DRAFT MINUTES

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting
Final Agenda

#5

Friday, Aug. 12, 2016, Main Meeting Location:

University of Nevada, Reno
School of Medicine
Center for Molecular Medicine
Whittemore Peterson Institute Room CMM111
Reno, NV 89557

Videoconferencing Locations for Friday, Aug. 12, 2016, Only:

Great Basin College
1500 College Parkway
HTC, RM 121
Elko, NV 89801
College of Southern Nevada – Cheyenne Campus
3200 E Cheyenne Ave
Building C - Culinary Building Room 2638
Las Vegas, NV 89030

Aug. 13, 2016, Saturday's Only Meeting Location, No Videoconferencing Available:
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Main Conference Room
6980 Sierra Center Parkway
Reno, NV 89511

Public comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item, and is limited to three minutes per person. The chairman, in his discretion, may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items or attend and make comment during the meeting and are asked to complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments in order to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

Forum restrictions and orderly business: The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks that antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

Please provide the Board of Wildlife Commissioners ("Commission") with the complete electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations to include as exhibits with the minutes. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format.

Note: County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Members and public comment allowed on each action item and regulation workshop items and at the end of the meeting.

Friday, August 12, 2016 – 9 a.m.

1 Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Drew

2 Election of Officers – Chairman Drew – For Possible Action
In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a chairman and vice chairman.

3 Approval of Agenda – Chairman – For Possible Action
The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

4 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman – Informational
Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Wasley may also be discussed.

5 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

6 Approval of Minutes – Chairman – For Possible Action
Commission minutes from the June 24 and 25, 2016 meeting may be approved.

7 Regulation Update – Commissioner Drew – For Possible Action
A report will be provided on outstanding, pending and future regulations that may require Commission consideration over the next year.

8 Commission Policy 10, Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors, First Reading – Commissioner and Wildlife Heritage Committee Chairman Grant Wallace – For Possible Action
The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 10, Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors, and may take action as recommended by the Wildlife Heritage Committee. Recommendations include language requiring the Department to post the vendor solicitation packets on the Department's website in addition to mailing the packets and clarification on considering vendor proposals received after the deadline. Recommendations also include fiscal clean-up and editorial changes from the June committee meeting. The Commission may advance Policy 10 to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.

9 Commission Policy 11, Wildlife Heritage Grants, First Reading – Commissioner and Wildlife Heritage Committee Chairman Grant Wallace – For Possible Action
The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 11, Wildlife Heritage Grants, and may take action as recommended by the Wildlife Heritage Committee. Recommendations include fiscal clean-up and editorial changes from the June committee meeting. The Commission may advance Policy 11 to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.

10 Commission Policy, Wildlife Contest, First Reading – Commissioner and APRPC Chairman David McNinch and Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – For Possible Action
The Commission will have a first reading of a draft Commission Wildlife Contest Policy for review and change. The Commission may advance the policy to a second reading for possible adoption at a future meeting.

11 Commission Regulations – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed

A Commission Regulation 15 - 09, Amendment #3, Big Game Seasons – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – For Possible Action
The Commission will consider Amendment #3 of the 2016 – 2017 hunting seasons and dates to specifically address inconsistent fall 2016 season dates established previously for the interstate antlered elk hunt in Unit 091 shared with Utah.

B Commission Regulation 16 - 03, Amendment #2, 2017 Heritage Wild Turkey Tag Season and Hours Adjustment – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action
The Commission will consider Amendment #2 of the 2017 Heritage wild turkey tag season and hours to adjust the season and hours. Pursuant to direction from the June 2016 Commission meeting the Department is proposing an amendment to the Heritage wild turkey season to have the season open the Saturday before the earliest date in Commission Regulation 16 - 13 for wild turkey, and to align the hunting hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

12 Commission General Regulations – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed

A Commission General Regulation 464, Appeals, LCB File No. R074-16 – Management Analyst 3 Kim Jolly and APRPC Chair/Commissioner David McNinch – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 501 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation revises provisions relating to practice before the Commission. It provides more efficiency in scheduling appeals, will define that "calendar" days are used for calculation of deadlines, and more clearly notify the appellant in advance of a hearing that the Commission has limited jurisdiction, there will not be a rehearing, but is confined to the record on review. Provide for two, separate Attorneys General (one for the commission, one for the agency) to avoid conflicts with one advising two sides of the appeal. It also requires appellants to give the agency advance notice of legal representation to improve scheduling for a separate lengthier time needed on agendas. These changes were approved by the Wildlife Commission's Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Policy Committee (APRPC) after several public meetings, and they incorporate relevant suggestions from the public and legal counsel.

B Commission General Regulation 467, Special Assistance Permit, LCB File No. R105-16 – Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Through Assembly Bill 136 of the 2015 legislative session, the Nevada State Legislature mandated the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the circumstances under which a person may assist a licensed hunter with certain disabilities in the killing and retrieval of a big game mammal.

C Commission General Regulation 468, Bonus Point Transfer, LCB File R104-16 – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Existing regulation provides for the accumulation of bonus points by a person who applies for certain drawings for tags required for hunting certain species. Such bonus points accumulate and give the person a mathematical advantage in subsequent drawings for a tag. Under existing regulations, a person who changes his or her state of residence may request a transfer of any accumulated bonus points to himself or herself as a resident or nonresident of this State, as appropriate. This regulation change provides the authority to the Department to make such a transfer automatic upon the person's change of residence.

D Commission General Regulation 469, Truckee River Tackle Restriction, LCB File No. R094-16 – Fisheries Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg and Supervising Fisheries Biologist Kim Tisdale – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The change revises NAC 503.504 to require the use of certain types of fishing tackle in portions of the Truckee River. Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used on the Truckee River from 1,000 feet downstream of Derby Dam to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation boundary from Feb. 1 through May 31 each year, to reduce incidental mortality of spawning adult Lahontan cutthroat trout.

13 Public Comment Period

Please note that videoconferencing is not available on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016, meeting. The only meeting location is at:

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Headquarters, Main Conference Room
6980 Sierra Center Parkway
Reno, NV 89511
Saturday, August 13, 2016 – 8:30 a.m.

14 Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman

15 Approval of Agenda – Chairman – For Possible Action
The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

16 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman – Informational
Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Wasley may also be discussed.

17 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

18 Reports – Informational

A Wildfire Update – Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne
Chief Jenne will provide an update on wildfires that have occurred in Nevada this fire season.

B Wild Horse Update – Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne
A report will be provided on the status of wild horse issues pending in Nevada, and a report on Carson Bureau of Land Management Horse Plan.

C Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies – Secretary Tony Wasley and Commissioner David McNinch
Reports from the 2016 conference will be provided.

D Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Brad Johnston
The Commission will hear a report on the committee's recent meeting.

E Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy (APRP) Committee Report – Commissioner and Committee Chairman David McNinch
The Commission will hear a report on the committee's recent meeting.

F Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley
Secretary Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.

G Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Harry Ward

19 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife Workshop Session – Informational

- Welcome and Opening Comments – Chairman and Secretary Wasley – Informational

- Nevada Department of Wildlife Organizational Overview – Secretary Wasley – Informational
  The Department will provide an overview of the Department's structure. Division Administrator's from Operations, Game, Fish, Habitat, Law Enforcement, Conservation Education and Wildlife Diversity, will be present to answer specific questions.

- County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife Duties, Operations, Regulation Processes and Commission Interactions – Informational

- Nevada Department of Wildlife License Simplification Strategy Update – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – Informational
  The Department has analyzed financial data regarding license structure and proposed a revenue neutral pricing structure that has been shared with the public at five community Open Houses. The Department will provide an overview of the information obtained to date.

- Nevada Department of Wildlife Update of Guidelines for Harvest Management in Nevada – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – Informational
  The Department will provide an update on the status and process of refining the draft harvest guidelines for potential future adoption by the Commission.

20 Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Tony Wasley and Chairman – For Possible Action
The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Sept. 23 and 24, 2016, in Las Vegas. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments as necessary at this meeting.

21 Public Comment Period

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Members:

Chairman Grant Wallace
Vice Chairman Brad Johnston
Commissioner Jeremy Drew
Commissioner Kerstan Hubbs
Commissioner David McNinch
Paul E. Valentine
Commissioner Bill Young

Secretary Tony Wasley
Deputy Attorney General Bryan L. Stockton
Recording Secretary Suzanne Scourby

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance during the two days:

Deputy Director Jack Robb
Biologist 4 Tom Donham
Division Administrator Habitat Alan Jenne
Wildlife Diversity Administrator Jennifer Newmark
Game Division Administrator Brian Wakeling
Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed
Fisheries Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg
Division Administrator of Operations Bob Haughian
Management Analyst 3 Kim Jolly
Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger
Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme
Administrative Assistant 4 Katie Simper
Biologist 4 Western Region Kim Tisdale

Others in attendance – Reno Location/two days:

Rex Flowers, self
Jana Hofeditz, self
Rob Jacobsen, Lyon CABMW
Bert K. Gurr, Elko CABMW
Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW
Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW
Elaine Carrick, self
Sara Danta, supporter of Humane Voters of Nevada
Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW
Oliver Starr, Project Coyote
Grace Potorti
Mel Belding, self
Cheyanne Neuffer, self
Meghan Brown, self
Jessie Crim, self
Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW
Brad Block, White Pine CABMW
Caron Tayloe, self
Fred Voltz, recreationist
Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt CABMW
Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW
C. Thornton

Joel Blakeslee, self
Monty Martin, Systems Consultants
Don Molde, Nevada Wildlife Alliance
Sherrill Sundell, self
Brendan Abel
Bobbie McCollum
Connie Howard
Karen Boeger, Nevada Back Country Hunters and Anglers
Susan Terry
Brendan Able
Karen Jacobs, Tactical Team
Trish Swain, Trailsafe
Michon R. Eben

Others in attendance – Las Vegas Location/two days:

Stephanie Myers
Karen Layne
Jana Wright
Brett Jefferson, Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn

Others in attendance – Elko Location/two days: None

Friday, August 12, 2016 – 9 a.m.

