

- Mike Pergola noted that due to low water levels in Lake Mead and inadequate roads, access to the lake is severely impacted for shore fishermen.
 - John Sullivan shared that in its first year, the Southern Nevada Wildlife Coalition is teaming with the Northern Coalition to influence legislative action on numerous wildlife issues being discussed in the current Legislature Session. The joint effort has had a positive impact, and John urged that sportsmen in Southern Nevada continue to support the efforts of the Coalition.
 - Jay Holt voiced his concern about the pending legislation that would limit or prohibit the sale of firearms by one sportsman to another.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon closed Board Member Comment.
- 6. Status of Overton WMA Conceptual Management Plan (*Informational*):** Chairman Dixon and NDOW representatives will provide an informational update on the Overton CMP and when the projected revision will be available for public comment.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Steve Kimble (NDOW) if there was any update on the availability date for public review of the proposed CMP.
 - Steve Kimble answered that he believes the CMP is still on schedule. He will check and get back with Chairman Paul Dixon.
 - Chris Tomlinson, NDOW, added that he believes that a draft of the CMP should be available fairly soon.
- 7. Legislative Committee Update (*informational*):** NDOW representatives will provide an informational update on any positions taken on bills of the 2013 Session.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. He asked if there are any items before the Legislature that Board members are interested in discussing. He further mentioned SB 184 and AB 168 that look to revise the structure of the Wildlife Commission and the county Advisory Boards.
 - Bill DeJuncker noted that there is a smart phone app allowing you to review and comment on pending legislation.
 - Commissioner Layne added that this is not mandatory now, and it is similar to the issues of representation on the Wildlife Commission.
 - Commissioner McBeath read the proposed changes to NRS 501.265 that requires one member of the County Advisory Board to represent the interests of the general public and the remainder of the board be made up of hunters, trappers, anglers, ranchers, or farmers.
 - Brian Cimperman noted that hunters, trappers, and fisherman are a member of the general public.
 - Stephanie Myers stated that it is estimated that less than 4% of the public hold hunting or fishing licenses.
 - John Sullivan offered that he believes this is no big deal. The types of issues the CAB addresses are often very technical, and often only meaningful to an experienced hunter or fisherman. The Board does not get asked to debate whether or not hunting should be allowed.
- 8. Action Items:**
- A. Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners March 15th and 16th, 2013 Agenda and additional 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. The final Commission agenda & support materials should be available on March 11, 2013 at www.ndow.org/learn/com/mtg/support/agenda.pdf.

1. Reopening the Lake Mead Hatchery and Trout stocking in Lake Mead. (For Possible Action) Clark CABMW Board 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 topic.
- Mike Pergola read from the mission statement of the Nevada Fisheries to start his discussion. He noted that initially he was looking to have the Lake Mead Hatchery reopened, but after extensive research, he sees that as cost prohibitive. The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) is asking for \$2.5 M just to use their water (no construction fees included). He quoted some statistics showing the serious decline in the number of out-of-state and junior licenses over the past 10-12 years. He further highlighted the decline in businesses that were dependent on fishing enthusiasts. When fishermen cannot get to the water to fish, there is no incentive to buy a license or register a boat. He urged Commissioner McBeath to restore the trout stocking in Lake Mead.
- Stephanie Myers asked "what's the answer?"
- Mike Pergola responded: purchase fish from another hatchery and plant in Lake Mead. Also, plant catfish or sunfish in the local ponds. Plant trout in Lake Mead at a smaller scale, just to get started.
- Commissioner Layne noted that NDOW was discussing transferring law enforcement to another area because of the closed hatchery.
- Commissioner McBeath summarized the issues surrounding the Hatchery closure as being the drop in water level in Lake Mead resulting in warmer water being drawn into the Hatchery. The issue was further complicated by the appearance of quagga mussels in the Lake. Proposals of planting fish from other hatcheries impacted by cost to transport. He noted that Commissioner Young has expressed interest in this matter, and if put to a vote, the Commission would condemn the SNWA water pipe project and the \$2.5M fee they want to charge.
- Brian Patterson added that if the hatchery were reopened, because of the quagga infestation, any trout raised could only be planted in Lake Mead.
- Mike Pergola stated that for now, he would still like to see fish trucked in to Lake Mead.
- John Sullivan offered the suggestion that we export sheep in exchange for fish.
- Pat Cummings, NDOW, responded that 50 sheep were transported to Utah last fall and another 50 are slated to be transferred this year. The concept of a "trade" has never been discussed. The transfers are viewed as assisting a neighboring state with their wildlife conservation efforts.
- Chairman Paul Dixon offered that perhaps Utah could assist us in fishery restoration.
- Commissioner McBeath proposed that through Senator Reid's help, Perhaps fish could be obtained from the USF&WS hatchery at Willow Beach.

