

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

**Virgil Moore, Director**

**Surveys and Inventories**

**FY2015 Statewide Report**



**WILDLIFE HARVEST AND HUNTER SURVEYS**

Study IV, Job 1

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

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# STATEWIDE REPORT SURVEYS AND INVENTORY

**JOB TITLE:** Surveys and Inventories

**STUDY NAME:** Big Game Harvest Statewide

**PERIOD COVERED:** July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

## STATEWIDE HARVEST

### Abstract

Harvest estimates are made annually for all big game species in Idaho. Harvest of moose, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, black bears, mountain lions, and gray wolves is documented from mandatory carcass checks of all harvested animals. Deer, elk, and pronghorn harvest has been estimated from a mandatory report from all hunters since 2001, with a follow-up telephone survey of a sample of hunters who failed to file the required report. Final figures are estimates of hunter activity and harvest based on adjustments to the values reported by hunters. Surveys of hunters are also used to estimate hunter participation for most game species and to assess hunters' opinions about current issues about hunting and regulations in Idaho.

### Introduction

Prior to 1998 a telephone survey was conducted following the fall hunting season for all big game species (mule and white-tailed deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, black bears, and mountain lions).

Increasing costs of conducting the telephone harvest survey and budget limitations resulted in moose, mountain goats, and bighorn sheep being eliminated from the telephone harvest survey program in 1996. Black bears and mountain lions were eliminated from the telephone survey program in 1997 to maximize information collected on harvest of deer, elk, and pronghorn (Table 1). Subsequently, the minimum harvest of moose, mountain goats, bighorn sheep, black bear, mountain lion, and gray wolf has been calculated from mandatory harvest check information (Table 2, Appendix A).

### DEER, ELK, AND PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

Beginning in 1998, harvest estimates for deer and elk were changed from a telephone survey to a mandatory hunter report (MHR). Starting in 2001 hunters were required by state statute to file a report about their hunt and harvest success, whether or not they harvested. In 2001 pronghorn were also added to the harvest report. Hunters are required to report the number of days hunted, by weapon and game management unit (GMU), whether they harvested an animal, and if so, the date, GMU, weapon used, sex, and number of antler points (deer and elk) or horn length (pronghorn).

Results were tabulated for general, controlled, depredation, landowner appreciation and super hunts; by GMUs; by elk management zones; and by harvest weapon (rifle/shotgun, archery,

muzzleloader). In 2014 there were 696 controlled hunts for deer, elk, and pronghorn, general hunts in 99 game management units, and general elk hunts in 26 zones. Starting in 2005, harvest estimates for mule deer and white-tailed deer were tabulated separately (tabulating the deer species primarily hunted for, the species harvested, days hunted, and weapon used). Harvest data from all years are stored in a large database (MHR) and summaries are available on the Department website.

Systems Consultants, Inc. (SCI) of Fallon, Nevada, had been contracted to receive and process the raw harvest reports for deer, elk, and pronghorn hunters since 1998. However in July 2010, we changed to Active Outdoors (Nashville, TN). Active Outdoors already processes all license and tag sales for Idaho Fish and Game (Department), and offered to also process the hunter reports at no additional cost. This resulted in considerable savings, but also required considerable work to reprogram the hunter report forms for the web site and the automated phone system. Later, SCI was contracted in October 2010 just to receive incoming phone calls (24 hours, Oct. 2010 – Feb. 2011, continuing to 2014-2015) and to conduct the outgoing non-compliance phone survey.

In 2014 hunters were able to submit their reports via internet website, telephone, or automated phone response. <https://idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/report>

We encouraged hunters to report online as the primary means of reporting. We expected a lower reporting rate, when we went to primarily electronic reporting. We made up for this by increasing the non-compliance phone survey and using statistical adjustments. A random telephone survey of individuals who did not submit a harvest report for 2014 was conducted December 2014 – January 2015. Results of this phone survey were used with a non-reporting factor to estimate the hunter and harvest results.

