

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda

Meeting Location

Washoe County Administrative Building A
Commission Chambers
1001 E. Ninth Street
Reno, NV 89512

The meeting will be broadcast live at the NDOW Commission YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFHgHLM0MZA2Hx7og8pFcQ>

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Friday, January 27, 2023.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84425950709?pwd=MUg3S3AzZ21sL01DaEIEQjBEak9rUT09>

Passcode: 780597

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Saturday, January 28, 2023

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87527206774?pwd=YzNZSHZtNmNsaFhvdjNzYVJpVEhyUT09>

Passcode: 684785

Meeting materials are available at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/

Public comment will be taken on each action item following Commission discussion and before any action is taken. **Persons attending virtually wishing to comment are invited to raise their virtual hands in the virtual meeting forum during the appropriate time; each person offering public comment during this period will be limited to not more than three minutes.** The Chair may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items prior to the meeting at wildlifecommission@ndow.org or make comment during the meeting and are asked to complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. Public comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format.

FORUM RESTRICTIONS AND ORDERLY BUSINESS: The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place, and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks which antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

Friday, January 27, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

If you wish to make public comment via Zoom, please use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84425950709?pwd=MUg3S3AzZ21sL01DaEIEQjBEak9rUT09>

1. **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Tommy Caviglia**
2. **Approval of Agenda – Chairman Tommy Caviglia – For Possible Action**

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

- 3.* **Approval of Minutes – Chairman Tommy Caviglia – For Possible Action**
Commission minutes may be approved from the November 4 and 5, 2022 meeting.
4. **Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Tommy Caviglia – Informational**
Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Alan Jenne may also be discussed.
5. **County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational**
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.
6. **Reports – Informational**
 - A. **Department Activity Report – Secretary Alan Jenne and Division Administrators**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife activities.
 - B.* **Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation.
 - C. **Legislative Committee Report - Committee Chairwoman Tiffany East**
A report will be provided on the recent Legislative Committee meeting.
 - D.* **Wildlife Heritage Account Report – Deputy Director Jordan Goshert**
A report will be provided on the funds available (interest and principal) for expenditure from the Heritage account in the upcoming year and an update on available principal balance.
 - E.* **Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Predation Management Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**
The draft Fiscal Year 2024 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review. Following this review, the draft plan will be updated and shared with the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC). All comments from the PARC, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2023 meeting. The Commission will receive an update at the March 2023 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time.
 - F. **Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Mid-Winter Conference (WAFWA) – Secretary Alan Jenne and Commissioner David McNinch**
A report will be provided summarizing the events and important news from the conference.

G. Habitat Conservation Framework Presentation – Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese
An update will be provided on the status of the Habitat Conservation Framework and associated Sagebrush Habitat and Wildlife Connectivity Plans.

H. Avi Kwa’ Ame National Monument Report – Wildlife Staff Specialist Jasmine Kleiber
An update will be provided on the Avi Kwa’ Ame (Spirit Monument) National Monument, near Laughlin.

I. Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon Range Training Complex – Wildlife Staff Specialist Matt Maples
An update will be provided on the passage of legislation expanding the NAS Fallon Range Training Complex.

7. Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy (APRP) Committee – Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action
The APRP Committee has concluded with committee meetings and will focus on the last four policies through the Commission.

A.* Commission Policy 11- Heritage Grants – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch and Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese– For Possible Action
The Committee will review Commission Policy 11 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

B.* Commission Policy 23 – Predation Management – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch and Game Division Administrator Mike Scott– For Possible Action
The Committee will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

C.* Commission Policy 61 – Water Rights – Third Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch and Secretary Alan Jenne – For Possible Action
The Commission will review Commission Policy 61 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

D.* Commission Policy 62 - Mitigation Policy- Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch and Wildlife Staff Specialist Jasmine Kleiber – For Possible Action
The Committee will review Commission Policy 62 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

8. Commission General Regulations – Workshop - Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review – Wildlife Staff Specialist Jasmine Kleiber – For Possible Action
The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 278 to provide for the Department review of tentative subdivision map(s) and inclusion of recommendations for methods to avoid or minimize

impacts to wildlife, mitigation measures, best management practices or required design features, and provide for collection of associated fees to the Department for carrying out such reviews.

B.* Commission General Regulation 506, Possession of Golden Eagles Under Certain Circumstances – Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark – For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 to allow for possession of a golden eagle under certain circumstances.

9. Public Comment Period

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Saturday, January 28, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87527206774?pwd=YzNZSHZtNmNsaFhvdjNzYVJpVEhyUT09>

10. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Tommy Caviglia

11. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Tommy Caviglia– For Possible Action

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

12. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Tommy Caviglia – Informational

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13. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

14. Commission General Regulations – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission General Regulation 502, Junior Hunt and Turkey Program – Game Division Administrator Mike Scott and Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 to limit the number of successfully awarded tags in the

junior hunt program. The regulation also removes hard close dates for submitting a turkey harvest return card and allows for junior turkey bonus points to convert to the adult point category once a junior is ineligible to participate in the junior hunt turkey program.

**B.* Commission General Regulation 509, License and Vessel Product Refunds-
Temporary Regulation – Program Officer Alejandra Medina – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 and 488 to allow the Department authority to provide refunds on licenses and vessel products.

15. Commission Regulations – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed

**A.* Commission Regulation 23-04, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game Seasons –
Wildlife Staff Specialists Mike Cox, Cody Schroeder, and Cody McKee – For
Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, hunt boundary restrictions, and legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quota.

**B.* Commission Regulation 23-05, 2023 Black Bear Seasons – Wildlife Staff Specialist
Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

**C.* Commission Regulation 23-06 2023-2024 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits
– Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023-2024 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

**D.* Commission Regulation 23-07, 2023-2024 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer
Seasons and Quotas - Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody Schroeder – For Possible
Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023-2024 hunting season and quotas for restricted, nonresident, guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

**E.* Commission Regulation 23-01, 2023 Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates –
Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For
Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 big game, upland, and waterfowl application deadlines and related information.

**F.* Commission Regulation 23-08, 2023 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag
Limits – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz –
For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 big game tag application eligibility and tag limits and related information.

G.* Commission Regulation 23-09, 2023 Dream Tag – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 Dream Tag species, seasons and quota.

H.* Commission Regulation 23-10, 2024 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2024 Heritage Tag species, seasons and quota.

I.* Commission Regulation 23-11, 2023 Partnership in Wildlife Tags– Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 Partnership in Wildlife tags hunt species, seasons and quota.

J.* Commission Regulation 23-12, 2023 Silver State Tags – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023 Silver State tag species, seasons and quota.

16. Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Alan Jenne and Chairman Tommy Caviglia – For Possible Action

The next Commission meeting will be held in Las Vegas at the Clark County Government Center and is scheduled for March 10 and 11, 2023. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, time, and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

17. Public Comment Period

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/. Support material for this meeting may be requested from the Recording Secretary at (775) 688-1599 or wildlifecommission@ndow.org. In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/.

Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone (TTY) telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868. Disabled individuals in need of special services should contact the Department prior to the meeting at (775) 688-1599 or wildlifecommission@ndow.org.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Draft Minutes

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Commission Chambers
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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87363790379?pwd=eUQ5VmVxWnF4SWJuM0N1QUpyUVBZQT09>

Passcode: 372743

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Saturday, November 5, 2022

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82382329330?pwd=RTNUZE4yREdaRIITYWJVOWg1a0V3UT09>

Passcode: 907889

Meeting materials are available at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/

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Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners present for the meeting:

Chair Tommy Caviglia
Commissioner Mario Walther
Commissioner David McNinch
Commissioner Casey Kiel

Vice Chair Shane Rogers
Commissioner Tom Barnes
Commissioner Tiffany East
Commissioner Alana Wise

Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

Secretary Tony Wasley

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance:

Management Analyst Kailey Musso	Executive Assistant Meghan Beyer
Management Analyst Megan Manfredi	Administrative Assistant IV Bernie Keane
Staff Game Warden Brian Bowles	Wildlife Staff Specialist Jess Brooks
Game Division Administrator Mike Scott	Administrative Assistant III Cindy Alexander
Biologist Cooper Munson	Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee
Fisheries Division Administrator Chris Crookshanks	Wildlife Staff Specialist David Catalano
Law Enforcement Division Administrator Mike Maynard	Program Officer I Alejandra Medina
Biologist Zac Campbell	Biologist Cheyenne Acevedo
Urban Wildlife Educator Raquel Martinez	Program Officer I Chrissy Rose
Administrative Assistant Hollie Timmons	Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese
Wildlife Staff Specialist, Pat Jackson	Wildlife Staff Specialist, Jasmine Kleiber
Conservation Education Division Administrator Chris Vasey	
Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kim Munoz	

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance via Zoom:

Biologist Pat Kelly	Administrative Assistant III Cindy Alexander
Administrative Assistant IV Bernie Keane	

Public in Attendance:

Jacob Thompson, Clark CABMW	Matt Melarkey, Washoe CABMW
Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW	Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW
Jim Rhea, Washoe CABMW	Caron Tayloe, private citizen
Worth Nelson, Lander CABMW	Kevin Kjer, Douglas CABMW
Steve Robinson, Washoe CABMW	Rex Flowers, private citizen
Corey Dalton, private citizen	Dr. Sean Sultaire, University of Montana
Dr. Seth Dettenmaier, US Geological Survey	Peter Iacono, Utah State University
Fauna Tomlinson, private citizen	Karen Boeger, private citizen
Joel Blakeslee, private citizen	

Public in Attendance via Zoom:

Dave Stoner, private citizen	Jana Wright, private citizen
Rick Duenas, private citizen	David Kanellis, private citizen
Carter Wildord, private citizen	Michael Clark, private citizen
Peter Iacono, private citizen	Donald Molde, private citizen
Ryan Anthony, private citizen	Anne Price, private citizen
Jennifer Berthia, private citizen	Lauren McCough, private citizen
Michael Jacobs, private citizen	Judi Caron, private citizen
Meghan Brown, private citizen	Lew Souder, private citizen
Jim Cooney, Elko CABMW	Sondra Newmark-Stephens, private citizen

Friday, November 4, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87363790379?pwd=eUQ5VmVxWnF4SWJuM0N1QUpyUVBZQT09>

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Caviglia

Chair Caviglia called the meeting to order at 8:00am. Commissioner Walther led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Meghan Beyer called the roll of the Commission. Commissioner Pierini was absent. Chair Caviglia made note of the CABMW members in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Caviglia– For Possible Action

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 2 and noted that he had two issues to address. First, he requested to move Item 7C - Policy 24 out of order, that Commission General Regulation 502 for workshop be discussed first. Second, the date in Item 16 should be corrected to read January 27 and 28, 2023.

Commissioner East asked Chair Caviglia where he would like to place Policy 24.

Chair Caviglia suggested to discuss Policy 24 after CGR 502.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE NOTED CHANGES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION APPROVED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

3.* Approval of Minutes – Chairman Caviglia – For Possible Action

Commission minutes may be approved from the September 23 and 24, 2022 meeting.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 3.

Commissioner East pointed out that under Item 6C, the fourth sentence appeared to be missing some words and asked DAG Burkett what he thought might be missing.

DAG Burkett stated that it could be “appeal of”, rather than “to.”

Commissioner East noted that two words needed a space between them in item 7, the second sentence between “Commission” and “that”. She then pointed out page 19, under item 12A, in the first line of meeting minutes, that the word “of” should be removed to read “present this Commission” not “present of the Commission.” She then directed attention to her statements on page 21, and stated for clarity that she was advocating to educate families about doe hunts when they have a youth involved and are in a hunt unit that has a doe hunt. She was not advocating for more doe hunts.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED WITH THE NOTED CHANGES. COMMISSIONER WALTHER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

4. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Caviglia – Informational

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Chair Caviglia introduced Item 4. He stated that there was correspondence from Clark County, from an individual who was unhappy with the Department in regard to wild horses. He stated that the Department had no authority in handling wild horses.

5. **County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational**
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 5.

No CABMW comment.

6. **Reports – Informational**
 - A. **Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley and Division Administrators**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife activities.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 6.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Secretary Wasley delivered the Director's Office Division Activity Report. Prior to reading through it, he noted that the previous day was "One Health Day" and that organizations around the world were celebrating that. The recently requested One Health White Paper is undergoing final state provided edits and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) will soon share the final copy when it will be provided to Commissioners. Director Wasley, along with state leadership from federal agencies, recently attended a meeting hosted by Congressmen Mark Amodei and Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Committee Arkansas Congressman Bruce Westerman, to discuss a myriad of issues including sage grouse, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT), wild horses and burros, NEPA related processes, and drought and wildfire.

The Director's Office has been busy responding to multiple requests from the Governor's Office in preparation for the upcoming legislative session as they prepare to address the state's ongoing vacancy challenges. The Director's Office has also been keeping up with multiple public records requests.

Director Wasley gave some opening remarks at the 6th Annual International Human-Bear Conflict Workshop in Lake Tahoe. The workshop was well-attended with great engagement. More to come on that in later reports...

NDOW met with the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals Management, Laura Daniel-Davis on the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument. The agency shared their priorities on the importance of continuing the ability to hunt, maintain guzzlers, and do wildfire or other habitat restoration activities in any area where such a designation may occur.

Deputy Director Jordan Goshert welcomed her second baby boy, Grant, on October 12. Both mom and baby are doing well! While Jordan is out on maternity leave, Nancy Camarena, Administrative Services Officer 2, will be filling in for her.

Management Analyst Kailey Musso recently returned from the National Conservation Leadership Institute joining Alan Jenne, Jen Newmark, Chris Crookshanks and Director Wasley as NCLI fellows, helping the Department share sound leadership practices especially during times of such unprecedented change.

The following regulations were approved by the Legislative Commission on consent agenda and are effective as of September 27.

R050-21, CGR 501 – Tag Transfer, A regulation revising provisions governing the transfer, return or deferral of a tag. This regulation authorizes someone to transfer their tag to an organization under certain circumstances. This regulation also removes the narrow window when it comes to extenuating circumstances occurring after the last business day before the hunt but before the hunt begins. (Contact: Megan Manfredi)

R072-21, CGR 505 – FCFS Prevention of Unfair Advantages, A regulation establishing provisions for suspension for unfair advantages. This regulation authorizes the Department to suspend an account for unfair advantages while using the FCFS program (for example: bots). (Contact: Megan Manfredi)

R045-22, CGR 507 – Petition Process, A regulation revising the provisions relating to petitions for regulations. This regulation clarifies the petition process for both the petitioner and the Department. (Contact: Kailey Musso)

GAME DIVISION

Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee presented the Game Division Activity Report.

Bear Program: The 2022 Black bear season was closed October 10th due to harvest limits being met. Sixteen bears were harvested during the season prior to the early closure.

Human-bear conflicts are continuing within the Western Region with ongoing issues as the result of continued access to anthropogenic food sources.

The 6th International Human-Bear Conflict Workshop was held Oct 16-20th in South Lake Tahoe with 290 registered attendees. Presenters on Human-Bear conflicts attended from several States and internationally from Slovakia, Canada, India, and Japan, among many others. This Educational conference would not have been possible without the assistance and coordination of Carl Lackey and Heather Reich, our Nevada Bear specialists. Topics discussed were conflicts with 5 of the 8 bear species found across the globe and human interactions, with an emphasis on education and conservation.

Bighorn Program: Monsoonal precipitation receipts have improved range conditions allowing sheep to move off water sources, altering summer distribution. During fall surveys, poor lamb recruitment, likely due to drought conditions prior to monsoonal activity, was observed throughout much of the southern range varying from 10-24 lambs/100 ewes. Bighorn herds in Lincoln County experienced slightly higher production with recruitment ranging from 20-28 lambs/100 ewes.

Santa Rosa California Test and Remove Project occurred Aug 2nd-5th; this was the third round of testing in the Santa Rosas for bighorn that are actively infected with *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* (*M. ovi*) with the goal of restoring the bighorn population to its once abundant and healthy status. Twenty-two bighorn

were captured and tested in 5 sub herds. Funding was provided by the Bridges Trust Fund managed by Dan Cabela and NDOW's Wildlife Heritage Trust Account. None were positive for *M. ovi* and we likely only need to find and remove 2-3 remaining bighorn that are shedding *M. ovi*.

A great deal of preparation and coordination are ongoing with DOD and DOE for conducting the second round of Test and Removal in early November involving the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR), Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) and the adjacent Stonewall Mountain and Bare Mountain. The impacts of the disease event, first detected in 2014 on the NTTR, are one of the worst documented in Nevada for causing the most lambs to die of pneumonia during their first 2 months of life for 8 consecutive years.

Staff Specialist Mike Cox is stepping down as the chair of WAFWA's Wild Sheep Working Group. Since 2016, he has been a ½ time WAFWA and a ½ time NDOW employee. One more substantial project to complete for the west-wide Wild Sheep Initiative, but he is looking forward to refocusing on bighorn restoration efforts in Nevada.

Elk Program: Department staff completed an aerial elk survey in Unit 231 coinciding with the rut. We hoped to obtain a more accurate bull ratio and calibrate abundance estimates of elk in Nevada during the hunting season. Movements are common between Utah and Nevada and our winter survey results can be difficult to interpret due to the complex dynamics of interstate movements. As expected, elk were difficult to find due to heavy tree cover and warm daytime temperatures. A total of 114 were observed over 2 days of survey, with a bull: cow ratio of 47:100 and a calf: cow ratio of 60:100.

In cooperation with the Conservation Education Division, Game Division staff successfully launched a social media campaign highlighting elk in Nevada (aka, Elk Week). The event including several videos and photos generating a tremendous amount of interest from social media followers, a Facebook Live conversation with game biologists discussing various aspects of elk biology and management, as well as a Nevada Wild Podcast with special guest, Randy Newberg, host of Fresh Tracks Tv.

Contractors completed a 1.4-mi. exclusionary fence in northern Steptoe Valley. Elk damage fees were used to fund the construction of this new fence intended to prevent long-term elk depredation issues.

Moose Program: Department personnel have received observations of 45 moose since August. Annually, we experience an uptick in observations coinciding with hunting seasons and the moose rut. Based on distribution of observations and our understanding of movement patterns, at least 14 bulls, 9 cows, and 3 calves are likely to be unique individuals. Summer field investigations determined each of the 7 radio collared cows had calves present and 1 had twins. All metrics continue to suggest that moose numbers are increasing in Nevada.

Mule Deer Program: The oversight committee for the mule deer enhancement program met on September 21 to discuss project proposals for the upcoming fiscal year 2023. The committee reviewed approximately 140 pages of proposals and ultimately sent the ranking criteria back to the Department to re-rank and prioritize projects based on regional priorities and available funding. Department staff has met and will bring forward a new plan and set of criteria for the committee to review at the next oversight committee meeting on November 2.

Mule deer captures are anticipated later this fall to collar deer in the Northwestern portion of the state. This project is ongoing and part of the Washoe County MDEP. Fencing materials have also been placed with the use of NDOW helicopter for spring protection projects supported by the MDEP in the Western Region.

Pronghorn Program: Department personnel continue to conduct annual post season pronghorn surveys. Too early yet to determine any significant trends in population trajectories or statewide trends in recruitment. The Department is finishing up with the final phase of a large-scale migration study of two pronghorn herds in northern Washoe County and northwest Elko County (Management Area 6). Data have been collected from radio collars in the field and should be published in a final report with USGS Corridor Mapping Team sometime in late 2023.

Sage-Grouse Program: There have been some recent developments on the 2022 Greater Sage-grouse Land Use Plan Amendment, expected to be completed in June 2024. The BLM announced a schedule for completion, management issues that will be addressed and a preliminary range of alternatives. Briefly, the management issues include, but are not limited to:

1. Adjustments to habitat management areas, including Sagebrush Focal Areas;
2. Mitigation strategy;
3. Application of habitat objectives;
4. Fluid mineral prioritization objective;
5. Renewable energy development and associated transmission;
6. Disturbance caps, and;
7. Impacts of predators, livestock grazing and wild horses

There are 5 alternatives proposed including:

1. No Action
2. Alternative Adopting management actions identified in the 2015 Plan;
3. Highest degree of preservation possible to the extent consistent with the BLM mission and other laws;
4. Adjust Habitat Management Area boundaries and include Areas of Critical Environmental Concern to protect grouse habitat;
5. Alter HMA, but do not include ACECs.

Sage-grouse wings were collected during the 2022 hunting season and will be analyzed at the annual wing bee scheduled for December 13th.

Upland Program:

Chukar: A podcast on the chukar forecast and general chukar hunting expectations for the 2022-2023 hunting season was conducted on October 12th and released on October 14th. The podcast had approximately 1,500 plays and the average listen time to completion of the segment was above 80%. All indications were that the opening weekend of chukar hunting was lucrative for many upland game hunters.

Quail: The Western Quail Working Group meeting was held in Pocatello, ID during the week of October 3rd and was attended by Game Biologist Matt Jeffress from the Eastern Region.

Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse: A letter of request for a source stock of these birds was recently sent to the Colorado Division of Wildlife. The request was for 15-20 females to release in the Bull Run Basin of Elko County to inject some genetic diversity into the existing population and increase the sustainability of the population.

Wildlife Health: Wildlife Health has been focused on implementation of CWD sampling for the elk and deer hunting season. Four CWD stations have been manned during the 3 busiest weekends in October. In addition, a hunter self-sampling program is being trialed and is ongoing.

HABITAT DIVISION

Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne presented the Habitat Division Activity Report.

Technical Review Program: As previously reported NDOW continues to receive an unprecedented number of energy project applications under the Energy Planning and Conservation Fund and the Fund for the Recovery of Costs (2011 AB 307). In the last two years 75 energy program applications have been received accounting for approximately 39% of all energy projects since 2011. Application received in 2022 account for nearly 20% of all project applications every received under the program.

Energy Siting Tool: In order to better participate in energy project planning NEPA processes on public lands, the NDOW's Technical Review program has partnered with the Nature Conservancy and received federal funding to develop an online energy siting GIS tool, incorporating wildlife and habitat data with available energy infrastructure data.

Habitat Conservation Framework: The Department recently hosted an interagency meeting on the development of Habitat Conservation Framework and associated Sagebrush Habitat Plan. The focus of the meeting was Nevada centric threats and values and threats that should be added to the recently released WAFWA Sagebrush Conservation Design to identify priority landscapes. NDOW and the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team will be hosting local meetings across the State in early December to receive public input into relative to their thoughts on the type of information that needs to be incorporated or considered in a prioritization process.

Vegetation / Project Monitoring: NDOW's Land Health Assessment program fielded two crews for the 2022 season. Each crew is composed of one crew lead and three technicians. In total the crews collected 192 terrestrial plots and 25 riparian/wetlands plots on 13 project areas across the state. Project areas and data collection focused on wildfire restoration areas, WMAs, and wet meadows with active and/or planned restoration projects including the West Martin Fire, Izzenhood WMA, and project areas within the Middle Rock Creek and Nelson Creek areas. Stop over habitat within Area 10 was also targeted for data collection to assess habitat quality.

Drone Monitoring Pilot Project: Habitat and GIS staff recently tested a drone monitoring program to assess the feasibility of monitoring project areas utilizing these technologies. So far utilizing drones to assess recovery of riparian areas post-fencing appears to be promising and it is probable that supplementing upland monitoring with imagery will prove beneficial as well.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team: The SETT will holding its bi-monthly SEC meeting at NDOW's headquarters in Reno on November 30, 2022. Main topics for discussion will be updating the Strategic Action Plan and demonstrating the appropriate GIS layers to prioritize mitigation and guide conservation efforts. Additionally, a short-term solution to the Habitat Quantification Tool, such as adding a multiplier to account for disturbances that result in population loses, will be discussed at the upcoming SEC meeting.

Schell -Egan Acquisition (if finalized): The Department in cooperation with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Nevada Division of State Lands recently finalized the purchase of 5,500 acres of private in-holdings in the Schell and Egan Ranges near Ely, Nevada. This acquisition of the Blue Diamond ranch was facilitated by working with the willing seller and local ranchers who purchased the associated federal land grazing permits while NDOW obtained the private parcels. This purchase was supported by a \$250,000 donation from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, \$250,000 of Wildlife Heritage funds from the Wildlife Commission which were matched to \$4.5 million in federal Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration funds.

Commissioner East asked if the Department was aware of Bright Line West High Speed Rail Project asking for mitigation measures for Bighorn Sheep and whether there was a re-evaluation for that.

Administrator Jenne stated that they were aware, but that they had not been contacted. He stated that the Department didn't believe any NEPA process through the Bureau of Land Management had been started, which is where the Department would typically comment.

Commissioner East requested that the Department keep the Commission apprised of the timeline.

Administrator Jenne stated that they would.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Conservation Education Administrator Chris Vasey presented the Conservation Education Division Activity Report.

Events: Conservation Education staff assisted with the 6th annual International Human-Bear Conflict Workshop in Stateline, NV. The Workshop brought together biologists, wildlife managers, educators, and communicators from several different countries to discuss best practices to reduce negative human-bear interactions. Our staff hosted several podcasts in conjunction with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's podcast hosts. These podcasts were recorded on site with three of the event's featured speakers.

Education: Nevada Knockout, our most popular classroom program, has been rolling for the last five weeks. The program will wrap up in mid-November. We had a record number of classrooms sign up to participate this year at 188 classrooms with around 7,500 students! We'll be featuring the Knockout on social media this year as well starting the last week in October.

Southern Region Conservation Education staff teamed up with the group Blacks in Nature to provide a kayak outing on Lake Mead. The event participants had a blast and we look forward to more partnership opportunities for events like this with them in the future.

Outreach: The Nevada Wildlife Discovery trail is an effort to highlight opportunities for people discover/learn/view wildlife in Nevada. Conservation Education staff will be meeting with leaders from multiple agencies and organizations to begin the first steps of getting the Nevada Wildlife Discovery Trail in motion. This meeting will help the invited individuals learn more about the trail and what our goals are, how we can work together to achieve these goals, and plan next steps.

Recently NDOW conducted a statewide survey of Nevada's adult population to learn more about people's opinions and values as it relates to nature, wildlife, time spent outdoors, and personal health. Since its conclusion Conservation Education staff has sought opportunities to share that information with others and most recently presented some of the findings to the Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE), and the Lander County Conservation District (LCCD).

A Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) messaging campaign is currently running statewide with specific messaging to tag holders and hunters going out of state.

Media Highlights: The end of October is time to celebrate Bat Week! We'll have bat education posts up on our Facebook and Instagram throughout the week of October 24th – 31st. Bat Week is an annual, international celebration of the role of bats in the environment.

Conservation Education staff supported the University of Nevada Reno by helping broadly distribute a UNR press release highlighting their newest report outlining exactly how much hunting helps support Nevada's rural economies.

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY

Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark presented the Wildlife Diversity Division Activity Report.

Staff Updates: Wildlife Diversity is pleased to announce that Jess Brooks has joined our division as our new partners staff specialist. Jess hails from Conservation Education division in the Southern Region where she served as the conservation educator for the past 7 years. Jess will bring capacity to Wildlife Diversity to develop and implement citizen science projects and new volunteer opportunities, build lasting partnerships with other state, federal and NGOs to implement State wildlife action plan goals, and will assist the division in developing division specific information and educational programming to help citizens connect with their Nevada wildlife resources. Jess comes to us with a wealth of experience and expertise to help build up this portion of our division and her infectious positive attitude and enthusiasm is a welcome addition to our team. We have one other vacant staff specialist that focuses on implementation of the state wildlife action plan that we are currently accepting applications for.

Small Mammal Trapping: In late September, biologists from Wildlife Diversity and the Habitat Division conducted a 4-night small mammal survey targeting pale kangaroo mouse at the Crescent Dunes Solar facility, located just outside of Tonopah. The goal was a preliminary assessment of project impacts approximately 10 years after the site was constructed. Three sites were surveyed inside the heliostat field and another three sites were surveyed in nearby undisturbed habitats outside the facility. A total of 56 small mammals were captured – most commonly little pocket mouse (34 total) and Merriam's kangaroo rat (21 total). One pale kangaroo mouse was captured outside the facility. At transects inside the facility, there were a total of 25 (45%) captures and transects outside the facility captured 31 (55%) individuals. A more thorough analysis will be completed this winter comparing inside vs outside the facility, as well as a comparison of preconstruction to post construction. We wish to acknowledge Crescent Dunes staff for their partnership and cooperation in allowing access to the facility so this work could be completed.

In October, staff wrapped up almost six months of small mammal surveys in the Elko area that were focused on documenting the dark kangaroo mouse, another species of burrowing desert rodent thought to be tied to sandy soils. The project is a collaboration between NDOW, BLM – Elko District, and the Great Basin Institute. The goals of the project were to better understand small mammal distributions and habitat associations in northeastern Nevada as well as to develop and test the best protocols for surveying these animals. A three-person field crew was able to trap 14 sites leading to 80 unique kangaroo mouse captures as well as several other species that are BLM Sensitive and Nevada Species of Greatest Conservation Need, including the western jumping mouse. Ear clips from the dark kangaroo mice are being provided to researchers as genetic samples for further DNA analysis and similar surveys will continue in the area in 2023.

Lahontan Wetlands: The Lahontan Valley wetlands including Carson Lake was recently featured in the Nevada Independent for the accomplishments of a National Fish & Wildlife Foundation grant. Under this grant carried out during 2021-2022, key species habitat profiles were developed and used to define and implement management objectives for shorebird populations consistent with Lahontan Valley's designation as a Hemispheric Reserve in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Opportunities and actions were assessed to improve shorebird habitat and changes to shorebird survey protocols to improve capacity for long-term tracking of habitat, shorebird populations and short-term capacity for evaluation of management actions.

Argenta Marsh Birding Trip: On October 11th, the Bristlecone Chapter of the Audubon Society and the Nevada Department of Wildlife led a birdwatching fieldtrip at the new Argenta Wildlife Management Area with participants from Elko, Winnemucca and Battle Mountain. A total of 163 birds of 23 species were seen. The field trip added a few new species to the existing list for the WMA, including ferruginous hawk and Woodhouses's scrub jay. The WMA has now been nominated to be a birdwatching "Hot Spot" on eBird, which is a valuable online birding community and database of bird observations.

FISHERIES

Fisheries Division Administrator Chris Crookshanks presented the Fisheries Division Activity Report.

Fisheries biologists statewide have been busy wrapping up 2022 field survey activities before fall kicks in and temperatures turn cold.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program: All seasonal AIS inspection stations have been closed for the season. AIS personnel have shifted duties to permanent stations in southern Nevada which will remain open for the fall and winter boating seasons at Lake Mead and Lake Mohave. AIS and Fisheries staff participated in a two-day, multi-agency and jurisdictional Rapid Response Exercise in Elko concerning a scenario if quagga mussels were discovered at Wildhorse Reservoir. Many situations and responses were discussed including increased sampling, decontamination procedures, and prevention techniques. Preventing the spread of quagga mussels in Nevada remains our primary goal.

Fish Hatcheries: Fish hatchery personnel are wrapping up the busy fall stocking season and getting mature fish off station. Most recreational fisheries throughout the state have received their fall allotment of hatchery trout. Due to ever-dropping water tables and increasing challenges in water delivery, headquarters staff has been researching efforts to move our hatchery facilities onto Partial Reuse Aquatic Systems (PRAS). These systems are used extensively throughout the west and would allow for a partial reuse of hatchery water, thus conserving water use in the future.

Native Aquatic Species / Sportfish Program: Fisheries Headquarters staff recently completed annual performance reporting requirements for all federal grants. Native Aquatics Staff is currently working with DATS personnel to convert all data collection in the Fisheries Division to a digital format. Related to this effort will be a standardized data collection protocol for field personnel as well as a Fisheries Division database tracking occurrence, distribution, and abundance for all aquatic species statewide. Our Sportfish Coordinator has recently updated the statewide Fishable Waters Maps and is in the process of updating our Nevada Native Fish Slam Program.

Eastern Region Fisheries: Recent survey activities have been completed at a number of streams and reservoirs for a multitude of species including Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, Bonneville Cutthroat Trout, and Newark Valley Tui Chub among others. A fall survey of Wildhorse Reservoir resulted in impressive numbers and sizes of Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Wipers, and trout (Bowcutt, Tiger, and Brown). Numerous juvenile Yellow Perch were also documented which is a positive indicator after the die-off that occurred this past spring. An electroshocking survey of Comins Lake resulted in the documentation of 4-5 age classes of Northern Pike in the reservoir. Moreover, pike were recently discovered in ponds on the Steptoe Valley Wildlife Management Area which is connected to Comins Lake during high water periods. eDNA surveys are currently underway to determine the extent of the species on the management area.

Southern Region Fisheries: A partial fish kill was documented at Beatty Pond in late-September resulting from high temperatures and low oxygen. Subsequent survey work revealed Largemouth Bass and Bluegill still present. A tournament sponsored by WON Bass was held at Lake Mohave in September. Improper fish handling and transport techniques resulted in the loss of a significant number of

tournament-caught bass. An investigation by the Law Enforcement Division was initiated regarding the death and subsequent disposal of tournament fish. A recent fall count at Devils Hole resulted in 263 Devils Hole Pupfish which represents the highest single count at the Hole since 2003. Ironically, a seiche event occurred at Devils Hole the following day as a result of an earthquake in Mexico. It initially appears that damage to the algae on the shallow shelf was minimal. Spring counts should indicate if this holds true.

Western Region Fisheries: Fall electroshocking surveys were completed at many Western Region lakes and reservoirs such as Squaw Valley Reservoir, Hinkson Slough, and Hobart Reservoir. Sport fisheries revealed healthy populations of all species with little ill effects from ongoing drought conditions. Fisheries Division personnel were recently notified of a large downed tree that had punctured a hole in the water delivery ditch for Little Washoe Lake. Quick coordination with NDF ensured the tree was removed and ditch repaired prior to the October 15 start of the water season. Native aquatics species surveys were completed at Martin Creek for Western Pearlshell Mussels and Soldier Meadows for Desert Dace. Both species (Species of Conservation Priority in the SWAP) were found in abundance at each locality.

Commissioner Kiel asked Administrator Crookshanks what type of event happened at Devil's Hole.

Administrator Crookshanks explained that Devil's Hole has an underground connection to the Southern Mexico and the Yucatan Peninsula and when this area has an earthquake, Devil's Hole experiences effects from it like water sloshing back and forth. The most damage is seen at the shallow shelf at the top of Devil's Hole in very shallow water where the Pupfish perform spawning and feeding activities. This event submerged the shallow shelf and scoured it. He recommended to those that hadn't seen it to find a video on Youtube and watch it.

Commissioner Kiel recalled that he was given a presentation in the Southern Region by a Department biologist a few years ago.

Vice Chair Rogers asked in regard to Comins Lake, if the Department thought the survey numbers reflected changes in trout in relation to an increase in Northern Pike.

Administrator Crookshanks stated not yet, but that they would expect that in the future. He explained that once you have reproducing Northern Pike reaching a certain number of adults, it happens pretty quickly. However, so far they haven't seen a reduction in trout or bass numbers.

DATA AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (DATS)

DATS Division Administrator Kim Munoz presented the DATS Division Activity Report.

Hunts & Licensing: The Hunts & Licensing staff completed the draft of the 2023 Big Game Application dates for the Commission Regulations that will be presented to the Commission in January.

The reintroduction of a Swan draw was a success resulting in 817 total applicants, 103 NR applicants, 714 resident applicants for the 650 available permits.

Staff have also collected licensing equipment from six license vendors that have not been meeting the minimum sales requirements to retain selling licenses on the Department's behalf.

Preparation has begun for the 2023 vessel registration period that opens December 1st, waiting on the arrival of both the new year's Aquatic Invasive Species and Registration stickers. Staff are working in conjunction with the Con-Ed Division to get reminder postcards out by the end of the month.

Fall is typically a slower time of the year for Licensing staff and a good time to work on administrative tasks. The licensing retention schedule has been updated and is going to the State Records Committee in November. Also, internal Policy and Procedures are being updated and sent out.

Two members of the licensing staff visited Lincoln Nebraska for the annual WAFWA CBMA conference where they attended workshops with a combination of other states to discuss topics including: teleworking, licensing vendors, duplicate customer accounts, Request for Proposals (RFPs), Vendor Agents, recruitment retention and reactivation (R3), among a variety of other topics.

Geographic Information System: The Geographic Information System staff are working on a Vegetation health assessment database project with the Habitat Division. They also are updating Survey123 forms for both the Harvest Check-ins and the abandoned mining forms.

Information Technology: Finally, the Information Technology staff have ordered all the equipment and computer replacement for the year and are preparing to start the replacement cycle.

Commissioner East asked what the minimum requirements are and why they aren't being met.

Administrator Munoz referred to the Departments vendor liaison, Program Officer Alejandra Medina.

Program Officer Medina explained that the minimum record under NAC is 100 licensing items per year.

Commissioner East asked if that was not being met by some rural communities.

Program Officer Medina explained that some of our rural communities are not meeting that standard, but that she has allowed them to determine whether they find need in selling licenses. No rural office has had their selling abilities stripped. Most have been contacted and confirmed that they saw a need. More populated cities have had their equipment collected.

Commissioner East confirmed that the six locations where equipment is being confiscated is more populated cities like Las Vegas.

Program Officer Medina stated yes.

Commissioner East asked if it was easier to get licenses online.

Program Officer Medina stated yes and explained that some lack of sales were a result of defective equipment. She reassured the Commission that the Department was in search of better equipment.

Commissioner East clarified that she just wanted to ensure that these opportunities are accessible to everyone.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement Division Administrator Mike Maynard presented the Law Enforcement Division Activity Report.

Wildlife Investigations: Wardens in the eastern region investigated a self-turn in wrong physical characteristics harvest, doe shot on antlered tag. Individual was cited, meat seized, and was allowed to keep tag and continue hunting, and investigated a wrong physical characteristics pronghorn self-turn in where the horn/ear length was borderline, individual issued a warning.

Game Wardens in the eastern region investigated a report of a dead bull found in unit 091. He found a bullet in the rear end of the bull. The 091-bull season had recently ended. It was likely a wounding loss with failure to adequately pursue. Wardens investigated separate reports of dead bulls in unit 078 and 077, determined to be rut mortalities. Wardens have begun investigation on a cow elk shot in 067 during closed season. Cow was found by a Game Biologist responding to a collar mortality signal.

Game wardens in the eastern region made a camp contact that turned into a large case where individuals obtained area 10 early rifle deer tags and proceeded to hunt area 6. One deer was harvested in area 6 during this time, in an incident that has been determined to be a pre-meditated act. Charges are pending.

Wardens received information of a potential unlawful kill on the Ruby Marsh Refuge. Upon information gathering it appears the deer may have also been harvested after legal hours as well. Investigation ongoing.

Eastern region wardens completed a deer decoy operation during the early area 10 rifle deer opener. No violations were observed, but it did garner attention from many hunters.

Wardens assisted Utah DWR with seizing a buck antelope in connection with a case, and Idaho Fish & Game by interviewing a suspect (who lives outside of Elko) that they are investigating for residency fraud.

All Southern region wardens conducted saturation patrols during the rifle deer opener in the Tonopah and Panaca areas. Southern region wardens patrolled the US Open fishing tournament on Lake Mojave, are investigating a claim of illegal guiding, multiple violations stemming from reports from a local meat processor, and multiple self-report issues.

Wardens in the western region have been kept busy with responding to many urban wildlife calls, with foraging activity at its highest point in the lead up to winter.

Western region wardens worked the Lahontan Valley Bird-Dog Club, with one citation issued for releasing birds without bands, investigated a landowner complaint of a hunter trespass associated with a deer hunt on a Humboldt County Hay Farm, hunters were warned, and investigated potential closed season bobcat trapping with no confirmation of illegal activity at this time.

Recreational Boating Safety: Southern Region wardens investigated a vessel incident at Lake Mead involving a swamped bass boat and responded to and assisted an individual who dislocated his shoulder while operating a PWC.

Eastern region has received its long-awaited new patrol vessel, the first modern aluminum hulled patrol boat in the region.

Western region wardens assisted Pyramid Paiute tribal police officers by putting them through NDOW's nationally certified law enforcement boat operator's course.

Public Safety: Wardens assisted NPS on a traffic stop resulting in NPS arresting for DUI, made a traffic stop and cited for high-speed driver near Battle Mountain, and stopped out on a motorist assist with a flat tire on their ATV trailer and got them back on the road.

Headquarters: Chief Game Warden and staff held a meeting with Director's Office, DPS NDI Chief Investigator, and Governor's staff officials regarding the Goshute Tribal request for law enforcement assistance on their territory in eastern Nevada.

Game Warden Captains conducted an interview for Game Warden Lieutenant – Western Region. Congratulations to new Lieutenant Jason Jackson who will be taking up his new residence in Fallon, Nevada in late January. Lt. Kristy Knight will be Jason's command mentor and retain command of the Western Region until such time as Jason is ready to transition.

Two Game Warden Captains and the Boating Education Coordinator attended the National Association of State Boating Law Administrator's (NASBLA) annual conference in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Administrator Maynard stated that he would be retiring during the week of Christmas.

Commissioner East congratulated Administrator Maynard and thanked him for his service.

Chair Caviglia ask for clarification on the individual that was cited for shooting a doe or a cow on a bull or buck tag. He asked if that individual was still able to hunt their bull or buck tag even though they shot the wrong sex.

Administrator Maynard answered that was correct. He explained that it was an internal process and largely how the Department handles enforcement. He explained that if the Department can't give the meat to someone who doesn't have a lawful tag to possess it, then they seize it. LE doesn't perform field justice or seize their tag, it's another process. The fact that they committed a wildlife violation that they'll be cited for, but not yet convicted, is not grounds to seize the tag or prevent future hunting activity. We have legal obligations to be fair to that individual. It's a pending misdemeanor not a confirmed conviction.

Chair Caviglia inquired about a hunting fatality that happened in Northeast Nevada.

Administrator Maynard stated that it was still under investigation and considered a homicide because there was a fatality. Determining that appropriate disposition falls to the County Sheriff's Department. Elko County is still investigating. There is enough information that suggests it was in the field. We are unable to release details right now.

Chair Caviglia offered congratulations on his retirement.

Vice Chair Rogers inquired about where the Department was on replacing staff that have left in recent months.

Administrator Maynard stated that there were two that will be graduating soon, which fills two of ten vacancies. He noted the recent promotion of Jason Jackson to Lieutenant also opens a vacancy, totaling nine vacancies currently. He stated that full capacity is 35 officers in the field.

Secretary Wasley thanked Administrator Maynard for his service and noted that this level of vacancies has been a standard level within the agency for years. He stated that he would like to bring awareness to the size of our agency and the average area of coverage for a Nevada Game Warden in comparison to other states in surrounding areas. Other states wardens see a ratio of 1:300-400 sq. miles versus 1:1200 sq. miles for Nevada wardens. One third of our warden positions are vacant, adding to the larger area assigned to each warden. He noted that a well-intentioned bill from the last legislative session placed significant burdens on LE in regard to road-kill and when responsibilities are added to those 35 positions already at less than full capacity, it's a difficult situation to fulfill.

- B.* Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation.

DAG Burkett expressed appreciation for Secretary Wasley's references to things like misplaced modifiers. He also made his apologies for not preparing for the discussion on water rights that he promised to discuss during the previous Commission Meeting. He stated that he had two items to discuss. He stated that the Department had received a cost award from the court in the amount \$12,000 for the defense of that case and that a hearing is scheduled for November 15th which will address our request for attorney's fees for roughly \$80,000. Secondly, he stated that they had received a brief on Mr. Russell Collard, whose sub-guide license was suspended for three years by the Department and upheld by the Board. They received his brief and are preparing an answer in brief to provide to the district court on the 17th. If anyone is interested to see the briefs, they can be shared.

Commissioner East asked to see copies of the briefs. She also asked for clarification on the items listed in the Litigation Report and whether there is movement since some appear to have dates as far back as February.

DAG Burkett explained that water law cases will take time due to the complexity of the specific cases, the number of interested parties and the assumption that these issues can take up to 20 years to litigate. The sub-files on the water law cases consist of yearly water master issues. We adjust and allocate the rights the Department has to certain water rights. He noted that the first case listed, which preceded his time with the Department, is a simple matter of finding a lawyer in Idaho and closing it.

Commissioner East agreed that the first case had been on this report since she started.

DAG Burkett assured the Commissioners that the first case should be completed shortly.

C. Predation Management Fiscal Year 2022 Report – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson

The Game Division will present the 2022 Predation Report per Commission Policy 23, the Department shall prepare an annual Predation Management Status Report (Status Report), detailing results of the previous fiscal year's projects. This status report shall be presented at the last Commission meeting of each calendar year.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 6C.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson noted that his presentation would take at least an hour and recommended that the Commission take a break before he began his presentation.

Chair Caviglia recessed at 9:11 am.

Chair Caviglia reconvened at 9:28 am.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 6C.

Staff Specialist Jackson presented the report, with assistance from three other colleagues, who provided valuable research pertinent to different projects being carried out by the Department. Staff Specialist Jackson included information on the three-dollar Predator Fee (NRS 502.253) and how those funds could be expended, the short coming experienced this year, why it happened, and what the Department will be doing to remedy it. He described projects that had been implemented in 2022 with the help of presentations from Dr. Seth Dettenmaier from the U.S. Geological Service, Mr. Peter Iocono from Utah State University and Dr. Sean Sultaire from the University of Montana. Dr. Seth Dettenmaier presented information on ravens and their impacts on Greater Sage-grouse in Nevada. Mr. Iocono presented

information on the Delamar/Clover Mountain Lion Project. Dr. Sean Sultaire presented information on Nevada Mule deer populations.

All four PowerPoint presentations can be found at the link below:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Commissioner East asked what the projected number of ravens to be removed was prior to the study being conducted in Project 21, noting that Staff Specialist Jackson stated it was lower than expected.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that the depredation permit allows for 2,500 and the actual was 963.

Commissioner East asked how the waste can be managed with respect to the ravens and if there was a way to address it.

Dr. Seth Dettenmaier stated that there are several options available, but that involves private landowners, state and federal agencies, and the ability to perform certain actions are outside of NDOW's scope. In regard to waste facilities, where there is a higher number of depredation due to ravens, suggestions have been made to move those waste facilities to a different location to help conserve grouse populations. Studies are currently being conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in the Mojave Desert using lasers at waste facilities to harass ravens, which appears to be somewhat successful at chasing them away, increasing avoidance of the area. In regard to private landowners, it has been suggested to create narrower burial pits for livestock, which ravens tend to avoid (narrower spaces).

Commissioner East asked how long a lion would feed on a horse.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that it depends on several things, including the size of the horse, the time of the year and the individual. In his experience the previous year, a younger, smaller female stayed on the horse until it was gone. Another example was an older male that ate on a horse, left for a week, then returned to feast on it again. A quick answer would be over a week. He also pointed out that another issue that could factor into this is what other wildlife is in the vicinity that also consumes, like coyotes, golden eagles, and spotted skunks.

