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	31%	48%	21%
4	Kokanee in large lakes	33%	44%	24%
5	Bass in rivers	27%	51%	22%
6	Quality trout waters	24%	43%	33%
7	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	19%	50%	31%
8	Catch-and-release trout waters	20%	48%	32%
9	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	18%	50%	32%
10	Backcountry trout waters	13%	46%	41%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	47%
2	Tackle shops	22%
3	Social Media - friends	17%
4	Fish and Game website	10%
5	Newspapers	8%
6	Other websites	9%
7	Fish and Game offices	6%
8	Magazines	6%
9	Social Media - groups	8%
10	Online forums	6%
11	Television	4%
12	Radio	2%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
58%	42%	373

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	E-mail	E-mail
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website
4	Facebook	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings
5	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings	Text message	Facebook	Pick up at license vendor
6	Public meetings	Facebook	Facebook	Public meetings	Facebook
7	Text message	Text message	Public meetings	Twitter	Twitter
8	Instagram	Twitter	Twitter	Instagram	Text message
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Text message	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	44%
2	Mobile device / phone	27%
3	I don't use the Internet	21%
4	Work	9%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	5.0%	0.0%	35.0%	60.0%	380
Trout in the Classroom	2.7%	0.5%	18.6%	78.2%	377
Free Fishing Day	22.1%	1.3%	57.3%	19.3%	384

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	60%	0%	7%	20%	13%	15
Trout in the Classroom	50%	0%	0%	25%	25%	8
Free Fishing Day	60%	3%	9%	25%	4%	77

Appendix E. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Clearwater Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 449 returned surveys.

1. From the following list please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most Favorite	2 Second Favorite	3 Third Favorite
1	Trout	37.7%	22.2%	15.6%
2	Bass	22.1%	24.6%	17.6%
3	Steelhead	14.6%	20.3%	14.8%
4	Anything that bites	2.3%	1.0%	18.4%
5	Chinook Salmon	10.0%	10.3%	8.7%
6	Kokanee	8.0%	7.4%	7.9%
7	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	2.1%	7.7%	7.7%
8	Catfish / bullhead	1.4%	1.9%	4.1%
9	Northern Pike	0.2%	1.0%	1.8%
10.5	Walleye	0.7%	1.0%	1.3%
10.5	Whitefish	0.0%	1.7%	1.0%
12	White Sturgeon	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%
13	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
15	Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?
Please check how often for **each** type of fish.

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	1.0%	12.9%	23.8%
2	Bass	2.2%	14.2%	16.7%
3	Steelhead	3.9%	11.3%	12.9%
4	Anything that bites	3.6%	9.4%	15.1%
5	Chinook Salmon	5.3%	10.0%	8.5%
6	Kokanee	6.4%	8.8%	7.7%
7	Bluegill/perch/crappie	5.9%	10.9%	5.5%
8	Catfish/bullhead	8.3%	7.0%	2.4%
9	White sturgeon	10.2%	3.5%	1.3%
10	Whitefish	10.4%	2.3%	2.6%
11	Northern pike	10.4%	3.0%	1.5%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10.7%	2.5%	0.9%
13	Walleye	10.4%	2.7%	0.7%
14	Tiger muskellunge	11.4%	1.3%	0.4%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did Not Participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	16%	32%	24%	5%	24%
2	Alpine Lakes	for bluegill / perch / crappie	10%	25%	18%	3%	45%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	13%	41%	24%	6%	16%
4	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	11%	24%	20%	4%	42%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	8%	20%	16%	5%	50%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	6%	18%	14%	4%	59%
7	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	8%	31%	30%	7%	24%
8	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	2%	6%	5%	3%	84%
9	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	5%	20%	25%	10%	41%
10	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	1%	5%	6%	3%	84%
11	Rivers / Streams	for walleye	2%	5%	12%	4%	77%
12	Lakes / Reservoirs	for whitefish	1%	4%	15%	4%	76%
13	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	3%	13%	17%	15%	52%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	0%	5%	10%	11%	74%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	0%	1%	3%	3%	92%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	47%	36%	12%	2%	3%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	43%	37%	14%	3%	3%
3	Solitude	34%	42%	14%	4%	6%
4	A place my family likes	31%	38%	19%	4%	8%
5	Chance to catch a variety of fish	22%	48%	20%	6%	4%
6	Chance to keep some fish	29%	35%	19%	9%	8%
7	Chance to catch a lot of fish	19%	45%	22%	9%	6%
8	Vehicle access	19%	43%	21%	8%	10%
9	Chance to catch native or wild fish	19%	32%	29%	10%	9%
10	Nearness to home or cabin	10%	40%	27%	11%	12%
11	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	23%	24%	25%	10%	19%
12	Availability of information on fishing	18%	29%	26%	11%	17%
13	Nearness to camping facilities	12%	35%	28%	9%	15%
14	Chance to catch a big fish	10%	27%	38%	14%	12%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	10%	23%	40%	11%	16%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	7%	29%	34%	13%	17%
17	Special rules	8%	12%	43%	11%	25%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	2%	4%	30%	13%	51%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	58%
2	Motor boat	31%
3	Wade	20%
4	Non-motorized boat	10%
5	Ice Fishing	4%
6	Float tube/kick boat	5%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most Often Used Gear Type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Lures	3%	33%	42%
2	Bait	6%	34%	39%
3	Flies	26%	31%	18%
4	Archery	64%	3%	0%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-importance	Rank-performance	Most important IDFG activities
1	6	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
2	3	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	16	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
4	2	Protecting and improving fish habitat
5	4	Managing for steelhead fishing
6	14	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
7	11	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
8	8	Providing fisheries information
9	1	Providing places for family fishing
10	10	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
11	12	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
12	9	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
13	7	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
14	5	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
15	15	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
16	13	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
17	17	Providing new urban fishing ponds
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	83%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	72%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	61%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	58%
5	Limit angler use	37%
6	Shorten the fishing season	27%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	37%
No	63%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	45%	Large Rivers, Motorized
2	30%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	16%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
4	9%	Small Rivers, Bank

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	55%
No	45%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	37%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	34%	Large Rivers, Motorized
3	22%	Large Rivers, Bank
4	7%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	73%	27%
Steelhead	77%	23%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Improved maintenance at access sites
3	More detailed fishing reports
4	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More boat ramps
9	More how-to info on fishing techniques
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Improved maintenance at access sites
3	More detailed fishing reports
4	More restrooms near fishing areas
5	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More boat ramps
9	More how-to info on fishing techniques
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
6.2%	Steelhead
3.7%	Trout
2.3%	Bass
1.9%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
1.6%	Other
0.9%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.7%	Kokanee
0.2%	Walleye

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	35%	48%	18%
2	Hatchery-supported trout waters	31%	47%	22%
3	Trophy fishing in large lakes	31%	46%	24%
4	Bass in rivers	27%	51%	21%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	26%	51%	24%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	22%	47%	31%
7	Quality trout waters	22%	44%	34%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	18%	48%	34%
9	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	17%	49%	34%
10	Backcountry trout waters	13%	45%	41%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	43%
2	Tackle shops	16%
3	Social Media - friends	16%
4	Fish and Game website	12%
5	Newspapers	7%
6	Other websites	8%
7	Fish and Game offices	6%
8	Social Media - groups	7%
9	Magazines	3%
10	Television	4%
11	Radio	3%
12	Online forums	4%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
49%	51%	434

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information? Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Pick up at license vendor	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	E-mail	E-mail
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website
4	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Facebook	Public meetings
5	Facebook	Public meetings	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor
6	Public meetings	Twitter	Facebook	Public meetings	Text message
7	Instagram	Facebook	Twitter	Twitter	Instagram
8	Text message	Text message	Public meetings	Instagram	Twitter
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Text message	Facebook

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	45%
2	Mobile device / phone	24%
3	I don't use the Internet	22%
4	Work	9%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs. Please check ONE choice for each event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	7.2%	0.2%	50.9%	41.6%	430
Trout in the Classroom	4.4%	0.5%	31.2%	64.0%	430
Free Fishing Day	31.8%	1.9%	56.4%	10.0%	431

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	69%	3%	10%	17%	0%	29
Trout in the Classroom	73%	0%	7%	20%	0%	15
Free Fishing Day	58%	2%	6%	26%	8%	130

Appendix F. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Southwest Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 365 returned surveys.