Active Outdoors processed the raw data in 2014 and provided it to the Department. The analysis and tabulation were performed by Department staff. A random telephone survey of individuals who did not submit a harvest report for 2014 was conducted by SCI in December 2014 and January 2015. The reported figures were modified by non-reporting expansion factors to obtain the final harvest figures.

A total of 254,785 tags was purchased by 169,218 hunters for deer, elk, and pronghorn hunts occurring in 2014 (average 1.51 tags per hunter, maximum 7 tags per hunter). Hunters have been required by state statute to report on their hunting effort and harvest success within 10 days of the end of the hunting season since 2001. However many hunters do not file the required report within a reasonable amount of time.

Reporting percentages had been declining over time, as a result of reducing the number of reminder mail-outs, and the lack of any penalties for non-reporting. Over time, the number of reminders that hunters receive had also been substantially reduced, such as eliminating paper report forms, reminder mailings, and postcards. This has resulted in considerable cost savings. However, the decline in the percentage filing their reports has caused problems. Therefore, new steps were taken in 2014 to improve the way that estimates are calculated.

For example, for many years, a small paper report form was given to hunters with their tag purchase, with a return envelope for mailing it back. The paper report forms were discontinued in June 2010 to save considerable money on data entry, postage, and printing. After June 2010, no printed report forms and return envelopes were provided. Mail and fax responses have been gradually phased out. An automated computerized interactive telephone voice response system (IVR) was added in August 2010, but later eliminated because it was not well received by hunters. Hunters are increasingly encouraged to file their reports online or by telephone.

In past years, a reminder letter (90,000 mailed in mid-December 2007 and mid-January 2008) was sent to hunters who had not yet filed reports. This letter was eliminated in 2008 to reduce costs and obtain results sooner. One reminder postcard was sent to 97,400 hunters who had not yet filed their reports by mid-November 2014 (one postcard per household).

A total of 157,612 reports were filed by hunters by April 5, 2015 (61.9% of required reports). To estimate bias from non-compliance, we attempted to call a random sample of 50,000 of the remaining hunters by telephone to obtain their harvest reports (increased from 40,000 in 2010). These hunters were called in December 2014 and January 2015. This phone sample was larger than in 2009-2010, and four times as large as in 2006. The harvest results from the telephone sample were used to estimate the harvest by hunters who did not file reports.

Therefore, we tried a new approach to obtain estimates earlier for 2014, starting in January 2015), and with improved confidence intervals around the estimates. Non-compliance phone surveys were completed in December 2014 and January 2015 to call a random sample of 50,000 hunters who had not yet filed their reports. Reports by these hunters were used for a new estimation method to obtain the hunter and harvest estimates earlier, with preliminary results starting in mid-January 2015. The primary purpose was to improve the process of setting regulations for the Fall 2015 hunting season, which is done in March 2015, using harvest data from Fall 2014.

A real-time update on the number of reports filed was available for viewing in Fall 2014.  
<https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/content/mhr>

The number of hunters contacted by phone was increased to compensate for the anticipated lower percent who reported because of reduced mailings and elimination of the printed forms in 2010. Goals were to increase the statistical validity of the estimates and complete the project one month earlier. The phone sample was increased considerably over the previous years (50,000 in 2011-2014, 40,000 hunters in 2009-2010, 32,000 in 2008, 16,000 in 2007, and 8,000 in 2006). This phone survey was done one month earlier starting in 2008-2009 (Dec./Jan.) than in previous years (Jan./Feb.), to obtain results earlier. Therefore some hunters did not have as much time to report on their own as in past years. The 2014 survey was conducted in December 2014-January 2015.

Online reporting has increased considerably over the last few years. A higher percentage of reports was received on-line (70%) than by phone (29%), an increasing trend in recent years.

All Pronghorn hunts were converted to only controlled hunts in 2009. Pronghorn hunters and those with controlled hunt tags for deer and elk were sampled at a higher rate to increase precision. The results of the telephone non-compliance survey were used to estimate the harvest and participation by hunters who did not file reports.

Harvest data from Fall 2014 were analyzed at a general level by March 2015, and at a detailed level by May 2015. Based on these data, changes to big game regulations were approved in March 2015, so that regulations could be printed in April, and hunters could apply for controlled hunts in June 2015. The final harvest results were placed on the Department web site in May 2015.

