

# Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## **MINUTES**

**Thursday ~ September 13, 2012 ~ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Nevada Department of Wildlife**  
**Conference Room B**  
**1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada**

## **MEMBERS**

Rex Flowers, Chair  
Daryl Harwell, Vice-chair  
Michelle Spencer, Secretary  
John Reed  
Sean Shea

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

**PRESENT:** Rex Flowers, Daryl Harwell, John Reed and Michelle Spencer.

**ABSENT:** Sean Shea.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

**4. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2, 2012, MINUTES** [For possible action]

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to approve the August 2, 2012, minutes, as submitted. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

**5. BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT** [Non-action item] – *A discussion and selection of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: 1) September 21 and 22, 2012, in Las Vegas, Nevada; and 2) December 7 and 8, 2012, in Reno, Nevada.*

Chair Flowers will attend the September 21 and 22, 2012, meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Member Reed will attend the December 7 and 8, 2012, meetings in Reno, Nevada.

**6. COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES** [Non-action items]

**6-1). Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements** – Chair Flowers noted that he had received application forms for the Wayne E. Kirch Awards, which must be submitted by November 15, 2012. Other correspondence includes Cabala's Ladies Day Out, October 6, 2012, and correspondence on Washoe Lake from Elmer Bull – Chief Habitat (copies on file).

Elmer Bull – Habitat Division Chief, outlined his correspondence with NDOT (Nevada Department of Transportation) about Washoe Lake noting that Lori Bellis – NDOT

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Environmental Scientist, indicates that NDOT is following procedures and adhering to agreements, which he continues to research. Mr. Bull will make a full presentation on the matter once he has completed his research.

Chair Flowers noted that a telephonic meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will be held on Friday, November 14, 2012, to discuss closure of certain units due to wildfires that have devastated Sage Grouse habitat.

Chair Flowers also noted that late received correspondence from the August 2, 2012, meeting in opposition to the Bear Hunt had also been received (copy on file).

**6-2). Overview of the August 10 and 11, 2012, meetings of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners** – Chair Flowers commented that Jack Robb and Jeremy Drew had been elected as Chair and Vice-chair of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) respectively. During the meetings it was explained that the GPS (Global Positioning System) radio collars funded using Upland Game Stamp funds did not have to be retrieved but used a satellite uplink. Seasons for waterfowl were adopted as recommended with a modification to Snow, which was changed to February 10, 2013. According to Stillwater Refuge personnel the peak typically occurs around February 16. Currently wild horses and burros are scheduled to be removed from the Sheldon by 2015 with the herd population reduced from  $\pm 640$  to  $\pm 273$  in the Jacksons.

**6-3). Update on the OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) Committee** – Member Reed commented that he had attempted to secure input from Nevada Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife and the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) on the Off Highway Vehicle Committee work to no avail. Member Reed noted that the registration program was voluntary as of July 1, 2012, and would become mandatory on July 1, 2013. Currently monies collected go to the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicle). However, effective July 1, 2013, fees will revert to the Off Highway Vehicle Commission.

During a brief discussion it was suggested that a future agenda item focus on how to involve sportsmen and NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) in determining impact to the State's wildlife.

- 7. WILDFIRE UPDATE** [Non-action item] – *An informational update on rehabilitation efforts being considered or implemented in burned areas and the primary wildlife species affected by the wildfire.*

Elmer Bull – Chief, Habitat Division, provided a handout to the board (copies on file) explaining that the spreadsheet shows only those wild fire exceeding 1,000 acres. Mr. Bull noted that the Holloway Fire had burned  $\pm 461,000$  acres; the Rush fire  $\pm 313,000$  acres and the Lost Fire  $\pm 65,000$  acres. Mr. Bull pointed out that the total acreage indicated includes areas outside the State of Nevada in bordering states of California, Idaho and Oregon. Additionally, the primary wildlife species affected by each fire are also shown. While some