Vice Chair Rogers asked whether the ravens removed were from the tier three areas.

Staff Specialist Jackson answered yes, that this was the first year working with the USGS, utilizing the smart tool to identify more specific locations when removing ravens. The Department requested to increase the number from 2,500 to 6,000 ravens under the depredation permit and the USFWS is currently completing an Environmental Assessment, but we believe they will be done in time to issue the increase. In collaboration with USFWS and Wildlife Services, we will be using that smart tool to remove within the tier three but also to reach 6,000.

Vice Chair Rogers stated that it was interesting that mountain lions were not switching to other species when less horses were available.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that it was challenging to estimate wild horse numbers and in this particular instance, the BLM removed 400 of 800 horses and we didn't see any evidence of lions switching to other prey species.

Vice Chair Rogers asked how long the Mule deer study is and when he anticipates findings and data.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that while the Department must bring the Predator Plan to the Commission for approval annually per Policy 23, he would like to see this project continue for five years. He anticipates having preliminary models built and some population estimates to share next year.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he appreciated the work being done and the collaborative efforts on these projects that have been in the works for some time and are finally coming to fruition. The development of models will allow a more prescriptive and efficient use of money. He pointed out the criticism that has been applied to the efforts on predator control and stated that these findings were providing evidence that our efforts are vindicated to some degree.

Chair Caviglia asked Staff Specialist Jackson when the change was implemented and if the contracted lion hunters were not allowed to be guides in that unit.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that contracts last four years and that was a change implemented during the last rendition after discussion with LE and taking onto consideration their concerns.

Chair Caviglia pointed out that if they were having a hard time finding contractors, that many hunters who run hounds are guides so they might reconsider that in the future. Limiting the number of guides can sometimes lead to substantial increases in price. In regard to project 21, lion removal for California Bighorns, he pointed out that one lion was killed in 011 with a \$107,000 expenditure and asked if that was correct.

Staff Specialist Jackson stated that it was correct, that they pay a salary to Wildlife Services regardless of whether a lion is harvested. Some years they've seen upwards of ten mountain lions harvested. He pointed out that killing isn't cheap and that sometimes it costs quite a bit of money to capture a particular offending individual.

Chair Caviglia agreed that he thought it was a lot for one mountain lion.

Commissioner Kiel stated that he appreciated what had been presented today and that the other presenters had participated. He was impressed at the evolution of Project 44, which is important to him, and the use of cameras as a valuable tool on the landscape.

Chair Caviglia thanked Staff Specialist Jackson.

Secretary Wasley thanked Staff Specialist Jackson and the other presenters. He stated that it was important to challenge assumptions that are made. He pointed out the term maladaptive, used in one of the presentations where sage-grouse were described as a maladaptive species and he highlighted examples of this term from the presentation including:

- 1.) Mountain Lions not switching prey species when horse numbers decrease.
- 2.) Sage-grouse not seeking new habitat for nests when they've been unsuccessful in a specific area.
- 3.) Mule deer not moving on and finding new winter range after moving to burnt winter range.
- 4.) Mule deer will find ways around impediments through corridors.

He stated that these are examples of philopatric species or species with strong site fidelity. This kind of data provides evidence that our natural assumptions towards how species will react in nature are oftentimes wrong. It substantiates the Department's maintaining a balance of distributing funds to both

predator removal and the best available science, which informs decisions when spending the sportsmen's three-dollar fee. He again thanked Staff Specialist Jackson and the other presenters.

D. Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) Report – Committee Chairman Tommy Caviglia,

A report will be provided on the recent TAAHC meeting.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 6D. He stated they had two items on the agenda. The first was adding a Junior Antelope Hunt. After viewing some data provided by the Department, the TAAHC Committee had no desire to proceed with that at this time. The second item discussed was proposed changes to the Junior Hunt in Policy 24. The Committee agreed that if changes were to happen, Policy 24 would need to be approved today or at a future meeting and that changes wouldn't be implemented any earlier than the beginning of 2024.

E. Mule Deer Enhancement Oversight Committee – Chairman Kiel, Game Division Administrator Mike Scott, Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne

A report will be provided on the Mule Deer Enhancement Program.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 6E.

Commissioner Kiel stated that it was a fairly short meeting, but that many good suggestions from Habitat staff came out of the previous meeting, allowing the Committee members to prioritize those projects and move forward. There were more positive comments from the public at the most recent meeting and we have been able to create a framework for the program. He is looking forward to a successful implementation of these projects.

Administrator Scott stated that there were six investigation projects moving forward that will cost \$285,000 from the Game Division budget. They include camera projects in the Spring Mountains, collaring projects in area one, 12, 13, and 22 and an age and tooth collection. He pointed out that there may be instances where certain projects encounter impediments and that it's possible that other projects could be brought forward, making it a somewhat fluid process. In regard to habitat projects, it was decided that 40 percent of the higher-ranking projects would move forward, however they would also be subject to the same process, should impediments arise, and higher priority projects are delayed. Roughly two million dollars in habitat projects were approved. Several wild horse studies were requested, however, the Department will attempt to go through the Bureau of Land Management with a proposal for those. There were four predator projects proposed, two coyote and two mountain lion, that are included in Project 37 and 38 for about \$40,000 each. Additionally, in Northern Washoe, the Department is using Projects 37 and 38 for lion removal and potentially coyote removal.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he appreciated the effort by Department staff that went into this process prior to the most recent meeting and he looks forward to seeing the results of this hard work and the projects moving forward.

Administrator Scott acknowledged Administrator Jenne, Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese, and Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody Schroeder and their efforts that helped the advancement of these projects and enabled an easier process this year.

Vice Chair Rogers agreed with Commissioner Barnes, noting that it had been a huge undertaking for the Committee and support from Administrator Scott and Department staff had been unbelievable. He stated that they were headed in the right direction and was comfortable with moving forward.

Commissioner East acknowledged that when she brought this to Administrator Scott there was no design for it and that she applauded his efforts and leadership in this process. She thanked the Committee and Department for all the hard work that went into this and looks forward to seeing results and utilizing those results to create more innovative ways to tackle issues in the future.

Secretary Wasley stated that the Interim Finance Committee approved two new positions in the Habitat Division. One is at headquarters to assist in technical review and the other a habitat field position that will be in the Winnemucca office. This will give the Department added capacity to address some of those habitat projects.

Chair Caviglia recessed at 10:57 am.

Chair Caviglia reconvened at 11:11 am.

7. Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy (APRP) Committee – Committee Chairman McNinch

A report will be provided on the recent APRP Committee Meeting.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 7.

A.* Commission Policy 11- Heritage Grants – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will review Commission Policy 11 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Commissioner McNinch stated that the APRP Committee met last week to discuss Policy 11, 23, and 62. All policies will be brought forward for the first meeting. There are seven policies remaining that need to be approved.

Management Analyst Kailey Musso stated that the APRP Committee had completed its work as a committee after going over the last three policies. Analyst Musso presented Policy 11. She noted that the APRP Committee had reviewed it twice and the Heritage Committee also reviewed it, deciding to make updates to the Heritage Grant Manual.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO MOVE POLICY 11 FORWARD TO A SECOND READING. COMMISSIONER EAST SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

B.* Commission Policy 23 – Predation Management – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Chair Caviglia introduced Policy 23.

Management Analyst Musso stated that she noticed three different versions of this policy, the current version, a clean version of what is being proposed, and a tracked changes version. She apologized for any confusion, but her intention was to make it clear for everyone. This policy had been thoroughly reviewed by both the Department and the APRP Committee with Commissioner McNinch. She reviewed

the portions taken out of Policy 25 that were also in Policy 23. The APRP Committee made several changes to include:

- 1.) Under Predation Management Policies, section B, subsection one – replaced “medium sized carnivores” with “predators.”
- 2.) Under Predation Management Plan and Report Procedures, section one U – added language stating “a status update of the previous years plan, by project: cost expenditures, amount leftover, how many years it has been ongoing, status of the project over the lifespan.”
- 3.) Need – removed the words “public expectations”

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO MOVE POLICY 23 TO A SECOND READING. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

Commissioner McNinch acknowledged that he had asked Management Analyst Musso to post the tracked changes for the sake of transparency.

C.* Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups – Third Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a third reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups, and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chair Caviglia skipped Policy 24, to be discussed after CGR 502.

D.* Commission Policy 60 – Water Application Guidelines – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 60, Water Application Guidelines, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chair Caviglia introduced Policy 60.

Management Analyst Musso presented Policy 60.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MOVED TO ADOPT POLICY 60 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER EAST SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

E.* Commission Policy 61 – Water Rights – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 61, Water Rights, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chair Caviglia introduced Policy 61.

Management Analyst Musso presented Policy 61. She noted that the Department had received input from Commissioner Barnes, both of which offered changes to include:

- 1.) Under Purpose, second paragraph – add to the end of the last sentence, here forward “wildlife.”
- 2.) Under Policy, section one, second sentence - reads “whenever waters with significant wildlife values is identified, and a willing water seller is identified, the Department shall, subject to available staff and financial resources apply for and or purchase such waters for the benefit of fish and wildlife.”
- 3.) Page two, section two, second sentence - reads “the Department shall collaborate with private reservoir owners, whenever possible, to secure cooperative agreements for public access, angling, and minimum pools.” In the last line, change the word “is” to “are”.
- 4.) Page two, section three, second sentence - starting with “Whenever waters possessing significant wildlife and wetland values are identified and a willing seller is identified the Department shall, subject to available staff and financial resources apply for and or purchase such waters as are necessary to support wetlands to the benefit of fish and wildlife.” Add “are pursued” to the end.
- 5.) Page two, section four, first sentence - remove the term “all available means”
- 6.) Page three, section e, first sentence - reads The Department will evaluate filing” instead of file and “deny wildlife access or accessibility.” Remove the words “of the water.”

Secretary Wasley stated that there was one other change on the first page, under number one in Stream Flow, the second sentence that begins with the word whenever, “whenever waters with significant wildlife values are identified, we changed “is” to “are”.

Commissioner Barnes stated that water is an invaluable resource and will remain so. It was important to include language that will keep water in the ground and available to wildlife.

Habitat Administrator Jenne expressed his appreciation for Commissioner Barnes input and advice on this policy. They made necessary changes to outdated language and moving forward it will allow the Department to work with those partners on the landscape that possess the same values, most importantly, keeping water in the ground for wildlife.

No public comment.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he wasn’t opposed to bringing the policy back one more time for consideration in January.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO MOVE POLICY 61 TO A THIRD READING. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

F.* Commission Policy 62 - Mitigation Policy- First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will review Commission Policy 62 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Commissioner Caviglia introduced Policy 62.

Management Analyst Musso stated that the only change made by the APRP Committee was an editorial change to NRS 701.610 – 701.640. The Department made the following changes:

- 1.) Editorial changes in the policy background section and throughout the policy.
- 2.) Reference to the Department participating in the NEPA planning for development projects
- 3.) Identification of indirect and cumulative impacts in addition to direct impacts to wildlife and habitats
- 4.) Simplification of the mitigation hierarchy to include avoid, minimize and mitigate to emphasize avoidance and mitigation efforts prior to mitigation
- 5.) A clearer objective statement
- 6.) Development of best management practices
- 7.) Required design features and other avoidance in minimization measures for use in planning
- 8.) Addition of reference to the Federal Land and Policy Management Act regulations that guide BLM public land administration
- 9.) General clean-up of the policy section and clarification of procedures implementing this policy specifically to the mitigation hierarchy.

Commissioner East stated that she needed to abstain from voting on Policy 62.

No public comment.

Commissioner McNinch admitted that the track changes version is somewhat overwhelming and asked whether the Board would like to see the cleaner version at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he would like to see a cleaner version.

Commissioner McNinch stated that they would provide that at the next meeting and asked if there were any changes recommended.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO MOVE POLICY 62 TO A SECOND READING. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT. COMMISSIONER EAST ABSTAINED.

- G.* Commission Policy 66 – Management and Use of Wildlife Management Areas – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action**
The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 66, Management and Use of Wildlife Management Areas, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chair Caviglia introduced Policy 66.

Management Analyst Musso presented Policy 66.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT POLICY 66 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

Commissioner McNinch thanked Management Analyst Musso for her hard work and for coordinating this effort to revise the outdated policies.

8. Commission General Regulations – Workshop - Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review – Wildlife Staff Specialist Jasmine Kleiber – For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 to provide for the Department review of tentative subdivision map(s) and inclusion of recommendations for methods to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife, mitigation measures, best management practices or required design features, and provide for collection of associated fees to the Department for carrying out such reviews.

Chair Caviglia introduced Commission General Regulation 500.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Kleiber presented CGR 500. She stated that in the last legislative session, Assembly Bill 211 amended NRS 278, which is on planning and zoning. It included provisions for the Department of Wildlife to review tentative maps for subdivision development. The Department is currently working with the Commission to develop regulations implementing this subdivision review as outlined in Assembly Bill 211 under NRS 278. The proposed regulation does several things:

1. Relates to land use planning; specifically, subdivision development;
2. Defines and interprets several terms relating to the review of tentative subdivision maps;
3. Sets forth requirements of certain information to be submitted to the Department;
4. Provides that the Department will provide written comments on a tentative map;
5. Establishes certain fees for the review of a tentative map;
6. Provides for other matters related to review.

The PowerPoint presentation can be found at the following link:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Commissioner McNinch asked whether the \$250 fee was set in NRS.

Staff Specialist Kleiber stated that it was established in the Assembly Bill and added to NRS 278. Commissioner McNinch asked if it was a specific amount of \$250.

Staff Specialist Kleiber answered yes.

Commissioner McNinch explained that that amount was less than two hours' time. In his experience he knows how complicated and how much time these processes can take and recognizes that fee won't cover the resources required for the Department to perform those tasks. He explained that many entities have a concept of one stop shop and it may be more difficult to add another entity.

Staff Specialist Kleiber stated that the issue had come up at the CABMW meetings, most notably with Washoe County. The tentative map would be submitted to the governing body or planning commission and they would forward that to NDOW, which they do for other government agencies across the state as well. The idea here was not to circumvent that process or increase the burden on the developer, it made it more streamlined to ask developers to provide this information to us for tracking purposes and to better understand what's going on with the development, rather than wait to be hit by the planning commission with a map that has no other accompanying information and be receiving payments from a developer directly, but not knowing what it's for. This was an attempt to gather everything in one place. Submission of that tentative map is required to go to the planning commission still for distribution from the other entities. It's not changing the way the planning commission is conducting business, it's asking developers to submit a fee and submission form.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he knows that the City of Sparks had a "quick start process" that would bring developers to NDOW to get a jump start on the process. He asked if there were any enforcement provisions. Is this a requirement or recommendation once NDOW makes a decision.

Staff Specialist Kleiber state that these are recommendations and it's consistent in how NDOW participates in all development that occurs across the state. We have no authority to require developers to do anything. This allows us to provide recommendations to the planning commission or other governing body. What they decide is enforceable and can include that as a condition of approval for the permitting process. Typically, authorization won't be granted if a developer is out of compliance with state law.

Commissioner McNinch appreciated the clarification. He noted the development in Somerset and Verdi.

Staff Specialist Kleiber stated that they have had success with developers in Washoe County to establish funds for mitigation, specifically used for wildlife restoration north of Peavine. She noted a provision that is currently in the proposed language that provides developers the option to come to NDOW before they are required to submit to uncover any red flags that might be addressed ahead of time to prevent any delays down the road.

Vice Chair Rogers asked whether the fee was recommended by the Department or by those who authored the bill.

Administrator Jenne read from the language that the fee was not to exceed \$250 plus an additional fee of no more than \$5 per acre. It was in the bill language and in NRS 278.330 and we did have conversations explaining our perspective and how that effects the Department and it was still passed.

Secretary Wasley stated that prior to this bill the Department didn't have a consistent opportunity to provide comment on potential impacts of development on wildlife. Comments made from multiple parties about having more teeth are well intentioned comments, however they are beyond the purview of the Department. When this legislation was introduced, the Department saw it as an opportunity to accomplish two things:

- 1.) Have a consistent voice for wildlife analogous to the voice we have in NEPA

2.) Cost Recovery - should developers who have potential impacts to wildlife be responsible.

Secretary Wasley made the point that if the \$250 were too large it may have been a deterrent to getting any cost recovery and any kind of consistent process to provide input. At a minimum it helps to subsidize sportsmen and women fees to help with recovery of costs.

Chair Caviglia stated he had several points to discuss. He pointed out an error under section six, number four, which should read section eight. In his experience in southern Nevada and land development the \$250 fee is nothing, and he had no issue with that. He stated that the Commission was sent an email from a coalition of counties making the point that it was not on the developer to submit information. He wanted to make sure that we were not misinterpreting what the language said.

Staff Specialist Kleiber agreed that the bill needed additional review, but that it was understood that the developer needed to provide the tentative map to the planning commission and then they in turn would provide that to the Department. The information required to be submitted in NRS is mostly geared toward water transport and effluent, which isn't applicable to the Department, so we outlined what is applicable and that is wildlife.

Management Analyst Musso made the point that the Department added the provision using the word may, an encouragement to builders to submit information ahead of time and more information that might be required by the bill, which might put them in a better place. Legislative Counsel Bureau had approved this language so there is no conflict in this regulation with the Department.

Commissioner Walther stated that his interpretation of the statute, NRS 278.335 together with its accompanying statute 278.337, specifically subsection three, is that the Department is not prohibited from asking for additional documentation from a developer, that the county is required to send a tentative map.

Chair Caviglia stated that when he read the bill, it was not placing responsibility on the developer. He would like to ensure that the Commission is completely covered.

Commissioner Wise asked whether the extra \$5 per acre was for the whole resubmitted project or just for the additional few acres.

Staff Specialist Kleiber explained that the intent is to capture any additional review.

Commissioner Wise inquired about GIS information in this process.

Staff Specialist Kleiber stated that paper maps or pdfs have been submitted, but the Department has requested developers submit GIS information so that we can plot it on a map and dig deeper into what resources may be affected. The Department is not trying to avoid that in this language.

Commissioner East has client conflict and will be abstaining from the vote.

Joe Crim representing Pershing CABMW, stated that they had two items of discussion. The developers would need to be provided an exact place to submit these forms. Second, he stated that there should be a response time provided to the developer.

Staff Specialist Kleiber stated that the turnaround time is established in statute at 15 days and that is applicable to all entities reviewing tentative maps. The Department put it in the regulation initially, however, they removed it due to it being already established in NRS. The 15-day period begins once the planning commission or governing body submits the map.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark County, stated that agreed with the overall purpose and intent of the regulation and are happy that NDOW is working to ensure it has a voice in the development process but wanted to clarify several things:

- 1.) What size property is included in this proposal
- 2.) Is the intention to regulate the creation of a literal subdivision as in Henderson, NV or the subdivision of any land like the 500-acre ranch divided into 50-acre ranchettes. Does this cover all types of subdivisions or does it target the creation of subdivisions.
- 3.) Would there be any property excluded from NDOW review
- 4.) We believe there should be a statement of purpose for this that would help make the point of the general regulation clearer, why we are doing it and how it benefits the state of Nevada.
- 5.) In section seven, subsection three, why best management practices are required, which stipulates that something must be done rather than recommended.
- 6.) We would like clarification on existing environmental assessments that are being done and how NDOW will collaborate with other environmental organizations, state agencies, and planning commissions.
- 7.) In section six, subsection six – It appears to impose an unfunded mandate on NDOW that should possibly be compensated for.

Jennifer Berthiaume representing Nevada Association of Counties, highlighted concerns that the regulation extends beyond the requirements of AB 211 in the following ways:

- 1.) Allowing NDOW to review infill development if there is any wildlife regardless of surrounding by development.
- 2.) Requiring the developer, not the local government, to submit maps with required items directly to NDOW within five days after submitting to a county.
- 3.) Going directly to the maximum map review fee of \$5 per acre and imposing an additional fee of \$5 to review modifications.

Commissioner McNinch asked the DAG if there had been any boundaries crossed, considering LCB's approval of the language.

DAG Burkett stated that he didn't receive the formal letter and would not provide a formal opinion. He would review the letter and provide his opinion then. He asked for clarification on what Chair Caviglia had concerns about.

Chair Caviglia stated that his concern was outlined in the letter provided by the Nevada Association of Counties. Their concern was that the bill stated that the responsibility was on the governing body that was receiving the tentative map, not the developer.

Commissioner Walther stated that the concern that would need to be addressed was the first sentence in 278.335 and then the subsection in 278.337 and whether or not that requires only the county to send those maps or if NDOW has the authority to request additional information from the developer.

Chair Caviglia stated that overall, he believes this regulation is a positive, but he wanted to make sure everything was on the up and up.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he believed the question is who is making the determination of infill development, vacant and substantially vacant and the Department's language is trying to establish that.

Chair Caviglia stated that there could be major acreage that is infill development that has wildlife benefit. He stated that he has no problem with the language and that someone has to define what is infill and what isn't.

Commissioner McNinch asked if a motion was necessary to have the DAG write a review.

DAG Burkett stated that they didn't need to make a motion, that they could ask for an opinion. He stated that he would provide one prior to the next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner McNinch acknowledged that's all that is necessary.

Chair Caviglia acknowledged that DAG Burkett has a direction and will report back to us.

Administrator Jenne stated that the Department had met with industry while developing this regulation and will be meeting with them again prior to the next Commission Meeting and performing a Small Business Impact Statement as well.

Chair Caviglia recessed at 12:24 pm.

Chair Caviglia reconvened at 1:35 pm.

B.* Commission General Regulation 502, Junior Hunt and Turkey Program – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 to limit the number of successfully awarded tags in the junior hunt program. The regulation also removes hard close dates for submitting a turkey harvest return card and allows for junior turkey bonus points to convert to the adult point category once a junior is ineligible to participate in the junior hunt turkey program.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 502.

Management Analyst Manfredi presented CGR 502.

Administrator Munoz presented the Junior Data that was presented to the TAAHC Committee when they were deciding on what to do with the junior program. The goal was to get more juniors in the field or to "spread the wealth" amongst the juniors. She stated that the data is divided between the old NDWS system and the new Kalkomey system. She acknowledged that there was missing 2017 harvest data due to that turnover of systems. Data has been pulled from three different places, noted in the slide presentation. She also noted that there is not 100 percent participation with return cards. The power point presentation can be found at the following link:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Vice Chair Rogers asked based on what is being proposed by the Department, had it been implemented this year, 421 juniors would not what exactly?

Administrator Munoz 421 juniors would have aged out if the change was in place this year.

Vice Chair Rogers added that would open up that many more opportunities.

Administrator Munoz answered correct.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that these represent the juniors that would have drawn the fourth or fifth tag this year.

Commissioner McNinch asked if there were tags not being awarded.

Administrator stated that all junior tags had been awarded this year. Six went to First Come First Serve (FCFS).

Commissioner McNinch asked how many juniors put in for just one or two areas.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that 28 percent selected only one choice and 23 percent selected only two choices.

Commissioner McNinch asked how many of those put in for the second draw.

Administrator Munoz clarified that he meant how many juniors put in for both the main and second draws.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he wasn't sure how many of these juniors picking only one or two choices are going to put in for a second draw knowing they will get a tag in area ten since it's a 100 percent success rate.

Management Analyst Manfredi agreed that those filling out all five choices would know they could get an area ten tag in the second draw, but it's not likely that those filling out one or two choices have the same mindset.

Commissioner McNinch stated that what was said proves his point. He asked what additional opportunity was being provided to those juniors. Those willing to go wherever are taking advantage of that opportunity. He stated that he struggled with this whole idea. He appreciated the effort to make more opportunity, but he doesn't see how we are improving it. He pointed out that the 421 no longer have the opportunity on the flip side.

Commissioner Wise asked whether the junior actually filled out the survey or the parents.

Administrator Munoz stated that they were assuming the parents filled it out.

Chair Caviglia acknowledged it was a difficult issue. Geography was the main reason in the survey. Units near Reno and Las Vegas are hard to draw a tag in.

Commissioner McNinch asked who we were providing opportunity to that doesn't have it.

Commissioner East stated that she could relate and that her own family experienced a similar situation with distance and sports. She made the point that there were 421 kids that didn't get the opportunity to hunt, while some youth hunters were on their fourth buck. She was looking for ways to make this more equitable.

Commissioner McNinch asked who is backfilling those 421 tags.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that there were 1,647 juniors who weren't awarded, so those tags would have gone to those in that pool.

Commissioner McNinch asked if it was possible that some of those who put in for only one or two choices picked up some of the 421 tags.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that it was possible.

Commissioner McNinch stated that we have kids in the field, which is the point and where it stands right now. He pointed out that that was the goal and that no one new was being recruited into the system.

Commissioner Wise asked if there was any data on juniors who were putting in but had never actually drawn a tag.

Administrator Munoz stated that she didn't pull any data on that.

Chair Caviglia stated that there was data pulled on juniors who have drawn multiple tags, with 35 percent of those having only drawn one tag. Another hope was to allow those individuals to draw more than one tag and providing that individual the opportunity to draw more than one tag by pulling those other two groups out of the system within that five-year period.

Commissioner McNinch asked how many juniors that put in for all four options didn't draw a tag. We know if they put in for area ten they got a tag.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, stated that the CAB had three concerns. First, we hoped that second chance and over the counter tags wouldn't count towards the three tag limits. Second, we hoped that the number of tags would be species dependent. Third, we hoped that the program would consider grandfathering in existing youth and we felt strongly about this. In depth decisions had been made by parents and youth in recent years and believed this should apply for new youth.

Rex Flowers, private citizen, stated that he had no children or grandchildren that this would effect. He's in favor of limiting youth to three tags. He would like to bring more people into the sport. The 421 can still apply for the main draw and if not there, they can apply in the second draw or from FCFS.

Commissioner Wise asked for clarification on how over the counter tags and the second draw would be affected by the limits.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that CGR 499 defined "awarded." It doesn't matter how you were awarded the tag, you were awarded the tag. If FCFS and second draw were excluded from the three-tag limit, then we would be affecting other regulations and it would prove to be a bigger challenge to implement.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he has struggled with this regulation change. He would trust the TAAHC Committee knowing it had been discussed extensively. He offered support for what the Committee has produced.

Commissioner McNinch asked again who they were providing the opportunity to. We are not bringing in new kids to the system.

Chair Caviglia stated that 37 percent of the pie is unsuccessful.

Commissioner McNinch stated that the 421 were willing to whatever they needed to get a tag, but the 37 percent were not. If someone only wishes to draw a tag in a specific area close by, they are unlikely to draw one in five years, but we shouldn't limit those kids, part of the 421, if they are willing to go further to get a tag.

Secretary Wasley stated he appreciated the ability to pull this data from the current system and provide rapid analysis. We could most likely query by zip code to ascertain demand geographically. He asked if it would appreciably increase the opportunity. The rural areas have the greatest supply for youth hunting opportunities and they are the hardest to get to. Two reasons provided for not putting in for more areas were conflicts with school schedules and distance. This will not change where the supply is and where the demand is coming from. The same exact hurdles will still exist unless people are willing to drive further and go to those places. He didn't believe there would be an appreciable increase in the five percent draw rate in 194 and 196 just by cutting that from four to three.

Chair Caviglia stated that it would be impossible to get to the numbers we would like to get to.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he appreciated the time and effort the TAAHC Committee has put in to this discussion. He doesn't see the benefit of making the change. He would like to let them be kids for a few more rounds.

Commissioner East stated that this issue was brought to her attention a few years ago, possibly from the Humboldt CABMW. She stated she was in favor of the recommendation made from the Clark CABMW to grandfather in current youth participants. She stood by the changes made by the TAAHC Committee.

Commissioner McNinch stated he appreciated her stance, but he still didn't understand what benefit it provides.

Commissioner East offered that kids might get introduced to hunting at a later age and they only have one or two more years to try it before they age out. The data showed that the youth in the 13, 14, 15, 16 age group have the highest numbers, so it would only exclude a small number.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he understood what she was saying.

Chair Caviglia stated that the draw process gets convoluted when you begin spreading out five choices. He stated he liked the language and would be willing to try it.

Commissioner Wise agreed she would be willing to try. She acknowledged that it may not help the kids that are only putting in for one unit where there are low draw numbers, but it might help create lifelong hunters out of some of the kids who want more opportunities as a youth who are only drawing one tag, that might now draw two or three, who will continue because they have experienced this increased success with tags. We may not be helping everybody, but we may help some. She stated she would also be in favor of grandfathering in existing youth.

Chair Caviglia asked in regard to business rules, how would the process of grandfathering in work.

Administrator Munoz stated that the challenge would be when the Department changes systems from Kalkomey. We wouldn't make a change for three more years because those in 2023 wouldn't have this happen until 2026. At that point the Department will be off the Kalkomey system. How difficult it would be is an unknown at this point.

Commissioner East asked DAG Burkett if language could simply be added noting that it will take effect in the 2026 season.

DAG Burkett answered that they could.

Administrator Munoz stated that the Department would be splitting, so we would have different rules for different youth. Until we reach 2026 there will be one group with one rule applied to them and another group with a different rule applied to them. The difficulty in that is unknown.

Chair Caviglia agreed that it would be difficult. He suggested to keep it clean and pick a start date.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 502 JUNIOR HUNT AND TURKEY PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 7-1. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH DISSENTED. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

**C.* Commission General Regulation 510, FCFS Exchange to Obtain a Tag-
Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action.**

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a temporary regulation amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would include any money, goods, or services exchanged for procurement of a tag through the FCFS program as grounds for suspension from the program.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 510.

Secretary Wasley explained that Items 8C(CGR 510) and 8E (CGR 509) were both temporary regulations and reminded the Commission that they will need to be revisited at a future date to become permanent regulations. These regulations will expire in November 2023.

Management Analyst Manfredi presented CGR 510 and stated that “the change you see today is proposed to help remove any additional incentives for a person to create that unfair advantage and then to profit in any way from its use and also discourage any individuals from seeking out the use of the unfair advantage to obtain a tag.” She continued, “Included in the change is the addition of the language ‘and all involved parties’ allowing the Department to suspend the individuals account that is offering the service instead of just the individual utilizing the service.”

Secretary Wasley pointed out that the previous vote was for the workshop of CGR 502, therefore, the possible adoption of the CGR will occur at the next Commission Meeting.

Chair Caviglia asked if the LCB needed to look at this CGR again before it goes into effect, if adopted on the next day of Commission.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that she was being told no.

Management Analyst Musso stated that a temporary regulation, if passed by the Commission, will go into effect upon approval. Once LCB notifies legislators, they have the opportunity to ask a question or bring it forward. If there are no comments, then it stands until November 2023. At that point we will bring the CGR back through the process to make a permanent regulation.

Chair Caviglia asked what the time-period was for the legislator to ask a question.

Management Analyst Musso stated that she needed to verify the answer to that question.

Chair Caviglia asked if there was any reason to rush if this would not go into effect in time for tags.

Deputy Director Jack Robb stated that there were coveted elk and sheep tags coming up, among other things, that the Department would like to cover. He explained that previously, the Commission workshopped on Friday and adopted on Saturday, that only recently it had not been conducted that way. Presenting this regulation in this way allows us to keep our commitment to creating a fair and legitimate process.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that we have passed the 14-business day threshold for the bull elk and sheep, Any Legal Weapon, late seasons. Many seasons start November 20th. Those returned tags will be going to FCFS and we wanted to get this regulation in place prior to that.

Chair Caviglia stated that he would like verification that the Department will be able to use the authority provided if they needed to rush through the process.

Management Analyst Musso stated that it was a 35-day period and this would be in effect for seasons opening in December and January.

Chair Caviglia stated that it would not affect bull Elk or sheep tags.

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi stated that it wouldn't affect November 20th tags.

Commissioner Walther stated that he understood the Department was trying to address a serious issue in a short amount of time. Have there been any additional notifications beyond what is required by statute or are there plans to publicize this in any way.

Secretary Wasley asked if he meant publicize to mean a broader awareness within the interested community using FCFS or the short turnaround between the workshop and the possible adoption.

Commissioner Walther stated that it was in regard to the former and asked if the Department had provided this information to those utilizing FCFS prior to use of the program.

Secretary Wasley stated that the Department may have been remiss and underestimated the extent to which people might go and with this regulation change are now trying to close possible avenues where people might exploit certain opportunities.

Commissioner Wise asked if the regulation change would go into effect after the 35-day period or would it be retroactive to the date approved by the Commission.

Deputy Director Robb explained that the CGR process takes time and is dependent on LCB. He would like to see this regulation change in place so that the Department can cover multiple situations from now to November. The Department and the DAG have discussed putting deterrents in place like demerits and possibly fines.

Management Analyst Musso stated that it would go into effect 35 days after it is adopted at the Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Wise stated that it made sense to have something in place, especially if a permanent solution would not be applicable until November 2023.

Chair Caviglia reiterated his concern about workshopping one day and adopting the next and acknowledged that many people are opposed to such a quick process. He stated that if they brought it

back at the January Commission Meeting, it could be in effect as soon as the end of February. He reiterated his warning that FCFS would be problematic and that we would need to continuously piece-meal this program. He stated that it doesn't sit well and asked if others would like to ask the Department to bring back all requests for the program at one time prior to August.

Deputy Director Robb stated that there are multiple instances where the language needs attention, and understands that piecemealing can be tedious, but this program got 1,000 more people into the field both this year and last year. He acknowledged that it would take a lot of work by the Commission, but that the public was promised a fair and honest program that gets them in the field.

Vice Chair Rogers acknowledged Deputy Director Robb's point, but asked in regard to a timeline, if the Commission would be better served waiting until a later date and submitting additional language to give it teeth.

Commissioner Kiel stated that if the Department needs the tool and it's truly necessary now, then we should put it in place, understanding that there will be additional changes in the future.

Chair Caviglia reiterated that this change would still only effect cow tags if we rush through in two days, which has minimal impact.

Commissioner McNinch asked for clarification that if this regulation is approved tomorrow, it will not be in place until 35 days after approval by the Commission. He stated that he understood the concern with the quick approval process, however he offered that spreading the process over two meetings was to reassure the public that there were no "shenanigans" going on, as had been the case in the past. He explained that everything had been noticed and proper procedures had been followed and he was comfortable with adopting the next day.

Vice Chair Rogers asked if the Commission would have the opportunity to add additional language to this temporary regulation at a future Commission meeting.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that it would need to be separate regulation. She noted that when the Department brings a permanent regulation to LCB for drafting, there will be additional language included that would encompass a broader and more substantial discussion. The Commission could then provide additional language.

Vice Chair Rogers clarified that any additional discussion or content to be considered under a permanent regulation would be workshopped and take effect in the 2024 season.

Management Analyst Manfredi answered correct.

Commissioner McNinch clarified that it wouldn't need to be 2024, that it would apply to FCFS for the 2023 year.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that it would depend on when the Commission adopts and when the Leg Commission could approve.

Commissioner Wise suggested to discuss the language of the regulation, noting that the timeline was the only thing that had been discussed and that it might help to make a decision on adopting the next day.

Vice Chair Rogers stated that he wanted to make sure of his understanding of the regulation and clarified that it was a two-strike rule. With the first offense you would be suspended for the season and the second offense prohibited from any tags in any future hunting season.

Management Analyst Manfredi stated that it was only for the FCFS program, it doesn't limit the individual from applying in the main draw, but as mentioned earlier, in the future, if it becomes a demerit it may warrant a license suspension.

DAG Burkett stated that this regulation change was born out of actual instances that have occurred where individuals violated the FCFS program. Management Analyst Manfredi and I have gone over this language on multiple occasions. The Department already has authority to utilize a broad range of tools. This regulation change adds an additional tool to stop this kind of conduct. It says you can't exchange money for access to the FCFS program. In the first portion of the language, the word exchange prohibits individuals from offering money and offering services for money. The second portion provides that an individual can't offer to get someone access to the system for money. This gives the Department the opportunity to do this now. The Commission is following a process that allows you to consider this one day and adopt the next. The value of this is that you are providing the Department one more tool to stop this kind of behavior.

No public comment.

Commissioner East agreed with Chair Caviglia that they have been addressing these in a piecemeal fashion, however, she sees the value in providing the Department the tools they need quickly. She would be in favor of supporting this temporary regulation change.

Chair Caviglia stated that he had no issue with the language, just the quick passage of it.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD FOR ADOPTION CGR 510 FCFS EXCHANGE TO OBTAIN A TAG AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

Chair Caviglia stated that he would like to bring forward Policy 24 for discussion as noted when approving the agenda.

7C. Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups – Third Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a third reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups, and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Chair Caviglia introduced Policy 24.

Management Analyst Musso presented Policy 24 and reiterated that any changes would not be in effect until 2024 season. She noted that the Commission made changes at the September meeting clarifying the party hunt quota minimum section and the spike elk definition. Additionally, the Committee is agreeable to moving forward on section three c, on page six, "juniors can apply for five years and be awarded a maximum of three junior tags before the age of 18." The Committee needs clarification on whether the Commission would like to move forward with sections three a and three b.

Game Administrator Mike Scott stated that three A was discussed in the TAAHC Committee. It splits the hunt into Any Legal Weapon and Muzzleloader/Archery/Primitive combination, which would increase opportunity or the number of tags for juniors. He stated that section three b, which allows junior deer tags to be either-sex tags anywhere there is an open antlerless deer hunt, was added at the direction of the Commission. Included in the arrays used to create quotas is the percentage of does harvested by

youth. Four areas have doe hunts that wouldn't be affected, but all the other areas would be affected by limiting juniors to antlered harvest only. If I decrease the percentage to zero percent harvested does, the number of quotas drops and will do this in every area that currently has no antlerless deer hunts. The number of does on the landscape will increase which will then affect buck to doe ratios, lowering the ratio. However, this might be mitigated by a drop in success rates. We will not see any increases in tags.

Chair Caviglia asked if he had any additional items to discuss.

Administrator Scott said no.

Chair Caviglia stated that FCFS has conflicting NAC's regarding days required prior to submitting the tag.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he has struggled on where to find his position on different parts of this discussion and that there have been different levels of consensus. He is willing to support things he may not agree with, and everyone knows where I stand on section three c. With regard to doe hunts, it really doesn't sit well with me. He asked if we wanted to give opportunity for kids or not. I wouldn't support the policy the way it's written. He asked if recruitment was important or not. He asked what we are addressing by getting rid of doe tags in these areas. Is there any biological concern with having these doe hunts in those units.

Administrator Scott answered no.

Chair Caviglia stated that with regard to the doe hunt, that is solely sportsmen perception. Many sportsmen don't like the junior hunt at all and that they get 25 percent of the tags. One of the most numerous complaints is that youth can kill does in units where there aren't doe hunts. For clarification a tag does not necessarily mean they will harvest a doe, it means that they will have the opportunity to hunt. I've had experience where, even though our herds are struggling, hunters will kill a doe on the last day just to kill something. I don't like that they do this.

Commissioner McNinch asked if there were so many people against this youth hunt, why are we not talking about getting rid of it. I think it will be the beginning of the end for sportsmen. I think there is a lot of support for the youth hunt, but if it is such a bad thing, let's direct the discussion towards that. We have had many conversations on how we can get tags to kids. When Deputy Director Robb was a Commissioner, they were constantly increasing the quota numbers. Let's have the conversation if the pendulum is swinging the other direction.

Commissioner Barnes stated we are at a point in time where we have constricting mule deer numbers. Hopefully we'll turn that around and start increasing and that opportunity will be there. The constricting herds will cause a reduced opportunity for all sportsmen no matter the hunt. Where will we be a few years from now.

Commissioner Caviglia asked what the Commission's thoughts were on three a. Mike Scott brought this up to the TAAHC Committee. It would put more tags into the junior program. I'm curious where everyone else's thoughts are on that.

Commissioner Kiel asked Administrator Scott what his thoughts were on the primitive weapon hunt. He said though the success rate is quite a bit lower, it would allow more tags to be issued.

Administrator Scott stated that there would be more juniors participating, a decrease in Any Legal Weapon hunt, but a potentially sizable increase in Primitive, along with a lower success rate. Without killing more deer, we would put more youth in the field.

Commissioner Kiel clarified, it's not a one for one primitive to All Weapon, you would simply get more youth in the field.

Commissioner McNinch confirmed that he does approve of section three a.

Secretary Wasley stated that the data Administrator Munoz presented reflected the overwhelming percentage of harvest that occurs with a rifle. This conversation between Commissioner Kiel and Administrator Scott is predicated on the assumption that there would be the demand. We have data on youth using a rifle, but we have no idea how many of the youth would be willing to limit themselves to only primitive weapons. We would need to know that before we could speculate with any accuracy, that it would put more youth in the field. It's possible that it would do the opposite.

Chair Caviglia agreed and stated that he wasn't sure if younger juniors could even pull back a legal bow at 12 or 13. I'm also not sure how many would shoot a muzzleloader. The policy states that it is a "may," which allows us to do more in the future, as well as a survey. Or we may just not pursue it at all.

Commissioner Barnes stated that Chair Caviglia had an important point about three A. The "may" means that we have flexibility.

Chair Caviglia asked if we could do this in a couple units as a trial.

Administrator Scott stated that we could ask Administrator Munoz if it's possible to do a trial run.

Administrator Munoz stated yes.

Commissioner Walther stated that he appreciated that as an option, however, how successful were the surveys you've distributed in the past and how easy would it be to get feedback from people who are interested.

Secretary Wasley stated that it was a good question and that he would suggest to start with five percent to test what that demand might be. Data shows that 92 percent of youth are using rifles currently and the question would be would the muzzleloader hunters be willing to limit their ability to harvest with a rifle and would the rifle hunters be willing to exchange a lower possibility of success with a higher possibility drawing a different area. Starting with a small percentage and testing demand would give us that answer.

Commissioner Walther asked how easy it would be for the department to survey youth hunters to get ahead of that opinion.

Administrator Munoz asked Commissioner Walther to repeat the question.

Commissioner Walther asked if the survey was sent to those with applications.

Administrator Munoz stated that they looked at two years' worth of junior applications and sent them to those emails associated with them, including linked accounts. It was sent to roughly 2,000 and we only received 651 responses, having left the response time open for one month. We also sent two reminder emails.

Commissioner Walther stated that he was suggesting it would be good data to have.

Joe Crim representing Pershing CABMW, stated that breaking up weapon classes wouldn't necessarily deter youth hunters, but that it also wouldn't necessarily add any. From his own experience, he hunted with youth in three different weapon classes and he knows what the youth will never hunt with again, and

it's not rifle. He wasn't successful. We believed keeping weapon classes together would help the youth because they now have three options and can test each one. He stated that his grandson carried a muzzleloader for two days and decided it was too heavy to carry so he gave it up. He knew he would wait to hunt archery and muzzleloader for when he was older. He believes that youth hunters need those options for the purposes of retention. The CABMW had no issue with the rest of the policy, just three A.

Rex Flowers, private citizen, stated that he was in favor of limiting the doe harvest to those areas that have doe seasons. He appreciated Mike Scott's material presented earlier, however he presented area six, which gave 350 tags out. We don't have 350 deer in 014, 022, or 021. In a large area it might work, but in areas with minimal deer herds where sportsmen have been fighting for what little resource we have left we do not approve. We have no issues with opportunities for youth hunts, as long as herds can afford does to be taken.

Chair Caviglia asked to discuss the 14 "business" days language that conflicts with 14 "calendar" days language.

Management Analyst Musso explained that she put "business" days in this policy and after reviewing NAC 502.421 which is the Alternate List procedure, it also stated "business" days, and is the right language to use in this policy. She was unsure of what Deputy Director Robb was referencing.

Chair Caviglia stated that he and Deputy Director Robb had discussed this previously and there was conflicting language.

Management Analyst Manfredi clarified that the "14 business days" is found in the Alternate List program and the "14 calendar days" is found in the FCFS program, which are conflicting.

Chair Caviglia stated that it will be brought up on a future agenda which has been confirmed by Deputy Director Robb. In his opinion, 14 days is a multiple of seven, which is not a business day, that's a calendar week.

Commissioner Wise asked what the most appropriate term is that should be used in this language.

Deputy Director Robb stated that 14 days was a guess due to the fact the Department had never done a reissuance of tags, and was predicated on the fact that the past vendor had no knowledge of what the flow would be. He stated that there should be a new discussion with current vendors, utilizing updated data. He stated that he preferred to look at the data and make informed decisions rather than guess right now.

Chair Caviglia reiterated that there had been a discussion and it will be brought up at a later Commission meeting. He offered to pass the policy and bring it back up at a later date, depending on where the Commission was at.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he would support moving it forward without adopting due to it being incomplete, not to delay its adoption, but also that it is a simple process to open it back up at a later date if adopted today.

Commissioner East noted how outdated the policy was and that she had no issue addressing the "14 business days" at a later date. She deferred to the Department and what they believe the most appropriate timeframe should be. She shifted attention to section three and noted that it is understood that the majority of juniors will be in the rifle category. She stated that she would prefer to see what the data shows and was not ready to add new hunts. With regard to agenda item three B, she acknowledged that she had gone back and forth on doe hunts in general and didn't like them for personal reasons a

preference handed down in her family. She would prefer to see this left alone due to the fact that it's a management only in certain units.

Commissioner McNinch asked if there would be a large reduction in tags and referenced what Administrator Scott stated earlier.

Administrator Scott stated that was in area six which has a doe hunt and it wouldn't be affected. Areas like 11, 14, 17 that still have a good number of tags, but aren't like areas six, seven, and ten, will still have some reductions but less than those big areas. He reiterated that it could be mitigated by lower success rates.

Commissioner McNinch pointed out that the reason some areas aren't producing isn't necessarily due to not having does. It is more likely that there are other issues going on. We feel good mentally leaving does alone, however we might "be killing them with kindness" and that's a concern to him.

Commissioner East stated that at that point we would institute a management tool to address that situation. She pointed out that the youth harvested 3,200 does and roughly 14,000 bucks.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he appreciated what she was saying but that the numbers were low and that he preferred to provide kids more opportunity to hunt.

Administrator Scott pointed out that the numbers mentioned by Commissioner East were over a ten-year period.

Commissioner East asked for clarification on that data.

Administrator Munoz stated yes that it was over a ten-year period.

Commissioner Caviglia stated that the TAAHC Committee left that option open, to allow juniors to kill does in areas with a management need, rather than having no doe hunts at all. I am in agreement with Commissioner East in that area.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he appreciated that thought process, but he pointed to the recruitment aspect, that those who had been unsuccessful will be able to take a doe the last day of a hunt which could be a reason for them returning to hunt in upcoming seasons. He stated that for a program that is very important to recruitment, it was taking heat. He had been struggling to understand what opportunities are being made available with these changes to policy. He stated that he appreciated this being brought back because there was more discussion to be had.

Chair Caviglia stated that he would make a motion to adopt Policy 24, with the understanding that it would be brought back to reconcile the issue with "business day" versus "calendar day" language.

CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 24 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER EAST SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7-1. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH DISSENTED. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

Chair Caviglia recessed at 3:27 pm.