1. From the following list please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most Favorite	2 Second Favorite	3 Third Favorite
1	Trout	45%	18%	16%
2	Bass	16%	23%	14%
3	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	12%	18%	12%
4	Anything that bites	2%	4%	20%
5	Steelhead	9%	14%	9%
6	Catfish / bullhead	6%	6%	8%
7	Chinook Salmon	4%	9%	6%
8	Kokanee	4%	5%	8%
9	White Sturgeon	1%	1%	3%
10	Walleye	1%	1%	1%
11	Whitefish	0%	1%	1%
12	Northern Pike	0%	0%	1%
13	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	0%
14.5	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	0%
14.5	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?
Please check how often for **each** type of fish.

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	1%	10%	29%
2	Bass	3%	14%	14%
3	Anything that bites	3%	10%	17%
4	Bluegill/perch/crappie	4%	13%	12%
5	Catfish/bullhead	6%	10%	7%
6	Steelhead	6%	10%	6%
7	Kokanee	7%	9%	6%
8	Chinook Salmon	8%	7%	4%
9	White Sturgeon	10%	5%	1%
10	Whitefish	10%	4%	1%
11	Carp/sucker/nongame	10%	3%	1%
12	Walleye	10%	4%	1%
13	Northern Pike	11%	1%	0%
14	Tiger muskellunge	12%	1%	0%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Best General Fishing Experience		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did Not Participate
1	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	11%	33%	20%	6%	31%
2	Rivers / Streams	for trout	14%	35%	27%	6%	18%
3	Alpine Lakes	for trout	11%	29%	24%	7%	29%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	9%	30%	28%	5%	28%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	9%	34%	33%	8%	16%
6	Rivers / Streams	for bass	7%	19%	20%	7%	48%
7	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	3%	13%	19%	4%	60%
8	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	2%	7%	9%	3%	78%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	16%	16%	7%	58%
10	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	2%	6%	7%	4%	82%
11	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	4%	9%	18%	9%	60%
12	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	4%	9%	20%	10%	57%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	3%	7%	13%	9%	68%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	2%	4%	7%	12%	75%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	0%	2%	7%	6%	85%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
3	Solitude	32%	43%	18%	4%	2%
9	Chance to catch native or wild fish	19%	38%	30%	5%	7%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	27%	48%	16%	5%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	31%	46%	15%	5%	3%
12	Chance to catch a big fish	10%	38%	34%	10%	8%
8	Chance to keep some fish	28%	38%	16%	8%	11%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	43%	42%	10%	3%	2%
14	Hatchery fish stocked	11%	26%	45%	10%	8%
15	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	18%	26%	29%	11%	16%
11	Availability of information on fishing	18%	34%	28%	11%	8%
10	Nearness to camping facilities	17%	41%	25%	9%	8%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	12%	28%	32%	16%	12%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	4%	6%	27%	18%	45%
17	Special rules	9%	15%	41%	12%	22%
7	Vehicle access	22%	46%	20%	6%	6%
13	Nearness to home or cabin	10%	38%	31%	10%	11%
6	A place my family likes	30%	39%	20%	5%	6%
1	Natural beauty of area	46%	38%	12%	2%	2%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	58%
2	Motor boat	30%
3	Wade	22%
4	Non-motorized boat	14%
5	Float tube/kick boat	9%
6	Ice Fishing	5%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
2	Lures	5%	39%	36%
3	Flies	25%	34%	19%
1	Bait	8%	24%	43%
4	Archery	62%	3%	1%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-importance	Rank-performance	Most important IDFG activities
1	2	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	10	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	1	Providing places for family fishing
4	5	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
5	9	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
6	17	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
7	18	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
8	7	Managing for steelhead fishing
9	11	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
10	8	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
11	3	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
12	4	Providing fisheries information
13	6	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
14	13	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
15	12	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	14	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	16	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	15	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	83%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	78%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	64%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	61%
5	Limit angler use	43%
6	Shorten the fishing season	19%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	16%
No	84%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	34%	Small Rivers, Bank
2	31%	Large Rivers, Motorized
3	24%	Large Rivers, Bank
4	10%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	33%
No	67%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	47%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2.5	20%	Large Rivers, Motorized
2.5	20%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	14%	Large Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	66%	34%
Steelhead	74%	26%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	Provide fish cleaning stations
10	More boat ramps

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	Provide fish cleaning stations
10	More boat ramps

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
2.9%	Other
2.5%	Bass
2.5%	Trout
2.0%	Steelhead
0.3%	Walleye
0.3%	Kokanee
0.3%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.0%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	42%	42%	16%
2	Trophy fishing in large lakes	35%	43%	22%
3	Bass in rivers	34%	46%	20%
4	Hatchery-supported trout waters	34%	45%	21%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	28%	49%	23%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	28%	45%	27%
7	Quality trout waters	26%	44%	30%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	20%	47%	33%
9	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	20%	46%	34%
10	Backcountry trout waters	17%	43%	40%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	41%
2	Tackle shops	22%
3	Social Media - friends	19%
4	Fish and Game website	17%
5	Other websites	10%
6	Newspapers	7%
7	Social Media - groups	11%
8	Fish and Game offices	6%
9	Online forums	6%
10	Television	4%
11	Magazines	3%
12	Radio	2%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
65%	35%	355

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information? Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Direct postal mail	Facebook	E-mail
4	Facebook	Direct postal mail	Text message	Direct postal mail	Public meetings
5	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor
6	Instagram	Facebook	Facebook	Text message	Facebook
7	Text message	Twitter	Twitter	Public meetings	Text message
8	Public meetings	Text message	Public meetings	Twitter	Twitter
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	45%
2	Mobile device / phone	30%
3	I don't use the Internet	13%
4	Work	12%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs. Please check ONE choice for each event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	7.0%	0.8%	49.0%	43.1%	355
Trout in the Classroom	3.1%	0.3%	28.1%	68.5%	356
Free Fishing Day	31.8%	1.4%	56.5%	10.3%	359

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	73.9%	0.0%	0.0%	21.7%	4.3%	23
Trout in the Classroom	44.4%	11.1%	0.0%	33.3%	11.1%	9
Free Fishing Day	45.8%	2.8%	11.2%	32.7%	7.5%	107