Improvements were made to the process of transferring results to the web site to be integrated with the Department's Hunt Planner web site for better functionality. Hunters can search online for harvest statistics for each hunt, drawing odds for controlled hunt, and other pertinent information.

Hunt Planner

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/huntplanner/>

Harvest Estimates

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/huntplanner/stats.aspx>

Drawing Odds

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/licenses/controlledHunts/lookupOdds.cfm>

In 2014 we experimented with an online table combining the harvest statistics with the drawing odds for each controlled hunt (deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat). This process made it easier for hunters to understand their chances for drawing a permit and harvesting an animal in each controlled hunt.

<https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/content/huntplanner/2014-hunt-stats>

A summary of deer, elk, and pronghorn harvest is presented in Tables 1 and 2 and Appendix A. Estimated harvest and hunter participation for these species are also listed in other Federal Aid reports about each species. These harvest data are used to fill many requests for information by managers, biologists, commissioners, legislators, research collaborators, interested citizens, and other stakeholders.

## **MOOSE, BIGHORN SHEEP, MOUNTAIN GOATS, BLACK BEARS, MOUNTAIN LIONS, AND GRAY WOLVES**

Harvest of moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, black bears, mountain lions, and gray wolves was documented from mandatory carcass checks of all harvested animals (Table 2 and Appendix A). We conducted 4,002 checks for these species. Number of hunters that participated and days hunted are not calculated for these species. Estimated harvest and hunter participation for these species are also listed in other Federal Aid about each species.

These species were eliminated from the telephone harvest survey program in 1996-1997 to maximize information collected on harvest of deer, elk, and pronghorn. These mortality data are housed in a large database (BGMR, Big Game Mortality Reports). Other documented causes of mortality are also tracked in this database, such as illegal kills, road kills, and natural mortality. These harvest databases are used to fill many requests for information by managers, biologists, commissioners, legislators, research collaborators, interested citizens, and other stakeholders. Harvest estimates are posted on the Department website. More detailed information about these species is listed in other Federal Aid reports about each species.

Hunt Planner

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/huntplanner/>

Harvest Estimates

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/huntplanner/stats.aspx>

Drawing Odds

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In 2014 we experimented with an online table combining the harvest statistics with the drawing odds for each controlled hunt (deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat). This process made it easier for hunters to understand their chances for drawing a permit and harvesting an animal in each controlled hunt.

<https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/content/huntplanner/2014-hunt-stats>

We also added the drawing odds from 2014 into the 2015-2016 Trophy Species regulations booklet (moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat) to make it easier to choose among controlled hunts.

<https://idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/rules/moose-sheep-goat>

## **OTHER HUNTER SURVEYS**

In addition to big game, further surveys were conducted to monitor hunter participation in 2014-2015 – number of hunters, number animals harvested, and days hunted -- for sandhill cranes, sage- and sharp-tailed grouse, wild turkeys, snow and white-fronted geese, and upland game (3 species of forest grouse (blue/dusky, ruffed, spruce), pheasants, gray partridge, chukars, quail, cottontails, and snowshoe hares). Detailed information about these species is listed in other Federal Aid Statewide reports. These harvest data are used to fill many requests for information by managers, biologists, commissioners, legislators, research collaborators, interested citizens, and other stakeholders.

## **HUNTER OPINION SURVEYS**

In addition to estimating game harvest statistics, hunter survey questionnaires are also frequently used to ask hunter's opinions about current issues about hunting and regulations in Idaho. These might include the hunter's perception of the quality of hunting, expenditures during hunting, proposed changes in regulations, or the success of various programs. Sometimes stand-alone

surveys are used for more in-depth studies of hunter's opinions. These data are valuable in monitoring the quality of the hunting programs.

A stratified-random sample of hunters is typically contacted using a mailed survey questionnaire with a follow-up non-response phone call. Participants are drawn from the list of hunters who purchased various hunting licenses and/or specific relevant tags or permits. In some cases, selected hunters may also respond using a web-based survey form on the internet.

