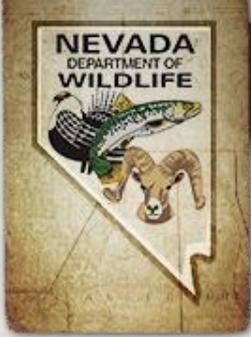


Nevada Department of Wildlife



Law Enforcement Division 2016 Overview





Nevada Department of Wildlife



Tyler Turnipseed, Chief Game Warden

History

- Office of Nevada State Game Warden was first appointed by the Governor in 1917
- From the start, game wardens enforced wildlife laws similar to those enforced today including seasons, licenses and bag limits
- Historic, important element of all wildlife and environmental protection and public safety



Law Enforcement Division

- 31 field game wardens
- 4 captains, 3 lieutenants
- Wardens patrol an average area of 3,567 square miles each
- Some have up to 10,000 square miles
- Plus 12 non-commissioned, including dispatchers, radio techs, and administrative personnel



Nevada Game Wardens

- Long term retention of officers has been our biggest challenge in recent years
- In less than three years, we've replaced more than half of **all** game wardens
- This creates a huge bottleneck in training our newly hired officers – FTO program
- Less than a third of our field wardens have 5 years of experience
- We are always on the lookout for candidates



**We've Stepped up our Recruitment Efforts,
Attending Job Fairs Like This One on 11/4/16**



Unique Freedom

- Wardens often patrol alone
- Odd hours, remote places, and extreme weather
- Game wardens must think for themselves
- Make decisions and take action



We place great trust in our game wardens and give them freedom few other professions can match





**Game Wardens Graduate from POST Academy
11/10/16**



Some High Profile Wildlife Crimes From 2015-16

- We have many pending cases and active investigations at any one given time, but the following are a couple examples of high profile cases we've worked on in the last year to explain some of what we do
- Some of the cases have been fully adjudicated, but otherwise the following suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law



Eagle Poacher Arrested

February 2016

- Dana M. McIvor of Arizona
- In possession of two recently killed eagles and a hawk, wings from two freshly killed hawks, and 124 feathers
- As much as \$10,000 worth of raptor parts
- Wardens also seized a Savage .17 caliber rifle and spent cartridges from the vehicle





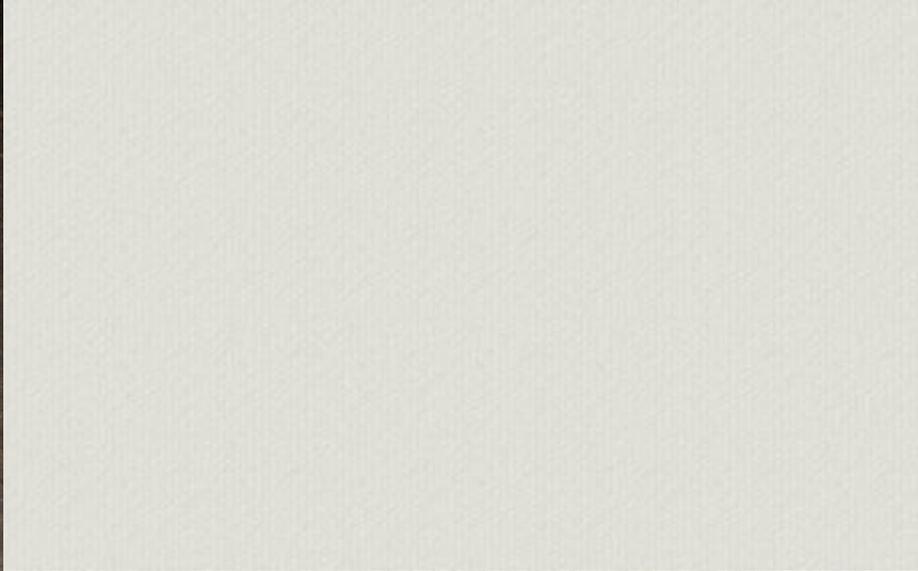




Breaking This Week...