Chair Caviglia reconvened at 3:39 pm.

D.* Commission General Regulation 506, Possession of Golden Eagles Under Certain Circumstances – Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark – For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 to allow for possession of a golden eagle under certain circumstances.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 506.

Wildlife Diversity Division Administrator Jennifer Newmark presented CGR 506. This regulation is a result of the passage of Senate Bill 125, during the last legislative session, which changed NRS to allow possession of a Golden eagle under certain circumstances. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed at the link below:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Vice Chair Rogers asked how many master falconer licenses the Department issues every year.

Administrator Newmark answered that there were 63 currently licensed master falconers.

Commissioner East agreed that the 60-day period after becoming a resident was too long. She asked if the license states where the eagle will be housed. The address of the applicant is available, however not specifically where the eagle will live.

Administrator Newmark answered that it doesn't state where, only that you must prove that it has adequate housing.

Commissioner East stated that she would like to add the residence of the eagle. Additionally, she asked whether there should be an earlier check-in period that six months for those eagles in poor condition.

Administrator Newmark stated that depending on the circumstances an eagle may need to go through a molt cycle to recover, which would be a longer process. To be able to see progression, it might require a longer period than three months if you are waiting for a full molt cycle.

Commissioner East asked if the two-year period under section eight was typical.

Administrator Newmark stated that two years is a typical rehabilitation period that allows a falconer to not only rehabilitate but to have time to teach the eagle to hunt, which is a lengthy process in and of itself.

Commissioner East asked about the release of the eagle in the same place it was found.

Administrator Newmark stated that the reason they created the language "as close as possible" is for those situations. We want to release them as close as possible to where they were taken.

Commissioner McNinch asked whether they should require an applicant already in the system to go back through the process of providing two more letters of reference during the renewal process.

Administrator Newmark stated that they wouldn't need two new references, that they could use the same two letters of reference, but that they would clarify that in the language.

Commissioner McNinch stated that under section four, subsection J, one, to add the word "and" to read "and contain a concise history of the author's experience," connecting the two sentences.

Administrator Newmark deferred to DAG Burkett.

DAG Burkett stated yes, a semicolon and the word “and.”

Commissioner McNinch noted that one recommendation was addressed by Administrator Newmark in regard to section 3.3. In section 12, subsection two, referring to section seven, which refers to the housing unit but is also specific to Golden eagles. He asked if this language should read to say “and the facility requirements outlined in section seven of this regulation.”

Administrator Newmark stated the language should read “and section seven of this regulation if it’s a Golden eagle.”

Commissioner McNinch clarified that section 12 was referencing raptors in general, not Golden eagles.

Administrator Newmark confirmed that statement.

Commissioner McNinch clarified that section seven is specific to Golden eagles and their housing requirements, so if we refer back to section seven, our intent is to only refer back to the facility requirements of that section, not to Golden eagles.

Administrator Newmark stated that LCB added this language and that if it states “if this is a Golden eagle and section seven of this regulation” that should solve the issue.

Commissioner McNinch asked if the Department wanted the section to be specific to Golden eagles or all raptors.

Administrator Newmark clarified that it was conforming language for all. This is back to the language that includes the original housing requirements plus the section seven for Golden eagles. If it’s a Golden eagle, they must meet that extra requirement of the larger enclosure, but if it’s another raptor, they don’t need to meet that requirement.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he understood. He referenced language under section twelve, subsection 6(b)(1), on page 12, and asked if this language limits master falconry licensees with eagle permits.

Administrator Newmark stated that if it is specifying that “if you have an eagle permit and you have an eagle in your possession you are only allowed to retain the primary wing feathers and not more than twelve tail feathers as its currently written” and this provision also allows that if they are in possession of a Goshawk, then “they can have as many feathers from that Goshawk.”

Commissioner McNinch stated that the language “of a Golden eagle” settles that down for me. Section 14, pg. 17, should there be an “or” in place of “and.”

Administrator Newmark stated this was conforming language added by LCB and she would assume “and” is correct, however she would need to verify.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he read it to say the applicant must be in violation of both of those.

Management Analyst Musso stated that she interprets the language to say that “the Department can deny the issuance of any falconry license if they’ve been found to have not adhered to sections two through ten, so essentially the Golden eagle permits, as well as any of the provisions in NAC 503.200 to 503.470.” She believed that it could be more restrictive, it could be an “or” but she’d need to clarify that

with LCB. It does provide more authority in that the Department could deny any Falconry license if we found that they mistreated eagles in the past.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he interpreted it as saying it has to be both in order to apply. He suggested if the Department wanted more power it would need to be an or so it could be one situation or the other.

DAG Burkett stated that he read it as Commissioner McNinch read it.

Management Analyst Musso stated that she would like to clarify it with LCB.

Commissioner McNinch stated that was fine and wondered if this language could be streamlined.

Commissioner Wise asked in regard to where it states that the two letters of reference need to come from people who lawfully possess a Golden eagle, whether they need to actually have a Golden eagle in their possession to qualify as a reference.

Administrator Newmark stated that this language mirrors federal language and that she was unsure whether they needed to be in possession of an eagle currently or simply that they had in the past, showing they have had experience with them.

Commissioner Wise stated that in section seven, there is a very specific size requirement for housing and would like to know if that is dependent on the size of the bird.

Administrator Newmark stated they added the larger size because Golden eagles are a huge bird and much more powerful than the typical falconry bird. This larger size allows for more adequate space for it to be housed humanely.

Commissioner Wise stated that section 12, subsection 6(b)(1), discusses limiting primary wing and tail feathers of Golden eagles and questioned whether that was a proper limitation to set.

Administrator Newmark stated that there was room to consider either increasing the number or not specifying an amount.

Commissioner Wise thanked Administrator Newmark.

Commissioner East asked why someone would possess feathers.

Administrator Newmark stated that it was for imping purposes, in the case of a broken feather during hunting for example, you would take a feather from a previous molt or one from another bird, closely matched, and glue it to the broken feather which allows the bird to fly. Broken feathers will naturally molt out and heal itself eventually, but it is a long process. This imping process allows falconers to still use their birds even if they break a feather.

Commissioner East thanked Administrator Newmark.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, stated that it would be helpful to define the phrase imping in the proposed regulation.

Corey Dalton, a master falconer, stated that he would like to provide some suggestions given to him by the organization North American Falconers Association.

- 1.) Under section seven, a 12x12 enclosure can actually be too big due to the fact that a Golden Eagle is powerful enough to generate enough momentum to collide into a wall and die. They would like to see the regulation passed with language applied to a normal falconer stating that it is either a chamber large enough for the bird to fly in or if it's tethered that it can't touch the walls and is unable to generate enough momentum to injure itself further.
- 2.) Under section five, number one, in their opinion requiring a master falconer to provide dates of a visit with a Golden Eagle causes an undue burden on NDOW game wardens .
- 3.) Under section eight, number four, he suggested to reduce language pertaining to the releasing location to include only where a falconer would like to release it where appropriate and whether NDOW approves it or not. He added that there could be a number of reasons of why they would not release it where it was captured such as the presence of power lines, wind farms, disease and starvation
- 4.) He stated that he was pleased Administrator Newmark discussed imping, then microphone was cut due to public comment time limit.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he would like to allow Mr. Dalton more time to speak.

Chair Caviglia agreed.

Corey Dalton, a master falconer, stated that other falconers wanted to offer help by accepting eagles from other states when those that rehabilitate run out of falconers that can assist. He suggested to make sure this regulation is in concurrence with federal guidelines for rehabilitation. This is a process that will include modifications as we move forward, considering Nevada has never had Golden Eagles previously. The process to obtain a Golden Eagle permit is extensive, especially for those master falconers in Nevada. Very few of the 61 master falconers have large bird experience and would not meet the criteria presented in the regulation. He stated that they had a very good relationship with NDOW and had recently taken a game warden into the field to show them what a master falconer does. He thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak and noted that they are happy to help with both depredation and rehabilitation of Golden Eagles. He stated that he appreciated Administrator Newmark's time as well.

Chair Caviglia asked to bring CGR 506 back to a second workshop.

E.* Commission General Regulation 509, License and Vessel Product Refunds – Program Officer Alejandra Medina – For Possible Action

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 and 488 to allow the Department authority to provide refunds on licenses and vessel products.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 509.

Program Analyst Alejandra Medina presented CGR 509.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, asked what conditions would warrant a partial refund.

Program Analyst Medina stated that partial refunds could be issued in many instances and are due to non-refundable fees in regulation, for example, the one-dollar processing fee the state is entitled to in NRS 353.1465.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD FOR ADOPTION COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 509 LICENSE AND VESSEL PRODUCT REFUNDS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

9. Public Comment Period

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Chair Caviglia introduced item nine.

No public comment.

Friday, November 4, 2022 – Tour will begin at the close of Agenda Item #9

The Commission will tour Lennar Pond. An informational presentation will be made, but no action will be taken by the Commission. The public is invited to participate and will be required to provide their own transportation. The group will depart from the meeting location.

Chair Caviglia introduced the tour to Lennar Pond.

Deputy Director Jack Robb suggested that the tour should be delayed until the following day, once the Commission has adjourned on November 5th, 2022.

Chair Caviglia asked what the other commissioners would like to do. He agreed that it would be a good decision.

DAG Burkett stated that they could take an agenda item out of order and move it.

Commissioner McNinch asked whether it needed to be done today or the next day.

DAG Burkett stated it could be done now.

Commissioner McNinch asked if they needed to take it out for public comment.

Chair Caviglia asked if there was any public comment.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO PLACE THE TOUR OF LENNAR POND TO BE AT THE CALL OF THE CHAIR. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI WAS ABSENT.

Chair Caviglia adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Saturday, November 5, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

If you wish to make public comment via Zoom, please use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82382329330?pwd=RTNUZE4yREdaRIITYWJVOWg1a0V3UT09>

10. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Caviglia

Chair Caviglia called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioner Wise led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Meghan Beyer called the roll of the Commission. Commissioner Pierini and Commissioner Barnes were absent. Chair Caviglia made note of the CABMW members in attendance.

11. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Caviglia– For Possible Action

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 11. He reminded the Commission that due to running out of time the previous day, the tour of Lennar Pond would take place after ending the Commission meeting today.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE NOTED CHANGE. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION APPROVED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

12. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Caviglia – Informational

Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Wasley may also be discussed.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 12. He provided a follow-up from the previous day’s discussion about the fatality in Elko County. It was reported that this occurred while securing a loaded gun in a vehicle. It was an accidental discharge.

Commissioner East stated that she received correspondence from Karen Boeger, who shared the wild horse white paper authored by Alan Jenne. She asked if the Department could provide the Commission a copy of this paper.

13. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 13.

No CABMW comment.

14. Commission Regulation – For Possible Action/Adoption – Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission Regulation 23-02, Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2023-2024 – Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2023-2024 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry.

Chair Caviglia introduced Item 14.

Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark presented CR 23-02. There are 18 regular occurring diurnal (active during daylight hours) raptors, 15 breeding species, and three additional migrants. We have 11 species of nocturnal raptors/owls in Nevada. This CR proposes eight diurnal and 1 nocturnal species to be used for Falconry. There is only one change proposed in this CR. American Kestrel quota limit has been decreased from 50 to 15. To access the PowerPoint presentation click on the following link:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Commissioner East asked whether it was healthy to remove an eyas from a nest.

Administrator Newmark stated that raptors typically have multiple nestlings. Due to asynchronous growth, one nestling will kick out the smaller nestling. The taking of a nestling is compensatory. We require there to be one nestling left in the nest for reproduction.

Commissioner East stated that she would love to see the member of the public, who commented the previous day, return for Conservation Spotlight.

Vice Chair Rogers asked what effects drought conditions and habitat challenges had on birds.

Administrator Newmark stated that it has had effects on certain species like the Golden eagle, which is a concern. Their prey base is shrinking, for example, jackrabbits, whose populations have been very low largely because of drought and disease. Goshawks, especially in northeastern Nevada, are highly dependent on riparian and aspen areas, which are wet areas, so drought can have a big impact on them. We close that area north of I-80 to limit any additional stress. In regard to Falconry and it having an effect, the take is so low and more compensatory, rather than additive.

Commissioner McNinch stated that climate change is having an effect on some species, for example Rough Legged Hawks, who are not wintering as far south as they have done historically.

Secretary Wasley stated that some raptor species mortality rates can be as high as 80 percent in those offspring, so in some instances we are securing these populations by increasing survivorship of the remaining eyas. In wildlife sometimes less is more and by removing some of those animals we can increase the health and survivorship of the remaining animals.

Steve Robinson representing Washoe CABMW, stated that a falconer named Rick Lund was hoping to change the closure north of I-80 for the Northern Goshawk. We proposed the language under brief explanation of proposed regulation, to say "Northern Goshawks statewide except Elko County north of I-80, which eyasNorthern Goshawk is closed." He would like the Passage Northern Goshawk could be taken since it is a migratory route and have no negative consequences. A second recommended change under Areas would read "The take of eyas Northern Goshawk is closed in Elko County north of I-80.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, stated that one of the CAB members suggested that Merlin Hawks are rare and only winter here, therefore would recommend reducing the quota from 50 to 15.

Karen Taylor, private citizen, stated that she appreciated the inquiry of whether or not there is research to support the removal of birds increasing populations. She also asked if there was research on whether removal would disturb the nest, reducing populations. She had read that going near the nest can disturb the nest possibly causing the adult to leave. She continued, asking what the penalties were for those falconers that do not care properly for birds and if there were inspections.

Chair Caviglia asked Administrator Newmark to please answer the questions raised.

Administrator Newmark stated that in her opinion the Department was more comfortable keeping the area closed due to the populations being in worse shape than other areas. We can take a look in the next couple of years but there has been no evidence confirming that what was requested wouldn't have impacts.

Chair Caviglia asked about the Merlin.

Administrator Newmark stated that over the last four years there had only been four Merlins taken and she agreed that they were not as common due to not breeding in Nevada. She stated that the level of take in the regulation will not impact population numbers.

Commission McNinch agreed with Administrator Newmark's assessment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE COMMISSION REGULATION 23-02 2023-2024 SEASONS AND PERMIT QUOTAS FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

B.* Commission Regulation 23-03, Noncommercial Collection of Reptiles and Amphibians for 2023-2024 – Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve 2023-2024 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians

Chair Caviglia introduced CR 23-03.

Administrator Newmark presented CR 23-03. There were no changes from the previous two years. There are 56 native species of reptiles that occur in Nevada. Thirty-nine species are allowed for noncommercial collection and seven species total are protected in NAC. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.ndow.org/events/november-2022-commission-meeting/>

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, stated that one of the CAB members had suggested that in southern Nevada, the Common Chuckwalla numbers had steeply declined, therefore we recommend they be removed from the list of lizard species that can be collected in that region.

No public comment.

Chair Caviglia asked if there was any concern with the Common Chuckwalla.

Administrator Newmark stated that she asked the Department herpetologist to begin analyzing and creating some kind of work to determine if that is happening. The Department has no evidence of that,

however, she suspected that it was a possibility. There is not enough data currently available to suggest that change in the regulation, but it is being addressed.

Commissioner East asked what the lizard is that she sees at her house.

Administrator Newmark stated that it was a Fence lizard.

Commissioner East asked if it was on the list.

Administrator Newmark stated that they were the ones with the blue bellies and really accessible to kids.

Commissioner East thanked Administrator Newmark.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE COMMISSION REGULATION 23-03 NONCOMMERCIAL COLLECTION OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS FOR 2023-2024 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

C.* Commission Regulation 22-12 Amendment #1, Upland and Furbearer Seasons – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action.

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the proposed changes amending the spring turkey application period and draw dates for the 2023 season.

Chair Caviglia introduced CR 22-12 Amendment #1.

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi presented CR 22-12 A#1. The proposed change would allow the Department to schedule the spring turkey application period and draw dates earlier than what was originally approved. A second change would direct those looking for 2024 application and draw dates to refer to a CR 23-01, which will be presented at the next Commission Meeting.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, stated two recommendations. One was based on a public comment made at the CABMW meeting by an individual who commonly hunts in the Moapa Valley for wild turkey. They suggested that the 2024 hunts would all be moved back one week from what is suggested in the regulation. The second suggestion was that due to the declining Sage grouse numbers, the total season limit should be set at two birds.

Commissioner East asked if we could get an opinion on the Moapa Valley suggestion.

Commissioner Kiel asked if we were able to change quotas or dates.

Commissioner East agreed that we could only approve the recommended change.

Chair Caviglia stated that the approved agenda only allows for the approval of the recommended change.

COMMISSIONER EAST MOVED TO APPROVE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 AMENDMENT #1 UPLAND AND FURBEARER SEASONS AS PRESENTED AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

15. Commission General Regulation – For Possible Action/Adoption – Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission General Regulation 508, Antler Points and Spike Elk Defined – Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee

The Commission will consider adopting NAC 502 that would clarify definitions pertaining to “antler point” and “spike elk” for certain big game mammals and reduce the potential occurrence of inadvertent infractions.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 508.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee presented CGR 508. He provided examples (photos) of anomalies that have occurred to illustrate instances that might cause confusion to the hunter. He explained that there was good intent when the current spike elk definition was proposed as a result of these anomalies that project from the base of the elk’s antler, but that the original definition, established in 2014, was a true spike, two unicorn horns, one on each side of the head. Public comment in 2016 was the basis for the definition change currently used. He explained that he had been on hunts where it was difficult to determine whether these anomalies were above the ear or below the ear and that language presented was intended to minimize inadvertent infractions. Staff Specialist McKee addressed Commissioner Walther’s question from the previous Commission meeting, providing the breakdown in spike harvest by antler points. He explained that from harvest data from 2019-2021, it showed 88 percent had true spikes, two points or less were nine percent, three points or less one percent, and four points or less also one percent. Six bulls out of 286 bulls killed in Spike Only hunts had three or more antler points. He showed an additional picture of an elk sent to him from a hunter that showed two projections at the base and one just above the ear as an example of when even NDOW personnel are unsure.

Vice Chair Rogers expressed appreciation for the photos and pointed out that he believed the confusion stemmed from the language “above the ear” not the number of spikes. He asked if it was better to leave the “two points” language and remove “above the ear.”

Staff Specialist McKee pointed out that the “three-point” language would better address the anomalies mentioned previously. From an agency standpoint, when we set more restrictions, there will be a little less success, and in turn we can issue more tags and still hit the desired harvest level. He added that the hunters might think the two points is more restrictive, but the conversation should be focused around the fact that we are still reaching our harvest goals and adding additional opportunity in an increased number of tags.

Chair Caviglia stated that he preferred the “two-point” language and that White Pine CABMW had offered that suggestion previously. He added that the “two-point” language mirrored several other state definitions. He agreed that he would like to remove “above the ear” language. He pointed out that we would still be getting 97 percent of the harvest with the two points.

Commissioner Kiel agreed with getting rid of the “above the ear” language and he could support the “three point” language. The area of concern for him is whether it’s a spike or a management hunt, preferring to call it a management hunt.

Jacob Thompson representing Clark CABMW, expressed support for the regulation change and asked that there be illustrations added to the Nevada Hunt Book to assist hunters with the three-point on either side definition, as other states have in their books.

Joe Crimm representing Pershing CABMW, reiterated his previous comments from the last Commission Meeting, that it is “confusing to call it a spike hunt, but it can still have branched antlers.” The overall concern from those he has discussed this issue with is that the definition is misleading. He stated that it should be called a management hunt.

Steve Robinson representing Washoe CABMW, stated that they had similar discussions at meetings. He didn't agree with calling a raghorn a spike and suggested to reduce the confusion, to call it a management hunt, three points or less. Spike should be defined as a non-branched main beam.

No public comment.

Chair Caviglia agreed that changing the hunt to a management hunt would be a sizable undertaking.

Staff Specialist McKee stated that DAG Burkett noted there were over one dozen times that spike hunt was used in NAC and that it would need a more concentrated effort.

Chair Caviglia stated that if we kept the two points, it would be closer to what the public generally believes spike to mean.

Commissioner Wise acknowledged that the word spike typically refers to a single spike, but questioned the evolution of the definition. She understood that the two points above the ear excluded anything not visible, like protrusions too small to see below the ear. She asked if leaving it at "two points" but taking away "above the ears" would still provide protection from inadvertent infractions. She asked for clarification on whether the original intent was to be a single spike, that would allow for a small variance.

Staff Specialist McKee stated she was on point, that the original definition was one spike, unbranched, as Washoe CABMW pointed out. In public comment, a hunter pointed out that they saw spike bulls that didn't meet that criteria and the Commission voted to include the current language. In 2021, we added more spike hunts, double the tag quotas, resulting in greater number of instances creating doubt. He stated that three points are fine, but that two points is the majority of harvested bulls. He allowed that there would be careful consideration by law enforcement should hunters inadvertently harvest bulls with these anomalies/projections that could meet the definition of an antler point, that were not visible at the time of taking the animal.

Commissioner Kiel asked Staff Specialist McKee to bring up the first picture he showed, clarifying that the bull would be illegal under the "two-point" language, and legal under the three point language.

Staff Specialist McKee agreed.

Chair Caviglia noted that the picture was "cherry-picked", showing a bull that is definitely an anomaly, not a typical example.

Staff Specialist McKee acknowledged that it does occur, albeit infrequently, but that the language was designed to address this situation. The ear language references the length of the horn to the ear, which is a more black and white issue, versus the presence of a branch on a bull elk and where that falls within the ear length.

Vice Chair Rogers verified the percentages on the slides and stated that he believed they were splitting hairs with the language. With two points being closer to what is perceived as a spike hunt, he would support the "two point" language and getting rid of the ear language.

Commissioner Walther stated that he appreciated the CABMW providing comments on this issue and questioned whether the board was making it more difficult when arguing over 2 or 3 points. He would like to focus on what is needed in the field right now.

Staff Specialist McKee clarified the purpose of the spike hunts, to remove one year old bulls from the population.

Chair Caviglia stated that the discussion was “splitting hairs” and that the “two point” language is closer to the general perception of what a spike hunt is.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 508 ANTLER POINT AND SPIKE ELK DEFINED AS PRESENTED WITH THE NOTED CHANGE TO KEEP THE “TWO POINT” LANGUAGE IN PLACE. COMMISSIONER WALTHER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

Staff Specialist McKee reassured the Commission that the department would provide illustrations in the hunt guides to assist hunters in the field.

Chair Caviglia stated that it would be appreciated.

B.* Commission General Regulation 510, FCFS Exchange to Obtain a Tag – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action.

The Commission will hold an adoption hearing to consider a temporary regulation amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would include any money, goods, or services exchanged for procurement of a tag through the FCFS program as grounds for suspension from the program.

Chair Caviglia introduced CGR 510.

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi presented CGR 510. She reminded the Commission that it was a temporary regulation.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 510 FCFS EXCHANGE TO OBTAIN A TAG AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

16. Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Wasley and Chairman Caviglia – For Possible Action

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for [January 27 and 28, 2022](#). The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, time, and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

Chair Caviglia presented agenda Item 16.

Secretary Wasley proposed changes to upcoming Commission Meeting dates. He suggested to change the March meeting to the 10th and 11th instead of the 17th and 18th, due to the difficulty in finding hotel accommodations as a result of March Madness. The week after the original dates would coincide with Department staff attending the North American Conference of Natural Resource Management. He also proposed to combine the August and September meeting, but to push the date of the meeting to occur towards the end of August and recommended to keep the location of this meeting in Fallon, NV. Similar issues would apply to the September meeting, coinciding events and challenges that would prohibit staff

from attending on the current scheduled dates. He noted that the next Commission meeting would be in Reno and the items presented would include:

- Draft Predation Management Plan
- Big Game Seasons and Regulations
- Black Bear Seasons
- Mountain Lion Limits and Quotas
- Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas (set a year in advance)
- Dream Tag Partnership in Wildlife
- Silver State Tags Seasons and Quotas
- Big Game Application Deadline
- Big Game Tag Eligibility
- WAFWA Winter Meeting Report
- Wildlife Heritage Account Report
- Legislative Committee Reports
- Possible Adoption of CGR 502 and CGR 509

Chair Caviglia asked if the Department would like to present a date for the August meeting at a later meeting.

Secretary Wasley stated that it would be best to confirm that the Department can secure a venue and suitable lodging for everyone and could present that date to the Board at the January Commission Meeting.

Chair Caviglia asked if the Commission could wait until the January Commission meeting to consider dates proposed by the Department for the combined meeting of August and September.

Secretary Wasley answered that it could be decided on then, but that it was preferable to solidify the March meeting dates now.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he appreciated moving the date in March and would make a motion to approve when the Commission was ready.

Chair Caviglia asked if there were any additional comments.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO CHANGE THE UPCOMING MARCH COMMISSION MEETING TO MARCH 10 AND 11, 2023 AND TO COMBINE THE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER COMMISSION MEETINGS TO A DATE TO BE DETERMINED. COMMISSIONER KIEL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONER PIERINI AND COMMISSIONER BARNES WERE ABSENT.

17. Public Comment Period

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Craig Burnside representing Douglas CABMW, stated that he questioned whether the anomaly from Staff Specialist McKee's first photograph met the criteria of the language that was passed earlier, since the

first point on an elk doesn't count as an antler point and he didn't know if the Commission had "taken away the confusion or not."

Rick Lund, a private citizen, stated that he had comments about the raptor capture permits in the state of Nevada. He stated that there had been no trapping of Goshawks allowed in northern Elko County for years and explained that there was no biological reason to prohibit citizens from trapping passage Goshawks, those that are migrating. He stated that he understood that Elko County didn't want los Goshawks taken from the canyon, but expressed support for serious consideration to legalize trapping passage Goshawks anywhere in the state, where available. He stated that he believed the law to be interpreted incorrectly to include all Goshawks north of Interstate 80, that it was originally intended only for los Goshawks.

Chair Caviglia adjourned the meeting at 10:20am.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/. Support material for this meeting may be requested from the Recording Secretary at (775) 688-1599 or wildlifecommission@ndow.org. In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/.

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AARON D. FORD
Attorney General

KYLE E.N. GEORGE
First Assistant Attorney General

CHRISTINE JONES BRADY
Second Assistant Attorney General



JESSICA L. ADAIR
Chief of Staff

RACHEL J. ANDERSON
General Counsel

HEIDI PARRY STERN
Solicitor General

STATE OF NEVADA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

MEMORANDUM

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners
Tony Wasley, Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife

From: Craig Burkett, Senior Deputy Attorney General

Date: January 5, 2023

Subject: Litigation Update

1. *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.

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.

The 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.

As of December 2022, the case remains staid for 90 days pending settlement discussions. On December 13, 2022, the parties and representatives of DWR – Micheline Fairbank and DAG Laena St. Jules – met for a productive settlement discussion that will likely result in an agreement. The parties are currently waiting for a settlement document to be circulated by the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

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 5th 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-judicial 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 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 sought 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 involve 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 challenge to the 1936 Decree itself.

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 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.

Defendants' Motion to Dismiss was denied on August 5, 2022. Judge Du found that Plaintiffs were still able to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, largely technical claims asserted by Mineral County against WRID. Judge Du further found that NDOW and the State of Nevada are both ex rel. parties, meaning that NDOW is not simply a standalone rights holder in this

case. As well, the political question doctrine does not apply to this case because caselaw cited provides authority for courts to modify or interpret the decree. It remains unclear from the ruling how this will impact NDOW. The relief sought by Mineral County is for NDOW to develop and fund a plan to improve the resource of Walker Lake, the legal argument against that is that such funding would more appropriately be decided by the legislature.

Because counsel for Mineral County has been gravely ill, the court has been deferential to Mineral County and allowed for a generous discovery schedule, as follows:

Discovery may commence on April 7, 2023 and shall close on **April 4, 2025**. Dispositive Motions due no later than 60 days after the close of discovery (**6/3/2025**).

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 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 (styled a Petition for Writ of Mandamus) 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 record 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.

The Court heard oral argument on the Petition on August 1, 2022, and ruled in favor of the Defendants, finding that there had been no violation of the Public Records Act.

The Court has issued a formal judgment in favor of the Defendants as to all causes of action. In addition, The Defendants filed a cost memorandum in the amount of roughly \$12,000, which was not opposed. The Defendants have also filed a motion seeking the Plaintiffs pay attorney's fees in the amount of \$79,000. That motion has been submitted to the Judge and awaits decision. In addition, the Plaintiffs have filed an appeal of the case to the Nevada Supreme Court. A settlement conference required by the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure is scheduled for February 28.

4. A Petition for Judicial Review of the Wildlife Commission’s decision to uphold a three-year revocation of a license held by Ben Collard has been filed in the 8th Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada. The parties have filed legal memoranda supporting their positions. Petitioner has requested oral argument. The Court set a date for argument on September 1, 2023.

**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.

HERITAGE ACCOUNT INTEREST & FUNDING - SUMMARY BY YEAR

Fiscal Year	Beginning Cash	Annual Growth	Interest	Annual Interest Rate
1997	n/a	n/a	\$ 34,702.05	n/a
1998	n/a	n/a	\$ 51,107.18	n/a
1999	\$ 1,123,101.00	n/a	\$ 84,124.02	7.49%
2000	\$ 1,411,932.00	25.72%	\$ 84,359.23	5.97%
2001	\$ 1,918,391.00	35.87%	\$ 119,021.62	6.20%
2002	\$ 2,405,315.00	25.38%	\$ 95,233.36	3.96%
2003	\$ 2,845,589.00	18.30%	\$ 69,035.26	2.43%
2004	\$ 3,318,548.00	16.62%	\$ 62,519.81	1.88%
2005	\$ 3,860,920.00	16.34%	\$ 89,140.03	2.31%
2006	\$ 4,493,973.00	16.40%	\$ 177,707.00	3.95%
2007	\$ 5,102,677.00	13.54%	\$ 240,851.44	4.72%
2008	\$ 5,564,528.00	9.05%	\$ 256,959.07	4.62%
2009	\$ 5,682,505.00	2.12%	\$ 128,680.81	2.26%
2010	\$ 5,745,710.00	1.11%	\$ 53,471.94	0.93%
2011	\$ 5,931,027.00	3.23%	\$ 19,232.23	0.32%
2012	\$ 6,171,344.00	4.05%	\$ 15,775.01	0.26%
2013	\$ 6,512,878.00	5.53%	\$ 23,690.83	0.36%
2014	\$ 6,700,619.00	2.88%	\$ 24,483.97	0.37%
2015	\$ 7,248,710.00	8.18%	\$ 28,362.34	0.39%
2016	\$ 7,670,013.00	5.81%	\$ 37,146.72	0.48%
2017	\$ 7,978,040.00	4.02%	\$ 64,323.85	0.81%
2018	\$ 8,468,627.00	6.15%	\$ 120,172.35	1.42%
2019	\$ 9,271,515.00	9.48%	\$ 198,283.84	2.14%
2020	\$ 9,842,620.00	6.16%	\$ 183,989.85	1.87%
2021	\$ 10,787,794.00	9.60%	\$ 63,938.08	0.59%
2022	\$ 12,092,675.00	12.10%	\$ 80,279.00	0.66%
Total:			\$ 2,406,590.89	

Completed Fiscal Year	Revenue	75% of Revenue	Add Interest Earned	Heritage Funding Available	Heritage Fiscal Year
2006	\$ 623,053.00	\$ 467,289.75	\$ 211,029.00	\$ 678,319.00	2008
2007	\$ 518,816.96	\$ 389,112.72	\$ 269,527.50	\$ 658,640.00	2009
2008	\$ 582,879.12	\$ 437,159.34	\$ 194,219.84	\$ 631,379.00	2010
2009	\$ 480,960.78	\$ 360,720.59	\$ 86,546.69	\$ 447,318.00	2011
2010	\$ 505,126.56	\$ 378,844.92	\$ 24,232.59	\$ 403,078.00	2012
2011	\$ 676,625.78	\$ 507,469.34	\$ 18,326.36	\$ 525,796.00	2013
2012	\$ 615,955.02	\$ 461,966.27	\$ 15,775.01	\$ 477,741.28	2014
2013	\$ 713,249.94	\$ 534,937.46	\$ 23,690.83	\$ 558,628.29	2015
2014	\$ 911,394.19	\$ 683,545.64	\$ 24,483.97	\$ 708,029.61	2016
2015	\$ 879,825.56	\$ 659,869.17	\$ 28,362.34	\$ 688,231.51	2017
2016	\$ 998,356.27	\$ 748,767.20	\$ 37,146.72	\$ 785,913.92	2018
2017	\$ 1,097,533.54	\$ 823,150.16	\$ 64,323.85	\$ 887,474.01	2019
2018	\$ 1,146,040.40	\$ 859,530.30	\$ 120,172.35	\$ 979,702.65	2020
2019	\$ 1,426,657.02	\$ 1,069,992.77	\$ 198,283.84	\$ 1,268,276.61	2021
2020	\$ 1,562,212.52	\$ 1,171,659.39	\$ 183,989.85	\$ 1,355,649.24	2022
2021	\$ 1,932,586.14	\$ 1,449,439.61	\$ 63,938.08	\$ 1,513,377.69	2023
2022	\$ 1,946,475.44	\$ 1,459,856.58	\$ 80,279.00	\$ 1,540,135.58	2024

As required by NRS 501.3575, the funding available for Heritage Program projects in a given year is equal to seventy five percent of the money deposited in the account during the most recent and completed State Fiscal Year, plus interest earned on the principal in the account.



**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

JANUARY 9, 2023

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

From: Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Presentation of Fiscal Year 2024 Draft Predation Management Plan**

Purpose: The Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review. Following this review, the draft plan will be updated and shared with the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC). All comments from the PARC, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2023 meeting. The Commission will receive an update at the March 2023 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time. The Commission may provide direction to modify the draft plan.

Summary

The Department presents this Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Predation Management Plan to the Commission for approval or amendment at their January 2023 meeting.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Plan

The final report for activities undertaken under the Fiscal Year 2022 Predator Management Plan was presented to the Commission at their November meeting, and that report may be found at:

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/12-Pjackson-Predator-Plan-Presentation-draft-1.pdf>

The Department's current activities are guided by the Fiscal Year 2023 Predator Management Plan approved by the Commission in May 2022, which may be found at:

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/12-Predator-Management-Plan-FY-2023-draft1-ADA.pdf>

The current draft of the 2024 Plan is presented for Commission review and comment. In accordance with statute and Commission Policy 23, the Department intends to present this initial draft to the Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC) for their review and comment. All comments from PARC, County Advisory Boards, or general public will be shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their review and counsel prior to the March Commission meeting. The WDMC will provide a report to the Commission at the March meeting, and the Department will review and revise the Draft 2024 Plan based on the collective feedback received. The Department will present a final draft for Commission consideration at their May 2023 meeting.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission make comments and provide guidance on the Draft Fiscal Year 2024 Predation Management Plan as presented.

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Predator Management Plan
Fiscal Year 2024
1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

STATE OF NEVADA

Joe Lombardo, Governor

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Alan Jenne, Director

Vacant, Deputy Director

Jordan Goshert, Deputy Director

Mike Scott, Game Division Administrator

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

Nevada Department of Wildlife receives funding through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Acts. Federal Laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe you've been discriminated against in any NDOW program, activity, or facility, please write to the following:

*Diversity Program Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mailstop: 7072-43
Arlington, VA 22203*

*or Nevada Department of Wildlife
Director
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120
Reno, NV 89511*

Individuals with hearing impairments may contact the Department via telecommunications device at our Headquarters at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone (TTY) telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868.

Introduction

The goal of the Nevada Department of Wildlife's (NDOW's) Predator Management Program is to conduct projects consistent with the terrestrial portion of NDOW's Mission "to preserve, protect, manage, and restore wildlife and its habitat for the aesthetic, scientific, educational, recreational, and economic benefits to citizens of Nevada and the United States." Provisions outlined in NRS 502.253 authorize the collection of a \$3 fee for each big game tag application, deposition of the revenue from such a fee collection into the Wildlife Fund Account, and use by NDOW to 1) develop and implement an annual program for the management and control of predatory wildlife, 2) conduct wildlife management activities relating to the protection of nonpredatory game animals and sensitive wildlife species, and 3) conduct research necessary to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife. This statute also allows for: the expenditure of a portion of the money collected to enable the State Department of Agriculture and other contractors and grantees to develop and carry out programs designed as described above; developing and conducting predator management activities under the guidance of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners; and provide that unspent monies remain in the Wildlife Fund Account and do not revert to State General Funds at the end of any fiscal year.

NDOW maintains a philosophy that predator management is a tool to be applied deliberately and strategically. Predator management may include lethal removal of predators or corvids, nonlethal management of predator or corvid populations, habitat management to promote more robust prey populations which are better able to sustain predation, monitoring and modeling select predator populations, managing for healthy predator populations, and public education, although not all of these aspects are currently eligible for funding through predator fee dollars. NDOW intends to use predator management on a case-by-case basis, with clear goals, and based on an objective scientific analysis of available data. To be effective, predator management should be applied with proper intensity and at a focused scale. Equally important, when possible projects should be monitored to determine whether desired results are achieved. This approach is supported by the scientific literature on predation management. NDOW is committed to using all available tools and the most up-to-date science, including strategic use of predator management, to preserve our wildlife heritage for the long term. NDOW works with area biologists and monitors harvest data to ensure localized removal of predators does not result in negative biological consequences on a region or statewide level.

NDOW is a state agency that must balance the biological needs of wildlife, statutory mandates, and social desires of the public. In the 2015 legislative session, Assembly Bill 78 was adopted which in part amended NRS 502.253 (4) (b) to read: [The Department] "Shall not adopt any program for the management and control of predatory wildlife developed pursuant to this section that provides for the expenditure of less than 80 percent of the amount of money collected pursuant to subsection 1 in the most recent fiscal year for which the Department has complete information for the purposes of lethal management and control of predatory wildlife." NDOW intends to comply with statute and apply the tools of scientific predation management in biologically sound, socially responsible means.

Budget Summary

Fiscal year 2022 predator fee revenues totaled \$911,013. The Department expects to need to allocate about \$728,810 on lethal removal to meet the requirements set forth by NR 502.253. Proposed predator projects for fiscal year 2024 include \$834,000 for lethal work, these funds include fiscal year 2022 revenues and previous fiscal years surpluses.

Map Note

Maps for each project may be found in the last page of this document.

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TYPES OF PROJECTS

Below are the three categories of projects in the predator management plan. Some projects have aspects of multiple types within a single activity or action. The project types are listed throughout this document.

1. **Implementation:** The primary objective is to implement management of predators through lethal or non-lethal means. NDOW will collaborate with USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors to conduct lethal and non-lethal management of predators. Identifying and monitoring a response variable is not a primary objective for implementation.
2. **Experimental Management:** The primary objectives are management of predators through lethal or non-lethal means and to learn the effects of a novel management technique. NDOW will collaborate with USDA Wildlife Services, private contractors, and other wildlife professionals to conduct lethal or non-lethal management of predators and will put forethought into project design. Response variables will be identified and data will be collected to determine project effectiveness. Expected outcomes will include project effectiveness, agency reports, and possible peer-reviewed publications.
3. **Experimentation:** The primary objective is for increasing knowledge of predators in Nevada. NDOW may collaborate with other wildlife professionals to study and learn about predators of Nevada. Expected outcomes will include agency reports, peer-reviewed publications, and information on how to better manage Nevada's predators.

FY 2024 PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUATION

Project 21: Greater Sage-Grouse Protection (Common Raven Removal)

Justification	This project proposes to lethally remove common ravens from known Greater Sage-grouse habitat, common raven predation on Greater Sage-grouse nests and broods can limit population growth. Common ravens will be removed around known Greater Sage-grouse leks because most nest sites are located within 4 km of a lek. Common ravens will be removed in areas of known greater abundance to benefit sensitive populations of Greater Sage-grouse.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Common raven, Greater Sage-grouse
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lincoln, Lyon, Washoe, and White Pine counties.
Limiting Factor Statement	Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for Greater Sage-grouse, their populations can be suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Increases in predator numbers can also cause decreases in Greater Sage-grouse populations; common raven abundance has increased throughout their native ranges, with increases as much as 1,500% in some areas (Boarman 1993, Coates et al. 2007, 2014, Sauer et al. 2011, O'Neil et al. 2018). Under these circumstances, common raven predation can have a negative influence of Greater Sage-grouse nesting success, recruitment, and population trend (Coates and Delehanty 2010).
Response Variable	Common raven point counts may be conducted before, during, and after removal to detect changes in common raven densities.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce common raven populations in high abundance areas that overlap sensitive Greater Sage-grouse populations identified by NDOW and USDA Wildlife Services wildlife biologists. 2. Increase populations of Greater Sage-grouse in specific areas where deemed feasible.

<p>Habitat Conditions</p>	<p>Areas of common raven removal will be within or in close proximity to Greater Sage-grouse leks, nesting habitat, and brood-rearing habitat. Persistent drought throughout Nevada has reduced herbaceous cover, along with nesting and brood rearing habitat; these effects are exacerbated by wildfire and the invasion of cheatgrass. Transmission lines, substations, and nearby agriculture production often attract common ravens which may threaten nearby Greater Sage-grouse populations.</p>
<p>Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report</p>	<p>Raven management, including lethal removal, is imperative to maintain and improve Greater sage-grouse and the ecosystems they depend on. NDOW recommends continuing Project 21 while common ravens are believed to be a limiting factor for Greater sage-grouse.</p>
<p>Methods</p>	<p><i>Lethal Removal</i> Chicken eggs treated with corvicide (DRC-1339) will be deployed to remove common ravens (Coates et al. 2007). To reduce non-target species exposure, no eggs will be left in the environment for over 168 hours. No leftover eggs will be used on subsequent treatments. All remaining eggs and any dead common ravens found will be collected and disposed of properly as per DRC-1339 protocol. DRC-1339 is effective only on corvids and most mammals and other birds are not susceptible to the specific effects from this agent.</p> <p><i>Monitoring</i> Point counts for common ravens will be conducted from March through July of each year, which corresponds with Greater Sage-grouse nesting and brood-rearing season. Surveys will be similar to Ralph et al. (1995): lasting 10 minutes; conducted between sunrise and 1400 hrs; conducted under favorable weather conditions; and stratified randomly across study areas (Luginbuhl et al. 2001, Coates et al. 2014).</p>
<p>Anticipated Result</p>	<p>The removal of common ravens is intended to result in long-term protection for Greater Sage-grouse populations through increases in nest success, brood survival, and recruitment.</p> <p>This project will continue until evidence demonstrating Greater sage-grouse nest success and recruitment are not limiting population growth due to common raven predation or common raven populations are in decline from non-lethal measures. The Department anticipates an increase in the USFWS raven depredation permit for this season.</p>
<p>Staff Comment</p>	<p>Project 21 will become progressively more precise with deliverables from Project 41. It is the Department’s desire to ultimately use Project 21 to create temporary voids of ravens for Greater sage-grouse during sensitive times and to reverse the common raven population growth curve.</p>

Project Direction	Fund Project 21.
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Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$175,000	N/A	\$175,000

Project 22-01: Mountain Lion Removal to Protect California Bighorn Sheep

Justification	California bighorn sheep populations have been reintroduced in northwestern Nevada; mountain lion predation can be a significant source of mortality that may threaten this population's viability. Area 01 is in close proximity to the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, California, and Oregon; all three may act as a source for mountain lions. Mountain lions will be removed proactively by USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors until the local bighorn sheep populations reach population objectives.
Project Manager	Jon Ewanyk, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	California bighorn sheep, mountain lion, mule deer
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Units 011 and 013
Limiting Factor Statement	Mountain lions are known predators of bighorn sheep (Rominger et al. 2004). Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for bighorn sheep and other big game, their populations can be lowed or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Mitigating abiotic factors by removing predators is imperative for some bighorn sheep populations to stabilize (Rominger 2007).
Response Variable	The response variable will be the number of radio-marked bighorn sheep killed by mountain lions.
Project Goal	Remove mountain lions to proactively protect reintroduced California bighorn sheep.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may also be suppressing bighorn populations below carrying capacity or preventing them from reaching self-sustaining levels. Currently, several collaborations between the Bureau of Land Management and NDOW to remove pinyon-juniper are scheduled. These removals are intended to improve bighorn sheep habitat, improve access to water sources, and to remove habitat that is ideal for mountain lions to focus on bighorn sheep.

Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 22-01 until the local bighorn sheep populations reach viability as defined in the annual Predator Plan.
Methods	NDOW biologists, USDA Wildlife Services, and private contractors will collaborate to identify current and future California bighorn sheep locations and determine the best methods to reduce California bighorn sheep mortality. Traps, snares, baits, call boxes, and hounds will be used to proactively capture mountain lions as they immigrate into the defined sensitive areas.
Population Estimate	The population estimates for California Bighorn sheep in 011 are 20 and 013 is 40.
Anticipated Result	Decrease or prevent predation from mountain lions for all age classes of reintroduced California bighorn sheep, resulting in an established, viable population.
Staff Comment	Proactive mountain lion removal to assist struggling bighorn sheep populations is well documented within the scientific literature.
Project Direction	Fund project 22-01. Monitor population. Cease proactive removal efforts after the local bighorn sheep population reaches 60 in each area (011 and 013; table 1).

Table 1. Population numbers to be used to redirect focus of project.

Action	Bighorn Sheep Population
Monitor bighorn population, conduct removal on case-by-case basis	> 80
Remove mountain lions that consume bighorn sheep*	60 - 80
Remove all mountain lions in area	< 60

*Indicates need for monitoring local mountain lion population.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000

Project 22-074: Monitor Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep for Mountain Lion Predation

Justification	Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep populations have been established in portions of Nevada, but mountain lion predation can be a significant source for mortality that may threaten the population's viability. One collared bighorn sheep has been killed by mountain lions in the past year. The area biologists believe that mountain lion predation is not currently limiting the small bighorn sheep population, but even a small amount of predation has the potential to affect its viability.
Project Manager	Kari Huebner, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, mountain lion
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Unit 074
Limiting Factor Statement	Mountain lions are known predators of bighorn sheep (Rominger et al. 2004). Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for bighorn sheep and other big game, their populations can be lowed or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Mitigating abiotic factors by removing predators is imperative for some bighorn sheep populations to stabilize (Rominger 2007).
Response Variable	The response variable will be the number of radio-marked bighorn sheep killed by mountain lions.
Project Goal	Bighorn sheep populations will be monitored on a continual basis and predator control will be implemented as deemed necessary at the discretion of the Area Biologist.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may also be suppressing bighorn populations below carrying capacity or preventing them from reaching self-sustaining levels.
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 22-074 until the local bighorn sheep reaches population viability as defined in the annual Predator Plan.
Methods	NDOW biologists will identify current and future Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep locations and determine the best methods to monitor this population. Additional

	GPS collars will be purchased and deployed to monitor the bighorn sheep population. If mountain lion predation is identified as an issue, then traps, snares, baits, call boxes, and hounds will be used to lethally remove mountain lions from the area.
Population Estimate	The population estimate for Rocky Mountain Bighorn sheep is approximately 25 individuals in area 074.
Anticipated Results	1. Monitor the population of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. 2. If mountain lion predation is identified as an issue, conduct lethal removal.
Staff Comment	Proactive mountain lion removal to assist struggling bighorn sheep populations is well documented within the scientific literature. This project has evolved from a proactive lethal removal project to a monitoring project.
Project Direction	Fund project 22-074. Monitor population. Begin mountain lion removal efforts if mountain lion predation is detected (table 2). Evaluate efficacy of project 22-074 annually. The Department will allocate project 22-074 funds to project 37 if they are not spent by 1 March 2024.

