

**CARSON CITY CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPALITY
NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE
ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

Day: Monday
Date: January 22, 2024
Time: Beginning at 5:30 pm
Location: Community Center, Robert 'Bob' Crowell Board Room

AGENDA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:

Members of the public who wish to view the meeting may watch the livestream of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting at www.carson.org/granicus and by clicking on “In progress” next to the meeting date, or by tuning in to cable channel 191. Livestream of the meeting is provided solely as a courtesy and convenience to the public. Carson City does not give any assurance or guarantee that the livestream or cable channel access will be reliable. Although all reasonable efforts will be made to provide livestream, unanticipated technical difficulties beyond the control of City staff may delay, interrupt, or render unavailable continuous livestream capability.

The public may provide public comment in advance of a meeting by written submission to the following email address: publiccomment@carson.org. For inclusion or reference in the minutes of the meeting, your public comment must include your full name and be submitted via email by no later than 3:00 p.m. the day before the meeting.

Disclosures

Any member of the advisory board with a conflict of interest on an agenda item or relative to advisory board business should inform the chair of the member’s conflict of interest prior to the meeting. Conflicts of interest must also be disclosed at the time a specific agenda item is introduced.

Agenda Management Notice

Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; the public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration; and the public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

Join by phone:

Phone Number: +1-408-418-9388

Meeting Number: 248 006 96922

- 1. Call to Order, Determination of Quorum**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment:****

The public is invited, at this time, to comment on and discuss any topic that is relevant to or within the authority of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CCABMW). No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda.

4. **For Possible Action: Approval of Minutes -**
 - 4.A August 8, 2023 and September 19, 2023
5. **For Information Only: Update and Activity Report on the Carson City Urban Wildlife Committee.**
6. **For Information Only: Update from the Chair on the November 3 and November 4, 2023 Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' meeting.**
7. **For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife for the 2024 calendar year.**

8. **For Discussion Only: Reports – Informational**

The following items are informational and for discussion only. No action may be taken by the Board. Any item requiring Board action will be scheduled on a future Board agenda.

8.A **Department Activity Report**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife recent activities. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

8.B **Litigation Report**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

8.C **Status of Moose in Nevada**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on an overview of moose populations in Nevada, including important demographic parameters, movements, and results of a recent habitat analysis conducted by a research faculty at Texas A & M University. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

8.D **Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) Report**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on the recent TAAHC meeting. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

8.E **Petition- Mr. Joshua Jenni**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, the commission may take action to deny or accept and initiate

rulemaking to Mr. Jenni's petition to add a separate resident-only archery hunt for Rocky Mountain Goats. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.
[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

For Possible Action: Consent Agenda Items.

The items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without an extensive hearing. A member of the advisory board may request an item be pulled for separate discussion and action, but the advisory board chair retains discretion in deciding whether to pull an item from the consent agenda. (For additional information on the items to be considered within this action item, please visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife website at: <https://www.ndow.org/events/january-2024-commission-meeting/under-agenda> and corresponding support material).

9.A For Possible Action: Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapon and Hunter Groups- Third Reading.

Staff Summary: The department made changes requested by the commission. At its January 26, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 24 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.
[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.B For Possible Action: Draft Fiscal Year 2025 Predation Management Plan.

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024 meeting, the draft fiscal year 2025 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 (CABMW), and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2024 meeting. The Commission will receive an update at the March 2024 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time.
[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.C For Possible Action: Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024, meeting the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review and may take action to approve the Department's proposed biennial bighorn sheep and mountain goat release plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.
[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.D For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 514 - Moose.

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapters 502 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to provide for definitions, fees, and regulations concerning moose. This proposed regulation change is necessary to

establish definitions for antlered and antlerless moose, eligibility requirements for a moose tag and fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts and to establish requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.E For Possible Action: Commission General Regulations 512, Fishing Regulations.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold an adoption hearing to consider amending Chapter 488 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would change vessel motor restrictions, amend tackle restrictions, and reclassify protected species classifications.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.F For Possible Action: Commission General Regulation 513, Executive Order Regulations.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold an adoption hearing to amend Chapters 488, 501, 502, 503 and 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code pursuant to Executive Order 2023-003.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.G For Possible Action: Commission General Regulation 514, Moose.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapters 502 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to provide for definitions, fees, and regulations concerning moose. This proposed regulation change is necessary to establish definitions for antlered and antlerless moose, eligibility requirements for a moose tag and fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts and to establish requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.H For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 23-04, (Amendment 2) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game Seasons.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve an amendment to the 2023- 2024 and 2024-2025 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat and moose, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and hunt boundary restrictions.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.I For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 23-10 (Amendment 2) 2024 Heritage

Tag Seasons and Quota.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider amending the regulation for the 2024 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quota regulation to add a mandatory call-in number for all Specialty Bighorn Sheep tag holders to verify which units are closed to hunting.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.J For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-01, 2024 Big Game Application Deadlines.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 big game tag application deadlines and related information.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.K For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-02, 2024 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 big game tag application eligibility and tag limits and related information.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.L For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-03, 2024 Dream Tag

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Dream Tag species, seasons, and quota.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.M For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-04, 2024 Partnership in Wildlife (P I W) Tags.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) tags hunt species.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.N For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-05, 2025 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2025 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quota.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.O For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-06, 2024 Silver State Tags.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Silver State tag species, season, and quota.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.P For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-07, 2024 Black Bear Seasons.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024 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.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.Q For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-08, 2024 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024-2025 hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours and special regulations.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

9.R For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-09, 2024-2025 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quotas.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024-2025 hunting season and quotas for restricted non-resident guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

[Click Here for Staff Report](#)

(End of Consent Agenda)

10. For Information Only: Advisory Board Member Commitment(s) to the January 26 and 27, 2024 Meeting and the March 8 and 9, 2024 Meeting.

11. For Information Only: Future Agenda Items.

12. Public Comment:**

The public is invited, at this time, to comment on and discuss any matter that is relevant to or within the authority of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, including any matter that is not specifically included in the agenda as an action item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda.

13. For Possible Action: To Adjourn

**** PUBLIC COMMENT LIMITATIONS** - The Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife will provide at least two public comment periods in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Open Meeting Law prior to adjournment. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per speaker to facilitate the efficient conduct of a meeting and to provide a reasonable opportunity for comment from all members of the public who wish to speak. Testimony from a person who is directly involved with an item, such as City staff, an applicant, or a party to an administrative hearing or appeal, is not considered public comment and is not subject to the three-minute time limitation. No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the item has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

The agenda and supporting materials are available on the City's website at www.carson.org/agendas and on the State website: <https://notice.nv.gov> Posting on Carson City's website of supporting materials for its public meetings, other than such postings pertinent to the Board of Supervisors meetings, is not required. The posting of supporting materials on the City's website is a courtesy and no rights are thereby bestowed. Late materials or materials distributed during the public meeting will be incorporated into the public record and can be made available upon request.

Notices to persons with disabilities: Members of the public who are disabled and require special assistance or accommodations at the meeting are requested to notify Briana Munoz at (775) 283-7412 or, in writing, at 885 East Musser Street, Suite 1032, Carson City, Nevada 89701, as soon as possible.

On some occasions, three or more members of this Advisory Board will attend Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings, which are publicly noticed. These are informational meetings, and no action will be taken by this Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife, nor will this body improperly deliberate toward any decision, on those occasions. Information obtained at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings may be agendized and acted upon at the next regular meeting of this Advisory Board.

To request a copy of the supporting materials for this meeting, contact Briana Munoz at bmunoz@carson.org or (775) 283-7412. Additionally, a copy of the agenda with all supporting materials may be made available, upon request, from the Public Meetings / Records Division of the Carson City Clerk's Office, 885 East Musser Street, Suite 1032, Carson City, Nevada.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC: This agenda was posted electronically on the following Internet websites:

State website: <https://notice.nv.gov>

City website: www.carson.org

Please note that all agenda notices will only be posted online, at City Hall, and at the Carson City Community Center, as authorized by Assembly Bill 219 of the 82nd (2023) Session of the Nevada Legislature.

DRAFT MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (WAB)
Tuesday, August 8, 2023 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Bonanza Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701

Board Members

Chair – Corbett Fleming **Vice Chair – Tim Wilson**
Member – Robert Boehmer **Member – Kirk Stewart**
Member – Daniel Thompson

Staff

Danielle Howard, Public Meetings Clerk
Minutes by: Briana Munoz, Public Meetings Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board’s agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder’s Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

Audio recordings and approved minutes of the Board’s meetings are available on www.carson.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:47:29) – Chairperson Fleming called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Corbett Fleming, Chair	Present	
Tim Wilson, Vice Chair	Present	
Robert Boehmer	Present	
Kirk Stewart	Present	
Daniel Thompson	Absent	

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(5:48:02) – Led by Vice Chair Wilson.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:48:20) – Chairperson Fleming entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 20, 2023

(5:48:31) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item and entertained a motion.

(5:49:01) – Vice Chair Wilson moved to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

5. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE AND ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE CARSON CITY URBAN WILDLIFE COMMITTEE.

(5:49:10) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer reported on significant rattlesnake and bear activity in areas of Carson City “that predominantly don’t get bears.” He stated that he reached out to Nevada Department of Wildlife Urban Wildlife Coordinator Raquel Martinez to inquire about upcoming campaigns or opportunities but had not received a response.

6. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR ON JUNE 23 AND 24, 2023 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING.

(5:50:47) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item and reported that he did not attend. Member Boehmer stated that he virtually attended the June 23, 2023 meeting but there “was not much to report.”

7. REPORTS – INFORMATIONAL

(5:51:59) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item and entertained Member input on each of the reports. Member Stewart requested input on item 7-E. Member Boehmer requested input on items 7-E and 7-H.

7-A. WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES (WAFWA) 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, reports from the 2023 conference will be provided. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-B. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife recent activities. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-C. LITIGATION REPORT – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-D. NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 338 PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on public works contracts awarded by the Department in the previous fiscal year. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-E. THE 2023 DRAW OVERVIEW – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, the Department’s vendor that accepts hunt applications and conducts the random draw for hunting tags will provide an overview of this year’s application and hunt statistics, conducting the random draw. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

(5:53:08) – In response to Member Stewart’s question about a potential new vendor, Member Boehmer said that discussions about a new vendor would likely take place at the next meeting and mentioned that the current contract is a multi-year one and he hadn’t heard of any updates regarding its status. He questioned whether the Department had the ability to renegotiate or go back to request for proposals if another company had acquired the existing vendor. Member Boehmer noted that there weren’t any relevant support materials on the item and assumed that it could be an informational item.

(5:57:07) – Chairperson Fleming mentioned that he believed the item was “a common one” where the Department discusses hunting statistics. Member Boehmer stated that he had talked to many individuals who were not happy with the tags that were issued.

7-F. HABITAT DIVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a presentation will be provided on the Habitat Division Programs. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-G. EMBRACING PARTNERSHIPS TO BENEFIT NEVADA’S WILDLIFE – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a presentation will be provided on the Habitat Division Restoration and Rehabilitation Program. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-H Winecup Gamble Land Exchange – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a presentation will be provided on the proposed Winecup Gamble Land Exchange. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

(5:56:01) – Member Boehmer expressed interest in the item. Vice Chair Wilson stated that he was surprised by it. Member Boehmer described the item as “unbelievable” and stated that the land was “a great area” for game hunting.

7-I AB70 \$3 PREDATORY FEE – *At the August 11, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, the Department will present the strategy for implementing the change in the Agency Management System (AMS) to allow tag applicants to choose where they want their \$3 fee applied: wildlife management or lethal removal of predators. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

The items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. A member of the advisory board may request an item be pulled for separate discussion and action, but the advisory board chair retains discretion in deciding whether to pull an item from the consent agenda. (For additional information on the items to be considered within this action item, please visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife website at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/ under agenda and corresponding support material).

(6:01:06) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer wished to pull item 8-C from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

(6:01:40) – Member Boehmer moved to accept Consent Agenda items 8-A, 8-B, and 8-D. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

8-A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS TO MANAGE WILDLIFE (CABMW) MEMBER ITEMS. *At the August 12, 2023 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, 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.*

8-B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION POLICY 23 – PREDATION MANAGEMENT – THIRD READING. *At its August 12, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.*

8-C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION POLICY 24 – HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES AMONG VARIOUS WEAPONS CLASSES AND HUNTER GROUPS – FIRST READING. *At its August 12, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will have a first reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups, may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading.*

(6:01:58) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer indicated that he was confused by the item’s purpose, stating that he felt that the Commission was “trying to pull a fast one.” He referenced Commission Policy 24, which is incorporated into the record, and expressed concerns regarding hunting classes like archery, which often have fewer applicants. He mentioned the possibility of the Commission taking “away from those groups if the demand is not there.” Member Boehmer shared concerns as an archer and a supporter of archers, stating that this County Advisory Board (CAB) should monitor the situation and listen to the dialogue to determine their position.

(6:06:53) – Chairperson Fleming noted the difference between “desire” and “actual success rate.” Member Boehmer agreed and stated that there was a need to allocate a certain number of tags for archery, even if the success rate was lower.

(6:07:40) Vice Chair Wilson said he believes “they should give more archery tags.” Member Boehmer agreed and stated “out of all the areas where there’s heavy archery applications, we never see any excess. It’s only areas where there’s not a high demand for archery.”

(6:09:34) – MOTION: Member Boehmer moved to “remain neutral” on Commission Policy 24, until CAB received more information “to better understand the policy.” Member Stewart seconded the motion and carried 4-0-0.

8-D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION POLICY 65 – DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS – FIRST READING. *At its August 12, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will have a first reading of Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas, may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading.*

******* END OF CONSENT AGENDA *******

9. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENT(S) TO THE AUGUST 11 AND 12, 2023 MEETING AND THE SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23, 2023 MEETING.

(6:10:20) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer indicated that he would attend the August 11, 2023 meeting and Member Stewart indicated that he would attend the August 12, 2023 meeting.

(6:14:35) – Member Stewart indicated that he would attend the September 22 and 23, 2023 meetings virtually.

10. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(6:15:22) – Chairperson Fleming entertained suggestions for future agenda items; however, none were forthcoming.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:07:51) – Chairperson Fleming entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

12. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADJOURNMENT

(6:09.:05) – Chairperson Fleming adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

The minutes of the August 8, 2023, meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are approved on this 31st day of October, 2023.

DRAFT MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (WAB)
Tuesday, September 19, 2023 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Bonanza Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701

Board Members

Chair – Corbett Fleming **Vice Chair – Tim Wilson**
Member – Robert Boehmer **Member – Kirk Stewart**
Member – Daniel Thompson

Staff

Tamar Warren, Senior Deputy Clerk
Minutes by: Briana Munoz, Public Meetings Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board’s agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder’s Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

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1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:36:16) –Vice Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Corbett Fleming, Chair	Absent	
Tim Wilson, Vice Chair	Present	
Robert Boehmer	Present	
Kirk Stewart	Absent	
Daniel Thompson	Present	

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(5:36:42) – Led by Member Boehmer.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:37:02) – Vice Chair Wilson entertained public comments.

(5:37:38) – Gene Green expressed concerns regarding his representation of this County Advisory Board (CAB) at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ meetings in Ely on June 23 and 24, 2023. He stated that he disagrees with the idea of “a select group of people” attending every meeting. Mr. Green added that he would continue going to as many meetings as he always has. He noted that he would not

attend the September 22 and 23, 2023 meetings in Las Vegas and stated “we only have 17 counties in this state, and some are so huge it’s impossible for some of the boards to even get together, let alone members to make the meetings. And in some cases, it’s even impossible for them to fulfill the paperwork on time because of communication efforts within certain parts of this state.”

(5:40:33) – Deni French introduced himself as a Carson City resident and said that he attended the meeting because he was “curious about what goes on in town.” Mr. French stated that he had missed most of the board’s meetings because they weren’t on his “main peripheral vision”, but he now had concerns about wildlife.

(5:41:23) – C.K. Bailey introduced himself as a Carson City resident and stated that he attended the meeting to let this board know that he hadn’t “fallen off the deep end” and was still involved in Nevada wildlife including fisheries and teaching children how to fish. Mr. Bailey added that he looked forward to seeing Bailey Pond get back on its feet after “a very warm spell.”

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2023

(5:42:39) – No minutes were available for approval. Vice Chair Wilson tabled the item to the October 31, 2023 meeting.

5. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE AND ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE CARSON CITY URBAN WILDLIFE COMMITTEE.

(5:43:45) –Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer provided an update on the development of a potential urban wildlife week or month campaign with the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) to invite the community to learn about urban wildlife in Carson City. He noted that the Mayor and Board of Supervisors were in favor of it. Member Boehmer added that he has tried to coincide the efforts with NDOW’s outreach but “they’ve been pretty slammed.” He reported more bear activity in Genoa and Carson Valley as the bears prepare for winter. Member Boehmer noted that he led an hour-long wilderness training for a church group.

6. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR ON AUGUST 11 AND 12, 2023 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING.

(5:49:44) –Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item and reported that he attended the August 12, 2023 meeting. Member Boehmer reported that he attended the August 1, 2023 meeting. Vice Chair Wilson reported on the item involving the Winecup Gamble Ranch land exchange in Elko County which would consolidate checkerboard property in exchange for private holdings. He added that the item is not yet a formal proposal but noted strong public comments including opposition from a Las Vegas Wildlife Board Member.

(5:51:44) – In response to Member Thompson’s question, Member Boehmer elaborated on the issue stating that the potential land exchange involved the Winecup Gamble Ranch and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). He added that the concerns among many are that the exchange could lead to

restricted access to public lands, as seen previously with the Pequop Mountain Range. Member Boehmer noted that there was a lot of debate on whether the Department could work to grant access to portions suitable for sportsmen. He added that the Commissioners were on the fence due to the lack of a clear proposal. Member Boehmer anticipated that the upcoming meeting in Las Vegas could bring more clarity.

(5:55:42) – Vice Chair Wilson agreed and reported on the Department’s presentation on birds affected by botulism.

7. REPORTS – INFORMATIONAL

(5:57:25) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item and entertained Member input on each of the reports. Member Thompson asked to discuss item 7-G.

7-A. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife recent activities. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-B. LITIGATION REPORT – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-C. MULE DEER ENHANCEMENT SUMMIT REPORT – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on the Mule Deer Enhancement Summit that took place in Winnemucca, Nevada on August 17 through 19, 2023. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-D. TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE (TAAHC) REPORT – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on the recent TAAHC meeting. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-E. CORNER CROSSINGS REPORT – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a presentation will be provided on the corner crossings in Nevada. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-F. EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-008 – *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, an update will be provided to the Commission regarding Executive Order 2023-008, Lifting the Freeze on the Regulatory Process. The Department will share which regulations should be brought to the Commission for further review. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-G. FISHERIES DIVISION PROGRAM OVERVIEW- *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a presentation will be provided on the Fisheries Division Programs. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

(6:00:56) – Member Boehmer stated that the Department is striving to create more opportunities for fisheries in the State of Nevada. He reported that he had received 12 emails and 15 phone calls from people that that “were not too happy with some of the proposed regulations.” Member Boehmer added that he believed the Fisheries Division Program Overview would be “a great one.”

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

The items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. A member of the advisory board may request an item be pulled for separate discussion and action, but the advisory board chair retains discretion in deciding whether to pull an item from the consent agenda. (For additional information on the items to be considered within this action item, please visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife website at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/ under agenda and corresponding support material).

(6:02:43) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer wished to pull items 8-A, 8-D, and 8-H from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

(6:05:19) – Member Thompson moved to accept Consent Agenda items 8-B, 8-C, 8-E, 8-F, and 8-G. The motion was seconded by Member Boehmer and carried 3-0-0.

8-A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: WINECUP GAMBLE LAND EXCHANGE DISCUSSION. *At the September 22, 2023, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, an update will be provided on recent developments regarding the Winecup Gamble Land Exchange. CCABMW members will have the opportunity to discuss potential input or actions.*

(6:05:50) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer stated that the land exchange involves “a huge portion of Northeastern Nevada.” He pointed out that many people are opposed to the proposal. Member Boehmer stated that a lot of information was still unknown, and he wanted to remain neutral until more details became available.

(6:08:40) – Vice Chair Wilson agreed and stated that the proposal may change based on input. He added that he would like WAB to continue monitoring the item. Member Boehmer stated that the item would potentially affect Eastern Nevada.

(6:09:35) – In response to Member Thompson, Member Boehmer clarified the item could involve sections with restricted access. He added that he pulled the item to allow the public to provide comments and to ensure it’s on WAB’s “radar.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(6:10:54) – Vice Chair Wilson entertained public comments.

(6:11:02) – Mr. Green expressed concerns based on past experiences with land exchanges and the potential for landowners to change conditions after acquisition.

(6:12:22) – Mr. Bailey voiced his opposition to any land exchange that could limit fisheries and negatively impact the public.