1 Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Drew

Chairman Drew called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Commissioners present at roll call: Drew, Wallace, Hubbs, Johnston, McNinch, Valentine and Young.

Chairman Drew noted for the record that Commissioners Bliss and Mori's Commission terms have ended, and at this point new appointments by the governor have not been made.

CABMW Members present at roll call: Joe Crim, Pershing; Craig Burnside, Douglas; Gil Yanuck, Carson; Glenn Bunch, Mineral; Paul Dixon, Clark; Brad Block, White Pine; and Rob Jacobsen, Lyon; Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt; and Bert Gurr, Elko.

2 Election of Officers – Chairman Drew – For Possible Action

Commissioner Drew nominated Commissioner Wallace as chairman. He believes Commissioner Wallace's eight years of experience and two years of serving as the Commission's vice chairman make him well qualified for the job.

COMMISSIONER YOUNG AND MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6 – 0. COMMISSIONER WALLACE ABSTAINED.

CHAIRMAN WALLACE NOMINATED COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON AS VICE CHAIRMAN. COMMISSIONER YOUNG SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment Las Vegas:

Jana Wright said she would have liked the Commission's vice chair to be someone from Southern Nevada.

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON ABSTAINED. MOTION CARRIED 6 – 0.

3 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Wallace

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4 Member Items/Correspondence – Chairman Wallace

Chairman Wallace said correspondence for the meeting received has been sent through NDOW staff.

Commissioner Drew said he received correspondence from Tina Nappe of Toiyabe Chapter of Sierra Club for development of Commission policy relating to wildlife and water. He said he thinks that is a good idea, as the Commission has a policy relating to land transfers. This may be a new policy that may be brought forward at a future Commission or committee meeting. He has corresponded with members of Nevada's congressional delegation regarding the Blue Ribbon resolution passed by the Commission in June. The response from some members of the delegation has been positive. Also of note, the Nevada Commission has won Commission of the Year from WAFWA. Definitely a team effort by everyone in the room, speaks to the quality of people involved in the process. Congratulations to everyone.

Commissioner McNinch thanked Commissioner Drew for his progressive leadership as chairman. Commissioner McNinch said he was contacted by a sportsman to possibly change classification of "wounded" animal to "take" even if you do not find the animal to address loss of animal that is wounded during a hunt. Not sure if that is a future agenda item, or where it would go.

Commissioner Young said correspondence being sent around the state from Mike Reese for him to resign. Letter sent to governor to recall him. He said the issue is support of loophole law for purchase of guns, and most politicians don't support his position due to the NRA. Commissioner Young said he won't resign.

Commissioner Hubbs said she met with Don Molde and Stephanie Myers in advance of the June Commission meeting relative to bobcat trends and population numbers although she was unable to attend the June Commission meeting due to work obligations. Prior to this August Commission meeting Camilla Fox of Project Coyote contacted her relative to policy draft for wildlife killing contest, and Dave Parson of USFWS contacted her on re-introduction of red wolf to New Mexico. They provided her with their thoughts and literature on the public trust doctrine.

Commissioner Valentine said he has an update from an issue brought up in January regarding 26,000 acre land transfer from BLM to the Moapa Indian Reservation. He attended a meeting in July with Congressman Hardy along with members of the Fraternity of Desert Bighorn and the Southern Nevada Coalition for Wildlife. The goal at the meeting was to eliminate opposition the two groups had to the transfer by trying to

get access or management of wildlife by hunting in the bill and had agreed to the following wording “reasonable access to lands described in Subsection B., shall be granted by the tribe to the United States and State of Nevada officials to manage wildlife habitat and individuals who hold a permit issued by the State of Nevada to harvest wildlife, subject to reasonable restrictions under tribal law for conservation or safety purposes.” However, the Fraternity remained opposed to the land transfer as they decided that the wording was still not sufficient.

Secretary Wasley congratulated Chairman Wallace and thanked former Chairman Drew for his service. He said he wanted to update the Commission on the following items: The Blue Ribbon Resolution recently adopted by the Commission is now being used as the template for Commission’s across the country. Commission of the Year recognition by WAFWA was due to former Chairman Drew’s innovative and progressive leadership. He thanked the Commission for their efforts. Secretary Wasley said correspondence has been received by NDOW from the law firm Taggart and Taggart relative to the recently passed Humboldt County Elk Plan seeking clarification of “takings” of use of water rights; NDOW will work with Deputy Attorney General and keep Commission apprised. He has received correspondence from the State of Washington requesting 20 female sage-grouse to recover their population and that request will come before the Commission at a later date.

5 CABMW Member Items -

Brad Block, White Pine CABMW, said at their recent meeting they were informed that BLM fisheries staff is leaving and local concern that Bassett and Comins Lake ongoing projects may be stalled.

Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW, thanked Commission and NDOW for grant provided enabling building facilities at rifle range in Carson and will also use funding for sanitation facilities. Security systems set-up at the range to deter vandalism and he had photos to show the Commission of the improvements.

Rob Jacobsen, Lyon CABMW, thanked former Chairman/Commissioner Drew for attending their meeting. Some members of Lyon CABMW have been approached by livestock community and sportsmen for information on how wildfires are initially fought. Issue was Tule Fire and how that fire got that far out of control. He said they would like to know what early stage efforts are and asked for suggestion for BLM contact so they could invite a representative to their next CABMW meeting as situation was reminiscent of Bilk Creek/Montana fire.

6 Commission Minutes from June 24 and 25, 2016, Meeting – For Possible Action

Commissioner Johnston had a change to Page 11, fourth sentence change to "unsuccessful" from "successful."

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE JUNE 24 and 25, 2016, MINUTES WITH AMENDMENT FROM VICE CHAIRMAN JOHNSTON. COMMISSIONER VALENTINE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 6 – 0. COMMISSIONER HUBBS ABSTAINED DUE TO ABSENCE FROM THE MEETING.

7 Regulation Update – Commissioner Drew – For Possible Action

Commissioner Drew said he does not feel the Commission needs to take action on this item but felt with the change in leadership that this is the appropriate time to review the status of regulations:

- Shed antlers – Deferred from Legislative Committee and that item has not been taken back up by the Commission.
- Trail cameras – New draft language was received from Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB); however, in his opinion he did not feel the language was clear enough for a productive workshop which is why it was not on this agenda.

Commissioner Drew said his recommendation to Chairman Wallace is to possibly convene a committee for those two items – shed antlers and trail cameras – to work through the nuances before having a workshop.

- Black Bear Committee recommended three regulations - attachment of tag, deciding units open to hunting with a dog, and hunting black bears with a shotgun – none have been forwarded to Commission. Those three regulations are outstanding.
- Electronic trigger, caliber, cartridge length and smokeless powder restriction regulation was intended for action tomorrow; however action is postponed due to loss of videoconferencing on Saturday and the notice became invalid. He recommends action on the September agenda.
- Regulations for unmanned aerial vehicles (flying), spike elk, and industrial artificial pond permit, and hull numbers, all await review and approval by the Legislative Commission.

Commissioner Drew said there is a series of regulations scheduled for workshop at the September meeting: Boat drains, antelope and elk waiting periods*, Partnership in Wildlife drawing*, regulation for petition process, motorized vessels on Truckee River.

*TAAHC recommendation

Commissioner Drew advised group that there are two dated regulations that were recently approved by the Legislative Commission: Shorter trap check times in Clark and Washoe County, and the demerit regulation for being late on a trap check and trespass while hunting, fishing or trapping. These two regulations had been deferred during the 2015 legislative session.

Public Comment Las Vegas and Elko – None

Public Comment Reno –

Karen Boeger, Nevada Back Country Hunters and Anglers, said they want speedy regulation discussion to continue on computerized trigger mechanism at the September meetings. Also wants to continue work on trail camera regulation.

8 Commission Policy 10, Wildlife Heritage Tags and Vendors – Chairman Wallace – For Possible Action

Chairman Wallace said the majority of changes are clean-up.

Commissioner Drew said he had the following questions: Under purpose, reviewed the policy and asked if opportunity for “sealed bid” and if not would suggest adding that. Under the Procedure section item 3 it talks of sending out vendor packets by mail or posting on website and asked if any discussion on emailing the packet out?