Appendix G. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Magic Valley Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 371 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	56.3%	16.7%	10.8%
2	Bass	9.4%	22.1%	13.2%
3	Anything that bites	4.3%	4.0%	17.0%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	4.3%	11.3%	10.3%
5	Steelhead	6.5%	16.2%	6.2%
6.5	Walleye	8.4%	5.9%	5.7%
6.5	Catfish / bullhead	3.0%	4.6%	8.4%
8	Chinook Salmon	1.3%	4.3%	6.2%
9	White Sturgeon	2.2%	2.7%	3.8%
10	Kokanee	0.8%	3.8%	2.7%
11	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%
12	Whitefish	0.5%	0.5%	0.3%
13	Northern Pike	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
15	Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.5%	9.8%	36.0%
2	Anything that bites	3.0%	8.9%	20.6%
3	Bass	3.3%	14.0%	12.6%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	5.6%	12.2%	5.8%
5	steelhead	7.0%	8.5%	5.7%
6	Walleye	6.8%	9.6%	4.6%
7	Catfish / bullhead	6.6%	9.6%	4.3%
8	Kokanee	8.2%	7.0%	2.0%
9	Chinook Salmon	8.5%	6.0%	2.5%
10	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	9.0%	4.7%	2.5%
11	White Sturgeon	9.0%	5.1%	1.8%
12	Whitefish	10.1%	2.8%	1.1%
13	Tiger muskellunge	11.1%	0.9%	0.3%
14	Northern Pike	11.3%	0.8%	0.2%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	17%	38%	30%	7%	8%
2	Rivers / Streams	for trout	16%	36%	28%	7%	14%
3	Alpine Lakes	for trout	11%	23%	24%	5%	36%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	6%	27%	23%	7%	37%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	4%	19%	19%	9%	49%
6	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	3%	7%	7%	5%	79%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	5%	15%	17%	10%	54%
8	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	1%	5%	9%	4%	81%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	1%	6%	9%	5%	79%
10	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	2%	9%	16%	7%	65%
11	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	2%	5%	9%	6%	79%
12	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	3%	8%	13%	8%	68%
13	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	8%	17%	8%	65%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	2%	9%	14%	13%	61%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	0%	4%	7%	6%	83%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	43%	40%	12%	2%	3%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	41%	39%	14%	3%	3%
3	Solitude	35%	42%	15%	5%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	28%	46%	19%	5%	3%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	24%	45%	21%	6%	3%
6	A place my family likes	30%	38%	18%	5%	8%
7	Vehicle access	25%	38%	21%	10%	7%
8	Chance to catch native or wild fish	25%	33%	26%	9%	7%
9	Chance to keep some fish	27%	36%	16%	10%	11%
10	Nearness to camping facilities	16%	36%	26%	13%	9%
11	Availability of information on fishing	20%	30%	27%	13%	11%
12	Chance to catch a big fish	11%	36%	34%	11%	8%
13	Hatchery fish stocked	10%	30%	40%	11%	9%
14	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	18%	25%	31%	12%	15%
15	Nearness to home or cabin	9%	36%	32%	11%	13%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	10%	30%	33%	13%	14%
17	Special rules	10%	12%	40%	13%	25%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	6%	7%	30%	12%	46%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	59%
2	Motor boat	25%
3	Wade	22%
4	Non-motorized boat	9%
5	Float tube/kick boat	12%
6	Ice Fishing	7%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Bait	6%	24%	45%
2	Lures	7%	36%	33%
3	Flies	23%	33%	20%
4	Archery	63%	7%	2%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	8	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
3	3	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
4	2	Providing places for family fishing
5	4	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
6	7	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
7	12	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
8	11	Managing for steelhead fishing
9	14	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
10	5	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
11	9	Providing fisheries information
12	13	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
13	10	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
14	15	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
15	6	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
16	16	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
17	17	Providing new urban fishing ponds
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	83%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	78%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	64%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	56%
5	Limit angler use	42%
6	Shorten the fishing season	14%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	10%
No	90%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	50%	Small Rivers, Bank
2	34%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	9%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
4	7%	Large Rivers, Motorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	28%
No	72%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	60%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	31%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	8%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	1%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	56%	44%
Steelhead	67%	33%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
5	Provide more camping areas
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	More restrooms near fishing areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	Provide fish cleaning stations
10	More boat ramps

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	Provide more camping areas
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	More restrooms near fishing areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
3.6%	Bass
3.1%	Trout
2.0%	Walleye
0.8%	Kokanee
0.8%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
1.1%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
1.7%	Steelhead
1.4%	Other

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	36%	49%	15%
2	Bass in rivers	34%	48%	18%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	34%	48%	18%
4	Trophy fishing in large lakes	31%	45%	24%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	22%	54%	24%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	22%	51%	27%
7	Quality trout waters	23%	45%	32%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	14%	51%	35%
9	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	13%	50%	36%
10	Backcountry trout waters	14%	47%	39%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	47%
2	Tackle shops	15%
3	Social Media - friends	18%
4	Fish and Game website	14%
5.5	Social Media - groups	10%
5.5	Newspapers	7%
7	Fish and Game offices	5%
8	Other websites	7%
9	Television	3%
10	Magazines	5%
11	Radio	4%
12	Online forums	4%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
57%	43%	360

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Fish & Game website
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	E-mail
4	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings
5	Facebook	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor	Facebook	Pick up at license vendor
6	Public meetings	Facebook	Facebook	Public meetings	Facebook
7	Text message	Text message	Public meetings	Instagram	Twitter
8	Instagram	Twitter	Twitter	Text message	Text message
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Twitter	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	42%
2	Mobile device / phone	29%
3	I don't use the Internet	20%
4	Work	9%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	6.7%	0.3%	42.9%	50.1%	357
Trout in the Classroom	3.4%	0.0%	28.5%	68.2%	355
Free Fishing Day	23.2%	2.0%	58.7%	16.2%	358

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	61%	0%	17%	17%	6%	18
Trout in the Classroom	67%	0%	0%	22%	11%	9
Free Fishing Day	58%	4%	4%	28%	6%	71

Appendix H. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Southeast Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 394 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	71.5%	17.5%	11.2%
2	Bass	9.2%	26.4%	13.7%
3	Anything that bites	3.4%	3.2%	28.0%
4	Steelhead	6.9%	19.5%	8.4%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	3.4%	12.4%	11.5%
6	Chinook Salmon	1.1%	4.0%	9.3%
7	Kokanee	1.1%	8.3%	5.3%
8	Walleye	1.6%	2.6%	4.3%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1.1%	2.9%	2.2%
10	Whitefish	0.0%	2.0%	1.2%
11	White Sturgeon	0.0%	0.6%	2.2%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0.5%	0.6%	0.9%
13	Northern Pike	0.3%	0.0%	0.9%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%
15	Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.5%	9.6%	40.6%
2	Anything that bites	2.8%	10.6%	20.9%
3	Bass	4.3%	13.4%	11.7%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	5.3%	13.5%	6.1%
5	steelhead	6.7%	9.9%	5.4%
6	Kokanee	7.6%	6.9%	5.1%
7	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	8.1%	6.5%	2.9%
8	Chinook Salmon	8.2%	6.6%	2.2%
9	Catfish / bullhead	8.4%	6.2%	1.4%
10	Walleye	8.7%	5.4%	1.6%
11	Whitefish	8.9%	4.8%	1.6%
12	White Sturgeon	9.7%	3.3%	0.2%
13	Tiger muskellunge	10.3%	1.8%	0.2%
14	Northern Pike	10.4%	1.3%	0.2%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	17%	41%	25%	4%	13%
2	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	12%	44%	29%	6%	9%
3	Alpine Lakes	for trout	10%	27%	23%	4%	36%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	6%	19%	21%	3%	51%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	6%	24%	22%	6%	41%
6	Rivers / Streams	for bass	3%	14%	17%	6%	59%
7	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	1%	5%	7%	4%	82%
8	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	1%	6%	13%	6%	73%
9	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	2%	9%	16%	9%	64%
10	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	0%	3%	11%	5%	81%
11	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	0%	3%	5%	4%	88%
12	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	1%	2%	8%	7%	83%
13	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	1%	3%	12%	7%	78%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	1%	7%	5%	86%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	0%	3%	9%	9%	79%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	43%	41%	11%	3%	3%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	38%	41%	16%	3%	2%
3	Chance to catch a variety of fish	34%	47%	15%	3%	2%
4	A place my family likes	35%	42%	13%	4%	6%
5	Solitude	29%	43%	22%	4%	2%
6	Chance to catch a lot of fish	24%	50%	20%	4%	2%
7	Vehicle access	26%	41%	22%	7%	4%
8	Chance to keep some fish	27%	38%	19%	10%	6%
9	Chance to catch native or wild fish	23%	35%	25%	9%	7%
10	Availability of information on fishing	21%	33%	34%	7%	6%
11	Nearness to camping facilities	16%	42%	26%	10%	5%
12	Chance to catch a big fish	14%	33%	38%	10%	5%
13	Hatchery fish stocked	11%	34%	40%	7%	8%
14	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	19%	28%	30%	10%	12%
15	Nearness to home or cabin	13%	31%	36%	9%	11%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	10%	32%	32%	15%	11%
17	Special rules	9%	19%	44%	12%	16%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	5%	8%	32%	13%	42%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	58%
2	Wade	29%
3	Motor boat	26%
4	Ice Fishing	12%
5	Non-motorized boat	9%
6	Float tube/kick boat	13%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Bait	9%	25%	41%
2	Lures	6%	36%	35%
3	Flies	22%	31%	22%
4	Archery	63%	8%	2%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	2	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	3	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	1	Providing places for family fishing
4	4	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
5	7	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	5	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
7	9	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
8	12	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
9	13	Managing for steelhead fishing
10	8	Providing fisheries information
11	16	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
12	10	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
13	6	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
14	15	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
15	14	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	11	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	17	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	86%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	78%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	64%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	60%
5	Limit angler use	41%
6	Shorten the fishing season	16%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	11%
No	89%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	43%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	28%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
3	20%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	10%	Small Rivers, Bank