(6:13:08) – Mr. French stated, “it seems that anytime BLM gives up land, it somehow ends up being sold by the people that are getting the land for other types of development and they crowd up in certain areas.” He expressed concerns regarding the land exchange stating that it was “opening up a can of worms.”

(6:14:25) – Member Boehmer moved to take a neutral position on 8-A until more information was revealed. The motion was seconded by Member Thompson and carried 3-0-0.

8-B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION POLICY 23 – PREDATION MANAGEMENT – THIRD READING. *At its September 22, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.*

8-C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION POLICY 65 – DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS – SECOND READING. *At its September 22, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.*

8-D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 512, FISHERIES. *At its September 23, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 488 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would change vessel motor restrictions, amend tackle restrictions, and reclassify protected species classifications.*

(6:14:55) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer noted that he pulled the item to inform the public on the proposal.

He explained that the proposal would impact Hobart Reservoir since their regulations only allow for single barbless hooks. Member Boehmer stated that the new recommendation aimed to change the restriction from only single barbless hooks to “artificial lures only,” allowing the use of treble hooks, spinners, and other artificial baits. He expressed concerns regarding the potential impact on Brook Trout, stating that they were the most he’d ever seen in a water in the State of Nevada “but they’re all very small.” Member Boehmer mentioned a similar instance at Kirman Lake, where small Brook Trout grew larger after an increased harvest. He expressed support for the Department’s efforts and believed it was “a step in the right direction.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(6:24:29) – Vice Chair Wilson entertained public comments. Sam Sedillo introduced himself as a Fish Biologist for NDOW and explained that under the current regulation, the quality of fish at Hobart

Reservoir hadn't improved over the past twenty years. Mr. Sedillo added that the proposal would not change the number of fish one could take but aimed to add "a little bit of nuance" to the current limits by removing size restrictions. He stated that "previously you couldn't take more than one fish over 14 [pounds], we're removing that and still allowing for people to take five fish." Mr. Sedillo noted that another nuance restricts taking more than two Tiger Trout because Tiger Trout are used as a biological control of the Brook Trout population to "allow for them to grow to really good sizes." He clarified that the regulation regarding single barbless artificial lures is not an expansion of permissible gear but rather a shift to artificial lures only. He added that the changes are expected to encourage more people to fish at Hobart Reservoir, potentially leading people to "harvest more Brook Trout specifically and create more of a quality fishery."

(6:27:06) – Mr. Sedillo responded to clarifying questions regarding the closure of Ash Canyon Road, Marlette Lake, and restrictions on barbed hooks.

(6:31:01) – Member Boehmer moved to approve that this CAB show support to the regulation change. The motion was seconded by Member Thompson and carried 3-0-0.

8-E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 511, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA DESIGNATIONS. *At its September 23, 2023, meeting the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would update Wildlife Management Area (WMA) designations and restrictions.*

8-F. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATIONS 509, LICENSES AND VESSEL PRODUCT REFUNDS, LCB FILE NO. R037-23. *At its September 23, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners 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.*

8-G. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 510, FCFS EXCHANGE TO OBTAIN A TAG, LCB FILE NO. R038-23. *At its September 23, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would include any money, goods, or services exchanged for procurement of a tag through the First Come, First Serve (FCFS) program as grounds for suspension from the program. Commission General Regulation 510 is currently a temporary regulation that is set to expire on November 1, 2023.*

8-H. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: COMMISSION REGULATION 23-15, FISHING SEASONS AND REGULATIONS FOR JANUARY 1, 2024, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025. *At its September 23, 2023, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the Fishing Season and Regulations for 2024 and 2025.*

(6:33:12) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer emphasized the importance of the agenda item, stating that the fishing regulations would be in place for two years. He commended the Department for aligning the possession limit with “what we typically see in regulations across the state.” Member Boehmer noted changes to bag limits and restrictions in certain waters. He said he appreciated the Department’s efforts and expressed support for the agenda item.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(6:35:31) – Mr. Sedillo stated that the new possession limit was designed to provide more flexibility for anglers without significantly impacting the abundance of fish in the waters. He noted that the Department’s goal was to encourage more people to go fishing and “utilize the resource.”

(6:36:53) – Member Boehmer responded to Mr. Bailey’s clarifying question on the proposed limit of possession.

(6:37:52) – Member Thompson moved to approve that WAB supports item 8-H as written. The motion was seconded by Member Boehmer and carried 3-0-0.

******* END OF CONSENT AGENDA *******

9. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENT(S) TO THE SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23, 2023 MEETING AND THE NOVEMBER 3 AND 4, 2023 MEETING.

(6:38:21) – Vice Chair Wilson introduced the item. Member Boehmer indicated that he would attend the September 22, 2023 meeting virtually. Vice Chair Wilson stated that he would attend the September 23, 2023 meeting.

(6:39:17) – Member Boehmer stated that he had to check his schedule before he committed to the November 3 and 4, 2023 meetings. Vice Chair Wilson indicated that he would attend the November 3 and 4, 2023 meetings.

10. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(6:41:08) – Vice Chair Wilson entertained suggestions for future agenda items; Member Boehmer requested to keep item 8-A regarding the Winecup Gamble Land Exchange on the agenda. He added that he would like to keep all petitions on the agenda.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:42:03) – Vice Chair Wilson entertained public comments. Mr. French recommended a PBS Special called “Evolution Earth: Heat” which was set to air September 20, 2023. He noted that the program would cover “the hottest places in the world” and species’ survival adaptations.

(6:43:30) – Mr. Green provided an update on the August 11 and August 12, 2023 NDOW Commission meetings. He praised the Commission field trips, stating that they are “phenomenal” and reported on a recent trip to Cave Lake and a high-altitude meadow.

12. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADJOURNMENT

(6:53:22) – Vice Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

The minutes of the September 19, 2023, meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are approved on this 31st day of October, 2023.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: Department Activity Report

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife recent activities. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

Agenda Action: Other / Presentation **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number: _____

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact: _____

Alternatives

Motion: _____	1) _____	Aye/Nay
	2) _____	_____

(Vote Recorded By)



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **Litigation Report**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

Agenda Action: Other / Presentation **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[7B-January-Litigation-Report.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)

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
Alan Jenne, Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife

From: Craig Burkett, Senior Deputy Attorney General

Date: January 8, 2024

Subject: January Board Meeting 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 march 7, 2023, the case remains staid for 90 days pending settlement discussions. As of May 31, 2023, the parties appear to have reached a settlement agreement. the US, Tribe and WRID are now working through their internal approval processes. The Court has been asked for another final 90 day stay while approvals are obtained.

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-justiciable political question.

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

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

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

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

On April 18, 2023, the AG’s office received Mineral County’s initial disclosures. Document review remains ongoing.

On May 31, principal Defendants served their first joint discovery requests upon Mineral County.

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, 2022 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.

The Court has issued a formal judgment in favor of the Defendants as to all causes of action. In addition, the Judge has issued costs and fees award to the Defendants in the total amount of roughly \$91,000.

The Plaintiffs have appealed the case and the fees and costs award to the Nevada Supreme Court. The parties attended a Supreme Court Settlement Conference February 28. It was not successful.

The parties have settled this case after a series of negotiations that initiated in early December. The settlement is complicated. As a part of the settlement, The Plaintiffs/Appellees have agreed to dismiss their appeal of the jury verdict rendered in favor of the NDOW Defendants. In addition, NDOW will receive a payment of \$70,000 in the settlement. Thus, NDOW will have collected approximately \$81,000 of the \$91,000 fee award issued by the Court following the trial. We are awaiting dismissal of a companion bankruptcy matter to bring this case to formal conclusion.

4. *NDOW v. White Pine County Assessor* – SBE Case no. 23-185.

NDOW and the Nevada Division of State Lands have filed an Appeal related to a tax assessment asserted by the White Pine County Assessor, flowing from the purchase of multiple parcels of property in White Pine County. NDOW made application to the County in May, 2023, to maintain the existing status of the land upon purchase, which is agricultural use. White Pine County denied the application, on the basis that NDOW is exempt from the State ad valorem property tax. At the same time, the White Pine County Assessor has claimed property taxes are now due as a result of the prior agricultural deferred status of the property, totaling \$249,523.68. The Appeal was made to the Nevada State Board of Equalization.

On Friday, October 6, the State Board of Equalization heard NDOW's appeal of White Pine County's denial of its application and issuance of the agricultural deferred tax bill. The Board issued an oral decision in favor of NDOW, finding that NDOW is not exempt as a matter of law from the property tax. As such, NDOW is not responsible for the agricultural deferred tax bill of \$249,523.68, plus interest. We await receipt of a formal, written Order from the Board.

**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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: Status of Moose in Nevada

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on an overview of moose populations in Nevada, including important demographic parameters, movements, and results of a recent habitat analysis conducted by a research faculty at Texas A & M University. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

Agenda Action: Other / Presentation

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) Report**

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a report will be provided on the recent TAAHC meeting. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

Agenda Action: Other / Presentation **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[7D-TAAHC-Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)

CHAIRMAN TOMMY CAVIGLIA
COMMISSIONER EDDIE BOOTH
COMMISSIONER SHANE ROGERS
COMMISSIONER PAUL YOUNG
CABMW REP. RYAN BROWNE
CABMW REP. JOE CRIM
PUBLIC REP. MEGHAN BROWN

STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE:
KIM MUNOZ, DATS DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR
kim.munoz@ndow.org, 775-688-1565
MEGAN MANFREDI, MANAGEMENT ANALYST
mmanfredi@ndow.org, 775-688-1881

AGENDA
NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

Nevada Department of Wildlife
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120
Reno, NV 89511

Or

Please click this URL to join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84579715838?pwd=RGhzUHJud2hTWE56STVGMDN4TFhMdz09>

Passcode: 389540

Public Comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item and are limited to three (3) minutes per person. 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 to the Committee Staff or attend and make comment during the live meeting or, if utilized, be allowed to speak through a virtual platform which will become part of the official record. Persons attending virtually wishing to comment are invited to raise their virtual hands in the virtual meeting forum during the appropriate time. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Committee will consider, Committee members may choose not to respond to public comments to avoid deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

FORUM RESTRICTIONS AND ORDERLY BUSINESS: In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission and related Committees, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

Please provide the Board of Wildlife Commissioners Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee with the complete electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations to include as exhibits with the minutes. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format. All persons present are asked to sign-in whether speaking or not.

1. Call to Order, Pledge and Roll Call – Committee Chairman Tommy Caviglia

2. Public Comment Period

This period is for general comment on anything not on the agenda. No action will be taken but may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda. The 3- and 6-minute time limits apply. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record. If applicable, commentators will be allowed to speak within the virtual platform utilized for the meeting and taken in the order of hands raised. Commentors can raise their hands by clicking the "raise hand" button found at the bottom of the program.

3. Approval of Agenda – Committee Chairman Tommy Caviglia FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

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

4.* Approval of Minutes – Committee Chairman Tommy Caviglia FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The Committee may take action to approve Committee minutes from the November 2, 2023, meeting.

5.* Deferred Tags – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi and Program Officer Chrissie Rose FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The Department will share concerns related to the tag deferral program and request direction of the Committee on answers to how to handle unanticipated consequences.

6.* Junior Tag Transfer – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The Committee will discuss possible options for establishing a junior tag transfer program as authority to establish such a program was given from SB 311 out of the 2023 Legislative Session.

7. Future Committee Meeting – Committee Chairman Tommy Caviglia FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The committee will discuss possible future agenda topics and set a date and time for the next committee meeting.

8. Public Comment Period

This period is for general comment on anything not on the agenda. No action will be taken but may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda. The 3- and 6-minute time limits apply. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record. If applicable, commentators will be allowed to speak within the virtual platform utilized for the meeting and taken in the order of hands raised. Commentors can raise their hands by clicking the “raise hand” button found at the bottom of the program.

*Support material is posted at the NDOW website at this link: <https://nvboardofwildlife.org/>

Support material for this meeting may also be requested from Kimberly Munoz, NDOW Data and Technology Services Division Administrator, at kim.munoz@ndow.org, (775) 688-1565 or Megan Manfredi, NDOW Management Analyst, at mmmanfredi@ndow.org, (775) 688-1881.

Note: In accordance with NRS 241.020, this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted at <https://notice.nv.gov/> and the following Department of Wildlife offices: 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Reno, NV 89511; 1100 Valley Rd, Reno, NV 89512; 380 W. “B” St, Fallon, NV 89406; 815 East Fourth St, Winnemucca, NV 89445; 60 Youth Center Rd, Elko, NV 89801; 1218 North Alpha St, Ely, NV 89301; and 3373 Pepper Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89120.

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 based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: Petition- Mr. Joshua Jenni

Staff Summary: At the January 26, 2024, meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, the commission may take action to deny or accept and initiate rulemaking to Mr. Jenni’s petition to add a separate resident-only archery hunt for Rocky Mountain Goats. The CCABMW may desire to offer public comment.

Agenda Action: Other / Presentation

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[7E-Petition-by-Mr-Joshua-Jenni.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)

NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
PETITION FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT, FILING OR REPEAL OF REGULATION
(Submit to: Secretary, Board of Wildlife Commissioners, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Reno, NV 89511)

Petitioner's Full Name: Joshua Jenni
(Please Print)

Type of Petitioner: (Individual, Partnership, Corporation, Government Agency, Other): Sportsman

Petitioner's Mailing Address: 555 Gymkhana Ln Reno NV 89508

Petitioner, please complete the following (attach additional sheets if necessary):

1. State the need for and purpose of the proposed regulation:

** see attached*

2. Provide (or attach) the wording for the change you are proposing:

3. What is the estimated "economic" effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate?

(a) Include both adverse and beneficial effects:

(b) Include both immediate and long-term effects:

4. What is the estimated "economic" effect of the regulation on the public which it is to regulate?

(a) Include both adverse and beneficial effects:

(b) Include both immediate and long-term effects:

5. What is the estimated cost to the Department of Wildlife for enforcement of the proposed regulation?

6. Does the proposed change overlap or duplicate any regulations of other state or local government agencies? No Yes

If "Yes," list the agency and explain why the duplication or overlapping is necessary:

7. Does the requested change overlap or duplicate a federal regulation? No Yes

If "Yes," list the name of the regulating federal agency?

8. Is the requested change required by federal law? No Yes

If "Yes," please cite or describe the federal law as best you can:

9. Does the requested change include provisions which are more stringent than a federal regulation that regulates the same activity? No Yes

10. Does the requested change establish a new fee or increase an existing fee? No Yes

 Date 10/18/23

Petitioner's Signature

1. Nevada hunters would benefit from establishing a separate, Resident only, Archery only hunt for Rocky Mountain Goats. The purpose of this would be to create more opportunities for hunters, and at the same time help disperse the bonus point congestion for the species.
2. I am proposing that the state of Nevada issue an approved quota of Rocky Mountain Goat tags for a designated Archery only hunt, for resident hunters. This hunt could take place during the month of August, before the rifle hunt starts. A 30-day season would be appropriate during this time frame and would offer hunters favorable weather to be on the mountain.
3. The beneficial economic effect on the business it affects is more tag revenue. The adverse effect to the business would possibly be more hunts for NDOW game officers to have to keep track of.
4. The beneficial economic effect to the affected public is by giving hunters 2 weapon types to choose from, this could disperse bonus point congestion, giving both archery and any legal weapon hunters, better draw odds to have a once in a lifetime tag. Also, having more tags would mean less point holders in the draw, period. The negative effect would be potentially less success rates on a very difficult hunt.
5. This regulation would cost the department more resource involving checking in the harvested animals and more hunters to verify in the field from game agents.
6. No
7. No
8. No
9. No
10. By adding archery only mountain goat hunt it would no new fees. The cost of the tag would be the same as already established for the Rocky Mountain Goat.

PETITION PROCESS FLOWCHART

(Refer to NAC 501.195 for detailed process)

Note: The petition process is used to request a change to existing regulation or create a new regulation. Current regulations remain in effect until any proposed changes are fully adopted. A petition for changes to adopt, file, amend or repeal a permanent regulation does not affect the present, only the future. The process takes at least 4 months.

Petitioner will fill out the petition form explaining the reason and legal authority. They will also include the proposed language change to a pertinent NAC. Legal authority must be based on NRS.

Commission will refer the petition to the Department to obtain a recommendation.

The Department and Office of the Attorney General will review the petition to verify legal authority. Not later than 20 days after receiving the petition, the Department will forward their recommendation to the Commission whether to deny the petition or initiate rulemaking based on legal authority.

The Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Commission will work with the petitioner to schedule the petition to be heard at a Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting. The petitioner must appear at the meeting to support their petition, and answer any questions.

The Commission will hold the meeting: At the meeting, the petitioner will present their petition and answer questions. Department staff will be prepared to address any questions the Commission may have. The Commission will decide to accept or deny petition.

Within 30 days after a petition is presented to the Commission, the Secretary of the Commission will notify the petitioner in writing of the Commission's decision to deny the petition or initiate rulemaking. If accepted by Commission, the Department initiates the rule-making procedures set forth in Chapter 233B of NRS.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapon and Hunter Groups- Third Reading.**

Staff Summary: The department made changes requested by the commission. At its January 26, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 24 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9a-Commission-Policy-24.pdf](#)

Motion: _____	1) _____	Aye/Nay
	2) _____	_____

(Vote Recorded By)



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:

Thursday, December 21, 2023

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 Policy 24**

Description: Commission Policy 24 has been updated following TAAHC and Commission discussions.

Summary:

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

Policy 24 was last reviewed at the November Commission Meeting. The policy has been updated to reflect changes regarding Fixed-Allocation formulas.

The Department also broadened the junior language on page 7 to match NAC until a determination on NAC changes is made.

Recommendation:

Adopt Policy 24

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 24

Title : Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapon Classes and Hunter Groups

Reference: NRS 501.105, 501.181

Effective Date: May 13, 2006

Amended Date:

Amendment Draft

New language provided in *blue italics*, omitted language provided in ~~red strikethrough font~~.

PURPOSE

To establish hunting opportunities for the various weapon ~~classes~~ and hunter groups.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve ~~the~~ harvest levels for big game species based on *a fixed allocation for* the various weapon ~~classes~~ and hunter groups ~~relative demand~~ for hunting opportunity and *incorporating* hunter success *rates for those weapon groups*.

FINDINGS

After due deliberation and consideration of the relevant information presented, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. The Commission has a duty to provide hunting opportunity in Nevada.
2. Hunting in Nevada is an important activity for its citizens for many reasons, including but not limited to the following values that hunting provides:
 - A lean, healthy source of protein.
 - Family and other social interaction.
 - A link to Nevada's outdoor history, culture, and traditions.
 - A source of physical exercise important for maintaining health and fitness.
 - Appreciation for the natural habitat and scenic landscape, which is a major component of Nevada's quality of life.
 - Public support for Nevada's wildlife management programs.
 - One of the principal sources of wildlife management funding in Nevada.
3. The Commission takes administrative notice of Nevada's wildlife-limiting climatic and habitat conditions. These include precipitation averages that make Nevada the

driest state in the nation, and Great Basin and Mojave Desert vegetation and geography types that provide limited forage and cover. These limiting conditions prevent Nevada's wildlife populations from reaching numbers comparable to those of other states. [~~including other western states.~~]

4. Due to Nevada's relatively low wildlife numbers and its increasing human population, it is necessary to manage big game hunting opportunities in the State.

5. Nevada's already-limited resident hunting opportunities would be significantly lowered if nonresidents competed equally with residents for big game tags or were given a greater advantage. Such a change would be against the public interest.

6. Given the geographic and climatic constraints of Nevada's natural environment, the Commission — with the support of both resident and nonresident hunters — has elected to emphasize a sustained quality hunting experience rather than attempt to match the quantity of hunting opportunities available in other states. To do so, the Commission has consistently applied a conservative strategy that, compared to other states, maintains a high male to female ratio among big game populations.

7. When given the option, hunters overwhelmingly choose any legal weapon hunts on their big game application. However, hunters generally experience higher success rates during any legal weapon season than other weapon groups (i.e., muzzleloader, archery). Higher success rates yield fewer tags when expanding desired harvest to tag quotas. The Commission has adopted a Fixed Allocation-Tag Success formula for determining tag quotas. In most cases, this will result in the redistribution of desired harvest from any legal weapon to primitive weapon groups, yielding a greater number of tags available for primitive weapon hunts.

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Antelope With Horns Shorter Than Ears: In accordance with NAC 502.003, any pronghorn antelope without horns or with both horns that are shorter than its ears. Generally considered to be a doe (female), fawn, or young male antelope.

Antelope With Horns Longer Than Ears: In accordance with NAC 502.002, "antelope with horns longer than its ears," any pronghorn antelope having at least one horn that is longer than either ear of the antelope. Generally considered to be a mature male antelope.