Topics surveyed in 2014-2015 included:

- Sightings of wolves by deer and elk hunters in Fall 2014, and
- Hunter opinion survey about big game hunting in Region 1.

### **Wolf Sightings Survey 2014**

Deer and elk hunters were surveyed in January 2015 about their wolf sightings while hunting in Fall 2014. Hunters (n=9,166) who had reported seeing wolves on their MHR reporting form, while hunting deer and elk, were asked further questions about their wolf observations (live wolf sightings only). Wolf sightings by respondents in 2014 were mapped and compiled by specific week of the fall season, along with their deer and elk hunting report (# hunters, #wolves seen, #deer harvested, #elk harvested, harvest density, #hunter days). Surveys were mailed out and responses entered by the Department. Data analysis was conducted by University of Montana staff.

The purpose of this survey is to assess the presence of wolf packs as reported by hunters, as one of several sources of information to assess wolf abundance. This is one part of an occupancy modeling approach to develop an efficient, low-cost monitoring method in the future to assess where wolf packs are located, perhaps without using radio-telemetry in the future. This is the seventh (2014) year of a study in collaboration with the University of Montana and the Nez Perce Tribe. A manuscript from the first phase of this analysis, with data from the Fall 2009 and 2010, has been published (Ausband, et al. 2014).

To evaluate distribution of wolves in Idaho during 2014, a single-season occupancy model was developed using hunter observations (n=2,492) and radio-telemetry data (n=33 packs) with 6 covariates: forest cover, slope, antlered elk harvest density, hunter effort, sampling month, and proportion of cell in Idaho. Using this model, an estimated 50.2% of Idaho (108,482 km<sup>2</sup>) was used by groups or packs of 2+ wolves during fall 2014 (IDFG 2015 Wolf Monitoring Progress Report, page 12).

### **Miscellaneous hunter opinion surveys**

Elk hunter opinion survey about Region 1 (Feb 2015) -- A questionnaire was mailed to 1,000 Panhandle residents asking various questions about proposed changes to big game regulations, for deer, elk, black bears, mountain lions, and wolves. Results were analyzed by Region 1 staff.

### **Committee Involvement**

Wildlife Harvest & Hunter Surveys Statewide 2015

Biometrician Bruce Ackerman served on the Technical Working Group for the year-long 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (NSFHWAR). This survey is conducted once every 5 years, since 1955, by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Census Bureau, and funded by the national Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA). The Technical Working Group has worked since July 2013 to radically improve the methodology of this national survey to make the results more precise and more meaningful. Large numbers of hunters, anglers, and wildlife-watchers will be interviewed nationally during 2016-2017 about their participation in 2016. Final results are expected in 2018.

Biometrician Bruce Ackerman also served on Boise State University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), 2012-2015, which reviews all research projects involving living animals.

### **Publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

IDFG. 2015. Wolf Monitoring Progress Report, Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Dated March 2016.

Statewide Species Management Reports (available via [fishandgame@idaho.gov](mailto:fishandgame@idaho.gov)) at <https://collaboration.idfg.idaho.gov/WildlifeTechnicalReports/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

### **LITERATURE CITED**

Ausband, D. E., L. N. Rich, E. M. Glenn, M. S. Mitchell, P. Zager, D. A.W. Miller, L. P. Waits, B. B. Ackerman, and C. M. Mack. 2014. Monitoring gray wolf populations using multiple survey methods. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 78(2):335-346.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This survey was partially supported by Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (W-170-R) Statewide Big Game Harvest Survey. The 2014 raw harvest survey data for deer, elk, and pronghorn were processed by Active Outdoors, Nashville, Tennessee. Telephone services for the deer, elk, and pronghorn surveys were provided by Systems Consultants, Inc., Fallon, Nevada, under contract with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Table 1. Statewide estimates of harvest, number of hunters, and activity for 2014.