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	26%
No	74%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	66%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	18%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	10%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	7%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	61%	39%
Steelhead	68%	32%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
5.3%	Trout
2.6%	Bass
2.2%	Other
0.6%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
0.5%	Kokanee
0.5%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.5%	Steelhead
0.3%	Walleye

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	34%	49%	16%
2	Hatchery-supported trout waters	34%	49%	18%
3	Trophy fishing in large lakes	28%	49%	23%
4	Bass in rivers	24%	55%	21%
5	Catch-and-release trout waters	29%	46%	25%
6	Kokanee in large lakes	24%	56%	20%
7	Quality trout waters	26%	43%	30%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	14%	55%	31%
9	Backcountry trout waters	16%	49%	35%
10	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	13%	56%	31%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	46%
2	Tackle shops	14%
3	Fish and Game website	15%
4	Social Media - friends	14%
5	Fish and Game offices	6%
6	Other websites	8%
7	Social Media - groups	6%
8	Newspapers	3%
9	Magazines	4%
10	Online forums	6%
11	Television	4%
12	Radio	3%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
57%	43%	377

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Pick up at license vendor	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	Facebook	E-mail
3	Direct postal mail	E-mail	Text message	E-mail	Public meetings
4	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website
5	Facebook	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor
6	Instagram	Twitter	Facebook	Public meetings	Twitter
7	Text message	Facebook	Public meetings	Instagram	Instagram
8	Public meetings	Text message	Twitter	Twitter	Text message
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Text message	Facebook

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	43%
2	Mobile device / phone	29%
3	I don't use the Internet	19%
4	Work	9%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	9.3%	0.8%	50.7%	39.2%	375
Trout in the Classroom	6.1%	0.3%	27.5%	66.0%	374
Free Fishing Day	30.4%	2.4%	56.1%	11.1%	378

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	77%	6%	0%	13%	3%	31
Trout in the Classroom	50%	6%	6%	22%	17%	18
Free Fishing Day	61%	4%	7%	26%	3%	105

Appendix I. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Upper Snake Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 366 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	77%	18%	6%
2	Anything that bites	3%	8%	33%
3	Steelhead	7%	21%	8%
4	Kokanee	3%	18%	12%
5	Bass	3%	16%	11%
6	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	2%	8%	9%
7	Chinook Salmon	2%	3%	7%
8	Whitefish	0%	4%	4%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1%	2%	5%
10	Walleye	1%	1%	4%
11	White Sturgeon	0%	2%	2%
12.5	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	1%
12.5	Northern Pike	0%	0%	1%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	0%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.1%	10.0%	43.4%
2	Anything that bites	2.4%	11.1%	22.0%
3	Kokanee	4.8%	12.1%	9.8%
4	steelhead	6.2%	11.3%	5.3%
5	Bass	6.4%	11.7%	3.8%
6	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	6.9%	10.4%	3.4%
7	Whitefish	7.5%	7.6%	3.8%
8	Chinook Salmon	8.1%	6.3%	2.9%
9	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	8.8%	5.5%	1.5%
10	Catfish / bullhead	9.0%	4.8%	1.7%
11	Walleye	9.6%	3.1%	0.9%
12	White Sturgeon	9.5%	3.4%	0.5%
13	Tiger muskellunge	10.3%	1.5%	0.3%
14	Northern Pike	10.3%	1.2%	0.5%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	25%	40%	24%	5%	6%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	15%	31%	22%	5%	28%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	13%	41%	28%	8%	9%
4	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	7%	16%	12%	5%	60%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	4%	9%	16%	4%	66%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	5%	9%	17%	8%	62%
7	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	1%	3%	6%	3%	87%
8	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	4%	13%	21%	12%	50%
9	Rivers / Streams	for bass	2%	4%	11%	6%	77%
10	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	4%	7%	18%	13%	58%
11	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	2%	3%	8%	8%	80%
12	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	1%	1%	6%	5%	86%
13	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	2%	8%	7%	82%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	2%	1%	3%	7%	87%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	2%	7%	7%	83%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	47%	42%	9%	1%	1%
2	Solitude	35%	46%	16%	2%	1%
3	Presence of favorite kind of fish	37%	39%	19%	3%	2%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	32%	45%	18%	3%	2%
5	A place my family likes	29%	47%	16%	4%	4%
6	Chance to catch a lot of fish	28%	42%	21%	7%	2%
7	Chance to catch native or wild fish	29%	37%	24%	5%	4%
8	Vehicle access	18%	47%	23%	5%	7%
9	Chance to keep some fish	23%	37%	20%	10%	10%
10	Availability of information on fishing	19%	35%	27%	11%	8%
11	Nearness to home or cabin	10%	40%	33%	8%	9%
12	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	20%	25%	32%	12%	11%
13	Nearness to camping facilities	15%	35%	28%	11%	12%
14	Chance to catch a big fish	11%	31%	39%	12%	7%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	10%	26%	46%	9%	10%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	11%	25%	36%	15%	14%
17	Special rules	7%	14%	48%	11%	20%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	3%	6%	29%	14%	47%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	61%
2	Wade	33%
3	Motor boat	27%
4	Non-motorized boat	19%
5	Ice Fishing	12%
6	Float tube/kick boat	8%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Bait	9%	27%	39%
2	Lures	7%	38%	34%
3	Flies	20%	29%	27%
4	Archery	64%	6%	0%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	4	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	2	Providing places for family fishing
4	3	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
5	5	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	6	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	11	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
8	12	Managing for steelhead fishing
9	14	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
10	7	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
11	10	Providing fisheries information
12	9	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
13	8	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
14	13	Providing new urban fishing ponds
15	17	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	16	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
17	15	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	88%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	82%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	68%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	56%
5	Limit angler use	38%
6	Shorten the fishing season	17%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	7%
No	93%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	46%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	23%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
3	19%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	12%	Small Rivers, Bank

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	29%
No	71%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	70%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	16%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	8%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	5%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	61%	39%
Steelhead	73%	27%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	More restrooms near fishing areas
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More restrooms near fishing areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
2.8%	Trout
1.1%	Bass
0.8%	Steelhead
0.6%	Other
0.6%	Walleye
0.6%	Kokanee
0.3%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
0.3%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	25%	56%	20%
2	Hatchery-supported trout waters	29%	47%	24%
3	Bass in rivers	19%	56%	24%
4	Kokanee in large lakes	20%	53%	27%
5	Trophy fishing in large lakes	22%	49%	29%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	20%	48%	33%
7	Quality trout waters	20%	43%	37%
8.5	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	8%	50%	42%
8.5	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	8%	51%	41%
10	Backcountry trout waters	10%	45%	44%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	50%
2	Tackle shops	19%
3	Social Media - friends	16%
4	Fish and Game website	8%
5	Other websites	8%
6	Social Media - groups	8%
7.5	Newspapers	4%
7.5	Fish and Game offices	3%
9	Magazines	4%
10	Online forums	6%
11	Television	3%
12	Radio	2%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
59%	41%	357