MA 3 Hullinger said the packets could be emailed; however, the Department has been challenged with NGO’s changing their officers and having different email addresses. She said email addresses on file could be used in the future as a starting point.

Commissioner Drew said page 2, Section 6, needs to add “or turkey” after big game. His last question was if there was discussion as to whether there is preference for events held in Nevada by NGOs when considering awards.

Chairman Wallace said that was not discussed.

Commissioner Johnston unclear on language for Section 4 on page 1, the revised language is not clear on late proposals. He understands it to say rather than being ineligible for consideration, the late proposal can be considered, after all the other proposals have been considered. Will there be any distinction, and will the late proposal be on the same level as timely proposals?

Chairman Wallace said his recollection is that the intent was for late proposals to be considered for leftover tags.

Commissioner Johnston said that must be further clarified as the proposed language sets up a series of issues.

Management Analyst 3 Hullinger said various scenarios happen with late proposals.

Commissioner Drew said easy fix would be when the vendor/solicitation packet is sent to have staff include this policy (Policy #10) and the deadlines are clear. He said to boldface the deadline, and to address Commissioner Johnston's concern, the following could be added: Preference will be given to proposals received on time; if tags remain they may be awarded to late proposals.

Commissioner Johnston suggested the following for proposals received after the deadline: "After the Commission has considered all other proposals, proposals received after deadline may be considered when necessary to fill the purpose of the policy."

Las Vegas, Elko, and Reno Public Comment – None

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ADVANCE POLICY 10 FROM FIRST READING TO A SECOND READING AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING UPDATES: UNDER PURPOSE, WILDLIFE HERITAGE TAG IS DEFINED TO MEAN "BIG GAME OR WILD TURKEY TAG AUCTION OR AWARDED BY SEALED BID" FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A UNIQUE HUNTING OPPORTUNITY. UNDER PROCEDURE IN ITEM 3 ADD "BY THE FIRST OF MONDAY IN MARCH THE DEPARTMENT WILL MAIL, EMAIL AND POST TO THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE," EMAIL ADDED AS DELIVERY MECHANISM. SOLICITATION PACKETS WILL INCLUDE THIS POLICY WHICH IS AN ADD, THE SPECIES SEASON, QUOTAS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS. ITEM 4 WE WOULD INCORPORATE COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON'S LANGUAGE - ADD THE FOLLOWING TO END OF SECOND SENTENCE "WHEN NECESSRY TO FULLFIL THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY. ITEM #6 ON PAGE 2, A VENDOR MAY NOT ALLOW A BIG GAME OR "TURKEY" HERITAGE TAG SO THE ADDITION WOULD BE FOR TURKEY. COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0.

9 Commission Policy 11, Wildlife Heritage Grants, First Reading – Chairman Wallace

Commissioner Drew had only one change to Policy 11 and that was to update title/ signature block to Chairman Wallace.

Elko, Las Vegas, and Reno Public Comment – None

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON MOVED TO ADVANCE POLICY 11 TO SEPTEMBER COMMISSION MEETING: CHANGING CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE BLOCK TO GRANT WALLACE. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DREW. MOTION CARRIED 7 – 0.

10 Commission Policy, Wildlife Contest, First Reading – Commissioner and APRP Chairman McNinch and Game Division Administrator Wakeling

Game Division Administrator Wakeling prepared a memorandum that outlined the concepts that define a possible broad policy. Department is guided by Commission policy, and Commission requested the committee develop a contest policy and this is the first draft developed by NDOW. The draft was heard in committee with public comment and decided to have the policy heard by the full Commission to encompass the full scope of concerns heard in their meetings.

Commissioner McNinch said there was recognition how the policy might apply to big buck or big fish contests, and relative to coyote killing contests the policy rang hollow in addressing the public's expressed concerns. The draft was a platform for the Commission to start working from but may need to be more specific to contests and desire for terminology to be defined.

Commissioner Drew said this is not a regulation and knows that people won't be happy unless it is. And as chairman thought a policy would get us halfway there. He said if you are involved in a contest you must think of how that affects wildlife as there can always be abuse. He said he does not think we need policies specific to every species and believes the Commission can have a leadership position with items that should be considered if you participate in a contest. He supports moving forward with a policy and is willing to add further input in addition to the handful of emails received to date.

Commissioner Valentine said he supports the policy as written.

Commissioner Hubbs said the policy is broad but is a beginning. She said some of the issues with killing contests with non-regulated species cause concern for a great deal of the public. She said policy broken down into what they support and don't. That is a good start. She would bring into the policy the North American model tenets and describe them as that would lead the Commission in a clearer manner moving forward as that will lead the Commission to contests that may not be acceptable.

Commissioner Young agreed with Commissioner Valentine, but does not get the killing of a species for fun or a contest, cannot support that and would do anything to prevent that. Although growing up in rural Nevada, knows mentality of livestock operators that kill coyotes on sight. Personal choice, and has no use for organized contests. He said this is a start and supports adding tenets of North American model.

Public Comment Las Vegas – Jana Wright read statement for the record: I want to thank you for bringing a policy forward addressing wildlife contests. The Commission often grapples with tough policy issues as more and more stakeholders become involved in the management of our wildlife, wildlife that belongs to all the people of Nevada. The broad category of "wildlife contests" and what the commission supports and doesn't support could perhaps be better defined. I personally interpret the policy before you today as a policy that does not support coyote killing contests. In reviewing the minutes of the APRP committee of June 2016, I see I cannot make that assumption as at least one person during public comment felt the policy would allow coyote killing contests. It appears clarification is needed. I suggest under the section of contests the commission does not support, add a fifth bullet point that reads: Reward the taking of coyotes in contests, tournaments or derbies. As always, I thank you for taking my comments under consideration in this policy discussion.

Stephanie Myers read statement for the record:

3/12/16 Stephanie Myers Stephanie

2 points:

1- We're not talking about your exterminator Killing all the cockroaches. . . .
And we're not talking about "Hey my uncle John got a bigger buck than yours. . . .
Oh yeah, wanna bet?"
We're talking about the serious gatherings that glory in the Killing of one species - the coyote - that pest -
"who can Kill the most for fun + prizes?"
These last Kind of brutal contests "Coyotes" ~~are~~ is all we are ~~protesting~~ asking one w/ definitions for policy enforcement.

2- You gentlemen often talk about following the SCIENCE.
Have you seen this list of scientists who signed this letter from project Coyote?
Here are 50 of our best scientists from all over this country, Canada and the world.
They point out that coyote Killing contests are not effective at either
→ depredation - serving management objectives or loss of livestock
OR in
→ increasing the population of game species.

They also point out that coyotes have Many beneficial effects such as rodent control and disease prevention. or ~~should not be killed in these~~ contests should be prohibited.

[redacted] are some of the best scientists in the and we hope you will ~~take away the ns they offer~~. incorporate thier considered opinions in your policy.

Public Comment Elko – None

Oliver Starr said he represents Project Coyote and also is a wildlife advocate with extensive back county experience and more than 30 years of direct hands on work with large carnivores. He read letter submitted to Commission. On behalf of Project Coyote and our Nevada supporters, we offer these comments regarding the proposed policy (reference #-NRS 501.100, 501.105) addressing "organized contests and the take of wildlife" in Nevada. In the proposed policy, the Commission supports contests that:

Focus on the ethical, personal skill necessary to the contest.
RESPONSE: Modern methods with electronic calls and super sophisticated weaponry minimize "personal skills". How can any wildlife killing contest be deemed ethical? The Commission must define what constitutes "ethical personal skills" for wildlife killing contests. The assurance of "ethical, personal skill" seems impossible to achieve in the context of a wildlife killing contest. We note that the highly respected Boone & Crocket Club opposes wildlife killing contests as being antithetical to ethical sportsmanship.

Encourage participation in wildlife-related activities and outdoor traditions.
RESPONSE: Where is the evidence that wildlife killing contests are an established "outdoor tradition?" And even if there is such a tradition, what is the justification for perpetuating the tradition? Similar "traditions" such as cock fighting, dog fighting have been banned for being unethical. What makes wildlife killing contests different?

Follow all relevant wildlife laws, regulations, and ordinances.
RESPONSE: For regulated species this is a given expectation and legal requirement. But what rules would contestants be legally compelled to follow for killing contests of unregulated species, such as coyotes?

Adhere to the principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.
RESPONSE: The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (NAMWC) establishes wildlife as a "public trust resource." "Wildlife" means all wildlife and the "public" means everyone and all "interests" (not just hunters), and all future generations. How can wildlife killing contests be reconciled with the Commission's public trust obligations? The NAMWC requires a "legitimate purpose" for taking wildlife. No legitimate purpose is served by competitive killing of wildlife. The Commission openly admits this by stating: "the wildlife management profession does not generally recognize the use of contests as a tool with substantial wildlife management effect." This tenet alone should justify a complete ban of wildlife killing contests. The NAMWC prohibits the "marketing of game." How is offering cash and prizes for the dead bodies of wildlife not the establishment of a "market" for wildlife? The only way a killing contest could meet this standard would be one that offered no money or prizes. The NAMWC requires wildlife policy to be based on and consistence with the best science. There is no valid science in support of wildlife killing contests.

