

**Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting
Nevada Department of Wildlife
1100 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512**

Amended Agenda – 09/19/11

See Changes to Agenda Items #17, #18, and #22

Note: Public comment allowed on each action item and regulation workshop items and at the end of the meeting for items not on the agenda

Friday, September 23, 2011 – 9 a.m.

1 Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman McBeath

2 Approval of Agenda – For Possible Action

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, combine items for consideration or take items out of order.

3* Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman McBeath - Informational

Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Mayer will also be discussed.

4 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items –

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

5* Commission General Regulation Number 393 - R002-11 - Bear Hunt - Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger and Game Biologist Carl Lackey - Regulation Workshop – Informational – Public Comment Allowed

The Department will present biological information relative to Nevada's black bear and status of the hunt to date, and will present Commission General Regulation 393, Bear Hunt, for workshop discussion. The Commission will consider adoption of permanent regulations relating to a black bear hunt. The need for and purpose of the proposed regulation is: Regulate aspects of the bear hunt, including, without limitation, the eligibility and application process for a bear tag, inclusion in the bonus point program, weapons restrictions, the fee for a bear tag, reporting requirements, and prohibitions regarding baiting big game animals, sale of bear gall bladders, use of dogs to hunt and the killing of bear cubs.

- 6* **Senate Bill (SB) 226 Nevada Trapping Regulations for Clark and Washoe Counties – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici and Management Analyst 3 Kim Jolly – For Possible Action**
SB 226 was passed in the 2011 Legislative Session which requires the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations by December 31, 2012, governing the trapping of furbearing mammals in residential areas of a county whose population is 100,000 or more. Department staff is asking for Commission recommendations in drafting regulations to meet this requirement.

7 **Reports – Informational**

- A **Review of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Range Wide Sage Grouse Initiative – BLM Nevada State Deputy Director Raul Morales**
- B* **History of Bighorn in the Great Basin, Facts and Fiction – Historian Cliff Gardner**
- C* **Muzzleloader Black Powder Legal Issues – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici**
The Department shall present information on legal black powder and black powder substitutes per regulatory language in NAC 503.142 for muzzleloader only hunts and its notification to muzzleloader tag holders that Blackhorn 209 is not a lawful powder to be used during the Nevada muzzleloader only hunt.
- D **Atlanta Farms Depredation Hunt – Chief of Game Larry Gilbertson**
The Department shall provide the history and background of events leading up to current management strategies for handling elk depredation at the Atlanta Farms.
- E **Lake Mead Hatchery Update – Chief of Fisheries Mark Warren**
A brief update will be presented on the status of the Lake Mead Hatchery including current activities.
- F **Aquatic Invasive Species Update – Chief of Fisheries Mark Warren**
A brief update on what is going on in the world of aquatic invasive species in Nevada in the past six months.

- 8 **Public Comment Period**
Persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. In addition to this Public Comment Period, Public Comment limited to three minutes per speaker will also be allowed on each agenda action item, but not on reports or informational items, unless otherwise noted on the agenda.

Saturday, September 24, 2011 – 8 a.m.

- 9 **Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman McBeath**
- 10 **Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman McBeath - Informational**
Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Mayer will also be discussed.
- 11 **County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items –**
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.
- 12 **Commission General Regulation Number 393 – R002-11 - Bear Hunt – Program Officer III Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**
The Commission may adopt permanent regulations relating to revising provisions governing a black bear hunt. The need for and purpose of the proposed regulation is: Regulate aspects of the bear hunt, including, without limitation, the eligibility and application process for a bear tag, inclusion in the bonus point program, weapons restrictions, the fee for a bear tag, reporting requirements, and prohibitions regarding baiting big game animals, sale of bear gall bladders, use of dogs to hunt and the killing of bear cubs. If the Commission does not approve CGR 393-R002-11, the Commission will consider amending CR 11-07 to close the bear hunt on Nov. 1, 2011 to coincide with the expiration of the temporary regulation. Note: See support material for agenda item #5.
- 13 **Commission Regulation Fishing Seasons and Bag Limits 11 - 12 - Chief of Fisheries Mark Warren – For Possible Action**
The Commission will establish fishing seasons, bag and possession limits for the period of March 1, 2012, to February 28, 2014. *Support material previously sent.
- 14* **Commission Regulation 07 - 07 Amendment #8 – Chief of Habitat Elmer Bull - For Possible Action**
The Commission may adopt amendments to recommend changes to Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands for Key Pittman Management Area (youth hunting days).
- 15* **First Reading, Commission Policy #51, Commission Lifetime Commitment to Wildlife Award – Commissioners Robb and Drew – For Possible Action**
The Commission will have a first reading for proposed changes to Commission Policy #51. The Commission shall consider whether to retain the “Commission Lifetime Commitment to Wildlife Award” as currently set forth in Policy 51 or to reinstate the “Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award” of the former version of Policy 51 (August 8, 2003). The Commission may make changes to either version or may eliminate the “Commission Lifetime Commitment to Wildlife Award” in its entirety. The Commission may also take the steps to create a new policy for either award.

