

Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board
Minutes
August 5, 2010

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility on August 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Chris Torres, Chad Bliss, and Dale Hornickle

Members Absent: Jim Evans and Mike Taylor

Others Present: Mike Podborny-NDOW, Scott Raine and Kathy Porter-Natural Resources Assistant/Secretary

Call to order

Chairman Chris Torres called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. A quorum was determined to be present.

Review and Approve Minutes-

The minutes of the July 12, 2010 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved, on a motion made by Chad Bliss and seconded by Dale Hornickle.

Correspondence and reports

Mr. Bliss reported that Hal Shrum, and Hank Vogler were appointed to the Commission and Scott Raine was reappointed.

Wildlife and Mule Deer Enhancement Projects in Eureka County-

Discuss and consider further efforts to proceed with wildlife and mule deer enhancement projects, including guzzlers, in Eureka County:

Chairman Torres summarized the damage done to three guzzlers due to heavy snow load discussed at the last meeting and proposed finalizing a date to make repairs to the tree guzzlers. September 18th was set for the date to repair the guzzlers. Chairman Torres will get the county back hoe with the auger. Mr. Podborny will work on gathering the materials needed to repair the guzzlers.

Mr. Torres reported that Barrick Ruby Hill has settled on a location for a guzzler to be built on mine property. Barrick is working on getting the materials for the guzzlers. The guzzler will be located on the south side of the mine to keep deer from entering the mine property. Mr. Bliss suggested the mine not fence the property off. Mr. Bliss feels that if the funding from sportsman's dollars are used to purchase the materials for the guzzlers, then it would be fair that sportsman be allowed to hunt near the guzzler, unless the mine purchases the materials. Mr. Torres agrees and will discuss the issue with Barrick. They did not come up with a solution to keep deer from crossing the highway.

Mr. Podborny reported that he will be posting trail cameras on guzzlers to see what wildlife use the guzzlers. Mr. Bliss talked to Tim Arnold of Eureka Moly, LLC (EMLLC) about building a chukar guzzler on the Saddle Brown road near the Mt. Hope property to keep animals away from the mine activity. Mr. Arnold was supportive. Mr. Hornickle

suggested working with EMLLC to establish a guzzler before the mine becomes active. Mr. Bliss would also like to put in a guzzler at Silverado.

Mr. Bliss reported that he spoke with Mr. Baumann and Mr. Wise who are interested in having juniper thinned around some of their springs. After discussion the board agreed that it would be best to meet with water right owners to work out details and then to meet with the BLM. Mr. Bliss suggested putting this on the next agenda and having a map at the next meeting to look at springs to be considered. Site visits could be scheduled after that. Carrie Dubray recommended to Mr. Bliss that trees around Stinkin Springs be thinned. Mr. Bliss has looked at the spring and thinks it may be a good project. EMLLC has already put some work into this spring. Scott Raine suggested looking at a spring on Ben Zunino's property or other springs in that area. Mr. Raine also reminded the board to keep track of volunteer hours to possibly apply for matching funding. Mr. Bliss asked Mrs. Porter to be sure to invite water right owners; Buchanan's, Fitzwater, Jim Wise, Jim Baumann, Tim Arnold, EMLLC to the next meeting.

Wild Horses and Burros—Discuss, approve, or deny sending comment regarding the Strategic Plan for the National Wild Horse and Burro Program.

Mrs. Porter passed out Secretary Salazar's draft goals, objectives and possible management actions for wild horses and burrows. Mr. Podborny handed out a comment letter from Reno staff division of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. These comments will be read into the Commissioners minutes. Mr. Bliss recommended that the board members review Secretary Salazar's proposed Wild Horse and Burro program, and call Mr. Tibbitts with comments to incorporate into a letter. Mr. Bliss asked that comments reflect all animals be properly managed for multiple uses. Mr. Bliss also mentioned that wild horses are not native to Northern America. Mr. Hornickle moved that Mr. Tibbitts draft a letter to be reviewed and approved by Advisory Board Chairman along the guidelines of the previously approved letter by the NDOW. Mr. Bliss seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Reports-Informational

Mr. Podborny reported that Ken Bray was chosen to fill Larry Gilbertson position. Mr. Bray will be attending CAB meetings. Mr. Hornickle asked why a boat cannot be registered at the Eureka DMV. Mr. Podborny said this was decided in Reno several years ago and registrations are all computerized now.

Action Item: 10 Upland Game Stamp Request- Game Division Biologist Shawn Espinosa and Wildlife Staff Specialist Elmer Bull

The Commission will review and be asked to approve 10 projects submitted for funding from upland game stamp funds.