Antlered Deer: In accordance with NAC 502.007, "antlered deer," any deer having at least one antler that is visible above the hairline of the deer. Generally considered to be a buck (male) deer.

Antlered Elk: In accordance with NAC 502.0074, "antlered elk" means any elk having at least one antler that is visible above the hairline of the elk. Generally considered to

be a bull (male) elk.

Antlered Moose: Any moose having at least one antler that is visible above the hairline of the moose. Generally considered to be a bull (male) moose.

Antlerless Deer: In accordance with NAC 502.008, “antlerless deer,” any deer without antlers. Generally considered to be a doe (female) or fawn deer.

Antlerless Elk: In accordance with NAC 502.009, any elk without antlers. Generally considered to be a cow (female) or calf.

Antlerless Moose: Any moose without antlers. Generally considered to be a cow (female) or calf.

Big Game: For this policy, big game means all big game mammals except mountain lion.

Billy: Any male mountain goat.

Boar: Any male black bear.

Demand*: Demand is defined as the measure of interest that a particular hunter group has in attaining a big game tag based on applications from previous years for a given ~~[hunter group and unit group]~~ *weapon group*. Demand is defined as the First Choice of unsuccessful applicants combined with successful applicants for all choices.

**The definition of demand is provided for historical context.*

Ewe: In accordance with NAC 502.345, any female bighorn sheep having a horn or horns of at least 5 inches in length each as measured on the outside curve of the horn from the skull to the tip.

Expand: Taking a projected number of harvested animals and dividing by the expected hunter success rate to generate a tag allocation.

Fixed Allocation: A fixed percentage of desired harvest allocated to any big game species and weapon group.

Hunter Groups: Residents of Nevada, resident juniors, and people who are not residents of Nevada.

Harvest Objectives: The numbers of male and female big game animals that the Department has determined can be safely removed from a population through harvest without causing detrimental impacts to that population.

Hunter Success: Percentage of tag holders reporting they hunted and harvested a big game animal. Hunter success calculations omit those tag holders that did not hunt.

~~[Hunter success is a valuable metric for understanding the experience of hunters in the field].~~ *This definition is provided merely for clarification purposes as this metric is not used in the Tag-Demand Success formula for developing a quota for any species.*

Junior Hunter: In accordance with NAC 502.063, generally a person between 12 years and 18 years.

Management Ram Hunt: Ram hunts that seek to achieve a specific population management objective beyond a standard hunt and may vary for the type of ram targeted. These may include broken-horn hunts, young ram hunts, hunts in areas where rams are extremely difficult to locate, or hunts designed to remove rams due to disease or rams found in undesirable areas.

Nanny: Any female mountain goat.

Nonresident: Anyone who does not meet the requirements for residents set in NRS 502.015.

Projected Male Harvest: A projected number of males reported to be harvested that will result in a *desired* post-hunt male to female ratio objective.

Projected Female (antlerless deer, antlerless elk, antelope with horns shorter than ears, or bighorn ewe) Harvest: A projected number of females reported to be harvested to achieve various management objectives; maintaining population numbers in balance with habitat conditions, optimal levels for a given species, or below a level set in local management plans; optimum sustained yield during periods of average to exceptional environmental conditions; and/or providing for recreational opportunity.

Ram: Any male bighorn sheep.

Resident: In accordance with NRS 502.015, a person is a resident of the State of Nevada if they are a United States citizen who has maintained his or her principal and permanent residence in Nevada for six months next preceding the application and has not purchased or applied for any resident hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in another state, country, or province.

Sow: Any female black bear.

Spike Elk: In accordance with NAC 502.104, spike-only elk hunts are intended to target young bulls (males). *A spike elk means any antlered elk having no more than 2 antler points on either antler.*

Tag Success: Percentage of tag holders responding to their hunt ~~[questionnaire]~~ *survey stating they were successful in [and subsequently] harvesting a big game animal. Tag success calculations treat those that [include those tag holders that] did not hunt as unsuccessful.* Tag success, used in the *Fixed Allocation-Tag Success [formual] formula,*

will be primarily based on tag success rates from previous years for a given hunter group and unit group. A long-term or statewide average may be used to moderate erratic variations in tag success rates.

Unit Groups: A defined geographic area within Nevada where separate or conjoined population assessments, harvest objectives, and other management actions are applied.

Weapons Groups: Any legal weapon, muzzleloader, and archery.

GENERAL RULES — ALL SPECIES

Population estimates of males and females (one year-old or older) for each unit group at the pre-hunt period (late summer) will be the basis for determining ~~projected~~ desired harvest levels for each species class.

The Commission approves the projected male and female harvest levels among those weapons and hunter groups that are identified for each unit group through the public scoping process involving the County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife and interested publics and approved by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

Any tag remaining after the big game draws, returned to the Department with no eligible alternate, or returned to the Department with less than 14 ~~business~~ days before the season opener may be offered for purchase to both residents and nonresidents in the First Come, First Served program. Returned resident tags will be designated for residents and returned nonresident tags will be designated for nonresidents ~~beginning in 2023-2024~~.

~~DEMAND~~ FIXED ALLOCATION-TAG SUCCESS

A ~~Demand~~ Fixed Allocation-Tag Success formula will be used to ~~allocate~~ generate tag[s] quotas ~~to~~ for various weapon groups ~~classes~~ for deer, elk, and antelope.

~~Demand is defined as the measure of interest that a particular hunter group has in attaining a big game tag based on applications from previous years for a given hunter group and [unit] species group. Demand is defined as the First Choice of unsuccessful applicants combined with successful applicants for all choices.~~

Tag Success is defined as the percentage of tag holders responding to their hunt questionnaire and subsequently harvesting a big game animal. Tag success calculations include those tag holders that did not hunt.

Tag success, used in the ~~Demand~~ Fixed Allocation-Tag Success formula, will be primarily based on tag success rates from previous years for a given hunter group and

unit group. A long-term or statewide average may be used to moderate erratic variations in tag success rates. Tag success must be used in the ~~[Demand]~~ *Fixed Allocation*-Tag Success Formula to achieve ~~[projected]~~ *desired* harvest while accommodating tag holders that do not hunt.

RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT TAG ALLOCATION

The Commission strives to allocate approximately 90 percent of available quota to resident hunters and 10 percent of available quota to nonresident hunters for males of each big game species in the Main Draw.

PARTY HUNT QUOTA MINIMUM

For deer, ~~[antlerless]~~ *antlerless* elk, and horns shorter than ears antelope hunts, the minimum tag quota will be two to allow applicants who wish to apply as a party to apply and have a chance of drawing those tags.

SPECIFIC RULES — BY SPECIES

MULE DEER

Allocation of ~~[Projected]~~ *Desired* Harvest by Weapon Group

The ~~[Demand]~~ *Fixed Allocation* – Tag Success process for determining antlered mule deer hunting quotas will be as follows:

For Standard and Alternative, *and Non-Standard* Hunt Units (see Game Division Big Game Management Objectives)

1. Determine the desired animal harvest for each unit group based on the pre-hunt population estimate and desired male to female ratio (typically 30 bucks per 100 does).
2. Apportion the desired harvest into the various weapon ~~[classes]~~ *groups* based on *Fixed Allocation*. ~~[demand from previous years for standard hunt units]~~.
3. Apportion the desired harvest of 25% to Junior Hunters (Juniors).
 - a. Junior hunts may be divided into Any Legal Weapon, ~~[class and]~~ Archery, ~~/#Muzzleloader~~, *or any combination of the three weapon groups* to allow for increased Junior participation.
 - b. Junior deer tags will be considered antlered deer tags except in areas that have open antlerless deer hunts, where they will be considered either-sex tags.
 - c. Juniors can apply for five years ~~[and be awarded a maximum of three junior tags]~~ before the age of 18.

4. For *standard*, alternative, and non-standard hunt units, the *fixed allocation will be set as follows*:

- *Any Legal Weapon = 57 percent*
- *Archery = 10 percent*
- *Muzzleloader = 8 percent.*

~~[demand will be based on the [number of first choice applicants for each weapon type from the previous years].~~

5. Determine final quota for each unit group and weapon ~~[type]~~ *group* by dividing the desired harvest by the previous 3-year average tag success rate.

A long-term or statewide average may be used to moderate erratic variations in ~~demand and]~~ tag success rates.

ELK

Allocation of ~~[Projected]~~ Desired Harvest by Weapon Group

1. Modeled changes in population size, bull-cow ratios, and percent of main beams \geq 50-inch reported by hunters from previous years will be assessed to determine desired elk harvest. Using ~~[calculated demand]~~ *fixed allocations*, the projected antlered *and* antlerless ~~[, and spike]~~ harvest will ~~[then]~~ be distributed among the various weapon groups identified for a given elk class and unit group. The projected harvest, once allocated among the weapon groups, will *then* be divided by ~~[hunter]~~ *tag* success for the appropriate weapon group to determine the recommended tag quota.
2. *Apportion the desired harvest into the various weapon groups based on a fixed allocation for all hunt units as follows:*

	<i>Any Legal Weapon</i>	<i>Archery</i>	<i>Muzzleloader</i>
<i>Antlered Elk</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Antlerless Elk</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>12%</i>

3. *Infrequently, deviations from fixed allocation will occur to accommodate special circumstances (i.e., changing season structures, unit groups without all weapon classes, low tag success, etc.).*
4. *Weapon groups for depredation hunts and spike-only hunts will be solely Any Legal Weapon. Allocation of spike harvest may be a portion of the desired antlered harvest attributed to Any Legal Weapon or may be independent of desired antlered harvest to meet bull ratio objectives.*

ANTELOPE

Allocation of ~~Projected~~ Desired Harvest by Weapon Group

~~[The projected buck harvest will be divided among the various weapon groups identified for a given antelope class and unit group. The projected harvest, once divided among the weapon groups, will be expanded to hunting opportunities].~~

The Fixed Allocation-Tag Success process for determining quotas for antelope with Horns Longer than Ears will be as follows:

For standard Hunt Units (see Game Division Big Game Management Objectives)

1. Determine the desired animal harvest for each unit group based on the pre-hunt population estimate and desired male to female ratio (typically 20-30 bucks, 2 years old or greater, per 100 does).

2. Apportion the desired harvest into the various weapon classes based on a fixed allocation for all standard hunt units as follows:

- *Any Legal Weapon = 85 percent*
- *Archery = 10 percent*
- *Muzzleloader = 5 percent*

Horns shorter than ears harvest will be based on the tag success of *the* previous 3 years for a given hunter group and unit group [~~hunter success~~]. A long-term or statewide average may be used to moderate erratic variations in tag success rates.

BIGHORN SHEEP

Weapon, Hunter Groups, and Animal Classes

Bighorn ram and ewe hunting opportunities will involve any legal weapon and archery weapon groups. Management ram hunts may be implemented in unit groups where broken-horned rams may exist, where reduced ram densities are desired, and where consistently low ram tag success occurs.

Allocation of ~~Projected~~ Desired Harvest by Hunter Group

Tag success rates will not be used to expand either the projected ram or ewe harvest.

MOUNTAIN GOAT

Weapon, Hunter Groups, and Animal Classes

Mountain goat hunting opportunities may consist of any mountain goat (male or female), or billy only. Hunts are any legal weapon only.

Allocation of ~~Projected~~ Desired Harvest by Hunter Group

Tag success rates will not be used to expand the projected mountain goat harvest.

MOOSE

Weapon, Hunter Groups, and Animal Classes

Hunting opportunities for moose may consist of any moose (male or female), antlered-only, or antlerless-only. Initial hunts will only be offered for antlered moose. The designated weapon group will initially be Any Legal Weapon but may be subject to other weapon groups if the population increases sufficiently.

Allocation of Desired Harvest by Hunter Group

The Fixed Allocation-Tag Success formula will not be used to expand the desired moose harvest.

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, 2024.

Chairman Tommy Caviglia
Board of Wildlife Commissioners



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Draft Fiscal Year 2025 Predation Management Plan.**

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024 meeting, the draft fiscal year 2025 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 (CABMW), and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2024 meeting. The Commission will receive an update at the March 2024 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9b-FY-2025-Predation-Management-Plan-1.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 4, 2024

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: FY2025 Predation Management Plan

Brief Explanation of Changes to FY2025 Annual Predation Management Plan

- Due to limited success, the Department recommends ending Project 22-01 and combining with Project 37
- The Department recommends ending Project 42 due to completion

Important note, because a turkey or big game application season has not passed, this Predation Management Plan does not reflect applicant direction.

Recommendation

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

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Predator Management Plan
Fiscal Year 2025
1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

DRAFT

STATE OF NEVADA

Joe Lombardo, Governor

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Alan Jenne, Director

Mike Scott, Deputy Director

Jordan Goshert, Deputy Director

Caleb McAdoo, Deputy Director

Shawn Espinosa, Game Division Administrator

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

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*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

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 2023 legislative session, Assembly Bill 70 was adopted which in part amended NRS 502.253 to read: a fee of \$3 must be charged for processing each application for a game tag, the revenue from which must be accounted for separately, deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Wildlife Account in the State General Fund and used by the Department, at the direction of the applicant, for costs related to: (a) Developing and implementing an annual program for the lethal removal of predatory wildlife; or (b) Developing and implementing an annual program for the improvement of wildlife habitat and research or management activities beneficial to nonpredatory game species. An application season has not passed since Assembly Bill took effect; therefore this plan does not reflect applicant direction.

Budget Summary

Fiscal year 2023 predator fee revenues totaled \$944,410. Proposed predator projects for fiscal year 2025 include \$784,000 for lethal work, these funds include fiscal year 2023 revenues and previous fiscal years surpluses.

Map Note

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

Table of Contents

TYPES OF PROJECTS	5
Project 21: Greater Sage-Grouse Protection (Common Raven Removal).....	6
Project 22-01: Mountain Lion Removal to Protect California Bighorn Sheep (Recommended for Discontinuation).....	9
Project 22-074: Monitor Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep for Mountain Lion Predation.....	11
Project 37: Big Game Protection-Mountain Lions	13
Project 38: Big Game Protection-Coyotes.....	15
Project 40: Coyote and Mountain Lion Removal to Complement Multi-faceted Management in Eureka County	17
Project 41: Increasing Understanding of Common Raven Densities and Space Use in Nevada	19
Project 42: Assessing Mountain Lion Harvest in Nevada (Recommended for Discontinuation)	22
Project 43: Mesopredator removal to protect waterfowl, turkeys, and pheasants on Wildlife Management Areas	24
Project 44: Lethal Removal and Monitoring of Mountain Lions in Area 24.....	26
Project 45: Passive Survey Estimate of Black Bears in Nevada.....	28
Project 46: Investigating Potential Limiting Factors Impacting Mule Deer in Northwest Nevada	30
Project 47: Mule Deer Enhancement Program Mule Deer Protection and Assessment.....	32
Literature Cited.....	35

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.

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.

Habitat Conditions	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.
Comments from FY 2023 Predator Report	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.
Methods	<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>
Anticipated Result	<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>
Staff Comment	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.
Project	Fund Project 21.

Direction	
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Budget

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

DRAFT

**Project 22-01: Mountain Lion Removal to Protect California Bighorn Sheep
(Recommended for Discontinuation)**

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	No
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 population potential 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.

Current Department Direction	End Project 22-01, combine with project 37
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 60.
Anticipated Result	California bighorn herds may not be established in 011 or 013
Staff Comment	Duration of project combined with struggling populations suggest mountain lion predation is not limiting these populations
Project Direction	End Project 22-01, combine with project 37

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>
\$0	N/A	\$0

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 population potential or preventing them from reaching self-sustaining levels.
Comments from FY 2023 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 2025.

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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2023 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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2023 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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2023 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>
\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000

DRAFT

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 2023 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	<p>1. Develop a protocol to estimate common raven populations in Greater Sage-grouse habitat and monitor these populations.</p> <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 2023 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>
\$60,000	\$180,000	\$240,000

Project 42: Assessing Mountain Lion Harvest in Nevada (Recommended for Discontinuation)

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.
Current Department Direction	End Project 42
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	Limitations in federal funding combined with a final manuscript for this project allow for it to end
Project Direction	End Project 42

<u>\$3 Predator Fee</u>	<u>Pittman-Robertson</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$0	\$0	\$0

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 2023 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.

	<p>2. Increase the number female turkeys, waterfowl, and pheasants that have clutches.</p> <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

DRAFT

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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2023 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 2023 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).

Comments from FY 2023 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 and Assessment

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	Implementation or Experimental Management
Potentially Affected Species	Mule deer, coyote, mountain lion
Span More Than One Fiscal Year	Yes
Project Area	Statewide
Limiting Factor Statement	Drought, fire, degraded habitat, and competition from feral horses may all be limiting factors. Predation and its interactions with these factors are the primary focus.
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 population potential. These effects may also be suppressing mule deer or big game populations below population potential (Ballard et al. 2001).
Comments from FY 2023 Predator Report	NA

Methods	<p>Underperforming mule deer populations will be identified by local mule deer enhancement program committees. Working with the mule deer oversight 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. Healthier mule deer populations 2. A model to aid the Department in deciding when to and not to conduct predator control for the benefit of mule deer. 3. Contribute to mule deer biology knowledge through written documents, oral presentations, and public outreach
Staff Comment	NA
Project Direction	Fund Project 47

Budget

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

Overall FY 2025 Budget

Project	Predator Fee	PR Funds	Total
Department of Agriculture Administrative Support Transfer ^d	\$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	\$0	N/A	\$0
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	\$100,000	N/A	\$100,000
Project 41: Increasing Understanding of Common Raven Densities and Space Use in Nevada	\$60,000	\$180,000	\$240,000
Project 42: Assessing Mountain Lion Harvest in Nevada	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$100,000	NA	\$100,000
Total^b	\$889,000	\$315,000	\$1,204,000

^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.

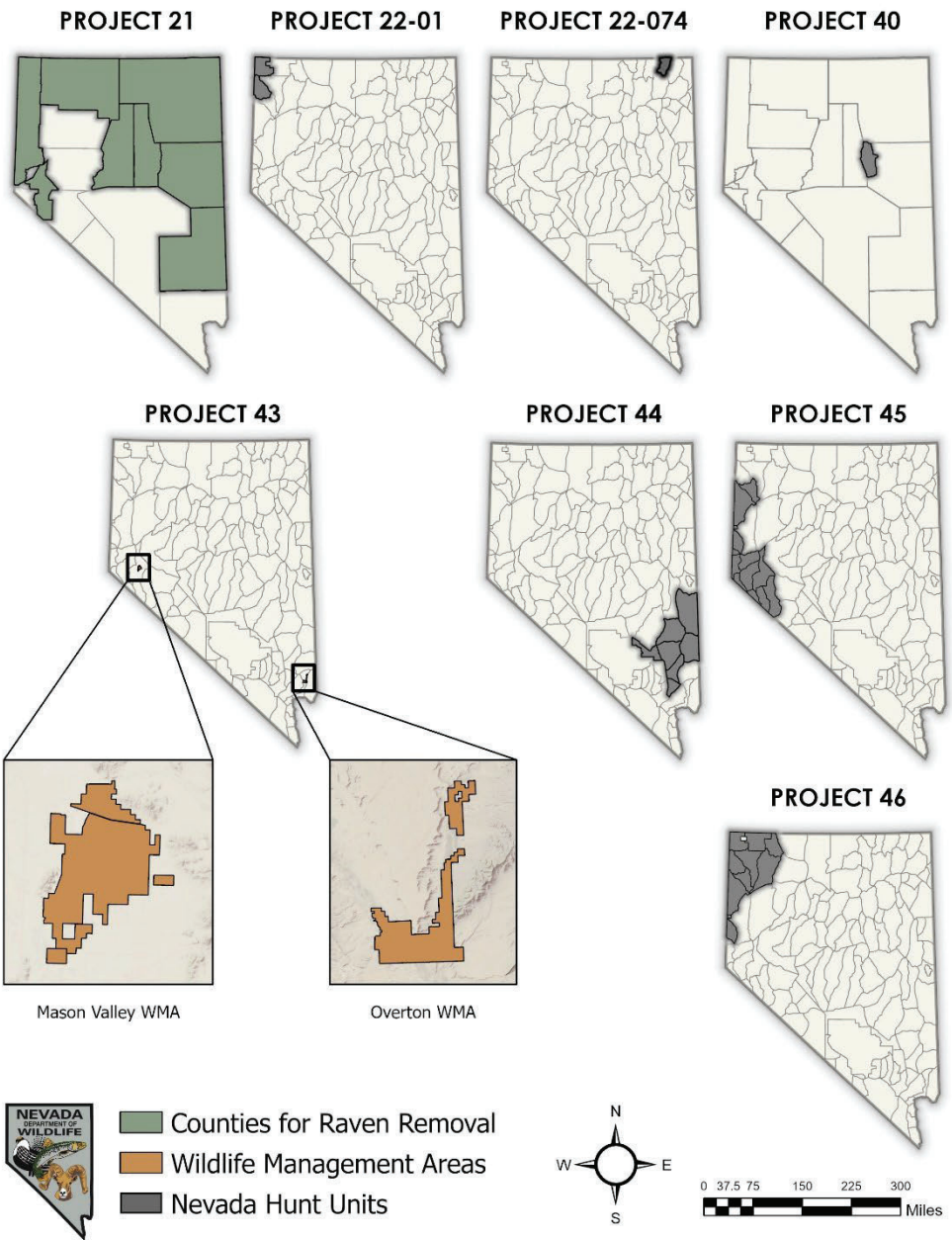
Expected Revenues and Beginning Balance of \$3 Predator Fee

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Projected	FY 2025 Estimated
Beginning balance	\$622,969	\$930,654	\$641,884	\$641,884
Revenues	\$911,013	\$944,410	\$944,410	\$944,410
Plan Budget	\$886,500	\$1,159,000	\$1,059,000	\$889,000
Expenditures	\$603,328	\$1,106,142	\$1,106,142	\$889,000
Ending balance	\$930,654	\$641,884	\$641,884	\$730,294

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STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025.

