

Dear Wildlife Commission:

I strongly oppose the new bear hunt regulation you are proposing:

1. I oppose the bear hunt because:

- a. There are insufficient numbers of bears to support a hunt of any size, and there has been no scientific data or studies presented by NDOW to prove how many bears really live in Nevada.
 - b. Poaching always doubles the number of bears killed.
 - c. There are insufficient numbers of game wardens to enforce any regulation passed, which means this hunt will be regulated on an honor system.

2. However, if the Commission insists on passing this bear hunt regulation, in spite of overwhelming public opposition, I think the following mitigation factors should be included:

- a. Close the Tahoe Basin from the hunt for the public safety of residents and outdoor recreationalists.
- b. Close the Sweetwater from the hunt because fires and habitat degradation have severely diminished the bear population.
- c. Prohibit a Spring hunt to protect cubs.
- d. Prohibit hunting dogs because they cannot be safely controlled and attack non-target animals.
- e. Prohibit bow hunting because bears are difficult to kill which makes this an inhumane way to hunt bears.

Please include this email in the public record for the Wildlife Commission hearing on February 4 and 5. (Ms. Scourby, will you please forward this email to all of the Wildlife Commissioners.)

Sincerely,

Doris M. Howard
Reno, NV