Species	Season	Tags sold	Hunters	Harvest	Success (%)	Days hunted
Deer	Any weapon (rifle)	138,976	118,658	46,939	40	679,429
	Archery		14,780	2,807	19	107,756
	Muzzleloader		2,258	727	32	11,364
	Controlled	18,481	16,548	9,525	58	90,168
	Total	157,457	143,834	59,998	42	888,718
Elk	Any (rifle)	73,415	47,104	8,268	18	274,114
	Archery		20,808	3,781	18	169,373
	Muzzleloader		4,567	845	19	21,370
	Controlled	19,735	18,274	7,703	42	102,596
	Total	93,150	85,062	20,597	24	567,452
Pronghorn <sup>b</sup>	(CH-Any Weapon)		1,491	1,110	74	4,833
	(CH-Archery)		1,702	381	22	7,953
	(CH-Muzzle)		295	115	39	1,193
	Total	4,178	3,485	1,606	46	13,980

<sup>a</sup> Deer and elk general tags are valid for any-weapon, archery, and muzzleloader seasons.

<sup>b</sup> Pronghorn tags were all converted to controlled hunts in 2009, some only for archery hunting.

“Any-weapon” means that any legal weapon can be used during that season, but most hunters used rifles (also allows shotgun, handgun, archery, cross-bow, and muzzleloader).

Table 2. Big game harvest history, 1935-2014.

Year	Deer	Elk	Pronghorn	Black bear	Mtn. lion	Moose	Bighorn sheep	Mtn. goat
1935	7,659	1,821	144	8			1	24
1936	7,800	1,917	124	79			4	81
1937	8,795	2,133		133			6	62
1938	11,597	2,298		49			12	61
1939								
1940			400					
1941								
1942	4,952		700					
1943	11,095	2,398		61				23
1944	13,982	2,874	1,470	118				33
1945	21,263	4,392	650	150				59
1946	26,936	5,435	0	233		26	13	125
1947	18,895	6,549	461	406		24	15	67
1948	21,924	5,944	419			27		
1949	22,285	5,395	383			27		
1950	22,578	7,165	539			50		8
1951	33,250	7,492	1,349			28		21
1952	30,454	8,792	1,520	500		71	13	14
1953	47,200	12,600	1,254	500		91	18	21
1954	51,400	12,451	970	2,600		105	13	27
1955	64,074	15,799	822	2,450		108	22	51
1956	71,862	15,910	919	3,124		134	20	61
1957	62,154	13,568	1,001	3,045		91	29	78
1958	71,013	16,450	821	3,709		77	37	59
1959	70,237	13,865	679	2,367	119	59	59	59
1960	75,213	16,545	701	3,373	83	40	62	114
1961	76,001	16,572	579	2,218	164	46		140
1962	66,645	13,653	549	3,951	98	45		144
1963	63,546	14,542	774	2,444	162	52	49	171
1964	67,379	13,835	839	3,419	127	59	35	161
1965	56,438	14,064	977	2,861	108	51	53	214
1966	64,629	14,631	1,219	3,386	156	55	14	161
1967	66,350	13,397	1,286	2,700	109	50	32	127
1968	78,441	17,064	1,294	2,597	164	53	47	161
1969	67,176	12,415	1,472	3,085	143	74	46	168
1970	77,087	14,146	1,551	3,404	114	81	64	151
1971	54,927	11,009	1,465	3,786	303	86	13	137
1972	47,599	9,324	1,486	3,783	70	88	21	152
1973	54,014	12,374	1,237	1,430	87	96	15	128
1974	42,026	8,712	1,301	1,747	112	112	16	121
1975	40,102	8,981	1,314	2,285	142	93	32	102