Encourage respect for the wildlife pursued, attention to the traditions exercised, and enjoyment of wildlife resources.
RESPONSE: Competitive killing of wildlife is antithetical to the concepts of "respect", "enjoyment", and "traditional uses" of wildlife. We challenge the Commission to demonstrate otherwise.

The Commission does not support contests that glorify the death of wildlife through insensitive photographs, inappropriate behaviors, or contests that simply enumerate take.
RESPONSE: How does the awarding of cash or prices not "glorify" the death of wildlife killed in a contest even if all the photographs are not "insensitive"? We believe that the very act of striving to kill more wildlife than all other contestants in order to win a prize constitutes "inappropriate behavior." The very nature of a "contest" requires winners and losers. There are a few ways to establish winners without "enumerating take," which is the measure of success in most, if not all, wildlife killing contests. How is the Commission's admonition of these unsavory attributes of wildlife killing contest going to stop such contests? What is the fine for contests that don't follow these rules of engagement?

The Commission does not support contests that intentionally violate wildlife laws or intentionally conceal inadvertent violations of wildlife law.
RESPONSE: How can this be enforced?
The Commission does not support contests that do not use all parts and edible portions of the wildlife taken.

RESPONSE: How is "edible" defined? Are there species of wildlife that are considered "inedible?" If so, these need to be specifically identified. Otherwise, how can this provision possibly be enforced? And how can the killing of inedible wildlife be considered a "legitimate purpose" for taking wildlife?

The Commission does not support contests that are blatantly disrespectful to the wildlife being pursued.
RESPONSE: This prohibition serves to define the basic nature of all wildlife killing contests-"blatantly disrespectful." Under what conditions would the wanton killing of wildlife for personal glory and prizes be "respectful?" Based on the aforementioned questions and comments regarding the Commission's proposed policy, we believe there is solid justification for the outright banning of wildlife killing contests. Because coyote killing contests are the most prevalent and controversial form of contest in Nevada and because the indiscriminate killing of predators is not a legitimate, science-based wildlife management tool as outlined in the letter below signed by 50 preeminent scientists that provides peer-reviewed science, we urge the Commission to consider starting with a ban of coyote killing contests.

Fred Voltz read and provided his written comments for the record: Even though the Commission has created special NAC regulations for antelope, black bear, deer, bighorn sheep, elk, and mountain goats, it has committed a serious error in judgment by reducing wildlife killing contests to a mere policy. Project Coyote, its trained biologist, Camilla Fox, and 50 other scientists submitted a point-by-point analysis of the deficiencies and enormous holes in this proposed policy. There are no reasonable answers to the questions they have appropriately raised. Despite two public petitions to this Commission and hundreds of people sending written comments and speaking out at your meetings, the issue cannot and has not been adequately addressed by the proposed policy. There is nothing in this policy that provides Game Warden Turnipseed and his deputies with any enforcement mechanism to cite, fine or prosecute offenders.
There is no procedure for assessing the gaming aspects of these contests, which should be created in unison with the state Gaming Commission. How is the Commission protecting the public or promoting public safety if a group of people are racing around on public and private property indiscriminately discharging lethal weapons? How is the Commission 'managing wildlife' with these vague statements that have no operational or legal effect? Who is going to define what constitutes 'insensitive' if the U.S. Supreme Court cannot define what is or is not pornography? The proposed policy statement, as currently constituted, does not create prudent public policy; it needs to be jettisoned in favor of a formal, meaningful regulation that addresses the core problem brought to the Commission's attention by the public.

Susan Terry, Reno resident, said for the Commission to consider that coyotes are a keystone species. Rabbits have invaded her property and she cannot garden anymore. Wolves removed from Yellowstone changed ecosystem as they are a keystone species. Coyotes are a keystone species in Nevada as there are thousands of rabbits now. Coyote killing contest was in Lemmon Valley near her. Need to protect pets, vegetation has changed to weeds and stickers.

Connie Howard, Nevada Wildlife Alliance, support Project Coyotes and as an original petitioner is grateful the Commission moved the policy forward. The draft policy is vague and lacks enforcement. Could ban coyote killing contests by making it specific and add language to make the policy more in line with North American Wildlife model.

Don Molde, Nevada Wildlife Alliance, thanked the Commission for starting the process and not a bad proposal. He asked that Commission solicit information when policy is violated, would like smaller concentrated version to address coyote killing contests as that is the only contest that comes to mind in his 40 years of participation. He cited the Commission's duty to promulgate regulations and duties. He said he knows why the Commission won't do anything is because sportsmen will complain that they are losing their rights.

Trish Swain, TrailSafe Nevada, agreed slow progress being made. Project Coyote letter covered the points people most concerned about. Concerned about children participating in contests and would like NDOW to help in neighborhoods to understand what steps to take when coyotes seen in a neighborhood and to co-exist.

Brendan Abel said he will be making several main points: why wildlife killing contests should be stopped, the importance of coyotes to native people and how we can coexist together. It was brought to my attention that there have been wildlife killing contests taking place in northern Nevada which are being targeted at coyotes. It does not sit well with me knowing there are people out there who get a kick out of killing an animal for a prize and amusement. I want to begin by sharing with the commission the cultural importance of the coyote from the Native American perspective; I will do that by reading a short Paiute oral history about how coyote created Native People long ago. This is not a legend or a myth it is an oral history that has been passed on for generations. As you heard Coyote was here first and put us humans here second, so my people owe a lot of respect towards him. Coyote is not a varmint he is a respectable spiritual being. So it saddens not only Native people but people of other races to hear about these contests which promote killing for fun. These wildlife contests convey the wrong message to hunters, children, and the general public that all animal life is expandable. The Coyote is an important part of the ecosystem because they consume a variety of prey such as snakes, lizards, insects, indigenous vegetables and fruits…from coming near homes and people is to eliminate any attractants such as left over pet food, water, cleaning up fallen fruit from trees, and securing garbage can lids. When you let your small pets be sure to monitor their outside activities and be sure to keep them in at night as coyotes would see them as prey. Larger dogs should be kept on a leash when on walks. Coyotes are territorial creatures especially during mating and pup seasons in which they would see dogs as a threat. For the ranchers and farmers it would be ideal to build better fencing with a six foot clearance and a six inch depth according to coyoteroller.com. Investing a livestock guarding animal to protect large herds is a plus; these can include llamas, donkeys, and dogs. These methods may seem a little intense but coyotes have inhabited the United States for thousands of years, and it doesn't look like they are going anywhere so we should do our best to coexist with them because randomly killing is not the way. In regards to the Wildlife Contest Policy, what I would like to see added to the draft policy is a permit requirement. First and for most I am against killing contests if there has to be a contest then there must be a permit process. This permit process would require background checks, fees structure, and NDOW law enforcement and public notification. That way NDOW and the general public can know when and where an event is taking place and for how long. This draft policy is a great first step but needs a lot of work. For instance, in the purpose section the Commission recognizes that contest organizers and contestants are responsible for exercising good judgment and respect for all wildlife. Exercising good judgment and respect for all wildlife needs to be defined because “good” and “respect” are very different for respectful and disrespectful people. My good judgement is different from a hunter who is going out there to kill for amusement. In my Native American hunting tradition when we kill our prey there is a respectful technique, we do not kill just to kill we have a purpose. There is a prayer, honor and gratitude for taking of a life to feed our families. We also utilize the dead animal's parts, such as the skin in our traditional moccasins, dress and glove makings. We still utilize these techniques. Further the draft policy states that the commissioners will support ethical, outdoor traditions, and respect for the

wildlife pursuit. Again these words need to be defined. Because Commissioners, your ethics, audience your ethics and my ethics are very different. In closing I would like to say that the decision is up to you, the Commissioners, if you would like to see us coexist with these creatures or let these unethical contests to continue.

Bobbie McCollum said no mention of gambling that occurs in the policy makes, without addressing gambling you are giving your stamp of approval. She hopes the Commission includes language that gambling be removed.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, said this item discussed at length at their meeting. Clark CABMW decided that policy as written deals with hunter ethics not enforceable. As enforceable policy needs more work and Clark CABMW took no action.

Grace Potorti speaking for herself said she lives one-half mile from contest in Lemmon Valley and was there at the bar. She challenged each of the Commissioners to attend a contest as she did. She photographed the contest and was nightmarish. All need to see what happens there such as selling t-shirts, and all the stuff as prizes, and is a profit making enterprise for Wayside Bar in Lemmon Valley. She witnessed the event and the policy is good to move forward. The contest in Lemmon Valley violated everything in the policy and is so disrespectful to the animal.

Rex Flowers said the policy as written should be passed; the policy identifies and meets all of the concerns that were discussed at the committee meeting.

Joel Blakeslee said this has nothing to do with wildlife science or management. He relayed conversation that he and Commissioner McNinch had about wildlife watchers. Commissioner McNinch described a rare bird and told of his experience meeting new friends who traveled to see the bird and socializing with them. Mr. Blakeslee said that event reminded him of coyote killing contest he attended as same type of social event. Contests are like-minded people socializing, legal activity. This is cultural bigotry. The policy has platitudes and innuendos, and would not proceed with policy.