Table 2. Population numbers to be used to redirect focus of project.

Action	Bighorn Sheep Population
Monitor bighorn population, conduct removal on case-by-case basis	> 15
Remove mountain lions that consume bighorn sheep*	10 - 15
Remove all mountain lions in area	< 10

*Indicates need for monitoring local mountain lion population.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$20,000	N/A	\$20,000

Project 37: Big Game Protection-Mountain Lions

Justification	Predation issues frequently arise in a very short timeframe. These issues often occur within a fiscal year. By the time a project can be drafted, approved, and implemented, it may be too late to prevent or mitigate the predation issue. Removing mountain lions that prey on sensitive game populations quickly is a required tool to manage big game populations statewide.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Mountain lion, mule deer, bighorn sheep, antelope
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Mountain lions are known predators of bighorn sheep and other big game species (Rominger et al. 2004). Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for bighorn sheep and other big game, their populations can be lowered or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Mitigating abiotic factors by removing predators is imperative for some bighorn sheep populations to stabilize (Rominger 2007).
Response Variable	Response variables may include reduction of prey taken by mountain lions, removal of a mountain lion that was documented consuming the concerned big game species, or a reduction in mountain lion sign. Because of the quick nature of the project, there may be times when no response variable will be measured.
Project Goal	Remove specific, problematic mountain lions to benefit game species.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced mule deer and other big game populations below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 37 until local bighorn sheep populations become viable as defined in the annual Predator Report. NDOW supports the ability to remove mountain lions quickly.
Methods	NDOW will specify locations of mountain lions that may be influencing local declines of sensitive game populations. Locations will be determined with GPS collar points, trail cameras, and discovered mountain lion kill sites. Removal efforts will be implemented when indices levels are reached, these include low

	<p>annual adult survival rates, poor fall young:female ratios, spring young:female ratios, and low adult female annual survival rates (table 3). Depending on the indices identified, standard to intermediate levels of monitoring will be implemented to determine the need for or effect of predator removal. These additional monitoring efforts may be conducted by NDOW employees, USDA Wildlife Services, or private contractors.</p> <p>Staff and biologists will identify species of interest, species to be removed, measures and metrics, and metric thresholds. This information will be recorded on the Local Predator Removal Progress Form and included in the annual predator report.</p>
Anticipated Results	<p>1. Lethal removal of individual, problematic mountain lions will provide a precise tool, protecting reintroduced and sensitive big game populations.</p> <p>2. Implementation will occur in association with game populations that are sensitive (e.g., small in size, limited in distribution, in decline) and may benefit from rapid intervention from specific predation scenarios.</p>
Staff Comment	Proactive mountain lion removal to assist struggling bighorn sheep populations is well documented within the scientific literature.
Project Direction	Fund Project 37.

Table 3. Indices used to initiate predator removal.

Species	Annual Adult Survival Rates	Fall Young: Female Ratios	Spring Young: Female Ratios	Adult Female Annual Survival Rates
California Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--
Desert Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 30:100	--	--
Mule Deer	--	--	< 35:100	< 80%
Pronghorn	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000

Project 38: Big Game Protection-Coyotes

Justification	Predation issues frequently arise in a very short timeframe. These occurrences often occur within a fiscal year, therefore by the time a project can be drafted, approved, and implemented, to prevent or mitigate the predation issue, it may be too late. Removing problematic coyotes quickly is a required tool to manage big game populations statewide.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Coyote, mule deer, antelope, Greater Sage-grouse
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for mule deer and other big game, their populations can be lowered or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Predation from coyotes may further suppress these populations (Ballard et al. 2001).
Response Variable	Response variables may include reduction of prey taken by coyotes, removal of a coyote that was documented consuming the concerned big game species, or a reduction in coyote sign. Because of the quick nature of the project, there may be times when no response variable will be measured.
Project Goal	Conduct focused coyote removal to protect game species.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced mule deer and other big game populations below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 38 pending available funding.
Methods	USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors, working under direction of NDOW, will use foothold traps, snares, fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters for aerial gunning, calling and gunning from the ground to remove coyotes in sensitive areas during certain times of the year. Work will be implemented when

	indices levels are reached, these include low annual adult survival rates, poor fall young:female ratios, poor spring young:female ratios, and low adult female annual survival rates (table 3). Depending on the indices identified, standard to intermediate levels of monitoring will be implemented to determine the need for or effect of predator removal. These additional monitoring efforts may be conducted by NDOW employees, USDA Wildlife Services, or private contractors.
Anticipated Results	1. Removal of coyotes in winter range and fawning and lambing areas in certain situations will provide a valuable tool for managers. 2. Implementation will occur during times and locations where sensitive game species are adversely affected (e.g., local decline, reduced recruitment) based on the best available biological information.
Staff Comment	Proactive coyote removal to assist struggling pronghorn populations is well documented within the scientific literature.
Project Direction	Fund Project 38.

Table 3. Indices used to initiate predator removal.

Species	Annual Adult Survival Rates	Fall Young: Female Ratios	Spring Young: Female Ratios	Adult Female Annual Survival Rates
California Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--
Desert Bighorn Sheep	< 90%	< 30:100	--	--
Mule Deer	--	--	< 35:100	< 80%
Pronghorn	< 90%	< 40:100	--	--

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000

Project 40: Coyote and Mountain Lion Removal to Complement Multi-faceted Management in Eureka County

Justification	Continuing predator removal will complement previous coyote removal, feral horse removal, and habitat restoration to benefit mule deer populations.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Coyote, Greater Sage-grouse, mule deer, mountain lion
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	MA 14
Limiting Factor Statement	Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for mule deer and other big game, their populations can be reduced or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat, these populations can be suppressed by predation from coyotes (Ballard et al. 2001).
Response Variable	The response variable will be the fawn to doe ratios in the Diamond Mountains. This ratio will be observed throughout the life of the project. The project will be altered or discontinued after three consecutive years of observed spring fawn:adult ratios averaging 50:100 or higher.
Project Goal	To increase mule deer and Greater Sage-grouse populations by removing coyotes and mountain lions.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, fawning, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced mule deer below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 40 until mule deer populations reach levels defined in the annual Predator Plan.
Methods	USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors working under direction of NDOW and Eureka County, will use foothold traps, snares, fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters for aerial gunning, and calling and gunning from the ground to remove coyotes in sensitive areas during certain times of the year.
Anticipated Result	Coyote removal will complement feral horse removal already conducted by the BLM, habitat improvement conducted by Eureka County, private coyote removal funded by Eureka County, and Wildlife Service coyote removal funded through Wildlife Heritage funds in 2011 and 2012.

Staff Comment	The Department supports multi-faceted management projects such as Project 40.
Project Direction	Fund Project 40. Evaluate efficacy of Project 40 annually.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$150,000	N/A	\$150,000

Project 41: Increasing Understanding of Common Raven Densities and Space Use in Nevada

Justification	Common ravens are the primary predator of Greater Sage-grouse nests and chicks (Coates and Delehanty 2010). Their populations have increased dramatically in Nevada, primarily due to human subsidies (Boarman 1993, Sauer et al. 2011). Understanding common raven density, distribution, and subsidy use will allow for intelligent management decisions to be made to reduce or alter common raven densities in Nevada. These efforts are intended to benefit Greater Sage-grouse, though desert tortoise may also benefit from this project.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimentation
Potentially Affected Species	Greater Sage-grouse, common raven, desert tortoise
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for Greater Sage-grouse, their populations can be suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Increases in predator numbers can also cause decreases in Greater Sage-grouse populations; common raven abundance has increased throughout their native ranges, with increases as much as 1,500% in some areas (Boarman 1993, Coates et al. 2007, Sauer et al. 2011). Under these circumstances, common raven predation can have a negative influence of Greater Sage-grouse nesting success, recruitment, and population trend (Coates and Delehanty 2010). Common raven predation has also been documented to negatively impact desert tortoise populations (Boarman 1993, Kristan and Boarman 2003)
Response Variable	No response variable will be collected, this is an experimentation project.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase understanding of common raven density, distribution, and subsidy use to maximize common raven management effectiveness. 2. Develop a protocol to estimate common raven populations in Greater Sage-grouse habitat and monitor these populations. 3. Increase the understanding of how human subsidies affect common raven movements and space use, particularly near Greater Sage-grouse leks and nesting areas. 4. Develop a resource selection function model to identify landscape features that influence common raven abundance and that may be used in conjunction with Greater Sage-grouse priority habitat maps to locate sites where lethal treatments of common ravens may be applied with the greatest efficacy and efficiency.

Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought throughout Nevada has reduced herbaceous cover, along with nesting and brood rearing habitat; these impacts are exacerbated through wildfire and the invasion of cheatgrass. Transmission lines, substations, and nearby agriculture production also threaten Greater Sage-grouse habitat.
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	Common raven predation may be the greatest limiting factor in Greater sage-grouse nest success, NDOW supports continuing Project 41.
Methods	<p><i>Population monitoring and space use</i> Point counts for common ravens will be conducted from March through July of each year, which corresponds with Greater Sage-grouse nesting and brood-rearing season. Surveys will be similar to Ralph et al. (1995): lasting 10 minutes; conducted between sunrise and 1400; conducted under favorable weather conditions; and stratified randomly across study areas (Luginbuhl et al. 2001, Coates et al. 2014). ARGOS backpack transmitters will be deployed to monitor common raven space use and space use.</p> <p><i>Development of Resource Selection Function (RSF)</i> An RSF will be developed using data on landscape features collected in habitats with varying observed abundance indices for common ravens. The abundance indices collected will include common raven point count and Greater Sage-grouse point counts. The landscape features that will be entered into the model will include 1 meter resolution digital elevation models and fire regime. The RSF for common ravens will be overlaid on polygons that feature Greater Sage-grouse priority habitats.</p> <p>Identifying habitats likely to support high numbers of common ravens where Greater Sage-grouse conservation is of highest priority will provide future locations where common raven removal may be warranted, land use activities may be modified, or more intensive Greater Sage-grouse monitoring may be focused.</p> <p><i>Utility line surveys</i> Various utility lines will be identified in and near Greater Sage-grouse habitat from February until June of each year, which corresponds with common raven nesting and brood rearing. Surveys will be conducted from OHV vehicles, variables including utility pole type, cross arm type, utility pole height, insulator position, perch deterrent effectiveness, and proximity to Greater Sage-grouse habitat will be recorded.</p>
Anticipated Results	1. Develop a protocol to estimate common raven populations in Greater Sage-grouse habitat and monitor these populations.

	<p>2. Increase the understanding of common raven density and distribution in the state of Nevada, and how human subsidies increase common raven density and distribution.</p> <p>3. Determine what common raven removal location will provide the greatest benefit to Greater Sage-grouse. Determine what time of the year is the optimal time to conduct common raven removal to optimize benefit to Greater Sage-grouse.</p>
Staff Comment	<p>Project 41 has resulted in on of the largest GPS location datasets for common ravens in history. It has also resulted in several peer-reviewed publications. The most recent list of these accomplishments may be found in the Appendix of the FY 2022 Predator Report.</p> <p>This project will develop a statewide population estimate for ravens, common raven growth rate, a common raven density map, detailed analysis of common raven movement and space use, and information necessary to increase the USFWS depredation permit.</p>
Project Direction	Fund Project 41.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$75,000	\$225,000	\$300,000

Project 42: Assessing Mountain Lion Harvest in Nevada

Justification	Nevada Department of Wildlife has a yearlong mountain lion hunting season limited by harvest quotas, although mountain lions are also lethally removed for livestock depredation and to limit predation on specific wildlife populations. Statewide annual adult female harvest is $\leq 35\%$, which indicates that statewide harvests are unlikely to be reducing statewide mountain lion population abundance (Anderson and Lindzey 2005). Nevertheless, regional area harvests may be greater and can be more difficult to assess the effects due to small sample sizes. Conversely, current NDOW mountain lion removal projects may not be sufficiently intensive to reduce local mountain lion populations to attain reduced predation on prey populations. Improved understanding of mountain lion population dynamics in Nevada would allow for better informed management.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimentation
Potentially Affected Species	Mountain lion, mule deer, bighorn sheep, elk
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Habitat and prey availability likely limit mountain lion populations in the state of Nevada.
Response Variable	No response variable will be collected, this is an experimentation project.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a population model that incorporates NDOW mountain lion harvest data to predict the number of mountain lions that must be removed to reach desired goals in mountain lion removal projects. 2. Identify limitations and gaps in the existing demographic data for mountain lions that precludes a more complete understanding of mountain lion population dynamics and limits NDOW's management ability with the greatest efficacy and efficiency. 3. Create a user-friendly model interface for Department employees to model local populations and improve understanding. 4. Draft and ideally publish work in a peer-reviewed manuscript.
Habitat Conditions	This work would not be conducted in the field but would rely on statewide harvest data collected over time to include periods of normal and less-than-normal precipitation. Due to the span of the state data collection, habitat during the period of inference would also span a wide variety of conditions and vegetative communities.

Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	Findings indicate Nevada has a stable mountain lion population.
Methods	A private contractor will use existing mountain lion harvest data collected by NDOW biologists to develop a harvest model. The modeling approach will involve Integrated Population Modeling (IPM) which brings together different sources of data to model wildlife population dynamics (Abadi et al. 2010, Fieberg et al. 2010). With IPM, generally a joint analysis is conducted in which population abundance is estimated from survey or other count data, and demographic parameters are estimated from data from marked individuals (Chandler and Clark 2014). Age-at-harvest data can be used in combination with other data, such as telemetry, mark-recapture, food availability, and home range size to allow for improved modeling of abundance and population dynamics relative to using harvest data alone (Fieberg et al. 2010). Depending on available data, the contractor will build a count-based or structured demographic model (Morris and Doak 2002) for mountain lions in Nevada. The model (s) will provide estimates of population growth, age and sex structure, and population abundance relative to different levels of harvest.
Anticipated Results	1. Estimate statewide population dynamics, age structure, and sex structure of mountain lions in the state of Nevada with existing NDOW data. 2. Recommend additional data that could be collected to improve the model and reduce uncertainty in model results in the future.
Staff Comment	Building an Integrated Population Model for mountain lions will allow the Department to manage mountain lions on a finer scale.
Project Direction	Fund Project 42.

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000

Project 43: Mesopredator removal to protect waterfowl, turkeys, and pheasants on Wildlife Management Areas

Justification	Mesopredators including coyotes, striped skunks, and raccoons often consume waterfowl, pheasant, and turkey eggs. Consuming these eggs may limit fowl species population growth and could be causing a decline on Overton and Mason Valley Wildlife Management Areas.
Project Manager	Isaac Metcalf and Bennie Vann, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Implementation
Potentially Affected Species	Assorted waterfowl, turkey, pheasant, coyote, striped skunk, raccoon
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Overton and Mason Valley Wildlife Management Areas
Limiting Factor Statement	Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for waterfowl, turkeys, and pheasants, their populations can be lowed or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat.
Response Variable	The response variable for waterfowl, turkeys, and pheasants will be the number of females with clutches, and the number of young per clutch.
Project Goals	To increase clutch size and survival of waterfowl, turkeys, and pheasants on Overton and Mason Valley WMAs.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought throughout Nevada has reduced herbaceous cover, nesting, and browsing habitat.
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW recommends continuing project 43 pending funding availability.
Methods	USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors working under direction of NDOW, will use foothold traps, snares, calling and gunning from the ground to remove coyotes, striped skunks, and raccoons during waterfowl, turkey, and pheasant nesting seasons.
Anticipated Results	1. Increase the number of female turkeys, waterfowl, and pheasants that successful raise clutches. 2. Increase the number female turkeys, waterfowl, and pheasants that have clutches.

	<p>This project will be cancelled or altered once there are two consecutive three-year averages where:</p> <p>The average hen turkey successfully raises 3 poults. Area biologists believe pheasants no longer need predator removal.</p>
Staff Comment	Area managers have noticed a substantial increase in waterfowl nest success and an increase in clutch size since the inception of project 43.
Project Direction	Fund Project 43.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$50,000	N/A	\$50,000

Project 44: Lethal Removal and Monitoring of Mountain Lions in Area 24

Justification	The local desert bighorn sheep population has been underperforming in the Delamar Mountains since the initial reintroduction in 1996 (M. Cox, <i>personal communication</i>). Mountain lions may be a contributing factor to this underperformance.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimental Management
Potentially Affected Species	Mountain lion, bighorn sheep
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Areas 23 and 24
Limiting Factor Statement	Mountain lions are known predators of bighorn sheep and other big game species (Rominger et al. 2004). Though predation is a naturally occurring phenomenon for bighorn sheep and other big game, their populations can be lowered or suppressed by abiotic factors such as dry climate and loss of quality habitat. Mitigating abiotic factors by removing predators is imperative for some bighorn sheep populations to stabilize (Rominger 2007).
Response Variable	Response variables may include reduction of prey taken by mountain lions, removal of a mountain lion that was documented consuming the concerned big game species, or a reduction in mountain lion sign. Because of the quick nature of the project, there may be times when no response variable will be measured.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove specific, problematic mountain lions to benefit desert bighorn sheep 2. Deploy and maintain up to 20 GPS collars on mountain lions in proximity area to increase understanding of mountain lion diet, space use, and movement.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced bighorn sheep and other big game populations below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW supports continuing Project 44 until the local bighorn sheep populations reach viability as defined in the annual Predator Plan. NDOW also supports reactive removal of offending mountain lions while learning more about local mountain lion diet. NDOW appreciates its ongoing collaboration with the US Geological Survey and Utah State University.
Methods	Mountain lions consuming bighorn sheep will be reactively removed; one bighorn sheep killed and that lion will be removed.

	Mountain lions will be captured with the use of hounds and/or foot snares. Captured mountain lions will be chemically immobilized and marked with a GPS collar.
Anticipated Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove any offending mountain lion known to be consuming bighorn sheep. 2. Increase understanding of mountain lion movements, space use, and diet within the proximity area. 3. Increase local bighorn sheep adult annual survival rates and fall young:female ratios. 4. Increase understanding of mountain lion, feral horse, and mule deer interactions.
Staff Comment	Determining mountain lion prey selection prior to lethal removal allows the Department to make more informed decisions on which mountain lion to remove. The Delamar based lions are consuming a substantial number of feral horses. The Department will increase our understanding of the effect mountain lions can have on feral horse populations.
Project Direction	NDOW supports continuing Project 44 until the local bighorn sheep populations reach viability as defined in the annual Predator Plan. NDOW also supports reactive removal of offending mountain lions while learning more about local mountain lion diet. NDOW supports seeking outside collaboration and funding sources.

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ 125,000	N/A	\$ 125,000

Project 45: Passive Survey Estimate of Black Bears in Nevada

Justification	Black bears are expanding numerically and geographically, and in so doing they are recolonizing historic ranges in Nevada. It is imperative the Department be able to estimate Nevada's black bear population and monitor growth and change. Being able to do so passively will ensure the Department can reach these objectives safely and cost efficiently.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimentation
Potentially Affected Species	Black bear
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Units 014, 015, 021, 192, 194, 195, 196, 201, 202, 203, 204, 291
Limiting Factor Statement	Black bears have recently expanded their distribution in western Nevada to include historical bear habitat in desert mountain ranges east of the Sierra Nevada and Carson Front (Beckmann and Berger 2003, Lackey et al. 2013). Nevada black bears are an extension of a California based metapopulation (Malaney et al. 2017), monitoring this rewilding is important for proper management.
Response Variable	No response variable will be collected, this is an experimentation project.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passively estimate the abundance of black bears in Nevada. 2. Predict the density and occupancy of black bears in Nevada. 3. Continue as a portion of project 46.
Habitat Conditions	The study area consists of mountain ranges and associated basins that are characterized by steep topography with high granite peaks and deep canyons. Mountain ranges are separated by desert basins that range from 15–64 km across (Grayson 1993). These basins are often large expanses of unsuitable habitat (e.g., large areas of sagebrush) that bears and mountain lions do not use as primary habitat.
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NDOW also recommends continuing Project 45 as a monitoring project.

Methods	In a collaboration with Oxford and University of Montana, trail cameras will be maintained on a grid to determine black bear density. Existing black bear GPS data will be incorporated into models. These data will ultimately result in a population estimate.
Anticipated Results	1. A statewide black bear population estimate. 2. An estimate of black bear occupancy, density, and abundance based on hair snares and trail cameras. 3. Guidance to the Department on which methods will be best suited for sustained population estimation.
Staff Comment	Project 45 will allow the Department to make more informed decisions on statewide black bear management, including the black bear hunt seasons and harvest limits.
Project Direction	Fund Project 45.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000

Project 46: Investigating Potential Limiting Factors Impacting Mule Deer in Northwest Nevada

Justification	Recent decades have seen Northwest Nevada’s mule deer herds decline, resulting in fewer tags issued and low-quality hunt experiences. Several factors may be contributing, including predation, drought, wildland fire, invasive plant species, and competition from feral horses. A combination of these factors are likely at play, it is the Department’s desire to better understand the situation.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimental Management
Potentially Affected Species	Mule deer, bighorn sheep, pronghorn, coyote, mountain lion, feral horse
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Units 021, 011, 012, 013, 014, 015, 032, 033, 034
Limiting Factor Statement	Predation, drought, fire, degraded habitat, and competition from feral horses may all be limiting factors.
Response Variable	For the first phase of this project, no treatment is expected, therefore no response variable will be collected.
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accurately estimate mountain lion, feral horse, mule deer and/or pronghorn densities in specified areas. 2. Increase understanding of how mountain lion, feral horse, mule deer and/or pronghorn densities changes throughout the course of a year. 3. Deploy GPS transmitters on mountain lions within the study site, including the Sheldon NWR.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, fawning or lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced mule deer and other big game populations below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).

Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	Project 46 has the potential to greatly increase the understanding of flora and fauna communities in northwest Nevada.
Methods	In a collaboration with outside researchers, trail camera grids will be placed in strategic locations to determine densities of both predators and prey species. The locations of these camera grids will be determined by using area biologist and input, existing mule deer GPS data, BLM feral horse estimates, and other forms of institutional knowledge.
Anticipated Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A better understanding of predator and prey densities across Northwest Nevada. 2. Specific management recommendations.
Staff Comment	Project 46 should be considered the analysis of a “check engine” light in Northwest Nevada. Upon completion the Department will have a better understanding of predator and prey densities in Northwest Nevada.
Project Direction	Fund Project 46 through FY 2027. Seek outside funding opportunities such as Heritage Grant funds.

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$40,000	\$120,000	\$160,000

Project 47: Mule Deer Enhancement Program Mule Deer Protection- Mountain Lions and Coyotes

Justification	Many of the projects proposed by MDEP subcommittees are for areas of low densities of mule deer or where populations have trended downward and/or have remained suppressed for extended periods of time.
Project Manager	Pat Jackson, Nevada Department of Wildlife
Project Type	Experimental Management
Potentially Affected Species	Mule deer, coyote, mountain lion
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Predation, drought, fire, degraded habitat, and competition from feral horses may all be limiting factors.
Response Variable	To Be Determined
Project Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address MDEP committee and sportsmen concerns. 2. Increase mule deer population numbers or minimize loss to mule deer populations. 3. Increase understanding of predator removal on mule deer populations.
Habitat Conditions	Persistent drought combined with fires and human disturbances throughout Nevada have reduced herbaceous cover, fawning or lambing, and browsing habitat. These effects may have reduced mule deer and other big game populations below carrying capacity. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below carrying capacity (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2022 Predator Report	NA
Methods	Struggling mule deer populations will be identified by local mule deer enhancement program committees. Working with the mule deer oversight

	<p>committee, NDOW staff, and outside collaborators, predation as a limiting factor will be assessed. If predation is determined to be a likely limiting factor, one of two steps may be taken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address predation through projects 37 or 38. 2. Working with an outside collaborator, conduct experimental management to address predation and create a model to inform the department when predator removal will and will not benefit mule deer populations.
Anticipated Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More mule deer 2. Healthier mule deer populations 3. A model to aid the Department in deciding when to and not to conduct predator control for the benefit of mule deer.
Staff Comment	NA
Project Direction	Fund Project 47

Budget

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$TBD	\$ TBD	\$ TBD

Overall FY 2024 Budget

Project	Predator Fee	PR Funds	Total
Department of Agriculture Administrative Support Transfer ^a	\$14,000	N/A	\$14,000
Project 21: Greater Sage-Grouse Protection (Common Raven Removal)	\$175,000	N/A	\$175,000
Project 22-01: Mountain Lion Removal to Protect California Bighorn Sheep	\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000
Project 22-074: Monitor Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep for Mountain Lion Predation	\$20,000	N/A	\$20,000
Project 37: Big Game Protection-Mountain Lions	\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000
Project 38: Big Game Protection-Coyotes	\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000
Project 40: Coyote and Mountain Lion Removal to Complement Multi-faceted Management in Eureka County	\$150,000	N/A	\$150,000
Project 41: Increasing Understanding of Common Raven Densities and Space Use in Nevada	\$75,000	\$225,000	\$300,000
Project 42: Assessing Mountain Lion Harvest in Nevada	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
Project 43: Mesopredator Removal to Protect Waterfowl, Turkeys, and Pheasants on Wildlife Management Areas	\$50,000	N/A	\$50,000
Project 44: Lethal Removal and Monitoring of Mountain Lions in Area 24	\$125,000	N/A	\$125,000
Project 45: Passive Survey Estimate of Black Bears in Nevada	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
Project 46: Investigating Potential Limiting Factors Impacting Mule Deer in Northwest Nevada	\$40,000	\$120,000	\$160,000
Project 47: Mule Deer Enhancement Program Mule Deer Protection and Assessment	TBD	TBD	TBD
Total^b	\$959,000	\$375,000	\$1,334,000

^a This transfer of \$3 predator fees for administrative support to the Department of Agriculture partially funds state personnel that conduct work for the benefit of wildlife at the direction of USDA Wildlife Services (e.g., mountain lion removal to benefit wildlife).

^b The projects that contain lethal removal as a primary aspect, making them ineligible for Federal Aid funding.

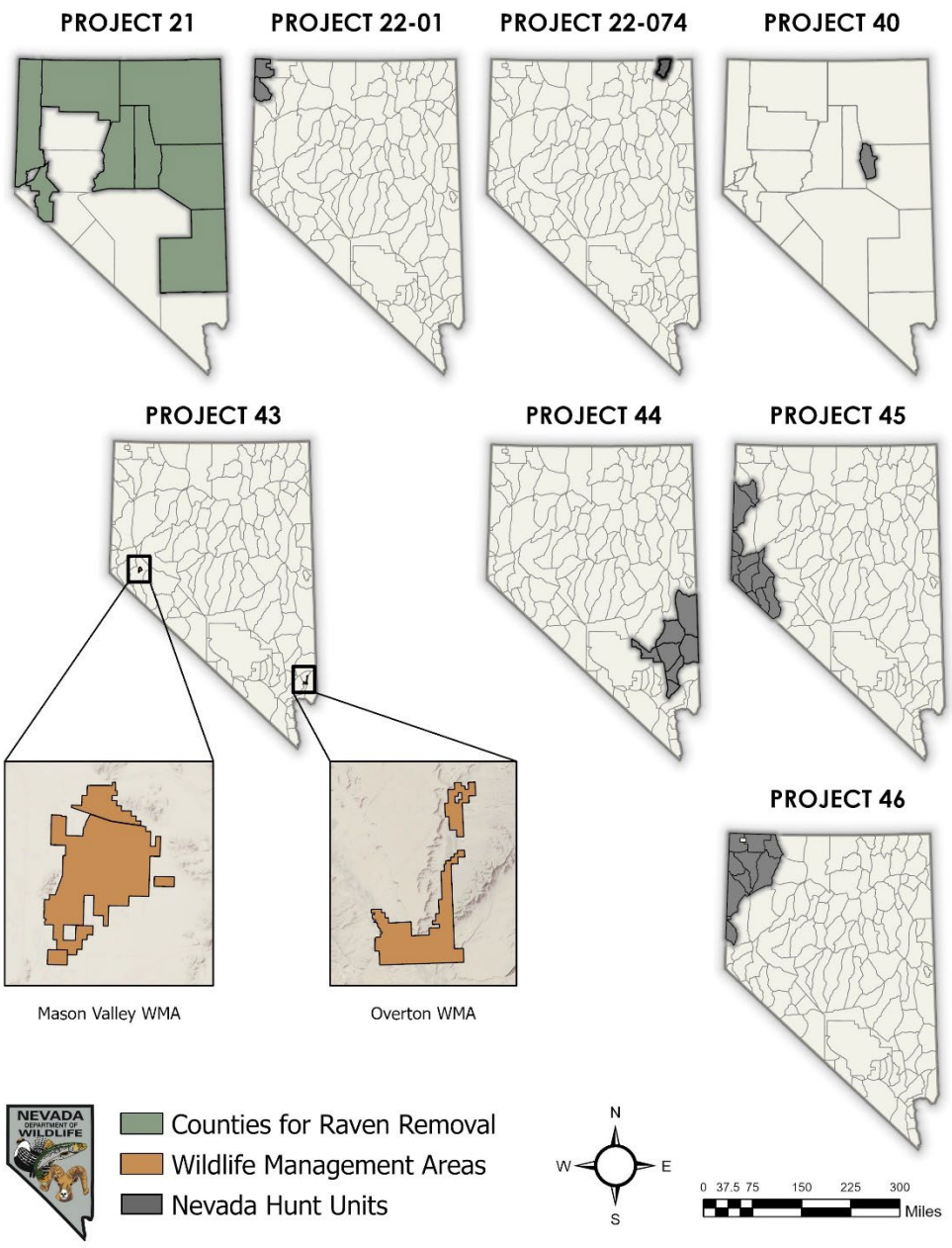
Expected Revenues and Beginning Balance of \$3 Predator Fee

	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Estimated
Beginning balance	\$363,670	\$622,969	\$647,482	\$399,495
Revenues	\$858,601	\$911,013	\$911,013	\$911,013
Plan Budget	\$854,000	\$886,500	\$1,159,000	\$959,000
Expenditures	\$599,299	\$886,500	\$1,159,000	\$959,000
Ending balance	\$622,969	\$647,482	\$399,495	\$351,508

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**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

Director's Office

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

MEMORANDUM

DECEMBER 19, 2022

To: 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 Policies**

Purpose: The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee will be reviewing all Commission Policies throughout the next year. They will be forwarded to the Commission for approval after Committee review.

Summary

The policies to be reviewed and amended include Commission Policy 11, 23, 61 and 62.

Brief Explanation of Proposed Policies

*The formatting of every policy will be updated, as they are passed, so that it is consistent in each policy.

The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed Commission Policy 11 in June and again in November. The policy was heard by the Commission for the first time at the November Commission Meeting. It was updated to reflect the selection for Heritage Grants. This policy will now be considered for a second reading by the Commission.

The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed Commission Policy 23 at their March 2022 and November 2022 meetings. The policy was simplified and removed repetitive language. One meeting of the year was removed, taking the number of Predator Plan Readings from eight meetings per year to seven. The policy will now be considered for a second reading by the Commission.

The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed Commission Policy 61 at their April 2022 meeting. The Commission heard the policy for the first time at the August 2022 meeting and second time at the November meeting. The policy was simplified and removed repetitive language. The policy will now be considered for a third reading by the Commission.

The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed Commission Policy 62 at their November 2022 meeting. The Commission heard the policy for the first time at their November 2022 meeting. The policy was simplified and removed repetitive. The Administrative Policies, Regulations and Procedures (APRP) Committee reviewed

Recommendation

Adopt

Commission Policy 11
Commission Policy 23
Commission Policy 61
Commission Policy 62

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 11

Number: P-11
Title: Wildlife Heritage Grants
References: NRS 502.3575, NAC 501.300-340
Effective Date: July 1, 2012
Amended Date: September 23, 2016,
Review Date: 2022

PURPOSE

To inform the public and guide the Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) in actions relating to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners' (the Commission) review and approval of expenditures from the Wildlife Heritage Account in accordance with NRS 501.3575.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) to make awards from the Wildlife Heritage Account to project proposals in conformance with NAC 501.300-340. Furthermore, all awards shall be made in the form of grant awards as prescribed by the Department's Heritage Program Grant Manual. The Department will rank and score project proposals based on project viability and resource enhancement potential. As a condition for accepting any award, project proponents must agree to the terms and conditions of the Heritage Program Grant Manual.

PROCEDURE

The Department shall administer the Heritage Program Grant Manual and ensure its compliance with all applicable state rules and regulations. Furthermore, the Manual shall be posted on the Department's website as part of the Wildlife Heritage Program and shall otherwise be made available for public inspection.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, or superseded by the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION, XX, MONTH, 2023 .

Tommy Caviglia, Chairman
Board of Wildlife Commissioners

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROGRAM

GRANT MANUAL



Administered by the
Nevada Department of Wildlife



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STATE OF NEVADA

**BOARD OF WILDLIFE
COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 11

Number: P-11

Title: Wildlife Heritage Grants

References: NRS 502.3575,
NAC 501.300-340

Effective Date: July 1, 2012

Amended Date: September 23, 2016

PURPOSE

To inform the public and guide the Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) in actions relating to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners' [\(the commission\)](#) review and approval of expenditures from the Wildlife Heritage Account in accordance with NRS 501.3575.

POLICY

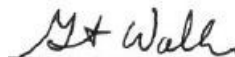
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The Department shall administer the Heritage Program Grant Manual and ensure its compliance with all applicable state rules and regulations. Furthermore, the Manual shall be posted on the Department's website as part of the Wildlife Heritage Program and shall otherwise be made available for public inspection.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, or superseded by the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION,
September 23, 2016.



Grant Wallace, Chairman Board of Wildlife
Commissioners

SECTION I: WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW



History and Legislation

In 1994, the Nevada Department of Wildlife's (Department's) Director, along with the Idea Team, put together the Wildlife Heritage Account concept. The intent was to gather funds from various sources and create a Grant program for projects, not covered by license dollars, which would benefit wildlife in Nevada. The idea was blessed by the County Game Boards (now referred to as County Advisory Boards for Managing Wildlife or CABMWs) and supported by Governor Bob Miller. It was formalized and submitted to the Nevada Legislature. In 1996, NRS 501.3575 made it official. The amount allowed for granting that year was \$16,539. Due to the generosity of its participants over the years, the account has now grown to over \$9 million. For State fiscal year (SFY) [2022-2023](#) a record amount of Wildlife Heritage funds in the amount of [\\$1,513,377.69](#) ~~\$1,452,971~~ were awarded to new projects.

Related rules and regulations have evolved since its inception, but the original concept remains the same: to award grant money to projects *“for the protection, propagation, restoration, transplantation, introduction, and management of any game fish, game mammal, game bird or fur-bearing mammal and the management and control of predatory wildlife in this state.”* (NRS 501.3575)

Examples of some of the various projects that have been funded include:

- big game capture, transplant, and disease monitoring
- wildfire-related habitat restoration
- development and maintenance of water guzzlers
- habitat enhancement that benefits a wide variety of game and non-game wildlife species
- Operation Game Thief educational materials
- upland game bird population studies
- Sage grouse and bighorn sheep genetics studies
- other scientific data collection and analysis, including the purchase and deployment of GPS collars for tracking the movement of wildlife
- protection and restoration of springs and riparian corridors
- providing the state match portion of the funding used to purchase two helicopters

The Wildlife Heritage Program is authorized by NRS 501.3575 and is administered by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners and the Wildlife Heritage Committee, which is composed of five Wildlife Commissioners and two at-large members that are Chairmen and/or members of CABMWs. Department employees, other agencies, sportsmen’s groups, other non-profit organizations and interested individuals are encouraged to apply for Heritage grant dollars.

Funding

The Wildlife Heritage Account obtains funds from the receipts of auctions of special hunting tags, and from gifts of money made by any group or individuals.

The major funding source for the program is the Heritage Tag program. Special tags offering a unique hunting opportunity are issued to Commission-approved vendors for auction during fundraising events. Tags are issued for game animals such as mule deer, antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and wild turkey. NRS 502.250 authorizes the Wildlife Commission to designate the number of Wildlife Heritage game tags to be auctioned each year. The average amount received during auctions for a Heritage Tag has been around \$50,000, with some desirable elk and bighorn sheep tags going for as ~~much as more than \$100~~ 200,000 and \$175,000 ~~each~~ respectively.

The Heritage Fund also gets funding from the Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) program. Conducted pursuant to NRS 502.250, it is a voluntary and optional participation program that offers special hunting opportunities to hunters by offering a limited number of statewide big game tags. Those who are unsuccessful in obtaining a tag in the regular drawing can apply to be involved in the special PIW tag drawing for the amount of \$10. Funds donated through the PIW program are placed in the Wildlife Heritage Account.

Another funding source is the Silver State Tag, a program that started in 2011 and is being touted as the “Silver State Hunt of a lifetime.” It is similar to the Heritage Tag but without the auction or auction prices. Applicants pay a nonrefundable fee of \$25 to \$30, depending on species, to be submitted into the draw. The Silver State Tag draw is open to both resident and non-resident hunters who are eligible to hunt big game.

The Heritage Project Year runs on the same year as the State of Nevada fiscal year, July 1 through June 30. The amount of funds available for granting to approved projects vary from year to year due to the amount of funds deposited each year and the interest earned on the account annually. NRS 501.3575 states, “the Department may annually expend from the Wildlife Heritage Account an amount of money not greater than 75 percent of the money deposited in the Account during the previous year and the total amount of interest earned on the money in the Account during the previous year. In addition, the Department may, at any time, expend from the Account any portion of the amount of money in the Account which exceeds \$5,000,000.” In the event that the annual authorized funding allowed per fiscal year is not utilized for projects, the unused portion will revert to the principal of the account.

Example:

SFY 2000 total deposits \$100,000 x .75 = \$75,000
Total Interest Earned 5,000
Amount available for SFY 2001 Projects \$80,000

The annual amount of funds awarded from the Wildlife Heritage Account since 2007 is summarized below.

State Fiscal Year	Heritage Funds Awarded
2007	\$580,836
2008	\$678,319
2009	\$658,640
2010	\$631,379
2011	\$447,318
2012	\$403,078
2013	\$525,796
2014	\$477,741
2015	\$558,628
2016	\$708,029
2017	\$688,231
2018	\$727,672
2019	\$887,474
2020	\$979,703
2021	\$1,268,277
2022	\$1,452,971
<u>2023</u>	<u>\$1,513,377.69</u>

The total available funding for Heritage projects during the upcoming State fiscal year is calculated and made public during the February Wildlife Commission meeting. Additional information on annual funding can be obtained by visiting the Heritage Program’s web page at <https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/>.

NRS 501.3575 was recently updated in 2021, which includes the following, “In addition, the Department may, at any time, expend from the Account any portion of the amount of money in the Account which exceeds \$5,000,000.” At the June 24, 2022 Heritage Committee Meeting, the committee recommended “to cap principal projects at 50% of the amount of available funds per year and send to the APRP committee for discussion.”

In order to properly manage and award Heritage funds, the Board of Wildlife Commissioners has established a project proposal (or application) submittal and review process. The process consists of submissions of project proposals, proposal reviews and ranking by the Department, reviews by the Wildlife Heritage Committee of the Commission, and final approval/denial of the proposals by the full Wildlife Commission. Additional information regarding this process is found in the sections below. The program’s annual proposal timeline is summarized below.

Annual Wildlife Heritage Proposal Timeline

- November 1 A funding availability notice and web link to the Heritage project proposal form and related guidelines is emailed to the non-profit organizations, sportsmen groups, interested individuals, Department employees, and others on the Department’s Heritage Program email list.

- January 1 to Project proposals can be submitted as early as January and no later than
March 1 March 1. They are then reviewed by Department staff and assembled for
 Commission, Committee and CABMW review.

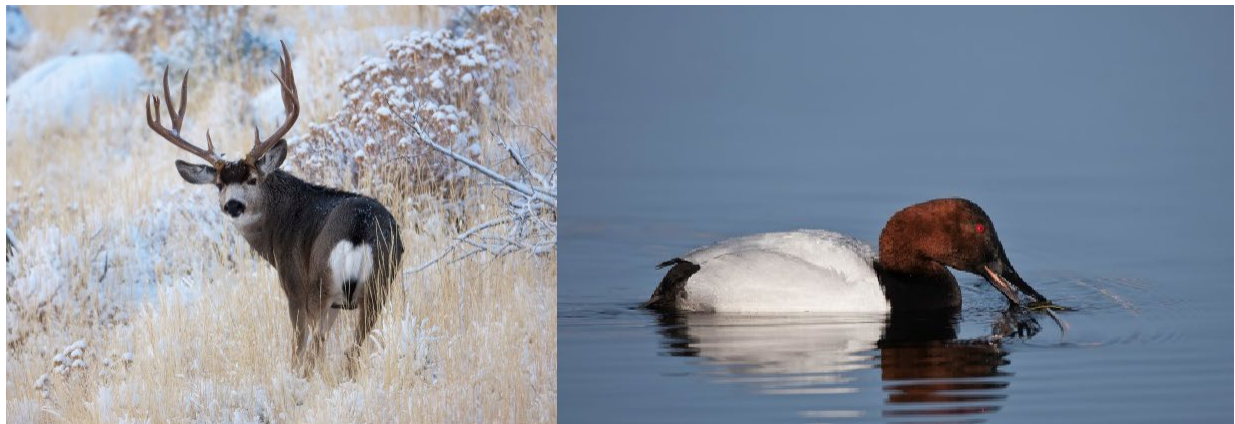
April 15 A package of the new project proposals, program financial information, and project completion and status reports is sent to the Committee, Commission, and each CABMW for review.

May During their May meeting, the Wildlife Heritage Committee reviews and comments on the new project proposals and develops preliminary recommendations regarding project approvals and funding allocations. These preliminary recommendations are provided to the Commission at their May meeting, which is usually held the next day. Authors of the project proposals are encouraged to attend the May Committee meeting so they can provide a brief overview of their project and be available to answer questions.

June The Wildlife Heritage Committee usually meets again the night before, or the morning of, the first day of the June Commissioners meeting. At this meeting, the Committee addresses extension requests from the managers of existing Heritage projects, considers the reallocation of funds from projects that do not need all of their awarded funds (if any), and may make adjustments to their new project funding recommendations for the Commission. The Commission then reviews the recommendations of the Committee at their June meeting and formally acts on each of the recommendations. All parties that have submitted project proposals will be notified of the Commission's decisions. Successful parties are required to complete and enter into a Heritage Program Grant Agreement with the assistance of Department staff.

Late June to Early July The Department's management approves the Heritage Program Grant Agreements for new projects and, absent any unforeseen events, project work can commence in July.

In an effort to meet generally accepted accounting practices, an organization or individual receiving Heritage funding must comply with provisions Nevada's State Administrative Manual, which is a compilation of policy statements concerning internal operations of State government.



SECTION II: ELIGIBILITY

Heritage conservation project proposals will be accepted from Department employees, CABMWs, other agencies, sportsmen groups and other non-profit organizations, and private individuals. The Wildlife Heritage Account Project Proposal Form and related guidelines may be downloaded from the Wildlife Heritage Program's web page at:

<https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/>

~~All proposals must be submitted on an approved Wildlife Heritage Project Proposal form. If additional space is required for any information, additional pages may be attached. Those submitting requests are encouraged to provide as much information as possible so that their project will receive appropriate consideration.~~

~~Funding priority will be given to applicants who have obtained outside funding sources as partial support for the project. Additional priority will be given for projects of habitat restoration and improvement of a long term or permanent nature and projects that demonstrate in writing a need for money to fund the project. It is important that all of a project's funding sources are appropriately coordinated and documented. Additional information concerning the criteria the Department uses while reviewing Heritage proposals is provided in Section IV below.~~

SECTION III: APPLICATION PROCESS

1. In order to apply for Heritage account funds, ~~each~~ [NDOW](#) applicants must [submit a proposal through the Habitat Conservation Framework Project Portal \(HCFPP\)](#). [For non-NDOW applicants, applications can be submitted complete on an the approved Wildlife Heritage Project Proposal Form.](#) Forms, [which](#) can be found on the Heritage Program's web page cited above or by contacting the Department. Those submitting proposals are encouraged to provide as much information as possible so that their project will receive appropriate consideration by the Commission. If additional space is required for any information, additional pages may be attached to the application [or uploaded in the "Documents" section of the HCFPP](#).
2. [NDOW applicants submitting projects through the HCFPP will need to provide the following:](#)
 - [Project Overview – Project Name, Project Manager, Start and Finish Date, NEPA Clearance Information, Project Schedule, General Location, Project Partners and Organizations](#)
 - [Project Details – Priority Wildlife Resources, Project Activities, Project Rationale, Monitoring Plan](#)
 - [Funding – Funding Sources \(cash, donations, volunteer match, etc.\) and allocations and Budget Narrative – Note that Indirect Cost cannot be charged to Heritage Funds. Please list all funding sources used to complete the project.](#)
 - [Project Location – Spatially defined project location and treatments](#)
 - [Actions - \(Conifer Removal, Seeding, etc.\)](#)
 - [Habitat/Threats](#)
 - [Documents – opportunity to upload documents](#)

3. Applicants submitting an application on an approved Wildlife Heritage Project Proposal form will need to provide similar information, including the following:

- All projects that have a specific location/area must submit a location map. The proposal may be rejected if staff/and or the Commission cannot locate the project area with the information provided.
 - More than one map may be submitted if necessary and additional information may be provided for clarification. The location map must define the location explicitly. Include any street, access roads, trails, or other terms of locations (Section, Township, and Range). The map must include the title of the project, a scale of the map, the date the map was created or modified and a north arrow.
 - A legal description of the area or property on which the proposed project is to be located is required. The legal description should include the address of the property or location of the project area, any access roads, township, range and section. The proposal may be rejected if the Committee and/or the Commission cannot locate the project proposal area with the information provided.
 - A site development plan should also be submitted if one is associated with the proposed project. This should be as specific as possible and include any information relative to planting, seeding or building or other structure construction.
 - A breakdown of the estimated funding sources is required. Identify all the costs required to complete your entire project. Besides identifying the Heritage funds, identify any other funding sources, whether they are cash contributions or “in-kind” contributions (donated staff or volunteer time, materials, equipment and mileage). IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT INDIRECT COSTS CANNOT BE CHARGED ON HERITAGE PROJECTS.
- ~~2.~~
- ~~3.~~ • On the project proposal form, the final funding amount from all sources combined and the final estimated project cost total should be the same amount, thus confirming that you have enough funding to cover the entire project costs.