- Brian Patterson shared his experiences and observation regarding the urban ponds. Catfish are being stocked from Arkansas, and trout from northern Nevada. The pond at Sunset Park has a hundred or more fishermen on its banks daily.
 - Mike Pergola proposed a motion to redirect the trout being stocked in local ponds to Lake Mead and instead stock the local ponds with catfish.
 - John Sullivan agrees with Brian Patterson to not rob from Peter to pay Paul. Don't take from the local ponds to help Lake Mead where it's nearly impossible to get to the water to fish.
 - Commissioner McBeath warned that it is a big mistake to play urban ponds against Lake Mead. The focus should be on getting the Lake Mead Hatchery up and running. Try to get access to SNWA pipeline, perhaps with Senator Reid's help. Identify the problem and most viable solution.
 - Mike Pergola made a motion that the trout being stocked in local ponds be reduced by half, and the remaining half be used to stock Lake Mead and that an equal amount of catfish be used to additionally stock the local ponds.
 - Hearing no second, Chairman Paul Dixon asked for another motion.
 - Motion was made and seconded to get the issue of reopening the Lake Mead Hatchery in front of the Wildlife Commission so meaningful discussions can occur. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Vegetation issues at Key-Pitman WMA. (For Possible Action)** Chairman Dixon will lead an informational discussion about vegetation issues at Key-Pitman WMA ask for public input for public comment.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and enumerated the escalation path for issues of this kind, that being first, the local NDOW representative, then the CAB, then the Commission. He then opened the floor to Brock Perry of Ducks Unlimited.
 - Brock Perry highlighted the issue he sees with the south end of Frenchy Lake. The refuge is depleted and birds that regularly stopped there during their migration are no longer stopping. He proposed the turn the bermuda grass that is growing in the south end and then next year plan a better grass that will survive and provide the feed and shelter needed for a viable refuge. His organization has been raising money but needs the State's help. He further discussed the current season dates for Snow Geese. He stated that the current seasons end February 28th. He claimed that there are practically no Snow Geese in Nevada on February 28th. He proposed that a special permit hunt from March 1st through the 15th would create great revenue as there are probably 35,000 Snow Geese in Nevada during that period.
 - Chairman Paul Dixon discussed the improvements and projects at the Overton WMA and suggested that perhaps some of the efforts undertaken at Overton could also be done at Key-Pitman.
 - Ron Mills, NDOW, Key-Pitman WMA, discussed the various things he has done to try to improve the habitat. He and Brock Perry had talked several times and based on those conversations, Ron had tried planting various cereal grains, etc. One obstacle is the alkalinity of the soils, and is interested in planting ideas Brock expressed at this meeting.
 - Commissioner McBeath encouraged Brock Peters and Ron Mills to work together on this and reminded them that they could apply for Heritage Funds to help pay for the work. He also asked Chairman Paul Dixon to email Russell Woolstenhulme and ask Russell what it would take to add a Snow Goose special season as outlined by Brock.

