



# Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## MEETING MINUTES

---

Date: September 18, 2012

Location: Henderson Multigenerational Center  
250 S Green Valley Parkway,  
Henderson, NV

Time: 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Paul Dixon, Chair      Michael J. Reese, Vice Chair  
Mike Pergola      John Sullivan      Brian Patterson

The agenda for this meeting was posted in the following locations;

- Nevada Department of Wildlife, 4747 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89107;
- Clark County Government Center, 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89108;
- City of Henderson, City Hall, 240 Water Street, Henderson, Nevada, 89015;
- Boulder City, City Hall, 401 California Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, 89005;
- Laughlin Town Manager's Office; 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada, 89028;
- Moapa Valley Community Center, 320 North Moapa Valley Road, Overton, Nevada, 89040;
- Mesquite City Hall, 10 East Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite, Nevada, 89027.

Date: September 12, 2012

.....

### 1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman Paul Dixon.
- Roll call of Board Members was performed by Chairman Paul Dixon. A quorum was present.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

- Chairman Paul Dixon requested all stand and Brian Patterson led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. Approval of Minutes of August 7, 2012 CCABMW Meeting - Action

- The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 were approved unanimously.

### 4. Approval of Agenda for September 18, 2012– Action

- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Meeting Agenda as written with the addition of a brief intermission at 7:30 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

### 5. CAB Member Items/Announcements/Correspondence: Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CCABMW) members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the

CCABMW. Any item requiring CCABMW action will be scheduled on a future CCABMW agenda. CCABMW board members may discuss any correspondence sent or received. (CCABMW board members must provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record).

- Vice-Chair Reese announced that Saturday 9/22 is National Hunting and Fishing Day.
  - Vice-Chair Reese also noted that he had been asked by various members of the Public to have the Board discuss allowing past tag recipients to buy bonus points during the years they are ineligible to draw for a tag so that they are in a better status when they do become eligible. He will see that the topic is added to a future CCABMW Agenda.
  - Vice-Chair Reese would also like to have the Board discuss the policy that has fines from citations issued for fishing in the percolation ponds going to the School District rather than NDOW.
  - Mike Pergola asked to table the discussion of the fish hatchery until the next meeting. He potentially has speakers who were unable to attend this meeting. Vice-Chair Reese suggested having the discussion anyway with the possibility of further input and/or action at the next meeting.
  - Chairman Paul Dixon closed Board Member Comment.
- 6. Congratulations to John Sullivan and Mike Reese for their reappointments to the Clark CABMW:** Chairman Dixon will say a few words on their reappointments.
- Chairman Paul Dixon offered his congratulations to John Sullivan and Vice-Chair Reese on their reappointment to the Board.
- 7. Wild Horse and Burro Tourism (*informational*):** Wild Horse advocate Garnet Pasquale will provide a 10 minute overview of the wild horse and burro site seeing tours in the Spring Mountains. See their web site: [www.SpringMountainAlliance.org](http://www.SpringMountainAlliance.org).
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced Arlene Gawne to speak in place of Garnet Pasquale.
  - Arlene Gawne spoke about her efforts as part of the Spring Mountain Alliance to preserve the wild horses and burros in the Spring Mountains. They promote sightseeing tours to view the area wildlife including horses and burros. She further explained programs in place or planned to utilize volunteers to assist in herd control through adoption, etc., to ensure the habitat is preserved for all wildlife. They would also like to establish a multi-camera census system to maintain up-to-date census numbers for all species in the area.
- 8. Update on Overton WMA issues meeting (*informational*):** Chairman Dixon will provide and informational update on the Overton Issues meeting held September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. And the 2013 revision of the **Overton Wildlife Management Area Conceptual Management Plan**.
- Chairman Paul Dixon summarized the results of a special meeting of September 6th, 2012. Progress was made toward addressing the issues. Results from that meeting have been shared with the Wildlife Commission. There will be a follow-on meeting (as yet unscheduled) to continue discussions.
- 9. Wild Horse and Wildfire Update (*informational*):** Department of Wildlife staff will provide an update on the status of wild horse and wildfire issues pending in Nevada.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Chris Tomlinson, NDOW, if there was any new information on this topic. Chris indicated that he was not aware of any new developments.