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024, meeting the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review and may take action to approve the Department’s proposed biennial bighorn sheep and mountain goat release plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9C -Biennial-Big-Game-Release-Plan-for-Fiscal-Years-FY2024-and-FY2025.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



**Nevada Department of Wildlife
Biennial
Big Game Release Plan**

**Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025
(March 2024 - June 2025)**



January 2024

DESERT BIGHORN

CORTEZ MOUNTAINS

RELEASE TYPE: Reintroduction **MOUNTAIN RANGE/AREA:** Cortez Mountains
UNIT: 141 **SITE NAME(S):** Release Site not yet identified **COUNTY:** Eureka

APPROXIMATE NUMBER TO BE RELEASED: 20-25

COOPERATING LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY:

Bureau of Land Management, Elko District, Tuscarora Field Office

AGENCY APPROVAL DOCUMENT AND STATUS:

Initiating Environmental Assessment (EA) or other appropriate NEPA document with Tuscarora Field Office Staff associated with their existing Habitat Management Plan (HMP). This release is contingent on completion of appropriate BLM NEPA documentation.

OTHER DOCUMENTS AND THEIR STATUS:

Summary of Cortez "Range" Proposed Bighorn Release by Mike Podborny – 8/13/2008

NOTIFICATION OF USER GROUPS:

The Eureka and Elko County Wildlife Advisory Boards, local bighorn conservation groups, and livestock permittees will be notified to participate in the release. The bighorn release is contingent on NDOW coordination with the 2 major private landowners, Dean Ranch owned by Nevada Gold Mine and the Tomera Ranch that involve checkerboard private land to discuss current/future domestic sheep presence and access to the mountain.

HABITAT ASSESSMENT (be specific; include any limiting factors both short- and long-term):

Cortez Mountains was historic bighorn habitat and bighorn were extirpated likely prior to 1950. Their habitat ranks very high for suitable bighorn habitat and low risk to domestic sheep interaction. NDOW would not request any new or additional stipulations regarding mine pit design or reclamation or alterations to other alternative energy facilities. Past bighorn sheep releases near mine sites west wide have actually seen high use by bighorn sheep of the man-made high-wall terrain created from the mining activity.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT NEEDS:

Predator surveys and control by USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services (WS) will be initiated in the bighorn terrain surrounding the release site prior to the bighorn release. Close coordination will occur with NDOW biologists and WS during the first 3 years post release to respond to bighorn mortalities. GPS collared bighorn will be intensively monitored and WS predator control efforts will be targeted in response to lion-caused bighorn mortalities

COMMENTS: The capture and translocation will likely occur during the summer months. Various desert bighorn herds, both high elevation and Mojave Desert sites are being evaluated as source stock for the Cortez Mountains translocation taking into account bighorn ability to adapt to considerable differences in climate, topography, forage species, and natural predators. Source herd population demographics will also be considered for the appropriate source of bighorn to use for this translocation. Many prior desert bighorn translocations have been highly successful from the Mojave Desert to high elevation Great Basin habitats.

NDOW REGION: Eastern

DATE PREPARED: October 2023

CALIFORNIA BIGHORN

MONTANA MOUNTAINS

RELEASE TYPE: Augmentation **MOUNTAIN RANGE/AREA:** Montana Mountains
UNIT: 031 **SITE NAME(S):** Garden Creek, Calavera Canyon, or Pole Canyon **COUNTY:** Humboldt

APPROXIMATE NUMBER TO BE RELEASED: 20-25

COOPERATING LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY:

Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District, Humboldt River Field Office

AGENCY APPROVAL DOCUMENT AND STATUS:

Categorical Exclusion (CX) written by the Humboldt River Field Office Staff in concert with the Winnemucca District Resource Management Plan (RMP) was recently completed.

OTHER DOCUMENTS AND THEIR STATUS:

Discussions and coordination have occurred for several years with John Olagaray, woolgrower, who is currently grazing his domestic sheep lambs on private irrigated alfalfa fields in Kings River Valley at the base of the Montana Mountains. A draft cooperative agreement has been shared with Mr. Olagaray that identifies responsibilities for both NDOW and him in maintaining separation between his domestic sheep and future bighorn sheep restored to the Montana Mountains. In addition, it would be necessary for volunteers and NDOW personnel to maintain vigilance if domestic sheep are brought to the fields to graze in the fall. This release is contingent on both a signed cooperative agreement with Mr. Olagaray and volunteers committing to help ensure every reasonable effort will be made to maintain separation between bighorn and domestic sheep in Kings River Valley and the Montana Mountains.

NOTIFICATION OF USER GROUPS:

The Humboldt County Wildlife Advisory Boards, local bighorn conservation groups, and livestock permittees will be notified to participate in the release.

HABITAT ASSESSMENT (be specific; include any limiting factors both short- and long-term):

Montana Mountains was historic bighorn habitat and bighorn were extirpated prior to 1950. NDOW reintroduced bighorn sheep to the Montana Mountains in 1991. The bighorn population flourished and became a self-sustaining and productive wild sheep herd providing source stock for other bighorn translocations and 18 years of ram hunting. The bighorn herd experienced a severe die-off in late 2014 and early 2015 and the few remaining survivors were lethally removed to prevent the spread of disease to adjacent healthy bighorn herds in the Double H Mountains and in Oregon. John Olagaray first brought his entire domestic sheep flock to graze on private irrigated alfalfa fields in Kings River Valley, Humboldt County, at the base of the Montana Mountains in the Fall 2014 to graze and breed his ewes. Since then, he has each fall only brought his lambs to graze on the fields.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT NEEDS:

Predator surveys and control by USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services (WS) will be initiated in the bighorn terrain surrounding the release site prior to the bighorn release. Close coordination will occur with NDOW biologists and WS during the first 3 years post release to respond to bighorn mortalities. GPS collared bighorn will be intensively monitored and WS predator control efforts will be targeted in response to lion-caused bighorn mortalities

COMMENTS: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

NDOW REGION: Western

DATE PREPARED: October 2023

MOUNTAIN GOAT

EAST HUMBOLDT RANGE

RELEASE TYPE: Augmentation **MOUNTAIN RANGE/AREA:** East Humboldt Range
UNIT: 101 **SITE NAME(S):** Leach Creek outside of wilderness area or Pole Canyon on private land
COUNTY: Elko

APPROXIMATE NUMBER TO BE RELEASED: 15-20

COOPERATING LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY:

United States Forest Service, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest (USFS HT), Mountain City-Ruby Mountains-Jarbridge Ranger District

AGENCY APPROVAL DOCUMENT AND STATUS:

Initiating coordination with USFS HT staff to discuss their support of the augmentation and what appropriate level of NEPA analyses and documentation is necessary.

OTHER DOCUMENTS AND THEIR STATUS:

Click or tap here to enter text.

NOTIFICATION OF USER GROUPS:

The Elko County Wildlife Advisory Board, local wildlife conservation groups, and livestock permittees will be notified to participate in the release.

HABITAT AND POPULATION ASSESSMENT (be specific; include any limiting factors both short- and long-term):

Mountain Goats are nonnative to the Great Basin and Nevada, though they existed prehistorically in the Pleistocene epoch (Ice Age) before going extinct. As with other western states, Nevada introduced mountain goats to high subalpine precipitous habitats in the Ruby Mountains and East Humboldt Range (EHs), in 1964 and 1981, respectively. The single release into the EHs, accounting for initial capture/transport mortalities, was 8 animals. The population reached 160 adults in 2009 and then experienced a pneumonia die-off in 2009-2010 with severe kid mortality for over a decade. The population may have dropped as low as 40 adults in 2020. Though the last chronic carrier mountain goat of the deadly pathogens likely died a few years ago and kid recruitment the last 2 years has been strong, the population may have experienced a genetic bottleneck/drift and likely reduced genetic diversity. Even more concerning is that the current age structure of the nannies is extremely old where a large percentage of them may die in the next 2 years dropping the population below a viable level. We have had discussions with Utah Department of Wildlife Resources and they are willing to provide mountain goat source stock for this augmentation.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT NEEDS:

Predation on past collared mountain goats has not been detected in either the EHs or Ruby Mountains and we don't believe predation management is necessary as part of this augmentation effort.

COMMENTS: Click or tap here to enter text.

NDOW REGION: Eastern

DATE PREPARED: December 2023

DESERT BIGHORN

STILLWATER RANGE

RELEASE TYPE: Augmentation **MOUNTAIN RANGE/AREA:** Stillwater Range
UNIT: 182 **SITE NAME(S):** Release Site not yet identified **COUNTY:** Churchill

APPROXIMATE NUMBER TO BE RELEASED: 20-25

COOPERATING LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY:

Bureau of Land Management, Carson City District, Stillwater Field Office

AGENCY APPROVAL DOCUMENT AND STATUS:

It is likely that a Categorical Exclusion (CX) for this proposed bighorn sheep release will be the appropriate level of NEPA by the Stillwater Field Office Staff in concert with the Carson City District Resource Management Plan (RMP). Coordination will soon be initiated with the Stillwater Field Office to discuss approval process and NEPA documentation.

OTHER DOCUMENTS AND THEIR STATUS:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

NOTIFICATION OF USER GROUPS:

The Churchill County Wildlife Advisory Board, local bighorn conservation groups, and livestock permittees will be notified to participate in the release.

HABITAT AND POPULATION ASSESSMENT (be specific; include any limiting factors both short- and long-term):

The Stillwater and East Ranges are excellent bighorn habitat. Bighorns were extirpated from the combined mountain ranges in the early 1900s and the first bighorn reintroduction occurred in 1981. The mountain range is over 80 miles long and through several augmentations scattered from north to south, the population eventually reached a sustainable level in the 2000s. Subherds were well distributed across the entire range, and likely surpassed a population-level threshold that was able to grow even with moderate predation rates. It is likely that experienced ewe groups were finally well versed in escape terrain use and availability/distribution of key resources to reduce predation rates. Then in 2019, the population experienced a pneumonia die-off starting on the south end of the range which eventually spread to the north end with a 30% decline in the entire population. We believe certain subherds have fallen below a population threshold where predation rates will prolong their inability to recover from the dieoff event. Therefore, we recommend augmenting certain subherds, along with short-term predation management to assist the herds in reaching a population level that can once again allow herd growth under moderate predation rates.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT NEEDS:

Predator surveys and control by USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services (WS) will be initiated in the bighorn terrain surrounding the release site prior to the bighorn release. Close coordination will occur with NDOW biologists and WS during the first 3 years post release to respond to bighorn mortalities. GPS collared bighorn will be intensively monitored and WS predator control efforts will be targeted in response to lion-caused bighorn mortalities

COMMENTS: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

NDOW REGION: Western

DATE PREPARED: October 2023



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 514 - Moose.**

Staff Summary: At its January 26, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapters 502 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to provide for definitions, fees, and regulations concerning moose. This proposed regulation change is necessary to establish definitions for antlered and antlerless moose, eligibility requirements for a moose tag and fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts and to establish requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number: _____

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact: _____

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9D -CGR-514-Moose.pdf](#)

Motion: _____ 1) _____ Aye/Nay

2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 4, 2024

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: CGR 514 (LCB File No. R122-23)

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Changes for the 2024-2025 Season

This proposed regulation change is necessary to establish the following within NAC (R122-23):

- Definitions for antlered and antlerless moose
- Eligibility requirements for a moose tag
- Fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts, and
- Requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

These changes are necessary to establish a moose hunt for the 2024 season.

Recommendation

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

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R122-23

December 14, 2023

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1, 2 and 6, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.120; § 3, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.120; § 4, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.130, 502.140, 502.160 and 502.250; § 5, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.160 and 502.175.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; defining certain terms relating to moose; establishing provisions relating to obtaining a tag to hunt moose; revising provisions relating to certain bonus points awarded by the Department of Wildlife; revising provisions relating to the possession of certain parts from certain animals; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations necessary to the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife, as well as those necessary to carry out the provisions of title 45 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. (NRS 501.105, 501.181) Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt regulations defining “antlerless” mammals. (NRS 503.120) **Sections 2 and 3** of this regulation define the terms “antlered moose” and “antlerless moose,” respectively.

Existing law requires tags to hunt certain species, including moose. (NRS 502.130) Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt any regulations necessary relative to the manner of qualifying and applying for, using, completing, attaching, filling out, punching, inspecting, validating or reporting such tags. (NRS 502.160) **Section 4** of this regulation authorizes, with certain exceptions, a resident or nonresident of this State to apply for a tag to hunt antlered moose or antlerless moose. **Section 4** also provides that a person who obtains a tag or replacement tag for an antlered or antlerless moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt that type of moose. Finally, **section 4** requires a person who harvests a moose to, within 5 days after harvesting it, personally present the skull and any antlers of the moose to a representative of the Department of Wildlife for inspection.

Existing law requires the Commission to establish fees for hunting certain big game species, which must not exceed the highest fee for a resident or nonresident tag established pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes. (NRS 502.130, 502.250) **Section 4** prescribes the following fees for moose tags: (1) \$120 for a resident antlered moose tag; (2) \$120 for a resident antlerless moose tag; (3) \$1,200 for a nonresident antlered moose tag; and (4) \$1,200 for a nonresident antlerless moose tag.

Existing regulations provide that any bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program must be awarded in certain enumerated categories of species, subspecies and gender. (NAC 502.4188) **Section 5** of this regulation requires the Department to award bonus points for antlered moose, antlerless moose and moose, either antlered or antlerless.

Existing regulations require a person who kills a deer, elk, mountain goat, antelope or bighorn sheep to maintain possession of a certain portion of the cape or scalp of the animal, as well as any antlers or horns, until the carcass has been frozen, smoked, dried, consumed or accepted by a commercial processing plant for processing. (NAC 503.173) **Section 6** of this regulation adds moose to these requirements.

Section 1. Chapter 502 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *“Antlered moose” means any moose having at least one antler that is visible above the hairline of the skull of the moose.*

Sec. 3. *“Antlerless moose” means any moose without antlers.*

Sec. 4. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, any resident or nonresident of this State is eligible to apply in any year for an antlered moose tag. A person who obtains an antlered moose tag or a replacement tag for an antlered moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt antlered moose only.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, any resident or nonresident of this State is eligible to apply in any year for an antlerless moose tag. A person who obtains an antlerless moose tag or a replacement tag for an antlerless moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt antlerless moose only.

3. *The fee for:*

(a) A resident antlered moose tag is \$120.

(b) A resident antlerless moose tag is \$120.

(c) A nonresident antlered moose tag is \$1,200.

(d) A nonresident antlerless moose tag is \$1,200.

4. A person who harvests a moose shall, within 5 days after harvesting it, personally present the skull and any antlers of the moose, if applicable, to a representative of the Department for inspection.

5. As used in this section:

(a) “Antlered moose only” means, in a designation of moose that may be taken during an open season, only an antlered moose.

(b) “Antlerless moose only” means, in a designation of moose that may be taken during an open season, only an antlerless moose.

Sec. 5. NAC 502.4188 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4188 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, 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:

- (a) Antlered mule deer;
- (b) Antlerless mule deer;
- (c) Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;
- (d) Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;
- (e) Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;
- (f) Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;
- (g) Spike Rocky Mountain elk;
- (h) Pronghorn antelope whose horns are longer than their ears;
- (i) Pronghorn antelope whose horns are shorter than their ears;

(j) Rams, from one of the following subspecies:

- (1) Nelson bighorn sheep;
- (2) California bighorn sheep; or
- (3) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

(k) Ewes, from one of the following subspecies:

- (1) Nelson bighorn sheep;
- (2) California bighorn sheep; or
- (3) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

(l) Mountain goats;

(m) Black bears; ~~or~~

(n) *Antlered moose*;

(o) *Antlerless moose*; or

(p) Moose ~~H~~, *either antlered or antlerless*.

2. Bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program for wild turkey hunts must be awarded by hunt number.

Sec. 6. NAC 503.173 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.173 Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.403, any person who kills a deer, elk, *moose*, mountain goat, antelope or bighorn sheep shall, until the carcass is frozen, smoked, dried, consumed or accepted by a commercial processing plant for processing, maintain possession of at least that portion of the cape or scalp that includes the ears to the base of the muzzle and any antlers or horns. The cape or scalp and any antlers or horns from the animal must be possessed in such a manner that they remain or are kept together with the carcass of the animal.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission General Regulations 512, Fishing Regulations.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold an adoption hearing to consider amending Chapter 488 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would change vessel motor restrictions, amend tackle restrictions, and reclassify protected species classifications.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9E -Commission-General-Regulation-512.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Fisheries Division

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 26, 2024

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

From: Chris Crookshanks, Administrator, Fisheries Division

Title: **Commission General Regulation 512, Knott Creek Reservoir Motor Restrictions, Hobart Reservoir, Smith Creek Reservoir and Snake Range High Lakes Tackle Restrictions, and Dixie Valley Toad reclassification – Public Comment Allowed**

Description: The Commission will hold an adoption hearing to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to amend motor restrictions on Knott Creek Reservoir (NAC 488.455-470), amend tackle restrictions on Hobart Reservoir (NAC 503.504), Smith Creek Reservoir and the Snake Range High Lakes (NAC 503.506), and update the classification of the Dixie Valley Toad (NAC 503.075).

Presenter: Wildlife Staff Specialist Kim Tisdale

Summary:

Commission General Regulation 512 includes various amendments to NAC 488.455 through 503.506 to update motor and tackle restrictions at various waters and update a species classification within the NAC. Proposed changes to each section of NAC 488 and 503 are described below in detail.

NAC 488.455- 488.470

The Department is proposing an amendment to NAC 488.455- 488.470 to change the motor restrictions on Knott Creek Reservoir in Humboldt County. The current regulation restricts the speed at which one can operate their vessel on Knott Creek Reservoir, however, it does not restrict the type of motor that can be used. If approved, this change would allow only vessels without motors and vessels which are powered by electric motors on Knott Creek Reservoir. The Department is proposing this amendment based on numerous requests over the past several years from anglers who recreate at Knott Creek Reservoir. Knott Creek Reservoir is a remote, scenic high elevation lake in the Pine Forest Range in Humboldt County which sits on the edge of a Wilderness Area. Recreationists who visit this reservoir expect a peaceful experience in a

beautiful place; the constant noise from two-stroke motors trolling on the lake all day is not what most people want to experience. Knott Creek Reservoir is a fairly small lake (216 acres), so an electric motor is sufficient to allow anglers troll around the reservoir.

NAC 503.504 – 503.506

The Department is proposing tackle restriction changes to lakes and reservoirs in the Western and Eastern regions. These changes are described below:

Hobart Reservoir: The Department is proposing to amend the tackle restriction in place at Hobart Reservoir (Washoe County, Western Region) from “artificial lures with single barbless hooks” to “artificial lures”. Eliminating the restrictive tackle regulation will reduce the barriers to entry for those trying to fish Hobart Reservoir and increase success rates for catching and keeping fish. Currently the single barbless restriction can be intimidating for anglers that do not fish frequently and can prevent them from fishing Hobart Reservoir. Brook Trout are the dominant species and have overpopulated the reservoir resulting in good catch rates, however, the fish tend to be small. This regulation may help reduce Brook Trout numbers by increasing the catch rate and could potentially result in larger fish. It may also increase the number of anglers that fish Hobart Reservoir in any given year by eliminating this tackle restriction that has no biological justification for being in place.