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	E-mail	Fish & Game website	E-mail	E-mail	E-mail
2	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
3	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Text message	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website
4	Facebook	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Facebook	Public meetings
5	Pick up at license vendor	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor	Pick up at license vendor
6	Text message	Facebook	Facebook	Public meetings	Facebook
7	Public meetings	Text message	Twitter	Twitter	Text message
8	Instagram	Twitter	Public meetings	Text message	Instagram
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram	Twitter

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	45%
2	Mobile device / phone	31%
3	I don't use the Internet	14%
4	Work	11%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	4.8%	0.6%	44.7%	50.0%	356
Trout in the Classroom	1.7%	0.0%	29.3%	69.0%	352
Free Fishing Day	25.4%	0.8%	61.5%	12.3%	358

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	76%	0%	12%	12%	0%	17
Trout in the Classroom	25%	0%	25%	50%	0%	4
Free Fishing Day	54%	4%	4%	32%	6%	81

Appendix J. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for the Salmon Region from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 419 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	47%	23%	21%
2	Steelhead	28%	35%	8%
3	Chinook Salmon	9%	16%	18%
4	Anything that bites	3%	3%	22%
5	Kokanee	4%	8%	5%
6	Bass	2%	3%	8%
7	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	3%	4%	3%
8	Catfish / bullhead	1%	2%	4%
9	Whitefish	0%	1%	4%
10	Walleye	2%	3%	2%
11	Northern Pike	0%	1%	2%
12	White Sturgeon	0%	1%	2%
13.5	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	1%
13.5	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	1%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	1.0%	14.6%	32.7%
2	steelhead	2.9%	14.4%	21.0%
3	Anything that bites	3.4%	9.7%	18.4%
4	Chinook Salmon	5.3%	13.5%	7.6%
5	Kokanee	7.2%	7.8%	5.9%
6	Bass	7.4%	9.1%	2.3%
7	Whitefish	7.2%	7.6%	4.1%
8	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	8.3%	7.0%	2.1%
9	Catfish / bullhead	8.7%	4.3%	2.1%
10.5	Walleye	9.6%	2.8%	1.1%
10.5	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	9.4%	3.0%	1.2%
12	White Sturgeon	9.5%	3.2%	0.6%
13	Tiger muskellunge	10.0%	1.9%	0.2%
14	Northern Pike	10.2%	1.1%	0.6%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Alpine Lakes	for trout	19%	33%	24%	5%	21%
2	Rivers / Streams	for trout	16%	36%	23%	8%	17%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	11%	40%	25%	5%	20%
4	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	5%	11%	15%	5%	64%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	2%	7%	11%	3%	77%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	1%	10%	9%	4%	76%
7	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	6%	23%	27%	18%	26%
8	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	1%	10%	14%	6%	70%
9	Rivers / Streams	for bass	1%	5%	7%	4%	83%
10	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	1%	3%	7%	3%	87%
11	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	0%	2%	5%	3%	90%
12	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	0%	2%	5%	3%	89%
13	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	1%	3%	3%	5%	88%
14	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	3%	8%	13%	23%	52%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	3%	9%	13%	76%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	48%	34%	12%	3%	3%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	43%	37%	16%	2%	2%
3	Solitude	44%	38%	13%	3%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	28%	44%	19%	7%	2%
5	Chance to keep some fish	31%	36%	17%	10%	7%
6	Chance to catch a lot of fish	19%	48%	21%	9%	3%
7	A place my family likes	25%	41%	19%	5%	10%
8	Chance to catch native or wild fish	26%	32%	27%	9%	6%
9	Vehicle access	21%	36%	22%	9%	11%
10	Nearness to home or cabin	14%	35%	27%	10%	15%
11	Chance to catch a big fish	10%	28%	43%	12%	7%
12	Hatchery fish stocked	11%	28%	39%	13%	9%
13	Availability of information on fishing	13%	27%	34%	13%	13%
14	Nearness to camping facilities	11%	28%	30%	15%	16%
15	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	14%	24%	29%	14%	18%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	8%	28%	31%	16%	16%
17	Special rules	7%	12%	40%	15%	26%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	3%	4%	26%	13%	54%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	63%
2	Wade	31%
3	Non-motorized boat	21%
4	Ice Fishing	13%
5	Motor boat	11%
6	Float tube/kick boat	10%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Bait	9%	31%	37%
2	Lures	7%	39%	33%
3	Flies	17%	29%	29%
4	Archery	67%	1%	1%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	2	Managing for steelhead fishing
3	3	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
4	6	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
5	8.5	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
6	7	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
7	4	Providing places for family fishing
8	11	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
9	12	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
10	8.5	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
11	10	Providing fisheries information
12	13	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
13	5	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
14	16	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
15	15	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
16	14	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	18	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
18	17	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	81%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	73%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	56%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	56%
5	Limit angler use	37%
6	Shorten the fishing season	24%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	38%
No	62%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	49%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	38%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
3	7%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	6%	Large Rivers, Motorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	69%
No	31%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	59%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	32%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	6%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	3%	Large Rivers, Motorized

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	76%	24%
Steelhead	85%	15%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	More detailed fishing reports
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	More restrooms near fishing areas
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	More detailed fishing reports
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	More restrooms near fishing areas
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More boat ramps
9	More how-to info on fishing techniques
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
3.4%	Steelhead
1.7%	Trout
0.8%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
0.7%	Kokanee
0.5%	Other
0.5%	Bass
0.2%	Walleye
0.2%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	27%	53%	20%
2	Hatchery-supported trout waters	26%	48%	26%
3	Trophy fishing in large lakes	25%	48%	27%
4	Bass in rivers	18%	59%	23%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	21%	53%	26%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	19%	47%	34%
7	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	19%	45%	36%
8	Quality trout waters	18%	45%	37%
9	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	17%	45%	38%
10	Backcountry trout waters	12%	45%	43%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	40%
2	Tackle shops	14%
3	Fish and Game website	14%
4	Social Media - friends	13%
5	Fish and Game offices	6%
6	Newspapers	5%
7	Other websites	7%
8	Radio	4%
9	Social Media - groups	6%
10	Magazines	3%
11	Television	3%
12	Online forums	3%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
46%	54%	403

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Public meetings	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website
3	Direct postal mail	Public meetings	Fish & Game website	Facebook	Public meetings
4	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	E-mail
5	Facebook	E-mail	Text message	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor
6	Instagram	Twitter	Facebook	Pick up at license vendor	Facebook
7	Public meetings	Facebook	Public meetings	Twitter	Twitter
8	Text message	Instagram	Twitter	Text message	Text message
9	Twitter	Text message	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	41%
2	I don't use the Internet	31%
3	Mobile device / phone	20%
4	Work	8%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	4.8%	0.6%	44.7%	50.0%	356
Trout in the Classroom	1.7%	0.0%	29.3%	69.0%	352
Free Fishing Day	25.4%	0.8%	61.5%	12.3%	358

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	76%	0%	12%	12%	0%	17
Trout in the Classroom	25%	0%	25%	50%	0%	4
Free Fishing Day	54%	4%	4%	32%	6%	81