**10. Desert Tortoise Status and Issues Update (*informational*):** Chris Tomlinson (NDOW Wildlife Diversity Staff) will provide an update on the status of desert tortoise in southern Nevada, including current information on pet desert tortoise issues and legislation.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced Chris Tomlinson (NDOW Wildlife Diversity Staff).
- Chris Tomlinson discussed two proposed Commission Regulations related to the desert tortoise:
  - CGR 414 - would allow possession of desert tortoises to be kept as pets with a limit of one per family.
  - CGR 399 - provides for a permit for movement of tortoises out of harm's way using a similar approach as used by Fish and Wildlife Services.
  - Vice Chairman Reese asked Chris a question about the populations. Chris did not have that information available at the CAB meeting. Vice Chairman Reese asked where people could take tortoises if they wanted to turn them in. Chris did could not provide that information at the CAB meeting.

**11. Changes to Tag Application Process (*informational*):** The Chairman Dixon or Department of wildlife staff will present information to support a proposal to change the online tag application process to only accept online tag applications for 2013 and is also proposing to change NAC 502.422 to allow automating the reallocation of game tags returned by hunters beginning in 2013.

- Chairman Paul Dixon provided an overview of proposed changes to the tag return and reallocation process. Over 300 tags were returned last year and about 8% of hunters who were issued tags, did not actually hunt. The hope is that unused tags can be reallocated to other hunters so as to help ensure that the projected harvest numbers can be met.

**12. Action Items: Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners Agenda September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 and items brought forth to the Clark CCABMW from the public for discussion.** CCABMW agenda & support materials are available upon request to Stacy Matthews (702) 455-2705 or [smatthews@co.clark.nv.us](mailto:smatthews@co.clark.nv.us). The final Commission agenda & support materials should be available on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at [www.ndow.org/learn/com/mtg/support/agenda.pdf](http://www.ndow.org/learn/com/mtg/support/agenda.pdf).

**A. Reopening the Lake Mead Hatchery and Trout stocking in Lake Mead. (*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*)** Clark CABMW member Mike Pergola will lead a discussion and develop recommendations to get the Lake Mead Hatchery reopened and trout stocking reestablished in Lake Mead. These recommendations will be sent to the Nevada Wildlife Commission and NDOW.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced Board member Mike Pergola to lead discussion of this item.
- Mike Pergola discussed the Lake Mead Hatchery, a \$20 Million facility that is currently not in operation. A new pipeline is needed costing hundreds of thousands more. His objective at this meeting is to find a way for NDOW to work with the Southern Nevada Water Authority to reopen the hatchery.
- The hatchery was built after it was discovered that rainbow trout will not reproduce where there is no running water (e.g., Lake Mead). Once the hatchery was closed, many local businesses (e.g., bait stores, gas stations, etc.) folded because of lack of fish drawing fishermen to the lake.
- Mike proposed that all fishery related funds collected (fines, fees, permits, etc.) be allocated for fishery use, not directed to the school district. He further proposed that after

the renovation and reopening, a concession stand be established and perhaps fees charged for visitors wanting to see the hatchery in operation. Perhaps, a boat ramp could be added for anglers to launch their boats with fees collected for the fishery. Another suggestion is to plant local ponds with catfish rather than trout.

- Mike showed a petition with 100-125 signatures endorsing reopening the hatchery. He also noted that one of the hardest hit areas when the hatchery closed was Cottonwood Cove and Searchlight. When the trout were being planted, the town was booming with fishermen. When the hatchery closed, those fishermen didn't come.
- Tracy Truman asked what competing ideas exist or potential solutions might be for reopening the hatchery. Mike Pergola replied that a pipeline that draws colder water from the lake is the most popular option, but with chemicals in the water to control the quagga mussels, it's not known what impact that would have on trout. Perhaps additional filtration would be required. Competing with the pipeline idea is the more expensive idea of using cooling towers to chill the water to the needed temperature for trout.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked which fees/fines are going to education.
- Mike Maynard, NDOW, indicated that for a fishing violation on local ponds, a portion of the fees collected goes to NDOW, a portion goes to CCSD, and a portion is collected by the Courts.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that he will have an informational item added to the agenda of the next CCABMW meeting to clarify the division of funds, and to help understand the total amount allocated to education.
- Nick Pergola noted that the millions spent on repaving roads that are perfectly fine could be better used to help local economies.
- Allan Cole noted that when the trout are available, people come from all over to fish, and stay, camp, eat, buy gas, etc. With no trout, the people don't come.
- Brian Smith noted that he personally would spend \$300 per year on trout lures. He stopped trout fishing when the hatchery closed and trout were no longer planted.
- Jeff Zang stated that when the hatchery closed he stopped buying a trout stamp as did many other fishermen. Has NDOW ever calculated the revenue loss from reduced sales of trout stamps?
- Jim Giannosa noted that at one time, all the motels in Boulder City were packed with bass boats. Not anymore.
- Nick Pergola added that not buying a trout stamp also implies not buying rods, reels, tackle, and lures.
- Jason Peterson shared his experience of moving to Nevada in 2010 with his fishing boat. He took the boat out on Lake Mead four times and didn't catch anything, so he sold his boat. Has not bought a fishing license since.
- Motion was made and seconded to table this item until the next CCABMW meeting in December. Motion passed unanimously.

