#11B

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#### STATE OF NEVADA

#### OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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#### **MEMORANDUM**

To:

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

Tony Wasley, Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife

From:

Craig Burkett, Senior Deputy Attorney General

Date:

May 25, 2022

Subject: Litigation Update

United States, et al. v. Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, et al. (9th Circuit, San Francisco). An appeal of a judgment against the TCID for excess diversions of water. NDOW appealed to protect its water rights and interests. The 9th Circuit dismissed NDOW from the case: "[NDOW was] not injured or affected in any way by the judgment on remand from Bell, and thus do not have standing on appeal." In a subsequent appeal the 9th Circuit ruled that the "Tribe is entitled to recoup a total of 8,300 acre-feet of water for the years 1985 and 1986." U.S. v. Truckee-Carson Irrigation Dist., 708 Fed. Appx. 898, 902 (9th recently filed a Motion Sept. 2017). TCID Reconsideration based on Kokesh v. Securities and Exchange Commission, 137 S.Ct.1635 (2017). Argument on the Motion was heard February 4, 2019 and TCID's Motion was denied. Since then, the parties have begun debating the calculations for satisfaction of the prior judgment. The parties submitted briefs explaining their view of the respective calculations and had a hearing on September 29, 2020 before Judge Miranda Du.

On February 22, 2022, Anthony Walsh substituted in as counsel in place of Tori Sundheim.

2. United States and Walker River Paiute Tribe v. Walker River Irrigation Dist., et al. (Walker River Litigation), (USDC, Reno). This action involves federal, tribal and Mineral County claims for additional water from Walker River, in addition to those already established by the Walker River Decree. NDOW and others moved to dismiss certain claims against groundwater rights by the United States.

NDOW – Litigation Update Page 2 June 3, 2022

Subfile 3:73-CV-00127-RCJ-WGC (federal reserved rights)

This case involves claims by the United States for federal reserved water rights for all federal lands on the Walker River system. All claims are stayed except those concerning the Walker River Indian Reservation.

Currently, this case is before the District Court on remand from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' May 22, 2018, decision. The United States and the Tribe filed Amended Counterclaims on May 3, 2019. Answers to the Counterclaims were filed on August 1, 2019. The next deadline is February 19, 2020 for the principle defendants and the United States to agree to a discovery plan. This deadline was extended from November 22, 2019.

On May 28, 2015, the District Court ruled that the United States' action to acquire federal reserved water rights for the Walker River Paiute Tribe and several smaller tribes within the Walker River watershed were to be dismissed on "preclusion"; a doctrine that means the U.S. had its chance to make claims at the time of the original decree but failed to do so and thus cannot make them now.

On May 22, 2018, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the District Court's decision mostly based on the fact that the United States and the Tribe had not been given a chance to brief the issue before the District Court. In fact, the District Court specifically requested that the issue of preclusion should not be briefed.

On September 21, 2021 Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment (ECF No. [2638]) was granted. Plaintiffs are entitled to judgment as a matter of law in their favor as to Defendants' Third, Seventh, Twelfth, and Fourteenth Affirmative Defenses. Nevertheless, Principal Defendants retain all other affirmative defenses and litigation remains ongoing.

Principal Defendants have filed status reports regarding the status of access to tribal archives for discovery purposes. These archives remain closed due to the pandemic.

Discovery remains ongoing.

The parties are exploring settlement options. NDOW and DWR have met with WRID April 20, 2022 to clarify settlement concepts.

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Subfile 3:73-CV-00128-RCJ-WGC (public trust doctrine)

This case involves a claim filed by Mineral County for the court to recognize a public trust duty to provide water to Walker Lake to support the fishery therein.

On May 28, 2015, the District Court held that Mineral County did not have standing to pursue the public trust claims. Mineral County filed an appeal of this issue. The Court expounded on the issue of whether the shift of water from irrigators to the lake under the public trust law would be a taking of property under the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The Court held that it would be a taking and that the State would have to pay compensation to each water right holder that is displaced by water that would have to be sent to Walker Lake. Finally, the Court went on to hold that decision whether to take the water was a non-justiciable political question.

On May 22, 2018, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the District Court holding that Mineral County did not have standing to pursue the public trust claim. However, rather than ruling on the substantive issues, the Court held that the Public Trust Doctrine is a state-law issue that has not been squarely decided in Nevada. The Appeals Court sent one Certified Question to the Nevada Supreme Court. On August 22, 2018, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals amended its order and added a second Certified Question. Those two questions are as follows.

Does the public trust doctrine apply to rights already adjudicated and settled under the doctrine of prior appropriation and, if so, to what extent?'

If the public trust doctrine applies and allows for reallocation of rights settled under the doctrine of prior appropriation, does the abrogation of such adjudicated or vested rights constitute a "taking" under the Nevada Constitution requiring payment of just compensation?

On September 18, 2020, the Nevada Supreme Court rendered its Decision answering the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Certified Questions. The Nevada Supreme Court held that: (1) the public trust doctrine applies to rights already adjudicated and settled under the doctrine of prior appropriation; (2) the public trust doctrine applies to all waters within the state; and (3) the public trust doctrine does not permit reallocating water rights already adjudicated

NDOW – Litigation Update Page 4 June 3, 2022

and settled under the doctrine of prior appropriation. Because the Court held the public trust doctrine does not allow for a reallocation of rights, there was no need to answer the second question.

The case has returned to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Court asked parties to file Supplemental Briefs to address what effect the Nevada Supreme Court's decision has on the case. NDOW filed its Supplemental Brief on October 16, 2020 arguing that the effect of the decision precludes Mineral County's claims and that the District Court's decision dismissing the case must be affirmed. We await the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' further instruction or final decision.

On January 28, 2021, the Ninth Circuit Court issued its Opinion. The panel affirmed in part, and vacated in part, the district court's dismissal of Mineral County's complaint:

In light of the Nevada Supreme Court's Decision, the panel held that the district court properly dismissed the County's public trust claim to the extent it sough a reallocation of water rights adjudicated under the Decree and settled under the doctrine of prior appropriation. The panel vacated the judgment of the district court and remanded with instruction to consider the county's public trust doctrine claim to the extent it sought remedies that would not involved a reallocation of adjudicated water rights. The panel remanded to the district court to consider in the first instance the County's arguments that were not properly addressed by the district court. The panel rejected as untimely the County's 1936 Decree itself. challenge to the

On April 21, 2021, the Department of Wildlife and other Principal Defendants filed a Joint Status Report submitted pursuant to the court's Minute Order of March 23, 2021. The Status Conference took place on April 28, 2021. *Mineral County v. Lyon County*, 136 Nev. Adv. Op. 58 (2020)

On June 30, 2021, Mineral County filed its Second Amended Complaint. Mineral county asserted that by permitting excessive and unreasonable upstream consumptive uses to reduce average annual inflows to Walker Lake to the detriment of the Lake's public trust values, the Decree Court and State of Nevada have violated this continuing duty under the public trust doctrine to maintain Walker Lake in a reasonable state of environmental health.

On October 28, 2021, the Principal Defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss Mineral County's Second Amended Complaint. The main arguments for

NDOW – Litigation Update Page 5 June 3, 2022

dismissal are as follows: Paragraph XIV of the Walker River Decree does not give the Court subject matter jurisdiction to grant Declaratory Relief as to Nevada's, or the Court's purported obligation to Walker Lake; Mineral County's public trust claim is also inconsistent with the public trust doctrine as interpreted by the above Nevada supreme court opinion.

Plaintiff's response to the Motion to Dismiss was originally scheduled to be due on <u>April 30, 2022</u>. However, due to Plaintiff's Counsel's ongoing and difficult recovery from COVID-19, the parties have stipulated to extend the response time by one month.

#### Subfile 3:73-CV-00125-RCJ-WGC (main adjudication docket)

This subfile is not a case in the traditional sense, but rather constitutes the ongoing court-managed administration of the Walker River Decree. Decreed rights must be adjusted and administered consistent with the Court's decisions documented in the court's docket.

Water Master's Budget: Every year the Water Master is required to submit an administration budget for the court's approval. For the year 2021 to 2022, the Water Master did not request, as it did for the year 2020 to 2021, that special assessments be levied against any users seeking to modify decreed rights for instream flow purposes. NDOW has no reason to oppose the Budget as requested for the years 2021 to 2022.

Walker Basin Conservancy's Permit Approvals: On February 25, 2021, NDOW filed a Petition for the Temporary Modification of the Walker River Decree in accordance with Permit No. 89964-T, for the benefit of Walker Lake. This is a matter of course for any change in the Decreed water rights. NDOW is awaiting the Court's order.

3. Smith v. Wakeling, Second Judicial District, CV18-01389, Dept. 7. Smith brings an action for Defamation based on statements of certain NDOW employees. The principal basis for Smith's claim is a slide included in a presentation to Truckee law enforcement addressing concerns with wildlife advocates, and questioning whether their actions solicit harassment or engage in domestic terrorism. Smith alleges that purported misrepresentations about him have damaged his reputation.

Smith also claims his rights under the First Amendment were infringed when he was blocked from commenting on an NDOW Facebook page. Smith was blocked in 2012 for multiple violation of the rules governing use of the

NDOW – Litigation Update Page 6 June 3, 2022

page. Smith moved for a preliminary injunction. A hearing on the Motion was held on July 27, 2018. The Court denied the Injunction, but ordered NDOW to allow Smith access to the Facebook page and at the same time admonished Smith to follow the terms of use.

Smith filed an Amended Complaint, adding the entities named as Plaintiffs in the Ridgetop Holdings LLC v. Wakeling case in California, as Plaintiffs in this case. NDOW and the individually named Defendants Answered Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint on August 29, 2018.

A week long trial was completed beginning February 8, and concluding February 14. The trial Judge dismissed multiple claims and Defendants after conclusion of the Plaintiff's case. A single claim was submitted to the jury as to whether the Nevada Department of Wildlife defamed the Plaintiff in libel. The jury returned a defense verdict on the remaining claim.

An additional claim has been submitted directly to the Judge. That claim originally sought public records related to the Plaintiff's removal from the NDOW Facebook page in 2012. In his Petition, Plaintiff instead argued he was entitled to attorney's fees for the Defendants' failure to produce documents in response to a records request he filed in 2017 related to the alleged defamation claims. The Defendants filed a motion to strike that brief on the basis it was not properly before the court, and also filed an opposition arguing there was no entitlement to the fees. We await a decision by the Court.

\*Indicates the matter is resolved and will not appear on future litigation updates.

Italicized material, if any, (other than case name) is updated information since the last litigation update.

# Nevada Department of Wildlife Small Game Release Plan

For

State Fiscal Years 2022 & 2023



Adopted - June 2021

Amendment Proposal – June 2022 (proposed changes are represented in blue italics)



# STATE OF NEVADA

Steve Sisolak, Governor

# **DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

Tony Wasley, Director

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This publication will be made available in an alternative format upon request.

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or

US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mailstop: MBSP-4020 Arlington, VA 22203 Director Nevada Department of Wildlife 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120 Reno, NV 89511

Individuals with hearing impairments may contact the Department via telecommunications device at our Headquarters at 775-688-1500, or teletype to following State Relay number at 1-800-326-6868.

