

Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board

PO Box 682
Eureka, NV 89316

Voice 775-237-6010

Fax 775-237-6012

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 12, 2008
TO: State of Nevada County Wildlife Advisory Boards, Nevada
Department of Wildlife Department Division Chiefs, Wildlife
Interest Groups & Individuals

SUBJECT: SILVER STATE PIW TAG BRIEFING

PURPOSE: In October of 2007 the Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board petitioned the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to consider an initiative that would provide an exceptional hunting opportunity for all tag applicants to enter a draw for Nevada's Big Game species. The tag, 'Silver State Tag', is a voluntary and optional participation program designed to offer the successful applicant a big game tag that would carry a value that would equal the now auctioned Heritage tag(s). The successful applicant would have the opportunity to hunt the species he/she applied for in any unit with an open season with any legal weapon. The designation and management for tag issuance and species designation will be the sole discretion of the Wildlife Commission, the Nevada Department of Wildlife, and the County Wildlife Advisory Boards.

ELIGIBILITY: Residents and non residents will be eligible to apply for the 'Silver State Tag' (SST). The basic premise of a 'roll-over' draw methodology would apply, i.e.: The SST would have to be the first tag application lot to be processed and drawn, second the general application lot, and third the PIW lot drawing. This process would be deployed for all qualifying species designated for the SST. When an applicant draws this Silver State Tag he/she will not be eligible for the general draw, or the PIW draw for that particular species, during that application year. The applicant who draws the SST will maintain all bonus points that he/she has accumulated and will be eligible to apply for the general hunt and or PIW hunt in the following year. All applicants for the SST would not accrue bonus points on an annual basis thus assuring that each applicant has an equivalent chance of drawing. Individuals who are on the 5 and 10 year waiting period will be allowed to apply for the SST. Checking a box on an application for the 'SST tag' is identical to the PIW application process. Our recommendation is to set the fee level not to exceed \$25.00. The entire fee will be appropriated for the 'Wildlife Heritage Account'. The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board feels that the 'Silver State Tag' will provide an opportunity for all hunters to apply for a tag revered as one of the most sought after big game tags throughout all western states. It is projected that the funds generated through the application process could contribute to the Wildlife Heritage Account an estimated minimum of \$520,000 annually. In the event that all tag applicants apply for the Silver State Tag it is estimated that the program could contribute in excess of \$2,000,000.00 annually (see attached Silver State Tag Application Spreadsheet Analysis).