

WILDLIFE COMMISSION ACTION REPORT for the December 2011 Meeting

8* **Southern Nevada Water Authority Resolution – Vice Chairman Robb – For Possible Action**

The Commission may adopt a position statement or resolution relative to Southern Nevada Water Authority drafted by the Great Basin Water Network, and the Commission may consider the alternative of amending Commission Policy #60.

ACTION: [The Commission voted 7 – 0 w/ 2 abstentions \(McBeath & Drew\) to adopt and submit the resolution requesting that the State Engineer deny SNWA's applications for un-appropriated underground water rights in Spring, Delamar, Dry Lake and Cave valleys. The resolution also states the Commission's opposition to the inter-basin transfer of the subject water as being detrimental to wildlife.](#)

ACTION: [No changes to Comm. Policy #60.](#)

10 **Solar Development Roadmap for Public Lands – Chief of Habitat Elmer Bull – For Possible Action**

The Commission will hear a report from the Department identifying the areas proposed for solar development in Nevada and the wildlife issues associated with those proposed areas. The Department may recommend that the Commission draft a response letter in support of NDOW's comments and or assist in the process.

MAJORITY ACTION: [The Commission will delay considering providing a comment letter in support until the DEIS comes out so that the draft letter can be reviewed by the full commission. \(McBeath\)](#)

11 **Regulation Workshop – Informational – Public Comment Allowed**

11A* and 17A -**Commission General Regulation Number 390 – LCB File No. R102-10 - Inland Navigation Rules – Chief Game Warden Buonamici**

The Commission may adopt amendments to recommend changes relating to watercraft; applies any federal law or regulation applicable to navigable waters within this State to all other waters within this State.

ACTION: [Approved regulation as written.](#)

11B* and 17B -**Commission General Regulation Number 398 – LCB File No. R025-11 – Interstate Boundary Water License – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger**

The Commission may adopt a regulation relating to wildlife and the implementation of a new nonresident annual fishing license pursuant to Assembly Bill 19 for use solely in the reciprocal waters of the Colorado River, Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, Lake Tahoe and Topaz Lake. This regulation adds clarification language needed to implement this new license.

ACTION: [Approved regulation as written.](#)

11C* and 17C -**Commission General Regulation Number 400 – LCB File No. R054-11 – Commercial Crayfish/Filleting of Fish/Restrictions Import/Transport – Chief of Fisheries Mark Warren**

The Commission may adopt a regulation relating to wildlife; authorizing the commercial taking of crayfish without the imposition of demerit points under certain circumstances; authorizing the importation, transportation or possession of a certain species of shad; prohibiting the importation, transportation or possession of a certain species of eel; authorizing a person to obtain a permit to take crayfish commercially from the waters of Lake Tahoe under certain circumstances; and authorizing the filleting of fish before transport under certain circumstances.

ACTION: [Approved regulation as written.](#)

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11 D* and 17D -**Commission General Regulation Number 401 – LCB File No. R056-11 – Classification Reptiles/Furbearing/Game Bird – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici**

The Commission may adopt a regulation declassifying the red fox as a furbearing mammal; classifying the Eurasian collared dove as an upland game bird; classifying the rosy boa as a protected reptile; providing for the possession, transportation, and importation and exportation of certain wolves without a permit or license issued by the Department of Wildlife.

ACTION: Approved the regulation, eliminating the language concerning Eurasian Collared Dove and Red Fox, and striking the section “or any subspecies” for the language related to wolves. The Commission also deleted the Eastern Red Fox (as opposed to the Sierra Red Fox) with the instruction that NDOW bring it back to the Commission with more information on its status in Nevada (non-indigenous and invasive species), its distribution in Nevada, its impacts in other Western states (i.e., Utah), as well as the negative impacts this species will have on Nevada wildlife, especially the Sage Grouse.

18* **Trapping Regulation Committee Report – Commissioner McNinch – For Possible Action**

Commissioner McNinch will report on the substance of two committee meetings held on Nov. 7, 2011, in Las Vegas, and Nov. 9, 2011, in Reno, and the Commission shall consider revisions and additions to a draft regulation and may provide direction to the committee.

ACTION: Approved Committee Chair McNinch continuing to develop the regulations in congested areas and to set additional Trapping Committee meetings at his discretion.

19* **Heritage Regulations and Policies – Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action**

The Nevada Department of Wildlife will present the status of Heritage Program regulations and policies and make recommendations for possible changes for the Commission’s consideration.

ACTION: The Commission voted for NDOW to proceed with drafting formal Heritage regulations and policies for consideration at their February meeting. (Such regulations could be in place no earlier than for the Nov. 1, 2012 start to the 2013 Heritage projects.)

20 **Change Classification of Gray Wolf - Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**

The Commission will determine whether to pursue the change of classification of the gray wolf (Canis Lupis) from a game mammal to unprotected mammal.

ACTION: A motion was made to do so, but failed. No further motions. Wolves remain a big game animal.

A* **First Reading of Commission Policy #27, Protection of Nevada Wildlife Resources – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**

The Commission will have a first reading for proposed changes to Commission Policy #27. The Commission may choose to retain Policy 27, modify all or part of Policy 27, or to eliminate Policy 27 in its entirety.

ACTION: Director Mayer advised the Commission that Policy 27 provides the flexibility we need to interact with the Fish and Wildlife Service on wolves as needed. Commission Policy 27 did not change.

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22 **Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner's Committee Assignments – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**

The Chairman will designate and adjust committee assignments, including the creation of new committees, the consolidation of existing committees, and/or the elimination of existing committees, as necessary. The Commission will take action to approve the revised committees and committee assignments as proposed by the chairman.

ACTION: New Committees formed with chairs, McBeath authorized to appoint remaining members of all Committees:

1. Public Lands Committee – Chair Jeremy Drew, folding into that committee the Mule Deer and Feral Horse Committees.
2. Tag Allocation Committee – Chair Jack Robb
3. Bear Committee – Chair David McNinch
4. Heritage Committee – Chair Grant Wallace

23* **Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Mid-Winter and Annual Conferences - Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**

The Commission may designate one Commissioner to attend WAFWA's mid-winter conference in San Diego, Calif., and may designate two Commissioners to attend the annual conference in Kona, Hawaii.

ACTION: WAFWA Mid-Winter – Commissioners Drew to attend, and authorized Commissioner Robb to attend on his own funds; WAFWA Annual Conference – Commissioners McNinch and Robb, with Comm. Robb agreeing to not seek reimbursement for travel costs.

24 **Future February and March Commission Meetings – Director Ken Mayer - For Possible Action**

The next Commission meeting is currently scheduled for Feb. 3 and 4, 2012, at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas in conjunction with the Sportsman's Expo. The Commission may change the time and meeting locations of the February and March meeting at this time. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting.

ACTION: The March 23 and 24, 2012 meeting location was changed from Las Vegas to Reno.