



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Law Enforcement Division

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MEMORANDUM

August 12, 2016

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Tyler Turnipseed, Chief Game Warden

Title: **Regulation Changes: Commission General Regulations 467**

Description: The Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider an addition to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) establishing provisions governing the issuance of special assistance permits to persons with permanent disabilities.

Presenter: Tyler Turnipseed, Chief Game Warden

Agenda No: 12 B

CGR 467: Special Assistance Permit: Possession of permit; requirements for accompaniment and assistance to disabled hunter.

This proposed addition to NAC 503 has five separate parts.

The first proposed addition defines a designated license assistant and a special assistance permit.

The second proposed addition details under what conditions a tag holder may be issued a special assistance permit. Those conditions include: having a tag for a big game mammal; is paraplegic or has one or both legs amputated, or has suffered a paralysis of one or both legs which severely impedes the holders walking.

The third proposed addition details the application process by which the disabled hunter may apply for a special assistance permit. This would include: name, address, Social Security Number, hunting license number for the disabled hunter as well as the designated licensed

assistant. A statement from both the applicant and the designated licensed assistant would need to be included as well.

The fourth proposed addition would require that a special assistance permit be required for each tag the disabled hunter received. The applicant would not be required to use the same designated assistant for each tag.

The fifth proposed addition defines the requirements for being a designated licensed assistant. The assistant must be 18 years or older, hold a valid hunting license in this State, and not have any license, permit, or privilege issued to him or her pursuant to Title 45 of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) suspended or revoked. The designated licensed assistant is not required to be a tag holder. The permit will also be issued at no cost to the disabled hunter.

The sixth proposed addition details the conditions that must be followed by the permit holder in the field. The disabled hunter must have the special assistance permit in his or her possession and must be accompanied in close proximity to the designated licensed assistant. The disabled hunter may also shoot an authorized weapon from a motor vehicle in accordance with NRS 503.010.

The seventh proposed addition details additional requirements the designated licensed assistant must follow, such as having his or her signed hunting license in possession and must use only a weapon authorized by the disabled hunter.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R105-16

July 14, 2016

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-5, NRS 501.181; §§6-8, NRS 501.181 and 502.160.

A REGULATION relating to hunting; authorizing certain persons with disabilities to apply for the issuance of a special assistance permit; authorizing a designated licensed assistant to provide assistance to the holder of a special assistance permit in hunting a big game mammal under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the circumstances under which a person may assist a person with certain disabilities in hunting a big game mammal for which the person with a disability has obtained a tag. (NRS 501.181) **Section 4** of this regulation sets forth the manner in which a person with a qualifying disability who holds a tag to hunt a big game mammal may obtain a special assistance permit which names a designated licensed assistant. **Section 4** also sets forth the required qualifications for the person with a disability and the designated licensed assistant. Such an assistant must be at least 18 years of age and must hold a valid hunting license. **Section 5** of this regulation requires the holder of a special assistance permit to stay in close proximity to his or her designated licensed assistant and authorizes the holder to discharge a weapon from a motor vehicle under certain circumstances. **Section 5** also provides that: (1) the assistant is not required to hold a tag for the big game mammal which the person with a disability is authorized to hunt; (2) the assistant is prohibited from using a weapon other than the weapon authorized by the tag; and (3) the person with a disability and the assistant are subject to all other applicable laws and regulations governing the hunt. Finally, **section 5** authorizes the assistant to assist the person with a disability in the field by: (1) validating the tag which authorizes the taking of the big game mammal and attaching that tag to the carcass; (2) retrieving the big game mammal; and (3) if the assistant has a good faith belief that the person with a disability has lawfully wounded a big game mammal, discharging his or her weapon to assist in the taking of the big game mammal.

Section 1. Chapter 502 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as section 2 to 5, inclusive, of this regulation.

Sec. 2. *“Designated licensed assistant” means a person designated on a special assistance permit to assist the holder of the permit in accordance with sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this regulation.*

Sec. 3. *“Special assistance permit” means a permit issued by the Department to a person who meets the requirements of section 4 of this regulation.*

Sec. 4. 1. *The holder of a tag issued by the Department authorizing the holder to hunt a big game mammal may apply for a special assistance permit authorizing a designated licensed assistant to assist the holder in accordance with section 5 of this regulation if the holder:*

(a) Is a paraplegic;

(b) Has had one or both legs amputated; or

(c) Has suffered a paralysis of one or both legs which severely impedes the holder’s walking.