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areas experienced a mosaic burn pattern leaving some areas less damaged, other were totally devastated and resulted in the loss of wildlife and large areas of habitat, especially critical habitat for Sage Grouse. Other fires critically damaged or destroyed riparian habitat as well as some fish populations. Currently the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) is conducting surveys of the more than 800,000 acres destroyed or heavily damaged by wildfire. The survey will assist in the identification of areas for priority rehabilitation and revegetation. Mr. Bull also noted that the long dry summer has most likely adversely affected the production of seed that could be used for revegetation and that resources such as plant stock produced by school nurseries in the Winnemucca area will be used to augment seed collection effort that will start in late October, November and into December. Mr. Bull noted that funding is being sought to purchase an attachable seed pod for a Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) helicopter to assist in the reseeding efforts. Drawing attention to areas above the 6,000 foot elevation, Mr. Bull explained that those areas may not be rehabilitated due to their natural ability to recover adequately and that areas already overrun with Medusa Head and Cheat grass may not be reseeded where those invasive/noxious weeds are already prevalent. Mr. Bull outlined the funding sources available for the rehabilitation/reseeding project including, but not limited to Ruby Pipeline funds for those areas adjacent to the pipeline as well as Q1, Habitat Conservation Fee funds and other sources. NDF resources and volunteers will be used in the rehabilitation/reseeding of the prioritized areas. Mr. Bull responded to an inquiry about the loss of wildlife explaining that birds and other animals have been identified in the charred areas and that there is grave concern about Sage Grouse and mule deer who may have run into wash areas that were totally destroyed by fast and erratic fires. It is unclear what the loss of wildlife damage is at this time. Mr. Bull noted that there are ongoing partnership discussions with the State of Utah who purchased \$8-million in seeds prior to the fire season. However, it is unclear whether the State of Utah is amenable to that type of partnership at this time.

Responding to Member Harwell's concern about the lack of fire fighting in wilderness areas, Mr. Bull noted that attention is now being focused on the "entire landscape" so that opportunities to develop firebreaks can be identified and implemented. Currently Congressman Amodei is seeking funding for that type of project so that the landscape can be modified in a manner that makes fire suppression somewhat easier.

Member Harwell suggested that perhaps the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) should consider the appointment of a subcommittee to work with other agencies to develop a strategic planning process to address wildfire issues. Member Harwell believes such a subcommittee should include representative from land management agencies in charge of management of federal and state owned public lands.

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11. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 412, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R151-12 Range Finding Scope** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise 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.* [Taken out of agenda order]

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item.

Paul Dankowski – Game Warden, explained that the proposal add one word “visible” to the regulation so that a range finding scope can be used. Responding to Member Harwell’s comment that the regulation prohibits batteries, Warden Dankowski explained that language already in the regulation allows batteries, fiber-optic and other means of light gathering are allowed and that this modification adds visible light, which was previous excluded.

Hearing no public comment, Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for board discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 412, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R151-12 Range Finding Scope, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

9. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 410, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R149-12** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify regulations relating to fishing; providing that Gizzard Shad may be used as live bait fish in certain waters; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The Commission will consider taking action to make Gizzard Shad legal for anglers to capture and use as bait in Lake Mead, Lake Mohave, and the Colorado River in Clark County (Nevada).*

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item and opened the public hearing.

Kim Tisdale – Western Region Fisheries Supervisor, explained that this is a “housekeeping” modification noting the species was left off the original list of allowable live bait in Lake Mead and Mojave.

Hearing no public comment Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for discussion or a motion.

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***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner approve Commission General Regulation 410, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R149-12, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

10. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 411, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R150-12 Unit Boundaries** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to wildlife; providing for the management of all wildlife within management areas established by the Nevada Department of Wildlife; revising the boundaries of certain management areas; creating new management units within certain management areas; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. The Commission will consider and may take action to adopt area and corresponding unit boundary changes updated with current geographical descriptions and some new unit descriptions designed to simplify, clarify, or more accurately describe both hunt units for big game and wildlife units for the management of all species.*

Chair Flowers summarized the agenda item and opened the public hearing.

Hearing no one wishing to speak on the matter, Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 411, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R150-12 Unit Boundaries, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

8. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 399, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. 148-12 – Special Permit** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to wildlife; to issue a special permit to allow a person to handle, move or temporarily possess any wildlife which is classified as protected under certain circumstances; setting forth the information which must be included in an application for the special permit; specifying the maximum period of validity of the special permit; requiring a holder of the special permit to submit a report to the Nevada Department of Wildlife within a certain period after the special permit expires; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. This regulation would allow for the movement and temporary possession of protected wildlife (i.e. Desert Tortoise, Gila Monster) out of harm's way as part of approved environmental compliance measures. [Taken out of agenda order]*

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Chair provided an overview of the regulation and opened the public hearing.