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# Nevada Department of Wildlife Small Game Release Plan Summary

# For

# Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS					
Species	# Proposed Introductions	# Proposed Augmentations			
California quail	TBD	TBD			
Mountain Quail	2	-			
Rio Grande Turkey	1	3			
Merriam's Turkey	3	1			
Gray Partridge	1	-			
Sharp-tailed Grouse	_	1			
Ruffed Grouse	1	1			
American Beaver	-	TBD			
Total:	8	5			

# Proposed Releases Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse

Location	Co.	Type
Introductions – priority for first available donor sto	ck	
Augmentations – priority after introductions		
Bull Run Basin (Elko County)	EL	Α



# Small Game Release Site Planning and Approval Summary

5-2020

Date:5/6/22Region:ERName:Matt Jeffress and Shawn EspinosaOffice:Elko				
Species or Subspecies: Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse				
Introduction: or Augmentation:				
Fiscal Year of Planned Release: 2022				
Release Site Site Name: Bull Run Basin, Bull Run Mountains				
County: Elko  Legal Description:  Transplant Stock: Northwestern Colorado near Craig, CO				
Cooperating Land Management Agencies: USFS				
Land Management Agency Approval Document: Unnecessary (Private)				
Other Documents and their Status:				
Nevada Upland Game Species Management Plan.				
Notification of User Groups (include methods and dates):				
The Elko County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife and NBU Midas will be notified of the augmentation. Press releases post augmentation may be developed to highlight the ongoing success of this population.				
Habitat Evaluation:				
A comprehensive habitat suitability analysis of the release site was conducted in 2011 and published as a "Data Summary" by the USGS (Coates et al. 2011). The data collection and analysis found that microhabitat features at the release site were not significantly different than that of the Curlew Valley in Idaho and, in some cases, the habitat characteristics important for sharp-tailed grouse were greater at the Nevada release site. Sharp-tailed grouse continue to persist at this site.				
Predator Evaluation:				
Raven removal has been conducted in this area.				

# **SFY 2023 NDOW CAB Budget Requests**

County	Repo	rted Cash Balance	F	/23 Budget Request	NDOW Preliminary Recommendation (Rounded)
Carson City	\$	6,118.06	\$	3,387.74	\$ -
Churchill	\$	3,987.00	\$	2,771.00	\$ -
Clark	\$	4,116.45	\$	8,864.45	\$ 4,748.00
Douglas	\$	5,617.56	\$	5,016.00	\$ -
Elko	\$	6,242.08	\$	6,113.94	\$ -
Esmeralda *	\$	1,000.00			\$ 2,300.00
Eureka	\$	6,384.93	\$	5,151.50	\$ -
Humboldt	\$	5,858.10	\$	5,302.00	\$ -
Lander			\$	6,557.00	\$ 6,557.00
Lincoln	\$	6,196.41	\$	4,664.00	\$ -
Lyon	\$	6,228.99	\$	6,944.14	\$ 716.00
Mineral	\$	3,300.00	\$	5,903.54	\$ 2,604.00
Nye	\$	5,793.60	\$	3,707.77	\$ -
Pershing	\$	5,957.87	\$	6,212.69	\$ 255.00
Storey *	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$ -
Washoe	\$	6,669.04	\$	5,710.71	\$ -
White Pine	\$	5,059.60	\$	6,283.38	\$ 1,224.00
Total:	\$	79,529.69	\$	82,589.86	\$ 18,404.00

FY 23 Governor Recommends Budget: \$ 36,526.00

Balance: \$ 18,122.00

<sup>\*</sup> County was given \$1,000 in FY22

# Nevada Department of Wildlife Wildlife Heritage Program

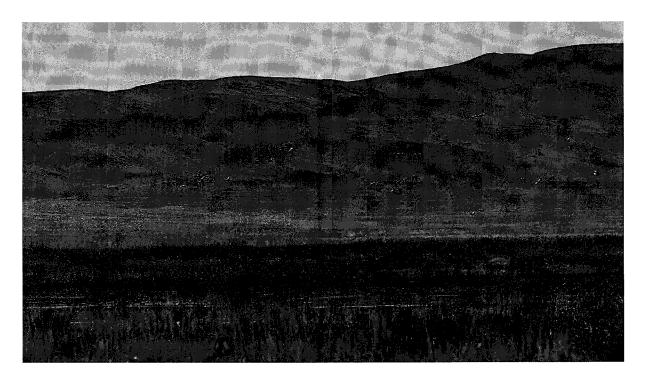
Project Summaries and State Fiscal Year 2023 Proposals



Agenda item #14 is 203 pages. Please view at <a href="https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/">https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/</a>

# **Duck Stamp Program Report**

# Nevada Department of Wildlife June 2022



Carson Lake WMA Steve Siegel, NDOW



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#### **Progress Report on Duck Stamp Projects Funded in FY 2022**

#### **Carson Lake and Pasture Infrastructure Improvements**

A total of \$1,582.50 was spent on 3 flash board water control structures to replace the two structures on the bypass ditch and one at the Big Water turn out. Shipping and fabrication delays caused WMA staff to miss installation window before water deliveries to the Carson Lake WMA began. Structures are on hand and will be installed after the irrigation season.

Materials and quotes were very difficult to obtain for wildlife fencing materials. Shipping delays and material availability postponed the construction on the first phase of building the wildlife fence. One thousand eight hundred and fifteen T posts were delivered 5/1/2022. Purchase requisition is in, and staff is awaiting delivery of smooth and barbed wire. A total of \$11,779.35 was spent on t post enough for 5 miles of fencing and \$11,035.20 will be spent on wire upon delivery.

#### **Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Conservation Support**

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) donated \$10,000 to Ducks Unlimited (DU) during FY22 to help them implement the migratory bird projects that were developed as a result of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The projects primarily consist of wetland restoration, forage establishment and production, and the purchase of conservation easements in the prairie potholes regions of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Band return data show that these two Canadian provinces are the sources of a significant number of waterfowl that pass-through Nevada each year. The prairie potholes region has the highest density of breeding ducks in all of North America.

#### **Eastern Complex Weed Control**

To date 574 acres of invasive weeds have been treated on the Eastern Wildlife Management Area Complex. The removal of these weeds has improved wildlife habitat, increased user accessibility, and improved aesthetics on the Complex.

#### **Key Pittman WMA Wildlife Food Plots**

Approximately 60 acres were planted in October with winter wheat, cereal rye, barley, alfalfa, Austrian winter pea and hairy vetch as a winter cover crop and to enhance hunter success while hunting the fields on the Key Pittman WMA. Due to drought conditions approximately 20 acres of the food plot was unsuccessful due to lack of water. An additional 20 acres were planted in March with intermediate wheat grass, sand dropseed and sandberg bluegrass to enhance desirable vegetation in areas where the removal of noxious weeds left areas that were lightly vegetated or in areas where improved vegetation cover and variety is needed. Approximately 70 acres were over seeded in March with Spring wheat, oats, Ladak Alfalfa, Rocky Mountain bee plant, sorghum, and native annual sunflower. The spring planting is robust and healthy.

#### **Mason Valley WMA Prescribed Burn**

Prescribed burns for habitat improvement at the Mason Valley WMA are scheduled for implementation in the spring of 2023 following the completion of other habitat projects at the WMA.

#### **Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge Water Conveyance Improvement**

This project may be completed in FY 23. NDOW is still working with Ducks Unlimited (DU) to find a contractor to complete the project. Future coordination with DU will need to occur.

#### **Washoe Dam Repairs**

This project may be completed in FY 23. NDOW is still working with other partners to address the repairs. Future coordination with J-U-B Engineering, State Parks and Division of Water Resources will need to occur.

# Proposed Duck Stamp Projects for State Fiscal Year 2023

(þ.				F), \$20,000		
Other Funding Sources (in-kind contributions not quantified)	\$10,000 (NDOW UGBS)	\$15,000 (NDOW UGBS)	\$30,000 (NDOW HCF)	\$12,000 (NDOW DS), \$40,000 (NDOW HCF), \$20,000 (NDOW UGBS)	n/a	\$127,000
E .				\$12		
\$ Requested from Duck Stamp Account	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$25,000	\$12,000	\$35,000	\$102,000
Project Manager	Isaac Metcalf	Isaac Metcalf	Isaac Metcalf	Jeremy Lutz	Mike Zahradka	
Title of Proposed Project	Western Complex WMAs Habitat Improvements (751)	Western Complex WMA Water Control Repair (764)	Carson Lake and Pasture Infrastructure Improvements (775)	Licking Ranch WMA Improvement Project (731)	Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Conservation Support (729)	Totals

# **Duck Stamp Account Budget Status**

Balance in the Account at Start of FY 2022	\$274,194.50
Plus Estimated Revenue Accrued During FY 2022	\$107,213.25
Less Estimated Total FY 2022 Expenditures	(\$-43,134.58)
Less Estimated Administrative Costs (10% of Revenue)	(\$ 10,721.33)
Estimated Balance at End of FY 2022 / Start of FY 2023	\$ 327,551.85
Plus Estimated Revenue to be Accrued During FY 2023	\$107,213.25
Less Estimated Administrative Costs (10% of Revenue)	(\$ 10,721.33)
Less Proposed New Project FY 2023 Expenditures	(\$102,000)
Estimated Balance at End of FY 2023	\$ 322,043.77
Less Remaining Obligations on Previously Funded Projects	(\$85,182.84)
Account Balance Less Previous Obligations	\$236,860.93

Notes: The budget information in this table is preliminary and subject to change. The amount of Duck Stamp revenue accrued during FY 2022 was not available when this report was prepared; therefore, the FY 2021 revenue number was used for both FY 2022 and 2023.



#### **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

# Project Proposal Report

Project Name: Western Complex WMAs Habitat Improvements

Project ID: 751

State

Fiscal

Year:

2023

Lead Agency: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Project Manager: Isaac Metcalf

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Phone Number: (775) 463-2741

Email: imetcalf@ndow.org

## **Project Partners**

Name Agency Role	Hadding Willer connection
No results	Authoritan

# Project Schedule

Project Start Date: 07/01/2022

Projected Completion Date: 06/30/2023

Multi-year Project: yes

State
Fiscal
Year:
2023

**Project Schedule:** Planting of wheat and peas will occur in the fall of 2022 in several food plots. Spring of 2023 planting of upland seed mix for doves, quail, and turkey in various food plots through out the Western Complex WMA'S. June of 20203 moist soil units that have been leveled or have had active emergent vegetation management will be planted with a wetland seed mix.

# Project Location and Land Status

#### **Location Narrative:**

Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area Scripps Wildlife Management Area Alkali Lake Wildlife Management Area Fernley Wildlife Management Area Humboldt Wildlife Management Area

NDOW Region: Western

**NDOW Management Units:** 043, 181, 195, 203

Nevada Sage Grouse Population Management Unit: Project not within a sage-grouse PMU

County: Churchill, Lyon, Pershing, Washoe

#### **Land Status**

Land Status Acres Percent of Project			
Bureau of Reclamation	39033.8	38	
Nevada State	19721.1	19.2	
Private	11116.1	10.8	

**Bureau of Land Management Office:** Carson City District - Sierra Front Field Office , Carson City District - Stillwater Field Office , Winnemucca District - Humboldt River Field Office

**US Forest Service Ranger District: N/A** 

Special Land Designations: N/A

# Project Summary and Justification

**Project Activity and Sub-activity:** HABITAT IMPROVEMENT or MANAGEMENT: Management of Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

#### **Project Objectives:**

- To use food plots or plantings in managed wetland and/or moist-soil habitats to increased production of preferred waterfowl food or cover.
- To use food plots on actively managed upland habitats to increase production of preferred wildlife food or cover.

#### NDOW Initiative Addressed: No initiatives

**Strategic Habitats Addressed:** High-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Lakes and reservoirs, Linear riparian: perennial and ephemeral rivers and streams, Low-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Mixed desert scrub, Other habitats (grassland and meadows, playa, sand dunes and badlands, alpine and tundra), Pinyon-juniper woodland (not encroachment), Salt desert shrub, Upper montane coniferous forest and woodland

Priority Resource Impacted: Upland Game, Waterfowl

Priority Species Impacted: Dabbling duck species, Diving duck species, Geese, Valley quail

Does this project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or Greater Sage-grouse habitat: no

Project Clearance or Authorization Status: Not Started

#### **Project Rationale:**

Western Complex Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) Habitat Improvements is to enhance forage and cover for waterfowl, shore birds, and upland birds on Nevada's Western Complex WMA's. Planting is part of restoration efforts by WMA staff following disturbances such as disking and prescribed burns. Annual vegetation control is identified in the Western Complex WMAs Conceptual Management Plan's. Wildlife habitats that are in good ecological condition, capable of supporting a diverse array of wildlife species. Habitat is the key to the success of all wildlife populations. Effective habitat is an integral function of the Department of Wildlife. NDOW will preserve and protect quality habitat and enhance deficient habitats. Maintain, protect and enhance wildlife habitats on WMAs by applying good science and best management practices through implementation of Comprehensive Management Plans on all WMA's that make up the Western Complex Wetlands in Nevada.