**B. Recommendations for Changes to the Big Game Post-hunt Questionnaires. PART 1:-**  
**(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** – Vice-Chairman Mike Reese will lead a discussion to determine if additional information should be collected on the “Big Game Post-hunt Questionnaires” .This is the first of several discussions that will be had by the Clark CABMW and it will focus on deer harvest information.

- Vice-Chair Reese opened the discussion stating that he had reviewed the various Questionnaires used by NDOW to gather input on the hunter's experience.
- NDOW biologists gather extensive information but only part of the data is gathered via the Questionnaire.
- Vice-Chair Reese read through the mule deer questions explaining each and highlighted additional questions he proposes should be included in an updated questionnaire.
- Jason Peterson endorsed the changes that Vice-Chair Reese proposed.
- A motion was made and seconded to add a question regarding the point spread for mule deer to the big game questionnaire. Motion passed unanimously.

**C. Nominations for the 2012 Wayne E. Kirch Conservation Award. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** – The Clark CABMW will discuss and make a recommendation for the 2012 Wayne E. Kirch Conservation Award to the Nevada Wildlife Commission. Need the following information:

- Describe nominee's time and depth of commitment to conservation, management and enhancement of wildlife in Nevada.
  - Describe influence this person has had on the public and in presenting positive public relations.
  - What measurable results were achieved? Where and what type of wildlife or wildlife habitat was positively affected?
  - Please describe obstacle or difficulties or personal sacrifice the nominee faced.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and asked for nominations from the Board and the Public.
  - Vice-Chair Reese read the list of past winners.
  - Arlene Gawne nominated Dick Senior from Pahrump.
  - David Raynor nominated the Warner Family. Debra Stowater seconded that nomination.
  - Brian Smith nominated Jalindo Tiberti for his work on guzzlers, etc.
  - Vice-Chair Reese nominated Paul Harris.
  - A motion was made and seconded to have Chairman Paul Dixon send forms and information to those who have made nominations so that they can formally submit the nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

**D. Commission General Regulation 419 – LCB File No. R158-12 – Trapping Trail Closure. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to trapping; prohibiting trapping adjacent to specific trails and roads in Clark County.

- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Board Member John Sullivan to lead the discussion of this item.
- John Sullivan summarized the history of the trapping issue in Clark County. He stated that the Trapping Committee has developed a good proposal that will prohibit trapping within 1000 feet of trails, picnic areas, and campgrounds, including twenty five in the Mt. Charleston area.
- The proposed regulation further prohibits trapping within a half mile of a residence in the Spring Mountain National Recreation Area and within 200 feet of certain designated roads.

- John voiced his objection to the named roads, as they are not maintained year round and are in very primitive areas, with perhaps the exception of the first mile of Macks Canyon Road.
- Brian Patterson agreed with John Sullivan's position as the trapping season is during the winter when these roads are snowed-in or seldom used for hiking, etc.
- Mike Pergola asked how close the nearest residences to these roads are. John believes the nearest residences are miles away.
- Vice-Chair Reese agreed with John on his objection to the roads, but feels that 1000 feet is too far.
- Chairman Paul Dixon opened the floor for public comment.
- Debra Stowater asked if the first mile of Macks Canyon Rd. is maintained. No.
- David Stowater endorsed John Sullivan's position on the proposed regulation.
- Jason Peterson proposed that the trails be closed during trapping season. He further noted that several marijuana farms had been discovered in the Spring Mountains, and more near Ely, Nevada. For the most part, it is hunters and trappers who have discovered these farms. He maintains that closing off area to hunting and trapping could allow illegal drug ventures to multiply.
- Karen Layne, LVVHS, applauded Commissioner McBeath for establishing the Trapping Committee, and agreed with John Sullivan that while the Trappers Association and the Mt. Charleston residents may not like certain provisions of the proposed regulation, it is the closest the two groups have ever come to agreeing on a set of regulations. She advocated going forward to the Commission with a list of concerns and a recommendation of approval.
- Jana Wright, aid to Clark County Commissioner Giunchigliani, agreed with Karen Layne that the proposed regulation is a good compromise for all parties and that the Board should recommend approval as written.
- David Raynor stated that he understands the proposed regulation, but is concerned that the anti-trapping advocates will continue to seek elimination of trapping in all of Clark County.
- Commissioner McBeath related conversations he had had with the Commissioners that were on the Trapping Committee regarding the 200 foot offset for the designated roads. He feels that this is the last point of contention in the proposed regulation.
- Brian Smith commented that the Mt. Charleston residents are claiming that it is their land when it is BLM land and every taxpayer has equal rights to that land.
- Ryan Anderson agreed with Brian Smith's comments.
- Vice-Chair Reese suggested that the kiosks in the Mt. Charleston Campgrounds include signs warning camper that there may be traps in the area.
- A motion was made and seconded recommending that the draft regulation be accepted as written with a change to Section 2E stating that trapping be prohibited within 200 feet of either side of the first mile of Macks Canyon Road from the intersection with Highway 156, and that the other designated roads be removed. In addition it is recommended that the Commission ask the Forest Service to post signs in appropriate areas warning that there may be traps in the area during trapping season.
- Motion passed with a vote of 5 for, 1 against.