- At least **eight** mule deer were discovered shot and left to waste over the span of three weeks in the Spring Mountains near Mt. Charleston
- Most animals killed and left completely intact
- These crimes are hard to solve, but we look for all evidence: tire tracks, footprints, empty shell casings, bullet forensics, etc.





Recent Charges Filed:

UT/NV Stateline Elk Poaching

- Utah woman and her husband charged with the felony killing of a large bull elk without a valid tag
- Utah man, 69, charged with a felony in a separate but related incident for killing a cow elk
- Both face additional misdemeanors for hindering a game warden and for unlawful hunting during a prohibited time of day



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

REPORT WILDLIFE CRIME
1-800-992-6000



Lincoln County Bull Elk Killed at Night and Left to Waste



Lincoln County Bull Elk Killed at Night and Left to Waste



Lincoln County Bull Elk Killed at Night and Left to Waste







Game Wardens Arrest Suspect in Elk Poaching

July 26, 2016 / in Case Files, Edwin Lyngar, News

Game wardens have arrested a suspect in the illegal killing and waste of a bull elk in a case stemming from an incident in Lincoln County near Pioche in August of 2015 that challenged investigators and provided few clues.



Holdaway Booking Photo

Zackry Holdaway, 26, of Cedar City, Utah was arrested on Saturday, following a year-long investigation by the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources arrested Holdaway, and he was released on \$10,500 bail yesterday. Holdaway faces multiple criminal charges in Nevada, including felony big game poaching, a gross misdemeanor for possession of an illegally killed big game animal and three misdemeanors for trespassing, using a spotlight to shoot the animal and wanton waste of a game animal.

The animal was shot, the head removed and the rest of the animal was left to waste near the Pearson Ranch in Lincoln County. The landowner where the crime was committed had a trail camera near the crime scene that captured a series of grainy, washed out photos that were the first step investigators used to track down the suspect.

“We tracked down this suspect with very little information. Our investigators used several investigative tools and put in extraordinary effort to solve the case with very little to go on,” said Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed. “This is an egregious waste of Nevada’s wildlife, and we are proud of our commitment to catching the person

Trophy Mule Deer Closed Area

- An Ely man pled guilty to killing a trophy mule deer in the closed area of Great Basin National Park on Nov. 18
- As a national park, this area is completely closed to hunting



Trophy Mule Deer Closed Area

- This case was reported by an eyewitness who provided excellent details about the suspect and his vehicle that was parked nearby
- Ely game warden was able to respond quickly and contacted the suspect leaving the area







Penalty

- Three years of probation
- One year of jail time (suspended)
- Fined more than \$9,000 in civil and criminal penalties
- Forfeited a 7mm rifle used in the crime
- Lost all of his hunting, fishing and trapping privileges for 5 years



Investigations are Complex

- Although many cases are solved through tenacious investigation, many go unsolved without a suspect and many more poaching cases are never even reported.
- Studies show that only about **3-5% of all poached animals are even discovered.**







NV 3554 EX

NV 3599 EX

NEVADA

Rayman

Rayman

Rayman

EVINRUDD

Boating Accidents

- Game wardens investigate numerous boat accidents every year, including several fatalities
- We have an average of five fatal accidents every year
- As examples of this work, last year we investigated a graphic, difficult propeller accident, several PWC collisions, and made a body recovery using the latest technology in deep water