SECTION IV: PROPOSAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS

Upon receipt of the project proposal, the Department will complete their portion of the forms and a full copy of each project proposal will be posted on the Heritage Program’s web page no later than April 15 of each year. The Committee will review the requests, listen to public comment and make their funding recommendations to the Commission at its annual May Commission meeting. The Commission shall make their final decisions for funding the projects at its annual June Commission meeting. All organizations/individuals submitting projects will be notified as soon as practical after the Commission action as to the approval or denial of their requests.

The criteria to be used by Department staff, the Heritage Committee and Wildlife Commission while reviewing Heritage proposals are described below.

1ST LEVEL REVIEW - THRESHOLD CRITERIA: If any project does not meet the Threshold Criteria, it will not be given further consideration. (All criteria will be specified in proposal solicitations).

1. **Consistent with Heritage Program Intent** (as defined in NRS 501.3575) - Projects must address one of the following:
 - The protection, propagation, restoration, transplantation, introduction, and management of any game fish, game mammal, game bird, or fur-bearing mammal and,
 - The management and control of predatory wildlife in the state of Nevada.
2. **Consistent with Intent of NDOW Programs and Policies** – The project must be within the scope of, and consistent with, the intent of the Department’s plans and policies, as well as suitable in the habitat in which the project will be conducted.
3. **Technically and Procedurally Sound-Feasible** - The project must be technically and procedurally sound. Consideration will be given to the level of uncertainty and the degree of success of similar projects in the past.

2ND LEVEL REVIEW - SCREENING CRITERIA: Projects that meet the Threshold Criteria shall be further evaluated using ~~the additional~~ screening criteria ~~below~~. ~~These screening criteria shall be used to distinguish between preferred and non-preferred projects~~ The Department will rank and score project proposals based on project viability and resource enhancement potential. These scores and rankings will be provided to the Heritage Committee to help prioritize project funding. Ranking and scoring criteria may include: likelihood of success, partner funding, duration of benefits expected, project scale, building upon existing work, magnitude of benefits expected, restoration of priority habitats or critical life stages for priority game or fish, addressing knowledge gaps, cost effectiveness, timely completion, urgency, etc.

- ~~1. **Likelihood of Success** – Consider the potential for successful completion and successful outcomes of the proposed project. This includes the capability/experience of individuals or organizations expected to conduct the work or implement the project.~~
- ~~2. **Additional Program Funding** – Funding priority will be given to applicants who have obtained outside funding sources as partial support for the project. Consider availability of matching or supplemental funding. In order for outside funding sources to be accepted by each Committee, a letter from the outside group, organization or individual needs to be attached to your proposal.~~
- ~~3. **Habitat Restoration or Improvement of a Long Term Nature** – Priority will be given for projects of habitat restoration and improvement of a long term or permanent nature.~~
- ~~4. **Programmatic Merit** – Determine how well the proposal will meet the intent of the Wildlife Heritage Program, as defined under Threshold Criterion number 1 above.~~

- ~~5. **Cost-Effectiveness** – Consider the relationship of expected project costs to expected results and the relevance of those results to Heritage Program goals. Seek the least costly approach to deliver an equivalent or greater benefit.~~
- ~~6. **Total Cost and Accuracy of Cost Estimate** – The total cost estimate should include money to complete the project. Validity of the estimate is determined by the completeness, accuracy, and reliability of methods used to estimate costs, as well as the credibility of the person submitting the estimate.~~
- ~~7. **Originality/Not Duplicative** – Projects should be independent in nature and not duplicate other projects. Projects should be innovative and unique.~~
- ~~8.1. **Timely Completion** – Projects that have already obtained any necessary permits, and do not require, or have already had related National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)–related compliance completed, will be preferred to projects that have not received necessary permits or projects that require NEPA compliance and such compliance will not be completed before the beginning of the State fiscal year for which funding would be awarded.~~

SECTION V: PROJECT MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES

A person who is responsible for managing a Wildlife Heritage conservation project that is approved by the Commission shall:

- complete a copy of the Heritage Grant Agreement for the project. A copy of this agreement is found in the Heritage Program Grant Manual referenced above. Once a project is approved, the project’s manager fills out a grant agreement with the assistance of Zeida Albert of the Department’s Fiscal Services Section. Nancy can be reached at zalbert@ndow.org or 775-688-1014 if you have any questions.
- comply with all local, state and federal laws when executing the project,
- coordinate all of the project’s relevant funding sources,
- submit written requests for money in accordance with the policy of the Department before receiving a payment from the account, and
- upon request of the Commission, allow the Commission or a representative of the Commission who has been designated for such purpose, to observe any activity related to the project.

Other Requirements

A Heritage conservation project that receives money from the Heritage Account must be completed by the end of the fiscal year for which the money is awarded, unless, before that date, a person who is responsible for managing the project demonstrates that unusual circumstances exist which require an extension of time and the Commission approves their extension request.

All equipment/supplies purchased with Heritage Account funds, and remain after the completion of the project, will be returned to the Department.

As noted above, *indirect costs cannot be charged on Heritage projects.*

All travel costs for per diem and mileage will be paid at the current State of Nevada approved rates.

Consistent with the Department's fiscal policies, the Department will not pay invoices/requests for Heritage funds received from outside organizations or individuals until the project's monitor (a Department employee identified in the project proposal) has confirmed that the work was completed by the organization or individual in a satisfactory manner. Requests for final payment/final invoices after a project is completed must also be accompanied with a 30 Day Project Completion Report that has been reviewed by the project's monitor. The form for this report is found on the program's web page at

<https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/>

[NDOW project monitors will enter external projects into the HCFPP that have been awarded Heritage funding. NDOW project monitors will also need to ensure projects are "closed-out" in the HCFPP once completed.](#)

~~For all Department employees submitting~~ Heritage project proposals with additional funding sources [should supply a](#), a letter of intent from a donating group, agency, organization or individual ~~will need to be attached to your proposal~~ to verify funding commitments. [If submitting through the HCFPP upload letters to the "Documents" section.](#)

Department employees are not allowed to include Department personnel or travel costs in their Heritage project proposals.

The project year is on a ~~fiscal year~~ [SFY](#) basis (starting July 1 and ending June 30).

If a person who is responsible for managing a project fails to meet any of the above criteria, the Commission may cancel funding of the project and disqualify the project from any future funding.

Before applying for these funds, please review all potential tax and insurance issues that might occur if your project is approved.

Deadlines

[All NDOW submitted proposals must complete an application in the HCFPP. All non-NDOW proposals must be submitted by first filling out the Microsoft Word version of the on approved Wildlife Heritage Project Proposal Form found on the Heritage Program's web page at: https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/](#)

Proposals must be submitted between January 1 and March 1 of each calendar year and the preferred submittal method is [through the HCFPP \(NDOW\)](#) or to email the completed Word proposal form to Mark Freese at markfreese@ndow.org. A PDF version of the proposal may also

be submitted but, at a minimum, project proponents must email the Department a Word version of the proposal. Mark can be reached at 775-688-1542 if you have any questions.

Upon receipt of the project proposal, the Department will complete their portion of the forms and a copy of each project proposal will be posted on the Department's Heritage web page no later than April 15 of each year. The Department will then send the proposals to each of the Department's Commissioners and each County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CABMW). The Wildlife Heritage Committee and CABMW will review the proposals, listen to public comments, ask questions of the authors of the proposals, and make their recommendations to the Commission after holding its annual May meeting (usually held on a Thursday evening the night before the May Board of Wildlife Commission meeting). Authors of the proposals are encouraged to attend the May Committee meeting in order to provide a brief overview of their projects and to answer any questions. At the June Committee meeting, usually the night before or morning of the June Commission meeting, the Committee revisits their preliminary funding recommendations and finalizes their recommendations. Their final recommendations are considered and acted upon by the Commission at their June Commission meeting. All organizations and individuals submitting projects will be notified as soon as practical after the Commission action as to whether their requests were approved or denied, and if approved, how much funding was awarded to their project.

All approved projects require a completion report ([either closed out through HCFPP for NDOW projects or on word form for non-NDOW projects](#)) to be prepared for their project within 30 days after completion of the project. All completion reports are required to be submitted to the Department no later than July 30 of each year.

If, at any other time of the year, the Commission determines that money is available to fund additional projects, the Commission may do one or more of the following: request, accept and approve applications at such time for Heritage conservation projects which are urgent and which present unique opportunities.

SECTION VI: ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

Department grants are subject to inspection and audit by representatives of the Department, the State Department of Administration, the Audit Department of the Legislative Counsel Bureau or other appropriate state or federal agencies to verify financial transactions, ascertain all policies, plans and procedures are being followed and to determine the reliability of financial aspects and conduct of the project.

- A grantee must use an adequate accounting system that meets the following criteria:
- A. Funds cannot be obligated until the date the Funding Agreement begins.
 - B. Provide cost and property control to ensure optimal use of funds, including a tracking system for property records of all equipment.
 - C. Control funds and other resources to assure expenditure of funds and property use are in conformance with any general or special conditions that apply to the recipient;
 - D. Meet the prescribed requirement for periodic financial reporting of operations;
 - E. Provide financial data for planning, control, measurement, and evaluation costs;

- F. Maintain all required records for three years from the date of the final report or until all questions arising from an audit have been resolved.

All information associated with Heritage projects is potentially publicly accessible.

The project year is based on the ~~State of Nevada's fiscal year~~ SFY of July 1 through June 30. Request for payment should be done no later than 15 days after the end of the fiscal year.

Before applying for these funds, please review all potential tax and insurance issues that might occur if your project is approved.

Grantees must be willing and able to register as a Vendor with the State of Nevada in order to establish a Vendor Number. Payments cannot be made through the State accounting system without vendor numbers.

Payments are made on a reimbursement basis. Payments will be made only upon receipt of official invoices. Invoices must be approved by the Project Manager, and if the Project Manager is not a Department employee, by the Department employee that has been assigned to the project as its monitor. Invoices must include detailed documentation like timesheets, mileage reports, or documented receipts of charges as described in the Project Proposal as Attachment AA of the Grant Agreement.

All equipment/supplies purchased with Heritage funds that remain after the completion of the project, will be returned to the Department. No indirect costs can be charged on Heritage projects. All travel costs for per diem and mileage will be paid at the current State of Nevada approved rates.

For a list of operational conditions and assurances see: APPENDIX A - ASSURANCES

Final Reporting

Upon completion of the project, all managers of projects other than Department employees, must ask their Department monitor to complete an inspection of their project. (As required on the project proposal form, all project managers that are not Department employees must designate a Department monitor who is familiar with their project.)

[NDOW project managers must update and close-out projects in the HCFPP. Non-NDOW project managers must complete](#) the 30 Day Heritage Project Completion Report form (can be downloaded from the Heritage webpage at <https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/>) and must be submitted to ~~Lee-Davis~~ Mark Freese at markfreese@ndow.org no later than 30 days after completion of the project. Projects completed by early March, must submit their completion reports no later than March 15. For projects not completed prior to early March, the project manager must submit a one paragraph project status report no later than March 15 and it must include a brief summary of the project's status, project accomplishments thus far, remaining tasks to be completed, and its estimated completion date. The completion and status reports will be reviewed by staff and forwarded to the Heritage Committee, Wildlife Commission and each CABMW by April 15. The completion report should contain color photographs of the project "before" and "after" if possible. Any publicity articles or other photographs should also be

attached. If technical reports, journal articles, etc. are prepared for the project, related references to these items should be included in the completion report [or uploaded into the HCFPP](#).

Any additional information that would be useful to the Commission and/or the Department is also requested. Your recommendations and comments will be used to help improve and expand the program in future years.

Your continued support for the Heritage program is appreciated. It is through your efforts that the account and program is growing, and it's also through your efforts that the wildlife of the State of Nevada will continue to benefit.

Staff Assistance and Information Sources

Department staff is available to provide advice on funding eligibility for potential projects and to provide assistance in developing the proposal. In addition, members of the Wildlife Commission may be contacted for assistance. Additional information regarding the Heritage Program is found on the program's web page at: <https://www.ndow.org/blog/wildlife-heritage-tag/>

If you have any questions regarding the Heritage Program or its proposal process, or the duties of a Heritage project manager, please do not hesitate to contact:

Mark Freese, NDOW Wildlife Staff Specialist
Nevada Department of Wildlife
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120
Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1542 or markfreese@ndow.org

Questions related to the Heritage Grant Agreement or State Administrative Manual and their related requirements should be directed to:

Zeida Albert, NDOW Fiscal Services Section
Nevada Department of Wildlife
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120
Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1014 or zalbert@ndow.org

APPENDIX A

HERITAGE GRANTEE ASSURANCES

As a condition of receiving granted funds from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Grantee agrees to the following conditions:

1. Grantee agrees grant funds may not be used for other than the awarded purpose. In the event Grantee expenditures do not comply with this condition, that portion not in compliance must be refunded to the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
2. Grantee agrees to submit reimbursement requests only for expenditures approved in the spending plan. Any additional expenditure beyond what is allowable based on approved categorical budget amounts, without prior written approval by the Nevada Department of Wildlife, may result in denial of reimbursement.
3. Approval of grant budget by the Nevada Department of Wildlife constitutes prior approval for the expenditure of funds for specified purposes included in this budget. Unless otherwise stated in the Scope of Work the transfer of funds between budgeted categories without written prior approval from the Nevada Department of Wildlife is not allowed under the terms of this grant. Requests to revise approved budgeted amounts must be made in writing and provide sufficient narrative detail to determine justification.
4. Recipients of grants are required to maintain grant accounting records, identifiable by grant number. Such records shall be maintained in accordance with the following:
 - a. Records may be destroyed not less than three years (unless otherwise stipulated) after the final report has been submitted if written approval has been requested and received from the Administrative Services Officer III of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Records may be destroyed by the Grantee five (5) calendar years after the final financial and narrative reports have been submitted to the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
 - b. In all cases an overriding requirement exists to retain records until resolution of any audit questions relating to individual grants.

Grant accounting records are considered to be all records relating to the expenditure and reimbursement of funds awarded under this Grant Award. Records required for retention include all accounting records and related original and supporting documents that substantiate costs charged to the grant activity.

5. Grantee agrees to disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest relative to the performance of services resulting from this grant award. The Nevada Department of Wildlife reserves the right to disqualify any grantee on the grounds of actual or apparent conflict of interest. Any attempt to intentionally or unintentionally conceal or obfuscate a conflict of interest will automatically result in the disqualification of funding.
6. Grantee agrees to comply with the requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, P.L. 93-112, as amended, and any relevant program-specific regulations, and shall not discriminate against any employee or offeror for employment because of race, national origin, creed, color, sex, religion, age, disability or handicap condition (including AIDS and AIDS-related conditions).
7. Grantee agrees to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-136), 42 U.S.C. 12101, as amended, and regulations adopted thereunder contained in 28 CFR 26.101-36.999 inclusive, and any relevant program-specific regulations.
8. Grantee certifies, by signing this grant, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency. This certification is made pursuant to regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 28 C.F.R. pt. 67 § 67.510, as published as pt. VII of May 26, 1988, Federal Register (pp.19150-19211). This provision shall be required of every Grantee receiving any payment in whole or in part from federal funds.
9. Grantee agrees, whether expressly prohibited by federal, state, or local law, or otherwise, that no funding associated with this grant will be used for any purpose associated with or related to lobbying or influencing or attempting to lobby or influence for any purpose the following:
 - a. any federal, state, county or local agency, legislature, commission, council, or board;
 - b. any federal, state, county or local legislator, commission member, council member, board member, or other elected official; or
 - c. any officer or employee of any federal, state, county or local agency, legislature, commission, council, or board.
10. Nevada Department of Wildlife grants are subject to inspection and audit by representatives of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the State Department of Administration, the Audit Department of the Legislative Counsel Bureau or other appropriate state or federal agencies to
 - a. verify financial transactions and determine whether funds were used in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and procedures;

- b. ascertain whether policies, plans and procedures are being followed;
 - c. provide management with objective and systematic appraisals of financial and administrative controls, including information as to whether operations are carried out effectively, efficiently and economically; and
 - d. determine reliability of financial aspects of the conduct of the project.
11. Any audit of Grantee's expenditures will be performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards to determine there is proper accounting for and use of grant funds. It is the policy of the Nevada Department of Wildlife (as well as a federal requirement as specified in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 [Revised June 27th, 2003]) that each grantee annually expending \$500,000 or more in federal funds have an annual audit prepared by an independent auditor in accordance with the terms and requirements of the appropriate circular. A COPY OF THE FINAL AUDIT REPORT MUST BE SENT TO THE NEVADA STATE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, ATTN: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER II, 6980 SIERRA CENTER PARKWAY, STE 120, RENO, NEVADA 89502- within nine (9) months of the close of the Grantee's fiscal year. **To ensure this requirement is met, Section C of this grant must be filled out and signed.**



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APPENDIX B

Wildlife Heritage Account Project Proposal Form (external)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Person Submitting Proposal/Project Manager: _____

Organization/Agency: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

NDOW Monitor (if the project would be managed by someone other than a NDOW employee):

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:

State Fiscal Year(s) Wildlife Heritage Account Funds are Needed:

Project Location:

Amount of Funds Requested from Heritage Account:

Is a Project Map Attached? Yes No

(a map must include the project title, map scale, date map was created, and a north arrow; Note that we will need project spatial information in the future if funded)

Project Partners/Organizations and Roles (Implementation Lead, Agency Cooperator, Non-Agency Cooperator, Private Landowner):

Define Priority Resources (Big Game, Diversity, Fish, General Habitat Improvement, Waterfowl, Upland Game):

Select Priority Species (e.g. Sage-grouse, mule deer, etc.):



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Is this Project related to an Project Initiatives (e.g. NDOW Mule Deer Enhancement Program, Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, Shared Stewardship, NRCS Sage-grouse Initiative, NV Biodiversity Initiative, Sagebrush Conservation Initiative, Monitoring and Research, etc.):

Project Activities (e.g. Conifer Removal, Fire Rehabilitation, Fuels Management, Riparian Enhancement, Acquisition, Population Monitoring or Research, etc.)

Does the Project benefit Greater Sage-grouse or their Habitat (Yes/No):

Purpose of the Project:

Detailed Description of Project and Rationale (include any development plans such as vegetation removal, planting, seeding, or installation of structures; also include the schedule for obtaining any necessary permits, completing NEPA compliance, etc.):



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How Would this Project Help with “the protection, propagation, restoration, transplantation, introduction and management of any game fish, game mammal, game bird or fur-bearing mammal in this State; or the management and control of predatory wildlife in this State”? (See NRS 501.3575)

Project Schedule (describe key milestones for project implementation):

Does this Project have a Monitoring Plan and if so, please describe:

Legal Description of the Property on Which the Proposed Project is to be Located (must include the property address, access roads, township, range and section):

Does this Project Have Additional Funding Sources Other than Your Wildlife Heritage Account Request? Yes No

Does this Project Involve Habitat Restoration and Improvement of a Long-term or Permanent Nature? Yes No

Please Describe in Detail the Reason Why You Need Wildlife Heritage Account Funding to Fund this Project:



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Project Duration: one year two years three years more

Estimated Start Date: _____

Estimated End Date: _____



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PROJECT FUNDING

The funding breakdown below should cover the total funding needs of the project. While projects may be extended beyond the fiscal year for which money was awarded, such an extension must be due to unusual circumstances and be approved by the Wildlife Commission (see NAC 501.340). Double click on the table to activate the embedded spreadsheet.

1. Amount of Heritage Account Funds Being Requested			
2. Other Cash Funding Sources for this Project			
a.			
b.			
c.			
d.			
e. Total Other Cash Funding Sources (lines a - d)		\$	-
3. In-kind Services for this Project			
a. Volunteer Time			
b. Equipment			
c. Materials			
d.			
e.			
f.			
g.			
h. Total Donations/In-kind Services (lines a - g)		\$	-
4. Total Project Funding		\$	-



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PROJECT COSTS

The cost breakdown below should cover the total costs of the project you are seeking funding for. NOTE: THE HERITAGE ACCOUNT CANNOT BE USED TO PAY INDIRECT COSTS. Double click on the table to activate the embedded spreadsheet.

	Heritage Costs	All Other Costs
1. Land Acquisition		
2. Personnel (NDOW employee costs can't be included in the Heritage column)		
3. Travel (NDOW travel costs can't be included in the Heritage column)		
a. Per diem		
b. Mileage		
c. Total Travel Costs (lines a & b)	\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment Items		
a.		
b.		
c.		
d. Total Equipment Costs (line a - c)	\$ -	\$ -
5. Materials		
a.		
b.		
c.		
d.		\$ -
e. Total Material Costs (lines a - d)	\$ -	\$ -
6. Miscellaneous Costs		
a.		
b.		
c.		
d.		
e. Total Miscellaneous Costs (lines a - d)	\$ -	\$ -
7. Total Heritage Costs Only (add lines 1, 2, 3c, 4d, 5e, 6e)	<u>\$ -</u>	
8. Total All Other Costs (add lines 1, 2, 3c, 4e, 5e, 6e)		<u>\$ -</u>
9. Total Project Costs (add lines 7 & 8)	<u>\$ -</u>	
(Note: total project funding from previous table must match total project costs)		



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Budget Narrative:

Are There Going to be Any Ongoing Costs for This Project? Yes No

If There are Ongoing Costs Associated with This Project, is There an Anticipated Funding Source for These Costs?
Yes No

Do You Anticipate Needing Additional Wildlife Heritage Account Funds Beyond the Upcoming Fiscal Year? If So, Please Describe What You Think Your Funding Requirements will be and for What Purposes (As noted above, extensions beyond the first fiscal year must be due to unusual circumstances and approved by the Wildlife Commission.):

How Will You Give Credit to the Wildlife Heritage Account and Other Funding Sources?

Authorizing Signature: _____

Review Date _____

APPENDIX C

EXAMPLE OF A HERITAGE GRANT AGREEMENT

The Heritage Grant Agreement in this appendix is representative of the agreement to be completed with the assistance of the Department's Fiscal Services Section staff. Department staff will help each of the new Project Managers fill out an agreement template that is very similar to the document in this appendix.



Brian Sandoval
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste 120

Reno, NV 89511

(775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY
Director

JACK ROBB
Deputy Director

LIZ O'BRIEN
Deputy Director

Mr. /Mrs. / Dr. X
Entity/Organization
Street Address, Phone Number
City, State, Zip code

Subject: Notice of Nevada Department of Wildlife's Wildlife Heritage Trust Account Grant Award.

Dear Mr. /Mrs. / Dr. X:

Entity X has been awarded a Grant award XXXXXX (Agency Number) from the Department's Wildlife Heritage Trust Account in the amount of \$XXX,XXX for the time period of XX/XX/XXXX to XX/XX/XXXX.

1. *The purpose of this award is to fund Heritage Project number, XXXXX as proposed by the Project Manager, Mr./Mrs./ XXXXXXXXXXXX to carry out the work agreed to in the agreement signed between NDOW and XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.*
2. **Terms:**
In accepting these funds it is understood that:
 - a. *Expenditures must comply with appropriate state and/or federal regulations.*
 - b. *This Grant award is subject to the availability of appropriate funds.*
 - c. *Recipient of these funds agrees to stipulations listed in Sections A, B, C of Grant award. Stipulation D is required to be adhered to only if applicable.*
 - d. *The parties agree that the services to be performed shall be specifically described; this Grant Agreement incorporates the following attachments in descending order of constructive precedence:*

ATTACHMENT AA: WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROJECT NUMBER _____

Section A- Heritage Grant Agreement

Assurances

As a condition of receiving Granted funds from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Grantee agrees to the following conditions:

12. Grantee agrees grant funds may not be used for other than the awarded purpose. In the event Grantee expenditures do not comply with this condition, that portion not in compliance must be refunded to the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
13. Grantee agrees to submit reimbursement requests for only expenditures approved in the spending plan as seen in ATTACHMENT AA. Any additional expenditure beyond what is allowable based on approved categorical budget amounts, without prior written approval by the Nevada Department of Wildlife, may result in denial of reimbursement.
14. Approval of Grant budget by the Nevada Department of Wildlife constitutes prior approval for the expenditure of funds for specified purposes included in this budget. Unless otherwise stated in the Scope of Work the transfer of funds between budgeted categories without written prior approval from the Nevada Department of Wildlife is not allowed under the terms of this Grant. Requests to revise approved budgeted amounts must be made in writing and provide sufficient narrative detail to determine justification.
15. Recipients of Grants are required to maintain Grant accounting records, identifiable by Grant number. Such records shall be maintained in accordance with the following:
 - a. Records may be destroyed not less than three years (unless otherwise stipulated) after the final report has been submitted if written approval has been requested and received from the Administrative Services Officer III of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Records may be destroyed by the Grantee five (5) calendar years after the final financial and narrative reports have been submitted to the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
 - b. In all cases an overriding requirement exists to retain records until resolution of any audit questions relating to individual Grants.

Grant accounting records are considered to be all records relating to the expenditure and reimbursement of funds awarded under this Grant Award. Records required for retention include all accounting records and related original and supporting documents that substantiate costs charged to the Grant activity.

16. Grantee agrees to disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest relative to the performance of services resulting from this Grant award. The Nevada Department of Wildlife reserves the right to disqualify any grantee on the grounds of actual or apparent conflict of interest. Any attempt to intentionally or unintentionally conceal or obfuscate a conflict of interest will automatically result in the disqualification of funding.

17. Grantee agrees to comply with the requirements of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, P.L. 93-112, as amended, and any relevant program-specific regulations, and shall not discriminate against any employee or offeror for employment because of race, national origin, creed, color, sex, religion, age, disability or handicap condition (including AIDS and AIDS-related conditions).
18. Grantee agrees to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-136), 42 U.S.C. 12101, as amended, and regulations adopted thereunder contained in 28 CFR 26.101-36.999 inclusive, and any relevant program-specific regulations.
19. Grantee certifies, by signing this Grant, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency. This certification is made pursuant to regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 28 C.F.R. pt. 67 § 67.510, as published as pt. VII of May 26, 1988, Federal Register (pp.19150-19211). This provision shall be required of every Grantee receiving any payment in whole or in part from federal funds.
20. Grantee agrees, whether expressly prohibited by federal, state, or local law, or otherwise, that no funding associated with this Grant will be used for any purpose associated with or related to lobbying or influencing or attempting to lobby or influence for any purpose the following:
 - a. any federal, state, county or local agency, legislature, commission, council, or board;
 - b. any federal, state, county or local legislator, commission member, council member, board member, or other elected official; or
 - c. any officer or employee of any federal, state, county or local agency, legislature, commission, council, or board.
21. Nevada Department of Wildlife Grants are subject to inspection and audit by representatives of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the State Department of Administration, the Audit Department of the Legislative Counsel Bureau or other appropriate state or federal agencies to
 - e. verify financial transactions and determine whether funds were used in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and procedures;
 - f. ascertain whether policies, plans and procedures are being followed;
 - g. provide management with objective and systematic appraisals of financial and administrative controls, including information as to whether operations are carried out effectively, efficiently and economically; and
 - h. determine reliability of financial aspects of the conduct of the project.
22. Any audit of Grantee's expenditures will be performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards to determine there is proper accounting for and use of Grant funds. It is the policy of the Nevada Department of Wildlife (as well as a federal requirement as specified in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133 [Revised June 27th, 2003]) that each grantee annually expending \$500,000 or more in federal funds have an annual audit prepared by an independent auditor in accordance with the terms and requirements of the appropriate circular. A COPY OF THE FINAL AUDIT

REPORT MUST BE SENT TO THE NEVADA STATE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, ATTN: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER II, 6980 SIERRA CENTER PARKWAY, SUITE 120, RENO, NEVADA 89511- within nine (9) months of the close of the Grantee's fiscal year. **To ensure this requirement is met, Section C of this Grant must be filled out and signed.**

Section B- Heritage Grant Agreement

Description of services, scope of work, deliverables and reimbursement

1. Brief Summary of Project

The parties agree that the services to be performed shall be specifically described; this Contract incorporates the following attachments in descending order of constructive precedence:

ATTACHMENT AA: WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROJECT NUMBER _____

2. Grantee Obligations

Grantee's name, hereinafter referred to as Grantee, agrees to provide the following services and reports according to the identified timeframes:

REFER TO ATTACHMENT AA

- *List specific services to be performed, to whom, how many, within what timeframe;*
- *List specific documents, reports, etc. to be prepared, deadlines for submission/approval; include information on the contents of the report and the submission format;*
- *Indicate the number of copies of publications or reports that must be provided to the Nevada Department of Wildlife in order to fulfill the Grant and in what format (hard copy, bound, electronic, etc.);*
- Identify the source of funding on all printed documents purchased or produced within the scope of this Grant, using a statement similar to: **“This publication (journal, article, etc.) was supported by the Nevada Department of Wildlife with [list Federal Agency if federal funds are funding Grant—also identify federal program] are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Nevada Department of Wildlife or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.**
 - *If the Grant does not facilitate the development or distribution of written materials, delete this bullet statement, as it is not applicable.*

- *Any activities performed under this Grant shall acknowledge the funding was provided through the State Nevada Department of Wildlife with Wildlife Heritage Trust Account funding.*

3. The Nevada Department of Wildlife Obligations:

-
- *Identify specific items the program or Bureau must provide or accomplish to ensure successful completion of this project, such as:*
 - *Providing technical assistance, upon request from the Grantee;*
 - *Providing prior approval of reports or documents to be developed;*
 - *Forwarding a report to another party,*
 - "The program Contract Monitor or Program Manager shall, when federal funding requires a specific match, If a specific vendor or grantee has been identified in the grant application to achieve part or all of the match, "in-kind", or then this shall also be identified in the scope of work as a requirement and a deliverable, including a report of accomplishment at the end of each quarter to document that the match "in-kind", was achieved. These reports shall be held on file in the program for audit purposes, and shall be furnished as documentation for match, in-kind" reporting on the Financial Status Report (FSR) 90 days after the end of the grant period."
 - The Nevada Department of Wildlife reserves the right to hold reimbursement under this Grant until any delinquent forms, reports, and expenditure documentation are submitted to and accepted by the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

4. Joint Obligations:

The site visit/monitoring schedule may be clarified here.

(Note: If this paragraph is applicable to the work being performed, select the appropriate bullet and delete the other.

Section C - Heritage Grant Agreement

Budget, Terms of Reimbursement, Financial Reports

1. Include Budget Table:

REFER TO PROJECT DESCRIPTION ATTACHMENT AA (Project Proposal)

Project proposal has a budget ...

2. **Conditions for Equipment and Travel**

- Equipment purchased with these funds belongs to the federal program from which this funding was appropriated and shall be returned to the program upon termination of this agreement.
- Travel expenses, per diem, and other related expenses must conform to the procedures and rates allowed for State officers and employees. It is the Policy of the Board of Examiners to restrict contractors/Grantees to the same rates and procedures allowed State Employees. The State of Nevada reimburses at rates comparable to the rates established by the US General Services Administration, with some exceptions (State Administrative Manual 0200.0 and 0320.0).

3. **Reimbursement Terms**

Grantee agrees to request reimbursement according to the schedule specified below for the actual expenses incurred related to the Scope of Work during the Grant period.

- *Grantee will submit reimbursements periodically (e.g. monthly or quarterly).*
- *Requests for Reimbursement will be accompanied by supporting documentation, including a line item description of expenses incurred. Payment will be made upon receipt of an official invoice that includes the detailed documentation like timesheets and mileage reports, as well as receipts of charges as described in Attachment AA and Project Manager approval.*
- *Total reimbursement request cannot exceed \$XX, XXX.*
- *Grantee agrees to submit Wildlife Heritage Trust Account 30 Day Project Completion before receiving final grant payments.*
- *Additional expenditure detail will be provided upon request from the Department.*

Additionally, the Grantee agrees to provide:

- A complete financial accounting of all expenditures to the Nevada Department of Wildlife within 30 days of the CLOSE OF THE GRANT PERIOD. Any un-obligated funds shall be returned to the Nevada Department of Wildlife at that time, or if not already requested, shall be deducted from the final award.

All reports of expenditures and requests for reimbursement processed by the Nevada Department of Wildlife are SUBJECT TO AUDIT.

This Grant agreement may be TERMINATED by either party prior to the date set forth on the Notice of Grant Award, provided the termination shall not be effective until 30 days after a party has served written notice upon the other party. This agreement may be terminated by mutual consent of both parties or unilaterally by either party without cause. The parties expressly agree that this Agreement shall be terminated immediately if for any reason the Nevada Department of Wildlife, state, and/or federal funding ability to satisfy this Agreement is withdrawn, limited, or impaired.

This Grant agreement may also be terminated by the Department at any time during the grant year for the following reasons: (1) conduct that interferes with the administration of the grant; (2) illegal activity of any kind; (3) insolvency; (4) failure to disclose a conflict of interest; (5) influence by a gratuity; (6) any other violations of the terms of the grant agreement; and (7) substantiated fraud, abuse, or misappropriation of grant funds.

In the event the Department terminates the Agreement, Grantee shall: (1) repay to the Department any outstanding advance; (2) Grantee shall be reimbursed for any grant-related expenses incurred after the termination effective date; and (3) Grantee shall transfer or liquidate all equipment and non-consumables purchased with grant funds during the grant period (including equipment with an original purchase price of \$1,000 or more, all computers and software regardless of original purchase price, and any other items the Department has required the Grantee to inventory during the course of the grant); (4) surrender any and all documents related to the grant that the Department deems necessary; and (5) repay to the Department all grant funds found to be unallowable costs.

SECTION D - Heritage Grant Agreement

NEVADA STATE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AUDIT INFORMATION REQUEST

1. Non-Federal entities that expend \$500,000.00 or more in total Federal Awards are required to have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year, in accordance with *OMB Circular A-133*. A COPY OF THE FINAL AUDIT REPORT MUST BE SENT TO THE NEVADA STATE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, ATTN: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER II, 6980 SIERRA CENTER PARKWAY, SUITE 120, RENO, NEVADA 89511, within nine (9) months of the close of your fiscal year.

2. Did your organization expend \$500,000.00 or more in all Federal Awards during your most recent fiscal year? YES _____ NO _____

3. When does your fiscal year end? _____

4. How often is your organization audited? _____

5. When was your last audit performed? _____

6. What time period did it cover? _____

7. Which accounting firm conducted the audit? _____

SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

ATTACHMENT AA: - Heritage Grant Agreement

Wildlife Heritage Project Proposal

(This is where the proposal as submitted by the Project Manager and approved by the Commission is inserted into the Heritage Grant Agreement and serves as the project's scope of work)

Signature Page:

Nevada Department of Wildlife:

NDOW's Fiscal Services' Budget and Funding Approval:

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 1 (ASO III)	Date	Title

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 2 (Program Manager)	Date	Title

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 3 (Deputy Director)	Date	Title

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 4 (Deputy Director)	Date	Title

Grantee:

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 1	Date	Title

_____	_____	_____
Signature # 2	Date	Title

APPENDIX D

WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROJECT 30 DAY COMPLETION FORM



Wildlife Heritage Project 30 Day Completion Report

Name of Project:

Project Manager (PM):

Organization/Agency:

PM Email Address:

PM Phone Number:

Heritage Award Amount:

Heritage Project Number:

NDOW Monitor (if the project was managed by someone other than a NDOW employee):

State Fiscal Year Project was
Approved For:

Date this Report was Submitted
to NDOW:

Project Start Date:

Project Completion Date:

Date NDOW Monitor Inspected Your Completed Project (if the project was managed by someone other than a NDOW employee):

Type of Work Completed with Measurable Metrics (Associated Acreages, Linear Feet, Number of Animals, etc.):

Summary of the Project's Accomplishments and Wildlife Species that Will Benefit:

Summary of Project Costs and Funding Sources

<i>Types of Costs Incurred</i>	<i>Amount of Heritage Funds Used</i>	<i>Amount of Funds Used from Other Sources (*define the sources used at the bottom of table below)</i>
Travel		
Equipment (specify)		
Materials		
Miscellaneous incl. Contractors (specify)		
Sub-totals		
Total		
<p>*List Each Source Used in Addition to Heritage Funds (please define what types of costs were covered by each source and the total amount used by source):</p>		

Any Unanticipated Events, or Lessons Learned that Could Help Future Project Managers?

Please attach project photos (including before and after photos if it is a habitat restoration or enhancement project), and include references to any project-related technical reports, media postings, journal articles, etc.

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 23

Number: P-23

Title: Predation Management

Reference: NRS 501.100, 501.105,
501.181, 502.253

Effective Date: December 7, 2013

Amended Date:

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) and the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) recognize the need to effectively manage predators in Nevada. Predation Management actions are a viable and legitimate wildlife management tool that must be available to wildlife professionals when necessary. The Predation Management Program will incorporate the tools of predation management for the protection of nonpredatory game animals and sensitive wildlife species and conducting research necessary to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife, including the use of proven and emerging science-based techniques of predator population management.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to inform the public and guide the Department in actions related to Predation Management. Should the Department make the decision to implement predation management actions, the management actions will be directed by the Predation Management Plan.

NEED

Where wildlife populations are failing to reach Department population management objectives, or where evidence suggests that predation may be a significant factor inhibiting the ability of a prey population to reach expected population levels, the Department may consider implementing predation management actions. The Department will consider acting if declining population trends cannot be explained by habitat conditions, weather or climatic events, disease, or other factors. The Commission is aware of the diverse public opinions concerning predation issues and recognizes the need to increase public education to facilitate a better understanding of predation management, including the effects of not managing predators.

AUTHORITY FOR PREDATION MANAGEMENT

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 501.100 the Legislature has declared "wildlife in this State not domesticated and in its natural habitat is part of the natural resources belonging to the people of the State of Nevada. The preservation, protection, management, and restoration of wildlife within the State contribute immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational, and economic aspects of these natural resources."

In accordance with NRS 501.105 and 501.181, the Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) shall establish policies necessary to the preservation, protection, propagation, restoration, transplanting, introduction, and management of wildlife and its habitat in this state.

Pursuant to NRS 502.253(1) a fee of \$3 is charged for processing each application for a game tag to be used by the Department for costs related to:

- (a) Programs for the management and control of predatory wildlife.
- (b) Wildlife management activities relating to the protection of non-predatory game animals, sensitive wildlife species and related wildlife habitat.
- (c) Conducting research, as needed, to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife, including studies necessary to insure effective programs for the management and control of predatory wildlife; and
- (d) Programs for the education of the general public concerning the management and control of predatory wildlife.

Pursuant to NRS 502.253(2) the Department is hereby authorized to expend a portion of the money collected pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 502.253 to enable the State Department of Agriculture to develop and carry out programs described in subsection 1 of NRS 502.253.

Pursuant to NRS 502.253(3) any program developed, or wildlife management activity or research so conducted must be developed or conducted under the guidance of the Commission pursuant to NRS 501.181(2). Pursuant to NRS 501.181(2) the Commission shall guide the Department in its administration and enforcement of provisions of Title 45, Wildlife (Chapters 501-506) of NRS by establishment of broad policies for the protection, propagation, restoration, transplanting, introduction, and management of wildlife in this State.

Pursuant to NRS 502.253(1) the revenue from the \$3 fee must be accounted for separately and deposited in the Wildlife Fund Account.

PREDATION MANAGEMENT POLICIES

A. POLICY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF PREDATORY WILDLIFE

1. Management decisions will be based on the best available scientific information.
2. Projects will be conducted in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. Clear goals, measurable objectives and limited timelines will be defined at the onset, with an emphasis of identifying and refining prescriptive measures of Predation Management for use in the future.
3. Lethal and/or nonlethal predator control efforts will be undertaken in a targeted fashion to minimize specific predator-caused losses to wildlife populations.
4. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services (Wildlife Services), is the cooperating agency in lethal predatory

wildlife control. Contractors may be used for predator population management, habitat management, predator prey research, conservation education and carnivore population monitoring efforts.

5. Wildlife Services personnel and contractors shall salvage (when practical) the hide and skull of any mountain lion, black bear and bobcat removed under authority of the contract and present them to the Department within 96 hours of the removal.
6. Control activities will be conducted where game and sensitive wildlife populations are at risk of being disproportionately affected by predation.
7. Priority will be given to act in areas where other conservation efforts are completed, underway, or planned that will also benefit wildlife populations.
8. Geographic locations for Project areas will be determined based on an objective analysis and on the needs of wildlife populations in the area.
9. If needed, statewide and Project area estimates of terrestrial and avian predator populations or densities will be based on an objective analysis.

B. POLICY FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH FOR MANAGING AND CONTROLLING PREDATORY WILDLIFE

1. Wildlife research activities will be undertaken in a targeted fashion to address questions regarding the effects of predator control on game populations, predator-prey relationships including improved control techniques, predator-prey responses to habitat restoration activities and specific influences of predators on Nevada ecosystems.
2. Geographic locations for Project areas will be determined based on an objective analysis and on the needs of wildlife populations and habitats in the area, as well as the need for objective science on subjects related to Predation Management. Priority will be given in areas where other conservation efforts are being implemented.
3. Wildlife research efforts will be promoted that: a) provide wildlife managers with objective scientific analysis for making sound decisions regarding future wildlife population and habitat management; and b) provide insights into the role predators play in maintaining vigorous and healthy ecosystems.

PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN AND REPORT PROCEDURES

The Department shall prepare an annual Predation Management Plan. The Predation Management Plan shall identify, (a) projects for the management and control of predatory wildlife for the benefit of other species of wildlife, and (b) research projects related to predatory wildlife, successful techniques, and effective programs for managing and/or controlling predatory wildlife and related habitats.

If Habitat or Conservation Education projects are proposed, they should identify wildlife habitat management activities for the protection of non-predatory animals and programs for education of the public concerning the management and control of predatory wildlife and the role predators play in a well-functioning ecosystem.

Predation Management Plan Fiscal Year procedure and timeline:

1. The Department shall prepare a Draft Predation Management Plan (Draft Plan) outlining proposed actions needed for the protection, preservation, management, and restoration of wildlife populations. Descriptions of Control Projects, Research Projects, Habitat Management Activities and/or Education Programs shall include:
 - A. Project Number and Title.
 - B. Justification (detailed description of the proposed project, including a statement of why the Department believes that the predatory wildlife is a limiting factor in the growth and or maintenance of a target prey population).
 - C. Project Purpose (Wildlife Control, Research Project, Habitat Management, or Education).
 - D. Project Manager.
 - E. Project Type (Implementation, Experimental Management, or Experimentation).
 - F. Monitoring Level (Standard, Intermediate, or Rigorous).
 - G. Potentially Affected Species.
 - H. Duration.
 - I. Project Area (Unit(s), County, or Statewide).
 - J. Limiting Factor Statement, including why potential non-lethal methods would not be effective.
 - K. Response Variable (further actions to be taken depending on project success or type).
 - L. Project Goals and measurable objectives, including the criteria to determine when the project will be discontinued due to either success or failure.
 - M. Habitat Conditions (whether such habitat is a migratory corridor, summer range, winter range, fawning, calving, nesting or brood-rearing habitat or a combination of any of the above).
 - N. Comments From Previous Year's Predator Report.
 - O. Methods and Timing.
 - P. Prey Population Estimate (if a specific population objective is desired).
 - Q. Anticipated Results.
 - R. Staff Comment.
 - S. Project Direction (Department Recommendation).
 - T. Project Budget (\$3 Predator Fee, Pittman Robertson monies, private donations, etc.).
 - U. A status update of the previous year's Plan, by project: cost expenditures, amount left, how many years it has been ongoing, status of project over lifespan
2. The Draft Plan shall be submitted to the Commission prior to the January Commission meeting. The Draft Plan will be made available to all Stakeholders, including Wildlife Services, contractors, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMWs), conservation organizations, and interested publics and shall serve as a vehicle to elicit suggestions for changes, adjustments, new ideas and input from all Stakeholders.
3. The Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC) and Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) shall set meetings in conjunction with the March

Commission Meeting to review all comments received on the Draft Plan. After consideration of findings and recommendations of the Department, and with respect to lethal Control Programs, recommendations of Wildlife Services and other contractors, as well as all comments and recommendations received, the Chairman of the WDMC Committee shall make a preliminary report to the Commission on which Projects should be funded in the subsequent Fiscal Year.

4. The Department shall prepare a Final Draft Predation Management Plan and present it to the WDMC and the Commission prior to the May meeting. The Final Draft Plan shall be posted on the Department's website and made available to the public and distributed to CABMWs. After consideration of all comments, the Commission shall make final recommendations to the Department on the Final Draft Plan.
5. On or before June 30, the Final Predation Management Plan shall be posted on the Department's website.
6. If, at any other time of the year, the Department, in consultation with the Committee, identifies additional or changing Predation Management needs and determines that money is available to fund additional Projects, the Department may approve Projects which are urgent in nature or which present unique opportunities.
7. In July of each year, contractors, or grantees of Projects from the previous Fiscal Year shall submit a report to the Department which should include a summary of work completed, including predators removed, habitat work conducted (if applicable), and viability of the project moving forward.
8. The Department shall prepare an annual Predation Management Status Report detailing results of the previous Fiscal Year's Projects. This report will include a summary of all lethal removal reports, excluding any sensitive data, proprietary information, or time-sensitive locational information. This Status Report shall be presented at the last Commission meeting of each calendar year.
9. This Status Report will be used in Department and Commission deliberations in subsequent years and in future Predation Management planning efforts. A summary of the status report will be included in the following years' Draft Predation Management Plan to make deliberations easier for the Committees and Commission.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, or superseded by the Commission.

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR SESSION,
December 7, 2013.**

Tommy Caviglia, Chairman
Board of Wildlife Commissioners

DEFINITIONS

Experimental Management: The primary objectives are management of predators through lethal or non-lethal means and to learn the effects of a novel management technique. NDOW will collaborate with USDA Wildlife Services, private contractors, and other wildlife professionals to conduct lethal or non-lethal management of predators and will put forethought into project design. Response variables will be identified, and data will be collected to determine project effectiveness. Expected outcomes will include project effectiveness, agency reports, and possible peer-reviewed publications.

Experimentation: The primary objective is for increasing knowledge of predators in Nevada. NDOW may collaborate with other wildlife professionals to study and learn about predators of Nevada. Expected outcomes will include agency reports, peer-reviewed publications, and information on how to better manage Nevada's predators.

Implementation: The primary objective is to implement management of predators through lethal or non-lethal means. NDOW will collaborate with USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors to conduct lethal and non-lethal management of predators. Identifying and monitoring a response variable is not a primary objective for implementation.