Michon Eben, resident and Native American, said science has made culture into myths, and legends. Their creation stories are more than that they are oral histories that are real and true to them. As we all have oral histories. In America our pastime is killing and sportsmanship is about killing and is different than society. Draft policy as a first step; define exercising good judgment and respect for all wildlife. There needs to be respect for animals. She would ask that ethical behavior be defined, as all ethics are different amongst people. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. Coyote placed here first, spiritual being, never attacked on something wrongful in their eyes.

Cheyanne Neuffer speaking for herself said she learned Native American beliefs, grew up on a ranch. Respect for other beings is crucial for humanity. Acts such as coyote killing contests are the utmost example of disregard for another life. She would think we would not need another law to enforce something that should be already in your blood.

She hopes the Commissioners understand the importance of today's decision, this is just not another policy, and this is a matter of respect.

Jana Hofeditz said she is a volunteer with the Humane Society of United States and she read their comments into the record.

My name is Jana Hofeditz and I am a volunteer with the Humane Society of the United States and I provide the following comments on the proposed policy on organized contests and the take of wildlife on behalf of the Humane Society of the U.S. and our Nevada supporters. The Commission's policy as written is vague and offers limited oversight. It does not go far enough to regulate contests, still allowing participants to treat the killing of animals as a game. These events flout sportsmanship ethics and outdoor traditions as it is impossible to show respect for an animal that is pursued in a competitive atmosphere complete with cash and prizes. Wildlife killing contests are unsporting and cruel. Hunting involves fair chase and respect for animals and their habitats.[i] Wildlife killing contests do the opposite: sponsors reward contestants for killing the most or the largest animals. Most hunters would agree that shooting live animals for fun, prizes, or target practice is unacceptable. Public acceptance for coyotes and other large carnivores is increasing. Animals that were once stigmatized, such as bats, sharks, and coyotes are now appreciated as critical components to a functioning ecosystem that are deserving of compassion and conservation, as opposed to a previous ethos of domination and mastery over wild animals. This should be translated into rethinking organized killing contests of wild animals. The Commission itself even recognizes that killing contests are not an effective method for managing wildlife. In fact, culling coyotes and other wildlife under a misguided belief system that "reducing predators" will protect ungulate herds like deer and elk, or make livestock safer is not supported by the best available science. Specifically, persecution of coyotes disrupts their social structure, which, ironically, encourages more breeding and migration, and in the end, results in more coyotes. Furthermore, indiscriminate killing of predators fails to target problem animals, and can actually lead to an increase in conflicts with livestock. Wildlife killing contests are scientifically unjustifiable, unsporting, and contrary to how Nevadans believe wild animals should be treated. We are in agreement with Project Coyote's synopsis regarding the Commission's policy and strongly urge the Commission to ban these events in Nevada.

Ms. Hofeditz further added that she observed the contest and learned that BLM did not permit the event or police the event. The contest sponsor, Wayside Bar, advertised the event falsely stating they could participate on private land but hunters were on public land. She went out as a citizen to protect public land; opposed to the contest because if you kill an animal it should be eaten. That is a basic rule, and needs to addressed for all contests even fishing.

Chairman Wallace concluded public comment and Commissioners further discussed the policy and defining what is a contest; purpose of the policy; and ethics. Chairman Wallace said as one Commissioner said there is a fine line between what one person sees as acceptable, and does not think the Commission needs to get super specific as putting out there what the Commission feels is appropriate and what isn't. He said he

has a hard time as most of us on the Commission agree with what is in the policy but at the same time we are threading the needle between what the public feels and what contest organizers have going on. In many ways that defines what the Wildlife Commission tries to do, which is find the middle ground between them. (11:47 a.m.)

Commissioner Valentine said the policy establishes a baseline for communication. Not perfect but as a committee member, this is a good starting point.

Commissioner McNinch said this discussion is more toned down then what the committee heard as comments today have been well thought out. We are discussing acceptability of actions and where is the line—human dimensions study being refined as to evaluate motivations that drive take of wildlife affect acceptability and perception by the public. The study is measuring activity and is putting in perspective for policy-makers to understand. Importance of having discussion is a big deal and has promised the conversation and if referred back to committee will ask for specific guidelines to continue the conversation.

Commissioner Young said policy does not give authority to law enforcement. Respects what Mr. Blakeslee said and in terms of times past contests that may have been appropriate. Commission needs to consider social norms and do something for today, and do something. Either make a law or don't because wardens won't be able to determine what you can or can't do.

Commissioner Johnston said if this policy was adopted the Commission will probably receive another petition as contests violate policy, and would be back where we were. If we don't get it right will still have an ongoing issue.

Commissioner Hubbs said literature received from NDOW, and in terms of specificity would like tenets of North American model included such as tenets numbered 2 and 5 -- wanton killing of any type of species and commercialization of killing a wildlife species.

Commissioner Drew agreed with much of the discussion today that some of the terminology is vague. It is a policy it is not a regulation. Lots of questions as to what type of position this puts NDOW and the Commission in. What is described in the policy under "purpose" is actually "background" on this issue. If Commission has a policy need to define the "purpose." Not sure where to head, or method for Commission to articulate their position, and how to do that without infringing on individual rights. His question comes back to if a Commission Policy is correct mechanism to express what has been discussed and secondly if it is how do we move forward? (12:02 p.m.)

Commissioner McNinch said decision to be made on how to address this matter; either policy or a regulation.

Chairman Wallace said this is the same point where the committee got, and to move forward with a decision needs to be made so as not to waste Commission or public time.

Further Commission discussion on how to proceed. Chairman Wallace said unless someone has a motion or action, he will leave it as is and think the matter over and have the policy on the next agenda. He does not want to skip this, and at the end of this meeting, agenda items for September will be discussed.

11 Commission Regulations (CR) – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed

A CR 15-09 15 – 09, Amendment #3, Big Game Seasons – Game Division Administrator Brian Wakeling

Game Division Administrator Brian Wakeling said the amendment to the regulation is to address the inconsistent season dates for the interstate antlered elk hunt in Unit 091 between Nevada and Utah. He estimated the change will affect 15 or so hunters.

Commissioner Drew asked if hunters will be reissued new tags as their current tags will have different dates. Game Division Administrator Wakeling said hunters will be contacted to advise them of open areas, and the season will be as denoted in the support material. He said the Department's intent would be to provide a new tag if desired or the letter that is sent informing them of the change would be the authorization in the field.

Las Vegas, Elko and Reno Public Comment – None

COMMISSIONER YOUNG MOVED TO APPROVE CR 15 – 09, AMENDMENT #1, AS SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER HUBBS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Commissioner Drew said for clarification that it is implied that the Department will notify sportsmen of the action by the Nevada and Utah Commissions.

11 B CR 16-03, Amendment #2, 2016 Heritage Wild Turkey Tag Season and Hours Adjustment – MA 3 Hullinger

MA 3 Hullinger said the amendment is to align the 2017 Wildlife Heritage tags with the changes in 2017 spring turkey seasons. One change is to the time, from 4 p.m. to one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, and the actual Heritage turkey tag season is listed as the Saturday next preceding the earliest date established in regulation and the actual date March 18, 2017 through May 7, 2017.

Commissioners Drew and Hubbs said the terminology "next preceding Saturday" is confusing and both requested that "the date" be specifically used.

Las Vegas, Elko and Reno Public Comment – None

COMMISSIONER VALENTINE MOVED TO APPROVE CR 16-03, AMENDMENT #2, WITH THE CHANGE TO ELIMINATE "SATURDAY NEXT PRECEEDING" AND INSERT THE DATE. COMMISSIONER DREW SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12 Commission General Regulations – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed

A CGR 464 Appeals – MA 3 Jolly and APRC Chair/Commissioner McNinch – For Possible Action

Chairman Wallace read the agenda item description. MA 3 Jolly said the Commission memo submitted as support material for the item summarizes the need and purpose of the regulation.

Las Vegas, Elko and Reno Public Comment - None

The Commission provided individual comments on the regulation:

- Commissioner Johnston said if appellant fails to submit all of their documents, 14 calendar days prior to hearing that would be the basis for denial. He suggested inserting that language at conclusion of subsection 501.153, prior to next subsection.
- Commissioner Hubbs asked if that change would be at the Commission's discretion. A situation could occur where you have someone turn in everything, but one item.
- Commissioner Johnston said it won't be "shall."

DAG Stockton said when notice of hearing sent the appellant must be notified and suggested wording of "waive" right to hearing rather than "denial." There was further discussion on wording and a break was taken to verify the correct language.

Commissioner Johnston read the language changes: "Page 3 of proposed language, insert in Section 4., at the end that the notice must also inform the appellant of the items that must be filed pursuant to NAC 501.153 subsection 1, 14 calendar days before the date set for the hearing."

- Change addresses issue that the appellant receive notice of what the hearing is and notice of the filing requirements.

Commissioner Johnston continued that at the end of Section 2, 501.153 subsection 1 at the top of page 4 insert the language that "a party that fails to file the foregoing may waive its right to a hearing on the appeal."

Las Vegas, Elko, and Reno Public Comment – None

Chairman Wallace said to advance CGR 464 from workshop to LCB with changes then back to a future Commission meeting.