Year	Deer	Elk	Pronghorn	Black bear	Mtn. lion	Moose	Bighorn sheep	Mtn. goat
1976	25,427	4,135	1,380	2,516	123	94	38	103
1977	39,834	6,353	1,250	2,173	160	95	27	117
1978	39,879	7,662	1,345	2,300	167	99	38	106
1979	42,549	6,344	1,430	1,718	31	104	42	79
1980	45,988	8,303	1,498	1,619	97	118	32	47
1981	50,580	9,903	1,837	1,918	198	114	46	65
1982	48,670	12,485	2,112	1,584	189	147	64	32
1983	50,600	12,700	2,400	2,100	167	229	60	41
1984	42,600	15,600	2,070	2,100	400	268	70	52
1985	48,950	15,550	2,190	1,700	170	297	79	38
1986	59,800	15,500	2,540	2,150	250	355	79	56
1987	66,400	16,100	2,600	1,950	300	363	77	70
1988	82,200	20,400	2,800	1,900	550	399	76	62
1989	95,200	22,600	3,500	2,100	340	400	98	79
1990	72,100	21,500	3,180	2,300	350	422	92	76
1991	69,100	24,100	2,950	2,100	171	428	97	85
1992	61,200	26,600	3,150	2,800	330	420	106	67
1993	45,600	20,800	2,470	1,260	450	579	80	66
1994	56,900	28,000	1,835	2,250	450	558	78	69
1995	48,400	22,400	1,540	2,040	700	637	57	44
1996 <sup>a</sup>	50,800	25,600	1,460	1,740	635	583	48	48
1997 <sup>b,c</sup>	38,600	18,500	1,300	1,538	834	638	61	61
1998	39,000	18,750	1,150	1,973	804	612	63	57
1999	43,300	17,500	1,150	1,819	652	775	50	48
2000	45,200	20,200	1,325	1,855	728	774	50	48
2001	53,000	19,500	1,350	1,887	628	918	48	48
2002	44,650	18,400	1,350	2,390	514	870	34	41
2003	43,500	18,400	1,300	2,415	569	933	36	33
2004	46,160	20,800	1,340	2,443	459	928	46	32
2005	54,050	21,470	1,410	2,425	466	835	42	48
2006	51,700	20,040	1,480	2,231	480	811	48	46
2007	54,200	19,100	1,460	2,660	440	847	57	36
2008	43,605	16,017	1,427	2,169	416	794	48	39
2009	42,189	15,813	1,335	2,091	432	781	53	42
2010	44,360	17,470	1,453	2,508	469	767	49	39
2011	41,805	15,155	1,329	2,249	499	701	53	45
2012	49,644	16,418	1,536	2,479	510	678	52	39
2013	49,105	16,683	1,495	2,218	566	690	63	45
2014	59,998	20,597	1,606	2,500	472	677	61	43

All data are from Calendar Year, January 2014 to December 2014, except mountain lion and gray wolf harvest, July 2014 to June 2015.

<sup>a</sup> Because of budget shortfalls and increasing costs of conducting the telephone harvest survey, moose, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats were eliminated from the telephone survey in 1996. Harvest figures after 1996 result from mandatory harvest check-in records.

<sup>b</sup> Harvest estimates from 1997-2000 do not include pronghorn harvest during the general archery season.

<sup>c</sup> Black bear and mountain lions were dropped from the telephone survey program in 1997 because of budget restrictions. Harvest figures after 1997 result from mandatory harvest check-in records.

APPENDIX A

**Summary of**  
**2014**  
**Big Game**  
**Harvest Estimates**



Estimated

Species	Permits	Hunters	Harvest	Days hunted
Deer	157,457	143,834	59,998	888,718
Elk	93,150	85,062	20,597	567,452
Pronghorn	4,178	3,485	1,606	13,980
Black Bear	35,651	NA	2,500	NA
Mountain Lion	23,517	NA	472	NA
Gray Wolf	42,497	NA	249	NA
Moose	868	NA	677	NA
Bighorn Sheep	93	NA	61	NA
Mountain Goat	51	NA	43	NA

All data are from calendar year, January 2014 to December 2014, except mountain lion and gray wolf harvest which is reported July 2014 to June 2015. Legal Harvest by licensed hunters only.