Intermediate Monitoring: The primary objective of intermediate monitoring is to apply a specific monitoring plan designed to evaluate the response of game species or sensitive wildlife to lethal or non-lethal management of predators. NDOW may collaborate with other wildlife professionals to identify reference and treatment areas or evaluate productivity of game species or sensitive wildlife before, during, and after implementation to determine effectiveness of predator management. Composition surveys may be modified to thoroughly evaluate productivity in the reference and treatment areas and to better accommodate annual variation in survey conditions. Expected outcomes will include an indication of project effectiveness, agency reports, and possible peer-reviewed publications.

Nonpredatory Game Animals: For the purposes of this policy includes mule deer, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain elk, mountain goat, moose, upland game birds, upland game mammals, and migratory game birds.

Predation: The act of an individual animal or group of animals killing another live animal.

Predation Management: Selective reduction and/or management of terrestrial, avian, or aquatic predator populations when and where predation is identified by the Department as a limiting factor negatively affecting another wildlife population.

Predator: Any wild animal species subsisting, wholly or in part, on other living animals captured through its own efforts.

Predator Removal: The physical removal of an animal from an area where its presence is undesirable for wildlife management purposes, generally requiring lethal actions.

Prey: Any animal hunted or killed as food by a predator.

Rigorous Monitoring: The primary objective of rigorous monitoring is to evaluate several response variables known to affect productivity of game species or sensitive wildlife and to determine the relative influence of those variables when measuring the response to lethal or non-lethal management of predators. NDOW may collaborate with other wildlife professionals to identify the requirements of rigorous monitoring and to further evaluate factors influencing productivity of game species or sensitive wildlife such as survival of juveniles, body condition of adults, or habitat productivity. Rigorous monitoring efforts will help to disentangle biotic and abiotic conditions that may influence productivity of game species or sensitive wildlife from the effects of lethal or non-lethal management of predators. Expected outcomes will include agency reports, peer-reviewed publications, and information on how to better manage Nevada's wildlife.

Sensitive Wildlife Species: For the purposes of this policy includes nonpredatory reptiles, mammals, birds, fish, and amphibians.

Standard Monitoring: The primary objective of standard monitoring is to use existing survey protocols to evaluate the response of game species or sensitive wildlife to lethal or non-lethal management of predators. NDOW conducts annual and biannual surveys to evaluate trend and composition of game species or sensitive wildlife and to inform the season and quota-setting process. Composition surveys will yield response variables such as recruitment of juveniles into the adult population and will be compared to published benchmarks of productivity in the management area of interest, to neighboring areas not receiving predator management, or in the same area before treatment began. Standard monitoring represents no change to existing monitoring efforts. Expected outcomes include an indication of project effectiveness and agency reports.

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 61

Number: P-61

Title: Water Rights

Reference: NRS 501.105, 503.584,
503.589

Effective Date: August 20, 1982

Amended Date: December 2, 1995,
January 27, 2022

Reviewed Date: 2002, 2022

PURPOSE

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners shall establish policies necessary for the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat and shall utilize its land management authority to carry out a program for conserving, protecting and propagating wildlife and their habitats.

Water is essential for the existence and survival of fish and most species of wildlife, and in Nevada's arid climate, water is the key to the distribution and population abundance of the State's fish and wildlife resources (here forward wildlife).

The purpose of this policy is to guide the Department of Wildlife in securing water for the preservation, maintenance, restoration and enhancement of wildlife and their habitats. The provisions of this policy are in complete accord with Nevada water law, and will not impair any vested, permitted or certificated rights for the use of water.

POLICY

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners does hereby establish the following policy to provide for the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat:

1. **Instream Flow:**

It is the policy of the Commission to ensure adequate instream flows to maintain existing fish life and aquatic ecosystems. Whenever waters with significant wildlife values are identified and a willing water seller are identified, the Department shall, subject to available staff and financial resources, apply for and/or purchase such waters for the benefit of fish and wildlife.

2. Minimum Reservoir Pools:

It is the policy of the Commission to achieve, the maintenance of minimum reservoir pools necessary to support viable fish populations. The Department shall collaborate with private reservoir owners, whenever possible to secure cooperative agreements for public access, angling, and minimum pools. The Department shall work through the federal land management agencies to ensure public access and minimum pools are maintained on all reservoirs constructed wholly or partially on public lands.

3. Wetlands:

It is the policy of the Commission to maintain, restore and expand viable wetland habitats in Nevada. Whenever waters possessing significant wildlife and wetland values are identified and a willing water seller is identified, the Department shall, subject to available staff and financial resources, apply for and/or purchase such waters as are necessary to support wetlands for the benefit of fish and wildlife. The Department shall work with landowners and managers to ensure the most efficient and effective collective water management processes are pursued.

4. Springs and Seeps:

It is the policy of the Commission to ensure, that wildlife have access to the water from springs and seeps necessary to maintain existing and anticipated distribution and abundance. The Department shall, subject to available staff and financial resources:

- a. Where significant wildlife values are identified file applications for permits to appropriate the necessary water to support existing and anticipated wildlife populations on springs and seeps where unappropriated water is available.
- b. File joint applications, where appropriate, to obtain the amount of water needed for maintenance of wildlife populations.
- c. Develop procedures to implement the provisions of Chapter 533 of NRS to ensure wildlife access to appropriated waters.
- d. Work cooperatively with private water right holders and public land management agencies to ensure that sufficient water from springs and seeps is available for wildlife. In addition, work to protect,

conserve and enhance riparian areas, meadows, wetlands, and other habitats associated with water resources that provide valuable habitats for wildlife.

- e. The Department will evaluate filing protests with the State Water Engineer on new applications or changes for waters of significant value to wildlife and where the proposed use will remove waters from the lands or deny wildlife access or availability thereto, and where all other avenues of ensuring wildlife access to such waters have been exhausted.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, or superseded by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION, JANUARY 27, 2022.

Tommy Caviglia, Chairman
Board of Wildlife Commissioners

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 62

Number: P-62
Title: Mitigation Policy
Reference: NRS 501.105
Effective Date: January 23, 1987
Amended Date: December 1, 2001,
January 27, 2022
Reviewed Date 2002, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide the Department of Wildlife in mitigation of activities which have the potential to adversely impact fish and wildlife resources in Nevada.

BACKGROUND

Anthropogenic activities associated with human population growth and economic development result in various demands on the State's natural resources. In some cases, these activities create adverse impacts on wildlife and habitat resources. The severity and scale of these impacts on wildlife and habitat resources is wide-ranging and can vary significantly based on the intensity and location of the activity.

Examples of these impacts include habitat degradation by wild horse and burro, the loss of mule deer migration corridors and winter range from residential and mineral development, and greater sage grouse habitat loss and fragmentation from various anthropogenic impacts.

Addressing these negative impacts is possible, but also complex in Nevada due the high percentage of federally administered public land. Development of public land provides an opportunity for stakeholders to engage in the process, but is simultaneously complex because it can include different federal, state, and local government agencies with different rules, regulations, and policies for land and resource management. An approach by the Department aimed at avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts for a specific proposed project may be acceptable to one agency, but unrealistic or unacceptable for another.

The basis for the development of this mitigation policy (and the Department's Technical Review Program) lies in the Department's statutory charge that the protection of fish and wildlife resources are in the public interest and that comprehensive participation in land use management decision-making, and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes, are rooted in robust science and professional expertise.

For the purposes of this policy, "impacts" may include direct, indirect, and cumulative effects, may be short, medium, or long in duration, and may vary in significance. "Mitigation" will be defined as: Avoid, Minimize, Mitigate, and shall consist of:

1. Avoiding the impact(s) altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, or through moving all or part of a proposed action to a less critical area.
2. Minimizing, reducing, or rectifying impacts by protective measures, or through limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation during the life of the action.

Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment may also minimize impacts and is often achieved through reclamation requirements.

3. Mitigating the impact(s) by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments, or through compensation (also referred to as “compensatory mitigation”). This may occur near/adjacent to the proposed action(s), or off-site.

The overall objective of this policy is to provide guidance for the Department’s role in land use, project, and conservation planning processes where avoidance, minimization, and/or compensatory measures may be necessary to offset activities which have the potential to adversely impact fish, wildlife, and habitat resources in Nevada.

JUSTIFICATION

The Department’s basic responsibility as a conservation agency is derived by state law which gives the Commission the authority to “...establish policies and adopt regulations necessary to the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat.” (NRS 501.105). Numerous other state laws outside of Title 45 also provide for the consideration and protection of wildlife in the state. Some of the more prominent state statutes are as follows:

NAC 232.400-480 – “Sagebrush Ecosystem Council: Mitigation of Adverse Impact to Greater Sage-Grouse and Habitat”, and the establishment and implementation of the Nevada Conservation Credit System to achieve mitigation.

NRS 278.020 – With respect to the improvement of land as regulated by cities and counties: “(2) Any such regulation, restriction and control shall take into account the potential impairment of natural resources and the total population which the available natural resources will support without unreasonable impairment.”

NRS 278.160 – As part of the master planning process, conservation plans are to be developed “For the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, including water, ...fisheries, wildlife, ...and other natural resources.”

NRS 278.337 – With respect to the Commission adoption of regulations for Department review of tentative subdivision maps for impacts to wildlife resources.

NRS 321.5977 – “The public lands of Nevada must be administered in such a manner as to conserve and preserve natural resources, wildlife habitat, ...and to permit the development of compatible public uses for recreation, agriculture, ranching, mining...”

NRS 445.132 – The legislature declares that it is the policy of this state and the purpose of NRS 445.131 to 445.354 inclusive: “To maintain the quality of the waters of the state consistent with the public health and enjoyment, the propagation and protection of terrestrial and aquatic life, ...”

NRS 445.244 – “The water quality standards must reflect water quality criteria which define the conditions necessary to support, protect and allow the propagation of fish, shellfish and other wildlife and to provide for recreation in and on the water if these objectives are reasonably attainable.”

NRS 528.053 – “No felling of trees, skidding, rigging or construction of tractor or truck lands or landings, or the operation of vehicles, may take place within 200 feet, measured on the slope, of the high water mark of any lake, reservoir, stream or other body of water unless a variance is first obtained from a committee composed of the state forester fire warden, the Director of the Department of Wildlife and the state engineer.”

NRS 533.367 – “Before a person may obtain a right to the use of water from a spring or water which has seeped to the surface of the ground, he must ensure that wildlife which customarily uses the water will have access to it.”

NRS 503.400 – “Every person who has erected, or who may hereafter erect, any dams, water weirs or other obstructions to the free passage of fish in the rivers, streams, lakes, or other waters of the State of Nevada shall construct and keep in repair to the satisfaction of the Department fishways or fish ladders at all such dams, water weirs or other obstructions so that at all seasons of the year fish may ascend above such dams, water weirs or other obstruction to deposit their spawn.”

NRS 701.610-640 - Notice of energy development project: Filing with Department of Wildlife; form; contents; regulations and associated review and recommendations provided by the Department on behalf of energy development projects.

In an effort to recognize the importance of mitigation as a tool in minimizing wildlife losses, this policy guides the Department to:

- Recommend alternative approaches in federal, state, or private projects to avoid or minimize degradation or loss of fish and wildlife resources or, where impacts are unavoidable seek mitigation.
- Develop suitable Best Management Practices (BMP) and/or Design Features (DF) for avoiding and/or minimizing adverse impacts to fish and wildlife and habitat resources. These will incorporate BMPs and DFs already accepted by land and resource managers where appropriate, and may require development of new BMPs and/or DFs where none currently exist or are unsuitable.
- Maintain close coordination and cooperation with user groups and land and resource managers, seeking the most favorable land use alternatives for all fish and wildlife and emphasizing mitigative measures to replace irrevocable losses.

Since approximately 87% of Nevada is public land administered by several federal land management agencies, and these lands include diverse habitats essential to a wide variety of wildlife species, it is important that federal law pertaining to state agency involvement and recommendations be reviewed. These federal regulations provide opportunities for state involvement in activities on federal lands or using federal funds which may or may not be applicable to private lands. In addition to the Public Trust Doctrine, which is founded in common law, a few of the more important regulations pertaining to mitigation include the following:

- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661-666) authorized ...state agencies responsible for fish and wildlife resources to investigate all proposed federal undertakings and nonfederal actions needing a federal permit or license which would impound, divert, deepen, or otherwise control or modify a stream or other body of water and to make mitigation and enhancement recommendations to the involved federal agency.
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. § 4321) gives all governmental agencies in addition to private citizens an opportunity for greater involvement for all federal projects and private projects involving federal funds or federal land. One of the primary purposes of NEPA as listed in section 2 is “To promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment.”

- Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. § 1712); to the extent consistent with the laws governing the administration of the public lands, coordinate the land use inventory, planning, and management activities of or for such lands with the land use planning and management programs of other Federal departments and agencies and of the States and local governments within which the lands are located.

POLICIES

The approach of the Department relative to mitigation emphasizes the public need for healthy and sustainable fish and wildlife populations and habitats while recognizing other public needs or agency mandates (e.g. multiple use) may result in potential conflicts between resources. The program is further intended to provide recommendations which will help avoid and minimize adverse impacts.

1. It is the policy of the Commission that the Department will continue to emphasize wildlife data collection and dissemination so that wildlife and habitat values can be disclosed and considered in federal, state, and local decision-making processes. The Department will fulfill data requests and use a standard reporting process to describe resource values within or proximate to the location of the proposed activity when that information is useful to inform decision-making processes. More detailed and project-specific data may also be shared when appropriate.
2. It is the policy of the Commission that the Department will provide technical assistance to the permitting entity and applicants when reviewing proposed development actions. Department biologists may assist in identifying fish and wildlife species and habitats, identify the type, extent, and duration of potential impacts, and identify or recommend avoidance and minimization measures. When impacts are anticipated to occur after avoidance and/or minimization measures have been incorporated, the Department may recommend mitigation measures to achieve the goals and standards of the Policy to offset impacts to fish and wildlife resources. The Department will formally provide any recommendations to the permitting entity and project developer.
3. It is the policy of the Commission that the Department should coordinate closely with the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team, who is charged with implementation of the Nevada Conservation Credit System for greater sage-grouse mitigation.
4. It is the policy of the Commission that the Department should coordinate closely with any other governing body or entity with authority over a Department, State of Nevada, or federally approved mitigation program in Nevada.
5. It is the policy of the Commission that costs associated with mitigation are all normal costs of development projects, independent of state or federally required reclamation, and therefore should be borne by the developers and/or beneficiaries of the project. Costs associated with mitigation for greater sage-grouse in Nevada will be accounted for through the Nevada Conservation Credit System, unless otherwise accounted for as approved through the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council.
6. It is the policy of the Commission that cash payments or donations may be accepted:
 - a. To support projects designed to directly offset potential resource losses related to the development of the project; or
 - b. For deposit into a special mitigation account. Monies from this account are to be administered by the Department and used for fish, wildlife, or habitat restoration,

enhancement, acquisition projects, or, under special circumstances, research related to the loss of such resource(s).

7. It is the policy of the Commission that any mitigation negotiated with the Department shall include establishment of a cooperative mitigation agreement between the project proponent and the Department, to be completed prior to initiation of ground disturbance for the development project. Any such agreement will describe party responsibilities and timelines for mitigation.

PROCEDURES

The Department will implement the above listed policies in accordance with the definitions as described in the National Environmental Policy Act and consistent with federal regulations under 40 CFR 1508.20. Mitigation will include in order of priority implementation:

1. Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.

The Department's emphasis will be directed toward providing input and recommendations which avoid conflicting land uses with an overall objective of maintaining as much existing natural habitat as possible. This approach is particularly important for projects conflicting with threatened or endangered species and in areas of critical environmental concern or key habitat types. Emphasis on the preservation of wetlands, spring sites and associated vegetation, riparian habitat, and meadow systems, should also fall under this category due to the limited nature and importance of these habitat types in the Great Basin. The Department shall provide sufficient supporting information to the decision makers as a means of justifying the need for avoidance measures. Recommendations for avoidance measures should be for a "no action alternative" or for relocation of the proposed action into a less sensitive area.

2. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action or its implementation. This includes:
 - (a) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
 - (b) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.

This approach is intended to reduce the duration, scope, or intensity of the adverse impacts and/or losses to wildlife and/or habitat resources and may require operation and/or maintenance obligations. Minimizing wildlife and habitat disruptions may be achieved through permit stipulations, restrictions in timing of activities, repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, protective measures such as fences, alterations in project design, Best Management Practices, and Required Design Features. The use of a fence to protect wildlife species from cyanide ponds used in mining operations, for example, not only needs to be designed to accomplish specified objectives but also needs to be maintained during the life of the project to insure continued protection. Necessary aFor example, aActivities proposed within mule deer winter range might be less disruptive if confined to the summer months, thus implementing the activity during less critical timeframes may result in fewer adverse impacts. The Department shall provide sufficient supporting information to the decision makers as a means of justifying the need for minimization measures.

3. Mitigating/Offsetting for the impact(s) by compensating, replacing, or providing substitute resources or environments.

Compensation or replacement for habitat losses affecting wildlife resources under the multiple use concept of federal land management should be of last resort. Requests for recommendations for this type of mitigation where significant or irrevocable damage is likely to occur, however, is an appropriate approach when impacts cannot be avoided and have been minimized to the greatest degree possible. Compensatory mitigation may be negotiated between the project developer/project beneficiary, permitting entity, and the Department, and all parties should be in agreement with the type and amount of compensation necessary for each proposed action. This form of mitigation is the least desirable since it accepts the loss of natural habitat values and oftentimes cannot result in total replacement for lost values. Compensation is best applied to wildlife and habitat values that will be adversely impacted after all reasonable measures to avoid and minimize impacts have been implemented; it is not intended nor desirable to use compensation in place of avoidance and minimization strategies. As compensatory mitigation may be a highly sensitive subject, the following specific procedures will be in effect:

- a) The Department may accept monetary contributions or donations as mitigation which are tied to programs or activities designed to offset potential resource losses or for mitigation banking for habitat restoration, enhancement, acquisition projects, or, under special circumstances, research related to the loss of resource(s), provided that a cooperative mitigation agreement has been finalized between the project proponent and the Department.
- b) Compensatory mitigation should be oriented within or adjacent to the project area in a suitable area as to be effective and successful and should be designed to compensate for the same functions, habitat types and species being impacted wherever possible. Off-site compensation should be considered when mitigative measures cannot be applied to adjacent areas or to benefit the same species that are impacted.
- c) All final actions associated with compensatory mitigation will be approved by the Director of the Department to ensure that agreements are consistent with Commission policy and program direction. This measure is not intended to preclude land management or other resource management agencies under appropriate program and procedures, from negotiations, but it is directed at ensuring a uniform statewide approach to fish and wildlife resource mitigation.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, modified, or repealed by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION,
MONTH, DAY, YEAR.

Tommy Caviglia, Chairman
Board of Wildlife Commissioners



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Habitat Division**

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

MEMORANDUM:

OCTOBER 18, 2022

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

From: Jasmine Kleiber, Wildlife Staff Specialist, Habitat Division

Title: **Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review**

Purpose: The Commission will hold a workshop to consider new proposed draft language to NAC 278 on wildlife review of tentative subdivision maps.

Summary

This is draft language for a new regulation to be added to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 278. New draft language includes definitions for “Infill development,” “Substantially vacant,” and “Vacant” relative to subdivision development. Draft language also includes direction for the collection of fees for conducting review of tentative subdivision maps relative to wildlife and/or habitat resources with potential to be impacted, pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 278.337.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

Existing law sets forth an approval process for a subdivision of land, requiring the subdivider of the land to submit a tentative map to the planning commission or governing body of a county or city, as applicable, and requires the tentative map to be forwarded to certain state agencies and local governments for review, including the Nevada Department of Wildlife (“Department”). Existing law also authorizes the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish reasonable fees and procedures for the review of a tentative map (NRS 278.335, 278.337). This regulation sets forth procedures and requirements for the review of a tentative map by the Department.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission review the proposed regulation and move forward for adoption.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R162-22

August 23, 2022

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1-7, NRS 278.335; § 8, NRS 278.335 and 278.337.

A REGULATION relating to land use planning; defining certain terms relating to the review of a tentative map of a subdivision of land; interpreting certain terms for the purpose of the review of a tentative map by the Department of Wildlife; requiring that certain information be submitted to the Department for the review of a tentative map; providing that the Department will provide written comments on a tentative map; establishing certain fees for the review of a tentative map; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law sets forth an approval process for a subdivision of land that requires the subdivider of the land to submit a tentative map to the planning commission or governing body of a county or city, as applicable. (NRS 278.330) Existing law also: (1) requires the tentative map to be forwarded to certain state agencies and local governments for review, which includes, with certain exceptions, the Department of Wildlife; and (2) authorizes the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish reasonable fees for the review of a tentative map. (NRS 278.335, 278.337) This regulation sets forth certain procedures and requirements for the review of a tentative map by the Department.

Sections 3 and 4 of this regulation define certain terms relating to the review of a tentative map.

Under existing law, a tentative map is not required to be forwarded to the Department if the proposed subdivision is infill development which is proposed on a vacant or substantially vacant tract of land that is surrounded by land that is already developed. (NRS 278.335) **Section 5** of this regulation sets forth the interpretation by the Department of the terms “infill development,” “substantially vacant” and “vacant” for the purposes of this exception.

Section 6 of this regulation requires a developer to submit to the Department a tentative map, a review form and the fee required for the review of a tentative map. **Section 6** also sets forth the information that must be included on the review form submitted to the Department.

Section 7 of this regulation provides that the Department will provide written comments on the tentative map and review form which may include methods to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife, mitigation measures, best management practices or required design features.

Section 8 of this regulation sets forth the fees charged by the Department for the review of a tentative map, which are: (1) \$250 for the initial review of the tentative map plus an additional \$5 for each acre shown on the map; and (2) \$5 per acre shown on the tentative map for any subsequent review of modifications to the map.

Section 1. Chapter 278 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *As used in sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this regulation, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 and 4 of this regulation have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

Sec. 3. *“Subdivision” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 278.320.*

Sec. 4. *“Tentative map” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 278.019.*

Sec. 5. *As used in NRS 278.335, the Department of Wildlife interprets the term:*

1. “Infill development” to mean the process of developing vacant or underutilized tracts of land in areas that are already developed.

2. “Substantially vacant” to mean a subdivision of land in which not less than 75 percent of the land is vacant.

3. “Vacant” to mean a subdivision of land in which the land:

(a) Is not occupied or used;

(b) Has not been developed or disturbed; and

(c) Does not have any forage, cover, nesting habitat or any other value necessary for wildlife.

Sec. 6. *1. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 278.335, for each tentative map or a modification to a tentative map submitted pursuant to NRS 278.335, a developer shall submit to the Department of Wildlife for review in printed or electronic form:*

- (a) The tentative map;*
- (b) The review form prescribed by the Department of Wildlife; and*
- (c) The fee required pursuant to section 8 of this regulation.*

2. The review form required pursuant to subsection 1 must include, without limitation:

(a) A map that shows:

(1) The topographic features of the subdivision, including, without limitation, the topographic features of the vicinity of the subdivision; and

(2) The location of the proposed subdivision relative to the nearest city, major highway, cross streets and any other easily identifiable landmarks;

(b) The expected timeline of the development of the subdivision;

(c) The size of the subdivision indicated in acres;

(d) A statement of the type of water system to be used in the subdivision and the water source, which may include, without limitation, private wells or a public water system;

(e) A map of the 100-year floodplain for the location of the subdivision, which must have been prepared using recognized methods of preparing a map by a governmental agency responsible for the areas subject to flooding;

(f) A description of the subdivision by 40-acre legal subdivisions within a designated section, township and range or any other legal description which provides a positive identification of the location of the subdivision;

(g) The names, addresses, phone numbers and any other contact information of all developers of the subdivision; and

(h) A master plan showing the location of future development and the intended use of all the land under the ownership or control of the developers in the vicinity of the subdivision.

3. All items and information required pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 must be submitted to the Department of Wildlife within 5 business days after the tentative map is submitted to the planning commission, or its designated representative, or the clerk of the governing body pursuant to NRS 278.330. If any item or information required pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 are missing, the Department of Wildlife will provide written notice to the developer which identifies the specific item or information that is missing.

4. A developer may submit a tentative map to the Department of Wildlife before submitting the tentative map to the planning commission or governing body to be prereviewed by the Department of Wildlife for any potential wildlife issues. If a developer submits a tentative map pursuant to this subsection, he or she must still submit the tentative map, information and fees required in accordance with subsection 3.

5. The Department of Wildlife will make the review form required pursuant to subsection 1 available on the Internet website of the Department of Wildlife.

6. A developer or other interested party may request wildlife information from the Department of Wildlife before submitting any information required by this section.

Sec. 7. The Department of Wildlife will provide written comments on a tentative map and review form submitted pursuant to section 6 of this regulation by the deadline set forth in subsection 5 of NRS 278.335. The comments provided by the Department of Wildlife may include, without limitation:

- 1. Methods to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife;*
- 2. Recommendations on mitigation measures; or*
- 3. Best management practices or required design features.*

Sec. 8. 1. *The Department of Wildlife will charge the following fees for the review of a tentative map:*

(a) For the review of a tentative map, \$250 plus an additional fee of \$5 for each acre shown on the tentative map; and

(b) For the review of any modifications to a tentative map that was previously submitted to the Department of Wildlife, \$5 for each acre shown on the tentative map.

2. *Any fee required pursuant to subsection 1 must be paid at the same time the developer submits the tentative map and review form to the Department of Wildlife pursuant to section 6 of this regulation.*



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Wildlife Diversity Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 9, 2023

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

From: Jennifer Newmark, Administrator, Wildlife Diversity Division

Title: **Commission General Regulation 506, Possession of Golden Eagles Under Certain Circumstances**

Purpose: The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 to allow for possession of a golden eagle under certain conditions.

Summary

This regulation will determine certain conditions that would allow for possession of a golden eagle, amending NAC 503.200-503.470 and 503.610.

Brief Explanation of Proposed Regulation

This regulation was created after the passage of Senate Bill 125 of the 81st Legislative Session. It would authorize a person who is licensed as a master falconer and who meets certain federal conditions to possess a golden eagle that is obtained from the wild under a new eagle permit if the golden eagle is obtained for rehabilitation purposes, is legally obtained in another state, is legally possessed by a master falconer in another state and that master falconer moves to this State, or if a golden eagle is transferred to the master falconer from another falconer in a manner authorized by this regulation and upon Department approval.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission review the proposed regulation and move forward for adoption.

NBWC Proposed
Changes from
Nov. 2022

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R160-22

September 12, 2022

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

AUTHORITY: §§ 1, 2, 4, 6-12 and 14-20, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.582, 503.583 and 503.610; §§ 3, 5 and 13, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.582, 503.583, 503.597 and 503.610.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; setting forth the requirements for possessing a golden eagle in this State, obtaining an eagle permit and using a golden eagle in the practice of falconry; establishing a civil penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes a person who is licensed as a master falconer and who meets certain federal conditions to possess a golden eagle that is obtained from the wild if the golden eagle: (1) is obtained for rehabilitation purposes; (2) is legally obtained in another state; (3) is legally possessed by a master falconer in another state and that master falconer moves to this State; or (4) is transferred to the master falconer from another falconer in a manner authorized by regulations adopted by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt regulations that authorize such a person to transport, transfer, possess or use a golden eagle in falconry. If such transportation, transfer, possession or use in falconry is authorized, existing law further requires a person who possesses a golden eagle to obtain an eagle permit. An eagle permit: (1) is deemed to be a permit to possess a golden eagle for the purposes of certain provisions of federal law; and (2) authorizes the holder to lawfully transport, transfer, possess or use a golden eagle in falconry in the manner set forth in the eagle permit. (50 C.F.R. § 22.70, NRS 503.610)

Section 3 of this regulation prohibits, with certain exceptions, a person from possessing a golden eagle that is obtained from the wild or using a golden eagle in falconry unless the person: (1) has a valid master falconry license and an eagle permit; and (2) if the person rehabilitates a golden eagle, has a valid permit to do so. **Section 3** further: (1) authorizes, under certain circumstances, a person who is not a resident of this State to use a golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State; and (2) requires certain persons who move to this State with the intent to make this State their permanent residence to obtain a master falconry license and an eagle permit not later than 60 days after becoming a resident.

Section 13 of this regulation makes a conforming change to create an exception to the requirement that a person who moves to this State obtain a falconry license from the Department of Wildlife not more than 30 days after becoming a resident.

Section 17 of this regulation makes a conforming change to make an exception to the prohibition on the taking, transportation, possession or use of golden eagles in the practice of falconry.

Section 2 of this regulation defines the term “eagle permit.”

Section 4 of this regulation sets forth the requirements for an application for and the renewal of an eagle permit.

Section 5 of this regulation sets forth the requirements for a person who is not a resident of this State to obtain authorization to use a golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State.

Section 6 of this regulation requires a master falconry licensee with an eagle permit to ensure that any golden eagle in his or her possession is in good condition.

Existing regulations set forth various requirements for each facility that houses a raptor. (NAC 503.375-503.395) **Section 7** of this regulation: (1) provides that such requirements apply to a golden eagle; and (2) requires a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit to ensure that each facility that houses a golden eagle be at least 12 feet long, 12 feet wide and 8 feet tall. **Section 12** of this regulation makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **section 7** in the Nevada Administrative Code.

Section 8 of this regulation: (1) prohibits, with certain exceptions, a master falconry licensee from possessing a golden eagle for rehabilitation for more than 2 years after the date on which the master falconry licensee receives the golden eagle for rehabilitation; and (2) sets forth certain requirements for releasing a golden eagle from rehabilitation.

Section 9 of this regulation authorizes the Department to suspend, revoke or deny the issuance or renewal of an eagle permit under certain circumstances.

Section 10 of this regulation requires the Department to impose a civil penalty of \$1,000 against any person, firm, company, corporation or association who unlawfully kills, destroys, wounds, traps, injures, possesses dead or alive, or in any other manner catches, captures, takes or removes from the wild, or to pursue with such intent, the birds known as the bald eagle and the golden eagle, or takes or removes from the wild, injures, possesses or destroys the nests, eggs or newly hatched offspring of such birds.

Section 11 of this regulation amends the definition of the term “raptor” so that it includes a golden eagle and so that the various regulations relating to raptors apply to golden eagles.

Existing regulations set forth certain conditions for retaining raptor feathers that are molted or are from raptors held in captivity that die and provides that such feathers may be retained and exchanged for imping purposes only. (NAC 503.205) **Section 12** provides that a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit may only possess primary wing feathers and not more than 12 tail feathers of a golden eagle for imping purposes.

Existing regulations authorize the Department to deny the issuance or renewal of any class of falconry license or permit if the applicant has been convicted of a violation of the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Code relating to raptors. (NAC 503.235) **Section 14** of this regulation clarifies that such provisions include **sections 2-10**.

Existing regulations prohibit a master falconry licensee from possessing more than five raptors. (NAC 503.250) **Section 15** of this regulation prohibits, with certain exceptions, a master falconry licensee from possessing more than two golden eagles.

Existing regulations require a person holding a falconry license to allow the Department's employees to enter his or her premises at any reasonable hour to conduct certain inspections related to raptors, including the facilities that house raptors. (NAC 503.260) **Section 16** of this regulation clarifies that this provision also applies to facilities that house golden eagles.

Section 18 of this regulation clarifies that the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Code that require each raptor to be housed in humane and healthful conditions also apply to golden eagles.

Existing regulations provide that the owner of a raptor that dies may: (1) keep or donate the feathers; (2) donate the body of the raptor to certain persons; (3) under certain circumstances, have the raptor mounted by a taxidermist; or (4) dispose of the body and feathers of the raptor. (NAC 503.460) **Section 19** of this regulation provides that if a golden eagle in the possession of a master falconry licensee dies, the licensee is required to surrender the body and feathers of the golden eagle to the Department not later than 5 business days after the discovery of the death.

Existing regulations provide that the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Code related to raptors must not be construed to exempt any person from the provisions of federal law relating to raptors or falconry. (NAC 503.470) **Section 20** of this regulation clarifies that this requirement also applies to the provisions of **sections 2-10**.

Section 1. Chapter 503 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *As used in NRS 503.610 and NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation, "eagle permit" means a permit issued by the Department pursuant to NRS 503.610 authorizing a person who is a master falconry licensee to transport, transfer, possess or use a golden eagle in falconry.*

Sec. 3. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person shall not possess ~~a golden eagle that is obtained from the wild~~ or use a golden eagle in falconry unless the person:*

(a) Has a valid master falconry license issued by the Department pursuant to NAC 503.240;

(b) Has a valid eagle permit issued pursuant to section 4 of this regulation;

(c) Has a current and valid hunting license issued pursuant to chapter 502 of NRS; and

(d) *If the person rehabilitates a golden eagle, has a valid permit to rehabilitate raptors pursuant to NAC 503.315¹ or must be assisting a raptor rehabilitator pursuant to NAC 503.435.*

2. *A person who is not a resident of this State, holds a valid master falconry license issued by the appropriate agency of the jurisdiction in which the person resides and otherwise legally possesses a golden eagle in that jurisdiction may use the golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State if the person:*

(a) *Possesses a valid nonresident hunting license issued pursuant to chapter 502 of NRS; and*

(b) *Obtains written authorization from the Department pursuant to section 5 of this regulation.*

3. *If a person moves to this State with the intent to make this State his or her permanent residence and lawfully brings a golden eagle into this State, the person must obtain a master falconry license pursuant to NAC 503.240 and an eagle permit pursuant to section 4 of this regulation not later than ³⁰~~60~~ days after becoming a resident of this State.*

Sec. 4. 1. *An applicant for an eagle permit must include on his or her application for the eagle permit:*

(a) *The name of the applicant.*

(b) *The physical and mailing address of the applicant's residence and address of eagle's location.*

(c) *The telephone number of the applicant's residence.*

(d) *The date of birth of the applicant.*

(e) ~~*The driver's license number of the applicant, if he or she has been issued a driver's license.*~~ *The applicant's Client ID number.*

(f) ~~*The social security number of the applicant.*~~

(g) A copy of the applicant's current and valid master falconry license.

(h) A copy of the applicant's current and valid hunting license issued pursuant to chapter 502 of NRS.

(i) If the applicant is a raptor rehabilitator, a copy of the applicant's permit to rehabilitate raptors issued pursuant to NAC 503.315A or letter from the licensed rehabilitator who is requesting and authorizing assistance from the applicant.

(j) Two letters of reference from persons who hold master falconry licenses in this State or another state and who lawfully possess a golden eagle in the United States. Each letter must:

(1) Assess the applicant's ability to care for golden eagles and fly golden eagles in falconry, and:

(2) Contain a concise history of the author's experience with golden eagles, including, without limitation, whether the author has experience in handling golden eagles in zoos, rehabilitating golden eagles or scientifically studying golden eagles.

(k) A narrative explanation of the applicant's direct experience with golden eagles or other large raptors. The narrative explanation must include, without limitation, information about the species of raptor with which the applicant has direct experience and the type and duration of activity in which the applicant acquired such direct experience.

(l) Proof that the facility in which the applicant currently houses raptors conforms to the applicable requirements of NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive, and section 7 of this regulation.

(m) Proof that the facility in which the applicant will house a golden eagle conforms to the requirements of NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive, and section 7 of this regulation.

(n) Any other information that the Department determines is necessary and related to whether the applicant will safely and humanely house, care for and possess a golden eagle.

2. *An eagle permit is valid for 1 year.*

3. *A master falconry licensee with an eagle permit may apply to renew the eagle permit by submitting an application that ~~meets~~ ^{includes copies of} the requirements set forth in subsection 1A ^{and submitted with their original approved application.}*

Sec. 5. 1. *A person who is not a resident of this State, is licensed as a master falconer in another state, legally possesses a golden eagle in that state and wishes to use that golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State pursuant to section 3 of this regulation shall submit to the Department a form prescribed by the Department that includes, without limitation, the date or dates on which the person wants to use the golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State. Upon confirmation that the person meets the requirements set forth in section 3 of this regulation to use the golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State, a representative of the Department must sign and return the form to the person.*

2. *Any person who is not a resident of this State who uses a golden eagle in the practice of falconry in this State shall have in his or her possession during the hunt and have ready for inspection by a game warden or representative of the Department:*

(a) *His or her master falconry license issued by his or her state of residence and any other documents from his or her state of residence that prove that he or she legally possesses the golden eagle;*

(b) *A nonresident hunting license issued pursuant to chapter 502 of NRS; and*

(c) *The form that is obtained and signed pursuant to subsection 1.*

Sec. 6. 1. *A master falconry licensee with an eagle permit must ensure that any golden eagle in his or her possession is in good condition.*

2. *Except as otherwise provided in this section, a golden eagle is not in good condition if:*

(a) *More than five primary flight feathers are broken;*

(b) More than four tail feathers are broken;

(c) The body weight of the golden eagle indicates malnourishment, as determined by the Department; or

(d) The golden eagle has an excessive parasite load, as determined by the Department.

3. If the Department determines that a golden eagle that is in the possession of a master falconry licensee is not in good condition, the Department may:

(a) Remove the golden eagle from the possession of the master falconry licensee; or

(b) Provide the master falconry licensee with an opportunity to improve the condition of the golden eagle for a period not to exceed 6 months. If the Department provides a master falconry licensee such an opportunity, the master falconry licensee must, before the end of the period, provide the Department with written confirmation from a qualified veterinarian that the golden eagle is in good condition or the Department may remove the golden eagle from the possession of the master falconry licensee.

4. The provisions of this section do not prohibit a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit and is a raptor rehabilitator to rehabilitate a golden eagle that has one or more of the conditions described in subsection 2.

Sec. 7. In addition to the requirements of NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive, a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit must ensure that each facility that houses an individual golden eagle in his or her possession is ~~at least 12 feet in length, 12 feet in width~~

and ~~8 feet in height~~.¹ large enough to allow the eagle to fly if it is untethered or, if tethered, to fully extend its wings or bate, without damaging its feathers or contacting other raptors.

Sec. 8. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a master falconry licensee shall not possess a golden eagle for purposes of rehabilitation for more than 2 years after the date on which the master falconry licensee receives the golden eagle for rehabilitation.

2. *A master falconry licensee that possesses a golden eagle for purposes of rehabilitation shall not release the golden eagle into the wild until the golden eagle has been declared rehabilitated by the Department or a licensed veterinarian, raptor rehabilitator or wildlife rehabilitator licensed or permitted by the Department or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.*

3. *If a golden eagle is not rehabilitated within 2 years after being in the possession of the master falconry licensee, the master falconry licensee must notify the Department in the manner required by the Department. Such notification must be received by the Department not later than 30 days after the expiration of the 2-year period described in subsection 1. The Department may authorize the master falconry licensee to possess the golden eagle for more than 2 years.*

4. *A rehabilitated golden eagle must be released in a location that is as close as possible to where the golden eagle was captured, taken or removed from the wild, or at an appropriate location authorized by the Department.*

Sec. 9. 1. *The Department may deny issuance or renewal of an eagle permit or may suspend or revoke an eagle permit if the applicant or holder of the eagle permit:*

(a) Made a material misstatement in or falsified any document required for an application for an eagle permit;

(b) Failed to provide or maintain the housing and care for a golden eagle that is required by NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive, and section 7 of this regulation;

(c) Failed to ensure that a golden eagle was maintained in good condition, as described in section 6 of this regulation;

(d) Has been convicted of violating any provision of NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation; or

(e) Has been convicted of violating any law or regulation of any state or the federal government relating to animal welfare or wildlife.

2. A person whose eagle permit was denied, suspended or revoked by the Department may appeal to the Commission.

Sec. 10. *The Department shall impose a civil penalty of \$1,000 against any person, firm, company, corporation or association who violates subsection 1 of NRS 503.610.*

Sec. 11. NAC 503.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.200 As used in NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation*, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Abatement” means the training and use of a raptor to flush, haze or take wildlife for the purpose of mitigating depredation and nuisance problems, including, without limitation, threats to human health and safety.

2. “Bate” means to attempt to fly while tethered.

3. “Captive-bred” or “bred in captivity” means raptors, including eggs, hatched in captivity from parents that mated or otherwise transferred gametes in captivity.

4. “Captivity” means a live raptor that is held in a controlled environment which is intensively manipulated by humans for the purpose of producing raptors of selected species, and which has boundaries designed to prevent raptors, eggs or gametes of the selected species from entering or leaving the controlled environment.

5. “Eyas” means a nestling bird not yet capable of flight.

6. “Facility” means an indoor or outdoor facility used for housing a raptor.

7. “Falconry” means the sport of taking, or attempting to take, quarry by means of a trained raptor.

8. “Falconry licensee” means a person who holds an apprentice, general or master falconry license.

9. “Form 3-186A” means:

(a) Form 3-186A provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; or

(b) If the United States Fish and Wildlife Service no longer provides Form 3-186A, any form provided by the Department for reporting the acquisition, transfer, release, loss, rebanding, implantation, death or theft of a raptor.

10. “Hack” means to train a raptor for falconry by temporarily releasing and subsequently taking the raptor.

11. “Hybrid raptor” means a raptor that is:

(a) The offspring of raptors listed as two or more distinct species in 50 C.F.R. § 10.13; or

(b) The offspring of raptors recognized by ornithological authorities as two or more distinct species listed in 50 C.F.R. § 10.13.

12. “Owner of a raptor” means a person who has reported the acquisition of a raptor to the Department on Form 3-186A and who has not subsequently reported the transfer, release, loss, death or theft of the raptor to the Department on Form 3-186A.

13. “Passage” means a bird that has fledged and is less than 1 year of age.

14. “Raptor” means a live migratory bird of the order *Accipitriformes*, *Falconiformes* or *Strigiformes*, other than the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), ~~for the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);~~ regardless of whether the raptor was originally taken from the wild or is a captive-bred raptor, is a hybrid raptor, is protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq., or is used in falconry.

15. “Raptor rehabilitator” means a person who has been issued a permit to rehabilitate raptors pursuant to NAC 503.315.

16. “Retake” means to take, by a falconry licensee who is not the person who originally identified the raptor as a falconry raptor, a raptor that has been marked with a leg band, transmitter or any other item identifying it as a falconry raptor.

17. “Take” means to trap or capture, or attempt to trap or capture, a raptor for the purpose of falconry.

Sec. 12. NAC 503.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.205 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 and NAC 503.228, 503.405 and 503.415, it is unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, possess or sell any species of owl, hawk or other bird of prey, including any raptor or its parts, without first obtaining a license or permit from the headquarters of the Department.

2. The Department shall not issue a license or permit authorizing a person to possess a raptor unless the facility at which the raptor will be housed satisfies the requirements of NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive ~~H~~, *and section 7 of this regulation.*

3. A person shall not transport, fly or otherwise work with a raptor outside of the facility at which the raptor is housed without having the license or permit required pursuant to subsection 1 in his or her immediate possession.

4. A falconry licensee who lawfully possesses a raptor may allow a person who is not a falconry licensee to hold or practice flying the raptor if the falconry licensee is present and supervising the person.

5. Raptor eggs may not be taken or possessed, except that raptor eggs laid by a bird in the possession of a person who holds a permit for captive propagation of raptors may be possessed if

the holder of the permit notifies the headquarters of the Department in writing within 5 business days after the first egg has been laid. Eggs laid by a raptor held under the authority of a falconry license must be reported by the falconry licensee to the Department within 5 business days after the first egg has been laid. The falconry licensee will dispose of the egg as directed by the Department.

6. Raptor feathers that are molted or are from raptors held in captivity that die, may be retained and exchanged by falconry licensees for imping purposes only and subject to the following conditions:

(a) Raptor feathers may not be purchased, sold or bartered.

(b) A falconry licensee may:

(1) Possess feathers for each species of raptor he or she lawfully possesses or has possessed ~~;~~, ~~except that a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit may only possess primary wing feathers and not more than 12 tail feathers of a golden eagle;~~ ;

(2) Receive feathers for each species of raptor he or she lawfully possesses or has possessed from any other falconry licensee, a propagator in the United States, a raptor rehabilitator or a wildlife rehabilitator licensed or permitted by the Department or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

(3) Donate feathers to a falconry licensee, a propagator in the United States, a raptor rehabilitator, a wildlife rehabilitator licensed or permitted by the Department or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, any person otherwise authorized by a license or permit to acquire and possess raptor feathers or any person or institution exempt from those license or permit requirements pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 21.12.

(c) If a license or permit authorizing a person to possess raptor feathers expires or is revoked, any raptor feathers possessed by the person must be:

(1) Donated to a falconry licensee, a propagator in the United States, a raptor rehabilitator, a wildlife rehabilitator licensed or permitted by the Department or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, any person otherwise authorized by a license or permit to acquire and possess raptor feathers or any person or institution exempt from those license or permit requirements pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 21.12; or

(2) Burned, buried or otherwise destroyed.

Sec. 13. NAC 503.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.220 1. It is unlawful, except by the written consent and approval of the Department, for any person at any time to receive, bring, or have brought or shipped into the State of Nevada, or to remove from one portion of this State to any other portion or to any other state, any raptor or any eggs or young of any raptor.

2. Any falconry licensee whose license lists the raptors in his or her possession may bring into this State or remove to any other state any raptor listed on the license without having a permit for importation or exportation if a seamless leg band or a permanent, nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the Department, as appropriate, is attached to the raptor.

3. A falconry licensee who:

(a) Is a resident of this State;

(b) Possesses a raptor pursuant to his or her license; and

(c) Moves to another state and brings the raptor to the other state pursuant to subsection 2,

→ shall, not later than 30 days after the move, notify the Department of the move and provide to the Department his or her current residential address.

4. A person who is not a resident of this State and who holds a valid falconry license issued by the appropriate agency of the jurisdiction in which the person resides may bring into or remove from this State a raptor in his or her possession under the authority of that falconry license without having a permit for the importation or exportation of a raptor issued by the Department if a seamless leg band or a permanent, nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the appropriate agency of the jurisdiction which issued the license if required, as appropriate, is attached to the raptor.

5. A person who:

(a) Moves to this State with the intent to make this State his or her permanent residence; and

(b) Brings a raptor into this State pursuant to subsection 4,

→ may , *except as otherwise provided in section 3 of this regulation*, continue to possess the raptor for not more than 30 days after becoming a resident of this State pursuant to NRS 502.015 before he or she must obtain a falconry license from the Department.

6. A raptor taken from the wild in Nevada by a resident of this State may not be permanently removed from this State unless the:

(a) Resident holds a valid license issued by the Department pursuant to NRS 503.583 and leaves this State to establish his or her domicile in another state; or

(b) Raptor has been held for at least 1 year.