Appendix K. 2017 Angler Opinion randomized paper survey results for nonresident anglers from randomized paper survey. Results are summarize from 292 returned surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	64%	15%	11%
2	Bass	12%	16%	16%
3	Steelhead	6%	22%	5%
4	Anything that bites	2%	2%	18%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	3%	12%	10%
6	Chinook Salmon	3%	8%	11%
7	Kokanee	3%	10%	6%
8	Walleye	3%	7%	4%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1%	2%	6%
10	Northern Pike	1%	2%	5%
11	Whitefish	0%	2%	3%
12	White Sturgeon	1%	0%	2%
13	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	2%
14	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	1%	0%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.6%	10.0%	35.0%
2	Anything that bites	3.7%	9.6%	15.6%
3	Bass	4.5%	12.4%	11.1%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	5.8%	11.3%	6.9%
5	Steelhead	6.6%	9.3%	6.1%
6	Kokanee	7.2%	8.2%	4.8%
7	Chinook Salmon	7.3%	8.1%	4.4%
8	Catfish / bullhead	7.9%	7.8%	3.0%
9	Walleye	8.1%	6.7%	3.7%
10	Northern Pike	8.6%	4.9%	3.3%
11	Whitefish	9.3%	4.0%	2.4%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10.1%	2.6%	1.5%
13	White Sturgeon	10.2%	2.5%	1.3%
14	Tiger muskellunge	10.2%	2.6%	0.9%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	33%	29%	17%	4%	16%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	19%	21%	14%	4%	42%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	13%	37%	19%	5%	26%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	8%	17%	12%	5%	58%
5	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	6%	8%	8%	3%	74%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	7%	23%	14%	5%	51%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	4%	13%	13%	5%	65%
8	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	6%	9%	14%	7%	64%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	1%	6%	10%	5%	78%
10	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	1%	9%	13%	7%	69%
11	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	1%	3%	4%	4%	88%
12	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	3%	5%	7%	8%	76%
13	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	1%	5%	7%	5%	81%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	2%	5%	11%	6%	77%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	3%	4%	39%	53%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Natural beauty of area	54%	37%	6%	1%	1%
2	Presence of favorite kind of fish	43%	40%	11%	4%	2%
3	Solitude	37%	45%	12%	3%	3%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	27%	48%	15%	9%	1%
5	Chance to catch native or wild fish	31%	42%	17%	5%	5%
6	Chance to catch a lot of fish	22%	43%	21%	10%	3%
7	Vehicle access	19%	44%	23%	7%	6%
8	A place my family likes	25%	36%	19%	9%	11%
9	Availability of information on fishing	19%	34%	25%	10%	12%
10	Nearness to camping facilities	14%	34%	26%	12%	14%
11	Chance to catch a big fish	12%	27%	33%	17%	11%
12	Chance to keep some fish	20%	26%	17%	14%	23%
13	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	11%	28%	25%	14%	22%
14	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	9%	28%	29%	17%	17%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	6%	19%	45%	13%	17%
16	Nearness to home or cabin	5%	28%	32%	15%	20%
17	Special rules	7%	14%	44%	13%	22%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	5%	15%	28%	17%	35%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	52%
2	Wade	44%
3	Motor boat	27%
4	Non-motorized boat	21%
5	Float tube/kick boat	14%
6	Ice Fishing	7%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Flies	12%	25%	42%
2	Lures	12%	39%	31%
3	Bait	19%	33%	26%
4	Archery	58%	3%	2%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	1	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	4	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
3	2	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
4	7	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
5	3	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	8	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	12	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
8	6	Providing fisheries information
9	5	Providing places for family fishing
10	11	Managing for steelhead fishing
11	13	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
12	9	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
13	10	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
14	14	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
15	15	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
16	16	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
17	17	Providing new urban fishing ponds
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	91%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	89%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	78%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	71%
5	Limit angler use	49%
6	Shorten the fishing season	20%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	8%
No	92%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	41%	Large Rivers, Motorized
2	32%	Large Rivers, Bank
3.5	14%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
3.5	14%	Small Rivers, Bank

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	20%
No	80%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	60%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized
2	16%	Large Rivers, Bank
3	14%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	9%	Small Rivers, Bank

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	51%	49%
Steelhead	63%	37%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Provide more camping areas
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Provide more camping areas
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	More how-to info on fishing techniques
7	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
8	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
3.3%	Trout
1.8%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
1.5%	Bass
1.5%	Steelhead
1.1%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)
1.1%	Kokanee
0.7%	Other
0.4%	Walleye

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	29%	51%	21%
2	Trophy fishing in large lakes	29%	45%	26%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	27%	47%	26%
4	Bass in rivers	23%	53%	24%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	23%	50%	27%
6	Quality trout waters	18%	43%	40%
7	Catch-and-release trout waters	16%	46%	38%
8	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	12%	48%	39%
9	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	10%	49%	40%
10	Backcountry trout waters	10%	43%	47%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	49%
2	Tackle shops	33%
3	Fish and Game website	19%
4	Social Media - friends	19%
5	Other websites	18%
6	Social Media - groups	13%
7	Fish and Game offices	7%
8	Magazines	7%
9	Newspapers	4%
10	Online forums	8%
11	Television	1%
12	Radio	1%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
46%	54%	281

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Fish & Game website	Fish & Game website	E-mail	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail
2	E-mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	E-mail	E-mail
3	Instagram	E-mail	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Fish & Game website
4	Facebook	Public meetings	Fish & Game website	Direct postal mail	Public meetings
5	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Facebook	Pick up at license vendor
6	Direct postal mail	Twitter	Public meetings	Public meetings	Facebook
7	Public meetings	Text message	Facebook	Text message	Text message
8	Text message	Facebook	Twitter	Twitter	Twitter
9	Twitter	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	46%
2	Mobile device / phone	30%
3	Work	15%
4	I don't use the Internet	9%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	4.4%	0.0%	19.0%	76.6%	274
Trout in the Classroom	2.9%	0.0%	17.2%	79.9%	274
Free Fishing Day	18.2%	1.1%	37.5%	43.3%	275

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	67%	0%	11%	22%	0%	9
Trout in the Classroom	43%	0%	0%	57%	0%	7
Free Fishing Day	52%	4%	7%	30%	7%	46

Appendix L. 2017 Angler Opinion Survey results for the online email invitation survey. Results are summarize from 4,770 completed surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	53%	16%	10%
2	Bass	12%	19%	13%
3	Steelhead	10%	21%	10%
4	Anything that bites	2%	2%	21%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	7%	12%	12%
6	Chinook Salmon	5%	7%	9%
7	Kokanee	6%	10%	7%
8	Walleye	3%	4%	4%
9	Catfish / bullhead	1%	3%	5%
10	Northern Pike	1%	2%	2%
11	White Sturgeon	1%	1%	2%
12	Whitefish	0%	2%	2%
13	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	1%
14	Tiger muskellunge	0%	0%	1%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.6%	8.7%	30.6%
2	Anything that bites	3.6%	10.5%	15.6%
3	Bass	3.6%	12.4%	12.3%
4	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	4.6%	12.3%	8.5%
5	Steelhead	5.5%	10.3%	8.1%
6	Kokanee	6.1%	9.3%	7.7%
7	Chinook Salmon	7.3%	7.9%	5.2%
8	Catfish / bullhead	8.1%	7.4%	2.9%
9	Walleye	9.4%	4.7%	2.2%
10	Whitefish	9.5%	4.9%	1.8%
11	White Sturgeon	10.0%	3.8%	1.6%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10.3%	3.3%	1.3%
13	Northern Pike	10.4%	2.9%	1.6%
14	Tiger muskellunge	11.1%	1.7%	0.6%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	20%	39%	21%	4%	15%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	11%	31%	20%	3%	34%
3	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	10%	39%	29%	6%	17%
4	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	4%	11%	10%	2%	74%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	7%	25%	21%	6%	41%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	7%	28%	24%	5%	36%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	5%	17%	16%	5%	57%
8	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	1%	6%	6%	3%	84%
9	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	4%	14%	17%	7%	58%
10	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	2%	8%	9%	4%	77%
11	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	9%	12%	5%	72%
12	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	4%	14%	21%	11%	51%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	2%	7%	13%	11%	68%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	1%	4%	8%	8%	80%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	1%	3%	8%	9%	80%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Presence of favorite kind of fish	47%	40%	10%	2%	1%
2	Natural beauty of area	46%	41%	10%	2%	2%
3	Solitude	38%	47%	11%	3%	1%
4	Chance to catch a variety of fish	28%	53%	15%	4%	1%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	21%	50%	20%	7%	2%
6	Chance to catch native or wild fish	27%	37%	25%	7%	5%
7	A place my family likes	25%	42%	20%	5%	8%
8	Vehicle access	18%	42%	24%	9%	8%
9	Chance to keep some fish	23%	36%	16%	11%	14%
10	Availability of information on fishing	17%	35%	29%	11%	9%
11	Chance to catch a big fish	8%	37%	36%	12%	7%
12	Nearness to camping facilities	11%	37%	29%	12%	11%
13	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	18%	30%	24%	12%	15%
14	Nearness to home or cabin	8%	38%	30%	11%	12%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	8%	27%	40%	12%	12%
16	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	6%	31%	33%	15%	15%
17	Special rules	7%	18%	43%	13%	19%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	2%	7%	25%	15%	50%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	51%
2	Wade	35%
3	Motor boat	34%
4	Non-motorized boat	17%
5	Float tube/kick boat	11%
6	Ice Fishing	10%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Lures	8%	33%	37%
2	Bait	14%	32%	31%
3	Flies	15%	30%	31%
4	Archery	63%	5%	1%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	4	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	7	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
3	2	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
4	11	Managing for steelhead fishing
5	10	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	14	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
7	17	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
8	1	Providing places for family fishing
9	8	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
10	3	Providing fisheries information
11	6	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
12	5	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
13	16	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
14	18	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
15	12	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
16	9	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	15	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	13	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	90%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	84%
3	Apply catch-and-release rules	71%
4	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	68%
5	Limit angler use	40%
6	Shorten the fishing season	23%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	24%
No	76%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	34%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	30%	Large Rivers, Motorized
3	28%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	8%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	43%
No	57%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	34%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	31%	Large Rivers, Motorized
3	27%	Small Rivers, Bank
4	9%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	71%	29%
Steelhead	78%	22%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Improved maintenance at access sites
4	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More restrooms near fishing areas
6	Provide more camping areas
7	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
3.6%	Trout
3.2%	Bass
2.3%	Other
1.5%	Steelhead
0.8%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
0.8%	Kokanee
0.6%	Walleye
0.4%	Chinook salmon (rivers)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	38%	41%	21%
2	Bass in rivers	28%	45%	27%
3	Hatchery-supported trout waters	28%	44%	28%
4	Trophy fishing in large lakes	28%	41%	30%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	24%	45%	31%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	16%	40%	44%
7	Quality trout waters	16%	38%	46%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	14%	41%	45%
9	Chinook Salmon on large rivers using boats	13%	41%	46%
10	Backcountry trout waters	8%	37%	55%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	45%
2	Tackle shops	20%
3	Fish and Game website	20%
4	Social Media - friends	18%
5	Other websites	14%
6	Social Media - groups	9%
7	Newspapers	5%
8	Fish and Game offices	5%
9	Online forums	9%
10	Magazines	4%
11	Television	2%
12	Radio	2%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
65%	35%	4,770