Mr. Podborny explained that the projects are all created to fit within the budget. Monies are not budgeted per project. Mr. Hornickle feels more bird hunting opportunities may be created through these projects.

Mr. Hornickle moved to support the projects. Mr. Bliss seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 2010 and 2011 Heritage projects: Request to Modify Predator management Projects-Secretary Ken Mayer

NO ACTION due to a lack of support material.

Action Item:18-A Commission General Regulation Number 389, LCB File No. R083-10 Chief Game Warden Buonamici

The Commission may adopt a regulation relating to wildlife; prohibiting a person from interfering with the use of a guzzler or other water development; providing an exception.

Mr. Podborny reported that this regulation is to keep people from messing with water developments and guzzlers to obstruct, contaminate or hinder flow of water in order to move animals to another guzzler for hunting purposes.

Mr. Bliss moved to approve language as hand written. Mr. Hornickle seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item:18-B Commission General Regulation Number 391- LCB File No. Temporary- Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger

The Commission may adopt a regulation relating to revising provisions governing eligibility for the main draw if the application applied for the Restricted Nonresident Deer tag draw.

Mr. Bliss explained his reasons for not supporting revising the provisions governing eligibility for main draw being the language provisions give an unsuccessful guide draw applicant the opportunity to receive a bonus point to be used in the general big game draw of the same year. This gives the non-resident a greater chance to draw in the general big game draw.

Mr. Bliss moved to oppose the language change. Mr. Hornickle seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bliss moved to recommend that if the language stays as written, the restricted non-resident deer tags be drawn at the same time as the general big game draw, this would incorporate those applicants into the Silver State Tag draw. Mr. Hornickle seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hornickle moved to recommend if the language change is accepted and the language is changed to the original language that the bonus point is not given to the applicant until after the general big game draw. Mr. Bliss seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 18-C Commission Regulation Number 10-03- Waterfowl Seasons 2010-2011- Game Division Chief Larry Gilbertson

The Commission may establish hunting season dates and bag limits for waterfowl, snipe, falconry seasons for migratory game birds, and a youth waterfowl season for the 2010-2011 hunting season.

Mr. Bliss moved to approve regulation number 10-03. Mr. Hornickle seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item:19 White Pine County Elk Incentive Arbitration Panel Selection- Game Division Chief Larry Gilbertson

Mr. Hornickle moved to support White Pine County arbitration panel selection. Mr. Bliss seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Action Item: 20 Petition

Patricia Swain for TrailSafe Nevada has petitioned the Commission to revise the current Nevada Administrative Code to prevent trapping in all Washoe County firearm congested areas. The Commission may accept and initiate regulatory action or deny the petition.

Unsure what designated firearm congested areas means. Unable to take action until heard.

Action Item: Wildlife Damage Management Committee- Commissioner Scott Raine

The Commission will hear a report from its Wildlife Damage Management committee and may take action on the committee's draft plan recommendations that identify predator management proposals for the predator Management Plan for Fiscal Year 2011.

No action due to not having final language.

Action Item: 21 Wildlife Damage Management Committee- Commissioner Scott Raine

The Commission will hear a report from its Wildlife Damage Management committee and may take action on the committee's draft plan recommendations that identify predator management proposals for the predator Management Plan for Fiscal Year 2011.

Mr. Raine reported that the committee will meet in the morning to go over the proposals one more time. Mr. Raine showed a picture of three lions drinking from a guzzler in the Delmar's. Mr. Podborny reported that NDOW has requested predator work in the Delmar's in the past and only hounds men were sent, which hounds are not as successful in the summer while other control methods including control boxes and snares, work all year. Mr. Bliss would like to see the breakdown of how funds are administered by the Wildlife Services; the number of lions taken by the Wildlife Services and the cost per lion. Mr. Bliss stated his point being that he feels there are more economical methods of taking lions. Mr. Podborny added that alot of funds are spent on evaluations of problem areas. Mr. Bliss stressed coyotes and ravens as also contributing to the loss of wildlife. Mr. Raine stressed the difficulty of getting proposals for projects. Mr. Hornickle would like to see a committee established to research the best practices of reducing predators. Mr. Hornickle went on to say that other solutions need to be looked at. No action was taken due to not having the final language.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Hornickle and seconded by Mr. Bliss there being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27p.m.

Approved this 16 day of September 2010.

Respectfully submitted: /s/ Kathy Porter, Secretary
Kathy Porter

Approved: /s/Chris Torres, Chairman
Chris Torres