Smith Creek Reservoir: The Department is proposing to remove the tackle restriction in place for Smith Creek Ranch (Lander County, Eastern Region) and manage it under Eastern Region general regulations. Under NAC 503.506, only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used on Smith Creek Reservoir. The majority of Smith Creek Reservoir is situated on private land, although a small portion of the reservoir is on BLM land which is accessible to the public. In 2009, the owner of the Smith Creek Ranch approached NDOW Fisheries staff to request more restrictive regulations on the reservoir. At that time, the Ranch was actively managing the trout fishery in the reservoir and regularly stocking the reservoir with trout. The more restrictive regulations, including tackle restrictions, were requested to limit the number of fish taken by the public and manage for the reservoir’s potential to produce trophy trout. In 2009, the NBWC approved the proposal by the Department to adopt a season that runs from April 1 through November 15, any hour of the day or night, and artificial lures only with single barbless hooks. Since that time, the ranch has changed hands and the fishery is no longer actively managed by the Smith Creek Ranch. The current fishery does not warrant special regulations and should be managed under general regulations.

Snake Range High Lakes: The Department is proposing to amend NAC 503.506 to require artificial lures with single barbless hooks for the Snake Range High Lakes. In September 2021, the NBWC approved CR21-15 which modified the harvest limit for the Snake Range High Lakes from 10 trout to zero (0) trout which was intended to protect adult Bonneville Cutthroat Trout in these lakes during the period in which self-sustaining trout populations are becoming established as a result of reintroduction efforts by NDOW and the National Park Service. At the same time, the Department was recommending a change in tackle restrictions to require artificial lures with single barbless hooks, however, an oversight occurred and a CGR was not submitted so that change did not occur. The Department is proposing to correct that error with this proposal.

The justification submitted in 2021 when the original proposal was considered is as follows: The Snake Range in White Pine County is home to a number of high mountain lakes. However, only two of these lakes (Johnson Lake and Baker Lake) are capable of sustaining trout populations. All previous introductions of trout into the remaining lakes in the Snake Range within Great Basin National Park have proven unsuccessful.

Great Basin National Park in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Wildlife is conducting a project to introduce native Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (BCT) to Baker and Johnson lakes. Since there is no brood stock or hatchery source for BCT in the state of Nevada, only a relatively small number of BCT can be captured in the nearby streams and released into the lakes on a periodic basis. While these populations are in their early stages of establishment, the Department, in cooperation with Great Basin National Park, proposes the institution of special fishing regulations to protect them from overharvest and hooking mortality. The Park would still promote angling in both water bodies but would prefer that catch and release as well as artificial lures with single barbless hooks regulations be instituted. The catch and release regulation would eliminate mature fish being removed from the population via harvest. The artificial lures with single barbless hooks regulation is expected to decrease hooking mortality due to fish swallowing the hook, decrease overall hooking injuries when fish are hooked in the mouth, and decrease handling time necessary to remove the hook making catch and release fishing easier and more effective. Once viable populations of BCT become established in both lakes, Great Basin National Park would be in favor of lifting one, or both, of the special regulations.

NAC 503.075

The Department is proposing an amendment to 503.075 to update the classification of the Dixie Valley Toad to “endangered”. On December 1, 2022, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced that the Dixie Valley Toad will be listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The Dixie Valley Toad is the smallest of the western toads and is endemic to Nevada. Its range is restricted to a 760-acre wetland complex, fed by hot springs in the remote Dixie Valley northeast of Fallon, Nevada (Churchill County). In their listing determination, the USFWS listed the primary threats to the Dixie Valley Toad include geothermal development, disease, predation by other non-native frog species, groundwater pumping for human and agricultural use, and climate change.

Recommendation:

This information and regulation language is presented as a hearing. September 23, 2023 was the Commission workshop on this proposed amendment to NAC 488 and NAC 503. The Department recommends Commission adoption.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R082-23

November 16, 2023

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

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 488.045, 488.059, 501.181 and 501.243; § 3, NRS 501.105, 501.110 and 501.181; §§ 4 and 5, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.300 and 503.310.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to the operation of vessels on certain waters in this State; classifying the Dixie Valley toad as endangered; revising the type of fishing lures that may be used in certain waters in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish policies to promote the safety of persons using vessels on the waters of this State. (NRS 501.181) Existing regulations establish the maximum speed at which a vessel may be operated on certain waters in this State. (NAC 488.455) Existing regulations also require that only a vessel without a motor or powered by an electric motor is allowed to be operated on certain waters in this State. (NAC 488.470) **Section 1** of this regulation removes the maximum speed at which a vessel may be operated on the waters of the Knott Creek Reservoir in Humboldt County and, instead, **section 2** of this regulation provides that only a vessel without a motor or powered by an electric motor is allowed to be operated on the waters of the Knott Creek Reservoir. **Section 2** also establishes that only a vessel without a motor or powered by an electric motor is allowed to be operated on the waters of the Tonkin Springs Reservoir in Eureka County.

Existing law requires the Commission to adopt regulations to classify wildlife and authorizes the Commission to change the classification of a species of wildlife when doing so is in the public interest. Existing law requires the Commission to classify amphibians as game amphibians, protected amphibians or unprotected amphibians. Existing law authorizes the Commission to further classify protected amphibians as sensitive, threatened or endangered. (NRS 501.110) Effective December 2, 2022, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior listed the Dixie Valley toad as an endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which had the effect of continuing the designation of the Dixie Valley toad as endangered under a temporary emergency rule issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on April 7, 2022. (87 Fed. Reg. 73971 (Dec. 2, 2022)) Existing regulations classify the Dixie Valley toad as protected under state law, and **section 3** of this regulation further classifies the Dixie Valley toad as endangered under state law. (NAC 503.075)

Existing law authorizes the Commission to establish by regulation the types of bait and methods by which bait may be used in any designated water. (NRS 503.300) **Section 4** of this regulation revises the types of fishing lures authorized to be used in the Hobart Reservoir. **Section 5** of this regulation revises the types of fishing lures authorized to be used in the Smith Creek Reservoir and on the Snake Range High Lakes.

Section 1. NAC 488.455 is hereby amended to read as follows:

488.455 1. On the following waters, a vessel must be operated at a speed that leaves a flat wake, but in no case may a vessel be operated at a speed in excess of 5 nautical miles per hour:

<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>
(a) Bassett Lake.....	White Pine
(b) Cave Lake.....	White Pine
(c) Knott Creek Reservoir.....	Humboldt
(d) Jakes Creek Reservoir.....	Elko
(e) (d) Onion Valley Reservoir.....	Humboldt
(f) (e) Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area.....	Nye
(g) (f) The lagoon south of Laughlin within sec. 33, T. 32 S., R. 66 E., M.D.E & M., as marked with signs or buoys, or both.....	Clark
(h) (g) Likes Lake.....	Churchill
(i) (h) The Pitt Taylor Arm of Rye Patch Reservoir.....	Pershing
(j) (i) Illipah Reservoir.....	White Pine
(k) (j) Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area.....	Lyon
(l) (k) Upper Wall Canyon Reservoir.....	Washoe
(m) (l) Echo Canyon Reservoir.....	Lincoln

(m) (m) Silver Creek Reservoir	White Pine
(n) (n) Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area.....	Lincoln
(o) (o) Colorado River, the backwater south of Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area within sec. 5, T. 33 S., R. 66 E., M.D.B. & M., as marked with signs or buoys, or both	Clark
(p) (p) Jiggs Reservoir	Elko

2. All boat harbors and other areas designated by buoys on any of the following waters are zones in which a vessel must be operated at a speed that leaves a flat wake, but in no case may a vessel be operated at a speed in excess of 5 nautical miles per hour:

<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>
(a) Lake Mead National Recreation Area.....	Clark
(b) South Fork Reservoir.....	Elko
(c) Wildhorse Reservoir	Elko
(d) Lake Tahoe, Zephyr Cove	Douglas
Cave Rock.....	Douglas
Glenbrook Bay.....	Douglas
Round Hill Pines Beach.....	Douglas
Sand Harbor	Washoe
Incline Village General Improvement District Boat Ramp	Washoe
Crystal Shores West.....	Washoe
(e) Washoe Lake State Park	Washoe

County Boat Ramp	Washoe
(f) Walker Lake State Recreation Area	Mineral
Sportsmen’s Beach	Mineral
(g) Lahontan Reservoir, Churchill Beach	Churchill
North Shore Marina	Churchill
Silver Springs Beach.....	Lyon
(h) Rye Patch Reservoir, Rye Patch Dam Access	Pershing
(i) Topaz Lake, Boat Ramps	Douglas
(j) Colorado River, adjacent to Harrah’s Casino in Laughlin	Clark
(k) Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area, the lagoon used for launching boats	Clark

Sec. 2. NAC 488.470 is hereby amended to read as follows:

488.470 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, only vessels without motors are permitted on the following waters:

<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>
(a) Angel Lake	Elko
(b) Blue Lake	Humboldt
(c) Marlette Lake.....	Washoe

(d) Truckee River from the California-Nevada state line to the point where the river enters the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation..... Storey and Washoe

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, only vessels without motors and vessels which are powered by electric motors are permitted on the following waters:

<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>
(a) Groves Lake.....	Lander
(b) Sparks Marina Park	Washoe
(c) The lagoon south of Laughlin within section 33, T. 32 S., R. 66 E., M.D.B. & M., as marked with signs or buoys, or both.....	Clark
(d) Spooner Lake.....	Douglas
<i>(e) Knott Creek Reservoir.....</i>	<i>Humboldt</i>
<i>(f) Tonkin Springs Reservoir</i>	<i>Eureka</i>

3. The provisions of this section do not apply to a vessel that is:

(a) Owned, operated and used for official purposes by a federal, state or local governmental entity which has jurisdiction over the body of water on which the vessel is operated; or

(b) Operating pursuant to a permit for a marine event that is requested by a federal, state or local governmental entity which has jurisdiction over the body of water on which the vessel is operated and issued pursuant to NRS 488.305 and NAC 488.490 to 488.510, inclusive.

Sec. 3. NAC 503.075 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.075 1. Amphibians are classified as game, protected, threatened, sensitive, endangered or unprotected amphibians.

2. The following amphibians are classified as protected:

	Common Name	Scientific Name
(a) Frog	Northern leopard	Lithobates pipiens
	Relict leopard	Lithobates onca
	Columbia Spotted.....	Rana luteiventris
(b) Toad	Amargosa	Bufo nelsoni
	Dixie Valley	Anaxyrus williamsi
	Hot Creek	Anaxyrus monfontanus
	Railroad Valley	Anaxyrus nevadensis

3. *The following species of protected amphibians are further classified as endangered:*

	<u><i>Common Name</i></u>	<u><i>Scientific Name</i></u>
<i>Toad</i>	<i>Dixie Valley</i>	<i>Anaxyrus williamsi</i>

4. Unprotected amphibians are all species of amphibians which are not classified as game, protected, threatened, sensitive or endangered amphibians.

Sec. 4. NAC 503.504 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.504 1. The Western Region consists of all waters within Carson City and Churchill, Douglas, Humboldt, Lyon, Mineral, Storey, Pershing and Washoe Counties.

2. In the Western Region:

(a) Live bait fish may be used only in the river basin from which it is taken and only in the following waters:

(1) The Carson River Basin.

(2) The Humboldt River downstream from Stall Diversion Dam located near Golconda in Humboldt County, including Rye Patch Reservoir, Pitt-Taylor Reservoir, all waters in the Lovelock Valley, Chimney Reservoir and the Little Humboldt River downstream from Chimney Reservoir.

(3) The portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin located in Carson City and Douglas and Washoe Counties.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the Truckee River Basin.

(5) The Walker River from the railroad bridge near Wabuska downstream to and including Walker Lake, except waters on the Walker River Paiute Reservation.

(b) Other forms of aquatic and animal life, including, but not limited to, grasshoppers, earthworms, crayfish, any unprotected species of freshwater bait fish or parts thereof which are prepared and preserved commercially, and preserved salmon eggs may be used as bait.

3. The following provisions apply to all other waters in the Western Region:

(a) The capture, possession while fishing or the use of fish as bait, whether dead or alive, or parts thereof is prohibited.

(b) Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used in:

(1) Catnip Reservoir;

(2) ~~Hobart Reservoir;~~

~~(3)~~ Knott Creek Reservoir including inlet and outlet streams;

~~(4)~~ (3) Marlette Lake, including tributaries and outlet streams;

~~(5)~~ (4) The portion of the East Walker River which is from one-quarter of a mile above the confluence of the East Walker River and Sweetwater Creek downstream to one-half of a mile below the confluence of the East Walker River and Red Wash Creek; and

~~(6)~~ (5) The portion of the Truckee River from the bridge on east Mustang Road downstream to the boundary of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation.

(c) Only artificial lures may be used in :

(1) Hinkson Slough on the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area ~~H~~; and

(2) *Hobart Reservoir.*

Sec. 5. NAC 503.506 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.506 1. The Eastern Region consists of all waters in Elko, Eureka, Lander and White Pine Counties.

2. Within this region:

(a) The possession while fishing or use of fish as bait, whether dead or alive, or parts thereof, or any unprotected species of freshwater bait fish or parts thereof which are prepared and preserved commercially except preserved salmon eggs, is prohibited.

(b) Aquatic bait may be used only in the water from which it is taken.

3. Only artificial lures may be used in the Tonkin Springs Reservoir and the collection ditch of the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

4. Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used ~~in the Smith Creek Reservoir~~ *on the Snake Range High Lakes* and on the south fork of the Humboldt River from

the access causeway for the Lucky Nugget subdivision upstream to Lee. Only one single barbless hook may be attached to each hook eye or ring of the lure.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission General Regulation 513, Executive Order Regulations.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold an adoption hearing to amend Chapters 488, 501, 502, 503 and 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code pursuant to Executive Order 2023-003.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9F- CGR-513-Executive-Order-Regulations.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



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:

JAN 5, 2024

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

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

Title: Commission General Regulation 513, Executive Order 003

Description: Governor Lombardo’s Executive Order 003 directed every executive branch department, agency board and commission to undertake a review of their regulations and submit a report to the Governor’s Office detailing how the regulations could be removed, streamlined, or clarified. The regulation changes proposed are the result of that undertaking.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Regulation Simplification Committee met three times to discuss proposed regulations for removal or clarification. The proposed regulation changes are the final product of the Committee’s work. The completed report that was provided to the Commission in their May 2023 meeting was also provided to the Governor’s Office for review as mandated by Executive Order 003. Since that time, the Governor has lifted the ban on newly proposed regulation changes allowing the Commission process to begin to complete the NAC changes requested in CGR 513.

The proposed regulations include but are not limited to changes removing definitions that are no longer used or necessary, general administrative clean up of existing regulations, updates the turkey return card process to match the big game return card process, removes unnecessary personal information required on some special licenses and permit applications, restricts already prohibited species and their progeny from remaining in Nevada, updates terminology, among others.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission adopt the proposed regulation changes.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R053-23

October 12, 2023

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

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 501.3575; §§ 3 and 25, NRS 501.105 and 501.181; § 4, NRS 501.105, 501.119, 501.181 and 502.160; §§ 5-7, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.160 and 502.175; § 8, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.597; § 9, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.650; § 10, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.380; § 11, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.597, 503.650 and 504.295; § 12, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.150; §§ 13-23, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.582 and 503.583; § 24, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.300.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to the Wildlife Heritage Account; 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 or moose; revising provisions relating to certain licenses or permits issued by the Department of Wildlife; revising provisions relating to the hunting, trapping, possession, sale or training of certain birds of prey; revising provisions relating to the practice of falconry; removing the prohibition against chumming in the Crittenden Reservoir; repealing certain obsolete provisions; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law creates the Wildlife Heritage Account in the State General Fund and authorizes the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations related to the Account. (NRS 501.3575) Existing regulations authorize certain persons and governmental entities to apply for a grant of money from the Account to fund a conservation project. (NAC 501.300) Upon receipt of an application, existing regulations require the Department of Wildlife to review the application, complete certain portions of the application and send the application to the Wildlife Heritage Committee of the Commission and each county advisory board to manage wildlife before April 15 of each year. (NAC 501.310) **Section 1** of this regulation: (1) removes the requirement that the Department complete portions of an application; and (2) requires the Department to send applications to the Commission and advisory boards on or before April 15 of each year.

Existing regulations require the Secretary of the Commission to provide certain information relating to the Account to the Commission on or before the first meeting of the Commission held after January 31 of each year. (NAC 501.330) **Section 2** of this regulation

instead requires the Secretary to provide such information to the Commission at the first meeting of the Commission of each calendar year.

Existing law authorizes the Department 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 4** of this regulation revises requirements related 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. (NAC 502.407) **Section 5** of this regulation revises provisions related to the awarding of bonus points to certain applicants for a tag to hunt wild turkey by replacing a requirement that such applicants 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. (NAC 502.4187) **Sections 3 and 6** 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 6** also specifies that bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program for moose apply to antlered and antlerless moose.

Existing regulations prescribe requirements governing the eligibility of a person to apply to engage in a junior hunt (NAC 502.063, 502.333) **Section 7** of this regulation: (1) revises provisions related to the transfer of unused bonus points for persons who become ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for deer; and (2) provides for the transfer of unused bonus points for persons who become ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for turkey.

With limited exception, existing law prohibits a person from introducing any aquatic life or wildlife into this State or removing any aquatic life or wildlife from one body of water in this State to any other, or from one portion of the State to any other, without the written consent and approval of the Department. (NRS 503.597) Existing regulations: (1) authorize the Department to issue a special permit to allow a person to handle, move or temporarily possess certain wildlife for the purpose of reducing or eliminating the risk of harm to the wildlife that may result from any lawful activity conducted on land where the wildlife is located; and (2) set forth the information that must be included in an application for such a permit. (NAC 503.0935) **Section 8** of this regulation removes the requirement that an applicant for a special permit must include on the application certain information related to the driver's license of the applicant, if the applicant holds a driver's license.

Existing law provides for the issuance by the Department of a written permit to collect wildlife for scientific or educational purposes. (NRS 503.650) Existing regulations set forth the information that must be included in an application for such a permit. (NAC 503.094) **Section 9** of this regulation removes the requirement that an applicant for a written permit to collect wildlife for scientific or educational purposes must include on the application the driver's license number of the applicant, if the applicant has been issued a driver's license.

Under existing law, the Department is authorized to allow the commercial taking of unprotected wildlife in any manner approved by the Commission. (NRS 503.380) Existing regulations make it unlawful for a person to collect unprotected wildlife for commercial purposes without a permit. Existing regulations also: (1) provide for the issuance by the Department of a permit authorizing a person to collect unprotected wildlife; and (2) set forth the information that

must be included on an application for such a permit. (NAC 503.095) **Section 10** of this regulation removes the requirement that an applicant for a such a permit must include on the application certain information related to the driver's license of the applicant, if the applicant has been issued a driver's license.

Existing law authorizes the Commission to prohibit the importation, transportation or possession of any species of wildlife that the Commission deems detrimental to the wildlife or habitat of the wildlife in this State. (NRS 503.597) Existing regulations prohibit a person from importing, transporting or possessing certain species of live wildlife unless the person holds: (1) an exhibitor's license issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture; or (2) a permit or license issued by the Department. (NAC 503.110, 504.486) **Sections 11 and 25** of this regulation eliminate provisions authorizing a person who holds an exhibitor's license to exhibit wildlife listed in that license without obtaining a license or permit issued the Department. **Section 11** also removes provisions authorizing the Department to issue a commercial license for the possession of live wildlife to certain persons who display, exhibit or use certain species of live wildlife for entertainment or commercial photography.

Existing law requires a person who hunts wildlife in this State to obtain a license or permit to do so and provides for the issuance of a such a license or permit by the Department. (Chapters 502 and 503 of NRS) Existing regulations: (1) authorize the Department to issue an archery disability permit to a person with a permanent disability; and (2) provide that an archery disability permit does not expire. (NAC 503.1465) **Section 12** of this regulation instead: (1) authorizes the Department to issue an archery disability permit to a person with a disability; and (2) provides that an archery disability permit expires 1 year after the date on which the permit is issued.

With limited exception, existing law requires any person who practices falconry or trains birds of prey, including raptors, to obtain a falconry license from the Department. (NRS 503.583) **Section 18** of this regulation revises the information that must be included in an application for a falconry license. Existing regulations authorize certain falconry licensees to possess a hybrid raptor and impose certain requirements on the release of hybrid raptors by such licensees. Existing regulations also require an owner of a hybrid raptor to meet certain requirements before allowing the raptor to fly free. (NAC 503.230, 503.250, 503.440 503.465) **Section 13** of this regulation revises the definition of the term "hybrid raptor" for purposes of these requirements. **Sections 14 and 15** of this regulation revise provisions related to the banding or other identification of falconry raptors. Under existing regulations, a person authorized to possess a raptor may transfer or acquire by transfer a raptor which was originally taken from the wild. (NAC 503.225) **Section 16** of this regulation removes this authorization. **Section 19** of this regulation makes nonsubstantive revisions concerning the taking of raptors by a person other than the holder of a permit to take raptors.

Existing regulations: (1) require the housing of raptors in humane and healthful conditions; and (2) impose certain requirements on a facility that houses raptors. (NAC 503.375) **Section 20** of this regulation eliminates a duplicative requirement that a facility that houses raptors must provide a healthy environment for each raptor housed within the facility.