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
1	Instagram	Twitter	E-mail	Facebook	Public meetings
2	Facebook	Public meetings	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail
3	Fish & Game website	Facebook	Twitter	E-mail	Facebook
4	E-mail	E-mail	Public meetings	Public meetings	Pick up at license vendor
5	Twitter	Instagram	Facebook	Text message	Text message
6	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Fish & Game website	Instagram	Fish & Game website
7	Public meetings	Text message	Pick up at license vendor	Fish & Game website	Twitter
8	Direct postal mail	Pick up at license vendor	Direct postal mail	Direct postal mail	E-mail
9	Text message	Fish & Game website	Instagram	Twitter	Instagram

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	49%
2	Mobile device / phone	30%
3	Work	16%
4	I don't use the Internet	6%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	5.7%	0.3%	48.1%	45.9%	4,770
Trout in the Classroom	3.4%	0.3%	29.9%	66.4%	4,770
Free Fishing Day	20.8%	1.7%	62.7%	14.8%	4,770

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	34%	1%	2%	29%	34%	1,536
Trout in the Classroom	26%	0%	1%	28%	43%	1,458
Free Fishing Day	48%	1%	3%	27%	21%	2,055

Appendix M. 2017 Angler Opinion Survey results for the open online web survey. Results are summarize from 1,011 completed surveys.

1. From the following list, please write in your three most favorite types of fish that you target most?

Rank	Species	1 Most favorite	2 Second favorite	3 Third favorite
1	Trout	46%	17%	14%
2	steelhead	15%	22%	10%
3	Bass	13%	16%	14%
4	Chinook Salmon	8%	9%	10%
5.5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	4%	9%	10%
5.5	Anything that bites	2%	1%	17%
7	Kokanee	5%	10%	8%
8	Catfish / bullhead	1%	4%	4%
9	Walleye	3%	4%	3%
10	Northern Pike	1%	2%	2%
11	White Sturgeon	1%	1%	3%
12	Whitefish	0%	2%	3%
13	Tiger muskellunge	0%	1%	1%
14	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	0%	0%	1%
15	Other	0%	0%	0%

2. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished for the following types of fish?

Rank	Species	Never	Occasionally	Often
1	Trout	0.6%	5.9%	26.0%
2	Anything that bites	3.6%	8.9%	14.3%
3	Bass	2.9%	11.9%	12.3%
4	steelhead	4.6%	9.8%	10.4%
5	Bluegill / Perch / Crappie	4.6%	11.9%	7.8%
6	Kokanee	5.6%	10.0%	7.8%
7	Chinook Salmon	7.1%	7.1%	7.2%
8	Catfish / bullhead	8.3%	8.1%	2.7%
9	Whitefish	9.4%	5.9%	2.7%
10	Walleye	10.0%	4.8%	2.6%
11	White Sturgeon	10.2%	5.1%	1.7%
12	Carp / Sucker / Nongame	10.4%	4.9%	1.4%
13	Northern Pike	11.0%	3.2%	1.8%
14	Tiger muskellunge	11.6%	2.4%	1.2%

3. Please tell us your GENERAL feeling about the type of fishing experiences you have had over the last 5 years by checking ONE box for **each** type of fishing experience.

Rank	Type		1-Excellent	2-Good	3-Fair	4-Poor	5-Did not participate
1	Rivers / Streams	for trout	22%	39%	21%	6%	12%
2	Alpine Lakes	for trout	12%	30%	23%	4%	30%
3	Rivers / Streams	for whitefish	7%	15%	11%	3%	64%
4	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bluegill / perch / crappie	8%	27%	21%	6%	38%
5	Lakes / Reservoirs	for trout	10%	38%	31%	8%	14%
6	Lakes / Reservoirs	for bass	8%	31%	27%	7%	27%
7	Rivers / Streams	for bass	6%	21%	19%	8%	46%
8	Lakes / Reservoirs	for kokanee	6%	18%	20%	9%	48%
9	Rivers / Streams	for sturgeon	2%	7%	8%	4%	78%
10	Rivers / Streams	for catfish	3%	9%	11%	6%	70%
11	Lakes / Reservoirs	for catfish	2%	10%	15%	7%	66%
12	Rivers / Streams	for steelhead	5%	16%	24%	16%	39%
13	Rivers / Streams	for Chinook Salmon	2%	8%	15%	15%	60%
14	Lakes / Reservoirs	for walleye	1%	3%	11%	12%	73%
15	Lakes / Reservoirs	for Chinook Salmon	0%	4%	10%	13%	73%

4. Please tell us how important each of the following items are when deciding where to fish by checking ONE box for **each** factor.

Rank	Factor	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral/No Opinion	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
1	Presence of favorite kind of fish	56%	34%	7%	2%	1%
2	Natural beauty of area	49%	36%	11%	2%	2%
3	Chance to catch a variety of fish	38%	48%	9%	4%	1%
4	Solitude	36%	47%	13%	4%	1%
5	Chance to catch a lot of fish	24%	49%	17%	6%	3%
6	Chance to catch native or wild fish	35%	31%	20%	7%	6%
7	A place my family likes	24%	41%	21%	6%	7%
8	Vehicle access	19%	39%	25%	10%	8%
9	Chance to catch a big fish	13%	37%	31%	12%	7%
10	Chance to keep some fish	25%	30%	15%	13%	17%
11	Availability of information on fishing	19%	30%	27%	13%	11%
12	Boat ramps and marina facilities present	20%	30%	22%	13%	15%
13	Nearness to home or cabin	9%	38%	29%	12%	12%
14	Nearness to camping facilities	10%	35%	29%	14%	13%
15	Hatchery fish stocked	10%	27%	35%	13%	16%
16	Special rules	11%	21%	35%	12%	21%
17	Opportunity for activities other than fishing	4%	25%	33%	18%	20%
18	Availability of licensed fishing guides	2%	6%	22%	14%	56%

5. Over the last 5 years, how often have you fished using the following methods?
Please check how often for **each** method of fishing.