Sec. 14. NAC 503.235 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.235 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9 and NAC 503.415, a person who is a resident of the State of Nevada and who practices falconry or trains birds of prey must obtain

a falconry license of the proper class from the Department. An applicant for a falconry license must include on his or her application:

- (a) The name of the applicant;
- (b) The physical and mailing address of the applicant's residence;
- (c) The telephone number of the applicant's residence;
- (d) The date of birth of the applicant;
- (e) The driver's license number of the applicant, if he or she has been issued a driver's license;
- (f) The social security number of the applicant;
- (g) The number of raptors the applicant possesses and the species of each;
- (h) The age of each raptor, if known;
- (i) The sex of each raptor, if known;
- (j) The source and date of acquisition of each raptor;
- (k) The leg band number, if required, of each raptor;
- (l) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (m), the applicant's signature and the date on which he or she signed the application;
- (m) For an applicant who is less than 18 years of age, the signature of a parent or legal guardian of the applicant; and
- (n) For an application for an apprentice falconry license, a certification statement in substantially the following form:

I certify that I have read and am familiar with the provisions of Part 13 of Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations and any other applicable sections of Subchapter B of Chapter

I of Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations and that the information I have submitted is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any intentionally false statement herein may subject me to criminal penalties under federal law, as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

2. If the applicant has moved to this State with the intention of making this State his or her permanent residence and the applicant holds a falconry license issued by the state from which he or she is moving, the applicant may attach a copy of his or her falconry license to his or her application in lieu of taking the examination required by subsection 4. If the applicant fails to attach a copy of his or her falconry license issued by the applicant's previous state of residence, he or she will be required to take the examination required by subsection 4.

3. If the applicant has moved to this State with the intent to make this State his or her permanent residence and the applicant holds a falconry license issued by a country other than the United States, the applicant must attach a copy of his or her falconry license to his or her application and must take the examination required by subsection 4 before being issued a falconry license. If the applicant correctly answers 80 percent of the questions on the examination, the Department shall determine, based on the requirements of NAC 503.240 and any documentation of experience in falconry submitted by the applicant, which class of falconry license to issue to the applicant.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, before the Department issues a falconry license pursuant to this section or reinstates a falconry license pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 5, the applicant must correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on a supervised examination approved by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and

administered by the Department. The examination will test the applicant's knowledge of basic biology, the care and handling of raptors, and the literature, laws, and regulations, and other subjects relating to falconry. Failure of the examination will result in a 30-day waiting period after the date of the written examination before reexamination.

5. If the falconry license of an applicant has been expired:

(a) For less than 5 years, the Department may reinstate the license at the class previously held by the applicant if the applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the Department that the applicant previously held that class of license; or

(b) For 5 years or more, the Department may reinstate the license at the class previously held by the applicant if the applicant:

(1) Provides evidence satisfactory to the Department that the applicant previously held that class of license; and

(2) Correctly answers at least 80 percent of the questions on the examination required by subsection 4.

6. A person must possess a valid falconry license when practicing falconry. In addition, a person who releases a raptor at game birds or game mammals during the open season must possess a valid hunting license issued by the Department.

7. The Department may deny issuance or renewal of any class of falconry license or permit if the applicant has been convicted of a violation of any provision of NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive **H**, *and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation*. An applicant whose license has been denied may appeal the denial to the Commission.

8. A person who is not a resident of the State of Nevada and who possesses a valid falconry license issued by the state or country of which he or she is a resident does not have to obtain a

falconry license of the proper class from the Department to practice falconry while visiting this State.

9. A person who possesses a raptor solely for commercial displays or exhibitions is not required to obtain a falconry license if:

(a) The species of raptor used or to be used in the commercial display or exhibition is not listed as a protected species by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.; and

(b) The raptor is not used for the sport of falconry.

Sec. 15. NAC 503.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.250 1. An apprentice falconry licensee:

(a) Shall not possess more than one raptor nor obtain more than one raptor for replacement during any calendar year.

(b) May possess a raptor of any species of the order *Falconiformes* or *Strigiformes*, including, without limitation, wild, captive-bred or hybrid raptors, except a raptor of the following species:

- (1) Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);
- (2) Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*);
- (3) White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*);
- (4) Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);
- (5) White-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*);
- (6) Steller's sea eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*);
- (7) Any owl except a great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*); or
- (8) Any species listed as endangered or threatened pursuant to the federal Endangered

Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (d) and (e), may possess a raptor which was originally taken from the wild.

(d) Shall not possess a raptor which was taken from the wild as a nestling.

(e) Shall not possess a raptor that is imprinted on humans.

2. A general falconry licensee:

(a) Shall not possess more than three raptors nor obtain more than two raptors for replacement during any calendar year.

(b) May possess a raptor of any species of the order *Falconiformes* or *Strigiformes*, including, without limitation, a wild, captive-bred or hybrid raptor, except a raptor of a species listed or described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

3. A master falconry licensee:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (b) ~~and (e)~~, (c) and (d), shall not possess more than five raptors taken from the wild nor obtain more than two raptors taken from the wild for replacement during any calendar year.

(b) ~~May~~ *Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d), may* possess a raptor of any species of the order *Falconiformes* or *Strigiformes*, including, without limitation, wild, captive-bred or hybrid raptors, except a raptor of a species listed or described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

(c) May possess any number of captive-bred raptors if the master falconry licensee is actively using the raptors for hunting or training the raptors in the pursuit of game birds or game mammals.

(d) If the master falconry licensee has an eagle permit, except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, may not possess more than two golden eagles of the five raptors that are authorized pursuant to paragraph (a).

4. The Department may authorize a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit to possess more than two golden eagles if the master falconry licensee is a raptor rehabilitator and is rehabilitating any additional golden eagle. Nothing in this subsection authorizes a master falconry licensee who has an eagle permit to possess more than five raptors.

Sec. 16. NAC 503.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.260 1. Any person holding a falconry license must allow the Department's employees to enter his or her premises at any reasonable hour:

(a) To inspect equipment, mews or other raptor housing facilities to ensure compliance with the provisions of NAC 503.375 to 503.395, inclusive ~~§~~, *and section 7 of this regulation;*

(b) To inspect raptors possessed by the falconry licensee; and

(c) To inspect, audit or copy any permit, book or record required to be kept by the provisions of NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation* or federal regulations relating to falconry.

2. Refusal to allow inspection of raptors, facilities and equipment during reasonable hours will result in the denial of issuance or revocation of the raptor license or permit and seizure of any raptor in the falconry licensee's possession.

Sec. 17. NAC 503.305 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.305 A holder of a permit to take raptors is subject to the following conditions:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, a general or master falconry licensee may take only raptors less than 1 year of age and only during the period specified by the Commission.

No more than two eyasses may be taken by a holder of a permit to take raptors during that period.

2. At least one eyas must be left in each nest or aerie from which any eyas is taken.
3. The physical characteristics of a nest or aerie from which any eyas is taken may not be altered.
4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, passage birds may be taken only during the period specified by the Commission.
5. The only raptors over 1 year of age which may be taken are the American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) and the great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), except that under a depredation (special purpose) permit which was jointly authorized by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department, any raptor other than raptors of threatened or endangered species may be taken for falconry purposes by a general or master falconry licensee.
6. An apprentice falconry licensee may take only passage birds of the species specified on the falconry license of the apprentice falconry licensee.
7. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 503.370, peregrine falcons may not be taken in Nevada. A peregrine falcon that is legally obtained may be imported and possessed under the terms and conditions of a falconry license issued by the Department.
8. Birds of the following species may not be taken, transported, possessed or used in the practice of falconry:
 - (a) Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);
 - (b) Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*);
 - (c) White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*);

(d) ~~{Golden}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation,*
golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos);

(e) White-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*);

(f) ~~{Stellar's}~~ *Steller's* sea eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*);

(g) Any owl except the great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*); and

(h) Any species listed as endangered or threatened pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.

9. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 503.350 to 503.370, inclusive, if the holder takes a raptor that the holder is not authorized to possess, the holder shall release the raptor immediately.

10. Permits to take raptors are not transferable.

Sec. 18. NAC 503.375 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.375 1. Each raptor possessed pursuant to NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation* must be housed in humane and healthful conditions.

2. The owner of a raptor is responsible for the conditions in which the raptor is housed.

3. A facility that houses raptors must:

(a) Protect each raptor housed therein from wild and domesticated predators;

(b) Have available for each raptor housed therein a perch that is suitable for the raptor;

(c) Have at least one opening for sunlight; and

(d) Provide a healthy environment for each raptor housed therein.

4. Raptors that are not tethered while being housed may be housed in the same facility only if they are compatible with each other.

5. A raptor that is not tethered while being housed must be housed in a facility of sufficient size to allow the raptor to fly.

6. A raptor that is tethered while being housed must be tethered in a manner which allows the raptor to extend its wings fully or bate without damaging its wings or making contact with another raptor.

7. Each raptor must have continuous access to a pan of clean water unless weather conditions, the type of perch used or another circumstance makes continuous access to a pan of clean water unsafe for the raptor.

8. Subject to the provisions of this section, the owner of a raptor may house a raptor in a temporary facility for not more than 120 consecutive days.

Sec. 19. NAC 503.460 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.460 1. ~~{An}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an* owner of a raptor that dies may, without limitation:

(a) Keep or donate the feathers of the raptor pursuant to subsection 6 of NAC 503.205;

(b) Donate the body of the raptor to any person authorized by permit to acquire and possess the body of a raptor or to any person or institution exempt from that requirement pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 21.12;

(c) If a leg band was attached to the raptor or the raptor had a microchip implanted in its body, have the raptor mounted by a taxidermist; or

(d) Dispose of the body and feathers of the raptor.

2. *If a golden eagle in the possession of a master falconry licensee dies, the master falconry licensee shall surrender the body and feathers of the golden eagle to the Department not later than 5 business days after the discovery of the death.*

3. If a taxidermist mounts the raptor:

- (a) The mount may be used in a conservation education program; and
- (b) The leg band must remain on the raptor or the microchip must remain in place.

~~3.~~ 4. If a taxidermist does not keep, donate or mount the body and feathers of the raptor, they must be burned, buried or otherwise destroyed not later than 10 days after:

- (a) The final examination by a veterinarian to determine the cause of death; or
- (b) If such an examination is not conducted, the death of the raptor.

Sec. 20. NAC 503.470 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.470 The provisions of NAC 503.200 to 503.470, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of this regulation* must not be construed to exempt any person from the provisions of any federal law relating to raptors or falconry.



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

DECEMBER 27, 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, Game Division Administrator Mike Scott

Title: **Commission General Regulation 502, Junior and Turkey Hunt Programs**

Purpose: The Commission consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 502 that would remove the Turkey harvest return card deadline from NAC to be included in the annual Commission Regulation. Allow for junior turkey bonus point holders to roll over their accumulated points into the adult category once they are no longer eligible to participate in the junior turkey hunt program. Limit the amount of successfully awarded tags through the junior hunt programs to three (3).

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

To keep consistency, the Department is proposing changes to the business rules regarding the turkey harvest return card and bonus point programs. The proposed changes would align with the business rules established for the big game species by allowing an applicant who failed to submit their turkey harvest return card by the established deadline to pay the \$50 associated fee and complete the survey during the following year's turkey application period in order to lift the applied suspension and successfully submit an application. The changes would also allow for juniors participating in the junior turkey hunt program to roll their accumulated bonus points into the adult category once they are no longer eligible for participation as a junior turkey hunter.

Additionally, the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee has proposed a limitation to participation in the junior hunt programs that would make an applicant ineligible for future participation in the junior hunt programs after three (3) successfully awarded junior tags. This limitation is specific to the species being applied for.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission review, amend if needed, and adopt the proposed regulation.

**REVISED PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R051-21

August 4, 2022

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 501.105 and 501.181; §§ 2 and 4-6, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 502.160; §3, NRS 501.105, 501.119, 501.181 and 502.160.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to eligibility to apply for a junior hunt; revising provisions relating to the submission of a questionnaire issued as part of a tag to hunt wild turkey; revising provisions relating to the awarding of bonus points for certain applicants for a tag to hunt wild turkey; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations necessary to preserve, protect, manage and restore wildlife and its habitat and to carry out the provisions governing wildlife, including, without limitation, the manner and means of taking wildlife. (NRS 501.105, 501.181) Existing regulations prescribe requirements governing the eligibility of a person to apply to engage in a junior hunt. (NAC 502.063, 502.333) **Section 2** of this regulation revises provisions relating to the length of time during which an applicant may apply for a junior hunt by providing that a person who is otherwise eligible to apply for a junior hunt may apply for a junior hunt for not more than 5 years or the length of time required for the person to successfully obtain three tags for a junior hunt, whichever is sooner. **Section 6** of this regulation makes a conforming change relating to the transfer of unused bonus points for persons who become ineligible to apply for a junior hunt.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Wildlife to obtain necessary data from hunters, trappers and anglers relative to their activities and success through the use of reports or questionnaires. If a report or questionnaire is not returned within the period specified by regulation of the Commission, existing law authorizes the Commission to deny the person the right to acquire certain licenses for a period of 1 year and levy an administrative fine against the person. (NRS 501.119) **Section 3** of this regulation revises requirements relating to a questionnaire issued as part of a tag to hunt wild turkey by requiring that such a questionnaire be received by the Department not later than the deadline established in an annual regulation of the Commission. **Section 4** of this regulation revises provisions relating to the awarding of bonus points to certain applicants for a tag to hunt wild turkey by replacing a requirement that such applicants must be awarded bonus points for the hunt number of the species for which an applicant applied with a requirement that the applicant be awarded a bonus point for the category

of the species for which he or she applied. **Sections 1 and 5** of this regulation make conforming changes relating to the manner in which bonus points may be awarded by the Department for a tag to hunt wild turkey.

Section 1. NAC 502.105 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.105 “Type of hunt” means a hunt authorized by a regulation of the Commission, for which tags are awarded pursuant to application, that differs from another hunt in one or more of the following ways:

1. The species to be hunted for any species other than a species that is included in a category of a species pursuant to subsection 2;
2. The category of the species, subspecies and gender to be hunted as described in ~~subsection 1 of~~ NAC 502.4188;
3. The weapons to be used;
4. The residency of applicants; and
5. The method of drawing applications for the award of tags.

Sec. 2. NAC 502.333 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.333 A person who is otherwise eligible to apply for a junior hunt may apply for a junior hunt for not more than 5 years ~~or~~ *or the length of time required for the person to successfully obtain three tags for a junior hunt, whichever is sooner.*

Sec. 3. NAC 502.407 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.407 1. Unless otherwise provided by an annual regulation of the Commission, the properly completed questionnaire issued as part of a turkey tag must be received by the Department not later than ~~11 p.m. on:~~

~~—(a) May 31, or the next business day if May 31 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the season for the spring hunt for turkey; or~~

~~—(b) November 30, or the next business day if November 30 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the season for the fall hunt for turkey.}~~ *the deadline established in an annual regulation of the Commission.*

2. ~~{A}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a* person who fails to return the questionnaire or the information required by the questionnaire ~~{within}~~ *on or before* the ~~{period specified}~~ *deadline* or who submits incomplete or false information on the questionnaire is ineligible for all turkey tags for 1 year.

3. A person who is ineligible for a tag pursuant to subsection 2 may have those privileges reinstated if the person:

(a) Pays to the Department an administrative fine of \$50; and

(b) Submits to the Department the properly completed questionnaire issued as part of the turkey tag or the information required by the questionnaire.

~~{4. A person who seeks to have privileges reinstated pursuant to the provisions of subsection 3 must perform the actions specified in that subsection not later than 11 p.m. on:~~

~~—(a) June 30, or the next business day if June 30 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the spring hunt for turkey; or~~

~~—(b) December 31, or the next business day if December 31 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the fall hunt for turkey.}~~

Sec. 4. NAC 502.4187 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4187 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.417 to 502.4225, inclusive, an applicant to obtain a tag for a season who is unsuccessful, or an applicant for a bonus point who does not wish to obtain a tag and is applying for the sole purpose of earning a bonus point, must be awarded a bonus point for ~~†~~:

~~—(a) The hunt number of the species for which the applicant applied if he or she applied for a:~~

~~—(1) Tag to hunt wild turkey; or~~

~~—(2) Bonus point for a tag described in subparagraph (1); or~~

~~—(b) The~~ *the* category of the species for which he or she applied if he or she applied for a tag to hunt deer, elk, mountain goat, antelope, black bear, moose, *wild turkey* or bighorn sheep, or for a bonus point for such a tag.

↳ Regardless of the number of applications to obtain a tag or bonus point for a season submitted by a person, the Department shall not award the person more than one bonus point per season per hunting license for each species or category of a species for which the person applied.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the bonus points awarded to a person for a species or category of species accumulate until the person loses his or her bonus points pursuant to this subsection. A person loses all of his or her bonus points for a species or category of a species:

(a) If the person is successful in drawing a tag for a season for that species or category of a species; or

(b) If the person does not apply for a tag or a bonus point for a season for 2 consecutive calendar years during which that type of hunt for a season is open.

3. Upon written request, the Department shall reinstate each bonus point a person lost pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 if:

(a) During the entirety of the respective 2 consecutive calendar years, the person was mobilized, deployed, training or stationed outside of the United States as an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as verified by a copy of his or her orders or other proof satisfactory to the Department; and

(b) The request is submitted to the Department not later than 1 year after the date the person returns to the United States.

4. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.4189, a person may not use any bonus points awarded to the person for being unsuccessful in a junior hunt to apply for a drawing for a tag for any other type of hunt after the person is no longer eligible to participate in a junior hunt.

5. If an applicant requests and receives a refund for the value of his or her hunting license, the Department shall not award the applicant a bonus point for any species or category of species applied for during the period that the applicant possessed the hunting license.

6. The Department shall not award bonus points for depredation hunts or management hunts.

7. As used in this section, “management hunt” means a hunt established to seek the harvest of additional wildlife within a population.

Sec. 5. NAC 502.4188 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4188 ~~1.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, any~~ **Any** bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program must be awarded in one of the following categories of species, subspecies and gender:

- ~~1(a)~~ **1.** Antlered mule deer;
- ~~1(b)~~ **2.** Antlerless mule deer;
- ~~1(c)~~ **3.** Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;
- ~~1(d)~~ **4.** Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;
- ~~1(e)~~ **5.** Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;
- ~~1(f)~~ **6.** Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;
- ~~1(g)~~ **7.** Spike Rocky Mountain elk;

~~{(h)}~~ 8. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are longer than their ears;

~~{(i)}~~ 9. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are shorter than their ears;

~~{(j)}~~ 10. Rams, from one of the following subspecies:

~~{(1)}~~ (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;

~~{(2)}~~ (b) California bighorn sheep; or

~~{(3)}~~ (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

~~{(k)}~~ 11. Ewes, from one of the following subspecies:

~~{(1)}~~ (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;

~~{(2)}~~ (b) California bighorn sheep; or

~~{(3)}~~ (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

~~{(l)}~~ 12. Mountain goats;

~~{(m)}~~ 13. Black bears; ~~or~~

~~{(n)}~~ 14. Moose ~~;~~

~~—2. Bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program for wild;~~

or

15. *Wild* turkey . ~~{hunts must be awarded by hunt number.}~~

Sec. 6. NAC 502.4189 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4189 1. Each applicant in a drawing for a tag for a season receives a number of additional draw numbers that is equal to the number of bonus points that he or she has accumulated squared, as expressed in the following equation:

$$n=b^2$$

where “n” is the number of additional draw numbers and “b” is the number of bonus points. The number of additional draw numbers determines the number of draw numbers for the species or category of the species for which the application was submitted. The applicant’s lowest randomly assigned draw number is the number used for the drawing.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, bonus points accumulated by a person for a species or category of species cannot be transferred to any other person or any other species or category of species.

3. Any bonus points accumulated by an applicant automatically transfer with the applicant if the applicant changes his or her state of residence. Bonus points transferred pursuant to this subsection apply to the same species or category of species to which they applied before the transfer.

4. The number of bonus points applicable to applications submitted by a group pursuant to NAC 502.4185 for tags is the quotient of the total number of points held by the members of the group divided by the number of members in the group, rounded to the nearest whole number.

5. If a person ~~has applied for a junior hunt for deer for 5 years or~~ becomes ineligible to *apply for a junior hunt for deer pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to* participate in a junior hunt for deer because of his or her age, each unused bonus point accumulated by that person for a junior hunt for deer automatically transfers to the category for antlered mule deer. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a bonus point accumulated by the person for a junior hunt for deer in a year in which the person also accumulated a bonus point in the category for antlered mule deer.

6. If a person becomes ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for wild turkey pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to participate in a junior hunt for wild turkey because of

his or her age, each unused bonus point accumulated by that person for a junior hunt for wild turkey automatically transfers to the category for wild turkey.



**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:**DECEMBER 27, 2022**

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

From: Alejandra Medina, Program Officer I, Data and Technology Services

Title: **Commission General Regulation 509, License and Vessel Product Refunds**

Purpose: The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 and 488 to allow the Department authority to provide refunds on license and vessel products.

Summary

This is a temporary regulation allowing for the return of all, or a portion of fees collected on license, permit and vessel related products.

Brief Explanation of Proposed Regulation

The Licensing Division offers clients a variety of license, permit, and vessel related products. As currently written in regulation, tags and hunting licenses are the only refundable products. The proposed amendment would align business practices with regulation and offer clients a stronger customer service experience.

Recommendation

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

NAC 502.199, NAC 488.100

NAC 502.199 Application for initial issuance of licensing document; required information and statement. ([NRS 501.105](#), [501.181](#))

1. For each application for the initial issuance of a license, tag, permit or other licensing document, the applicant or license agent shall correctly enter the information required on the application for the license, tag, permit or other licensing document.
2. The information required pursuant to subsection 1 must include:
 - (a) The applicant's:
 - (1) Legal name;
 - (2) Physical and mailing address;
 - (3) City, county and state of residence; and
 - (4) Zip code.
 - (b) The applicant's social security number or, if the applicant is a citizen of a country other than the United States, the passport number issued to the applicant by that country. If the applicant has not been issued a social security number, the application must include a notarized affidavit on a form provided by the Department indicating that the applicant has not been issued a social security number.
 - (c) If the applicant was born after January 1, 1960, and is applying for a hunting license or permit or combination hunting and fishing license, a statement indicating that the applicant has presented proof of successful completion of a course in the responsibilities of hunters pursuant to [NRS 502.330](#).
 - (d) If the applicant is a resident of this State, an attestation by the applicant indicating that he or she is eligible for a resident license, tag or permit pursuant to [NRS 502.015](#).
 - (e) A description of the applicant, including his or her height, weight, gender, hair color, eye color and date of birth.
 - (f) The applicant's electronic mail address, if any.
3. In addition to the information required pursuant to subsection 2, the applicant must include in his or her application the statement required pursuant to [NRS 502.060](#) indicating whether the applicant is entitled to the license, tag, permit or other licensing document. If the applicant is at least 12 years of age but less than 18 years of age, the parent or legal guardian of the applicant must, pursuant to [NRS 502.060](#), acknowledge an attached statement indicating that the parent or legal guardian has been advised of the provisions of [NRS 41.472](#).
4. *The Department may return all, or a portion of any fee collected from a person pursuant to the provisions of this section, in accordance with NRS 353.1465.*

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Wildlife Comm'rs by R029-17, eff. 12-19-2017)

NAC 488.100 Application for certificate of number or certificate of ownership. ([NRS 488.045](#), [488.075](#), [501.181](#))

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, each application for a certificate of number or certificate of ownership must contain:
 - (a) The name of the owner.
 - (b) The physical address and mailing address, including the zip codes, of the registered owner.
 - (c) The mailing address, including the zip code, of the lien holder, if any.
 - (d) Other identifying information for each registered owner, including, without limitation:
 - (1) The social security number, or the tax identification number or employer identification number if the application is made under a business name; and
 - (2) The date of birth and either the registered owner's driver's license number or another unique number from an identification document that is issued by a governmental authority.
 - (e) The state of principal operation of the vessel.
 - (f) The identification number previously issued for the vessel, if any.
 - (g) The reason for the application, including applying for a new identification number, renewal of the certificate of number or transfer of ownership.
 - (h) The manner in which the vessel is operated, including pleasure, livery, government, dealer or manufacturer, commercial carrying of passengers, commercial fishing, charter fishing or other operation.

- (i) The manufacturer, make and model of the vessel.
 - (j) The model year of the vessel.
 - (k) The hull number assigned to the vessel.
 - (l) The length of the vessel.
 - (m) The type of vessel, including open motorboat, cabin motorboat, houseboat, sail only, inflatable boat, personal watercraft, rowboat, airboat, auxiliary sail, paddlecraft, pontoon boat or other type of vessel.
 - (n) The material from which the hull was made, including wood, steel, aluminum, fiberglass, plastic, rubber, vinyl, canvas or other material.
 - (o) The type of propulsion used, including air thrust, water jet, sail only, manual, propeller or other type of propulsion.
 - (p) The type of drive of the engine, including inboard, outboard, sterndrive, pod drive or other type of drive.
 - (q) The type of fuel or power used, including gasoline, diesel, electric or other type of fuel or power.
 - (r) The signature of the owner.
2. An application for a certificate of number for a vessel which is to be operated by a manufacturer or dealer for demonstration need not include the information described in paragraphs (i) to (r), inclusive, of subsection 1.
3. The following documents, when presented with an application for a certificate of number or certificate of ownership as evidence of proof of ownership of a vessel, will be attached to the application and may be used as evidence of information requested in the application:
- (a) A certificate of ownership to the vessel;
 - (b) A manufacturer's statement of origin;
 - (c) A Statement of Fact submitted pursuant to subsection 2 of [NAC 488.305](#);
 - (d) A dealer's report of vessel sale;
 - (e) A copy of a valid marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard for a documented vessel;
 - (f) A certificate of inspection of the vessel completed by an employee of the Department;
 - (g) Proof of payment of Nevada sales or use tax paid to the Department of Taxation or proof of exemption from those taxes as provided in [NRS 372.320](#);
 - (h) Such other proof of ownership as may be requested by the Department; and
 - (i) A statement signed by the owner indicating that:
4. *The Department may return all, or a portion of any fee collected from a person pursuant to the provisions of this section, in accordance with NRS 353.1465.*



**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

JANUARY 10, 2023

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

From: Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-04, 2023-24 and 2024-25 Big Game Seasons**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt the 2023-24 and 2024-25 hunting season dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, and emergency depredation hunt structure.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023-24 and 2024-25 hunting season dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, and emergency depredation hunt structure.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department is presenting the proposed recommendations for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 hunting seasons. Proposed season changes are displayed in blue text. Black indicates no changes from the previous year. In general, proposed seasons are recommended to follow traditional season dates, to accommodate interstate herds or herds that occupy lands administered by the Department of Defense, to facilitate hunter access to seasonal movement of big game animals among administrative boundaries, to attempt to follow management plans, address non-resident seasons, or to facilitate varied success rates based on timing of seasons.

Specific Rationale for Season Changes

Pronghorn Antelope (pg. 1):

1. The Department is proposing to change the Antelope Horns-longer-than-ears Muzzleloader season dates in Units 041, 042, 043 - 046, 141, 143, 151 - 156, and 202, 204 to the earlier hunt structure of Aug. 15 to Aug. 21 to improve hunt success for muzzleloader hunters in late summer when antelope may be more concentrated. A commensurate change in the Archery

seasons would follow the Aug. 1 to Aug. 14 season dates in those units where muzzleloaders seasons were adjusted.

2. We are proposing to add an Antelope Any Legal Weapon Horns-shorter-than-ears hunt for Unit 115 with a restricted boundary of within 1 mile of Great Basin Ranch properties to help alleviate issues with crop depredation by antelope on those properties and provide hunting opportunity in a focused area.

Elk (pg. 6):

3. Several changes to seasons for spike-only elk and antlerless elk are proposed to further manage elk herds consistent with local subplans and Big Game Management Objectives (Comm. Appr., Jan. 2022).

4. The Department continues to be adaptive in our proposed response to complaints of elk depredation. To further protect crops in Unit 231, we are proposing a new depredation bull season that includes an antler point restriction. We are also closing the depredation season for antlerless elk in Unit 251 due to chronically low hunter success coupled with a lack of complaints regarding elk damage. Further, the Department is proposing changes to the total allowable quota for Private Lands Antlerless Elk Hunts and added responsibilities for landowners enrolled in this program.

5. We are closing seasons for antlerless elk in Unit 051 due to low hunter success. The Unit 051 elk herd is well below population objective and antlerless harvest is not needed to manage elk abundance.

6. Consistent with previous years, the Department is rotating archery hunts for antlered elk into the rut season structure (Sept. 17 to Sept. 30) for certain areas. Antlered hunts for this archery season during the rut are proposed in Units 161 - 164, 171 - 173 and 241, 242.

Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat (pg. 14):

7. Unit 161 – added ram archery hunt for a unique high elevation hunt experience, minor adjustments to early rifle ram and ewe seasons, and moved the late rifle hunt 1 month earlier to enhance access to mature rams prior to winter weather restricting access (this had been discussed for decades).

8. Split Unit 181 to ensure balance of ram harvest between Sand Springs Range and Fairview/Slate Mountain. This will also better support and respect Naval Air Station (NAS) efforts to continue to allow for bighorn hunter access as the NAS expansion process moves forward.

9. Add Unit 153 (Fish Creek Mountains) to Unit 183 desert bighorn hunt which is the northern extension of the Clan Alpine and Augusta Mountains; ram movement occurs across both units.

10. Consider 2 unit groups in southern Nevada for ram archery hunt that primarily involve bighorn use of natural water sources and not guzzlers.

11. For Unit 173 N (Toiyabe Range), due to persistent low hunter success and low average ram age resulting from tag applicants not realizing the unique hunt challenges (rams spend considerable time in high elevation wilderness and heavy tree cover), a management ram hunt was developed as a separate hunt category/once-in-a-lifetime hunt with a subquota and higher tag quota and cell/satellite phone communication notifying hunters when subquota is met.

12. Due to contracted California bighorn populations and movement among units, all northern Washoe County units are combined into a single unit group.

13. Due to lack of ram harvest even with a 7-month long season, Unit 114 is recommended to be closed.

14. With the continued recovery of Ruby Mountain's Rocky Mountain bighorn population and adequate mature rams, Unit 102 is recommended to be open.

15. With the statewide mountain goat tag quota exceeding 10 tags supported by increasing mountain goat populations, a nonresident mountain goat hunt for Unit 102 is recommended.

Junior Mule Deer (pg. 19):

16. The Department is proposing to make all Junior mule deer hunts *antlered only* in units where there is no corresponding Resident Antlerless Any Legal Weapon hunt (i.e., doe hunt). As currently proposed, this would include most hunt units for mule deer except for the following Unit Groups: 061, 062, 064, 066-068; 071 – 079, 091; and 101, 102, 109, which would remain *antlered* or *antlerless* for Junior hunters. This was a recommendation by the NDOW TAAHC committee and recently adopted in Commission Policy 24.

17. The Department is proposing to change Junior mule deer seasons in 041, 042 by extending the season from Oct. 5 to Nov. 5 to mimic the regular adult hunting season in this unit. This unit would fall under the *antlered only* category as proposed.

Mule Deer (pg. 21):

18. The Department is proposing to split out Unit 045 from the 043 - 046 Unit Group to help better manage buck to doe ratios in those units where a disparity in buck:doe ratios is typically observed. The split will result in a separate Unit Group for 043, 044, 046 and single Unit 045 and each will run from Oct. 5 to Nov. 5.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-04 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of sections 501.181, 502.140, 503.120, and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, and 502.4205 of the Nevada Administrative Code, does hereby adopt the following regulation for the big game resource.

Note: The limit is one animal per tag and the hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset for all big game hunts, unless otherwise specified.

Resident Antelope - Horns longer than ears Any Legal Weapon Hunt 2151

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
012 - 014	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
015	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
021, 022	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
031	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
032, 034	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
035	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
033 Early	Aug 22 - Aug 28	Aug 22 - Aug 28
033 Late	Aug 29 - Sept 7	Aug 29 - Sept 7
041, 042 Early	Aug 22 - Aug 28	Aug 22 - Aug 28
041, 042 Late	Aug 29 - Sept 7	Aug 29 - Sept 7
043 - 046	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
051	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
065, 142, 144 ^A	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
066	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
067, 068	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
072, 074, 075	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
076, 077, 079, 081, 091	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
078, 105 - 107, 121	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
111 - 114	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
115, 231, 242	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
131, 145, 163, 164	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
132 - 134, 245	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
161, 162	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
171 - 173	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
181 - 184	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
202, 204	Oct 15 - Oct 30	Oct 15 - Oct 30
203, 291	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
205 - 208	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
211 - 213	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
221 - 223, 241	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
251	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

**Nonresident Antelope - Horns longer than ears
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 2251**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
012 - 014	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
015	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
021, 022	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
031	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
032, 034	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
035	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
033 Early	Aug 22 - Aug 28	Aug 22 - Aug 28
033 Late	Aug 29 - Sept 7	Aug 29 - Sept 7
041, 042 Early	Aug 22 - Aug 28	Aug 22 - Aug 28
041, 042 Late	Aug 29 - Sept 7	Aug 29 - Sept 7
043 - 046	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
051	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
065, 142, 144 ^A	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
066	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
067, 068	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
072, 074, 075	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
076, 077, 079, 081, 091	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
078, 105 - 107, 121	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
111 - 114	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
115, 231, 242	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
131, 145, 163, 164	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
132 - 134, 245	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
161, 162	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
171 - 173	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
181 - 184	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
202, 204	Oct 15 - Oct 30	Oct 15 - Oct 30
205 - 208	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
221 - 223, 241	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7
251	Aug 22 - Sept 7	Aug 22 - Sept 7

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

**Resident Antelope - Horns longer than ears
Muzzleloader Hunt 2171**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
012 - 014	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
015	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
021 - 022	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
031	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
032, 034	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4

035	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
033	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
041, 042	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
043 - 046	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
051	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
065, 142, 144 ^A	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
066	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
067, 068	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
072, 074, 075	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
076, 077, 079, 081, 091	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
078, 105 - 107, 121	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111 - 114	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
115, 231, 242	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
131, 145, 163, 164	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
132 - 134, 245	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
161 - 162	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
171 - 173	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
181 - 184	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
202, 204	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
203, 291	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
205 - 208	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
211 - 213	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
221 - 223, 241	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
251	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

**Nonresident Antelope - Horns longer than ears
Muzzleloader Hunt 2271**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
012 - 014	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
031	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
043 - 046	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
067, 068	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
078, 105 - 107, 121	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111 - 114	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 15 - Aug 21	Aug 15 - Aug 21

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

**Resident Antelope - Horns longer than ears
Archery Hunt 2161**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
012 - 014	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21

015	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
021, 022	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
031	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
032, 034	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
035	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
033	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
041, 042	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
043 - 046	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
051	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
065, 142, 144 ^A	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
066	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
067, 068	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
072, 074, 075	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
076, 077, 079, 081, 091	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
078, 105 - 107, 121	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
111 - 114	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
115, 231, 242	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
131, 145, 163, 164	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
132 - 134, 245	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
161, 162	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
171 - 173	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
181 - 184	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
203, 291	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
205 - 208	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
211 - 213	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
221 - 223, 241	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
251	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

Nonresident Antelope - Horns longer than ears Archery Hunt 2261

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
012 - 014	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
015	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
021, 022	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
031	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
032, 034	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
035	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
033	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
041, 042	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
043 - 046	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
051	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
065, 142, 144 ^A	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
067, 068	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21

072, 074, 075	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
078, 105 - 107, 121	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
111 - 114	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
115, 231, 242	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
131, 145, 163, 164	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
132 - 134, 245	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
141, 143, 151 - 156	Aug 1 - Aug 14	Aug 1 - Aug 14
161, 162	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
171 - 173	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
181 - 184	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21
205 - 208	Aug 1 - Aug 21	Aug 1 - Aug 21

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

**Resident Antelope - Horns shorter than ears
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 2181**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
043 - 046	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
061, 062, 064, 071, 073	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
065, 142, 144 ^A	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
066	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
067, 068	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
072, 074, 075	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
076, 077, 079, 081, 091	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
078, 105 - 107, 121	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
101 - 104, 108, 109, 144 ^B	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
115^C	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
131, 145	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
141, 143, 152, 154, 155	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
151, 153, 156	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24
181 - 184	Sept 8 - Sept 24	Sept 8 - Sept 24

^A That portion of Unit 144 in Eureka County.

^B That portion of Unit 144 in White Pine County.

^C **Within 1 mile of the Great Basin Ranch properties in Hunt Unit 115**

**Resident Elk - Antlered
Any Legal Weapon Depredation Hunt 4102**

Special Regulations: Eligibility restrictions concerning successive years' hunts as stated in NAC 502.361 do not apply to this hunt.

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
101 - 103 Early*	Aug 1 - Sep 30	Aug 1 - Sep 30
101 - 103 Late*	Oct 1 - Jan 1	Oct 1 - Jan 1
115 ^A Antler Pt. Limit [†] - 1st	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
115 ^A Antler Pt. Limit [†] - 2nd	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
115 ^A Antler Pt. Limit [†] - 3rd	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
115 ^A Antler Pt. Limit [†] - 4th	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
115 ^A Antler Pt. Limit [†] - 5th	Nov 1 - Nov 30	Nov 1 - Nov 30
144, 145 Early*	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
144, 145 Mid*	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
144, 145 Late*	Nov 1 - Jan 1	Nov 1 - Jan 1
231^B Antler Pt. Limit[†] - 1st	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
231^B Antler Pt. Limit[†] - 2nd	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
231^B Antler Pt. Limit[†] - 3rd	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
231^B Antler Pt. Limit[†] - 4th	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
231^B Antler Pt. Limit[†] - 5th	Nov 1 - Nov 30	Nov 1 - Nov 30
251*	Aug 1 - Jan 1	Aug 1 - Jan 1

* Low elk numbers in the area. Depredation Hunts are intended to drastically reduce elk numbers. Poor hunter success expected.

^A Within 2 miles of Great Basin Ranch Properties in Hunt Unit 115.

^B Within 2 miles of designated Lake Valley Farms, Eight Mile Farms, and Flatnose Ranch Properties in Hunt Unit 231.

[†] Hunters may only take an antlered elk with no more than 5 points on either antler including the first point on the main beam. An antler point is defined in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC 502.006) as any antler projection which is at least 1-inch in length with the length exceeding the width of its base.

**Resident Elk - Antlered
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4151**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
051	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
061, 071 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 21	Oct 5 - Oct 21
061, 071 Late	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
062, 064, 066 - 068	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
072, 073, 074 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
072, 073, 074 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
075 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
075 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
078, 105 - 107, 109 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
078, 105 - 107, 109 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
091*	Sept 16 - Oct 6	Sept 21 - Oct 11
104, 108 ^B , 121 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20

104, 108 ^B , 121 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
108 ^C , 131, 132	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
111 - 115 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
111 - 115 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
161 – 164, 171 – 173 Early	CLOSED	CLOSED
161 - 164, 171 - 173 Mid Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
161 - 164, 171 - 173 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
221 - 223 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
221 - 223 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
231 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
231 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
241, 242	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
262	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30

*Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states. Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah regulations.

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

Nonresident Elk - Antlered Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4251

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 21	Oct 5 - Oct 21
061, 071 Late	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
062, 064, 066 - 068	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
072, 073, 074 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
072, 073, 074 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
075 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
075 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
078, 105 - 107, 109 Early	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
078, 105 - 107, 109 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
104, 108 ^B , 121 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
104, 108 ^B , 121 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
108 ^C , 131, 132	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
111 - 115 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
111 - 115 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
161 – 164, 171 – 173 Early	CLOSED	CLOSED
161 - 164, 171 - 173 Mid Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
161 - 164, 171 - 173 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
221 - 223 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
221 - 223 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4
231 Early	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
231 Late	Nov 21 - Dec 4	Nov 21 - Dec 4

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Resident Elk - Antlered
Muzzleloader Hunt 4156**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
051	Sept 1 - Sept 16	Sept 1 - Sept 16
061, 071	Sept 1 - Sept 16	Sept 1 - Sept 16
062, 064, 066-068	Sept 1 - Sept 16	Sept 1 - Sept 16
072, 073, 074	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
075	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
076, 077, 079, 081	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
078, 105 - 107, 109	Oct 5 - Oct 21	Oct 5 - Oct 21
104, 108 ^B , 121	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
108 ^C , 131, 132	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
111 - 115	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
161 - 164, 171 - 173	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
221 - 223	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
231	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
241, 242	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
262	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Nonresident Elk - Antlered
Muzzleloader Hunt 4256**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071	Sept 1 - Sept 16	Sept 1 - Sept 16
062, 064, 066-068	Sept 1 - Sept 16	Sept 1 - Sept 16
072, 073, 074	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
076, 077, 079, 081	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
078, 105 - 107, 109	Oct 5 - Oct 21	Oct 5 - Oct 21
104, 108 ^B , 121	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
111 - 115	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
161 - 164, 171 - 173	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
221 - 223	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5
231	Oct 22 - Nov 5	Oct 22 - Nov 5

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Resident Elk - Antlered
Archery Hunt 4161**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
062, 064, 066 - 068	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
072, 073, 074	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
075	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
076, 077, 079, 081	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
078, 105 - 107, 109	Sept 1 - Sept 20	Sept 1 - Sept 20
091*	Aug 19 - Sept 9	Aug 17 - Sept 7
104, 108 ^B , 121	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
108 ^C , 131, 132	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16

111 - 115	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
161 - 164, 171 - 173	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
221 - 223	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
231	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
241, 242	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
262	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16

*Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states. Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah regulations.

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

Nonresident Elk - Antlered Archery Hunt 4261

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
062, 064, 066 - 068	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
072, 073, 074	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
076, 077, 079, 081	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
078, 105 - 107, 109	Sept 1 - Sept 20	Sept 1 - Sept 20
104, 108 ^B , 121	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
108 ^C , 131, 132	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
111 - 115	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
161 - 164, 171 - 173	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
221 - 223	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
231	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

Resident Elk - Spike Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4651

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071 Early	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
061, 071 Late	Nov 6 - Jan 1	Nov 6 - Jan 1
062, 064, 066 - 068 Early	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
062, 064, 066 - 068 Late	CLOSED	CLOSED
072, 073, 074 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
072, 073, 074 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
076, 077, 079, 081 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
078, 105 - 107, 109 Early	Sept 21 - Oct 4	Sept 21 - Oct 4
078, 105 - 107, 109 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
104, 108 ^B , 121 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
104, 108^B, 121 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
111, 112 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111, 112 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
113 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
113 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
114, 115 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4

114, 115 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
161 - 164	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
221 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
221 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
222, 223 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
222, 223 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
231 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
231 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Resident Elk - Antlerless
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4181**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
054	CLOSED	CLOSED
061, 071 Early	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
061, 071 Late	Nov 6 - Jan 1	Nov 6 - Jan 1
062 Early	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
062, 066^A Late	Nov 6 - Jan 1	Nov 6 - Jan 1
072, 073, 074 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
075 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
072 - 075 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
076, 077, 079, 081 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
078, 105 - 107, 109 Early	Sept 21 - Oct 4	Sept 21 - Oct 4
078, 105 - 107, 109 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
091 Early*	Aug 1 - Aug 18	Aug 1 - Aug 16
091 Late*	Oct 7 - Nov 1	Oct 12 - Nov 1
104, 108 ^B , 121 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
104, 108 ^B , 121 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
108 ^C , 131 132	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111, 112 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111, 112 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
113 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
113 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
113 N ^D	Jan 2 - Jan 31	Jan 2 - Jan 31
114, 115 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
114, 115 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
161 - 164 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
161 - 164 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
221 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
221 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
222, 223 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
222, 223 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
231 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
231 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
241, 242	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20

* Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states. Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah regulations.

^A That portion of Unit 066 east and north of the South Fork of the Owyhee River.

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^D That portion of Unit 113 north of White Pine County Road 35.

**Nonresident Elk - Antlerless
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4281**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071 Early	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
061, 071 Late	Nov 6 - Jan 1	Nov 6 - Jan 1
062	Sept 17 - Oct 4	Sept 17 - Oct 4
062, 066^A Late	Nov 6 - Jan 1	Nov 6 - Jan 1
072, 073, 074 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
072 - 075 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
076, 077, 079, 081 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
076, 077, 079, 081 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
078, 105 - 107, 109 Early	Sept 21 - Oct 4	Sept 21 - Oct 4
078, 105 - 107, 109 Late	Nov 21 - Jan 1	Nov 21 - Jan 1
104, 108 ^B , 121 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
104, 108 ^B , 121 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
108 ^C , 131, 132	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111, 112 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
111, 112 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
113 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
113 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
113 N ^D	Jan 2 - Jan 31	Jan 2 - Jan 31
114, 115 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
114, 115 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
161 - 164 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
161 - 164 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
221 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
221 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
222, 223 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
222, 223 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
231 Early	Sept 25 - Oct 4	Sept 25 - Oct 4
231 Late	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1

^A That portion of Unit 066 east and north of the South Fork of the Owyhee River.

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^D That portion of Unit 113 north of White Pine County Road 35.

**Resident Elk - Antlerless
Muzzleloader Hunt 4176**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
072, 073, 074	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
075	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
076, 077, 079, 081	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30

078, 105 - 107, 109	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
104, 108 ^B , 121	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
108 ^C , 131, 132	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
111, 112	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
113	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
114, 115	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
161 - 164	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
221 - 223	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
231	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
241, 242	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

Nonresident Elk - Antlerless Muzzleloader Hunt 4276

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
072, 073, 074	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
076, 077, 079, 081	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
078, 105 - 107, 109	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
104, 108 ^B , 121	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
108 ^C , 131, 132	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
111, 112	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
113	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
114, 115	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
161 - 164	Aug 25 - Sept 16	Aug 25 - Sept 16
221 - 223	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24
231	Sept 17 - Sept 24	Sept 17 - Sept 24

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

Resident Elk - Antlerless Archery Hunt 4111

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
062	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
072, 073, 074	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
075	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
076, 077, 079, 081	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
078, 105 - 107, 109	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
104, 108 ^B , 121	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
108 ^C , 131, 132	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
111, 112	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
113	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
114, 115	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
161 - 164	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
221 - 223	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
231	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
241, 242	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Nonresident Elk - Antlerless
Archery Hunt 4211**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 071	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
062	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
072, 073, 074	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
076, 077, 079, 081	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
078, 105 - 107, 109	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
104, 108 ^B , 121	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
108 ^C , 131, 132	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
111, 112	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
113	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
114, 115	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
161 - 164	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
221 - 223	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
231	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24

^B That portion of Unit 108 north of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

^C That portion of Unit 108 south of the Falcon to Gonder powerline.