Existing regulations authorize a falconry licensee who is not the owner of a raptor to provide care for the raptor. Under existing regulations, any such care must be provided in accordance with a statement that: (1) is signed by the owner of the raptor and the falconry licensee; and (2) indicates whether the falconry licensee may practice falconry with the raptor.

(NAC 503.405) **Section 21** of this regulation removes language authorizing a falconry licensee who is providing care for a raptor to practice falconry with the raptor if so indicated in the statement.

Existing regulations: (1) authorize the use of falconry raptors in a conservation education program; and (2) require a conservation education program to include certain information. Under existing regulations, a falconry licensee is prohibited from presenting a conservation education program that does not include information on falconry and conservation education. (NAC 503.445) **Section 22** of this regulation removes this prohibition. **Section 23** of this regulation makes nonsubstantive revisions concerning the use of falconry raptors for certain abatement activities.

Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt regulations governing the practice of chumming. (NRS 503.300) Existing regulations prohibit chumming in certain public waters, including the Crittenden Reservoir. (NAC 503.593) **Section 24** of this regulation removes the prohibition against chumming in Crittenden Reservoir.

Section 25 repeals obsolete provisions relating to: (1) batch reports by license agents; and (2) the removal by the Department of certain personal information from any list sold by the Department.

Section 1. NAC 501.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.310 Upon receipt of an application, the Department shall review the application ~~and~~ ~~complete the portions of the application the Department is required to complete~~ and send the application to the Wildlife Heritage Committee of the Commission and to each county advisory board to manage wildlife for review and comment *on or* before April 15 of each year. The Wildlife Heritage Committee of the Commission shall prepare its recommendations for funding and present such recommendations for public comment and approval by the Commission at the first meeting of the Commission after April 30 of each year.

Sec. 2. NAC 501.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.330 1. On or before November 1 of each year, the Secretary of the Commission shall make available to the public the application form described in NAC 501.300.

2. ~~{On or before}~~ *At* the first meeting of the Commission ~~{after January 31}~~ of each *calendar* year, the Secretary of the Commission shall provide to the Commission an accounting of:

(a) Seventy-five percent of the amount of money deposited in the Account during the previous calendar year; and

(b) All interest earned on the Account during that year.

Sec. 3. 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. 4. 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. 5. 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. If an applicant is successful in obtaining a tag for a species or category of a species but transfers the tag to another person pursuant to section 1 of LCB File No. R022-19, the applicant and the new recipient of the tag lose all bonus points for that species or category of species.

7. The Department shall not award bonus points for depredation hunts or management hunts.

8. As used in this section, “management hunt” means a hunt established to seek the harvest of additional wildlife within a population.

Sec. 6. 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:

- ~~{a)}~~ 1. Antlered mule deer;
- ~~{b)}~~ 2. Antlerless mule deer;
- ~~{c)}~~ 3. Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;
- ~~{d)}~~ 4. Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;
- ~~{e)}~~ 5. Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;
- ~~{f)}~~ 6. Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;

- ~~{(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},~~
either antlered or antlerless; or
15. *Wild turkey*. ~~{hunts must be awarded by hunt number.}~~

Sec. 7. 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.

Sec. 8. NAC 503.0935 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.0935 1. The Department may issue a special permit pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 503.597 to allow a person to handle, move or temporarily possess any wildlife which is classified as protected for the purpose of reducing or eliminating the risk of harm to the wildlife that may result from any lawful activity conducted on land where the wildlife is located. The fee for such a special permit is \$200.

2. An applicant for a special permit specified in subsection 1 must include on the application:

- (a) The name and date of birth of the applicant;
- (b) The physical or mailing address and telephone number of the applicant;
- (c) The name, address and telephone number of the place of employment of the applicant;
- (d) ~~The driver's license number, the state that issued the driver's license and the date of issue of the driver's license of the applicant if the applicant holds a driver's license;~~
- ~~(e)~~ The name of the company or other entity that the applicant is representing, if different from the employer of the applicant;
- ~~(f)~~ (e) The name of each person who, at the direction of the applicant, will handle, move or temporarily possess the wildlife under the authority of the special permit;
- ~~(g)~~ (f) The common and scientific name and the number of each species of wildlife, or nests or eggs thereof, to be handled, moved or temporarily possessed;

~~(h)~~ (g) The manner in which each specimen of wildlife will be handled, moved or temporarily possessed;

~~(i)~~ (h) The locations at which and the dates when the wildlife are to be handled, moved or temporarily possessed;

~~(j)~~ (i) The locations at which or to which the wildlife will be handled, moved or temporarily possessed, if any;

~~(k)~~ (j) A brief synopsis, not to exceed five pages, of the purpose and justification for the handling, moving or temporary possession of the wildlife; and

~~(l)~~ (k) The signature of the applicant and the date on which the applicant signed the application.

3. A special permit specified in subsection 1 must be valid for not more than 1 year. Upon its approval of the application and submission of the fee, the Department shall issue the special permit based on a calendar year.

4. Based on its evaluation of the application, the Department may make such stipulations and conditions on the use and scope of the special permit as the Department deems appropriate. A violation of a stipulation or condition is cause for the cancellation of the special permit.

5. Not later than 30 days after expiration of a special permit specified in subsection 1, the holder of the special permit shall submit to the Department a report which includes, without limitation:

(a) A list of each species of wildlife which is classified as protected that was handled, moved or temporarily possessed, and for each such species:

(1) The number of wildlife handled, moved or temporarily possessed at each location where the wildlife was handled, moved or temporarily possessed; and

- (2) The date on which the wildlife was handled, moved or temporarily possessed; and
 - (b) Any other information which the Department requires.
6. A special permit specified in subsection 1 which is issued by the Department for the handling, movement or temporary possession of:

- (a) A migratory bird that is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.; or

- (b) A species of wildlife that is listed as threatened or endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,

↪ is not valid for the handling, movement or temporary possession of the migratory bird or the threatened or endangered species until the Department receives a copy of the federal permit issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to the applicant for the handling, movement or temporary possession of the bird or species.

Sec. 9. NAC 503.094 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.094 1. The Department may issue a scientific permit pursuant to NRS 503.650 which authorizes the taking, killing, possessing or banding of any species of wildlife, or the collecting of the nest or eggs thereof, for strictly scientific or educational purposes.

2. An applicant for a scientific permit must include on his or her application:

- (a) The name of the applicant;
- (b) The name of the company or institution that the applicant is representing;
- (c) The physical or mailing addresses of the applicant's residence and place of employment;
- (d) The telephone numbers of the applicant's residence and place of employment;
- (e) ~~The driver's license number of the applicant, if he or she has been issued a driver's~~
license;

~~(f)~~ The name of each person or group of persons who will collect wildlife under the authority of the scientific permit and at the direction of the applicant;

~~(g)~~ (f) The common and scientific name and the number of each species of wildlife, or nests or eggs thereof, to be collected, possessed, marked or banded;

~~(h)~~ (g) The manner and means by which each specimen of wildlife will be collected or captured;

~~(i)~~ (h) The locations at which and the dates when the specimens of wildlife are to be collected;

~~(j)~~ (i) A brief synopsis, not to exceed five pages, of the purpose and justification for the collection and possession of the specimens of wildlife;

~~(k)~~ (j) The location where the specimens of wildlife will be transferred or held once collected; and

~~(l)~~ (k) The signature of the applicant and the date on which the application was signed.

3. A scientific permit must be valid for not more than 2 years. Upon its evaluation of the application, the Department will issue the scientific permit based on a calendar year or a fiscal year.

4. Not later than 30 days after the date on which the permit expires, the holder of a scientific permit shall submit to the Department a complete report which details the species of wildlife collected, the number of each species of wildlife collected at each location, the date on which each species of wildlife was collected and any other information which the Department requires.

5. Based on its evaluation of the application, the Department may make such stipulations and conditions on the use and scope of a scientific permit as the Department determines appropriate. A violation of a stipulation or condition is cause for the cancellation of the permit.

6. A scientific permit issued by the Department for the collection or possession of:

(a) A migratory bird that is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16

U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.; or

(b) A species of wildlife that is listed as threatened or endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,

↪ is not valid for the collection or possession of the migratory bird or the threatened or endangered species until the Department receives a copy of the federal permit issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to the applicant for the collection or possession of the bird or species.

Sec. 10. NAC 503.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.095 1. It is unlawful for a person to collect unprotected wildlife or any species of reptile for commercial purposes without a permit.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 503.513 and 503.545, the Department will issue a permit authorizing a natural person to collect unprotected wildlife, with the exception of any reptile, for commercial purposes with a seine, net, noose, trap or other device if, after an investigation is conducted, it is proved to the Department that the collecting will not be detrimental to wildlife or the habitat of the wildlife. The annual fee for a permit issued pursuant to this section is \$250.

3. An application for a permit issued pursuant to this section must be submitted on a form furnished by the Department.

4. An applicant for a permit issued pursuant to this section must include on the application:

(a) The name of the applicant;

(b) The physical and mailing addresses of the applicant's residence and place of employment;

(c) The cellular telephone number of the applicant, if any, or the telephone numbers of the applicant's residence and place of employment;

~~(d) The driver's license number of the applicant, if he or she has been issued a driver's license, or a driver authorization card number or instruction permit number obtained in accordance with NRS 483.291;~~

~~(e)~~ The social security number, or the tax identification number if the application is made under a business name, of the applicant;

~~(f)~~ (e) The date of birth of the applicant;

~~(g)~~ (f) The methods and equipment to be used in the collection of the wildlife;

~~(h)~~ (g) The location, by county or region, where the wildlife is to be collected;

~~(i)~~ (h) The address of the location where the wildlife will be held while it is in the possession of the applicant;

~~(j)~~ (i) If the applicant has been convicted of violating the laws or regulations of any state or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to the commercialization of wildlife within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the application, a description of each violation, a description of the penalty imposed for each violation and the name of the state in which each conviction occurred; and

~~(k)~~ (j) The applicant's signature and the date on which the application is signed.

5. Such a permit is not transferable and may be cancelled by the Department for a violation of its conditions or if operation of the permit is found to be detrimental to wildlife.

6. Within 30 days after the expiration of a permit for the collection of unprotected wildlife, the person to whom it was issued shall submit a report to the Department with the number and

disposition of the unprotected species he or she has taken. Any failure to submit the report is a cause for denial of a future application for a similar permit.

Sec. 11. NAC 503.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.110 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, ~~and NAC 504.486,~~ the importation, transportation or possession of the following species of live wildlife or hybrids thereof, including viable embryos or gametes, is prohibited:

(a) Fish:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
(1) Lampreys	All species in the family Petromyzontidae
(2) Freshwater stingray.....	All species in the family Potamotrygonidae
(3) Freshwater shark.....	All species in the genus <i>Carcharhinus</i>
(4) Bowfin	<i>Amia calva</i>
(5) Gars.....	All species in the family Lepisosteidae
(6) Herring and shad, except threadfin shad and gizzard shad	All species in the family Clupeidae, except <i>Dorosoma petenense</i> and <i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>
(7) European Whitefish	All species in the genus <i>Leuciscus</i>
(8) Mexican banded tetra.....	<i>Astyanax mexicanus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Classification
(9) Piranhas	All species in the genera <i>Serrasalmus</i> , <i>Serrasalmo</i> , <i>Pygocentrus</i> , <i>Pristobrycon</i> , <i>Hydrolycus</i> , <i>Rooseveltiella</i> and <i>Pygopristis</i>
(10) South American Parasitic Catfish.....	All species in the families Cetopsidae and Trichomycteridae
(11) White perch.....	<i>Morone americana</i>
(12) Freshwater drum	<i>Aplodinotus grunniens</i>
(13) Grass carp, except certified triploids as authorized by a special permit.....	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>
(14) Pike top minnow	<i>Belonesox belizanus</i>
(15) Snakehead.....	All species in the genera <i>Parachanna</i> and <i>Channa</i>
(16) Walking catfish.....	All species in the genera <i>Clarias</i> , <i>Heteropneustes</i> and <i>Dinotopterus</i>
(17) Tiger fish, Tigerfish and Wolf fish.....	All species in the genera <i>Hydrocynus</i> and <i>Hoplias</i>
(18) Sticklebacks	All species in the genera <i>Apeltes</i> , <i>Eucalia</i> , <i>Gasterosteus</i> and <i>Pungitius</i>

Common Name	Scientific Classification
(19) Tilapia.....	All species in the genera <i>Coelotilapia</i> , <i>Coptodom</i> , <i>Heterotilapia</i> , <i>Oreochromis</i> , <i>Pelmatolapia</i> , <i>Tilapia</i> and <i>Sarotherodon</i>
(20) Nile perch	All species in the genera <i>Lates</i> and <i>Luciolates</i>
(21) Goldeye.....	All species in the genus <i>Hiodon</i>
(22) Carp:	
(I) Bighead.....	<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>
(II) Black	<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>
(III) Crucian.....	<i>Carassius carassius</i>
(IV) Indian.....	<i>Catla catla</i> , <i>Cirrhina mrigala</i> and <i>Labeo</i> <i>rohita</i>
(V) Silver.....	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>
(23) Rudd.....	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
(24) Northern Pike.....	<i>Esox lucius</i>
(25) Swamp eel.....	All species in the genus <i>Monopterus</i>
(26) Round goby.....	<i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>
(27) Flathead catfish.....	<i>Pylodictis olivaris</i>
(28) Peacock bass	All species in the genus <i>Cichla</i>

(b) Reptiles:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
(1) Alligators, crocodiles and gharials	All species in the order Crocodylia
(2) Bird snake	All species in the genus <i>Thelotornis</i>
(3) Boomslang	<i>Dispholidus typus</i>
(4) Keelbacks.....	All species in the genus <i>Rhabdophis</i>
(5) Burrowing Asps	All species in the family Atractaspidae
(6) Coral snakes, cobras, kraits, mambas, Australian elapids and sea snakes.....	All species in the family Elapidae
(7) Pit vipers and true vipers, except species indigenous to this State	All species in the family Viperidae, except species indigenous to this State
(8) Snapping Turtles.....	All species in the family Chelydridae
(9) Gila monsters and bearded lizards.....	All species in the family Helodermatidae

(c) Amphibians:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
(1) Clawed frogs.....	All species in the genus <i>Xenopus</i>
(2) Giant or marine toads	<i>Bufo horribilis</i> , <i>Bufo marinus</i> and <i>Bufo</i>

Common Name

Scientific Classification

paracnemis

(d) Mammals:

Common Name

Scientific Classification

- (1) Deer, elk, wapiti, moose and caribou All species in the family Cervidae
- (2) Wild Dogs or Dhole..... *Cuon alpinus*
- (3) Raccoon Dog *Nyctereutes procyonoides*
- (4) Mongooses and Meerkats All species in the genera *Atilax*, *Cynictis*,
Helogale, *Mungos*, *Suricate*,
Ichneumia and *Herpestes*
- (5) Wild European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*
- (6) Multimammate Rat or Mouse..... All species in the genus *Mastomys*
(=*Praomys*)
- (7) Bats All species in the order Chiroptera
- (8) Nutria *Myocastor coypus*
- (9) Coyote..... *Canis latrans*
- (10) Foxes..... All species in the genera *Vulpes*,
Fennecus, *Urocyon*, *Alopex*, *Lycalopex*
and *Pseudalopex*

- (11) Raccoon *Procyon lotor*
- (12) Skunk All species in the genera *Spilogale*,
Mephitis and *Conepatus*
- (13) Wild pigs and hogs All species in the family Suidae, except
domestic breeds of *Sus scrofa*
- (14) Reedbucks..... All species in the genus *Redunca*
- (15) Oryx and Gemsbok..... All species in the genus *Oryx*
- (16) Addax..... *Addax nasomaculatus*
- (17) Blesbok, Topi and Bontebok All species in the genus *Damaliscus*
- (18) Hartebeests..... All species in the genera *Alcelaphus* and
Sigmoceros
- (19) Wildebeest and Gnus All species in the genus *Connochaetes*
- (20) Chamois *Rupicapra rupicapra* and *R. pyrenaica*
- (21) Tahr..... All species in the genus *Hemitragus*
- (22) Ibex, Wild Goats, Tur and Markhor All species in the genus *Capra*, except
domestic goats, *Capra hircus*
- (23) Barbary (Aoudad) Sheep *Ammotragus lervia*
- (24) Mouflon sheep, Urial, Bighorn and
Argali All species in the genus *Ovis*, except
domestic sheep, *Ovis aries*

(e) Birds:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
--------------------	----------------------------------

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Pink Starling or Rosy Pastor..... | <i>Sturnus roseus</i> |
| (2) Red-billed Dioch..... | <i>Quelea quelea</i> |
| (3) Red-whiskered Bulbul | <i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i> |

(f) Crustaceans:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
--------------------	----------------------------------

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| (1) Asiatic mitten crab..... | <i>Eriocheir sinensis</i> |
| (2) Crayfish | All species in the families Parastacidae,
Cambaridae and Astacidae, except
<i>Procambarus clarkii</i> , <i>Orconectes causeyi</i>
and indigenous species of the genus
<i>Pacifastacus</i> |

(g) Mollusks:

Common Name	Scientific Classification
--------------------	----------------------------------

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| (1) African giant snail | <i>Achatina fulica</i> |
| (2) Zebra and quagga mussels | All species in the genus <i>Dreissena</i> |

Common Name

Scientific Classification

- (3) New Zealand mud snail *Potamopyrgus antipodarum, P. jenkinsi*
- (4) Apple snails All species in the genus *Pomacea*
- (5) Golden mussel *Limnoperna fortunei*

2. The headquarters of the Department and each regional office of the Department will maintain a physical description and picture of each species listed in this section when reasonably available.

3. The Department may issue a scientific permit for the collection or possession of wildlife or a commercial license for the possession of live wildlife, whichever is applicable, for the importation, transportation or possession of a species listed in this section only to:

(a) A zoo or aquarium which is an accredited institutional member of the Zoological Association of America, the Association of Zoos and Aquariums or their successors.

(b) ~~{A person who displays, exhibits or uses the species for entertainment or commercial photography, including, without limitation, motion pictures, still photography or television, if the species:~~

~~—— (1) Is accompanied by evidence of lawful possession;~~

~~—— (2) Is not in this State for more than 90 days; and~~

~~—— (3) Is maintained under complete control and prohibited from coming into contact with members of the general public.~~

~~→ If the person is displaying, exhibiting or using mammals for commercial purposes other than for food or fiber, he or she must possess the appropriate license issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.~~

~~(e)~~ A college, university or governmental agency, for scientific or public health research.

~~(d)~~ (c) Any other scientific institution, as determined by the Department, for research or medical necessity.

~~(e)~~ (d) Any person engaged in commercial aquaculture, upon application and proof to the Department that the activity will not be detrimental to aquatic life, other wildlife or recreational uses. As a condition of the issuance to such a person of a commercial license for the possession of a species listed in this section, a bond may be required to provide for the removal of any species to which the license applies that may escape or be released from captivity for any reason. The amount of the bond will be determined by the Department after considering the degree of potential hazard to wildlife.

~~(f)~~ (e) A tax-exempt nonprofit organization that exhibits wildlife solely for educational or scientific purposes.

4. An interstate shipment of a species listed in this section may be transported through this State, without a permit or license issued by the Department, if:

(a) The shipper or transporter has evidence of lawful possession of the species issued by the state or country where the species originated;

(b) Mammals, birds or fish are accompanied by a health certificate issued by the state or country where the species originated that indicates the destination, origin and proof of ownership of the species being transported;

(c) The species is in this State for less than 48 hours; and

(d) The species is not unloaded or otherwise released while being transported through this State.

5. This section does not apply to the Department when it is conducting authorized introductions or transplantations of a native species of big game mammal listed in this section.

Sec. 12. NAC 503.1465 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.1465 1. The Department may issue an archery disability permit to a person with a ~~permanent~~ disability. The permit authorizes a person with a ~~permanent~~ disability to hunt, during a hunt that is restricted to the use of archery, using a crossbow or a bow that uses a mechanical device that is capable of anchoring a nocked arrow at full draw or partial full draw and complies with the requirements of subsection 2 of NAC 503.144.

2. A person using an archery disability permit shall present the permit upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

3. An application for an archery disability permit must:

(a) Be submitted to the Department on a form provided by the Department;

(b) Include a certificate issued by a licensed physician certifying that the applicant has a ~~permanent~~ disability; and

(c) Include any other information required by the Department to issue the permit.

4. An archery disability permit issued pursuant to this section ~~does not expire.~~
expires 1 year after the date on which the permit is issued.

5. As used in this section, ~~“permanent”~~ “disability” means a disability which prohibits a person from manually drawing and holding at full draw a bow that complies with the provisions of subsection 2 of NAC 503.144.

