

Heritage Committee Meeting
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners
Nevada Department of Wildlife
1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada 89512

Committee Members: Commissioners Tom Cavin (chair), Scott Raine and Pete Mori

Thursday, February 05, 2009 – Started at 3 p.m.

Attendees: Heritage Committee - Tom Cavin, Scott Raine & Pete Mori. NDOW – Ken Mayer, Julie Meadows, Dale Hansen & Gabe Pincolini. Public – Mike Laughlin

1. **Call to Order – Chairman Tom Cavin**

2. **Approval of Minutes – Action**

Minutes are from the May 08, 2008 Heritage Committee meeting.

-Minutes approved, Mori gave the 1st motion and Raine gave the 2nd motion. All in favor.

3. **Member Items**

Committee members may present emerging items. Any item requiring committee action will be scheduled on a future Committee agenda.

-There were no member items at this time and will they come back to this issue at the end of the meeting.

4. **Public Comment Period**

Persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should complete a speaker card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes for individuals and six minutes for persons representing groups or organizations. Persons are invited to submit comments in writing on the agenda items and or attend and make comment on the item at the committee meeting. Any item requiring committee action could be scheduled on a future committee agenda.

-There was no public comment.

5. **Staff Report – Gabe Pincolini – Informational**

Staff will provide a history of the Heritage program from its inception to the present, including, but not limited to NRS authority and requirements, funding sources, revenue generated and expended, fund balance and projected revenues for grant award for upcoming FY2010 project proposals.

-History of the Heritage Trust Account.

The concept for this account came from the Idea Team put together in 1994 by the Department's Director.

The Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) drawing was a concept hatched from this team.

As the team discussed what to do with the PIW funds, they came up with the idea of creating the Heritage Trust Account, in which the monies would be available for spending on projects and equipment for use in the State of Nevada. Department of Wildlife, sportsmen's groups and all interested parties and individuals would be allowed to apply for these grant dollars.

The Idea Team also thought they would include within the Heritage Trust Account the dollars that were being raised at the time from auction tags the Department was issuing.

The Idea Team took their concept of the Heritage Trust Account to the County Game Boards and the Commission; all were in favor of the idea. In the end, it was decided the Department of Wildlife would manage the Heritage fund, while the projects would be approved by the Board of Wildlife Commissioner's.

The Heritage Trust Account was approved by the Legislature under NRS 501.3575 and NRS 502.250. Also in that year, Commission Policy 10, Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors were given approval.

At the inception of the program, 100% of the interest earned in one year was allowed to be spent on projects, while all principal was to remain in the Heritage account.

The first year of the Heritage program started in FY1996 and the amount of interest allowed for spending in that year was \$16,539.

Then in 2004, legislation was changed to include the management and control of predatory wildlife in the state and also to allow 75% of the principal recorded each year to be spent on projects. So with 100% of interest earned and 75% of principal received being combined together, it really increased what could be used for granting purposes on Heritage projects.

As an example, in 2004, before the legislative change, the amount of funds available for projects was \$62,520 at 100% interest only. Then in 2005, the amount allowed for projects was \$580,834, of which \$136,570 was interest and \$444,264 was 75% of principal received in one year.

Specific Heritage deadlines are:

- Heritage applications are mailed to all interested parties on or before November 1 of each year.

- The dollar amount that can be spent on Heritage projects in the upcoming year is given at the February Commission meeting.
- Projects can be submitted for review between January 1 and March 1 of each year.
- Full copies of the Heritage proposals are mailed out to the Heritage Committee members and the seventeen chairpersons of the county advisory board to manage wildlife for review and comment, while summaries go the Board of Wildlife Commissioner's.
- All Heritage projects are approved at the May Commission meeting.

6. **Heritage Committee Charter – Chairman Cavin - Action**

The committee will draft the committee's purpose and goals into a charter and submit the draft charter to the Board of Wildlife Commissioners for approval and finalization at the March 27 and 28, 2009, Commission Meeting.

-Additions to Purpose, of wildlife and final approval by the Commission and the Committee will review the vendor applications and make recommendations to the full commission in policy 10.

Additions to Objective, the committee shall recommend awarding heritage tags to those vendors that will potentially provide the greatest level of funding.

Raine gave the 1st motion and Mori the 2nd motion. All in favor.

7.* **Commission Policy 10: Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors – Chairman Cavin - Action**

The committee will review policy 10 and suggest corrections, changes and additions to be forwarded to the Policy Committee for review.

-Commission policy 10 – section 4 add type of species and number of tags to be auctioned.

Mike Laughlin – why not have rocky mountain tag for heritage?

Raine move to motion on adding to Policy 10 under item 4, g, to add species and numbers of tags to be auctioned and under item 5, add "Or withdrawal."

-Raine gave the 1st motion and Mori the 2nd motion. All in favor.

8.* **NAC 501.300, 501.310, 501.320, 501.330, 501.340 and 502.427 – Chairman Cavin – Action**

The committee will review all NAC's pertaining to Heritage and may make recommendations to staff for changes or additions.

- NRS 501.3575 – Wildlife Heritage Trust Account

Outlines the program parameters.

NRS 502.250 – Fees for tags and for processing certain applications; acceptance of sealed bids for or auction of tags; disposition of proceeds and regulations.

Outlines the program parameters for auction tags and the Partnership in Wildlife Drawing.

NAC 501.300, 310, 320, 330 and 340 – Outlines the Heritage program administrative parameters.

These NAC's deals with project submission, content, prerequisites, application review and recommendations. Also priorities for approval, duties of the secretary of the Commission and the person managing or supervising conservation project, time for completion and cancellation of funding.

NAC 502.427 – Outlines the Partnership in Wildlife drawing administrative parameters.

This NAC pertains to participation, tag fee and disposition of money received.

NAC – 501.320.1 – Change to - Have additional *funding resources to implement the project*.

Raine gave the 1st motion and Mori gave the 2nd motion. All in favor.

8a. Member items for next meeting:

Effect of number of heritage & PIW tags on populations of species.

Transfer or sale of tags on the internet. Possible transfer of tags or sale of tags.

Rocky Mountain sheep tag sale, add to Heritage tags?

On agenda for next meeting – Cavin.

9. Future Committee Meeting - Chairman Cavin - Action

The committee will set a date, location, and time for the next committee meeting.

Future meeting – next meeting will be held at NDOW Reno either on Thursday 26 or Friday 27 of March, time of meeting to be determined by Chairman Cavin.

Raine gave the 1st motion and Mori the 2. All in favor.

Meeting ended at 5:43 pm