# Project Treatments and Actions

Treatment Name: food plot

Acres: 102589.069300806

Action: Plant upland or dry-land food plot

**Approach Narrative:** Planting of cover and forage vegetation will occur throughout the year. Water availability seed availability will drive where planting will take place and what will be planted.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant or manage cover plots

**Approach Narrative:** Planting of cover and forage vegetation will occur throughout the year. Water availability seed availability will drive where planting will take place and what will be planted.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant wetland or moist-soil food plot

Approach Narrative: Planting of cover and forage vegetation will occur throughout the year. Water

availability seed availability will drive where planting will take place and what will be planted.

Planned Start: 07/2023

# Project Monitoring

#### **Monitoring Plan:**

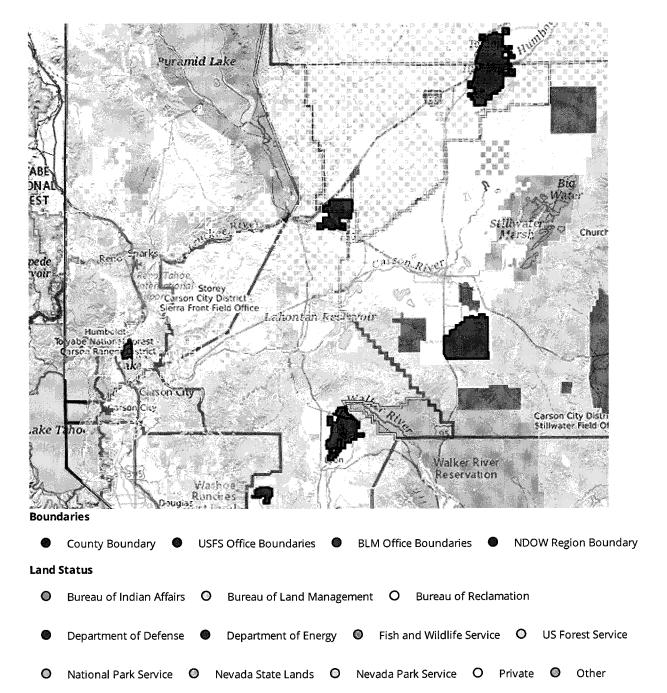
Bag check stations and survey cards will be used to collect data on hunter harvest and non-consumptive use. Surveys will be used to monitor waterfowl and shore bird use in the moist soil units.

# Project Funding and Budget

Budget Item NDOW Duck Stamp NDOW Upland Game Stamp 2023 2023				
Materials Purchase				
wetland seed	\$15000			
upland seed		\$10000		

#### **Budget Narrative:**

Wetland seed and seed mixes will be purchased along with upland seed for cover and food plots.



#### **Project Geometry**

Project Boundary
 Treatment Area: food plot



### **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

# Project Proposal Report

Project Name: Western Complex WMA Water Control Repair

Project ID: 764

Lead Agency: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Project Manager: Isaac Metcalf

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Phone Number: (775) 463-2741

Email: imetcalf@ndow.org

# Project Partners

Name Agency Role
No results

# Project Schedule

Project Start Date: 07/01/2022

State Fiscal Year:

2023

Projected Completion Date: 06/30/2023

State Fiscal Year:

2023

Multi-year Project: no

Project Schedule: Structures and Culverts will be installed as environmental factors that allow

throughout FY23.

# Project Location and Land Status

#### **Location Narrative:**

Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area Scripps Wildlife Management Area Alkali Lake Wildlife Management Area Fernley Wildlife Management Area Humboldt Wildlife Management Area

NDOW Region: Western

**NDOW Management Units: 203, 181, 043, 195** 

Nevada Sage Grouse Population Management Unit: Project not within a sage-grouse PMU

County: Washoe, Pershing, Churchill, Lyon

#### **Land Status**

Land Status Acres Percent of Proj			
	Bureau of Reclamation	39033.8	38
TV VIII VIII VIII VIII VIII VIII VIII V	Nevada State	19721.1	19.2
2	Private	11116.1	10.8

**Bureau of Land Management Office:** Carson City District - Stillwater Field Office , Carson City District - Sierra Front Field Office , Winnemucca District - Humboldt River Field Office

**US Forest Service Ranger District:** N/A

Special Land Designations: N/A

# Project Summary and Justification

**Project Activity and Sub-activity:** HABITAT IMPROVEMENT or MANAGEMENT: Install, maintain, or remove artificial habitat structures

#### **Project Objectives:**

• To measurably increase wildlife populations, wildlife use, or habitat for the benefit of public use and hunter success.

#### NDOW Initiative Addressed: No initiatives

**Strategic Habitats Addressed:** High-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Lakes and reservoirs, Linear riparian: perennial and ephemeral rivers and streams, Low-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Mixed desert scrub, Other habitats (grassland and meadows, playa, sand dunes and badlands, alpine and tundra), Pinyon-juniper woodland (not encroachment), Salt desert shrub, Upper montane coniferous forest and woodland

Priority Resource Impacted: Upland Game, Waterfowl

**Priority Species Impacted:** Dabbling duck species , Diving duck species , Geese , Rio Grande turkey , Tundra Swan , Valley quail

Does this project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or Greater Sage-grouse habitat: no

Project Clearance or Authorization Status: Not Started

#### Project Rationale:

Culverts and water control structures that are rusted through and no longer function as intended will be replaced. Replacing the structures will reduce water losses and ditch bank erosion. Improving water deliveries will enhance wetlands and uplands for waterfowl, shorebirds, water birds, along with upland avian species such as quail, doves, and turkey's. Annual habitat maintenance and enhancement is identified in all of the current WMA Conceptual Management Plans. Wildlife habitats that are in good ecological condition, capable of supporting a diverse array of wildlife species. Goal: Habitat is the key to the success of all wildlife populations. Effective habitat is an integral function of the Department of Wildlife. NDOW will preserve and protect quality habitat and enhance deficient habitats. Maintain, protect and enhance wildlife habitats on wildlife management areas (WMA's) by applying good science and best management practices through implementation of Comprehensive Management Plans on all WMA's (Comprehensive Strategic Plan). Achieve an overall goal of no net loss of wetland area or function and the long-term goal to enhance and increase wetland quantity and quality within the WMA (Wetland Conservation Plan).

## Project Treatments and Actions

Treatment Name: Water Control Structure/ Culvert

Acres: 102589.069300806

Action: Other - please specify

Approach Narrative: As conditions allow throughout FY 23 Replacement of structures that are in disrepair

will be replaced, protected with rip wrap and secured with base material.

Planned Start: 01/2022

# **Project Monitoring**

#### **Monitoring Plan:**

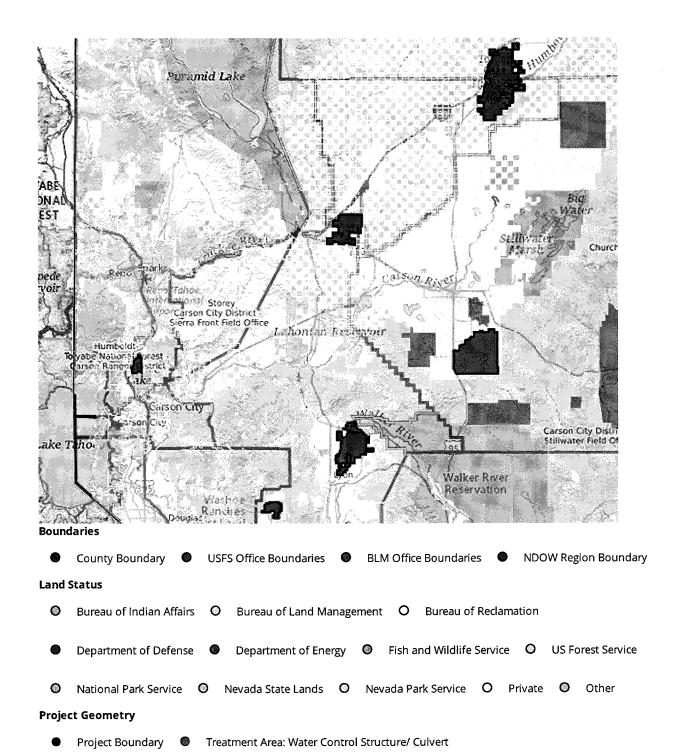
Visual inspections of structures will occur often during irrigation season. Food plots will be monitored and checked for sufficient vegetative growth and upland bird use.

# Project Funding and Budget

Budget Item NDOW Duck Stamp NDOW Upland Game S 2023 2023			
Materials Purchase			
double track weirs/ culvert \$10000			
ripwrap and base material	\$5000		

#### **Budget Narrative:**

Work will be conducted by NDOW Wildlife Management Staff





#### **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

# Project Proposal Report

**Project Name:** FY23 Carson Lake and Pasture Infrastructure Improvements

Project ID: 775

Lead Agency: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Project Manager: Isaac Metcalf

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Phone Number: (775) 463-2741

Email: imetcalf@ndow.org

# Project Partners

Name Agency Role	and Comments of the
No results	-

# Project Schedule

Project Start Date: 07/01/2022

State Fiscal Year: 2023

**Projected Completion Date:** 06/30/2023

State Fiscal Year: 2023

Multi-year Project: no

itv

**Project Schedule:** Project activates will occur throughout FY23. Site access, and supply availability will drive what actions will occur and when.

# Project Location and Land Status

**Location Narrative:** 

Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area in Fallon Nevada.

NDOW Region: Western

**NDOW Management Units: 181** 

Nevada Sage Grouse Population Management Unit: Project not within a sage-grouse PMU

County: Churchill

**Land Status** 

Land Status	Acres	Percent of Project
Bureau of Reclamation	30007.4	99.7

Bureau of Land Management Office: Carson City District - Stillwater Field Office

**US Forest Service Ranger District:** N/A

Special Land Designations: N/A

# Project Summary and Justification

**Project Activity and Sub-activity:** HABITAT IMPROVEMENT or MANAGEMENT: Install, maintain, or remove artificial habitat structures

#### **Project Objectives:**

 To install, rebuild, or maintain artificial water development(s) that increase water availability for the direct benefit of wildlife populations.

NDOW Initiative Addressed: No initiatives

**Strategic Habitats Addressed**: Low-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, High-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Lakes and reservoirs, Mixed desert scrub, Other habitats (grassland and meadows, playa, sand dunes and badlands, alpine and tundra), Pinyon-juniper woodland (not encroachment), Salt desert shrub

**Priority Resource Impacted: Waterfowl** 

Priority Species Impacted: Dabbling duck species , Diving duck species , Geese , Tundra Swan

Does this project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or Greater Sage-grouse habitat: no

Project Clearance or Authorization Status: Not Started

#### **Project Rationale:**

The Carson Lake and Pasture Wildlife Management Area Infrastructure Improvements will address the wildlife fence and water metering devices. Flooding of 2017 eliminated the wildlife fence that was used to exclude cattle from the wetland portion of the Carson Lake WMA. Roughly 5 miles of the wildlife fence will be installed in FY23. To properly split water diversion with pasture users and prime water deliveries NDOW will need to purchase water monitoring devices. This can be in the way of hand held water meters and or meters placed through the ditch system to monitor water flow. Water control structures will be replaced as needed on the area for proper water management capabilities.