B CGR 467, Special Assistance – Chief Game Warden Turnipseed

Chairman Wallace read the agenda item description.

Chief Game Warden Turnipseed said the purpose of the regulation is to allow an assistant to retrieve or finish off a mortally wounded animal, Assembly Bill 136 of the 2015 legislative session mandated a regulation. He said language is similar to that of shooting from a vehicle. The draft regulation was presented by Captain Maynard.

Commission comments on CGR 467 -

- Commissioner Drew asked if you would you be able to designate more than one assistant per tag in event more than one helper is needed or a situation happens that makes it not possible for the designated assistant to participate.

Captain Maynard said that would be possible but some parameters would have to be established to limit the number of assistants. Further discussion on “assistants” ensued.

Commissioner Hubbs asked if the physicians’ statement will be added to the next draft.

Captain Maynard answered that it is not, as there are two current NACs that cover that. One is modification for archery which is a device to assist archer and the statute that allows scope on muzzleloader. Both have language that a physician has to certify qualifications. He suggested that same specific language be used in this regulation as this is a broader privilege than other assistant regulations.

Commissioner Johnston supports more than one assistant.

Captain Maynard answered that the hunter may have more than one assistant as it is written. The “designated” assistant would have the ability to attempt to “take” the animal and “punch” the tag, two tasks currently only relegated to the tag holder. We are expanding that to the “delegated” assistant.

Las Vegas Public Comment –

Jana Wright asked how many people would this regulation effect, is it five people or a thousand? How many people would be applying for these permits?

Elko Public Comment – None

Reno Public Comment –

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, said CABMW members found regulation that exists in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, to assist disabled hunters and that may assist staff with rewriting statutes. Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont allow two people to

hunt on the same tag. They have sub-permittees and alternate permittee, and he provided the language for staff to review from the other states.

Carl Erquiaga thanked the Commission for this regulation, and said he is the father of a young man who qualifies under this regulation. He said it has always been his fear if his son wounded an animal how that would go, and he shares concerns expressed on numerous assistants because he could envision different family members wanting to assist on different days of his son's hunt.

Fred Voltz agreed with Jana Wright's comment, and said a lot of staff time spent on this regulation and asked if it is really necessary? Couldn't we just have a policy and be done with it rather than all of this specific detailed information. Mr. Voltz said he would like to know how many potential hunters are we actually looking at here, and would be nice if someone answered that question here.

Commissioner Drew said in response to comment as to how many hunters this regulation applies to, is irrelevant, the Commission was given a charge from the legislature which was direct. The legislature did not care how many individuals affected. He can say that when Outdoorsman in Wheelchairs does a hunt, there are more than a couple people for the hunt. There is growing interest in this issue. Commissioner Drew does think that there should be more than one assistant. He said when this discussion arose in the legislature there never was intent for allowing a first shot by the assistant, the intent was with retrieval and taking of big game that was not taken with that first shot.

Commissioner Drew said with the Chairman's agreement, his recommendation is to provide the Department direction to provide for up to at least two alternative assistants, in the regulation. Return to a second workshop with that change, with appropriate language as well as ones listed here and have all the changes in one place for a second workshop. Chairman Wallace agreed with Commissioner Drew's recommendation.

Chief Game Warden Turnipseed said the additions from Captain Maynard could be included along with amending the part of two alternative assistants.

Secretary Wasley said listening to the discussion he senses the need for balancing need to have assistants, but perhaps limit the group to one weapon amongst them to alleviate concerns.

Commissioner Johnston said he does not think we are ever wasting Commission time or resources to make sure we accommodate those with disabilities. To suggest otherwise, throws us back to days where we don't spend money on public buildings to make them accessible because disabled persons are a handful of the population. This issue is worth our time.

Commissioner Hubbs said obviously this will protect wildlife and allow retrieval of game. The regulation is very relevant.

Commissioner Drew said limiting the group to one weapon could be a problem if the hunter's weapon is physically mounted to a track wheelchair.

C CGR 468, Bonus Point Transfer – Maureen Hullinger

MA 3 Hullinger presented the regulation to the Commission and read the supporting memorandum as provided in the support material. The proposed regulation will eliminate the residency association with bonus points, nullifying the need to write the Department to request the transfer of bonus points if you move to another state or move to Nevada—no residency association with bonus points.

Commissioner Valentine asked for clarification what happens to bonus points if you accrued points as resident for an antlerless mule deer hunt then moved out of state and there is no nonresident hunt.

MA 3 Hullinger said the person won't lose the bonus points immediately if there is no matching hunt to move them to. The points stay on record until the two year period is met.

Elko, Las Vegas, and Reno Public Comment - None

Public Comment - None

Chairman Wallace said with no wording changes, the regulation advances out of workshop and for staff to bring back to the Commission for approval at a later meeting.

D CGR 469, Truckee River Tackle Restriction – Fisheries Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg and Western Region Supervisor Kim Tisdale

Division Administrator Jon Sjöberg said the regulation's purpose is to require the seasonal use of certain types of fishing tackle in the portions of the Truckee River. Western Region Supervisor Kim Tisdale presented a Power Point presentation describing the change, the process overview, background, and history of Pilot Peak Lahontan cutthroat trout.

Elko, Las Vegas and Reno Public Comment – None

Chairman Wallace said CGR 469 is advanced from workshop to next meeting for approval. No changes.

13 Public Comment –

Jana Wright said once again I thank the Department for the ability to participate in today's Commission meeting by means of video conferencing. It is disheartening that Saturday's meeting is off the table as the Department is at the mercy of the video conferencing sites and we got bumped. It is important to continue to fight for video

conferencing as the interest in wildlife has moved beyond only sportsman input to include other stakeholders that welcome a chance to voice an opinion on our wildlife management. That is why video conferencing is so important to many of us who wish to participate with the Commission but are unable to travel to the meetings. I have learned if you are not at the table you are probably on the menu. We want to participate in real time and hope video conferencing will still be a department priority. Thank you.

:/12/16 Stephanie Myers #13
PUBLIC COMMENT

It is unfortunate that the Loren Chase License Simplification Plan will be discussed tomorrow by this Commission, when the public in Las Vegas can not comment.

This study, as presented at the last Commission meeting, goes into detail about Nevada demographics, hunters, anglers, costs of licenses, on line purchases, combination licenses, youth licenses, senior licenses. Many different topics.

There were also FOCUS GROUPS employed to give input into this study.

I have 2 QUESTONS:

1- What was the vetting process to choose this particular vendor to conduct this $ study, and

2- Why is there not a single mention of LEGHOLD TRAPPING in this very wide-ranging wildlife survey?

Yes, I understand the focus is on licensing. However, the questions this study asks appear to be very broad, trapping does require a license, and we find it VERY CURIOUS that leghold trapping deserves not one single question or comment from the public.

I appreciate being able to voice my questions. Thank you.

Friday's Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Saturday, August 13, 2016 – 8:30 a.m.

14 Chairman Wallace called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m., and all seven Commissioners were present.

CABMW Roll Call: Gil Yanuck, Carson; Craig Burnside, Douglas; Paul Dixon, Clark; Brad Block, White Pine; Bert Gurr, Elko; Joe Crim, Pershing; and Tom Cassinelli, Humboldt.

15 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Wallace – For Possible Action

COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, COMMISSIONER YOUNG SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

16 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Wallace - Informational

Commissioner Drew said the Governor's Office contacted him regarding his appointment as member of the Commission to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council as his term expired at the end of June. He is willing to continue for a second appointment and Chris MacKenzie will continue as a designee.

17 CABMW Member Items - Informational

18 Reports – Informational –

A Wildfire Update –

Division Administrator Jenne and Biologist Tom Donham presented a PowerPoint presentation (website/exhibit file) on wildfires in Elko County, Strawberry, Izzenhood and Hot Pot fire and advised the Commission that situation will be severe when 4,000 mule deer arrive. One-third of Area 6 mule deer herd relies on the area as winter range. The fire was devastating to the habitat.

Eastern Region Game Biologist Donham said a letter from the Department will be sent advising hunters of situation.

Commissioner Drew asked about rehabilitation efforts.

Division Administrator Jenne said Ruby Pipeline mitigation available for areas with sage-grouse populations. NDOW has about $300,000 available for wildfire restoration. Letter sent to all license holders, and previously letter sent to all NGOs and put on their radar that NDOW may request funding for wildfire rehabilitation efforts.

Commissioner Drew asked if $300,000 will be leveraged to ask Dream Tag Foundation for funds for rehabilitation and if there is seed availability.

Administrator Jenne said a request already sent for $100,000. He said MOU signed with BLM to get seed from BLM National Seed Warehouse in Ely. NDOW can request and buy seed with their purchasing power which allows for efficiency and seamless application across landscape. The goal is to keep invasive weeds out such as cheatgrass and medusa head.

Secretary Wasley said with the dire situation there may be a proposal from the Department for some type of emergency action to reduce that population. Of note is the Hot Pot fire's extreme behavior. Habitat was lost at 5,000 to 6,000 acres per hour at the fire's peak. Secretary Wasley said the Department expresses its sympathy to firefighter families of BLM Winnemucca District employees who lost their lives. In reference to seed warehouse in Ely that MOU is important to us as economy of scale, cold storage of seeds, seed testing which is a big deal with quality and viability of seed, and are trying to finalize purchase of helicopter with seed bucket and having in-house tools to augment BLM seeding efforts. He received letter from permittees in Virginia Range requesting closure to recent fires.