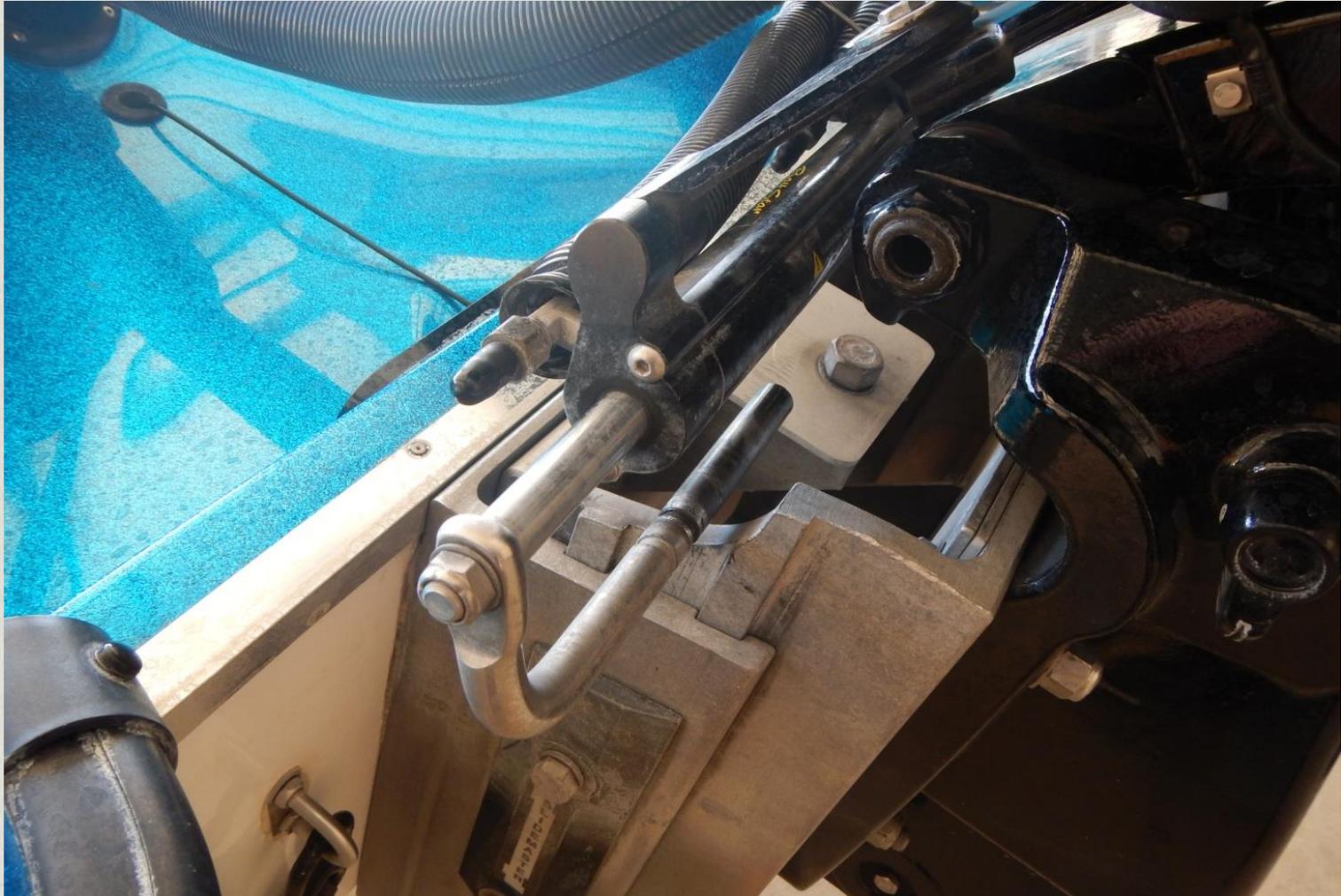




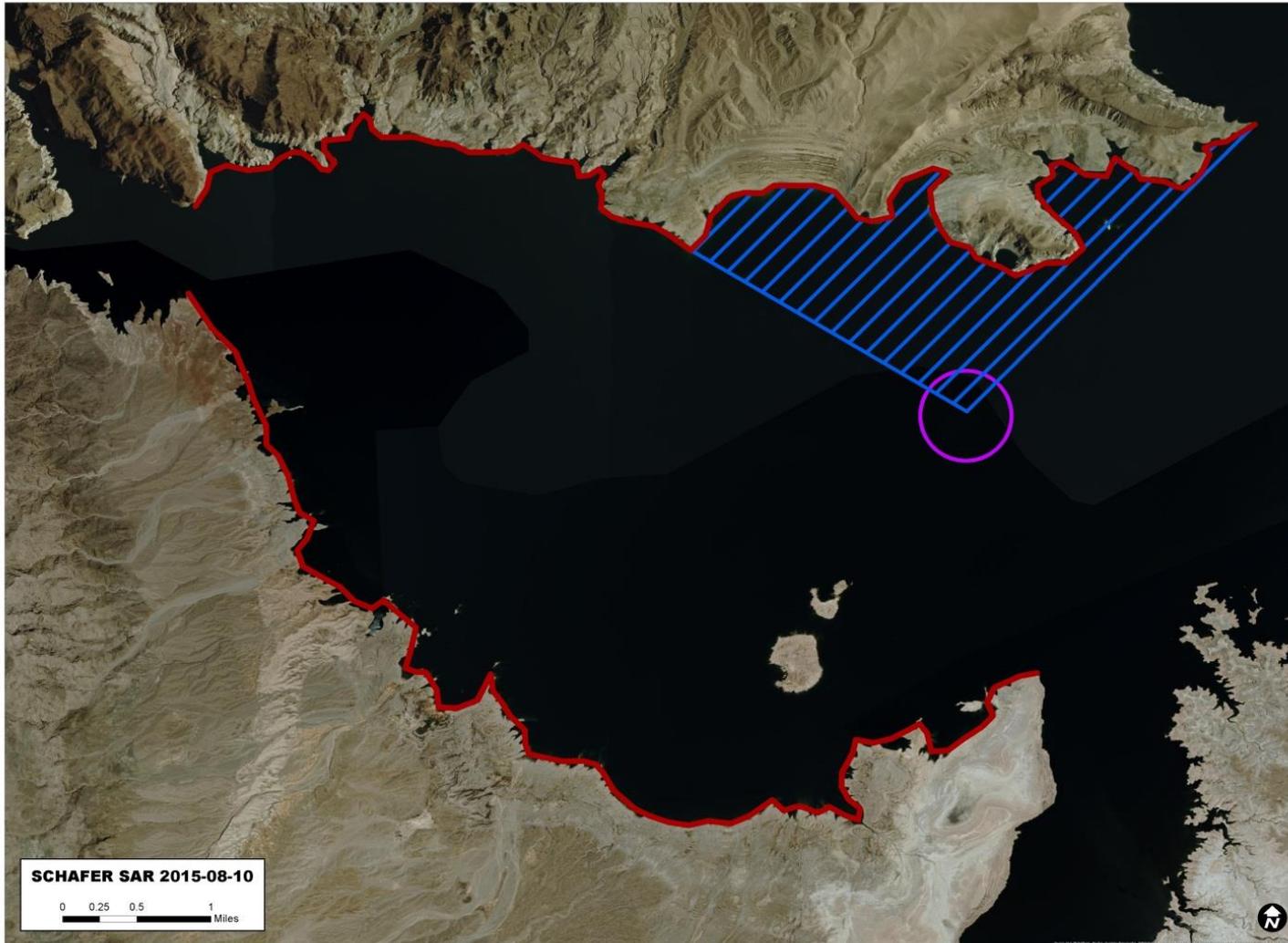
Body Recovery: Virgin Basin



Cause of Ejection



Too Much Area to Search



GPS Data

- Humminbird GPS Model 788
- Track feature was turned on



Nevada Department of Wildlife

The screenshot shows the Google Earth interface with a trail map overlaid on a satellite view of a desert landscape. The trail is composed of nine segments, each marked with a green triangle icon. The trail starts near a reservoir and winds through the surrounding terrain. The interface includes a search bar, a toolbar with various navigation and tool icons, and a left sidebar with a 'Places' list and a 'Layers' panel. The 'Places' list shows a folder named '8/11/15 2:38 AM' containing nine segments. The 'Layers' panel shows various map layers like 'Primary Database', 'Voyager', 'Borders and Labels', etc. The bottom status bar displays the imagery date as 4/7/2014 and coordinates: 36°08'22.52" N 114°26'43.36" W, with an elevation of 1220 ft and eye alt of 38.67 mi.