- 16* **First Reading, Commission Policy #28, Mule Deer Management Guidelines - Commissioners Robb and Drew – For Possible Action**
The Commission will have a first reading for proposed changes to Commission Policy #28. The Commission may choose to retain Policy 28, modify all or part of Policy 28, or to eliminate Policy 28 in its entirety. The Commission may also take action to immediately suspend Policy 28 pending final action on revisions to Policy 28.

Amended Item – New Wording in Italics

- 17* **NDOW Comment on the Future Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge – Commissioner Drew – For Possible Action**
The DEIS for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge is scheduled to be announced in the Federal Register on Sept. 9 which will trigger a 60 day comment period. The Department shall give the Commission an update on the CCP for the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge and the potential impact on wildlife natural resources. The Commission may provide policy direction to the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) on all such matters and may take action to direct the Department to provide written comment to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service DEIS. *The Commission may also decide to write a letter of its own in support of the comments of the Nevada Department of Wildlife.*

Amended Item – New Wording in Italics

- 18* **NDOW Comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Groundwater Development and Conveyance Project – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**
The Department shall give the Commission an update on the SNWA Groundwater Development and Conveyance Project and the potential impact to wildlife water resources in the vicinity of the Project. The Department shall also give the Commission an update on its status in SNWA's pending hearings before the Nevada State Engineer – Nevada Division of Water Resources – including the Department's status as a protestant to SNWA's pending applications in Spring Valley, Cave Valley, Dry Lake Valley, and Delamar Valley. The Commission may provide policy direction to Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) on all such matters and may take action to direct NDOW to provide written comment to the BLM DEIS. The Commission may also provide policy direction to NDOW on NDOW's protests to SNWA's pending applications including any settlements to withdraw such protests. *The Commission may also decide to write a letter of its own in support of the comments of the Nevada Department of Wildlife.*

19 **Reports – Informational**

- A* **Application Hunt 2011 Draw Report – Don Sefton, Systems Consultants**
Systems Consultants will present an interim annual report of the 2011 Big Game Draw. Information is presented in tables and charts and includes interim application, license and tag fees and counts as well as bonus point and client statistics for the five draws already completed this year.

- B*** **Outdoor Marijuana Grows Update – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici**
The Department will present information on the growing trend of illegal Mexican Cartel outdoor marijuana grows in Nevada and game wardens as integral Nevada task force team members. Presentation includes information on detrimental impacts to the environment, wildlife and associated dangers for the outdoor recreating public.
- C*** **Donations Report – Deputy Director Cates**
The Commissioners will review a report of donations to both NDOW and the NBWC through the end of fiscal year 2011.
- D*** **Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Nhu Nguyen**
- E** **Department Activities/Leadership Team Notes – Secretary Ken Mayer**
- F** **Wild Horse Gather Status – Wildlife Staff Biologist Steve Siegel**
Habitat Division Staff will deliver a report covering recent, on- going and planned wild horse gathers being implemented in Nevada by the Bureau of Land Management.
- G** **Walker Lake Status Update – Chief of Fisheries Mark Warren**
A brief update on Walker Lake including water quality, lake levels and fish.
- 20*** **Request for Opinion from Nevada Attorney General – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider the July 25, 2011, letter request for opinion made by former Chairman Raine, to the Nevada Attorney General as well as Chairman McBeath's August 19, 2011, letter to the Nevada Attorney General requesting withdrawal of the request for opinion. The Commission will take action to either approve or not approve the request for opinion of the matters set forth in former Chairman Raine's July 25, 2011, letter.
- 21*** **Request for Opinion from Nevada Attorney General – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider the undated letter request for opinion made by former Chairman Raine, to the Nevada Attorney General, as well as current Chairman McBeath's September 2, 2011, letter to the Nevada Attorney General requesting withdrawal of the request for opinion. The Commission will take action to either approve or not approve the request for opinion of the matters set forth in former Chairman Raine's undated letter.
- Amended Item – New Wording in Italics*
- 22** **Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner's Committee Assignments – Chairman McBeath – For Possible Action**
The Commission will authorize the creation of new committees, will decide on whether to discharge certain committees, and will authorize the Chairman to appoint members to committees including non-commission members.

23 **Future Commission Meeting – Director Ken Mayer - For Possible Action**
The next Commission meeting is currently scheduled for Dec. 2 and 3, 2011, at NDOW in Reno, Nevada. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting.

24 **Public Comment Period**
Persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. In addition to this Public Comment Period, Public Comment limited to three minutes per speaker will also be allowed on each agenda action item, but not on reports or informational items.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at ndow.org

In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at NDOW.org and at the following Department of Wildlife offices: 1100 Valley Road, Reno, NV, 89512; 380 W. "B" Street, Fallon, NV, 89406; 60 Youth Center, Elko, NV, 89801; 4747 W. Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV, 89108. Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, natural origin, age, sex, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department via telecommunication device (TDD) (775) 688-1550. Disabled individuals in need of special services should contact the Department prior to the meeting at (775) 688-1599.