B Wild Horse Update – Habitat Division Administrator Jenne

Division Administrator Jenne presented a Power Point presentation (website/exhibit file). He said wild horses are federal animals and the state has no jurisdiction over their management

Comments from Commission –

Commissioner McNinch said we have horses and Arizona has the burros, and Arizona Congressional delegation is putting forth their effort at Congressional level to fix legislatively. That is where this has to go to fix the problem and work on it. He said lawsuits are not the answer, and BLM is being forced into long-term management plans to take the edge of these huge removal projects. Southern Nevada had wild horse removal as AML was 45 and the herd numbered over 300. A gather was done as no water, and after the crisis the BLM put the horses back on the range. Question asked why, and the BLM said managed emergency and could not address the AML. The system is not working.

Commissioner Young asked why Nevada has highest wild horse population at 34,000 and nationwide wild horse population is 64,000. Nevada's is probably high due to large amount of public land in the state.

Commissioner Johnston said lawsuits are lengthy and Congress needs to follow the law as it was enacted. He said Lyon County's portion of wild horse populations is so high it looks like a horse ranch.

Secretary Wasley said in regard to biology that livestock have permit conditions, and wildlife are managed by quotas/seasons, and the Great Basin is fragile and wild horses are volume eaters with the forage needed to sustain a horse 10 being times that of wildlife. Behavior of wild horses is different and ecosystem did not evolve with horses.

18 C Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies – Secretary Wasley and Commissioner McNinch

Commissioner McNinch said as mentioned previously the Commission received the Commission of the Year award, and the award is a reflection of the Commission's relationship with the Department and thanked the Department for being a great organization. Highlights from WAFWA conference: Blue Ribbon Resolution, and House of Representatives bill is out and they are looking for sponsor in Senate for companion bill. Marketing firm has agreed to market the message pro bono. Two recommendations that there be work groups and recognize constituency.

- Modernization of legislation for Pittman-Robertson
- Voter initiative to ban trapping on public land in Montana
- Oregon revising mountain lion plan and asking public to make presentations before their Commission
- Arizona burro issue, fair chase work, and documentation of people fishing with drones
- Idaho legislator to reduce fines for poaching as constituents cannot afford it
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) being worked on through Western Governor's Association; USFWS streamlining processes to alleviate backlog of petitions, create ability for states to provide input in the 90 day finding process
- PETA and anti-hunting groups have started using drones to harass and disrupt hunter activities
- International congress meeting held every four years and interesting to note effort by countries to phase out lead and US is asking for softening of rules

Secretary Wasley said WAFWA is invaluable opportunity for Commission and staff participation as allows opportunity to interface with federal partners and 15 different states. Share challenges and present a unified front. This year's theme was "Partners in Conservation." Conference themes allow sharing of challenges and opportunities. Plenary session shared video of animal migration and challenges faced as they migrate. Video directed immediate national attention on importance of migratory corridors and habitat connectivity. The video was shared with high-level officials in Washington D.C. There was much discussion on partnerships, stakeholders and how to engage them and achieve more effective conservation in the long-term following the theme "Partners in Conservation." The Blue Ribbon Panel legislation introduced and co-sponsored by Don Young from Alaska and Debbie Dingell of Michigan, to restore America's Wildlife Act, discussion as to what it means to states and bill as introduced does not allow tag and

license fees to be used as match for funds. States would need to come up with novel ways to get funding. ESA discussions have been ongoing for years and work with USFWS to develop a thinning process. Share data and have some species removed from consideration. USFWS proposed rule limiting predator control on National Wildlife Refuges, and states' concerned with states' authority. New Mexico USFWS chose to forego a species management plan and despite state law requiring UFSWS to have a permit in hand prior to releasing wolves in the state, they released wolves. New Mexico may challenge that action.

18 D Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee – Commissioner Johnston

Commissioner Johnston reviewed the committees' recommendations and actions. Minutes approved, and from the committee's Open Topic list the committee only recommended advancing two topics: Allowing restricted nonresident guided deer hunt applicants to apply in the main draw and PIW draw and to consider no loss of bonus points for active duty military. The committee also looked at "Calendar of Events," with the idea of looking at sequence of events such as changing quota setting to occur before hunt applications are turned in. Concern was whether change would allow NDOW enough time to conduct its work activities, the idea would need input from the Department at the committee level.

18 E Administrative, Procedures, Regulation, and Policy Committee – Commissioner McNinch

Commissioner McNinch said the group is continuing its process of working through Commission Policies. Committee recommendations for the Commission were repeal of Policy #2, Publications, and to approve Fisheries Policies #31 and #33, with committee revisions.

18 F Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) has begun the process of developing a plan to design a new strategic plan, develop implementation plans and complete the plan before the Legislative Session in February 2017. The new plan is in coordination with the Nevada's Strategic Planning Framework 2016-2020 the Governor's statewide plan, State Wildlife Action Plan, Federal Aid Reporting, the Budget, Legislative proposals, and, link with performance measures, and to be implemented. Director's Office analyst submitted a grant application to fund a prospective strategic planning consulting firm to help facilitate, as well as Leadership and key personnel's staff time devoted to this project. The RFP has been published in the newspapers and is on Purchasing Division's website and application period closes on Aug. 22, 2016, at 2 p.m.

License Simplification Bill Drafting has begun and will be submitted as a budgetary BDR, which means that it will be dropping late in the legislative session, unlike policy-only bills. Once the Department has been able to digest the public town hall feedback and the third party vendors to evaluate the current recreational license structure, to

assess customer preferences, and be competitive with Western states' fishing and hunting license structures. The housekeeping BDR was submitted and approved to reduce the outdated reports and eliminate the publishing in local newspapers of proposed game seasons and quotas, and to develop a confidentiality statute to protect reporting party information when seeking assistance from the Department of Wildlife. Additionally the Department will be looking at simplification to the Aquatic Invasive Species Fees to set them by motorized and non-motorized, regardless of residency; as well as an option to purchase for multiple years both boat registration and the AIS decal.

The Department offers hunting and fishing licenses and the associated stamps through a variety of sales avenues, to include at our seven customer services offices, over the Internet and by phone. In the near future a mobile friendly sales process will also be available. Most of our sales activity occurs through our 85 license agents statewide. We are working on establishing new or additional agents at such locations as Laughlin, Wells, Denio Junction, Lake Tahoe and Minden. Additionally we have a few agents who have been limited to paper license sales only due to in-house technical limitations. The good news is that a number of these vendors will soon be able to offer electronic license sales, which provides the customer with the popular, credit-card style license. Those locations are Smiths Grocery Store in Wendover and the Wal-Mart in Fernley.

WAFWA Meetings—Game Division staff attended several WAFWA Committee and Working Group meetings in Cody, Wyoming during July 22–26, 2016. The Wildlife Chiefs met on Saturday July 23, and the Mule Deer and Wild Sheep Working Groups met on Sunday July 24. The Directors approved several products from the Mule Deer Working Group, to include additional fact sheets and the Movement Barriers document was distributed to those states that had yet to receive the publication. The Wild Sheep Working Group continued development of the West-wide Disease Management Venture, and Staff Biologist Mike Cox was introduced as the new chair of this group to the Directors due to the outgoing chair's retirement. The Human-Wildlife Conflict Committee was briefed on the progress and development of two conflict projects being developed through the AFWA Human-Wildlife Conflict Working Group, which is chaired by the Game Division Administrator.

Private Lands Coordination Meeting—During August 3–5, 2016, Game Division personnel involved in developing recommendations on special elk incentive tags, elk damage disbursements, and deer and antelope compensation tags met in Ely to discuss methods for improving consistency and service. The group also discussed methods by which to reduce hunter crowding and increasing harvest success during hunts designed to reduce elk populations.

Predator Plan Activities—Department staff has reached out to the Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee to provide an update on activities associated with the Predation Management Plan, but the PARC apparently has no intent of meeting this summer. Work and Financial Plans with Wildlife Services have been developed, and Department

staff will be meeting within the next week with Wildlife Services staff to outline the scope of work in the plan.

Domestic Sheep removed from the Shawaves—Wildlife Services lethally removed two domestic sheep rams observed in the Shawave Range about two weeks ago. An Department game biologist observed these animals from about 10 yards, and the removal occurred the following day by Wildlife Services. Samples from both animals were delivered to the Department wildlife health specialist. Test results thus far indicate that the animals did not have Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae.

AIS stations at both Rye Patch and Lahontan will have reduced service or closures soon primarily because of low water levels. Other stations in northern Nevada will continue operating on normal schedules through September or October. The AIS crews at Lake Mead have performed over 300 full boat decontaminations so far in 2016; despite reduced access the station at Lahontan Reservoir has done more than 250 decontaminations (mostly engine flushes) since May 1.

Progress is continuing with recovery of Lahontan cutthroat trout in the Eastern Region with completion of a major project to remove nonnative trout from Marysville Creek in the Toiyabe Range. Pure LCT remain in the Marysville Creek headwaters and are expected to expand into the renovated downstream reaches.