Google Earth

File Edit View Tools Add Help

Search Sign in

37 25.818' N, 122 05.36' W Get Directions History

Places

- Temporary Places
- 81115 238 AM.kmz
- 8/11/15 2:38 AM
 - Waypoints
 - Segment 1
 - Segment 2
 - Segment 3
 - Segment 4
 - Segment 5
 - Segment 6
 - Segment 7
 - Segment 8
 - Segment 9

Layers Earth Gallery >>

- Primary Database
- Voyager
- Borders and Labels
- Places
- Photos
- Roads
- 3D Buildings
- Ocean
- Weather
- Gallery
- Global Awareness
- More

© 2016 Google

Google earth

Tour Guide Imagery Date: 4/7/2014 36°08'22.52" N 114°26'43.36" W elev 1220 ft eye alt 38.67 mi

Nevada Department of Wildlife

Google Earth

File Edit View Tools Add Help

Search

Search

ex: 37 25.818' N, 122 05.36' W

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Google earth

Tour Guide Jer City

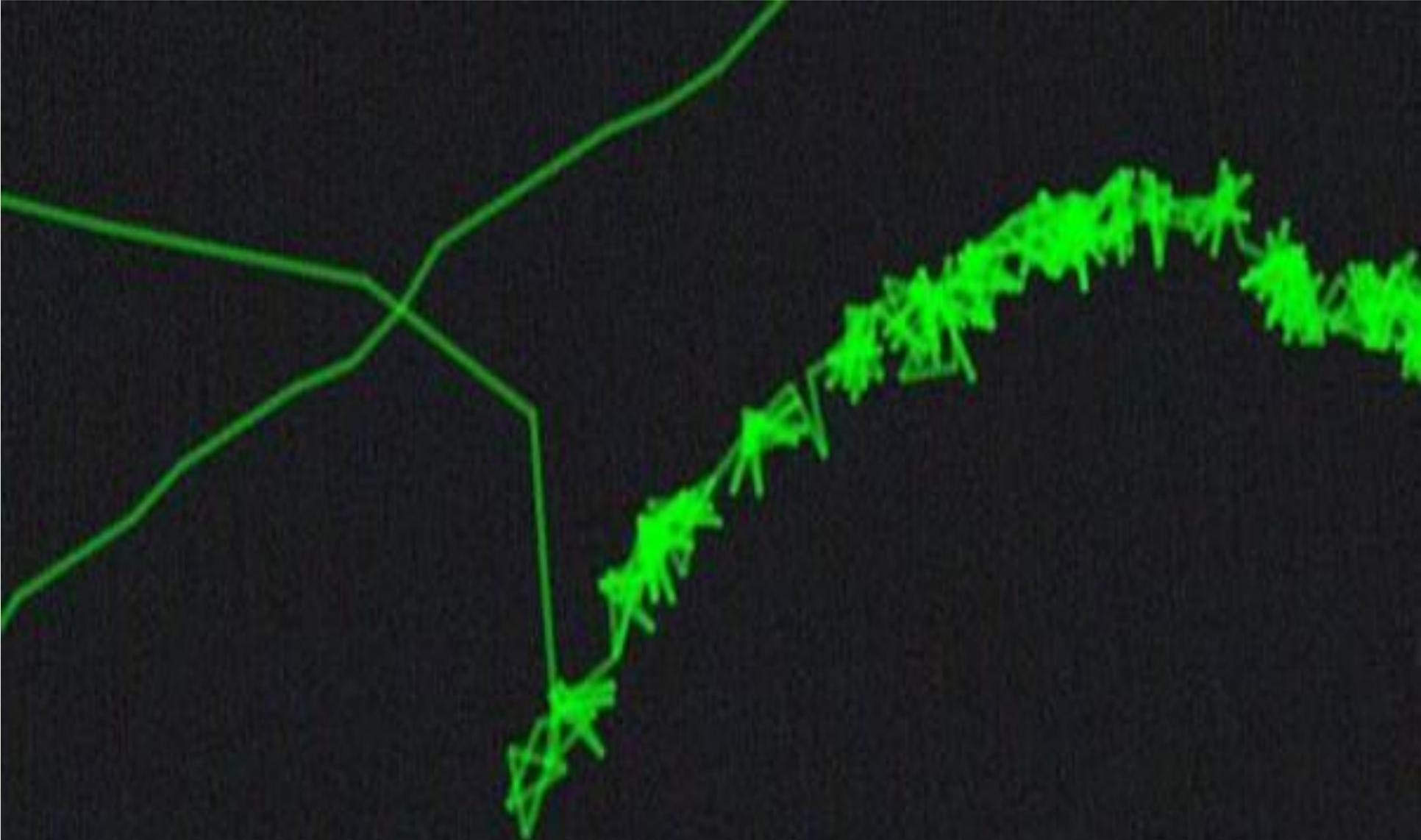
Imagery Date: 3/22/2015 36°07'59.12" N 114°27'50.17" W elev 1218 ft eye alt 38.67 mi