- Brian Patterson agreed with Commissioner McBeath. He suggested an immediate count of Snow Geese in Key-Pitman. He has visited Overton recently and seen few Snow Geese, many Pelicans, and some Swans.
 - Brock Peters agreed with Brian on the Overton numbers, but he had personally counted the Snow Geese at Key-Pitman.
 - Motion was made and seconded that Chairman Paul Dixon contact Russell Woolstenhulme and ask him to investigate the possibility of setting up a Snow Goose Season. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Commission Policy #24, “Hunting Opportunities Among Weapons and Hunter Groups” First Reading. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify proposed amendments for Commission Policy #24, “Hunting Opportunities Among Weapons and Hunter Groups.”
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item and noted that the main change proposed is to set the non-resident quota to 10% rather than a sliding scale.
 - Commissioner McBeath offers further explanation for the change, in that, although there was a sliding scale, the non-resident quota was always 10%. This change brings the policy in line with the practice.
 - Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the changes to Policy 24 as written. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Wildlife Damage Management Committee Report and Fiscal Year 12 Predator Management Report and Fiscal Year 13 Predator Management Plan. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify the predator management projects scheduled for Fiscal Year 13.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item and asked for input from the Board.
 - John Sullivan noted the inclusion of Ravens as predators of Sage Grouse.
 - Mike Pergola stated that statistics show that shooting coyotes doesn't appear to make any difference in herd sizes; the Plan doesn't make a lot of sense.
 - Commissioner McBeath discussed the fact that Ravens are under control of the USF&WS as migratory birds. The State of Nevada is allowed to harvest 500 Ravens in a year.
 - John Sullivan noted that while in some units the coyote controls seemed to have no effect on the deer herds, in the Delmars, the sheep program appears to have been very successful. It's not cut and dried. Other factors can impact the herds.
 - Commissioner McBeath shared his experience and views on predator management. Proponents say kill the predator and that predator will never eat another deer. Over \$4M dollars have been spent on predator management with little or no significant impact on deer herd sizes. He feels sportsmen should be asking why the \$3 per license is being spent on programs that show no success.
 - John Sullivan brought up the fact that the State of Utah offers a bounty on coyotes to try to affect the dwindling deer population.
 - Commissioner McBeath shared statements he heard from TV documentary that to break even, you must kill 50% of the coyotes. To get ahead, you must kill 70%. He sees that as impossible and cost prohibitive for an area the size of Nevada.

- Pat Cummings, NDOW, stated that if you don't get the coyote population to 70% they begin to reproduce like crazy.
- Arlene Gawne noted that in Africa, when the farmers try to reduce the jackal population, the females start reproducing at a younger age and have larger litters, resulting in a larger population than before.
- Dick Senior shared his experiences in the Spring Mountains. In his experience, the mountain lions go after the bucks and the coyotes clean up what the lion doesn't eat. Taking the coyote population down to 70% in one area will only allow coyotes from surrounding areas to move in. The coyotes attack the does primarily at the watering holes because they know that the deer will come there.
- Commissioner Layne drew a parallel with domestic animals, namely feral cats. Over a 10 year span, Clark County destroyed 100,000 feral cats, and the population continued to grow. Five years ago the County started a program of spay and neutering the feral cats and releasing them. This year they are seeing a reduction in the number of impounded cats of 5000 a year.
- Arlene Gawne addressed another predator, the human predator. Poachers are common on the west side of the Spring Mountains, but law enforcement is slow to act when poaching is reported.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend adoption of the plan as written.
- Motion passed 3 YES to 1 NO with two abstentions. (Dixon, Sullivan, Patterson FOR, Pergola AGAINST, Reese and Holt ABSTAIN)

- 5. Commission General Regulation 392, LCB File No. R047-11, Falconry. (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to falconry; authorizing the care or possession of raptors by certain persons not possessing a license or permit to possess raptors; authorizing certain transfers of raptors; authorizing the training of raptors by certain persons; authorizing the use of falconry raptors in certain educational programs; authorizing the filming or photographing of falconry raptors in certain circumstances; authorizing the use of falconry raptors for certain abatement activities; providing for the disposition of deceased falconry raptors; providing for the banding or other identification of falconry raptors; requiring certain reporting regarding raptors to the Department of Wildlife and United States Fish and Wildlife Service; providing for the transfer of falconry raptors under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain activities with certain falconry raptors; providing for the housing of falconry raptors; providing for the release to the wild of falconry raptors under certain circumstances; revising provisions regarding applications for and issuance of a license to practice falconry; revising provisions regarding the possession of falconry raptors; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.
- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. The revisions are needed to bring Nevada's falconry rules in line with Federal regulations.
 - Stacia Newman, Nevada Political Action for Animals, asked if the new regulation addresses the failure of the Wild Wings project.
 - Chris Tomlinson, NDOW, stated that there are permits for raptor rehabilitation. The Wild Wings project is still active on a limited budget, but they help with raptor rehabilitation.