## Project Treatments and Actions

Treatment Name: Carson Lake WMA

Acres: 30101.6073328725

Action: Remove or retrofit range fencing

Approach Narrative: project will continue throughout FY23

Planned Start: 07/2023

# Project Monitoring

#### **Monitoring Plan:**

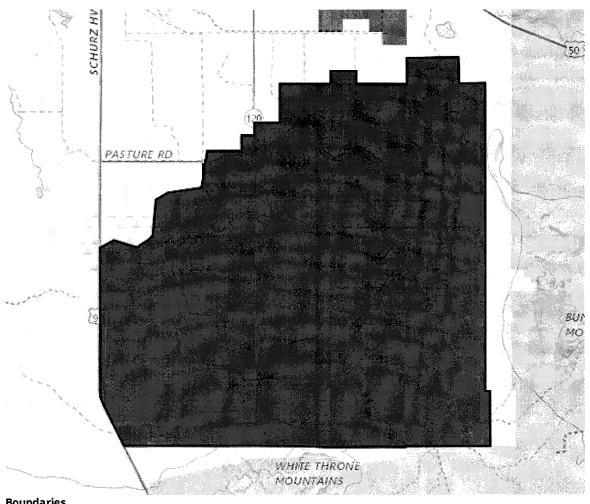
Weekly or daily water measurements will be taken by wildlife technician.

# Project Funding and Budget

Budget Item	NDOW Duck Stamp 2023	NDOW Habitat Conservation Fee 2023
	Materials Purchase	
Structures/culverts		\$30000
fencing material	\$15000	
cattle guard	\$5000	
water meters	\$5000	

#### **Budget Narrative:**

Supply availability will be the driver of when supplies will be purchased.



#### **Boundaries**

County Boundary USFS Office Boundaries 

BLM Office Boundaries NDOW Region Boundary

#### **Land Status**

- Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management O Bureau of Reclamation
- Department of Defense Department of Energy Fish and Wildlife Service US Forest Service
- Other National Park Service Nevada State Lands 

  Nevada Park Service 

  Private

#### **Project Geometry**

Treatment Area: Carson Lake WMA



#### **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

# Project Proposal Report

Project Name: FY23 Licking Ranch WMA Improvement Project

Project ID: 731

Lead Agency: Nevada Department of Wildlife

**Project Manager:** Jeremy Lutz

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Phone Number: (775) 635-5070

Email: jlutz@ndow.org

# **Project Partners**

Name Agency Role	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
No results	C100000

# Project Schedule

Project Start Date: 07/01/2022

State Fiscal Year: 2023

**Projected Completion Date:** 06/30/2024

State Fiscal Year: 2024

Multi-year Project: yes

**Project Schedule:** Project work will start immediately following funding approval.

# Project Location and Land Status

**Location Narrative:** 

Restoration and enhancement work will occur entirely on the Licking Ranch WMA.

**NDOW Region:** Eastern

**NDOW Management Units: 152** 

Nevada Sage Grouse Population Management Unit: Project not within a sage-grouse PMU

County: Lander

**Land Status** 

Land Status	Acres	Percent of Project
Private	1584.9	99.4

Bureau of Land Management Office: Elko District - Tuscarora Field Office

**US Forest Service Ranger District:** N/A

Special Land Designations: N/A

# Project Summary and Justification

**Project Activity and Sub-activity:** HABITAT IMPROVEMENT or MANAGEMENT: Management of Wildlife Management Areas (WMA)

#### **Project Objectives:**

- To measurably increase wildlife populations, wildlife use, or habitat for the benefit of public use and hunter success.
- To use water management or physical alterations in managed wetland and/or moist-soil habitats to increase production of preferred waterfowl food or cover.
- To use water management or physical alterations in managed wetland and/or moist-soil habitats to improve water management.
- To use food plots or plantings in managed wetland and/or moist-soil habitats to increased production of preferred waterfowl food or cover.
- To use food plots on actively managed agricultural habitats to increase production of preferred wildlife food or cover.
- To control noxious weeds with herbicide application.

#### **NDOW Initiative Addressed:**

- Nevada Biodiversity Initiative (USFWS)
- Wildlife Connectivity Plan (NDOW)

Strategic Habitats Addressed: Salt desert shrub, Other habitats (grassland and meadows, playa, sand dunes and badlands, alpine and tundra), Low-elevation sagebrush dominated shrubland, Lakes and reservoirs

Priority Resource Impacted: Big Game, Diversity/Non-game, Upland Game, Waterfowl

**Priority Species Impacted:** Dabbling duck species , Diving duck species , Elk , Geese , Migratory songbirds (multiple species) , Mule deer , Pronghorn antelope , Raptor species , Rio Grande turkey , Shorebirds , Tundra Swan , Valley quail

Does this project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or Greater Sage-grouse habitat: no

Project Clearance or Authorization Status: Not Applicable

#### **Project Rationale:**

In order to address and manage yearly maintenance with noxious weeds, maintenance of existing infrastructure (fences, buildings, bridges, etc.), and maintaining and enhancing crucial riparian and meadow habitats and corridors, we are requesting funding to perform a variety of habitat and maintenance restoration efforts on the newly acquired Licking Ranch WMA. The primary purpose for the funding would be to restore and improve existing wildlife habitat and perform infrastructure maintenance and replacement on the Licking Ranch WMA. These projects include ground based or aerial application of herbicide, drill or aerial seeding, tree and shrub plantings, and riparian and meadow habitat restoration and enhancement practices including meadow dragging, cutting and haying. In some instances, specialized equipment will be necessary to rent or purchase in order to perform work with skid steers and associated attachments, tractors, etc. Infrastructure such as fences, gates, cattle guards, culverts and existing building upgrades to 3 pump houses, one solar well upgrade, the ranch shop, water delivery irrigation devices, and the 3 bridges are in need of repair or maintenance on the Licking Ranch WMA. These projects would help improve and maintain the intrinsic values of this property for wildlife, its associated habitat and to help promote, encourage and engage the involvement of our constituents to Nevada's wildlife on the Licking Ranch WMA. Awarded funds would be used to purchase herbicide, equipment, tools, seed, trees, shrubs, building materials, and/or contract labor to maintain and enhance the Licking Ranch WMA. Additional monies would be used to significantly bolster current capital improvement efforts including replacing and repairing large water diversion structures, fence and gate modification and replacement, infrastructure maintenance on shop, equipment facilities and 3 pump houses, maintenance and replacement of

electrical wiring systems on all breaker boxes associated with the ranch shop, 3 pump well houses, picnic area, and annual road maintenance and repairs as and where needed. These projects would help maintain and enhance habitat for all wildlife associated with the Humboldt River Floodplain including the 92 birds species that have been documented on the Licking Ranch WMA. Maintaining and enhancing the large, irrigated meadows and its associated willow lined river corridors creates a unique wetland type habitat for tens of thousands of migratory bird species as they migrate along the Pacific Flyway. These meadows, slews, canals and river corridors are all extremely important habitat for mule deer, elk and a variety of upland game birds including Rio Grande turkeys, California quail and pheasants.

# Project Treatments and Actions

Treatment Name: Noxious Weed Treatment

Action: Create, modify, or maintain diversion canals, headgates, or water pipelines

Approach Narrative: Clean, repair and replace water diversion and water delivery structures annually to

facilitate proper irrigation practices on ranch.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Herbicide application (aerial)

Approach Narrative: Contract aerial and ground spray projects and administer project to enhance

meadow and river bottom habitat for wildlife by reducing completion with noxious weeds.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant or manage cover plots

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Complete or support WMA crop farming practices

Approach Narrative: Protect, manage and enhance meadow and riparian habitat on Licking Ranch WMA

by irrigating, dragging, cutting and haying meadows.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant upland or dry-land food plot

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant wetland or moist-soil food plot

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Treatment Name: Seeding area

Action: Plant upland or dry-land food plot

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant or manage cover plots

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Plant wetland or moist-soil food plot

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

Action: Complete or support WMA crop farming practices

Approach Narrative: Utilize appropriate seeding methodology, rates and timing to complete seeding.

Planned Start: 07/2023

# **Project Monitoring**

#### **Monitoring Plan:**

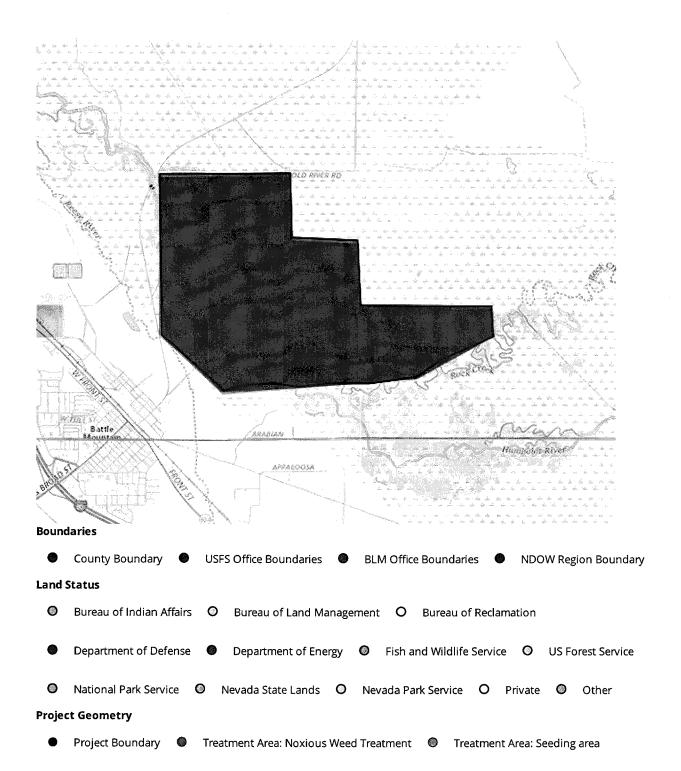
Monitoring plan consists of annual inspections on the Licking WMA that include initiating projects based on seasonal timelines that include infrastructure maintenance and repair needs, weed inventories and treatment, seasonal irrigation deliveries and meadow enhancement practices including dragging, cutting, and haying.

# Project Funding and Budget

Budget Item	NDOW Duck Stamp 2023	NDOW Habitat Conservation Fee 2023	NDOW Upland Game Stamp 2023
	Contracts		THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O
Contract labor for weed application, meadow enhancement and electrician		\$14500	\$10000
Equipme			
Rental cost for tractors, skid steer attachments.		\$3500	\$2000
Mate	erials Purchase	1974 a 674 A ARENIERO (A COMMITTE COMMITTE COMMITTE A 2000 MILITARIO DE 1979 MORPHE (COMMITTE COMMITTE	
Herbicide Cost			\$8000
Water Diversion Structure Replacement	\$12000	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
Infrastructure Maintenance and Repair		\$22000	

#### **Budget Narrative:**

Awarded funds would be used to purchase herbicide, equipment, tools, seed, trees, shrubs, building materials, and/or contract labor to maintain and enhance the Licking Ranch WMA. Additional monies would be used to significantly bolster current capital improvement efforts including replacing and repairing one large water diversion structure, fence and gate modification and replacement, infrastructure maintenance on shop, equipment facilities and 3 pump houses, maintenance and replacement of electrical wiring systems on all breaker boxes associated with the ranch shop, 3 pump well houses, one solar well upgrade, picnic area, and annual road maintenance and repairs as and where needed. All contracts would be administered and inspected by project manager.





