STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Game Division

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MEMORANDUM

January 20, 2017

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

From: Brian Wakeling, Administrator, Game Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 17 - 03, 2017 Black Bear Seasons – For Possible Action**

Description: The Commission will consider adopting 2017 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

Presenter: Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson

Summary:

The Department prepared the 2017 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear in anticipation of the adoption of harvest guidelines that will also be presented at the February 2017 Commission meeting. The harvest guidelines currently call for a season that extends from September 15 through December 1 based on prior adoption of seasons in 2016 by the Commission. The harvest guidelines also provides for the ability to place separate harvest limits on portions of the open hunting area to manage hunter harvest.

The proposed seasons for bear in 2017 has 3 separate seasons, all running simultaneously, but each will have a separate harvest limit. There will be a single hunt application number for residents and another for nonresidents, and tags will be valid for all hunt areas. Portions of the hunting areas may be closed and the hunting areas may be restricted as subsequent harvest limits

are met, but all tags will remain valid in the remaining open areas until all harvest limits are met or the season closing date is reached.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission **VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION REGULATION 17 – 03, 2017 BLACK BEAR SEASONS AS PRESENTED.**

CR 17-03
2017 BLACK BEAR SEASON

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.140 and 503.245 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of black bear

Resident and Nonresident Black Bear - Either Sex
Any Legal Weapon Hunt 6151 and 6251

Unit Group	2017 Season
Hunt units 192*, 194*, 195, 196 are open to bear hunting except those portions of 192 and 194 described below in Special Regulations.	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)
Hunt units 201, 202, 204 and 206 are open to bear hunting	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)
Hunt unit 291 is open to bear hunting	Sept 15 - Dec 1 (or until harvest limits are met)

• The limit is one animal per tag.

• Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

• Tag holders, or their licensed guide if applicable, must call the Black Bear Harvest Information Hotline prior to hunting to determine if the hunt has been closed due to the harvest objective being reached. The number is 1-800-800-1667 and is accessible 24 hours a day.

• Black Bear indoctrination classes will be held on Saturday, August 12, 2017 and on Saturday, September 9, 2017. Both classes will be held from 1 pm to 4pm at the Nevada Department of Wildlife's conference room, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada. Attendance at one black bear indoctrination class is mandatory for tag holders or their representative guides or sub-guides. A person represented by a guide or sub-guide at the indoctrination may only hunt under the direct supervision of the guide or sub-guide who attended the class for them. Tags will only be issued upon completion of an indoctrination class.

• The Department phone number to call and report a harvested black bear is 775-688-BEAR. Leave a message. A secondary number is 775-720-6130.

<u>*Special Regulations</u>

Those areas within Units 194 and 192 that are within the U.S. Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) and those areas bounded on the west by the LTBMU boundary from the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary (approximately located at the Relay Ridge Radio Tower), by the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary from the LTBMU boundary to the western boundary of Range 19 East, and by the western boundary of Range 19 East from the Mount Rose Wilderness Area boundary to USFS Road No. 41049 (Logan Meadow Lane/Thomas Creek), bounded on the north by USFS Road No. 41049 from the western boundary of Range 19 East to Timberline Drive, by Timberline Drive from its junction with USFS Road No. 41049 to State Highway 431 (Mount Rose Highway), and by State Highway 431 from its junction with Timberline Drive to its junction with U.S. Highway 395, bounded on the east by U.S. Highway 395 from its junction with State Highway 431 to the southern boundary of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Section 14 (approximately located at the northbound Bellevue Interchange off-ramp), and bounded on the south by the southern edge of Township 16 North, Range 19 East, Sections 14 – 18, following the southern boundary of the University of Nevada, Reno Little Valley Study Area, and Township 16 North, Range 18 East, Section 13 to the LTBMU boundary.