Idaho Outfitters & Guides Licensing Board



Newsletter

October 2024

Board Mission:
Safeguarding the health,
safety, and welfare of the
public, and to assist with
conservation efforts



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DOPL Online Services

The long-awaited system change is finally here! The new system will be called DOPL Online Services and go live on November 4, 2024. In anticipation of its launch, some helpful How-to guides will be available on the Board website starting November 1st. Keep in mind that though these will be available to view ahead of going live, you will not be able to do anything on DOPL Online Services until November 4th.

Below is a list of available resources to help you set up your online account and link your license. These will all be available on the website linked here <u>Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board | Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (idaho.gov)</u>;

- · Associating your License to your Online Services Account
- · Submitting Outfitter Use Report
- · OGLB Renewals
- · Requesting to be on Outfitter Roster
- · Outfitter Amendments

To aid all licensees associate licenses with their Online Services account, the Division will be sending out letters via mail to the address on file. These letters will be sent out on November 4th after all data has been converted into the new system (and it may take 10 business days to reach your mailing address.) These letters will contain a code to help you link your license to your online account. If you experience any issues, please refer to the How-to guide on the website for assistance with the process.

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Outfitters should be aware of some important changes with the new system. First, outfitters that currently possess a guide license to guide as an outfitter will no longer need that license and will not have access to it in the new system as it is not required under Section 36-2112, Idaho Code. Licensed outfitters may act as guides without a guide's license if they meet the training requirements.

In early October, all Designated agents with multiple licenses were consolidated, as well as any Designated Agent that had multiple guide licenses. You should have received an updated license earlier in October linked to all outfitters you are currently employed by. This applies only to individual Designated Agents that had multiple licenses. If you did not receive an updated license and believe you should have, please reach out to the following email: OGLB-Licensing@dopl.idaho.gov Likewise, if you did receive an updated license but do not see all the outfitters you are employed by, please reach out to the email mentioned previously.

Another change that will affect both outfitters and guides is related to the outfitter's roster. The outfitter roster is essentially a roster of employees that outfitters will manage for licensed guides and designated agents that they employ. The method to be added to an outfitter roster has changed. A step-by-step guide that will walk you through the process will be available on the Board website and is linked on the first page and at the bottom of this page. This will be an important process as it is a requirement of licensure for a guide license for a guide's license to be valid, they must be employed by a licensed outfitter. To track this information, it will be mandatory that a guide be added to the employing outfitter's roster. NOTE: Only guides will have the ability to submit requests to be added to an outfitter's roster. The outfitter must then log into their online profile and approve or deny requests to be on rosters.

On initial application for licensure, the guide will indicate a single outfitter by which they are to be employed. If the guide meets all requirements a license will be issued. <u>NOTE</u>: To not hold up the process, guide licenses will be issued in an inactive state. Once issued, the outfitter indicated on the application will receive a guide roster request. Once approved by the outfitter to be on their roster, the guide's license will be updated to active status with the outfitter being indicated as their employer on their license.

When a guide submits an initial application or an outfitter roster request, the system will ask them for training documents related to the outfitter and activities that they indicate at the time of the request. Training documents can be found at <u>Guide Applications and Amendments | Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (idaho.gov)</u>

In the case of guide renewals, if the guide is already on an outfitter's roster at the time of the renewal, they will stay on the same roster when renewed. If on multiple rosters, the guide will be renewed for all of them at the same time. The outfitter will be responsible for removing any guides from their roster that they no longer employ. If a guide is not employed during renewal, their license will not be valid until they are added to an outfitter's roster. If removed from a roster while the license is active, the license will become inactive until added to another outfitter's roster.

The full process will be explained in How-to guides available on the Board website closer to November 4th, 2024. Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board | Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (idaho.gov)

Continue on for the Rule Changes Section »

Rule Changes, Updates, and Proposals

2025 Rules Changes Pending

The Board, at its September 3rd meeting, submitted a final version of edits to several Rules in IDAPA 24.35.01. Below is a summary of the changes that are pending before the legislature for the upcoming 2025 session:

002.08. is being simplified as there is duplicative language covered under Idaho Code 36-2102(r). It will define Hazard as "potential dangers to the health, safety, or welfare of the outfitted public which are known risks inherent to an outfitted or guided activity."

100.03. Removal of outfitter and designated agent examination as required by Idaho Code 67-9409(4).

103.02.b. has a few changes to clarify the training requirements for float boating on classified water.

b.i. "Three (3) complete float boat trips on each of the classified rivers applied for under the supervision of an outfitter or guide licensed for that river."

b.ii. adds clarifying language regarding training requirements.

b.iii. adds clarifying language regarding training requirements.

103.05. clarifies the renewal period for guides and gives the board discretion to waive fees for a reinstatement of a guide license. This brings the Rule in line with the statute and adds no reinstatement fees. No reinstatement fees are currently being or have been historically charged.

257.09. is a clarification to the operation of the Undesignated Tag Pool. 09.b. separates the difference in pool designations prior to the July 16th deadline and after the deadline in 09.d. The original intent of the language is kept.

259.01. correction to the date regarding boating limitations for the newly added CF2, to be changed to "Memorial Day to November 30."

259.02. addition of the Little Salmon River to rule as a licensable river section for float boating.

259.04. increase the number of boats per operator on Lake Coeur d'Alene, Lake Pend Oreille, and Priest Lake from 1 to 2.

259.05 adds the word fishing for clarification.

