

IDAHO SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS ADVISORY COUNCIL

www.idahoscac.org

ISCAC Position Memo on High Fence, Shooter-Bull Operations in Idaho

In Idaho there are currently 76 high fence facilities that hold captive elk, 15 of which offer so-called "shooter-bull" operations. Such shooter-bull operations offer the opportunity to merely shoot an elk in a situation where the elk lacks the same chance to escape as a free-ranging animal, providing the shooter with an overwhelmingly favorable chance of a kill. No state hunting license or elk tag is required, no fair chase is mandated, and the animals are not wild, free-ranging elk. Although such operations are not hunts in any sense of the word and should not be confused with ethical, fair chase hunting, they do misrepresent our hunting heritage to the non-hunting public. ISCAC believes the shooting of elk while inside escape-proof fenced enclosures is not only unethical and adverse to our hunting heritage and presents a grave danger to wild and free-ranging elk populations.

ISCAC Believes:

1. Raising captive elk for the purpose of high fence or shooter-bull operations poses a serious risk to the health & viability of Idaho's wild elk herds due to the potential of disease transmission & genetic pollution.
2. Artificial or unnatural improvements of a species' characteristics, such as cross-breeding with non-native species to increase antler size are unethical & present a serious risk to Idaho's wild elk herds.
3. High fence or shooter-bull operations are unethical because they give the shooter an improper advantage over the captive animals and do not demonstrate respect or honor for the individual animal, the species, or hunting.
4. Hunting is the ethical, sportsmanlike, & lawful pursuit of free-ranging wild game animals in a manner that does not give the hunter an improper advantage over the animal & that demonstrates respect for the individual animal, the species, & the land.

Therefore, ISCAC supports legislation to prohibit the establishment of any new, and the expansion of any current, high fence and/or shooter-bull operations in the State of Idaho. ISCAC further supports legislation which mandates the phase out of all current high fence and/or shooter-bull operations.

Contact ISCAC for more information.

Members

- *Ada Co. F & G League*
- *Blackfoot River Bowmen*
- *Backcountry H&F*
- *Bonner Co. Sportsmen*
- *Deer Hunters of ID*
- *Found. for N. A. Wild Sheep*
- *Greater Yellowstone Coal.*
- *ID Bird Hunters*
- *ID Falconers Ass.*
- *ID Houndsmen Ass.*
- *ID Wildlife Fed.*
- *ID Poachers Club*
- *ID Rifle & Pistol Ass.*
- *ID State Bowhunters*
- *ISSU*
- *ID Trappers Ass.*
- *ID Traditional Bowhunters*
- *ID Walleye Unlimited*
- *ID BASS Fed.*
- *ID Trout Unlimited*
- *ID Mule Deer Foundation*
- *Landowners & Sportsmen*
- *Nat. Wild Turkey Fed.*
- *N. ID Tree Hound Ass.*
- *Pheasants Forever*
- *Rocky Mountain Elk Found.*
- *ID Chapters SCL*
- *SE ID Mule Deer Found.*
- *Snake River Cutthroats*