Member Reed expressed concern about the \$200.00 fee, which he believes to be somewhat excessive, especially for smaller mom and pop type projects.

Member Harwell commented that while the process may be appropriate to larger project, there is some concern about smaller project, such as home improvement or construction by an individual other than a development company that might not have expertise in environmental impacts.

During the discussion it was noted that it does not appear to be an intent to provide training on how to handle endangered or protected species but rather to issue a permit to allow the movement of the animals to protect against development. As the discussion continued it was noted that in the event an applicant is not qualified to handle the animals a permit would most likely be denied.

Kim Tisdale – Western Fisheries Supervisor, explained that the fee is intended to cover costs associated with the development of a program to oversee the handling of protected/endangered species in Southern Nevada. Ms. Tisdale noted that fees also cover the cost of a biologist, supervisor and other staff time needed to process and oversee such permits. Typically, special permit fees do not cover all personnel costs associated with the program such as crayfish collection at Lake Tahoe. This particular permit will allow the applicant to move animals for a period of one (1) year from date of issuance. Ms. Tisdale explained several of the special licenses and permits have separate fee structures with commercial licenses costing as much as \$500.00, while noncommercial license can be as low as \$15.00. Special licenses and permits allow NDOW to place conditions on how wildlife is handed. As an example Ms. Tisdale explained that the fees and its associated permit define a process that allows NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to track the harvest and subsequent end use of the live crayfish.

Hearing no one wishing to speak on the matter, Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for discussion or a motion.

During the discussion it was noted that the permit allows the movement of endangered/protected species and that the applicant may be required to explain how the movement will be accomplished on the application form. As the discussion continued, it was explained that a permit denial can be appealed to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission). Other discussion noted that the building department or permit department for construction in Clark County may also be involved in the process thus allowing NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to have input into the matter as is done when development in Washoe County encroaches on wildlife habitat.

***It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General***

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***Regulation 399, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. 148-12 – Special Permit, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

- 12. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 413, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R152-12, *Aquatic Invasive Species*** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise 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. Classification of certain aquatic species as invasive and injurious will be discussed.*

Chair Flower outlined the regulation proposal and opened the public hearing.

Kim Tisdale – Western Region Fisheries Supervisor, outlined the regulation that was developed in response to legislation enacted in 2011 regarding Aquatic Invasive Species. This particular proposal classifies specific species as either “Aquatic Invasive Species” or “Injurious Aquatic Species” as defined by NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes). Responding to an inquiry about whether the list covers everything, Ms. Tisdale explained that there likely a number of other species that could also cause havoc on the ecosystem and native species if introduced in the State of Nevada, those on the list represent the biggest threat at this time.

Hearing no one wishing to speak on the matter, Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Member Reed, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 413, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R152-12, Aquatic Invasive Species, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

- 13. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 414, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R153-12, *Desert Tortoise*** – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to Desert Tortoises; prohibiting a person from possessing more than one (1) 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 United States Fish and Wildlife Service to one (1) per person as of the enactment date, January 1, 2013. Pet Desert Tortoises in possession prior to ordinance are not affected by the regulation (only new*

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*possessions of pet desert tortoise). Amendment is needed due to the over breeding of pet Desert Tortoises in captivity primarily in southern Nevada.*

Chair Flowers provided an overview of the agenda item and opened the public hearing.

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 414, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R153-12, Desert Tortoise, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

- 14. COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 417, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R156-12, Crayfish** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to Crayfish; authorizing a holder of a permit to take Crayfish from the waters of Lake Tahoe to sell the Crayfish to a food wholesaler or restaurant for human consumption; requiring the buyer and the seller of the Crayfish to retain certain records of the purchase; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. A person may now obtain a permit to commercially capture Crayfish from Lake Tahoe. Discussion will occur regarding the sale of crayfish taken under this permit by wholesalers and restaurants.*

Chair opened the agenda item and asked for public comment.