Next Steps

Pending Rules will be posted in the upcoming November Idaho Administrative Bulletin which you can find <u>here</u>. Pending rules will go through the legislative process in the upcoming 2025 legislative session. You can stay current on the rules through the Idaho State Legislature <u>website</u>.

Enforcement Corner Next

Enforcement Corner

Unlicensed outfitting and guiding are crimes (IC § 36-2104). The Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board does not have jurisdiction over criminal offenses. Criminal activity should be reported as follows:

- · Wildlife crimes can be reported online to Idaho Fish & Game: <u>idfg.idaho.gov/tipline</u> or by calling: 800-632-5999;
- · Other crimes should be reported to the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the area (i.e., Sheriff's Office, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management).

Remember that safety should always be your top priority when acting as a witness to a crime.

On behalf of the Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board, there were 54 investigations conducted in fiscal year 2023 (July 2022—June 2023).

Common complaints that were investigated include the following:

- · Fraudulent sale of game tags
- · Non-compliance with a USFS Permit
- · False advertisement by an outfitter
- Breach of contract by an outfitter
- · Willfully operating in an area for which the licensee is not licensed
- · Willfully engaging in any activity for which the licensee is not licensed
- · Employment of an unlicensed guide by an outfitter
- · Unprofessional conduct
- · Harassment of the public in their use of Idaho's outdoor recreational opportunities
- · Failure of an outfitter to serve the public by non-use of license privileges
- · Failure to have proper boat hull identification
- · Failure to have Clearwater permit affixed to boat
- · Failure to disclose a conviction on a renewal application
- · Conviction of a fish and game violation
- · Guiding without a current license

Important News & Updates

Highlight: New CWD
Management Zone in
portion of Unit 1 in
Panhandle Region

Important Changes to the Hunting Landscape



Helpful Resources Hunter alert: Portion of Unit 1 in Panhandle added to Link **CWD Management Zone** Important details to help hunters comply with new Link **CWD Management Zone** Bear hunters have new rules regarding grizzly bears and Link mandatory bear ID for 2025 Request for temporary change(s) in Operating Are-**Link**

as due to fire closures

New CWD Management Zone

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) recently released several Press Releases and Articles regarding the new CWD Management Zone in Unit 1 in the Panhandle Region. If you operate in the area, it is important to know that it is illegal to possess or transport a full carcass or any part of a deer, elk, or moose taken from a CWD Management Zone in any part of the state outside of that zone. Links to both articles can be found in the left-hand column under Helpful Resources.

IDFG New Rules Regarding Black Bears and Grizzly Bears

A new rule went into effect on September 1st requiring hunters using a bait site or anyone witnessing the use of a bait site by a grizzly bear must immediately report use of the site to IDFG. No person may hunt black bear over such a bait site, and it will be closed for the remainder of the current black bear hunting season.

Starting January 1st, 2025, anyone hunting black bears in Idaho must show proof of taking a bear identification test to differentiate between black bears and grizzly bears. More information regarding how hunters can take the test and show proof is yet to come. A link to the article by IDFG is available under the Helpful Resources.

Fire Awareness and Information

The Board provides several links related to Idaho fires on the main page underneath the *Additional Board Information* section in the General Information drop-down tab. Also available on the Board website are procedures outlining how to make a request for a temporary change in Operating Areas due to fire closures. The process involves written approval from the Land Manager and Licensing Board. A link to the information is available at the bottom of the Helpful Resources.

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Important News & Updates

General Updates

Nonresident Tag Sale Date Change

The date for the 2025 nonresident over-the-counter tags sale has changed this year from December 1st to <u>December 10th, 2024</u>. IDFG intends to provide better customer service for residents and nonresidents through this date change. More details regarding the change can be found in the link to the IDFG article under the Helpful Resources.

Tag Designation Changes

The IDFG commission set general-season Deer & Uncapped elk zone allocation in July, and tag designations were completed by the Board in late August. Capped elk zone and Controlled Hunt allocation will be set by the IDFG Commission in March 2025, with tag designation to follow shortly after that. Outfitter tag designation will be based on outfitters 2023 & 2024 historical use. Use verification letters will be sent out in February 2025. Be sure your email address and mailing address are up to date in the new DOPL Online Services to ensure you get these letters in a timely manner.

Quagga Mussel Detection in Snake River

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) recently detected quagga mussels in several locations, including the Shoshone Falls pool, Pillar Falls, and the Twin Falls Reservoir behind Twin Falls hydroelectric facility. ISDA does not expect major impacts to the public. Access to the Snake River at Centennial Park remains open with mandatory inspection and decontamination for all watercraft. Pillar Falls to Twin Falls Dam remains closed. An additional temporary closure from Pillar Falls to Auger Falls will occur in mid-October. It will last for approximately 15 days to facilitate treatment. For more information and closure updates, please see the links available under Helpful Resources.

Highlight: Nonresident over the counter tag sale date changed to December 10th



2025 nonresident deer/elk tags will go on sale Dec. 10, 2024	<u>Link</u>
Small number of quagga mussels detected in the Snake River	<u>Link</u>
ISDA Closure Updates	<u>Link</u>

Helpful Resources



Outfitters & Guides Licensing Board

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Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board

Board Members

Brad Compton (Chair)

Tammy Overacker (Member)

Erik Weiseth (Member)

Lonnie Lee Allen (Member)

Dennis Skinner (Public Member)

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL & PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Upcoming Meetings

November 13—Quarterly Meeting

All meetings are held at the Division HQ Chinden Building. Remote options are available on the Division website.