- Stacia Newman noted that the Wild Wings project was unlicensed volunteers with funding issues. She doesn't want that to happen again.
- Board Member Jay Holt stated that he has applied for a raptor rehab permit, holds a mammal rehab permit, and has assisted in raptor rehab. He needs his relationship with NDOW in order to continue with rehab efforts he can.
- Dick Senior asked how many raptor permits there are for the State and how many are allowed to keep and use raptors.
- Chris Tomlinson, NDOW, stated that he believes the number is around 50.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposed Commission General Regulation 392, LCB File No. R047-11, Falconry as written. Motion passed unanimously.

6. 15 minute break.

7. TAAHC Topic Items (For Possible Action) – Previously the TAAHC used the TAACH Topic List to guide its decision making for various tag allocation and application hunt recommendations to the Wildlife Commission. The newly established TAAHC intends to use the same process for making recommendations to the Commission this coming year. Please refer to the existing TAAHC Topic List located at the committee page of the NDOW website (<http://www.ndow.org/learn/com/committee/>). **The TAAHC is requesting that each CAB submit up to three (3) topics for inclusion for a new topic list for 2013.** CABs are encouraged to submit new topics, but may submit existing or modified topics taken from the previous topic list located at the NDOW website.

- This item was tabled in order to address the General Regulation action items.

8. Survey Questions (For Possible Action) – Last year during the 2012 big game application period the Department began using an online survey process to seek information from online tag applicants. The TAACH intends to establish a survey process (either online or to be emailed) for 2013. **The TAAHC is requesting that each CAB submit up to three (3) questions for TAAHC use in such a survey.** Questions should focus TAAHC and Commission attention to tag allocation and application hunt processes of importance to you and your constituents.