Kim Tisdale – Fisheries Supervisor Western Region, recalled the previous petition to allow the commercial collection of Crayfish at Lake Tahoe. Ms. Tisdale noted that one thing that had not been foreseen was the tracking of Crayfish taken from the lake. While the \$500.00 permit fee was agreed to by the commercial fisher taking Crayfish from Lake Tahoe, little or no thought was given to the tracking of Crayfish from the initial capture to a restaurant or wholesaler. The intent is to create NAC (Nevada Administrative Code) that provides a process to track Crayfish from capture to end user with the end users not being required to purchase the more expensive permit. Ms. Tisdale noted that records had to be kept for a minimum of four (4) years.

Hearing no one wishing to speak on the agenda item, Chair Flowers closed the public hearing and asked for discussion or a motion.

***It was moved by Member Spencer, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve Commission General Regulation 417, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R156-12, Crayfish, as written. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

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The meeting recessed at 7:51 p.m. and reconvened at 7:58 p.m. A quorum was present, Member Shea absent.

15. **COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 419, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R158-12, *Trapping Trail Closure*** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify a regulation relating to trapping; prohibiting trapping adjacent to specific trails and roads in Clark County (Nevada).*

Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item noting that this particular modification dealt only with Clark County. Chair Flowers opened the public hearing.

Paul Dankowski – Game Warden, commented that there was a third version that differs from the version distributed by email today (September 13, 2012). This particular version includes comments from the Trapping Committee that have not yet been reviewed by the LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau).

Chair Flowers expressed his concern about taking action on modifications that had not been distributed for the public and all CAB's (County Advisory Board) for review. It is Chair Flowers belief that the recommendation should be to bring the matter back so that the public and all CAB's have ample opportunity to review language before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) takes action.

During the discussion it was noted that the board would like to have further comment from the Trapping Committee on how the distance and other modifications were developed. It was pointed out that the Trapping Committee does not have any trapping representation. As the discussion continued, it was noted that the original legislation was intended to move trapping away from housing and other congested areas. This particular modification expands the prohibitions in Clark County to move or prohibit trapping near campgrounds and trails in Clark County and certain other high use areas that will continue to expand as urban style development occurs. It is thought that future revisions may further encroach on trapping in Washoe County by closing places such as Galena Creek campground to trapping,

Mr. Dankowski noted that this third revision to the regulation had been written internally to capture changes that the Trapping Committee had recommended.

Member Reed noted his concern that the Trapping Committee did not have trapper representation and explained that he feels the Commission should have sportsmen and trappers involved with the Trapping Committee.

Bob Brunner commented that he had attended this evening's (September 13, 2013) meeting to address the trapping regulation pointing out that the current revision includes a prohibition

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of trapping in the Sheldon and Stillwater Wildlife Management areas. Mr. Brunner believes that those prohibitions should be removed since those are federal management areas. However, a petition may be the best method to seek that particular change.

Chair Flowers asked Mr. Brunner to provide his comments so that he can make them known to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) at their upcoming meeting.

***It was moved by Member Harwell, seconded by Member Spencer, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioner deny the modifications Commission General Regulation 419, LCB (Legislative Counsel Bureau) File No. R158-12, Trapping Trail Closure, due to the lack of information on the trails being closed and proposed distances. Member Harwell emphasized the need for additional detail and information before an informed decision can be made.***

There was significant discussion about the motion during which it was suggested that this board allow Clark County to make their recommendation since the modifications only affects Clark County. As the discussion continued, it was noted that Chair Flowers had discussed the matter with Commission Chair Jack Robb who felt that it had been a good meeting. Other discussion reiterated that a deferral of action on this matter may provide an opportunity for NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) to get the information on their website ([www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org)) for public review.

Chair Flowers commented that he would suggest a motion to defer to Clark County on this particular regulation since it pertains to Clark County.

Member Harwell reiterated that, in his opinion, there was insufficient information to make an informed decision and pointed out that both Clark and Washoe Counties have the same trapping issues and should therefore stand against the revisions together.