#### **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

## Project Proposal Report

Project Name: FY23 Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Conservation Support

Project ID: 729

Lead Agency: Nevada Department of Wildlife

Project Manager: Mike Zahradka

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Phone Number: (775) 688-1563 Email: mzahradka@ndow.org

## Project Partners

Name Agency Role Role		
Amelia Raquel	Ducks Unlimited	Implementation Lead
Mike Zahradka	Nevada Department of Wildlife	Agency Cooperator

# Project Schedule

Project Start Date: 07/01/2022

State Fiscal Year:

Projected Completion Date: 06/30/2023

2023

Multi-year Project: no

State Fiscal Year:

2023

 $\textbf{Project Schedule:} \ \textbf{This is an annual contribution to DU that uses the funds over the next}$ 

year.

# Project Location and Land Status

**Location Narrative:** 

Waterfowl hunting benefits from this project are found statewide.

NDOW Region: Not Applicable - Statewide Project

NDOW Management Units: Not Applicable – Statewide Project

Nevada Sage Grouse Population Management Unit: Not Applicable – Statewide Project

County: Not Applicable - Statewide Project

#### **Land Status**

Land Status Acres Percent of Project	W.
No results	

**Bureau of Land Management Office:** Not Applicable – Statewide Project **US Forest Service Ranger District:** Not Applicable – Statewide Project

# Project Summary and Justification

**Project Activity and Sub-activity:** HABITAT RESTORATION and REHABILITATION: Other habitat management (non-WMA land) **Project Objectives:** 

· Other - please specify

• To measurably increase wildlife populations, wildlife use, or habitat for the benefit of public use and hunter success.

NDOW Initiative Addressed: No initiatives

**Priority Resource Impacted:** Not Applicable – Statewide Project

Priority Species Impacted: Not Applicable - Statewide Project

Does this project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or Greater Sage-grouse habitat: no

Project Clearance or Authorization Status: Not Applicable

#### **Project Rationale:**

To help Ducks Unlimited (DU) protect, restore and enhance waterfowl habitat in the prairie potholes region of Alberta, Canada. This is very important breeding and nesting habitat for many of the waterfowl that travel to Nevada. DU has agreed to NDOW's request that the funds we donate be used on wetland enhancement projects in Alberta since banding data indicates that a fairly high percentage of waterfowl harvested in Nevada originate from that province. DU and its partners use the donations from NDOW and others to protect, restore and enhance wetlands in the prairie potholes region of Alberta. DU's partners in this region includes the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada, the Alberta provincial government and the federal government of Canada. This work is part of the ongoing implementation of the NorthAmerican Waterfowl Management Plan. Funds donated to DU are used to restore, enhance and protect waterfowl habitat in Alberta. In addition to directly benefiting waterfowl, this also indirectly benefits Nevada hunters by increasing or maintaining waterfowl populations in Nevada.

### Project Treatments and Actions

Treatment Name: Statewide Waterfowl Benefits

Acres: 70739191.4986302

Action: Other - please specify

Approach Narrative: Conservation work in Canada

Planned Start: 07/2022

## Project Monitoring

#### **Monitoring Plan:**

DU monitors the results of their efforts to purchase conservation easements and restore wetlands. They also submit annual

reports to NDOW that summarize the results of their work.

# Project Funding and Budget

Budget Item NDOW Duck Stamp 2023  Land Acquisitions/Easements	
10000	\$35,000

#### **Budget Narrative:**

Annual contribution to DU-Canada.

# Upland Game Bird Stamp Program Report

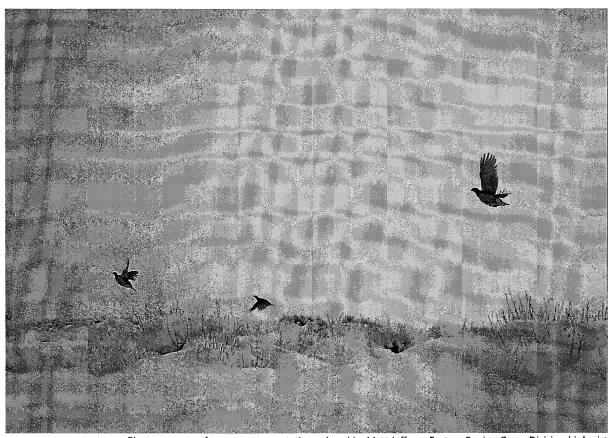


Photo courtesy of remote camera stations placed by Matt Jeffress, Eastern Region Game Division biologist

# Nevada Department of Wildlife June 2022



Agenda item #16 is 100 pages. Please view at <a href="https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/">https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/</a>



# STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

#### **Data and Technology Services Division**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511 (775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM: June 1, 2022

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Management Analyst Megan Manfredi, Data and Technology Services Division

Title: Commission General Regulation 501, Tag Transfer

**Description:** The Commission will review and revise draft language amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 502 that would allow the transfer of a game tag to a non-profit organization and determine the status of a tag if the Department is notified of the tag holder's death.

#### **Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation:**

This regulation was created after the passage of Assembly Bill 89 of the 81st Legislative Session.

The regulation outlines a program that allows for organizations to request qualification of the Department to be considered as the facilitator of game tags donated by awarded tag holders for the use of such tags by individuals who meet specific criteria outlined in Assembly Bill 89.

Additionally, proposed is an outline of a beneficiary program that provides customers of the Department the ability to designate a person who is otherwise eligible to hunt big game within the state of Nevada to receive a current season's big game tag at the time the Department is notified of the original tag holder's death.

#### Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation.

Approved by the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee 03/23/22

#### PROPOSED REGULATION OF

#### THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

#### LCB File No. R050-21

January 4, 2022

EXPLANATION - Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.140 and 502.160, as amended by section 4 of Senate Bill No. 406, chapter 304, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 1757; § 2, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.103, as amended by section 4.5 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473, NRS 502.160, as amended by section 4 of Senate Bill No. 406, chapter 304, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 1757, and section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 471 (NRS 502.104).

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising certain provisions relating to the transfer, return or deferral of the use of a tag to hunt a big game mammal; establishing a process for a holder of a big game tag to designate a beneficiary of the tag; establishing a program that allows a person to transfer his or her big game tag to an eligible qualified organization for use by a person who has a disability or life-threatening medical condition or is 16 years of age or younger and is otherwise eligible to hunt in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires, with certain exceptions, a person who hunts or fishes any wildlife in this State to obtain a license for such activities and, if he or she wishes to hunt certain designated big game mammals, to obtain an additional license, known as a big game tag. (NRS 502.010, as amended by section 2 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 472, NRS 502.130) Under existing law, any such tag is not transferrable unless the person to whom the tag was issued can demonstrate, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners, the existence of an extenuating circumstance that causes the person to be unable to use the tag. (NRS 502.100, as amended by section 4 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473, NRS 502.103, as amended by section 4.5 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473) Existing law further provides that the death of a big game hunter is an extenuating circumstance. (NRS 502.103, as amended by section 4.5 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473)

Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt regulations establishing a process through which a big game hunter who claims an extenuating circumstance may provide documentation to the Department of Wildlife which shows that his or her condition or event

qualifies as an extenuating circumstance. (NRS 502.103, as amended by section 4.5 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473) Additionally, existing law authorizes the Commission to establish a program that allows a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to an eligible qualified organization for use by a person who: (1) has a disability or life-threatening medical condition; or (2) is 16 years of age or younger and is otherwise eligible to hunt in this State. (Section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 471 (NRS 502.104))

Section 2 of this regulation establishes: (1) the process by which a holder of a big game tag may designate a beneficiary, who upon death of the holder of a tag, will be treated as if he or she were awarded the tag, if the designated beneficiary provides a death certificate to the Department; and (2) a tag transfer program that allows a person to transfer his or her tag to hunt a big game mammal to an eligible qualified organization for use by a person who has a disability or life-threatening medical condition or is 16 years of age or younger and is otherwise eligible to hunt in this State. Section 1 of this regulation makes conforming changes to provide that the transfer of a tag pursuant to section 2 is an exception to the general prohibition on the transfer of tags.

#### **Section 1.** NAC 502.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 502.385 1. The tag or permit must be carried by the holder at all times while the holder is hunting or trapping or while he or she is fishing for wildlife for which a tag or permit is required.
  - 2. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.42905 [,] and section 1 of LCB File No.

#### *R022-19*, it is unlawful for any person to:

- (a) Use or possess a tag or permit issued to any other person;
- (b) Transfer or give a tag or permit issued to him or her to any other person;
- (c) Use any tag or permit in a management area or unit for which it is not intended; or
- (d) Use a tag or permit at any time other than at the time intended.
- 3. After it has been issued, a tag or permit may not be exchanged or a refund made except in accordance with the policies and regulations of the Commission.
  - Sec. 2. Section 1 of LCB File No. R022-19 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 1. A holder of a tag may claim an extenuating circumstance and request to transfer the tag, return the tag for the restoration of bonus points or defer the use of the tag pursuant to NRS

- 502.103, as amended by section 4.5 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 473, only in accordance with the requirements of this section.
- 2. A person who applies for a big game tag may designate a beneficiary of the tag. Upon the death of the holder of the tag, if the designated beneficiary provides a death certificate to the Department, the designated beneficiary will be treated as if he or she were awarded the tag pursuant to subsection 6. The designated beneficiary may:
  - (a) Use the tag if he or she is otherwise eligible to hunt a big game mammal in this State.

    Waiting periods and suspensions are subject for exclusion;
  - (b) Defer the tag to the next applicable hunting season if the designated beneficiary holds a tag for the same species and subspecies;
  - (b) Transfer the tag to a qualified organization approved by the Department pursuant to subsection 10; or
  - (c) Return the tag to the Department.
- 3. If the holder of a tag is diagnosed as terminally ill before hunting hours begin on the opening day of the season for which the tag was issued, the holder of the tag may claim an extenuating circumstance and request to transfer the tag to another person who is otherwise eligible to hunt a big game mammal in this State.
- [3.] 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [7,] 8, the Department shall allow the holder of a tag to return the tag to the Department for the restoration of any bonus points that he or she used to obtain the tag or defer the use of the tag to the next applicable hunting season if any of the following extenuating circumstances occur after the last day that the holder is entitled to return the tag pursuant to NAC 502.422, but before the hunting hours begin on the opening day of the season for which the tag was issued:
  - (a) The death of a family member of the holder of the tag, as verified by a certificate of death;

- (b) The holder of the tag or a family member of the holder incurs a severe and unanticipated injury or illness which prevents the holder from hunting during the season for which the tag was issued, as verified in writing by a physician; or
- (c) The holder of the tag is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States and is transferred to a location which makes it impracticable for the holder to hunt in the area for which the tag was issued, as verified by a copy of his or her orders or other proof satisfactory to the Department.
- [4.] 5. If the holder of the tag claims an extenuating circumstance as described in subsections  $\{2\}$  3 and  $\{3,\}$  4, he or she must:
- (a) Return the tag to the Department not later than 14 business days after the opening day of the season for which the tag was issued;
  - (b) Attest that he or she did not hunt on the tag; and
- (c) Submit evidence to the Department of the extenuating circumstance. In the case of the death of a family member, if the holder of the tag has not received a death certificate for the deceased person within the 14 business days required to return the tag to the Department pursuant to paragraph (a), the death certificate may be submitted to the Department at such time as the holder of the tag receives a copy of the death certificate.
- [5.] 6. If a tag is transferred to another person *or qualifying organization* pursuant to this section, both the original holder of the tag and the new recipient of the tag will be treated as if he or she drew the tag with respect to any applicable waiting periods and bonus points.
- [6.] 7. The Department shall process the transfer, return or deferral within 5 business days after receiving the tag.