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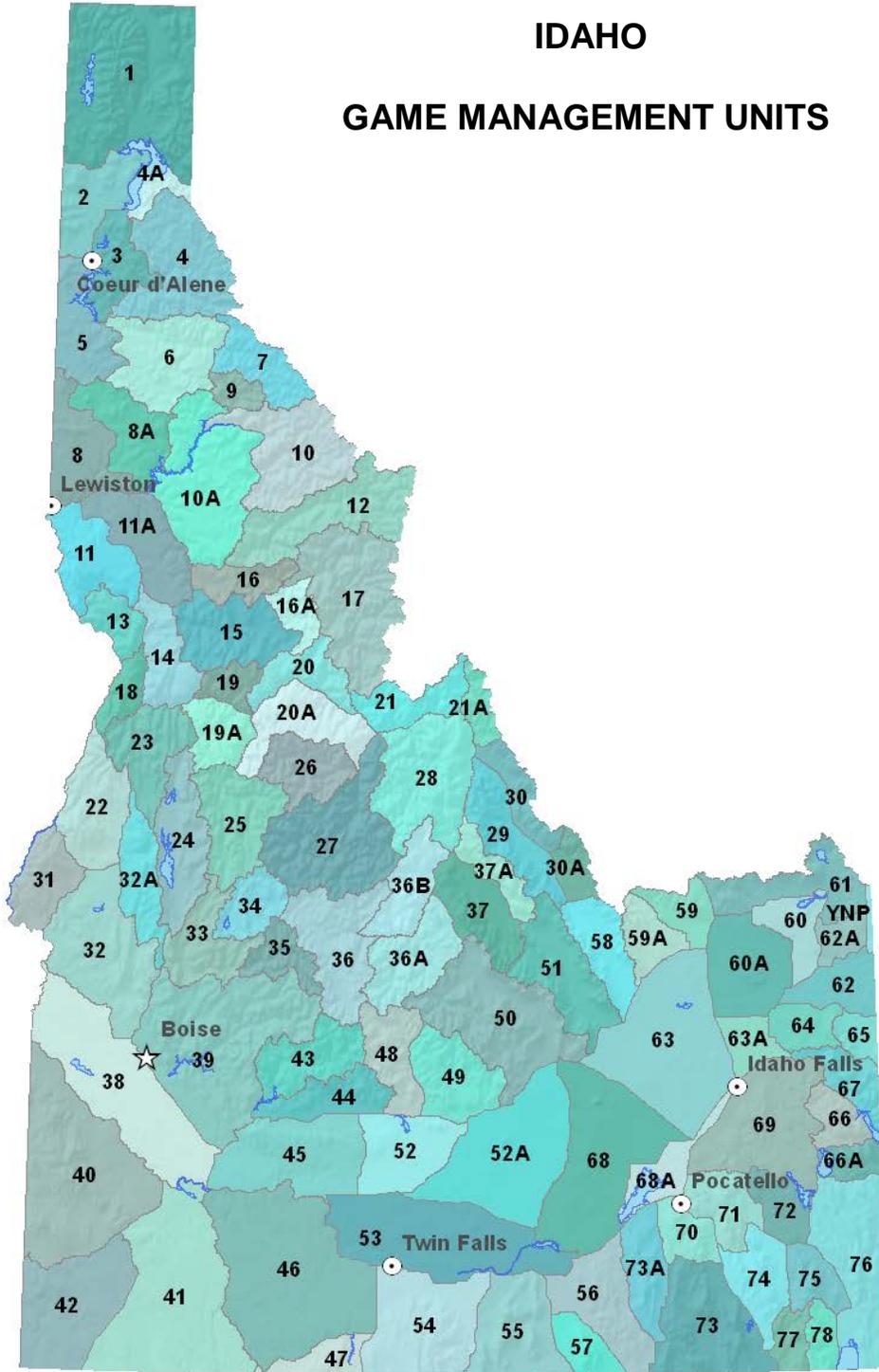


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# IDAHO

## GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS



## FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program consists of funds from a 10% to 11% manufacturer's excise tax collected from the sale of handguns, sporting rifles, shotguns, ammunition, and archery equipment. The Federal Aid program then allots the funds back to states through a formula based on each state's geographic area and the number of paid hunting license holders in the state. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game uses the funds to help restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds and mammals for the public benefit. These funds are also used to educate hunters to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to be responsible, ethical hunters. Seventy-five percent of the funds for this project are from Federal Aid. The other 25% comes from license-generated funds.