Sec. 13. 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 LCB File No. R160-22, 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~~ *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*), 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. 14. NAC 503.212 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.212 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 503.214 and 503.217, the owner of a raptor shall attach a leg band to the raptor pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. For a raptor originally taken from the wild:

(a) For a goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Harris's hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) or gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*):

(1) Unless the raptor is already so banded, the owner of the raptor shall attach to the raptor a permanent, nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service ; ~~and provided by the Department;~~ and

(2) The owner of the raptor may implant in the raptor a 134.2-kilohertz microchip that complies with the standards established by the International Organization for Standardization or its successor; and

(b) For a raptor that is not of a species listed in paragraph (a), a person shall not attach to the raptor a nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the ~~Department;~~ *United States Fish and Wildlife Service.*

3. For a captive-bred raptor, unless the raptor is already banded, the owner of the raptor shall attach to the raptor a nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service . ~~and provided by the Department.~~

Sec. 15. NAC 503.214 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.214 1. If a leg band attached to a raptor pursuant to NAC 503.212 must be removed or is lost, the owner of the raptor shall, not later than 5 working days after the removal or after the loss is discovered, report the removal or loss to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on its Internet website and shall:

- (a) Request a replacement leg band from the Department and attach to the raptor the replacement leg band immediately after receiving the replacement leg band; or
- (b) Purchase and immediately implant in the raptor a 134.2-kilohertz microchip that complies with the standards established by the International Organization for Standardization or its successor.

2. Not later than 5 days after rebanding a captive-bred raptor pursuant to subsection 1, the owner of the raptor:

- (a) Shall report the rebanding, and any other information required by the ~~{Department,}~~ *United States Fish and Wildlife Service* to the Department on Form 3-186A; and
- (b) Shall report the rebanding, and any other information required by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on its Internet website.

Sec. 16. NAC 503.225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.225 1. A falconry licensee may receive by transfer legally acquired raptors from other persons authorized to possess raptors and may transfer a raptor in his or her lawful possession to any other person authorized to possess a raptor.

2. ~~{A person authorized to possess a raptor may transfer or acquire by transfer a raptor which was originally taken from the wild.}~~

~~—3.}~~ A person shall not sell, trade, barter, purchase, acquire by trade or barter, or attempt to sell, trade, barter, purchase or acquire by trade or barter, a raptor which was originally taken from the wild.

~~{4.}~~ 3. A person authorized to possess a raptor may transfer, sell, trade, barter, purchase, acquire by trade or barter, or attempt to transfer, sell, trade, barter, purchase, or acquire by transfer, trade or barter, a captive-bred raptor only if the raptor is:

(a) Two weeks of age or more; and

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NAC 503.217, banded pursuant to NAC 503.212 or 503.214.

~~15.1~~ 4. If a person acquires a raptor pursuant to this section:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), the raptor does not count toward the number of raptors the person may obtain from the wild pursuant to his or her permit, NRS 503.583 and NAC 503.300, regardless of whether the raptor was bred in captivity or was originally taken from the wild; and

(b) If the person acquired the raptor with the intent to keep the raptor, and if the raptor was acquired from a raptor rehabilitator and was originally taken from the wild, the raptor counts toward the number of raptors the person may obtain from the wild pursuant to his or her permit, NRS 503.583 and NAC 503.300.

Sec. 17. NAC 503.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.230 1. The owner of a raptor of any species may release the raptor to the wild pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. A falconry licensee shall not intentionally and permanently release to the wild a hybrid raptor or a raptor which is of a species not indigenous to this State.

3. A falconry licensee shall not intentionally and permanently release to the wild a captive-bred raptor that is of a species indigenous to this State unless ~~†~~

~~—(a) The~~ *the* falconry licensee:

~~{(1)}~~ (a) Temporarily releases and subsequently takes the raptor to allow the raptor to adjust to the wild; ~~and~~

~~—(2)~~ *(b)* Receives written authorization from the Department to release the raptor to the wild permanently; and

~~{(b) The falconry licensee releases}~~

(c) Releases the raptor ~~{at an appropriate time during the year and at an appropriate location, as determined by the Department and included}~~ in *accordance with* the written authorization required ~~{pursuant to subparagraph (2) of}~~ *by* paragraph ~~{(a)}~~ *(b)*.

4. A falconry licensee shall not intentionally and permanently release to the wild a raptor which was originally taken from the wild and which is of a species indigenous to this State unless the falconry licensee:

(a) Receives written authorization from the Department to release the raptor to the wild permanently; and

(b) Releases the raptor ~~{at an appropriate time during the year and at an appropriate location, as determined by the Department and included}~~ in *accordance with* the written authorization required ~~{pursuant to}~~ *by* paragraph (a).

5. *The written authorization required by subsection 3 or 4 must specify an appropriate time during the year and an appropriate location for releasing the raptor to the wild.*

6. Before releasing a raptor to the wild pursuant to this section, the falconry licensee shall remove the leg band, if any, from the raptor.

~~{6}~~ 7. Not later than 5 days after releasing a raptor to the wild pursuant to this section, the falconry licensee shall:

(a) Return the leg band, if any, removed pursuant to subsection ~~{5}~~ 6 to the Department; and

(b) Report the release to the Department on Form 3-186A.

Sec. 18. 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 , *including, without limitation, any offspring of such 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,

and sections 2 to 10, inclusive, of LCB File No. 160-22, inclusive. 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. 19. NAC 503.350 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.350 1. A holder of a permit to take raptors may authorize another person to take a raptor for ~~the holder of the permit subject to the conditions specified in this section.~~

~~2. If the holder of the permit is at the site of the taking:~~

~~(a) The holder of the permit shall report the taking to the Department on Form 3-186A not later than 5 days after the taking; and~~

~~(b) The taken raptor counts toward the number of raptors the holder of the permit may obtain or possess pursuant to his or her permit, NRS 503.583 and NAC 503.250 and 503.300.~~

~~3. If the holder of the permit has a long term or permanent physical impairment that prevents him or her from being at the site of the taking:~~

~~—(a) The~~ *him or her if the* holder of the permit ~~{shall report}~~ *reports* the taking to the Department on Form 3-186A not later than 5 days after the taking. ~~}; and~~

~~—(b) The~~

2. *Any raptor* taken ~~{raptor}~~ *for the holder of a permit pursuant to subsection 1* counts toward the number of raptors that the holder of the permit may obtain or possess pursuant to his or her permit, NRS 503.583 and NAC 503.250 and 503.300.

Sec. 20. 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 LCB File No. 160-22, 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; *and*

(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. 21. NAC 503.405 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.405 1. A falconry licensee who is not the owner of a raptor may provide care for the raptor if the falconry licensee also possesses:

(a) A copy of the Form 3-186A that the owner of the raptor submitted to the Department when the owner obtained the raptor; and

(b) A statement that:

(1) Is signed by the owner of the raptor and the falconry licensee;

(2) Authorizes the falconry licensee to provide care for the raptor; and

(3) Indicates:

(I) The period during which the falconry licensee may provide care for the raptor; and

(II) Whether the falconry licensee may practice falconry with the raptor.

2. A falconry licensee providing care for a raptor pursuant to this section may do so only:

(a) At a facility owned or maintained by the owner of the raptor or the falconry licensee; and

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, for not more than 120 days.

3. The Department may extend beyond 120 days the period during which a falconry licensee may provide care for a raptor if the owner of the raptor provides evidence satisfactory to the Department that any illness, military service, family emergency or other extenuating circumstance justifies the extension.

4. A raptor for which care is provided by a falconry licensee pursuant to this section:

(a) Counts toward the number of raptors that the owner of the raptor may possess pursuant to NAC 503.250; and

(b) Does not count toward the number of raptors that the falconry licensee may possess pursuant to NAC 503.250.

~~{5. If indicated by a statement signed pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, a falconry licensee providing care for a raptor pursuant to this section may practice falconry with the raptor in accordance with this chapter and NRS 503.582 and 503.583.}~~

Sec. 22. NAC 503.445 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.445 1. A general or master falconry licensee may, without obtaining any additional license or permit, use a raptor in his or her lawful possession in a conservation education program which is presented in a public venue.

2. An apprentice falconry licensee may use a raptor in his or her lawful possession in a conservation education program which is presented in a public venue if the presentation is supervised by a general or master falconry licensee.

3. A raptor used in a conservation education program pursuant to this section must otherwise be used primarily for falconry.

4. A conservation education program presented pursuant to this section must include information concerning the biology, ecological roles and conservation requirements of raptors and other migratory birds. Each of those topics is not required to be included in each presentation.

5. ~~In addition to the requirements of subsection 4, a falconry licensee shall not present a conservation education program pursuant to this section that does not include information on falconry and conservation education.~~

~~6.]~~ A falconry licensee presenting a conservation education program pursuant to this section:

(a) May accept a fee for the program which does not exceed the actual costs of presenting the program; and

(b) Is responsible for all liability associated with the program.

Sec. 23. NAC 503.455 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.455 1. A master falconry licensee may conduct abatement activities using a raptor in his or her lawful possession if the falconry licensee possesses:

(a) A Federal Migratory Bird Abatement permit issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service *and has provided a copy of the permit to the Department*, or, if the United States Fish and Wildlife Service no longer issues those permits, *possesses* a permit to conduct abatement activities issued by the Department; and

(b) A permit to collect unprotected wildlife issued to the master falconry licensee by the Department pursuant to NRS 503.380 and NAC 503.095.

2. A general falconry licensee may conduct abatement activities using a raptor in his or her lawful possession under the supervision of a master falconry licensee who is authorized to conduct abatement activities pursuant to subsection 1.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a general or master falconry licensee may receive payment for conducting abatement activities against a species listed in 50 C.F.R. § ~~21.43]~~ *21.150* only in accordance with the conditions of his or her Federal Migratory Bird

Abatement permit issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or, if the United States Fish and Wildlife Service no longer issues those permits, his or her permit to conduct abatement activities issued by the Department.

4. A falconry licensee may not receive payment for depredation control activities conducted against a species listed in 50 C.F.R. § ~~21.43~~.

~~5. A falconry licensee who receives a Federal Migratory Bird Abatement permit issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall provide a copy of the permit to the Department.~~ **21.150.**

Sec. 24. NAC 503.593 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.593 1. Chumming is prohibited in:

(a) Lake Tahoe.

(b) Topaz Lake.

(c) ~~Crittenden Reservoir~~.

~~(d)~~ The collection ditch of the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

~~(e)~~ (d) Spooner Lake.

2. Fishing with a spear for unprotected fish is prohibited in:

(a) Lake Tahoe.

(b) Topaz Lake.

Sec. 25. NAC 502.015, 502.211 and 504.486 are hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

502.015 “Batch report” defined. (NRS 501.105, 501.181) “Batch report” means a report of the documents issued by a license agent and submitted to the license office.

502.211 Removal of personal information from lists sold by Department. (NRS 501.181) Upon the request of a person who has applied for or obtained a license, permit, tag or other licensing document from the Department pursuant to title 45 of NRS, or any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the name, address, phone number and other personal information of the person is confidential and the Department shall remove the name, address, phone number and other personal information from any list sold or distributed by the Department or a licensing vendor of the Department.

504.486 Exhibit of wildlife under authority of federal exhibitor’s license. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 504.295) A person who holds an exhibitor’s license issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture may exhibit in this State wildlife listed in that license, for not more than 45 days, without obtaining any license or permit issued by the Department for the possession, transportation, importation or exportation of that wildlife.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission General Regulation 514, Moose.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapters 502 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to provide for definitions, fees, and regulations concerning moose. This proposed regulation change is necessary to establish definitions for antlered and antlerless moose, eligibility requirements for a moose tag and fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts and to establish requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

Agenda Action:

Formal Action / Motion

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9G- 19C-CGR-514-Moose.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 4, 2024

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: CGR 514 (LCB File No. R122-23)

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Changes for the 2024-2025 Season

This proposed regulation change is necessary to establish the following within NAC (R122-23):

- Definitions for antlered and antlerless moose
- Eligibility requirements for a moose tag
- Fees for both resident and non-resident antlered and antlerless moose hunts, and
- Requirements for maintaining physical characteristics of the harvested moose.

These changes are necessary to establish a moose hunt for the 2024 season.

Recommendation

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

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R122-23

December 14, 2023

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1, 2 and 6, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.120; § 3, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 503.120; § 4, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.130, 502.140, 502.160 and 502.250; § 5, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 502.160 and 502.175.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; defining certain terms relating to moose; establishing provisions relating to obtaining a tag to hunt moose; revising provisions relating to certain bonus points awarded by the Department of Wildlife; revising provisions relating to the possession of certain parts from certain animals; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations necessary to the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife, as well as those necessary to carry out the provisions of title 45 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. (NRS 501.105, 501.181) Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt regulations defining “antlerless” mammals. (NRS 503.120) **Sections 2 and 3** of this regulation define the terms “antlered moose” and “antlerless moose,” respectively.

Existing law requires tags to hunt certain species, including moose. (NRS 502.130) Existing law authorizes the Commission to adopt any regulations necessary relative to the manner of qualifying and applying for, using, completing, attaching, filling out, punching, inspecting, validating or reporting such tags. (NRS 502.160) **Section 4** of this regulation authorizes, with certain exceptions, a resident or nonresident of this State to apply for a tag to hunt antlered moose or antlerless moose. **Section 4** also provides that a person who obtains a tag or replacement tag for an antlered or antlerless moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt that type of moose. Finally, **section 4** requires a person who harvests a moose to, within 5 days after harvesting it, personally present the skull and any antlers of the moose to a representative of the Department of Wildlife for inspection.

Existing law requires the Commission to establish fees for hunting certain big game species, which must not exceed the highest fee for a resident or nonresident tag established pursuant to the Nevada Revised Statutes. (NRS 502.130, 502.250) **Section 4** prescribes the following fees for moose tags: (1) \$120 for a resident antlered moose tag; (2) \$120 for a resident antlerless moose tag; (3) \$1,200 for a nonresident antlered moose tag; and (4) \$1,200 for a nonresident antlerless moose tag.

Existing regulations provide that any bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program must be awarded in certain enumerated categories of species, subspecies and gender. (NAC 502.4188) **Section 5** of this regulation requires the Department to award bonus points for antlered moose, antlerless moose and moose, either antlered or antlerless.

Existing regulations require a person who kills a deer, elk, mountain goat, antelope or bighorn sheep to maintain possession of a certain portion of the cape or scalp of the animal, as well as any antlers or horns, until the carcass has been frozen, smoked, dried, consumed or accepted by a commercial processing plant for processing. (NAC 503.173) **Section 6** of this regulation adds moose to these requirements.

Section 1. Chapter 502 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *“Antlered moose” means any moose having at least one antler that is visible above the hairline of the skull of the moose.*

Sec. 3. *“Antlerless moose” means any moose without antlers.*

Sec. 4. 1. *Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, any resident or nonresident of this State is eligible to apply in any year for an antlered moose tag. A person who obtains an antlered moose tag or a replacement tag for an antlered moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt antlered moose only.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, any resident or nonresident of this State is eligible to apply in any year for an antlerless moose tag. A person who obtains an antlerless moose tag or a replacement tag for an antlerless moose is not eligible to apply for another tag to hunt antlerless moose only.

3. *The fee for:*

(a) A resident antlered moose tag is \$120.

(b) A resident antlerless moose tag is \$120.

(c) A nonresident antlered moose tag is \$1,200.

(d) A nonresident antlerless moose tag is \$1,200.

4. A person who harvests a moose shall, within 5 days after harvesting it, personally present the skull and any antlers of the moose, if applicable, to a representative of the Department for inspection.

5. As used in this section:

(a) “Antlered moose only” means, in a designation of moose that may be taken during an open season, only an antlered moose.

(b) “Antlerless moose only” means, in a designation of moose that may be taken during an open season, only an antlerless moose.

Sec. 5. NAC 502.4188 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4188 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, 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:

- (a) Antlered mule deer;
- (b) Antlerless mule deer;
- (c) Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;
- (d) Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;
- (e) Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;
- (f) Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;
- (g) Spike Rocky Mountain elk;
- (h) Pronghorn antelope whose horns are longer than their ears;
- (i) Pronghorn antelope whose horns are shorter than their ears;

(j) Rams, from one of the following subspecies:

- (1) Nelson bighorn sheep;
- (2) California bighorn sheep; or
- (3) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

(k) Ewes, from one of the following subspecies:

- (1) Nelson bighorn sheep;
- (2) California bighorn sheep; or
- (3) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

(l) Mountain goats;

(m) Black bears; ~~or~~

(n) *Antlered moose*;

(o) *Antlerless moose*; or

(p) Moose ~~H~~, *either antlered or antlerless*.

2. Bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program for wild turkey hunts must be awarded by hunt number.

Sec. 6. NAC 503.173 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.173 Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.403, any person who kills a deer, elk, *moose*, mountain goat, antelope or bighorn sheep shall, until the carcass is frozen, smoked, dried, consumed or accepted by a commercial processing plant for processing, maintain possession of at least that portion of the cape or scalp that includes the ears to the base of the muzzle and any antlers or horns. The cape or scalp and any antlers or horns from the animal must be possessed in such a manner that they remain or are kept together with the carcass of the animal.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 23-04, (Amendment 2) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game Seasons.**

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve an amendment to the 2023- 2024 and 2024-2025 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goat and moose, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and hunt boundary restrictions.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9H- 20A-CR23-04-Amendment-2-2023-2024-and-2024-2025-Big-Game-Seasons.pdf](#)

Motion: _____ 1) _____ Aye/Nay
2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 3, 2024

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics
From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division
Title: Commission Regulation 23-04 Amendment #2, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Big Game Hunting Seasons

Explanation of the Proposed Changes for the 2024-2025 Season

- Eliminate 2 resident horns-shorter-than-ears antelope hunts (078, 105-107, 121 and 131, 145) due to poor herd productivity and lack of available animals.
- Reduce to 2 seasons for resident elk antlered and antlerless any legal weapon depredation hunt for Units 144 and 145.
- Resident Desert Bighorn Sheep Any Ram – Any Legal Weapon hunts:
 - Making the 173 North season match the 173 North management hunt season
 - Close Unit 212 due to recent die-off
 - Close Unit 252 due to lack of mature rams from prolonged disease event
 - Open Unit 282 hunting season – recent survey indicates re-patriation of animals and mature rams.
- Non-resident Desert Bighorn Sheep Any Ram – Any Legal Weapon hunts:
 - Close both Unit 161 hunts due to recent disease event
 - Close Unit 212 due to disease event
 - Close Unit 271, 242 to accommodate reduced resident tags relative to mature ram availability
- Resident Desert Bighorn Sheep Any Ram Archery hunts:
 - Close Unit 161 due to recent disease event
 - Adjust Unit 202 season dates to eliminate overlap with any legal weapon hunt in Unit 202
 - Close Unit 212 hunting season due to recent disease event
- Non-resident Desert Bighorn Sheep Any Ram Archery Hunt:
 - Close Unit 161 due to recent disease event
- Resident Desert Bighorn Sheep One-Horn Management Hunt:
 - Close Unit Groups 241, 243, 271 and 283, 284, 286 due to no observations of one-horn

- rams in any of these units and no harvest in first year for a Once-in-a-Lifetime hunt
- Resident and Non-resident Desert Bighorn Sheep Any Ewe Any Legal Weapon Hunt:
 - Close Unit 161 due to disease event
 - Resident California Bighorn Sheep Any Ram Any Legal Weapon Hunt:
 - Open eastern portion of Unit 035 for the Bloody Run Mountains with adequate mature rams. This herd was reintroduced in 2019
 - Elimination of the Resident Junior Mule Deer Antlered or Antlerless Archery, Muzzleloader, or Any Legal Weapon Hunt for 061, 062, 064, 066-068, 071-079, and 091, and 101-109 for the 2024 season and incorporation of those unit groups into the Resident Junior Mule Deer – Standard and Non-Standard Antlered Only Archery, Muzzleloader or Any Legal Weapon Hunt for the 2024 season.
 - New Resident Junior Mule Deer – Alternative Primitive Weapon Antlered Only hunt (Hunt#: 1105) and Resident Junior Mule Deer Alternative Antlered Only Any Legal Weapon hunt Weapon (Hunt#: 1106) to provide more opportunity for Juniors in Alternative Units.
 - Resident and Nonresident Mule Deer Antlered Any Legal Weapon Hunt:
 - Eliminate mid-season for Units 221-223
 - Elimination of the Resident Mule Deer – Antlerless Any Legal Weapon Hunt for hunt unit groups 061, 062, 064, 066-068, 071-079, and 091, and 101, 102, and 109 for the 2024 season to offset the 2022-23 winter loss.
 - Establish the first ever Resident Moose Any Legal Weapon Hunt in multiple units in Elko County with adequate mature bulls available.