- [7.] 8. The provisions of this section do not apply to the holder of a tag who is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States if he or she defers the use of a tag pursuant to NAC 502.336.
- 9. The tag transfer program is hereby established. An organization that wishes to participate in the tag transfer program must submit an application to the Department between September 1 and October 31 of each year for participation in the following year's hunting season. An application submitted by an organization must demonstrate that the organization is a qualified organization, as that term is defined in section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 471 (NRS 502.104), and further demonstrate:
- (a) The ability of the organization to cooperate with a licensed master guide or a licensed subguide or otherwise qualified hunting individual to safely guide or mentor persons who are eligible to receive a transferred tag pursuant to this section;
- (b) The number of persons represented out of each category described in subparagraphs

  (1) and (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109,

  Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 471 (NRS 502.104), who are eligible to receive a transferred tag pursuant to this section, including, without limitation, the following information:
  - (1) The first and last name of each person;
  - (2) The date of birth of each person; and
  - (3) The client number, as defined in NAC 502.029, of each person; and
- (c) That no monetary trade or exchange of goods will be taken or given by the organization, a person or family member of a person represented by a qualifying organization or a person wishing to transfer his or her tag.

- 10. If an application submitted pursuant to subsection 9 is approved, the Department shall notify the organization of the approval. Such approval authorizes the qualified organization to participate in the tag transfer program for 1 calendar year beginning on January 1 and ending on the last day of that year's concurrent hunting seasons.
- 11. At the request of the holder of a tag, the Department shall provide a tag transfer request form and list of qualified organizations to the holder for submission to the Department designating the qualified organization that will receive the tag.
- 12. If a qualified organization fails to meet the requirements set forth in subsection 9, the Department may shall revoke the authorization of the organization to participate in the tag transfer program for the remainder of the current year's hunting season.
- [8.] 13. The Department shall update the Commission on all tags that are transferred, returned or deferred pursuant to this section.
  - [9.] 14. As used in this section:
  - (a) "Family member" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 502.103.
- (b) "Tag transfer program" means the program established by this section pursuant to section 1 of Assembly Bill No. 89, chapter 109, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 471 (NRS 502.104).
  - (c) "Terminally ill" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449A.081.



# STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

#### **Data and Technology Services Division**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511 (775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM: June 1, 2022

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Management Analyst Megan Manfredi, Data and Technology Services Division

Title: Commission General Regulation 505, First Come First Served (FCFS) Prevention of Unfair Advantages

**Description:** The Commission will review and revise draft language added to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 502 that creates boundaries for use in the electronic FCFS system and provides the Department direction to suspend any customer account if that account is found trying to abuse or create an unfair advantage in the FCFS program while attempting to obtain big game tag.

#### **Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation:**

Prevention of unfair advantages was discussed when the NAC 502.4215 change to the FCFS program was initially brought forth to the Commission in 2020 out of Commission General Regulation (CGR) 490. The Department took into consideration the concerns of the Commission and public when developing the FCFS system with the help of the Department's licensing vendor Kalkomey.

The proposed regulation change aligns with language added to Commission Regulation (CR) 22-02, Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits that was approved by the Commission in January 2022. The change includes defining abuse of the system and establishes direction to be taken by the Department should a customer be caught attempting to abuse or create an unfair advantage.

#### Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation.

#### PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE

#### BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

#### LCB File No. R072-21

February 2, 2022

EXPLANATION - Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.160, as amended by section 4 of Senate Bill No. 406, chapter 304, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 1757, and NRS 502.175.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions governing the award of tags using an electronic system; authorizing the Department of Wildlife to suspend a person who attempts to create or creates an unfair advantage through use of the electronic system from applying for certain tags; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Under existing regulations, the Department of Wildlife is required to issue certain returned tags to hunters on an alternate list if 14 calendar days or more remain before the opening day of the season. (NAC 502.421) Existing regulations further require the Department to provide all eligible hunters with an opportunity to apply electronically for any tags that are: (1) remaining after tags have been issued for a season by using the computerized system of drawing and the alternate list; or (2) returned 14 calendar days or less before the opening day of the season. (NAC 502.4215) This regulation authorizes instead of requires the Department to provide all eligible hunters with an opportunity to apply electronically for any tags that are: (1) remaining after tags have been issued for a season by using the computerized system of drawing and the alternate list; or (2) returned less than 14 calendar days before the opening day of the season. This regulation also authorizes the Department to suspend a person who attempts to create or creates an unfair advantage while using the electronic system from applying for any tags remaining for the applicable season. This regulation further authorizes the Department to suspend a person who abuses the electronic system by making continued and substantial efforts to create an unfair advantage from using the electronic system to apply for remaining tags in any future hunting seasons.

**Section 1.** NAC 502.4215 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4215 1. The Department [shall] may provide all eligible hunters with an opportunity to apply electronically for any tags that are:

- (a) Remaining after tags have been issued for a season by using the computerized system of drawing and alternate list; or
  - (b) Returned *less than* 14 calendar days for less before the opening day for that season.
- → The Department shall act upon applications for such tags in the order received.
- 2. If an application for a tag described in subsection 1 is successfully drawn, the Department shall collect from the applicant:
  - (a) The appropriate fee for the tag as provided in NRS 502.250; and
- (b) The fee for a hunting license or combination hunting and fishing license, as provided in NRS 502.240, if : [the applicant:]
- (1) [Has] The applicant has not obtained a hunting license and indicates on the application that he or she wishes to purchase the hunting license or combination hunting and fishing license only if his or her application is successfully drawn; or
- (2) The hunting license or combination hunting and fishing license submitted with the application for the tag or permit will expire before the opening day of the season for the permit or tag.
- 3. If a tag is issued to a person pursuant to this section, the person will be treated as if he or she was successful in drawing a tag for a season for that species in respect to any applicable bonus points and waiting periods.
- 4. If a person who uses the electronic system to apply for a tag pursuant to subsection 1 abuses the electronic system by attempting to create or by creating an unfair advantage in obtaining the tag, he or she may shall be suspended by the Department from applying for any tags remaining for the applicable season. Activities that are cause for such suspension include, without limitation:

- (a) The use of a technological program designed to carry out tasks that would otherwise be performed under human supervision;
  - (b) The use of technology designed to create an unfair advantage;
  - (c) Multiple logins into a single customer's account; or
  - (d) Multiple browser sessions open at a single time.
- 5. If a person who uses the electronic system to apply for a tag pursuant to subsection 1 abuses the system by making continued and substantial efforts to create an unfair advantage, as described in subsection 4, he or she may shall be suspended by the Department from using the electronic system to apply for remaining tags in any future hunting seasons.



To:

# STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

#### **Data and Technology Services Division**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511 (775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM: May 12, 2022

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and

Interested Publics

From: Kailey Musso, Management Analyst 3, Director's Office

Title: Commission General Regulation 507

Description: Commission General Regulation 507 was recommended by the APRP Committee and will be up

for adoption.

#### **Summary:**

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi will be presenting CGR 507 as I am unable to be there.

The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed Commission Policy 4 and determined that some clarifications needed to be made to Nevada Administrative Code 501.195. Commission General Regulation 507 clarifies some portions of the NAC describing the petition process. At the workshop in May, the Commission decided to add the phrase "taking into consideration the legal authority of the Commission" to subsection 2.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Department recommends adopting CGR 507.

#### PROPOSED REGULATION OF

#### THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

#### LCB File No. R045-22

April 25, 2022

EXPLANATION - Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 233B.100 and 501.181.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to petitions submitted to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt, file, amend or repeal permanent regulations; revising the time period during which the Commission will notify the petitioner of whether the Commission will deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law authorizes any interested person to petition a state agency requesting the adoption, filing, amendment or repeal of any regulation and requires each state agency to prescribe by regulation the form for such a petition and the procedure for its submission, consideration and disposition. (NRS 233B.100) Existing regulations prescribe the form and procedure to petition the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt, file, amend or repeal a permanent regulation, other than a permanent regulation relating to the classification of wildlife or the designation of seasons for hunting, fishing and trapping. As soon as practicable after receiving a petition, but not later than 20 days after the date on which the petition was received by the Commission, the Department of Wildlife is required to: (1) review the petition to determine whether there is legal authority for the proposed adoption, filing, amendment or repeal of the permanent regulation; and (2) forward to the Commission the petition and the Department's recommendation whether to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures. Existing regulations also require the Commission, within 30 days after a petition is submitted, to notify the petitioner in writing of its decision to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures. (NAC 501.195)

This regulation: (1) further clarifies that when making a recommendation to the Commission whether to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures, the Department will take into consideration the legal authority of the Commission; and (2) revises the time period the Commission will notify the petitioner in writing of its decision to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures to provide that the deadline is either 30 days after the petition is submitted or as soon as the petition can be scheduled on an upcoming meeting agenda.

- **Section 1.** NAC 501.195 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 501.195 1. A person who wishes to request that the Commission adopt, file, amend or repeal a permanent regulation, other than a permanent regulation relating to the classification of wildlife or the designation of seasons for hunting, fishing or trapping by the Commission pursuant to the provisions of title 45 of NRS, must submit a written petition to the Commission on a form provided by the Department. The petition may be submitted by mail, facsimile machine or electronic mail and must include:
- (a) The name, telephone number, electronic mail address, if any, and mailing address of the petitioner.
- (b) A statement of the reason and the legal authority for the adoption, filing, amendment or repeal of the permanent regulation.
- (c) The language of the permanent regulation to be adopted, filed, amended or repealed or a description of the subjects and issues involved in the permanent regulation.
- 2. Upon receipt of a petition requesting the adoption, filing, amendment or repeal of a permanent regulation pursuant to subsection 1, the Commission will refer the petition to the Department to obtain from the Department a recommendation whether to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures[.], taking into consideration the legal authority of the Commission.
- 3. As soon as practicable after receiving a petition, but not later than 20 days after the date on which the petition was received by the Commission, the Department shall:
- (a) Review the petition to determine whether there is legal authority for the proposed adoption, filing, amendment or repeal of the permanent regulation; and

- (b) Forward to the Commission the petition and the recommendation of the Department whether to deny the petition or initiate regulation-making procedures [.], taking into consideration the legal authority of the Commission.
- 4. Within 30 days after a petition is submitted, or as soon as the petition can practicably be scheduled on an upcoming meeting agenda, the Commission will:
- (a) Notify the petitioner in writing of its decision to deny the petition, including the reasons for the denial; or
  - (b) Initiate the regulation-making procedures set forth in chapter 233B of NRS.
- 5. A decision of the Commission to deny a petition is a final decision for the purposes of judicial review.



#### STATE OF NEVADA

#### DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

#### Game Division

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511 (775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

#### MEMORANDUM

May 25, 2022

To:

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to

Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From:

Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title:

**Commission Regulation CR22-12** 

Description: The Commission will review and may take action to approve the Department's recommendations identified in CR22-12 Draft Review for upland game and furbearer seasons and limits for the 2022-2023 and 2023-

2024 seasons.

**Presenter:** 

Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa and Russell Woolstenhulme

#### Summary:

#### CR22-12

The Department's Game Division has prepared recommendations for Commission Regulation CR22-12 for upland game and furbearer seasons for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 seasons. Some notable changes compared to previous years include the following:

#### Youth Seasons

- Youth seasons will extend for
- their normal 9-day period (e.g., October 1 October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022); however, we have elected to recommend a reduction in the Gambel's quail limit from a daily limit of 10 and possession limit of 30, down to 5 and 15 respectively. These limits are also reflected in the normal general season
- Youth rabbit seasons will remain the same; however, the daily bag limit and possession limit are recommended for reduction from 10 and 30 to 5 and 15 respectively. This is due to the downward trend and low density of all species of rabbits.
- We are recommending closing all pygmy rabbit seasons.

#### Sage-grouse

- We are recommending a 9-day season in certain hunt units in Elko County (062, 064, 067, 071, 072, 073 and 074) with a daily limit of 2 and possession limit of 2.
- We are recommending a two-day season hunt units 161 and 162 in central Nevada, hunt units 012 and 013 in western Nevada and hunt units 031 and 051 in north central Nevada with a daily and possession limit of 2 sage-grouse.
  - These units, or groups of units, have sage-grouse populations estimated to exceed 1,000 birds and where harvest was estimated to be 5% or less of the estimated fall population.
- No special sage-grouse season is being recommended for the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge.
- These recommended changes represent the closure of 18 hunt units compared to those that were open last season, including the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge (hunt unit 033).

