[ ]  **IDAPA RULE** [ ]  **IDAPA FEE** [ ] **BOARD ACTION REQUIRED**

[ ]  **BOARD POLICY** [x]  **INFO ONLY, NO ACTION REQUIRED**

# AGENDA ITEM

# Idaho Park and Recreation Special Meeting

**March 26, 2025**

**Boise, ID 83716**

**AGENDA ITEM:** Harriman Rodeo

### ACTION REQUIRED: Information Only

**PRESENTER:** Susan E. Buxton, Director

##### PRESENTATION

##### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Harriman State Park of Idaho (HSP) has a long history of agriculture, ranching, fishing, wildlife, and outdoor recreation. It is the foundation of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation due to the generous gift from the Harriman family. One of the concerns about HSP is that it is expensive to operate, manage, and maintain. Discussion regarding suitable additional revenue sources have been had with staff, the Board, and members of the Harriman community over the years. I met with Mr. Averell Fisk in September 2024 at HSP and we had a chance to discuss HSP’s needs. We also spoke with others familiar with HSP and the Island Park area and traditions. Mr. Fisk suggested IDPR consider bringing back the tradition of a local rodeo to the area. The following points were considered:

1. HSP needs to generate more revenue to support at least its annual operating budget, but also to enhance the long-term sustainability of HSP and IDPR.
2. An annual rodeo event would be in line with the historical history and heritage of the Railroad Ranch.
3. The event would benefit the local community and businesses.
4. The physical presence of the event would be transitory, only lasting a week or two per year, and would have a minimal impact on the property. There would not be permanent structures for this activity.
5. This revenue option, with the right vendor, would hopefully have little impact on HSP staff.
6. This event will increase the awareness for additional potential Park visitors.
7. Creating additional revenue from HSP of dedicated funds to IDPR helps keep budget requests for tax monies low.
8. Everyone likes a great western rodeo!

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

For discussion only.