2. *An application for a special assistance permit must:*

(a) Be submitted on a form provided by the Department and must include, without limitation:

(1) The applicant’s legal name, physical address, mailing address if different from the physical address and telephone number;

(2) The social security number and client number of the applicant;

(3) The class and number of the hunting license issued to the applicant in this State;

(4) The legal name of the designated licensed assistant;

(5) The physical mailing address and telephone number of the designated licensed assistant; and

(6) The hunting license number and client number of the designated licensed assistant.

(b) Include two statements:

(1) One statement signed by the applicant which affirms that the applicant is eligible for the special assistance permit pursuant to subsection 1; and

(2) One statement signed by the designated licensed assistant named in the application affirming that the designated licensed assistant meets the requirements of subsection 4.

3. An applicant for a special assistance permit pursuant to this section who holds more than one tag issued by the Department authorizing the holder to hunt a big game mammal must complete a separate application for each tag. The applicant is not required to use the same designated licensed assistant for each tag.

4. To be a designated licensed assistant a person:

(a) Must be 18 years of age or older;

(b) Must hold a valid hunting license in this State;

(c) Must not have any license, permit or privilege issued to him or her pursuant to title 45 of NRS suspended or revoked; and

(d) Is not required to hold a tag for the big game mammal which the holder of the special assistance permit is authorized to take.

5. A special assistance permit issued pursuant to this section must be issued free of charge to the applicant.

Sec. 5. 1. A holder of a special assistance permit who is in the field:

(a) Must have the special assistance permit in his or her possession;

(b) Must be accompanied, in close proximity, by his or her designated licensed assistant;
and

(c) May shoot the weapon authorized by his or her tag from a motor vehicle in accordance with NRS 503.010.

2. A designated licensed assistant who is in the field assisting the holder of a special assistance permit:

(a) Must have his or her hunting license in his or her possession and the license must be signed by the designated licensed assistant;

(b) May not use a weapon other than the weapon authorized by the tag of the holder of the special assistance permit;

(c) May, if he or she has a good faith belief that the holder of a special assistance permit has lawfully wounded a big game mammal, discharge his or her weapon to assist in the taking of the big game mammal; and

(d) May assist the holder of a special assistance permit in:

(1) The validation and attachment of the tag of the holder of a special assistance permit that is required by NAC 502.390 and 502.400; and

(2) Retrieving the big game mammal wounded or killed by the holder of a special assistance permit.

3. For the purposes of title 45 of NRS, if a big game mammal is harvested pursuant to the provisions of this section, the holder of the special assistance permit will be deemed to be the person who killed or harvested the big game mammal.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 4 of this regulation, each holder of a special assistance permit and each designated licensed assistant are subject to all applicable laws and regulations relating to the type of hunt for which the holder of the special

assistance permit is authorized, except those provisions which by their nature can have no application.

Sec. 6. NAC 502.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.385 1. The tag or permit must:

(a) Include, in the space provided on the tag or permit, the signature of the holder of the tag or permit and the date on which and time at which the holder signed the tag or permit; and

(b) Be carried by the holder at all times while the holder is hunting or trapping or while he or she is fishing for wildlife for which a tag or permit is required.

2. ~~It~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 5 of this regulation, it* is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Use or possess a tag or permit issued to any other person;

(b) Transfer or give a tag or permit issued to him or her to any other person;

(c) Use any tag or permit in a management area or unit for which it is not intended; or

(d) Use a tag or permit at any time other than at the time intended.

3. After it has been issued, a tag or permit may not be exchanged or a refund made except in accordance with the policies and regulations of the Commission.

Sec. 7. NAC 502.390 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.390 ~~When~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 5 of this regulation, when* a person reaches any wildlife which the person has killed, he or she must validate his or her tag or permit immediately by clearly punching out the spaces necessary to properly identify the physical description of the animal, including its sex and antler points, where appropriate, and the day and month of the kill.

Sec. 8. NAC 502.400 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.400 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 ~~†~~ *and section 5 of this regulation*, the owner of a tag or permit must firmly attach it to the carcass of an animal killed by the owner, at or before the time he or she first reaches his or her means of transportation or camp. The tag or permit must remain with the major portion of the meat until it is consumed.

2. If the animal killed is a mountain lion or fur-bearing mammal for which a tag or permit is required, the owner of the tag or permit *or a designated licensed assistant pursuant to section 5 of this regulation* must firmly attach it to the hide or pelt of the animal. The tag or permit must remain attached to the hide while it is transported and until it is processed.