Recommendation

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

CR 23-04 - Amendment #2 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

***CR23-04 A2 only shows hunts that have proposed changes to CR23-04 A1**

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 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 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
		Aug 1 - Sept 30
144, 145 Early*	Sept 1 - Sept 30	Aug 1 - Aug 15
144, 145 Mid*	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Oct 1 - Oct 31
		Oct 1 Nov 1 - Jan 1
144, 145 Late*	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 - 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
		Aug. 1 - Sept 30
144, 145 [1st*] Early*	Aug 1 - Aug 31	[Aug 1 - Aug 31]
144, 145 2nd*	Sept 1 - Sept 30	[Sept 1 - Sept 30]
144, 145 [3rd*] Late*	Oct 1 - Jan 1	Oct 1 - Jan 1

* 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	Aug 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
272	Nov 20 - Jan 1	Nov 20 - Jan 1
280 ^{***}	Dec 16 - Jan 1	Dec 21 - Jan 5
281 ^{***}	Dec 16 - Jan 1	Dec 21 - Jan 5
282^{***}	-	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

^D 181 West - That portion of Unit 181 west 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.

** Mature ram numbers and distribution are unknown in this unit.

*** Portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, and 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, and 282 limit party size to 5 including tagholder. 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, and 282 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
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^C181 East - That portion of Unit 181 east of State Route 839

^D181 West - That portion of Unit 181 west 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.

** 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	Sept 15 - Oct 14 [Oct 1 - Oct 31]
202	Oct 1 - Oct 31	Sept 15 - Oct 14 [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

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 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
012, 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
035^D		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 (**Allows hunting in Pine Forest Range and Pueblo Mountains but excludes** 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 (**Allows hunting in Unit 033 and** McGee Mountain **of Unit 032**).

^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 (**Allows hunting in Jackson Mountains** ~~excludes Bloody Run Hills~~).

^D That portion of Unit 035 east of the Bottle Creek Road from the north boundary of State Route 140 to the south boundary of the Jungo Road and west of U.S. Highway 95 (**Allows hunting in Bloody Run Hills and Slumbering Hills**).

**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 - Alternative Primitive Antlered Only
Archery OR Muzzleloader Hunt 1105**

Unit Group	Weapon	2024-2025 Season
014	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
065	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
081	Archery	Nov 10 - Nov 20
	Muzzleloader	Nov 21 - Dec 10
114, 115	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
131 - 134	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
194, 196	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
221 - 223	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4
241 - 245	Archery	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4

**Resident Junior Mule Deer - Alternative Antlered Only
Any Legal Weapon 1106**

Unit Group	Weapon	2024-2025 Season
014	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5
065	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 5
081	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 11 - Jan 1
114, 115	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Nov 2
131 - 134	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Oct 31
194, 196	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 5 - Nov 30
221 - 223	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Oct 31
241 - 245	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 5 - Oct 31

**Resident Junior Mule Deer - Standard, Non-Standard 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 2
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 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
032	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
033	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
034	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
035	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
041, 042	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
043, 044, 046	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
045	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
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
061,062, 064, 066-068	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon		Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
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 2
071-079, 091	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon		Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Oct 4 Oct 5 - Nov 2
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
101-109	Archery Muzzleloader Any Legal Weapon		Aug 10 - Sept 9 Sept 10 - Sept 30 Oct 1 - Nov 2
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	Aug 10 - Sept 9	Aug 10 - Sept 9
	Muzzleloader	Sept 10 - Oct 4	Sept 10 - Oct 4
	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 5 - Nov 30	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
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
		Oct 5 - Oct 20
221 - 223 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	Oct 5 - Oct 16
221 - 223 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	Oct 17 - Oct 30
		Oct 21 - Nov 5
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 Moose Any Legal Weapon Hunt 10151

Unit Group	2023-2024 Season	2024-2025 Season
061, 062, 064, 066 - 068, 071 - 077, 081, 101 - 103 [†]	-	Sept 1 - Nov 30

[†] Hunters may only take a moose with at least one visible antler. An antler is defined in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC 502.005) as any bony growth originating from the pedicle portion of the skull of a big game mammal that is annually cast and regenerated as part of the annual life cycle of the big game mammal.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 23-10 (Amendment 2) 2024 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider amending the regulation for the 2024 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quota regulation to add a mandatory call-in number for all Specialty Bighorn Sheep tag holders to verify which units are closed to hunting.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9I- 20B-CR23-10-Amendment-2.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



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 13, 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 23-10 Amendment #2, 2024 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas
Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 Heritage Tag seasons, quotas, and hunt specifications.

Summary:

The Department is proposing clarification language related to the closure of bighorn sheep units in the event the harvest limits are reached.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

Specialty Tag Bighorn Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00pm PST the day of harvest. Additionally, the Department will now require Specialty Tag Bighorn Sheep holders to call 1-833-923-0754 prior to hunting daily for information on closed units due to harvest limits being reached.

Recommendation:

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

CR 23-10 Amendment #3 2024 Wildlife Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas

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

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

Heritage Tags exclude the use of seasons, quotas and hunt units designated for depredation, management, and emergency hunts.

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

** Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM PST the day of harvest.*

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	Mule Deer Foundation
					Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN)
Pronghorn Antelope	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit assigned a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn

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	Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) - Elko
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	Any hunt unit assigned a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep season.	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	2	Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) – Reno Wild Sheep Foundation & Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn
Wild Turkey	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2024 through May 3, 2024	5	Wildlife & Habitat Improvement of Nevada (WHIN) Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited Pershing County Chukars Unlimited Safari Club International (SCI) – Las Vegas Muley Fanatic Foundation
Total				13	

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.

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.

* 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 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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.

* Those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-01, 2024 Big Game Application Deadlines.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 big game tag application deadlines and related information.

Agenda Action:

Formal Action / Motion

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9J- 20C-CR24-01-2024-Big-Game-Application-Deadlines.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____
2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Data and Technology Services Division

1980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 • Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM:

DECEMBER 13, 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 24-01, 2024 Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates
2025 Spring Turkey Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 upland, waterfowl, and big game application deadlines along with the 2025 spring turkey application deadlines.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2024 upland, waterfowl, big game, and 2025 spring turkey application and harvest questionnaire return deadlines. All applications and harvest questionnaire returns must be submitted online at www.ndowlicensing.com. 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 draw order has been updated based on the decision of the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee during their June 24, 2023 meeting.

The Department recommends establishing an online application period for the Overton and Key Pittman WMA Waterfowl Opening Weekend hunt, which updates the application process from a mail-in version and makes this last application period consistent with all others offered for Nevada.

The Department recommends no changes in format from the previous year to the Wild Turkey Draw, Restricted Non-Resident Guided Mule Deer Draw, Big Game Main Draw, Big Game Second Draw, Overton WMA Dove Opening Weekend Draw or Swan Draw.

Recommendation:

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

CR 24-01 2024 Application Deadlines & Draw Result Dates 2025 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, *moose*, wild turkey, swan, Overton Wildlife Management Area (WMA) dove, *Overton WMA waterfowl and KeyPittman WMA waterfowl* 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.~~

2025 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 27, 2025**. Applications for bonus points only will be accepted until 11:00pm Pacific Time on **Monday, February 3, 2025**.

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 14, 2025**. 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 11, 2024**. 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 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 released on or before **Friday, March 22, 2024**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are finalized and applicants notified.

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 8, 2024**.

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*
2. *Partners in Wildlife*
3. *Junior Mule Deer Antlered/Antlerless*
4. *Assigned simultaneously in no particular order: [Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Ram, California Bighorn Sheep Ram, Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Ram, Elk Antlered, Antelope Horns Longer than Ears, Mule Deer Antlered, Mountain Goat, Bear, Moose Antlered]*
5. *Assigned simultaneously in no particular order: [Elk Depredation Antlered, Management Bighorn Sheep Ram]*
6. *Assigned simultaneously in no particular order: [California Bighorn Sheep Ewe, Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Ewe, Elk Antlerless, Antelope Horns Shorter than Ears, Mule Deer Antlerless]*
7. *Spike Elk*
8. *Elk Depredation Antlerless*

Big Game Main Draw Results

Initial Big Game Main Draw results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the main draw. The main draw results will be posted on or before **Friday, May 17, 2024**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are finalized and applicants notified.

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 10, 2024**.

Big Game Second Draw Results

Initial Big Game Second Draw results will be released no later than 48-hours after the completion of the second draw. The second draw results will be released on or before the **Friday, June 21, 2024**. Draw results information will not be provided in any way before the draw results are finalized and applicants notified.

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 19, 2024**. 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 26, 2024**. 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 9, 2024**. 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 20, 2024**. 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. *In the event left over permits are offered for purchase*, individuals awarded a permit from the draw *or as an alternate* 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 *the internet at www.ndowlicensing.com submitted before 11:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, September 9, 2024. Only one application per day will be accepted per individual.* 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 20, 2024**. 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 include an online harvest questionnaire that tag, and permit recipients are required to complete, regardless of whether or not they hunted or harvested. Harvest questionnaires may be accessed and submitted to the Department's independent contractor, *Gordon Darby Inc.* 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-02, 2024 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility and Tag Limits.**

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 big game tag application eligibility and tag limits and related information.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9K -20D-CR24-02-2024-Big-Game-Tag-Application-Eligibility-and-Tag-Limits.pdf](#)

Motion: _____	1) _____	Aye/Nay
	2) _____	_____

(Vote Recorded By)



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 13, 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 24-02, 2024 Big Game Application Eligibility and Tag Limits**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish 2024 big game application eligibility and tag limits.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends no changes from the prior year's Big Game Application Eligibility and Tag Limits Commission Regulation.

Recommendation:

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

CR 24-02 2024 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 to those otherwise eligible to hunt the tag with resident tags available only to residents and nonresident tags available only to nonresidents. 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. Suspensions applied for suspicious activity *will* 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-03, 2024 Dream Tag

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Dream Tag species, seasons, and quota.

Agenda Action:

Formal Action / Motion

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9L- 20E-CR24-3-2024-Dream-Tag.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



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 13, 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 24-03, 2024 Dream Tag

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 Dream Tags seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2024 seasons and quotas for big game Dream Tags. Dream Tag quotas are defined by Nevada Revised Statute 502.219, allowing one Dream Tag for each species of big game for which 50 or more tags were available under the quota established for the species by the Commission during the previous year.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department is proposing clarification language related to the closure of bighorn sheep units in the event the harvest limits are reached.

Due to the approved quotas in 2023 being lower than 50, the following will not be offered as a Dream tag option for the 2024 hunt season:

- Black bear – under 50 tags awarded in 2023
- CA Bighorn sheep – under 50 tags awarded in 2023

The Department recommends no change to all other previous year’s Dream 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 as presented.

CR 24-03 2024 Dream 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.

Dream 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

Dream Tags exclude the use of seasons, *quotas* and hunt units designated for depredation, management, *and emergency* hunts.

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

** Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM PST the day of harvest.*

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota [†]
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.	1
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.	1
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	<i>As directed by the above table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep.</i>	In compliance with the dates set for each hunt unit group for the Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt.	1
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 hunts.	1
Total				4

[†] Dream tag quotas are defined by NRS 502.219.

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.

* 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 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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.

* Those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas 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.

If a Black Bear tag is awarded through the Dream tag program, Black Bear tag holders will be notified by the Department of Wildlife of date, time and location of the Indoctrination classes. Two (2) Black Bear Indoctrination classes will be held every year. Attendance at one Black Bear Indoctrination Class is mandatory for tag holders or their representative guides or sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the Indoctrination class may only hunt under the direct supervision of the guide or sub-guide who attended the class on their behalf. Tags will only be issued upon completion of an Indoctrination class.

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. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone numbers to call and report a harvested black bear are 775-688-BEAR (2327) or 775-720-6130.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-04, 2024 Partnership in Wildlife (P I W) Tags.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) tags hunt species.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9M- 20F-CR24-04-2024-Partnership-in-Wildlife.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____
2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



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 13, 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 24-04, 2024 Partnership in Wildlife
Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 Partnership in Wildlife tags seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2024 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 is proposing clarification language related to the closure of bighorn sheep units in the event the harvest limits are reached.

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 as presented.

CR 24-04 2024 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

Partnership in Wildlife Tags exclude the use of seasons, *quotas* and hunt units designated for depredation, management, *and emergency* hunts.

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

** Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM PST the day of harvest.*

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	<i>As directed by the above table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep.</i>	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	3

antlered hunts. Excludes Spike
hunts.

Total

34

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.

* 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 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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.

* Those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-05, 2025 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota.**

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2025 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quota.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9N- 20G-CR-24-05-2025-Heritage-Tag-Seasons-and-Quotas.pdf](#)

Motion: _____	1) _____	Aye/Nay
	2) _____	_____

(Vote Recorded By)



**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 13, 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 24-05, 2025 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2025 Heritage Tag seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2025 seasons and quotas for Heritage auction tags. The Department must mail, email and post Heritage tag vendor proposal packets by March 1, 2024. 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 is proposing clarification language related to the closure of bighorn sheep units in the event the harvest limits are reached.

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, 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 as presented.

CR 24-05 2025 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

Heritage Tags exclude the use of seasons, quotas and hunt units designated for depredation, management, and emergency hunts.

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

** Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM PST the day of harvest.*

Species	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota	Organization
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025	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, 2025 through December 31, 2025	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, 2025 through December 31, 2025	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	<i>As directed by the above table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep.</i>	July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025	2	To be determined at June NBWC meeting

Wild Turkey	Any wild turkey	Any hunt unit assigned a wild turkey season.	March 21, 2025 through May 3, 2025	5	To be determined at June NBWC meeting
Total				13	

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.

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.

* 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 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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.

* Those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-06, 2024 Silver State Tags.**

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2024 Silver State tag species, season, and quota.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[90- 20H-CR24-06-2024-Silver-State-Tags.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



**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 13, 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 24-06, 2024 Silver State**

Description: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2024 Silver State Tags seasons and quotas.

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2024 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. Eight (8) big game Heritage tags for 2024 were approved last year, leaving up to seven (7) big game tags remaining for Silver State.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department is proposing clarification language related to the closure of bighorn sheep units in the event the harvest limits are reached.

Based on the Commission decision in the January 2023 meeting, a California bighorn sheep tag has been added back into the Silver State program. This tag was transferred from the 2024 Heritage tags based on the application interest shown for the California bighorn sheep Silver State tag during the 2022 application season.

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, mountain goat, and elk.

Recommendation:

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

CR 24-06 2024 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

Silver State Tags exclude the use of seasons, quotas and hunt units designated for depredation, management, and emergency hunts.

General hunt tag quotas for the corresponding year are approved during the May Commission meeting.

** Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Bighorn Sheep Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting daily to determine if any hunt units have been closed due to the harvest limits being reached. The number is 1-833-923-0754 and is accessible 24 hours a day. The Nevada Department of Wildlife phone number to call and report a harvested bighorn sheep is 775-688-2327. Sheep harvests must be reported by 9:00PM PST the day of harvest.*

Hunt	Class	Unit Group	Season	Quota
Mule Deer	Any mule deer	Any hunt unit assigned an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	1
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	1
Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag*	Any ram	<i>As directed by the above table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep.</i>	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	1
California Bighorn Sheep*	Any ram	<i>As directed by the above table and in correlation with the general hunt quotas for California bighorn sheep.</i>	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	1
Mountain Goat Silver State Tag**	Any goat	Hunt Unit 102	July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024	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, 2024 through December 31, 2024	1
Total				6

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.

* 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 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 hunters safety briefing; and 4) within the NTTR Hunt Units 252, 280, 281, 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 Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 at any given time. Those portions of Hunt Units 252, 280, 281 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.

* Those areas within Units 192 and 194 are closed except those areas 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.

** 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-07, 2024 Black Bear Seasons.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024 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.

Agenda Action:

Formal Action / Motion

Time Requested:

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9P- 20I-CR-24-07-Black-Bear-Seasons.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

2) _____

Aye/Nay

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 4, 2024

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: CR 24-07 Black Bear Season

Brief Explanation of Proposed Black Bear 2024 Seasons

The Department recommends no change to the 2024 black bear seasons:

- Opening and closing dates remain the same as the 2023 season
- Hunt unit groups and boundary descriptions remain the same as the 2023 season
- Hunting hours remain the same as the 2023 season

Recommendation

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

**CR 24-07
2024 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	2024 Season	Unit Harvest	Unit Female Harvest
Hunt units 192*, 194*, 195, 196 are open to bear hunting except those portions of 192 and 194 described below in Special Regulations.	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)	Unit Harvest	Unit Female Harvest
Hunt units 201, 202, 204 and 206 are open to bear hunting	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)		
Hunt unit 291 and 203 are open to bear hunting	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 courses 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. Black bear indoctrination courses are scheduled for Thursday August 15 from 6 pm to 9pm and Saturday, August 17, 2024, from 1 pm to 4 pm. Both courses will be held the Nevada Department of Wildlife's conference room, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada and streamed on Zoom. Courses will be recorded on Zoom and available for First Come First Serve tagholders. The Department will provide all tag holders with directions for registration prior to August 15, 2024.
- The Department phone number to call and report a harvested black bear is 775-688-BEAR. Please 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 north by USFS 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 Bealevue 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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To: _____ **Meeting Date:** January 22, 2024

Staff Contact: _____

Agenda Title: **For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-08, 2024 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits.**

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024-2025 hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours and special regulations.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:** _____

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9Q -20J-CR24-08-Mountain-Lion-Season.pdf](#)

Motion: _____	1) _____	Aye/Nay
	2) _____	_____

(Vote Recorded By)



**STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

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

MEMORANDUM

JANUARY 4, 2024

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: CR 24-08 Mountain Lion Season and Harvest Limits

Brief Explanation of Proposed Mountain Lion Seasons and Harvest Limits

- The Department recommends no change to the statewide harvest limit (247)
- The Department recommends no change to closed units.
- The Department recommends ending the interstate hunt with Utah in hunt unit 091 due to mountain lion management changes in Utah and general lack of hunter interest within this hunt unit.
- The Department recommends no other changes to open units.

Recommendation

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

CR 24-08 Open Management Units and Harvest Limits 2024 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	
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	247
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.



STAFF REPORT

Report To:

Meeting Date: January 22, 2024

Staff Contact:

Agenda Title: For Possible Action: Commission Regulation 24-09, 2024-2025 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quotas.

Staff Summary: At its January 27, 2024, meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve the 2024-2025 hunting season and quotas for restricted non-resident guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

Agenda Action: Formal Action / Motion **Time Requested:**

Proposed Motion

Board's Strategic Goal

Previous Action

Background/Issues & Analysis

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation

Financial Information

Is there a fiscal impact? No

If yes, account name/number:

Is it currently budgeted? No

Explanation of Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives

Attachment(s):

[9R -20K-CR-24-09-2024-2025-Restricted-Nonresident-Guided-Mule-Deer-Seasons-and-Quotas.pdf](#)

Motion: _____

1) _____

Aye/Nay

2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



**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 26, 2023

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

From: Shawn Espinosa, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 24-09, 2024-2025 Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quota**

Purpose: The Commission will review, revise, and adopt the 2024-2025 hunting season and quota recommendations for restricted nonresident guided mule deer including hunt boundary restrictions.

Summary

This regulation will set the 2024-2025 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 tags issued the previous year, or 400 tags, whichever is greater, 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 a management area or hunt unit. 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 quotas. Quotas for the 2024-2025 are based on the total number of tags issued to restricted nonresident guided and regular nonresident any legal weapon tags from the previous year.

Recommendation

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

CR 24-09
2024-2025 Restricted Nonresident
Guided Antlered Mule Deer
Seasons and Quota
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1235

Unit Group	2024-2025 Season	2024-2025 Quota
011 - 013	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
014	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
015	Dec 11 - Jan 1	1
021	Dec 21 - Jan 1	1
022	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
031	Oct 5 - Nov 5	3
032	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
033	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
034	Oct 5 - Nov 5	1
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	29
061, 062, 064, 066-068 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	3
065	Oct 5 - Nov 5	2
071 - 079, 091 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	20
071 - 079, 091 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	5
081	Dec 11 - Jan 1	1
101 - 109 Early	Oct 1 - Oct 16	17
101 - 109 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	17
101 - 109 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	4
111 - 113 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	7
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	3
131 - 134 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
141 - 145 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	8
141 - 145 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
151 - 156 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	12
151 - 156 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
161 - 164 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 20	4
161 - 164 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	2
171 - 173 Early	Oct 5 - Oct 16	11

171 - 173 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	8
171 - 173 Late	Oct 31 - Nov 8	2
181 - 184	Oct 5 - Nov 5	5
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 20	5
221 - 223 Mid	Oct 17 - Oct 30	
221 - 223 Late	Oct 21 - Nov 5	1
231	Oct 5 - Oct 31	3
241 - 245	Oct 5 - Oct 31	2
251 - 254	Oct 5 - Nov 2	1
261 - 268	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
271, 272	Nov 5 - Nov 30	1
291	Nov 5 - Nov 30	2
Total Quota		228

^A Special restrictions apply see NAC 503.170.