- E. Commission General Regulation 410, LCB File No. R149-12 – Gizzard Shad. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to fishing; providing that gizzard shad may be used as live bait fish in certain waters; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. This regulation will to make the gizzard shad legal for anglers to capture and use as bait in Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, and Colorado River in Clark County.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. The proposed change simply adds the gizzard shad as a legal bait fish.
  - Brian Smith noted that gizzard shad is an endangered species. When asked how big they can get, he indicated they can grow to 15-16 inches long.
  - Mike Pergola noted that the gizzard shad serve as food for the stripers in Lake Mead and sees no threat that they will take over.
  - Debora Herndon, NDOW Biologist, stated that the gizzard shad came from Lake Powell, they were not planted in Lake Mead.
  - A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the Commission approve the regulation change as written. Motion passed unanimously.
- F. Commission General Regulation 413, LCB File No. R152-12 - Aquatic Invasive Species. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to aquatic species; classifying certain aquatic species of wildlife as aquatic invasive species and injurious aquatic species; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. Certain aquatic species have the potential to greatly alter aquatic environments and become economically damaging.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic.
  - A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the Commission approve the regulation change as written. Motion passed unanimously.
- G. Commission General Regulation 412, LCB File No. R151-12 – Range Finding Scope. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to hunting; revising the prohibition against using a weapon that is equipped with a certain type of sight while hunting; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. If adopted the regulation would allow for the use of scopes that utilize an internal range finder that cast a beam of light that is not visible to the human eye.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and read the proposed regulation change.
  - A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the Commission approve the regulation change as written. Motion passed unanimously.
- H. Commission General Regulation 411, LCB File No. R150-12 – Unit Boundaries. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to wildlife; providing for the management of all wildlife within management areas established by the Department of Wildlife; revising the boundaries of certain management areas; creating new management units
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic.
  - Vice-Chair Reese added clarification to the changes.
  - A motion was made and seconded to table this item. Motion passed unanimously.

**13. Public Comment:** Members of the public who wish to address the Board may speak on matters within the jurisdiction of the Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. No action may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Any item requiring Board action not on this agenda may be scheduled on a future agenda. Public comments on posted agenda items will be allowed at the time the agenda item is considered before the Board takes any action on the item. Comments will be limited to three minutes. **NOTE: Please complete the Public Comment Interest Card and submit to Chairman Dixon.**

- Chairman Paul Dixon opened the floor for Public Comment.
- Jim Giannosa asked about the application for the Overton Draw. He found it confusing. If he submits an application with only his name will he expect to hunt alone or can he hunt with a group of "unnamed" hunters?
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Jim to email him more information on his question and it would be addressed at the CCABMW meeting next August.
- David Stowater related a problem a friend has been having being turned down for a rifle deer tag and subsequently automatically turned down for a bow deer tag on a reapply. He feels he should have a chance for a bow tag even though he was turned down for rifle.
- Kody Edgel asked if it is required to have a hunter safety card to get a trapping license. No, only for a firearms permit. To transport or handle a furbearing animal (bobcat, etc.) you need a trapping license.

**14. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Las Vegas. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit recommendations from this meeting to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

**15. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2012, at the Clark County Government Center to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Reno, Nevada**

**16. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.