- This item was tabled in order to address the General Regulation action items

9. Commission General Regulation 397, LCB File No. R046-11, Raptor. (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to falconry; authorizing the taking under certain circumstances of raptors by a person other than the holder of a permit to take raptors; authorizing the retaking under certain circumstances of raptors that have been previously identified as falconry raptors; specifying the duties of a holder of a permit to take raptors who takes a raptor that is injured during the taking; providing for the banding or other identification of falconry raptors; authorizing the practice of falconry and the application for and obtaining of a permit to take raptors for falconry by residents of a country other than the United States who have a falconry license issued by that country; amending provisions specifying the conditions under which raptors may be taken; requiring traps used to take raptors to be attended at all times; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- As most of the Falconry discussion was directed at Agenda Item 8.A.6, Chairman Paul Dixon asked if there was any Board or Public comment.
- Stacia Newman asked what the implications were for "residents of a country other than the United States".
- Chairman Paul Dixon responded that he did not know.
- With no further comment, a motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposed Commission General Regulation 397, LCB File No. R046-11, Raptor as written. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Commission General Regulation c. (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to adding a transportation permit to the game tag, and other matters relating thereto.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic.
- There was discussion among the Board members regarding the transport permits and tags.
- Dick Senior asked if it is legal for a non-hunter to transport an animal out of state for taxidermy.
- Feedback from NDOW is that the person would need a transportation permit.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposed Commission General Regulation 424, LCB File No. T002-13, Transportation Permit (Temporary) as written. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Commission General Regulation 425, LCB File No. T003-13, Transportation Demerit Points (Temporary). (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a regulation relating to demerits assessed on game tag transportation permit and trapping visitation and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic stating the changes are minor, adding references to the text of the regulation.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposed Commission General Regulation 425, LCB File No. T003-13, Transportation Demerit Points (Temporary) as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Commission General Regulation 426, LCB File No. T004-13, Desert Tortoise (Temporary). (For Possible Action) Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify a temporary regulation relating to desert tortoises; prohibiting a person from possessing more than one desert tortoise under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The Wildlife Commission will consider taking action to restrict the number of pet desert tortoises for adoption/possession as approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to *one* per person as of the enactment date (May 1, 2013). Pet desert tortoises in possession prior to enactment are not affected by the regulation (only new possessions of pet desert tortoise). The amendment is needed due to the over breeding of pet desert tortoises in captivity primarily in southern Nevada.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic stating the changes are to limit the number of Desert Tortoises a person can possess and to prohibit breeding. Chairman Paul Dixon read into the record a letter forwarded by Jodi Bechtel, (Clark County Desert Conservation Program) written by Nancy Lipski, Director of Comprehensive Planning, Clark County, to George Tsukamoto, Interim Director of NDOW recommending approval of this Regulation.
- Commissioner McBeath wondered who is tasked to enforce this and who is paying for it.
- Chairman Paul Dixon postulated that once this is a law, enforcement would be triggered by citizen complaint, etc.
- Chris Tomlinson, NDOW stated that this is primarily for education purposes. Enforcement would only occur with repeat offenders.
- Dick Senior noted that he was aware of a plan to move 1000 tortoises to the Trout Canyon area of Area 51. He is concerned that they will encroach on civilization there, but the area 10 miles north of Cold Creek would be a better location.
- Jay Holt is concerned that the funding would be excessive for this.
- Chris Tomlinson shared some additional services available: online registration, online adoption, additional information on the care and nurturing of desert tortoises.
- Jay Holt noted that as a Veterinarian, he often has people bring him a brood of baby tortoises.
- Dick Senior asked if the Pittman-Robertson Act would provide funding for translocating Desert Tortoises.
- Chairman Paul Dixon responded that tortoises are not game animals, thus not covered.
- Jay Holt proposed collecting fees for turning in or adopting new tortoises.
- Vice Chairman Reese noted that in his years in Las Vegas, he has never heard a public service announcement regarding desert tortoises.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commission establish a funding source for the program before approval. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Clark County Wild Horse Discussions. (For Possible Action). Invite public discussion on the Spring Mountain wild horse EIS and related wild horse issues in Clark County. In addition, Department of Wildlife staff will provide a state wide update on wild horse issues in Nevada.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and some of the guests in attendance including Randy Swick, USFS, and Area Manager for Spring Mountains NRA, Jenny Ramirez, USFS Biologist, and Hillerie Patton, BLM.
- Randy Swick stated that the study will probably be an Environmental Assessment rather than an EIS. The joint study with BLM will focus on three areas: 1) Johnny, 2) Spring Mountains (aka Wheeler Pass), and 3) Red Rocks. Currently analyzing data readily available, assessing what additional data is needed, etc. Once data is collected and analyzed, then they must develop proposed action plans, and then share them with the

public. Randy estimated that they should have the proposed actions documented this spring, ready for public review. He also asked if anyone has a strong interest in this project, that they give Randy their contact information.

- Vice Chairman Reese asked if the plans include addressing the AML for the areas Randy mentioned or are they treating the range as one.
- Jenny Ramirez answered that since there are these divisions of the range, they will be taking into account habitat make-up in each area, competing wildlife, water, feed, etc. But they also have to account for movement across areas.
- Arlene Gawne asked if USFS is abandoning their wild horse territories in favor of joint management areas.
- Jenny Ramirez answered that the USFS is not abandoning the territories, but they are developing AMLs for these joint management areas where herds range across USFS land and BLM land. They will have 3 AMLs for the three joint management areas Randy discussed.
- Arlene Gawne asked about the movement of the herds during the winter when the Wheeler Pass herd tends to water at the Johnny herd sites. Will that cause AML problems?
- Jenny Ramirez answered that they are relying on years of census and herd movement data.
- Arlene Gawne asked if horse herd data collected by the Spring Mountain Alliance could be use in the Assessment.
- Jenny Ramirez answered that yes, public data can be used, but applies with scientific data. They intend to utilize the best available data with the best available science.
- Chairman Paul Dixon closed the discussion.

9. 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.**

- Time did not allow for public comment before the end of the meeting.

10. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its March 15th and 16th meeting in Reno, Nevada. (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.

11. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for May 7th, 2013 at the Clark County Government Center, Pueblo Room to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on May 10th and 11th, 2013 in Reno, Nevada.)

12. Adjournment

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:59PM.