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To: [Rulemaking](#)
Cc: [Benn Brocksome](#); [Peyton Nunes](#); [Scott Phillips](#)
Subject: IDAPA 20.05.01 – Rules Pertaining to the Recreational Use of Endowment Land.
Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:38:17 PM
Attachments: [IDL Idaho Sportsmen 2023 - Rulemaking.pdf](#)

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Mr. Wernex,

On behalf of the membership, affiliates, and sponsors, that comprise Idaho Sportsmen, we'd like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and support for the proposed rule chapter IDAPA 20.05.01 – Rules Pertaining to the Recreational Use of Endowment Land.

Please see attached for our full comment.

Best,

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Benn Brocksome
&
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Todd Wernex
Idaho Department of Lands
Recreation Program Manager
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Mr. Wernex,

On behalf of the membership, affiliates, and sponsors, that comprise Idaho Sportsmen, we'd like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and support for the proposed rule chapter ***IDAPA 20.05.01 – Rules Pertaining to the Recreational Use of Endowment Land.***

Idaho Sportsmen is an all-volunteer organization that works to promote and protect **Access and Opportunity** to hunt, fish, trap, and recreationally shoot. We do so in an ethical and responsible way as we abide by all rules and laws. Many sportsmen participate in these activities through the utilization of Idaho's public lands including the privilege of recreating on state endowment lands. Although we emphasize keeping our endowment lands clean and open, some of our members have seen these lands mistreated and eventually closed to them at times, due to misuse from bad actors not affiliated with us.

Thanks to the passage of Senate Bill 1049, the punishments for mistreating endowment lands have been updated and allowed for these rules to create a more enforceable set of options for the department and law enforcement as well as providing education to users and accountability to those acting irresponsibly. We believe this will correct bad behavior and help protect access for all uses of our endowment lands long term.

Idaho Sportsmen has been a dedicated stakeholder in this issue, we supported the passage of Senate bill 1049 and we have been involved in these conversations throughout the past few years. We believe these rules are needed to address the concerns of the various stakeholders, state agencies, and to protect access and use of our endowment lands. Idaho Sportsmen remains invested in keeping our endowment lands open and accessible for all to enjoy while supporting the department in meeting the constitutional mandate for the beneficiaries. We believe this proposed rule is a mutually beneficial solution for all stakeholders.

We also support the careful consideration from other stakeholders and encourage the department to strike the balance. We believe this is found not by adding every suggestion from every group, which would make an overly long and burdensome rule, but rather by distilling the ideas down and creating simple and concise language. Incorporations by references and use of existing definitions will prevent "turf wars", between interested parties and ensure a level, simple, playing field is created for all users. Furthermore, in keeping with the Executive Orders for Zero Based Regulation (ZBR) and Red Tape Reduction, limiting word counts and minimizing impacts to the rules chapter will prevent future issues and allow these rules to fit in the legislative intent.

If endowment lands keep being mistreated, we face the issue of longer-term closures, loss of revenue, and increased costs for maintenance and repairs. These rules will work in collaboration with the recent bill passed, S 1049, to help educate the public on keeping our public lands clean, free from damage & litter of all kinds, and will help us keep our endowment lands open for all to enjoy long term while also holding bad actors and especially repeat offenders accountable.

Thank you for your continued commitment to supporting multiple use and allowing stakeholders to have a voice in this important process.

Respectfully,

Benn Brocksome
Executive Director
Idaho Sportsmen