The image shows a Google Earth interface with a satellite view of a reservoir. A green path is overlaid on the map, starting from the bottom left and moving towards the top right. Several green triangle markers are scattered across the map, primarily along the reservoir's shoreline and in the surrounding terrain. The interface includes a search bar, a 'Places' list on the left, and a 'Layers' list on the bottom left. The bottom status bar shows the current location, imagery date, and elevation.

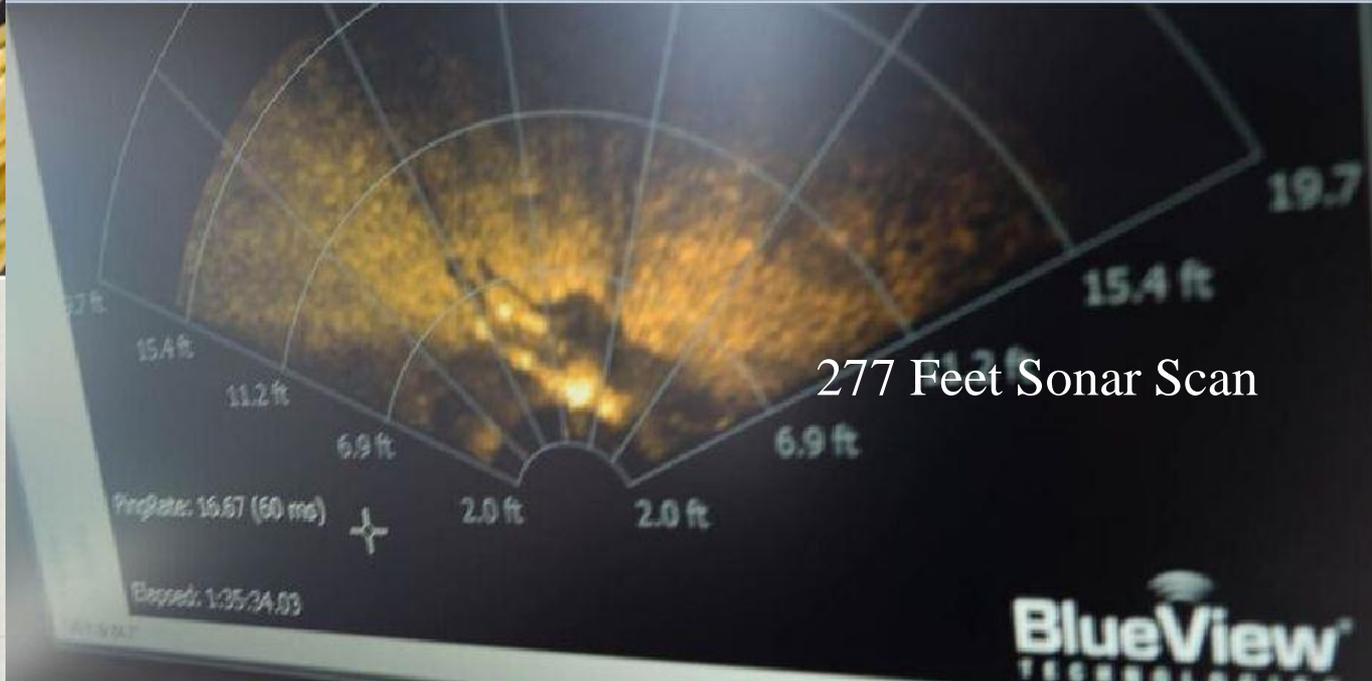
Track photo over map



Nevada Department of Wildlife



Contracted for ROV