#### Dusky, Sooty and Ruffed Grouse

No major changes

#### Snowcock

• No major changes

#### Chukar and Hungarian Partridge

- Recommend October 15, 2022 February 5, 2023
- Recommend October 14, 2023 February 4, 2024
- Daily limit of 6 with a possession limit of 18

#### California Quail

• No major changes

#### Gambel's Quail

• Recommend reducing the daily limit to 5 quail and possession limit to 15 for this species due to extensive drought conditions in the Mojave Desert ecoregion and low population numbers.

#### Mountain Quail

No major changes

#### Pheasant

No major changes

#### White-tailed Jackrabbits and Cottontail Rabbits

- Recommending a reduction in the daily and possession limits from 10 rabbit per day and 30 in
  possession down to 5 and 15 respectively due to declining trend in rabbit numbers and low
  densities observed during survey routes.
- Recommend closing all pygmy rabbit seasons due to amount of habitat loss over the past two decades, declining trends and densities observed during recent and ongoing research efforts being conducted by the University of Nevada, Reno and the confirmed presence of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Type 2.

#### Junior Wild Turkey

• Some modifications to tag numbers are being recommended.

• Recommending a new junior hunt opportunity for hunt unit 154 in Lander County.

#### Wild Turkey Spring Limited Entry Hunt

- Some modifications to tag numbers are being recommended.
- We are recommending closing the Lyon County Private Lands Spring Turkey hunt due to low turkey populations and turkeys being potentially baited onto private lands adjacent to the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area during the spring season.

#### Falconry Seasons

• No changes

#### **Furbearer Seasons**

#### Bobcat

Recommending change to bobcat sealing dates. Change would allow an individual to
have a single bobcat per year for taxidermy or tanning purposes to be sealed at any of
the NDOW Regional Offices (Elko, Las Vegas and Reno). Dates open for regional office
sealing are from the Season Opener until the first regularly scheduled sealing date (midJanuary).

#### **Recommendation:**

The Department recommends that the Commission VOTE TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED IN CR22-12 FOR THE 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 SEASONS AS PRESENTED.

### STATE OF NEVADA **BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.140 and 503.245 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of game birds, small game, and furbearing mammals.

#### CR 22-12

#### 2022-2023 & 2023-2024

SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS, RABBITS, WILD TURKEY, FURBEARERS, AMERICAN CROW, MOURNING AND WHITE-WINGED DOVE, AND FALCONRY SEASONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS AND RABBITS.

<u>UPLAND GAME</u> (Units referenced are Game Management Units)

YOUTH CHUKAR AND HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE SEASON	
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*
SPECIES ALLOWED:	Chukar and Hungarian partridge.
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – October 9, 2022 September 30 – October 8, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 6. Possession limit 18.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.  Open to hunters 17 years of age or younger only. Youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old.  License requirements apply pursuant to NRS 502.010.

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

YOUTH CALIFORNIA QUAIL SEASON		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SPECIES ALLOWED:	California quail	
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – October 9, 2022 September 30 – October 8, 2023	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 10. Possession Limit 30.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.  Open to hunters 17 years of age or younger only. Youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old.  License requirements apply pursuant to NRS 502.010.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

YOUTH GAMBEL'S QUAIL SEASON		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SPECIES ALLOWED:	Gambel's quail	
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – October 9, 2022 September 30 – October 8, 2023	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 5. Possession Limit 15.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.  Open to hunters 17 years of age or younger only. Youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old.  License requirements apply pursuant to NRS 502.010.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

	YOUTH RABBIT SEASON
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*
SPECIES ALLOWED:	Cottontail and white-tailed jackrabbits
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – October 9, 2022 September 30 – October 8, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 5. Possession Limit 15.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.  Open to hunters 17 years of age or younger only. Youth must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years old.  License requirements apply pursuant to NRS 502.010.

SAGE-GROUSE SAGE-GROUSE	
OPEN AREAS:	Hunt Units 062, 064, 067, 071, 072, 073 and 074 in Elko County
SEASON DATES:	September 24 – October 2, 2022 September 23 – October 1, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 2.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to nonresidents.

	SAGE-GROUSE
	Hunt Units, or those portions of Hunt Units, 161 and 162 in Eureka, Lander and Nye County
OPEN AREAS:	Hunt Units, or those portions of Hunt Units, 012 and 013 in Washoe County
	Hunt Unit, or that portion of Hunt Unit 012 in Humboldt County
	Hunt Units 031 and 051 in Humboldt County
SEASON DATES:	September 24 – 25, 2022 September 23 – 24, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 2.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to nonresidents.

BLUE (DUSKY AND SOOTY) AND RUFFED GROUSE		
OPEN AREAS:	Carson City, Douglas, Elko, Eureka, Esmeralda, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Washoe, White Pine	
SEASON DATES:	September 1 – December 31	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 3. Possession limit 9.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.  Per NAC 503.185, the head or one fully feathered wing must be attached to all dusky, sooty and ruffed grouse until the carcass reaches the possessor's residence or a commercial facility for its preservation.  Persons harvesting blue grouse (dusky or sooty) are requested to deposit one wing from each bird harvested at any Nevada Department of Wildlife office, check station, or with Department employees who contact you in the field.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

SNOWCOCK	
OPEN AREAS:	Elko and White Pine Counties
SEASON DATES:	September 1 - November 30
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 2.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Prior to hunting Himalayan snowcock, persons must obtain a snowcock hunting <b>free-use permit</b> available online at <a href="https://www.ndowlicensing.com">www.ndowlicensing.com</a> after July 1 <sup>st</sup> of each year.

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

CHUKAR AND HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SEASON DATES:	October 15, 2022 – February 5, 2023 October 14, 2023 – February 4, 2024	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 6. Possession limit 18.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

CALIFORNIA QUAIL	
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*
SEASON DATES:	October 15, 2022 – February 5, 2023 October 14, 2023 – February 4, 2024
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 10. Possession limit 30.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly.

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

GAMBEL'S QUAIL	
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*
SEASON DATES:	October 15, 2022 – February 5, 2023 October 14, 2023 – February 4, 2024
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 5. Possession limit 15.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly.

	MOUNTAIN QUAIL
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*
SEASON DATES:	October 15, 2022 – February 5, 2023 October 14, 2023 – February 4, 2024
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 6.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Persons who harvest mountain quail are requested to report their harvest to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120 Reno, NV 89511, phone (775) 688-1523.

PHEASANT		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SEASON DATES:	November 1 – November 30.	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 6.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Cocks only	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBITS AND COTTONTAIL RABBITS		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SEASON DATES:	November 1 – last day in February.	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 5. Possession limit 15.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Limit singly or in the aggregate. Pygmy Rabbit season is closed.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

#### **WILD TURKEY**

# 2023 & 2024 SPRING TURKEY APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT HUNTS:

Unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, an eligible person may apply once for a type of hunt for Wild Turkey during a draw period.

Only one person may apply on an application.

Except for those Wild Turkey hunts requiring the landowner to sign the application, Wild Turkey applications must be submitted online through <a href="https://www.ndowlicensing.com">www.ndowlicensing.com</a>. Hand delivered applications will not be accepted. Applications will be accepted until 11:00:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday in February. Applications for bonus points only will be accepted until 11:00:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in February. The release date will be the first Friday in March.

<u>Except as specified for the Junior Wild Turkey Hunts and Landowner Hunts</u>, any remaining tags will be available on a first come, first serve basis through <u>www.ndowlicensing.com</u>. Remaining tags will be sold until seven (7) weekdays prior to the close of the season.

Only one Wild Turkey tag can be awarded to an individual within a calendar year.

JUNIOR WILD	TURKEY 2023 & 2024 SPRING - HUNT 0138	
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:	Bearded Wild Turkey	
LIMIT:	1 by tag only.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Youth must be 12 prior to the opening of the hunt season indicated and not attain their 18th birthday until after the last day of the hunt season indicated, pursuant to NAC 502.063.  Applications for these tags or bonus points will only be accepted during the draw application periods. Remaining tags will not be issued.  Closed to nonresidents.	
OPEN AREAS:	Season Dates Quota	
Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 3	
Moapa Valley of Clark County*	Last Saturday in March through second Friday in April 3	
Hunt Units 102, 103 & 065 within Elko County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 3	
Hunt Unit 115 within White Pine County**	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 1	
Pershing County*	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 2	
Unit 152 of Lander County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 2	
Unit 154 of Lander County*	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 1	
Lincoln County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May 5	

<sup>\*</sup> Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on private lands and permission should be obtained from a landowner before applying for this hunt.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on Great Basin National Park lands. Hunting is not permitted within park boundaries.

W	LD TURKEY 2023 & 2	024 SPRING – LIMITED ENTRY -	- HUNTS 0131 & 01	32	
PHYSICAL CH	IARACTERISTICS:	Bearded Wild Turkey			
LIMIT:		1 by tag only			
SHOOTING H	OURS:	One half hour before sunrise to	sunset daily		
		UNIT 101 of ELKO COUNTY*	Suriset daily		
			Tag	Quota	
		Seasons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132	
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in Mare	ch – first Sunday in May	5	-	
	UN	TS 102 & 065 of ELKO COUNTY	*		
			Tag	Quota	
		Seasons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132	
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in Mare	ch – first Sunday in May	10	1	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	UNITS	5 151 and 152 of LANDER COUN	TY		
			Tag	Quota	
		Seasons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresiden Hunt 0132	
	Last Saturday in Mare	ch – second Sunday in April	3	_	
Hunt Period:		il – first Sunday in May	3	_	
	1	JNIT 154 of LANDER COUNTY*			
			Tag	Tag Quota	
		Seasons	Resident	Nonresiden	
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in Mar	ch – first Sunday in May	Hunt 0131 4	Hunt 0132	
Tidile Follows	Last Saturday III Walt	LINCOLN COUNTY			
			Tag	Quota	
		Seasons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresiden Hunt 0132	
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in Mare	ch – first Sunday in May	15	1	
	MASON VALLEY WI	LDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA O	NLY OF UNIT 203		
		Seasons	Resident	Nonresiden	
	April 1 - April 0, 2023		Hunt 0131 3	Hunt 0132	
	April 15 – April 9, 2023	April 1 – April 9, 2023 April 15 – April 23, 2023		-	
Hunt	April 29 – May 7, 2023		3 3	1	
Periods:	March 30 – April 7, 2		3	1	
	April 13 – April 21, 20	024	3	-	
	April 27 - May 5, 202	4	3	-	

WILD TU	JRKEY 2023 & 2024 S	SPRING - LIMITED ENT	RY - HUNTS 01	31 & 0132
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:		Bearded Wild Turkey		
LIMIT:		1 by tag only		
SHOOTING H	OURS:	One half hour before sunrise	e to sunset daily	
	MOAPA VAL	LEY PORTION OF CLARK O	OUNTY*	
			Tag Quota	
	Se	asons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
	March 18 - March 24, 20	)23	4	-
	March 25 - March 31, 20	)23	4	. 1
Hunt Period:	April 1 – April 7, 2023		4	-
Hunt Period:	Period: March 23 – March 29, 2024		4	-
	March 30 - April 5, 2024		4	-
	April 6 – April 12, 2024		4	1
		PERSHING COUNTY*		
	Tag Quota			uota
	Se	asons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May		10	1
	UNIT 1	15 OF WHITE PINE COUNT	Y**	
	Tag Quota		uota	
	Se	asons	Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:				-
*Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on private lands and permission should be obtained from a landowner before applying for this hunt.				
**Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on Great Basin National Park lands. Hunting is not permitted within park boundaries.				