Rank	Most often used access type	% "Often"
1	Shore/Bank	60%
2	Wade	45%
3	Motor boat	40%
4	Non-motorized boat	21%
5	Float tube/kick boat	15%
6	Ice Fishing	16%

6. Over the last 5 years, how often have you used the following types of fishing gear? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of gear.

Rank	Most often used gear type	1-Never	2-Occasionally	3-Often
1	Lures	6%	29%	38%
2	Flies	13%	31%	31%
3	Bait	14%	33%	29%
4	Archery	66%	8%	2%

7. Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT the following Department fisheries management activities are TO YOU by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

8. Please tell us HOW WELL YOU THINK THE DEPARTMENT IS DOING in each of the following fisheries management activities by checking ONE box for **each** activity.

Rank-Importance	Rank-Performance	Most Important IDFG Activities
1	11	Protecting and improving fish habitat
2	13	Managing for steelhead fishing
3	1	Maintaining and improving existing fishing access sites
4	16	Managing for Chinook Salmon fishing in rivers
5	9	Managing for quality/trophy trout in rivers and streams
6	2	Managing for native trout fisheries (cutthroat trout)
7	8	Managing for quality/trophy trout in lakes and reservoirs
8	12	Managing mountain lake trout fisheries
9	7	Providing places for family fishing
10	5	Managing catch-and-release fisheries
11	6	Providing fisheries information
12	17	Managing for warm water fisheries (bass, crappie)
13	14	Managing catch-and-keep trout fisheries
14	4	Managing for quality/trophy bass fisheries
15	10	Developing new fishing access sites/boat ramps
16	15	Providing new urban fishing ponds
17	3	Managing and conserving native nongame fish
18	18	Conducting classes on how to fish

9. Harvesting too many game fish can reduce their numbers, decrease average size, and reduce catch rates. To what degree do you support or oppose the following methods to reduce harvest? Please check ONE choice for **each** method.

Rank	Most preferred method to reduce harvest	% Support
1	Restrict the number of fish that can be kept	85%
2	Restrict the size of fish that can be kept	80%
3	Restrict the type of gear that can be used	63%
4	Apply catch-and-release rules	64%
5	Limit angler use	42%
6	Shorten the fishing season	28%

10. During the past 5 years, did you fish for ocean-run Chinook Salmon in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #11, on the next page*

Did you fish for ocean-run Chinook in last 5 Years?	
Yes	37%
No	63%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Chinook Salmon? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Salmon: Most used type
1	34%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	30%	Small Rivers, Bank
3	26%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	10%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized

11. During the past 5 years, did you fish for Steelhead in Idaho?

❑ Yes ❑ No ➔➔➔ *Please continue with #12, below*

Did you fish for STEELHEAD in last 5 years?	
Yes	59%
No	41%

Which type of fishing do you do MOST often for Steelhead? Please choose ONE.

Rank	Percent	Steelhead: Most used type
1	33%	Large Rivers, Bank
2	29%	Small Rivers, Bank
3	27%	Large Rivers, Motorized
4	10%	Large Rivers, Nonmotorized

12. Do you have any interest in fishing for ocean-run Chinook Salmon or Steelhead in Idaho in the future?

Species	Yes	No
Chinook Salmon	79%	21%
Steelhead	87%	13%

13. For SALMON fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **salmon** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Salmon: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	Providing more salmon fishing options closer to home
3	More detailed fishing reports
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	More restrooms near fishing areas
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

14. For STEELHEAD fishing only: How important would each of the following items be to improving your satisfaction or your experience while **steelhead** fishing in Idaho. Please check ONE choice for **each** possible factor.

Rank	Steelhead: Improving fishing experience
1	More updates on rule changes
2	More detailed fishing reports
3	Providing more steelhead fishing options closer to home
4	Improved maintenance at access sites
5	More easy/handicap bank access to rivers
6	More restrooms near fishing areas
7	Provide more camping areas
8	More how-to info on fishing techniques
9	More boat ramps
10	Provide fish cleaning stations

15. Over the past 5 years, did you participate in any fishing contest/tournament in Idaho that offered a prize based on the number or size of fish caught? Please check yes or no for **each** type.

Rank Most Participation	Tournament Type
8.6%	Trout
6.1%	Bass
3.8%	Other
2.5%	Kokanee
2.2%	Steelhead
2.0%	Chinook Salmon (lakes)
1.1%	Walleye
0.9%	Chinook Salmon (rivers)

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree that fishing tournaments are appropriate for the following types of fisheries in Idaho? Please check ONE choice for **each** type of fishery.

Rank Most Support	Tournament Type	Percent Support	Neutral / No Opinion	Percent Opposed
1	Bass in lakes/reservoirs	46%	31%	23%
2	Hatchery-supported trout waters	37%	33%	30%
3	Bass in rivers	36%	33%	31%
4	Trophy fishing in large lakes	36%	30%	34%
5	Kokanee in large lakes	31%	36%	32%
6	Catch-and-release trout waters	21%	30%	50%
7	Quality trout waters	20%	29%	51%
8	Steelhead on large rivers using boats	16%	29%	55%
9	Chinook salmon on large rivers using boats	15%	29%	56%
10	Backcountry trout waters	10%	28%	62%

17. How often do you use the following sources of information to find out where to go when you are planning a fishing trip? Please check how often for **each** source.

Rank	Information Source	% "Often"
1	Friends/Family	55%
2	Tackle shops	26%
3	Fish and Game website	27%
4	Social Media - friends	30%
5	Other websites	21%
6	Social Media - groups	22%
7	Online forums	15%
8	Newspapers	7%
9	Fish and Game offices	6%
10	Magazines	6%
11	Television	2%
12	Radio	2%

18. Are you interested in receiving fishing-related news and information from the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG)?

❑ Yes ❑ No

Yes	No	Total (n)
76%	24%	1,011

19. If YES to #18 above, how would you prefer that IDFG deliver this fishing-related information?
Please choose ONE "delivery method" option for **each** type of news/information.

Rank	News	Rules	Reminders	Informative Articles	Opinion Surveys
		Website malfunction – no data			

20. Where do you use the **Internet** to research fishing information? Please check **all** that apply.

Rank	Internet usage	Percent
1	Home	47%
2	Mobile device / phone	34%
3	Work	18%
4	I don't use the Internet	2%

21. Please describe your participation and experience with these educational programs.
Please check ONE choice for **each** event.

Event	Yes, great	Yes, bad	No, know about it	No, never heard of it	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	9.2%	0.6%	59.8%	30.4%	1,011
Trout in the Classroom	7.4%	0.6%	36.6%	55.4%	1,011
Free Fishing Day	24.1%	2.3%	64.5%	9.1%	1,011

22. How did participating in each of these programs influence your decision to continue fishing and whether to get a fishing license? Please check ONE choice for **each** program. (Responses are filtered to include only those that indicated they had participated in one of these events from the previous question).

Event	Already licensed	Bought first	Renewed old	Got anyway	Don't know	Total (n)
Take-Me-Fishing Clinic	37%	0%	2%	35%	26%	345
Trout in the Classroom	28%	0%	1%	32%	38%	345
Free Fishing Day	51%	0%	2%	31%	17%	475

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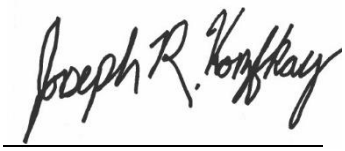
Approved By:
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



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