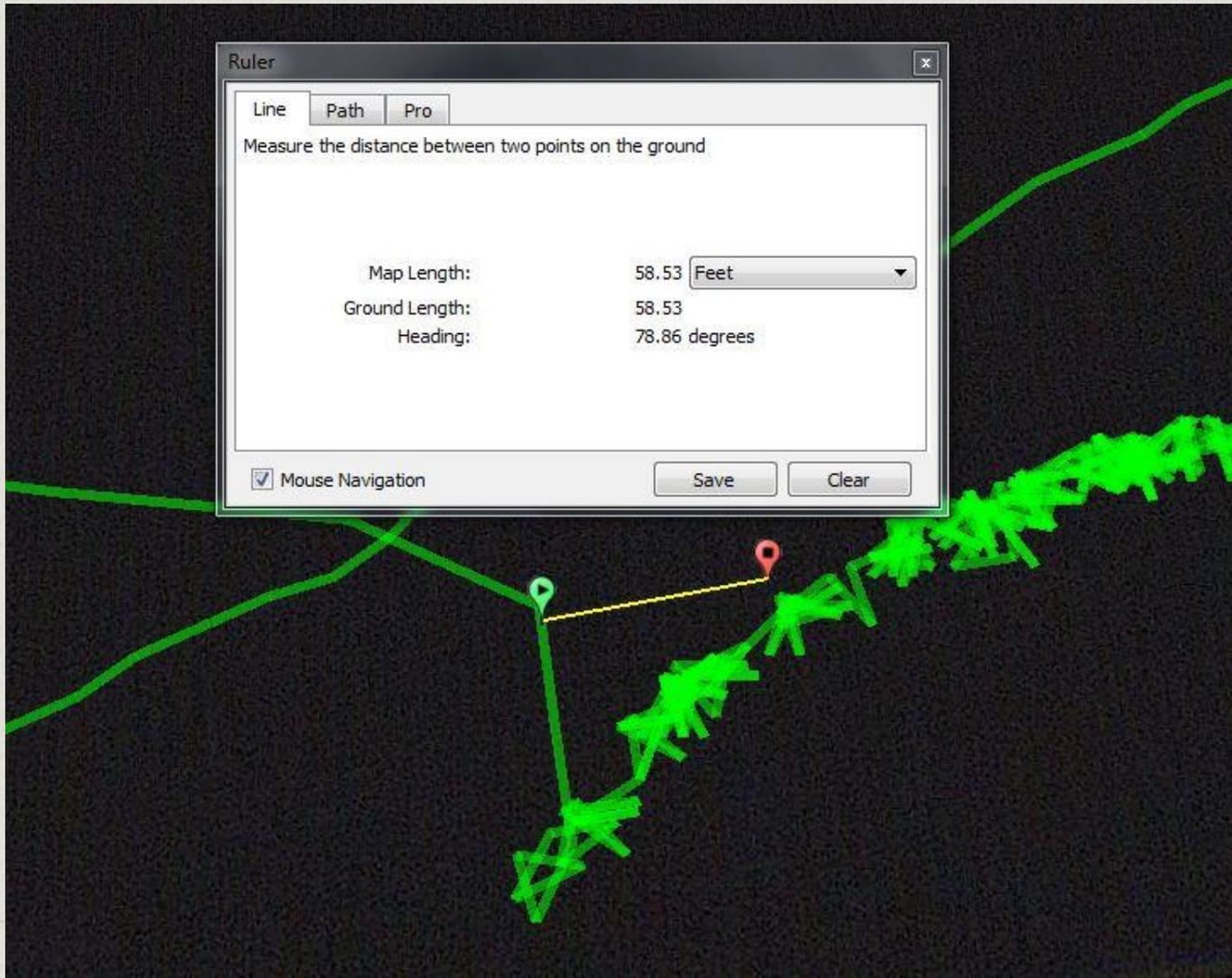


277 Feet Sonar Scan

ROV Recovery



Investigation Pinpointed





Questions?

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<https://www.facebook.com/NvDOW>
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- Check out our latest information and cases on our blog at nevadagamewarden.org





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Our Mission

The Division of Law Enforcement is responsible for protecting Nevada's wildlife resources and ensuring the safety of the boating public.

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