Wild Turkey Continued on Next Page

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2023 & 2024 SPRING HUNTS ISE VALLEY OF HUMBOLDT CO		
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS: Bearded Wild Turkey			
LIMIT:	1 by tag only.		
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily.		
SEASON DATES:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May		
QUOTAS:	Resident Hunt 0135	Nonresident Hunt 0137	
Q001A3.	Open	Open	

#### SPECIAL REGULATIONS:

#### PARADISE VALLEY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY APPLICATION REGULATIONS:

A Paradise Valley of Humboldt County Application Form is required. Hunters can obtain these forms from the participating landowners. A landowner must sign the application form. The form must be submitted through the mail or over the counter during business hours, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact NDOW at 775-688-1500 for more information. Tags will be available until the close of the season. Internet applications for the Paradise Valley of Humboldt County hunt will not be available.

Unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, an eligible person may apply once for a type of hunt for Wild Turkey during a draw period.

Only one person may apply on an application.

Only one Wild Turkey tag per calendar year.

	2022 & 2023 FALL HUNTS - 0 SE VALLEY OF HUMBOLDT COU		
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS: Either Sex Turkey			
LIMIT:	1 by tag only.		
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily.		
SEASON DATES:	First Saturday in October through the last Sunday in October		
QUOTAS:	Resident Hunt 0135	Nonresident Hunt 0137	
QUOTAS.	Open	Open	

#### SPECIAL REGULATIONS:

#### PARADISE VALLEY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY APPLICATION REGULATIONS:

A Paradise Valley of Humboldt County Application Form is required. Hunters can obtain these forms from the participating landowners. A landowner must sign the application form. The form must be submitted through the mail or over the counter during business hours, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact NDOW at 775-688-1500 for more information. Tags will be available until the close of the season. Internet applications for the Paradise Valley of Humboldt County hunt will not be available.

Unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, an eligible person may apply once for a type of hunt for Wild Turkey during a draw period.

Only one person may apply on an application.

Only one Wild Turkey tag per calendar year.

#### **FALCONRY SEASON**

FALCONRY SEASONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS & RABBITS		
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide*	
SEASON DATES:	September 1 – Last day of February	
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 8.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	All resident upland game birds except turkey and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.  White-tailed jackrabbits and cottontail rabbits.  The taking of sage-grouse by falconry is only allowed in those units where there is an established open season. The daily and	
	possession limit for sage-grouse is 2.  Limits singly or in the aggregate.	

<sup>\*</sup>except per NAC 504.340

### **FURBEARING ANIMALS**

	BEAVER, MINK, AND MUSKRAT
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – April 30

	OTTER
OPEN AREAS:	Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, and Pershing Counties
SEASON DATES:	October 1 – March 31
	Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine counties are closed to otter trapping.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	If an otter is accidentally trapped or killed in those counties which are closed or outside the prescribed season, the person trapping or killing it shall report the trapping or killing within 48 hours to a representative of the Department of Wildlife. The animal must be disposed of in accordance with the instructions of the representative.

	KIT AND RED FOX
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide
SEASON DATES:	October 1 - Last Day of February

	BOBCAT SEASON
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide
SEASON DATES:	Second Saturday in November – Third Sunday in February
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to Nonresidents.

	GRAY FOX SEASON
OPEN AREAS:	Statewide
SEASON DATES:	Second Saturday in November – Third Sunday in February
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to Nonresidents.

#### **BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES**

Pelt sealing, other than a single exception for taxidermy sealings, will be done only on the dates and during the times specified. Sealing locations will be at Department offices unless otherwise noted.

BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES FOR THE 2022-2023 SEASON					
City	Date	Time	Location		
Carson City	January 17	10am – 2 p.m.	NDOW Warehouse Corner of south Carson at Colorado St.		
Eiko	January 17 February 21 March 1	9a.m. – 3 p.m.	NDOW Elko Office		
Ely	January 19 February 22	8 a.m Noon 10 a.m 2 p.m.	NDOW Ely Office		
Eureka	January 18	12 p.m.–4 p.m.	NDOW Eureka Office		
Fallon	January 24	10 a.m 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office		
	Annually scheduled to coincide with the NTA Fur Sale.	7 a.m.–11 a.m.	Nevada Trappers Association Fallon Fur Sale		
	March 1	10 a.m 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office		
Las Vegas	January 18 February 21	8 a.m.– 5 p.m.	NDOW Las Vegas Office		
	March 1	1 p.m.– 5 p.m.			
Panaca	February 21 March 1	8 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Nevada State Parks - NDOW Office, Panaca		
	February 8	8 a.m 5 p.m.	NDOW Tonopah Office		
Tonopah	March 1	1 p.m.– 5 p.m.	NDOW Tollopan Office		
Winnemucca	January 25	8 a.m Noon	NDOW Winnemucca Office		

**Taxidermy Pelt Sealing**: From the opening day of the bobcat season (Second Saturday in November) until the first regularly scheduled bobcat sealing date in January, any person who wishes to have a single bobcat (1 per person per season) sealed for the purpose of tanning or taxidermy may personally present the lawfully taken pelt to any Nevada Department of Wildlife Regional office (Elko, Las Vegas, Reno) and request to have the Departments seal affixed to the pelt. All requirements of NAC 502.347 apply.

Pelt sealing, other than a single exception for taxidermy sealings, will be done only on the dates and during the times specified. Sealing locations will be at Department offices unless otherwise noted.

	BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES FOR THE 2023-2024 SEASON					
City	Date	Time	Location			
Carson City	January 16	10am – 2 p.m.	NDOW Warehouse Corner of south Carson at Colorado St.			
Elko	January 16 February 20 February 28	9a.m. – 3 p.m.	NDOW Elko Office			
Ely	January 18 February 21	8 a.m Noon 10 a.m 2 p.m.	NDOW Ely Office			
Eureka	January 17	12 p.m.– 4 p.m.	NDOW Eureka Office			
	January 23	10 a.m.– 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office			
Fallon	Annually scheduled to coincide with the NTA Fur Sale.	7 a.m.–11 a.m.	Nevada Trappers Association Fallon Fur Sale			
	February 28	10 a.m 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office			
Las Vegas	January 17 February 20	8 a.m.– 5 p.m.	NDOW Las Vegas Office			
	February 28	1 p.m.– 5 p.m.				
Panaca	February 20 February 28	8 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Nevada State Parks - NDOW Office, Panaca			
	February 7	8 a.m 5 p.m.	NDOW Toponsh Office			
Tonopah	February 28	1 p.m.– 5 p.m.	NDOW Tonopah Office			
Winnemucca	January 24	8 a.m Noon	NDOW Winnemucca Office			

**Taxidermy Pelt Sealing**: From the opening day of the bobcat season (Second Saturday in November) until the first regularly scheduled bobcat sealing date in January, any person who wishes to have a single bobcat (1 per person per season) sealed for the purpose of tanning or taxidermy may personally present the lawfully taken pelt to any Nevada Department of Wildlife Regional office (Elko, Las Vegas, Reno) and request to have the Departments seal affixed to the pelt. All requirements of NAC 502.347 apply.



# STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

#### **Data and Technology Services Division**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511 (775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM: June 1, 2021

To:

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and

Interested Publics

From:

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title:

Commission Regulation 22-05 Amendment #1, 2023 Heritage Tag Vendors

Description:

The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations from the Heritage Committee

for the assignment of the 2023 Heritage Tags to proposed vendors for sale by auction.

#### **Summary:**

This regulation is to assign the 2023 Heritage Tags to auctioning vendors. The vendor proposal packets were received before the April 18, 2022 deadline and reviewed by the Heritage Committee at their May 5, 2022 meeting. The regulation amendment reflects the Committee's recommendations and decision to present those recommendations to the County Advisory Boards and the Commission at the June meeting.

#### **Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation**

All tags and quotas represented in the Commission Regulation were approved in the January 28-29, 2022 Commission meeting.

#### Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation as provided by the Heritage Committee.

# CR 22-05 Amendment #1 2023 Wildlife Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, under the authority of Section 501.181, 502.140, 502.250 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), does hereby adopt the following regulation for the management of wildlife resources in the State of Nevada.

#### 2023 Wildlife Heritage Tags

**Hunting Hours:** Big game mammals and wild turkey may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset as listed on government sunrise-sunset tables.

Take Limit: One animal allowed per tag.

**Legal Weapon:** Any legal firearm or bow as described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144 may be used throughout the big game season. Additionally, any legal weapon or shotgun or bow as described in NAC 503.187 may be used throughout the wild turkey season.

**Unit Closures:** The Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee and Commission directive on unit closures is associated with the setting of the annual bighorn sheep quotas and the following table that identifies the maximum number of specialty tags for every unit group that has an open season. Some unit groups may be set to zero (0) if they are not able to sustain additional ram harvest beyond the general draw's tag quota.

BHS Unit Group Quota	Maximum Specialty Tag Quota
1-2	0
3-6	1
7-12	2
13-20	3
>20	4

Upon the collection of the unit of kill during the harvest check in process, the Department will notify specialty tag bighorn sheep holders of any unit closures by cell or satellite phone, satellite communicator, email, or other forms of electronic notification the Department may adopt to advise of bighorn sheep unit group closures due to specialty tag harvest limits being reached.

Species	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota	Organization
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antiered mule deer season.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Mule Deer hunt.	2	Mule Deer Foundation  Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN)
Pronghorn Antelope	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Pronghorn Antelope hunt.	2	Pershing County Chukars Unlimited Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn
Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antiered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the	2.	Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) - Elko

		A STATE OF THE STA	Rocky Mountain Elk hunt.		
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Nelson (Desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	2	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn
California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a California bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the California bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno
Wild Turkey	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2023 through May 3, 2023 in compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Wild Turkey hunt.	5	Las Vegas Woods & Waters  Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN)  Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited  Pershing County Chukars Unlimited  Safari Club International (SCI) – Las Vegas
Total				14	

<sup>\*</sup> There are portions of hunt unit 181 in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is restricted. To hunt Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep in the NAS portions of this unit, the tag holder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing. Those portions of hunt unit 181 that do not fall within the boundaries of NAS Fallon are open to the public.

Portions of Hunt units 252, 280, 281, 282 are within the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) where public access is restricted. Hunters and everyone in their respective hunting parties must comply with all Nevada hunting requirements and all NTTR safety and security requirements including the following: 1) consent to and pass a criminal history background check; 2) be at least 14 years old on opening day of the respective hunting season; 3) attend the Nellis Air Force Base hunter safety briefing; and 4) within the NTTR portion of unit 252 limit party size to 5 including tag holder. Additional party members may complete background check and safety briefing, but only maximum of 5 party members including tag holder may be present within the NTTR portion of unit 252 at any given time. Those portions of hunt units 252, 280, 281, and 282 that do not fall within the boundaries of NTTR are open to the public.

Hunters and members of their parties who fail to comply with these requirements may be denied access to the NTTR. Hunters and members of their parties may not access the NTTR after a tag is filled and animal has been removed and in possession of tag holder. No pets are allowed on NTTR. It is the hunter's responsibility to meet and/or comply with all NTTR eligibility requirements. In some units there may be adjustments to season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.

Bighorn Sheep tag holders will be notified by the Department of Wildlife of the date, time and location of the Indoctrination classes. Attendance at one Bighorn Sheep Indoctrination Class is mandatory for tag holders or their representative guides or sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the Indoctrination class may only hunt under the direct supervision of the guide or sub-guide who attended the class on their behalf. Tags will only be issued upon completion of an Indoctrination class. Although attendance in mandatory, tag holders, guides, and sub-guides who can prove they have attended previous Bighorn seminars are exempt from attending future seminars.

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.

In the instance that an approved Heritage Tag vendor is unable to hold an event where a Heritage Tag is scheduled to be sold, the Board of Wildlife Commission grants authority to the Department to allocate the tag(s) to a different Commission approved Heritage Tag vendor for the corresponding year who has the ability to hold their event and offer for auction the Heritage Tags.