**Resident Elk - Antlerless
Any Legal Weapon Depredation Hunt 4107**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
081 ^A 1st*	Aug 1 - Aug 24	Aug 1 - Aug 24
081 ^A 2nd*	Sept 17 - Sept 30	Sept 17 - Sept 30
081 ^A 3rd*	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
081 ^A 4th*	Dec 5 - Jan 1	Dec 5 - Jan 1
101 - 103*	Aug 1 - Jan 1	Aug 1 - Jan 1
114 ^B , 115 ^B - Ag Lands - 1st	Aug 1 - Aug 15	Aug 1 - Aug 15
114 ^B , 115 ^B - Ag Lands - 2nd	Aug 16 - Aug 31	Aug 16 - Aug 31
114 ^B , 115 ^B - Ag Lands - 3rd	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
114 ^B , 115 ^B - Ag Lands - 4th	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
114 ^B , 115 ^B - Ag Lands - 5th	Nov 1 - Nov 30	Nov 1 - Nov 30
121 ^C 1st*	Aug 1 - Aug 31	Aug 1 - Aug 31
121 ^C 2nd*	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
121 ^C 3rd*	Oct 1 - Jan 1	Oct 1 - Jan 1
144, 145 1st*	Aug 1 - Aug 31	Aug 1 - Aug 31
144, 145 2nd*	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Sept 1 - Sept 30
144, 145 3rd*	Oct 1 - Jan 1	Oct 1 - Jan 1
254	CLOSED	CLOSED

* Low elk numbers in the area. Depredation Hunts are intended to drastically reduce elk numbers from this Unit Group. Poor hunter success expected.

^A That portion of Unit 081 within Elko County bounded on the west by the Fall Creek Road, on the north by the Idaho state line, on the east by the Utah state line, and on the south by the Signboard Pass-Thousand Springs Road and by State Route No. 233 from Montello to the Utah state line.

^B Within 2 miles of designated Granite Peak Ranch and Great Basin Ranch Properties in Hunt Unit 115 and within 2 miles of designated Baker Ranch Properties in Hunt Units 114 and 115. Hunt boundaries terminate at the Nevada state line where applicable.

^C Those portions of Elko County southeast of the Cherry Creek Road and southwest of U.S. Highway 93, and that portion of White Pine County west of U.S. Highway 93, north of White Pine County Road 27 (Bassett Lake Rd.), and east of White Pine County Road 27 to its junction with White Pine County Road 18 to its junction with White Pine County Road 23 (bench road from Bassett Lake Rd to the town of Cherry Creek) to State Highway 489 0.2 miles east to its junction with White Pine County Road 25 to the Elko County Line.

**Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3151**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
045	Sept 15 - Oct 15	Sept 15 - Oct 15
131, 132, 164	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
134, 251	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
161 Early	Sept 10 - 30	Sept 10 - 30
161 Late	Oct 21 - Dec 1	Oct 21 - Dec 1
163, 162	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
173 North ^A	Sept 15 - Jan 1	Sept 15 - Jan 1
173 South ^B	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
181 East^C	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
181 West^D	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
182, 044	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
183, 153	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
184	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Oct 15 - Nov 15
202	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Oct 15 - Nov 15
204	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Oct 15 - Nov 15
205	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
206, 208	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
207	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Oct 15 - Nov 15
211	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
212	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
213	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
223, 221	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
241	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
243	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
244	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
245, 133	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
252**	Nov 18 - Dec 10	Nov 23 - Dec 15
253	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
254	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
261	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
262	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
263	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
264, 265, 266	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
267	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
268	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
271, 242**	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1

280***	Dec 16 - Dec 31	Dec 21 - Jan 5
281***	Dec 16 - Dec 31	Dec 21 - Jan 5
283, 284	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
286	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1

^A That portion of Unit 173 north and west of the Seyler Reservoir/Peavine Creek/Gabbs Valley Pole Line Roads.

^B That portion of Unit 173 south and east of the Seyler Reservoir/Peavine Creek/Gabbs Valley Pole Line Roads.

^C **181 East - That portion of Unit 181 east of State Route 839**

*** There are portions of Unit 181 in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is restricted. To hunt in the NAS portions of Unit 181, the tagholder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing.**

^D **181 West - That portion of Unit 181 west of State Route 839**

** Mature ram numbers and distribution are unknown in this unit.

*** Portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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 tagholder may be present within the NTTR portion of Unit 252 at any given time.

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 tagholder. 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.

Nonresident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3251

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
161 Early	Sept 10 - 30	Sept 10 - 30
161 Late	Oct 21 - Dec 1	Oct 21 - Dec 1
181 East ^C	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
181 West ^D	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
182, 044	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
183, 153	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
184	Oct 15 - Nov 15	Oct 15 - Nov 15
205	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
211	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
212	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
213	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
253	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
263	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
267	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
268	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
271, 242**	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
283, 284	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1

^C181 East - That portion of Unit 181 east of State Route 839

* There are portions of Unit 181 East in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is restricted. To hunt in the NAS portions of Unit 181, the tagholder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing.

^D181 West - That portion of Unit 181 west of State Route 839

** Mature ram numbers and distribution are unknown in this unit.

**Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Archery Hunt 3161**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
161	Aug 5 - Aug 25	Aug 5 - Aug 25
182, 044	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
202	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
211	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
212	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
213	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
267	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
271, 242*	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31

* Mature ram numbers and distribution are unknown in this unit.

**Nonresident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Archery Hunt 3261**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
161	Aug 5 - Aug 25	Aug 5 - Aug 25

**Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Management Ram - One Horn* - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3171**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
241, 243, 271	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20
223, 245, 133	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20
253, 254, 261	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20
262, 263, 264, 265, 266	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20
267, 268	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20
283, 284, 286	Jan 5 - Feb 20	Jan 5 - Feb 20

*The shortest horn must be less than half the length of the longest horn.

*Management Ram Hunt - 1) a separate hunt category, 2) no bonus points awarded to unsuccessful applicants per NAC 502.4187, and 3) a once-in-a-lifetime hunt based on successfully drawing a tag and therefore has no waiting period eligibility.

**Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep - Any Ram
Management Ram - Access Limited* - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3172**

Unit Group	2024-2023 Season	2024-2025 Season
173 North^A	Aug 15 - Jan 1	Aug 15 - Jan 1

^A173 North - Restricted to that portion of Unit 173 within the Arc Dome Wilderness boundary and north of the wilderness boundary from the crest to the east base of the Toiyabe Range: beginning with the North Twin River drainage north to the Summit Creek drainage.

* 1) a separate hunt category, 2) no bonus points awarded to unsuccessful applicants per NAC 502.4187, 3) a once-in-a-lifetime hunt based on successfully drawing a tag and therefore has no waiting period eligibility, 4) 6 Tags issued with subquota harvest of 2 rams; once a ram is harvested, tagholder must notify NDOW of harvest via cell or satellite phone; NDOW will then notify active tagholders by text message of remaining subquota and when subquota is met and season is closed.

**Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Any Ewe - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3181**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
161	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
268	Oct 20 - Nov 15	Oct 20 - Nov 15

**Nonresident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep
Any Ewe - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3281**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
161	Oct 1 - Oct 20	Oct 1 - Oct 20
268	Oct 20 - Nov 15	Oct 20 - Nov 15

**Resident California Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 8151**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011, 012, 013, 014	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
022*	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
031	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
032 ^A	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
033, 032 ^B	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
034	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
035 ^C	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
051	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
068	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31

*Access to public land to hunt bighorn sheep is limited across private land.

^A This unit excludes that portion of Unit 032 west of the Craine Creek/Knott Creek Ranch Road and south of State Route No.140 (**McGee Mountain**).

^B This unit includes that portion of Unit 032 west of the Craine Creek/Knott Creek Ranch Road and south of State Route No. 140 (**McGee Mountain**).

^C That portion of Unit 035 west of the Bottle Creek Road from the north boundary of State Route 140 to the south boundary of the Jungo railroad crossing (**excludes Bloody Run Hills**).

**Nonresident California Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 8251**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
032 ^A	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
034	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
035 ^C	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31

068	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
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^A This unit excludes that portion of Unit 032 west of the Craine Creek/Knott Creek Ranch Road and south of State Route No.140 (**McGee Mountain**).

^C That portion of Unit 035 west of the Bottle Creek Road from the north boundary of State Route 140 to the south boundary of the Jungo railroad crossing (**excludes Bloody Run Hills**).

**Resident Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep
Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 9151**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
102	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
115 ^A	Nov 15 - Feb 20	Nov 15 - Feb 20

^A That portion of Unit 115 outside of the Great Basin National Park.

**Resident Mountain Goat - Any Goat
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 7151**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
101	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
102	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31
103	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31

**Nonresident Mountain Goat - Any Goat
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 7251**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
102	Sept 1 - Oct 31	Sept 1 - Oct 31

**Resident Junior Mule Deer - Antlered - or - Antlerless -
Archery, Muzzleloader, or Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1107**

Unit Group	Weapon	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 2	Oct 5 - Nov 2
071 - 079, 091	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 2	Oct 5 - Nov 2
101 - 109	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Sept 30	Sept 10 - Sept 30
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 1 - Nov 2	Oct 1 - Nov 2

**Resident Junior Mule Deer - Antlered Only
Archery, Muzzleloader, or Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1107**

Unit Group	Weapon	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011 - 013	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
014	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
015	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 11 - Jan 1	Dec 11 - Jan 1
021	Archery	Dec 1 - Dec 10	Dec 1 - Dec 10
	Muzzleloader	Dec 11 - Dec 20	Dec 11 - Dec 20
	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 21 - Jan 1	Dec 21 - Jan 1
022	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
031	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
032	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
033	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
034	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
035	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
041, 042	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
043, 044, 046	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
045	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5

051	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 5	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 5
065	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 5	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 5
081	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Nov 10 - Nov 20 Nov 21 - Dec 10 Dec 11 - Jan 1	Nov 10 - Nov 20 Nov 21 - Dec 10 Dec 11 - Jan 1
111 - 113	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
114, 115	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
121	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
131 - 134	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31
141 - 145	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
151 - 156	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
161 - 164	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
171 - 173	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
181 - 184	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
192	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30
194, 196	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30
195	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
201, 204	Any Legal Weapon Muzzleloader Archery	Nov 5 - Nov 30 Dec 1 - Dec 15 Dec 16 - Jan 1	Nov 5 - Nov 30 Dec 1 - Dec 15 Dec 16 - Jan 1
202, 205 - 208	Any Legal Weapon Muzzleloader Archery	Nov 5 - Nov 30 Dec 1 - Dec 15 Dec 16 - Jan 1	Nov 5 - Nov 30 Dec 1 - Dec 15 Dec 16 - Jan 1
203 ^A	Archery Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Nov 5 - Nov 30
211 - 213	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 10 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 10 Nov 5 - Nov 30
221 - 223	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31
231	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31

241 - 245	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Oct 31
251 - 254	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
261 - 268	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30
271, 272	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30
291	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30	Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Nov 5 - Nov 30

^A Special Restrictions apply, see NAC 503.170

**Resident Mule Deer - Antlerless
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1181**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
054	CLOSED	CLOSED
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068 Early	Oct 10 - Oct 31	Oct 10 - Oct 31
062, 067, 068 Late	Nov 6 - Nov 20	Nov 6 - Nov 20
071 - 079, 091	Oct 10 - Oct 31	Oct 10 - Oct 31
101, 102, 109	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20

**Resident and Nonresident Mule Deer - Antlered
Any Legal Weapon Hunt Resident 1331 and Nonresident 1332**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011 - 013	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
014	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
015	Dec 11 - Jan 1	Dec 11 - Jan 1
021	Dec 21 - Jan 1	Dec 21 - Jan 1
022	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
031	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
032	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
033	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
034	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
035	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
041, 042	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
043, 044, 046	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
045	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
051	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
065	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
071 - 079, 091 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
071 - 079, 091 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
081	Dec 11 - Jan 1	Dec 11 - Jan 1
101 - 109 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 16	Oct 1 - Oct 16
101 - 109 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	Oct 17 - Oct 30

101 - 109 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	Oct 31 - Nov 8
111 - 113 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
111 - 113 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
114, 115 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
114, 115 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
115	Dec 1 - Dec 15	Dec 1 - Dec 15
121 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
121 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
131 - 134 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
131 - 134 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
141 - 145 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
141 - 145 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
151 - 156 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
151 - 156 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
161 - 164 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Oct 5 - Oct 20
161 - 164 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	Oct 21 - Nov 5
171 - 173 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	Oct 5 - Oct 16
171 - 173 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	Oct 17 - Oct 30
171 - 173 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	Oct 31 - Nov 8
181 - 184	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Oct 5 - Nov 5
192	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
194, 196	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
195	Oct 5 - Nov 2	Oct 5 - Nov 2
201, 204	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
202, 205 - 208	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
203 ^A	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
211 - 213	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
221 - 223 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	Oct 5 - Oct 16
221 - 223 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	Oct 17 - Oct 30
221 - 223 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	Oct 31 - Nov 8
231	Oct 5 - Oct 31	Oct 5 - Oct 31
241 - 245	Oct 5 - Oct 31	Oct 5 - Oct 31
251 - 254	Oct 5 - Nov 2	Oct 5 - Nov 2
261 - 268	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
271, 272	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30
291	Nov 5 - Nov 30	Nov 5 - Nov 30

^A Special restrictions apply see NAC 503.170.

**Resident and Nonresident Mule Deer - Antlered
Muzzleloader Hunt Resident 1371 and Nonresident 1372**

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011 - 013	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
014	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
015	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
021	Dec 11 - Dec 20	Dec 11 - Dec 20
022	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
031	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
032	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
033	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
034	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4

035	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
041, 042	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
043, 044, 046	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
045	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
051	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
065	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
071 - 079, 091	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
081	Nov 21 - Dec 10	Nov 21 - Dec 10
101 - 109	Sept 10 - Sept 30	Sept 10 - Sept 30
111 - 113	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
114, 115	Nov 10 - Nov 30	Nov 10 - Nov 30
121	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
131 - 134	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
141 - 145	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
151 - 156	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
161 - 164	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
171 - 173	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
181 - 184	Nov 10 - Nov 30	Nov 10 - Nov 30
192	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
194, 196	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
195	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
201, 204	Dec 1 - Dec 15	Dec 1 - Dec 15
202, 205 - 208	Dec 1 - Dec 15	Dec 1 - Dec 15
211 - 213	Sept 10 - Oct 10	Sept 10 - Oct 10
221 - 223	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
231	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
241 - 245	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
251 - 254	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
261 - 268	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
271, 272	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
291	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4

Resident and Nonresident Mule Deer
Antlered - Archery Hunt Resident 1341 and Nonresident 1342

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
011 - 013	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
014	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
015	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
021	Dec 1 - Dec 10	Dec 1 - Dec 10
022	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
031	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
032	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
033	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
034	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
035	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
041, 042	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
043, 044, 046	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
045	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
051	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9

061, 062, 064, 066 - 068	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
065	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
071 - 079, 091 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
071 - 079, 091 Late	Nov 10 - Nov 20	Nov 10 - Nov 20
081	Nov 10 - Nov 20	Nov 10 - Nov 20
101 - 109 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
101 - 109 Late	Nov 10 - Nov 20	Nov 10 - Nov 20
111 - 113	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
114, 115	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
121 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
121 Late	Nov 10 - Nov 20	Nov 10 - Nov 20
131 - 134	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
141 - 145	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
151 - 156	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
161 - 164	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
171 - 173	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
181 - 184	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
192 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
192 Late	Dec 1 - Jan 1	Dec 1 - Jan 1
194, 196 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
194, 196 Late	Dec 1 - Jan 1	Dec 1 - Jan 1
195	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
201, 202, 204 - 208 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
201, 204 Late	Dec 16 - Jan 1	Dec 16 - Jan 1
202, 205 - 208 Late	Dec 16 - Jan 1	Dec 16 - Jan 1
203 Early	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
203 Late	Dec 16 - Jan 1	Dec 16 - Jan 1
211 - 213	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
221 - 223	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
231	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
241 - 245	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
251 - 254	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
261 - 268	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
271, 272	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
291	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9

2023 and 2024 ANTLERLESS ELK LANDOWNER HUNTS

Species	Elk
Legal Weapon	Any Legal Weapon
Hunt Number	4781
Class of Animal	Antlerless Elk
Open Season	Individual designated antlerless landowner hunts may occur between July 1 and June 30 of the following year.
Tag Quota	A limit of 50 tags per landowner per year. There may be multiple hunt seasons and associated quotas for each landowner. See CR 23-08 for tag eligibility.
Hunt Boundary	The unit or units and physical hunt boundary description will be determined and agreed upon by NDOW staff and landowner for each designated antlerless landowner hunt. The hunt area may include both private and public lands.
Applications	Landowner will provide a list of identifying information for each applicant, including Client ID and DOB, to NDOW at least five (5) business days before the season opener. NDOW will confirm eligibility of applicants on list prior to issuing tags.



**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

JANUARY 5, 2023

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

From: Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-05, Black Bear Season**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt 2023 hunting season dates, open management unit, or unit-groups, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bears.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023 hunting season dates, open management unit, or unit-groups, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bears.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

This regulation includes hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear. The proposed season extends from September 15 to December 1 based on prior seasons approved by the Commission.

The hunt area is subdivided into three separate hunt unit groups to manage harvest with season running concurrently, each with separate harvest limits for males and females. There will be three separate hunt application numbers for residents and non-residents, with tags valid for one hunt area. Portions of the hunting area may be closed as individual harvest limits are met, but all tags will remain valid in the remaining open areas until all harvest limits are met or the season closing date is reached.

In 2022, a total of 16 bears (11 males, 5 females) were harvested during the 2022 hunt. The harvest limit for males was reached in Unit Group 203, 291 with 8 males harvested. Female harvest limits were reached in Unit Groups 192, 194, 195, 196 and 201, 202, 204, 206 with 3 females and 2 females harvested respectively. This marks the first year since the inception of

the Nevada Black Bear hunt that the season has been closed due to harvest limits being reached. The three-year averages for mean age of males (6.2) and females (7.2) in the harvest indicate light harvest, and the proportion of females (30.2%) indicates stable harvest.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-05 2023 BLACK BEAR SEASON DRAFT

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 black bear

Unit Group	2023 Season
Hunt units 192*, 194*, 195, 196 (except those portions of 192 and 194 described below in Special Regulations)	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)
Hunt units 201, 202, 204 and 206	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)
Hunt unit 291 and 203	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)

- The limit is one animal per tag.
- Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Black Bear Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting to determine if the hunt has been closed due to the harvest objective being reached. The number is 1-800-800-1667 and is accessible 24 hours a day.
- Attendance at one of the annual black bear indoctrination course is mandatory for tag holders AND their representative guides and sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the indoctrination must take the indoctrination course; their guide and sub-guides must also take the indoctrination course. Tags will only be issued upon completion of one indoctrination course. An in-person Black bear indoctrination course is scheduled for Saturday August 5 from 1 pm to 4pm at the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s conference room, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada. A Virtual Zoom Indoctrination Course is scheduled for Saturday, August 19, 2023, from 1 pm to 4 pm. The Virtual Zoom Indoctrination Course will be recorded and available for First Come First Serve tagholders. The Department will provide all tag holders with directions for registration prior to August 5, 2023.
- The Department phone number to call and report a harvested black bear is 775-688-BEAR. Leave a message.

*Special Regulations

Those areas within Units 192 and 194 that are within the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) and those areas bounded on the west by the LTBMU boundary from the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary (approximately located at the Relay Ridge Radio Tower), by the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary from the LTBMU boundary to the western boundary of Range 19 East, and by the western boundary of Range 19 East from the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary to USFS Road No. 41049 (Logan Meadow Lane/Thomas Creek), bounded on the north by USFS Road No. 41049 from the western boundary of Range 19 East to Timberline Drive, by Timberline Drive from its junction with USFS Road No. 41049 to State Highway 431 (Mount Rose Highway), and by State Highway 431 from its junction with Timberline Drive to its junction with U.S. Highway 395, bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 395 from its junction with State Highway 431 to the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Section 14 (approximately located at the northbound Bellevue Interchange off-ramp), and bounded on the south by the southern edge of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Sections 14 – 18, following the southern boundary of the University of Nevada, Reno Little Valley Study Area, and Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the LTBMU boundary.



**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**JANUARY 5, 2023**

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

From: Mike Scott, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-06, 2023-2024 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt 2023-2024 hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations for Mountain Lions.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023-2024 hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations for Mountain Lions.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502.370 establishes mountain lion season dates beginning March 1 through the end of February of the succeeding year unless the harvest limit established by the Commission is met prior to that date. Because season dates are established in this NAC, this Commission Regulation (CR) does not address season dates.

The Department prepared the 2023-2024 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations similar to those adopted by the Commission in for 2022-2023, with the exception of including Unit 091 into the combined harvest limit.

The proposed CR for mountain lions in 2023-2024 includes a combined harvest limit of 247 for the state, excluding closed units. The harvest limit considers harvest characteristics within unit groups developed through published, peer-refereed research to identify genetic population structures within Nevada. These published sources on genetic population structures indicate unit groups where genetic interchange is most frequent and further confirms that genetic interchange occurs among unit groups to a lesser extent. Harvest limits may be established for individual genetic populations in future years if harvest demographic data indicates that exploitation is excessive and the management objective is to maintain mountain lion populations.

Examination of recent harvest data provides no indication that harvest levels are excessive. Females make up less than 50% of the total harvest take, whereas adult females comprise less than 35% of the total harvest.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-06
Open Management Units and Harvest Limits
2023-24 Mountain Lion Season

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.120 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of mountain lions.

Resident and Nonresident Mountain Lion - Either Sex

Unit Groups	Harvest Limits
142,143, 144, 145, 155, 161, 162, 163, 171, 172, 173, 183, 184, 251	247
102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 108, 109, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 121, 231	
044, 045, 046, 051, 061, 062, 064, 065, 066, 067, 068, 071, 072, 073, 074, 075, 076, 077, 078, 079, 081, 091*, 101, 107, 141, 151, 152, 153, 154, 156	
011, 012, 013, 014, 015, 021, 022, 032, 034, 041, 192, 194, 195, 196, 201, 202, 203, 204, 206, 291	
131, 132, 133, 134, 164, 221, 222, 223, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 253, 254, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 271, 272	
031, 035, 042, 043, 181, 182, 205, 207, 208, 211, 212, 213, 252	
033, 269, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 286	Closed Units

- The limit is one animal per tag, 2 tag maximum per person.
- Hunting hours are any time day or night
- A hunter, or their licensed guide or subguide if applicable, must call the mountain lion hotline at 1-800-800-1667 prior to hunting to determine if a unit group is open or closed.
- Season date March 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024

*Special Regulations

- Unit 091 is an Interstate hunt with Utah. Nevada and Utah hunters may hunt within open units in both states (Nevada Unit 091, Utah Unit 1C). Nevada hunters hunting in Utah must abide by Utah regulations and season dates on the Utah portion of the hunt area.



**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

DECEMBER 29, 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 23-07, 2023-2024 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quota**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt the 2023-2024 hunting season and quota recommendations for restricted nonresident guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2023-2024 hunting season and quota recommendations for restricted nonresident guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

Quotas for restricted nonresident guided mule deer seasons are prescribed by Nevada Revised Statute 502.147. This statute dictates that the quota for the restricted nonresident guided hunt is subtracted from the total nonresident rifle (i.e., any legal weapon) quota, the total restricted nonresident guided quota must not exceed 16% of the total nonresident quota from the previous year, or 400 tags, and the number of restricted nonresident deer tags issued for any management area or hunt unit group must not exceed 37.5%, rounded to the nearest whole number, of the rifle deer tags issued to nonresidents during the previous year for that management area of hunt unit group. Additionally, restricted nonresident guided seasons are aligned with standard seasons to ensure seasons are concurrent.

The Department is presenting the seasons and quota to the Commission and requesting approval of this regulation. The Department and Commission have little latitude to make changes to this regulation as directed by statute after approval of standard seasons and quota. Quota for 2023-2024 are based on the number of tags issued to restricted nonresident guided and nonresident any legal weapon seasons the previous year.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-07
2023-2024 Restricted Nonresident Guided Antlered Mule Deer
Seasons and Quota
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1235

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2023-2024 Quota
011 - 013	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
014	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
015	Dec 11 - Jan 1	2
021	Dec 21 - Jan 1	2
022	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
031	Oct 5 - Nov 5	4
032	Oct 5 - Nov 5	3
033	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
034	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
035	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
041, 042	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
043, 044, 046	Oct 5 - Nov 5	3
045	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
051	Oct 5 - Nov 5	6
061, 062, 064, 066-068 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	37
061, 062, 064, 066-068 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	5
065	Oct 5 - Nov 5	3
071 - 079, 091 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	29
071 - 079, 091 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	7
081	Dec 11 - Jan 1	2
101 - 109 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 16	41
101 - 109 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	38
101 - 109 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	6
111 - 113 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	9
111 - 113 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
114, 115 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	3
114, 115 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
115	Dec 1 - Dec 15	1
121 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	2
121 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
131 - 134 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	6
131 - 134 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	2
141 - 145 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	12
141 - 145 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	2
151 - 156 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	9
151 - 156 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
161 - 164 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	5
161 - 164 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	2
171 - 173 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	10
171 - 173 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	6
171 - 173 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	2
181 - 184	Oct 5 - Nov 5	6
192	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
194, 196	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
195	Oct 5 - Nov 2	1
201, 204	Nov 5 - Nov 30	1
202, 205 - 208	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
203 ^A	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
211 - 213	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
221 - 223 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	5

221 - 223 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	3
221 - 223 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	1
231	Oct 5 - Oct 31	3
241 - 245	Oct 5 - Oct 31	3
251 - 254	Oct 5 - Nov 2	2
261 - 268	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
271, 272	Nov 5 - Nov 30	1
291	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
Total Quota		315

^A Special restrictions apply see NAC 503.170.



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:

DECEMBER 30, 2022

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: Commission Regulation 23-01, 2023 Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates and 2024 Spring Turkey Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 upland, waterfowl, and big game application deadlines along with the 2024 spring turkey application deadlines.

Summary

This regulation is to establish the 2023 upland, waterfowl, big game, and 2024 spring turkey application and harvest questionnaire return deadlines. All applications and harvest questionnaire returns must be submitted online at www.ndowlicensing.com except applications submitted for Overton and Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area (WMA) waterfowl which must be submitted through a mail-in process. Harvest questionnaire returns may also be submitted over the telephone at 1-855-542-6369 prior to the deadline.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends the inclusion of upland game and swan application and draw dates to the Commission Regulation, combining all game applications offered to the public into one centralized regulation. Newly added applications include Turkey, Swan, Overton Wildlife Management Area (WMA) dove, Overton and Key Pittman WMA opening day and weekend waterfowl. ***These new additions are existing applications historically found over a variety of Commission Regulations now combined into a single Commission Regulation.**

The Department recommends including a section for turkey harvest questionnaires as Commission General Regulation 502 proposes the removal of the turkey harvest questionnaire deadline from Nevada Administrative Code to be reviewed and approved every year in Commission Regulation.

The Department recommends including a new section titled "Tag and Permit Purchase Grace Period" that describes the process of failed payments and consolidates the notice that results

posted within the 48-hour deadline may not reflect the final status of an application due to the 7-day payment processing and electronic return period.

The Department recommends no changes in format from the previous year to the Big Game Main Draw, the Big Game Second Draw, or Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt with the exception of extending Big Game Main Draw application period by one day resulting in the application closer on a Wednesday.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-01 2023 Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates 2024 Spring Turkey Application Deadline & Draw Result Dates

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.

General Tag Application Information

All applications associated with the tag **or permit** draw processes for mule deer, including the Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Hunt, pronghorn antelope, elk, black bear, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, **wild turkey, swan and Overton Wildlife Management Area (WMA) dove** must be submitted through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com. Applications submitted by mail for these species will not be accepted.

All applications for Overton and Key Pittman WMA waterfowl must be submitted through a mail-in application process detailed on the NDOW website at www.ndow.org.

2024 Wild Turkey Hunt Draw Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications received for the Spring Wild Turkey Hunt draw before 11:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, January 29, 2024. Applications for bonus points only will be accepted until 11:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, February 5, 2024.

Wild Turkey Hunt Draw Results

Initial Wild Turkey Draw results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the Wild Turkey draw to applicants on or before Friday, February 16, 2024. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the results are finalized and applicants notified.

Except as specified for the Junior Wild Turkey Hunts and Landowner Hunts, any remaining tags will be available on a first come, first serve basis through www.ndowlicensing.com beginning 14 days after the draw results have been released.

Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt Draw Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications received for the Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt draw through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00:00pm Pacific Time on **Monday, March 6, 2023**. Personal Identifiable Numbers (PINs) generated to apply for the Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer hunt will be provided to participating guide businesses up until the opening of the application period. Any tag unissued or returned to the Department before the main draw will be allocated into the quota of the main draw in the non-resident mule deer categories relative to matching hunt criteria.

Restricted Non-resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt Draw Results

Initial Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt draw results will be **released** ~~posted online at www.ndowlicensing.com~~ no later than 48-hours after the completion of the Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt draw. The Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Hunt results will be posted on or before **Friday, March 17, 2023**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are **finalized and applicants notified** ~~posted online~~.

~~**Note:** Draw results posted within the 48-hour deadline may not reflect the final status of an application due to payment processing issues that may occur after the results are posted.~~

Big Game Main Draw Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications received for the Big Game Main Draw through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00:00pm Pacific Time on **Wednesday, May 10, 2023**.

Big Game Main Draw Order

The Big Game Main Draw will be performed by species. Applications are awarded tags until all quotas are filled in the order of the following groups:

1. Silver State, Partners in Wildlife, Junior Mule Deer Antlered/Antlerless
2. Assigned simultaneously in no particular order: [Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Ram, California Bighorn Sheep Ram, Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Ram, Elk Antlered, Elk Depredation Antlered, Antelope Horns Longer than Ears, Mule Deer Antlered, Mountain Goat, Bear]
3. Assigned simultaneously in no particular order: [California Bighorn Sheep Ewe, Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Ewe, Elk Antlerless, Elk Depredation Antlerless, Antelope Horns Shorter than Ears, Mule Deer Antlerless]
4. Spike Elk, Management Bighorn Sheep Ram

Big Game Main Draw Results

Initial Big Game Main Draw results will be **released** ~~posted online at www.ndowlicensing.com~~ no later than 48-hours after the completion of the main draw. The main draw results will be posted on or before **Friday, May 19, 2023**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are **finalized and applicants notified** ~~posted online~~.

~~**Note:** Draw results posted within the 48-hour deadline may not reflect the final status of an application due to payment processing issues that may occur after the results are posted.~~

Big Game Main Draw Electronic Tag Return

There will be a seven (7) day period in which a successful tag recipient can choose to electronically return the tag prior to printing and mailing.

Big Game Second Draw Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications for the Big Game Second Draw received through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00:00pm Pacific Time on **Monday, June 12, 2023**.

Big Game Second Draw Results

Initial Big Game Second Draw results will be **released** ~~posted online at www.ndowlicensing.com~~ no later than 48-hours after the completion of the second draw. The second draw results will be posted on or before the **Friday, June 23, 2023**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are **finalized and applicants notified** ~~posted online~~.

~~**Note:** Draw results posted within the 48-hour deadline may not reflect the final status of an application due to payment processing issues that may occur after the results are posted.~~

Overton Wildlife Management Area Dove Opening Day and Weekend Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications for Opening Day and Weekend Dove located on the Overton WMA through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00pm Pacific Time on Friday, July 21, 2023. Only one application per day will be accepted per individual. Applicants will be permitted to draw only one reservation during this application process unless there are less than 60 applicants on a day for which reservations are required.

Successful reservation holders will be allowed to substitute one person of a hunt party, but that substitute must not have been an applicant in the application process or part of a standby group.

Overton Wildlife Management Area Dove Opening Day and Weekend Draw Results

Initial Overton WMA Dove reservation results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the Overton WMA Dove reservation draw to applicants on or before Friday, July 28, 2023. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the results are finalized and applicants notified. Any unused reservations will be filled on a first come, first served basis the morning of the hunt.

Swan Draw Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications for the Swan Draw received through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, September 4, 2023. Only one swan permit will be awarded to applicants through the initial drawing. Only one application per individual will be allowed for the swan draw.

Swan Draw Results

Initial Swan Draw results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the Swan draw to applicants on or before Friday, September 15, 2023. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the results are finalized and applicants notified.

Any remaining swan hunt permits will be available for purchase on a first come, first served basis online at www.ndowlicensing.com 14-days after the draw results have been released until all remaining permits have been sold or until the swan hunt closes, whichever comes first. During this period, individuals awarded a permit from the draw may purchase a second swan permit.

Overton and Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area Waterfowl Opening Day and Weekend Application Deadline

The Department will accept applications for the first two hunt days of the earliest opening duck and goose seasons at the Overton WMA and the opening day duck and goose seasons at the Key Pittman WMA through a mail-in application process submitted before 5:00pm Pacific Time on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. Details of the application process can be found on the NDOW website at www.ndow.org. For Overton WMA, only one reservation per individual will be allowed through the application process unless there are available blinds on a day for which draw reservations are required.

Successful reservation holders will be allowed to substitute one person of a hunt party, but that substitute must not have been an applicant in the application process or part of a standby group.

Overton and Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area Waterfowl Opening Day and Weekend Draw Results

Initial Overton and Key Pittman WMA Waterfowl reservation results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the Overton and Key Pittman WMA Waterfowl reservation draw to applicants on or before Friday, September 29, 2023. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the results are finalized and applicants notified. Any unused reservations will be filled on a first come, first served basis the morning of the hunt.

Bonus Point Period

Bonus points for big game can be purchased during any big game application period. **Bonus points for Wild Turkey can be purchased during the spring Wild Turkey application and designated bonus point period.** The Department will only accept purchases of bonus points received through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com. Only one bonus point can be obtained per season and active license for each species or category of a species as defined in NAC 502.4187.

Harvest Questionnaires

The issuance of a big game **tags, wild turkey tags, and swan permits** includes an online harvest questionnaire that tag **and permit** recipients are required to complete, regardless of whether or not they hunted or harvested **big game**. Harvest questionnaires may be accessed and submitted to the Department's independent contractor, Kalkomey Enterprises, LLC, through the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com or via telephone at 1-855-542-6369.

Properly completed big game harvest questionnaires must be submitted on or before 5:00pm Pacific Time on January 31 following the close of the hunt season for which the tag was issued, with the exception of hunts that end on or after January 31, which must have properly completed harvest questionnaires submitted on or before 5:00:00pm Pacific Time on February 28 following the close of the hunt season for which the tag was issued. NAC 502.405.

Properly completed wild turkey harvest questionnaires must be submitted on or before 5:00pm Pacific Time on May 31, for the spring wild turkey hunt and 5:00pm Pacific Time on November 30, for the fall wild turkey hunt following the close of the hunt season for which the tag was issued. NAC 502.407.

Tag and Permit Purchase Grace Period

Successfully awarded tag and permit applicants will have 7-days after the draw finalizations to complete the payment of the tag or permit. Applicants are encouraged to update the default payment in their customer accounts before a draw has been conducted. After 7-days, any unpaid tag or permit may be awarded to the next available alternate, offered in an applicable sequential draw, then offered for sale on a first come first serve basis until all tags or permits have been sold or the hunt season closes, whichever comes first.

Note: Draw results posted within the 48-hour deadline may not reflect the final status of an application due to payment processing issues that may occur after the results are posted and the 7-day electronic return period.



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:

JANUARY 1, 2023

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-08, 2023 Big Game Application Eligibility and Tag Limits**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Summary

This regulation is to establish 2023 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends updates to the First Come, First Served section that reflect changes found in the approval of Commission General Regulations that have amended Nevada Administrative Code 502.4215 and Commission Policy 24.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-08

2023 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits

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.

Big Game Tag Application Eligibility

Except as otherwise provided by regulation, a person may only **apply** for one (1) big game tag per species or subspecies per draw application period, with the following exceptions:

- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered mule deer and one (1) application for antlerless mule deer, or an eligible person may submit one (1) application for the junior antlered or antlerless mule deer, per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears and one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns shorter than ears per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered elk, one (1) application for antlered depredation elk, one (1) application for spike elk, and one (1) application for each type of antlerless elk, including antlerless elk, antlerless management elk, and antlerless depredation elk, per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for ram bighorn sheep per subspecies, one (1) application for management ram bighorn sheep hunt, and one (1) application for ewe bighorn sheep per subspecies per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered mule deer and one (1) application for antlerless mule deer per **emergency hunt** application period; and
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears and one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns shorter than ears per **emergency hunt** application period.

Customers who are successful in a draw will have 7-days to complete the purchase of their awarded tag. Once all notification efforts are exhausted by the Department and if at the time the 7-days has ended and a tag holder has not completed a successful purchase, the customer will be treated as a successful applicant in regard to applied waiting periods and loss of bonus points. The tag will be offered to the next available alternate, if no alternate is available, offered in a subsequent draw or in the First Come, First Served program. (NAC 502, CGR 499 adopted by the Commission November 2021, adopted by the Legislative Commission in December 2021)

Big Game Tag Limits

Except as otherwise provided by regulation, a person may only **obtain** one (1) big game tag per species or subspecies per year, with the following exception:

- An eligible person may obtain Heritage tags, Dream tags, Mule Deer or Pronghorn Antelope Landowner Damage Compensation tags, Elk Incentive tags, and Antlerless Elk Landowner tags in addition to any tags obtained through a draw process.

Big Game Second Draw Eligibility

A second drawing will be held for all mule deer, pronghorn antelope, black bear, elk, mountain goat and bighorn sheep tags that remain after the completion of the big game main draw process. Eligible residents and nonresidents may apply for **any** remaining tags during the big game second draw application period, with the exception of the junior mule deer and antlerless mule deer hunt tags, which will only be available to eligible resident applicants.

First Come First Served Eligibility

For the purposes of this regulation, the term Suspicious Activity is defined as: seeking to create an unfair advantage in obtaining a big game tag.

A first come first serve process to purchase a tag will be offered for all mule deer, pronghorn antelope, black bear, elk, mountain goat and bighorn sheep tags that remain after the completion of the big game second draw process and any returned tags thereafter having no eligible alternate. **Tags offered through the First Come, First Served program will only be available for purchase to residents and nonresidents otherwise eligible to hunt the tag.** ~~Eligible residents and nonresidents may purchase any tags offered during the First Come, First Served period, with the exception of junior mule deer tags, rocky mountain bighorn sheep tags, and mountain goat tags which will only be available to eligible resident applicants.~~ Participating persons will be limited to adding one (1) tag to their cart in a seven (7)-day period. Persons who actively abuse or attempt to create an unfair advantage of the First Come, First Served program shall be suspended by the Department for suspicious activity. **Activities that are cause for suspension are defined in NAC 502.4215, section 4.** ~~Suspicious activity includes, but is not limited to, the use of technological programs designed to carry out tasks without human supervision, technological advancements designed to increase the ability of the average human, and/or multiple logins into a single account and/or multiple browser sessions open at a single time.~~ Suspensions applied for suspicious activity **will** ~~can~~ last up to the duration of the big game hunting season. More severe conduct, such as continued and substantial efforts to gain an unfair advantage, shall result in permanent restriction from use of the program.



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:

JANUARY 1, 2023

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-08, 2023 Big Game Application Eligibility and Tag Limits**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Summary

This regulation is to establish 2023 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends updates to the First Come, First Served section that reflect changes found in the approval of Commission General Regulations that have amended Nevada Administrative Code 502.4215 and Commission Policy 24.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-08

2023 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits

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.

Big Game Tag Application Eligibility

Except as otherwise provided by regulation, a person may only **apply** for one (1) big game tag per species or subspecies per draw application period, with the following exceptions:

- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered mule deer and one (1) application for antlerless mule deer, or an eligible person may submit one (1) application for the junior antlered or antlerless mule deer, per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears and one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns shorter than ears per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered elk, one (1) application for antlered depredation elk, one (1) application for spike elk, and one (1) application for each type of antlerless elk, including antlerless elk, antlerless management elk, and antlerless depredation elk, per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for ram bighorn sheep per subspecies, one (1) application for management ram bighorn sheep hunt, and one (1) application for ewe bighorn sheep per subspecies per draw application period;
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for antlered mule deer and one (1) application for antlerless mule deer per **emergency hunt** application period; and
- An eligible person may submit one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears and one (1) application for pronghorn antelope horns shorter than ears per **emergency hunt** application period.

Customers who are successful in a draw will have 7-days to complete the purchase of their awarded tag. Once all notification efforts are exhausted by the Department and if at the time the 7-days has ended and a tag holder has not completed a successful purchase, the customer will be treated as a successful applicant in regard to applied waiting periods and loss of bonus points. The tag will be offered to the next available alternate, if no alternate is available, offered in a subsequent draw or in the First Come, First Served program. (NAC 502, CGR 499 adopted by the Commission November 2021, adopted by the Legislative Commission in December 2021)

Big Game Tag Limits

Except as otherwise provided by regulation, a person may only **obtain** one (1) big game tag per species or subspecies per year, with the following exception:

- An eligible person may obtain Heritage tags, Dream tags, Mule Deer or Pronghorn Antelope Landowner Damage Compensation tags, Elk Incentive tags, and Antlerless Elk Landowner tags in addition to any tags obtained through a draw process.

Big Game Second Draw Eligibility

A second drawing will be held for all mule deer, pronghorn antelope, black bear, elk, mountain goat and bighorn sheep tags that remain after the completion of the big game main draw process. Eligible residents and nonresidents may apply for **any** remaining tags during the big game second draw application period, with the exception of the junior mule deer and antlerless mule deer hunt tags, which will only be available to eligible resident applicants.

First Come First Served Eligibility

For the purposes of this regulation, the term Suspicious Activity is defined as: seeking to create an unfair advantage in obtaining a big game tag.

A first come first serve process to purchase a tag will be offered for all mule deer, pronghorn antelope, black bear, elk, mountain goat and bighorn sheep tags that remain after the completion of the big game second draw process and any returned tags thereafter having no eligible alternate. **Tags offered through the First Come, First Served program will only be available for purchase to residents and nonresidents otherwise eligible to hunt the tag.** ~~Eligible residents and nonresidents may purchase any tags offered during the First Come, First Served period, with the exception of junior mule deer tags, rocky mountain bighorn sheep tags, and mountain goat tags which will only be available to eligible resident applicants.~~ Participating persons will be limited to adding one (1) tag to their cart in a seven (7)-day period. Persons who actively abuse or attempt to create an unfair advantage of the First Come, First Served program shall be suspended by the Department for suspicious activity. **Activities that are cause for suspension are defined in NAC 502.4215, section 4.** ~~Suspicious activity includes, but is not limited to, the use of technological programs designed to carry out tasks without human supervision, technological advancements designed to increase the ability of the average human, and/or multiple logins into a single account and/or multiple browser sessions open at a single time.~~ Suspensions applied for suspicious activity **will** ~~can~~ last up to the duration of the big game hunting season. More severe conduct, such as continued and substantial efforts to gain an unfair advantage, shall result in permanent restriction from use of the program.



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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:

DECEMBER 31, 2022

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-10, 2024 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 Heritage Tag seasons and quotas.

Summary

This regulation is to establish the 2024 seasons and quotas for Heritage auction tags. The Department must mail, email and post Heritage tag vendor proposal packets by March 1, 2023. The Heritage Committee will review vendor proposal packets during their May meeting and provide recommendations to the County Advisory Boards and the Commission for review and adoption at the June meeting.

Combined Heritage and Silver State tag quotas may not exceed 15 big game tags and 5 wild turkey tags per Nevada Revised Statute 502.250.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year's Heritage tag species or quotas, allowing two (2) mule deer tags, two (2) pronghorn antelope tags, two (2) elk tags, two (2) Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep tags, one (1) California bighorn sheep tag, and five (5) wild turkey tags.

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year's Heritage Tag seasons.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-10 2024 Wildlife Heritage Tag

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.

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 antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Pronghorn Antelope	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a California bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	1	To be determined at June NBWC meeting

Wild Turkey	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2024 through May 3, 2024	5	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Total				14	

* 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.

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.



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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:

DECEMBER 30, 2022

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 23-11, 2023 Partnership in Wildlife**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 Partnership in Wildlife tags seasons and quotas.

Summary

This regulation is to establish the 2023 seasons and quotas for Partnership in Wildlife big game tags. Partnership in Wildlife tag quotas may not exceed 22 resident and 3 nonresident mule deer tags, 5 resident pronghorn antelope tags, 3 resident elk tags, 1 mountain goat tag, and 4 resident bighorn sheep tags per Nevada Administrative Code 502.428.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department updated the method for closing Partnership in Wildlife Tag Bighorn Sheep hunt units based on the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) recommendations. The new process provides a quota for specialty tag holders based on the quota available for the public in each hunt unit. 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. This process has been approved for the 2023 Heritage Tags found in Commission Regulation 22-05.

The Department recommends no change to the previous year’s Partnership in Wildlife Tag species or quotas, allowing the maximum tags for mule deer, pronghorn antelope and elk, one (1) tag for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep, and zero (0) tags for mountain goat.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-11 2023 Partnership in Wildlife

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.

Partnership in Wildlife Tags

Hunting Hours: Big game mammals 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: Legal weapons are described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144. Weapon use must adhere to the weapon class seasons defined for each species, hunt unit and hunt.

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.

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota
Resident Mule Deer	Antlered	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered mule deer.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident mule deer antlered hunts.	22
Nonresident Mule Deer	Antlered	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered mule deer.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for non-resident mule deer antlered hunts.	3
Resident Pronghorn Antelope	Horns longer than ears	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident pronghorn antelope horns longer than ears hunts.	5
Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for Nelson bighorn sheep.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the resident Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1
Resident Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit where there is an open season for antlered elk except for unit 091.	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for resident elk antlered hunts. Excludes Spike and Depredation hunts.	3
Total				34

* 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.

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.



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:

JANUARY 1, 2023

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

From: Kimberly Munoz, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: Commission Regulation 23-12, 2023 Silver State

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2023 Silver State Tags seasons and quotas.

Summary

This regulation is to establish the 2023 seasons and quotas for Silver State big game tags. The combined Heritage and Silver State tag quotas may not exceed 15 big game tags and 5 wild turkey tags per Nevada Revised Statute 502.250. Nine (9) big game Heritage tags for 2022 were approved last year, leaving up to six (6) big game tags remaining for Silver State.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department updated the method for closing Silver State Tag Bighorn Sheep hunt units based on the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) recommendations. The new process provides a quota for specialty tag holders based on the quota available for the public in each hunt unit. 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. This process has been approved for the 2023 Heritage Tags found in Commission Regulation 22-05.

The Department anticipates a drop in the quota for California bighorn sheep and recommends replacing the Silver State California bighorn sheep with a Silver State Mountain Goat tag.

The Department recommends no change to all other previous year's Silver State Tag species or quotas, allowing one (1) tag each for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep, mule deer, antelope, and elk.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-12 2023 Silver State

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.

Silver State Tags

Hunting Hours: Big game mammals 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.

Unit Closures: 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.

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	1
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	1
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	1
Mountain Goat Silver State Tag**	Any goat	Hunt Unit 102	July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	1
Rocky Mountain Elk	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023	1
Total				5

* 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.

**** Successful applicants for the Silver State Mountain Goat tag will need to watch an online seminar before their tag will be released to the hunter.**

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.