Member Reed stated that he prefers to have input from both the Joel Blakeslee (trapping) and Trish Swain (Trailsafe) and will support the motion for denial

***The motion to recommend denial carried: Members Harwell, Reed and Spencer assenting; Chair Flowers dissenting; and Member Shea absent.***

16. **NORTHEAST NEVADA WILD HORSE ECO-SANCTUARY** [For Possible Action] – A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to approve, deny or otherwise modify the Nevada Department of Wildlife's (NDOW) response to the BLM's (Bureau of Land Management) issuance of a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the potential impacts of the establishment of the Northeast Nevada Wild Horse Eco-Sanctuary. The Commission may elect to submit a letter to the BLM in support of NDOW's comment letter.

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Chair Flowers outlined the agenda item noting that Commission (Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) Vice-chair Jerry Drew. A recent discussion with Vice-chair Drew indicated that NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) had not yet crafted a response for Commission consideration. Drawing attention to the information provided (copy on file), Chair Flowers noted that the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) is taking public comment. Chair Flowers opened the public hearing.

Bob Brunner explained that he could not support the proposal as written as it attempts to convert cattle grazing to horse grazing, which is detrimental as horses have teeth that can rip vegetation from the ground at the root level, whereas cattle do not. Additionally, the proposal fails to provide adequate information on herd management, water shed impact and takes public animals and gives them to a private entity among several other issues. Mr. Brunner stated that he is opposed to the Eco Sanctuary as initially proposed.

During the discussion it was noted that the proposal is part of the Wells Resource Plan. Chair Flowers noted that the Eco Sanctuary is part of a ranch purchased near Spruce Mountain that is comprised of ±15,000 acres as well as nearly 100,000 acres of grazing rights. While the horses remain under federal ownership, they are to be spayed/neutered with the final number of horses yet to be determined. Additionally, boundaries and revise AUM's (Allowable Unit Month). Other issues identified include archaeological sites, effects on Sage Grouse, Elk, Muledeer and other wildlife as well as ability to manage the herd population and ensure public access for recreational purposes.

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Chair Flowers, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners do everything in their power to deny the wild horse Eco Sanctuary as it is currently proposed as the project, if approved will be a disaster for riparian habitat, archaeologically, environmentally, economically. The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

17. **EMERGENCY ACTIONS FOR POSSIBLE SEASON CLOSURES AND/OR CHANGES DUE TO WILDFIRES (CR12-06 Amendment No. 1)** [For possible action] – *A review, discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners on changes to the currently listed Hunting/Trapping Seasons dates, open units as stated for all legal Big Game, Upland Game, Migratory Game or Furbearing Animals as may be proposed by the Department of Wildlife due to extensive wild land fires.*

Chair Flowers outlined the proposal to close Unit 031, 153 and 156 due to wild fire. The agenda language was intended to provide a wide range of options should NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) determine that seasons for other species and units needed to be closed due to the devastating wildfires. Chair Flowers outlined the process used by NDOW in determining the closure areas and explained that NDOW is not required to seek approval for closure in an emergency situation as was created with the wild fires. Chair Flowers

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emphasized that Unit 031 was a prime habitat area for Sage Grouse and that the focus on the species emphasized the need to take some action to protect the remaining bird populations.

***It was moved by Member Reed, seconded by Member Harwell, to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners approve CR12-06 Amendment No. 1, the emergency closure of Unit 031, 153 and 156 as recommended by NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife). The motion carried: Members Harwell, Reed, Spencer and Chair Flowers assenting; and Member Shea absent.***

- 18. WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS** [Non-action item] – *Selection of additional agenda item(s) for the Thursday, November 29, 2012, meeting.*

The November 29, 2012, meeting agenda may include, but is not limited to: 1) Discussion and possible recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to determine the wildlife issues that may be associated with Off Highway Vehicles; 2) Update on Ruby Pipeline; 3) Discussion and possible action to recommend that the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (Commission) establish a Wild Fire Subcommittee composed of Commission members, sportsmen and managing agencies to develop a broad based plan of action for response to wild fires.

- 19. PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item]

There were no public comments.

- 20. ADJOURNMENT** [Non-action item]

Chair Flowers adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

**AS APPROVED BY THE WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE IN SESSION ON NOVEMBER 29, 2012.**