Western Region biologists have also confirmed that native redband trout still occur in 12-mile Creek on the Nevada-Oregon border. This is the only native redband population remaining in northwestern Nevada.

Newmont Mining is conducting an “Aquifer Stress Test” at the Long Canyon Mine site in Goshute Valley that will involve pumping up to 6,000 gpm for up to 30 days, adjacent to springs that have populations of native relict dace that have been proposed for ESA listing. Newmont worked closely with NDOW and US FWS to develop a monitoring and management plan to avoid impacts to the springs. We are on Day 10 and so far no significant issues have come up.

Southern Region staff recently surveyed all of Sunnyside Creek at Kirch WMA, for the first time since completion of a culvert removal project in 2014 to improve fish passage. Occupied habitat by native fish including speckled dace, desert suckers and the endangered White River spinedace has more than doubled with spinedace occurring throughout the length of the stream for the first time since monitoring started in the 1990s.

The Habitat Division continues to manage funding programs for a large number of wildlife habitat improvement projects. Recently on June 24, 2016, the Board of Wildlife Commissioners approved a total of 25 new projects for FY17 totaling over $1,053,716. Eight new Heritage Program projects were approved, with a total award amount of $688,231.

Ten new duck stamp projects were approved, totaling $90,955; 17 new upland game bird stamp projects were approved totaling $274,530. NDOW's Director's office and Division Chiefs approved an additional 15 new FY17 Habitat Conservation Fee projects that have a total award amount of $700,000.

Construction continues on the Walker River Restoration Project at the south end of the Mason Valley WMA. Otis Bay Ecological Consultants has been working on restoring sinuosity on approximately 2.5 miles of the Walker River since June to improve riparian habitat conditions. Work is expected to be completed by late August.

Truckee Carson Irrigation District (TCID) Board of Directors has reduced water allocations to 75 percent this year for the Carson Lake Wetlands with water deliveries expected to end around the middle of October. NDOW started taking water deliveries in late July and is currently flooding up the Big Water and Rice units for the upcoming waterfowl season.

Water Development Program: 350 small and big game guzzlers were aerially maintained in June and July of 2016. Pine Forest Guzzler was completed June 4; Goshute Wilderness guzzler was completed July 30; Horse thief Chaining guzzler was completed. Goshute south big game guzzler should be completed by Aug. 12, 2016; Bourne Canyon scheduled for Aug. 19, 2016.

Pinyon-Juniper (PJ) thinning and removal work is ongoing at the Spruce Mountain, Atlanta Road, Combs Creek, South Steptoe Valley and Pine Nut Mountains. These projects include hand thinning, mastication and chaining. The total acreage for current treatments is approximately 19,000 acres. There are a number of new PJ removal projects currently being analyzed via the NEPA process and should add approximately 25,000 acres of treatment in the Ely and Elko BLM districts.

Southern Region habitat restoration efforts continue with post-fire restoration efforts at guzzler sites in Kane Springs Valley, Lincoln County and at the City of Henderson's Bird Viewing Preserve.

Boating season is still in full swing and our arrest numbers are up slightly from 2015 and 2014 with seven operators arrested so far this year by Nevada game wardens for operating under the influence (OUI). Four of these arrests are from Lake Mead and the Colorado River System, two from Lake Tahoe, and one at South Fork Reservoir near Elko.

Game wardens arrested Zackry Holdaway on July 23 for several charges relating to the poaching of a large bull elk near Pioche in August of 2015. This was a case for which we previously released a photo seeking suspect information. The photo showed two people on an ATV and happened to be captured on a trail camera well after midnight. The bull was shot and left to waste with its head and antlers cut off. Charges include a felony for killing the bull without a tag and out of season, and misdemeanors for trespassing, waste of game, and using an artificial light. Holdaway, age 26, was

arrested in his hometown of Cedar City, Utah and booked into Iron County Jail. Two days later, after extradition proceedings, a family member posted bail in the amount of $10,500 at Meadow Valley Justice Court in Pioche for his release. Holdaway had just recently returned to Utah from New Zealand where he was guiding for an elk and red stag outfitter.

The publications coordinator organized and ran the annual conference for the Association for Conservation Information (a national organization for wildlife communicators and educators) at Harrah's Tahoe July 11-15. The event drew 112 attendees from all over the country and was lauded as a complete success. This despite Nevada being called upon to take on the conference a year early after Missouri was forced to back out.

The publications coordinator earned three national awards for news release, poster and regulations publication at the annual Association for Conservation Information conference.

The publications coordinator has already had the upland game and furbearer brochures printed. The migratory bird brochure is currently being printed at State Printing.

In June, Eastern Region wildlife education staff did a raptor presentation at the Lion's Club Camp Dat-so-la-lee for approximately 60 underprivileged children and 20 adult staff. They also participated in the Elko County Library's kid's camp with a raptor presentation and a survival skills class. Over two days approximately 55 children and a half dozen adults built survival kits, practiced survival skills including fire making.

Two fly fishing clinics have been held so far this summer. Staff took advantage of the newly rejuvenated Zunino/Jiggs Reservoir for a still water clinic as well as holding a stream clinic in Lamoille Creek. July 16 was the Angel Lake Kids Fishing Derby with approximately 100 children plus their parents and families participating for a total of around 220 people. Stations included fly tying, stream ecology, fire safety, boating safety, hatchery management, casting and fish identification and cleaning. Also in July angler education staff spent a day at the local Girl Scout summer camp at Cowboy's Rest fishing. Approximately 50 girls and leaders participated, and with some of the best fishing conditions in a number of years, every single girl caught at least one fish.
Volunteer

ER Con Ed Staff participated in the Bruneau River WMA clean up and worked with a local group of RMEF volunteers to remove approximately 1.5 miles of barbed wire fencing.

Urban wildlife calls remain steady in the SR. Coyote related calls continue to account for most of the calls. Staff has handled multiple media inquiries into reports of pets being eaten by coyotes. Program activities included assisting the public and providing educational presentations on living with wildlife and Keeping Wildlife Wild.

The SR Urban Wildlife coordinator received two reports of a mountain lion in the vicinity of Painted Desert Golf Course. The reports came in on July 11 and July 28. An additional lion sighting was reported June 29 at Kellogg Park. SR ConEd staff has been working on messaging for urban wildlife. The chosen tagline is “Keeping Wildlife Wild” with five sub-points: Consider their space, Look, Don’t touch, Check your pets, never feed wildlife, and clean your space.

The Urban Wildlife Program has been analyzing data from call logs that have been collected over the last 10 months since the position was created. This information is used to create a map in ArcGIS as well as charts that create a visual representation of the location and species that generate the most conflicts. The coordinators use this information to tailor their education efforts to the areas where the most issues are seen. Recent education efforts in the Western Region include assisting Carl Lackey with distributing Bear Logic signs to neighborhoods and businesses who are taking the appropriate steps towards preventing conflicts with bears. Ongoing presentations are given throughout the year to educate communities on the most common conflicts in their region which are often bears, deer or coyotes.

The Western Region is facing its usual mid-summer issues and opportunities. Black bears will soon be coming down from the hills looking for ripening fruit in western Nevada urban interface areas. This will lead to increased concerns from citizens for public safety.

Coyotes become a big issue in late summer in northern Nevada and calls are already increasing as July ends and August begins. Staff will work with northern Nevada media to increase awareness of these issues as they pop up.

Field work within the Carson Range and the Tahoe Basin are still going full swing, with a seasonal crew conducting intensive ground surveys for Northern Goshawks and California Spotted Owls. We are continuing to monitor northwestern pond turtles in the Carson River. In southern Nevada, we have completed surveys for endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatchers and Yellow-billed Cuckoos. We have an increased number of nest for the flycatchers that required more extensive monitoring. These nests did eventually successfully fledge young. Reptile monitoring is also still in full – swing with nightly road surveys in the Red Rock area of the Spring Mountains as well Gila Monster radio – tracking. Both of these efforts have many volunteers participating, private citizens that are putting many hours into helping us better understand both reptile diversity as well as population statuses. We have 10 Gila monsters we are tracking, three of which are new to the study this year. We also conducted a concentrated search for Panamint Alligator lizards in the White Mountains. This species has only one confirmed record in the state. While we did not detect any Panamint Alligator lizards, we did document several other species in the area that were previously unknown.

Two staff from Diversity attended WAFWA. The Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool, aka CHAT, was a highlight for Diversity. Staff assumed leadership roles in designing and implementing the CHAT from the beginning and continue to play a key part in applying the tool to various projects, keeping the system up to date and making sure users are educated in the value of this tool in protecting wildlife. The Blue Ribbon Panel and its recommendations for comprehensive wildlife funding continue to be a topic that is frequently discussed. Most meetings had presentations about the recommendations, including the current status of the HR 5650, the House bill that is bringing these recommendations to Congress. Currently, supporters of HR 5650 are seeking co-sponsors to the Bill. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Resolution of Support for the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations were a topic that frequently was discussed and several other states are interested in pursuing similar actions, including Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Idaho and Montana.

18 G Litigation Report – DAG Stockton

DAG Stockton updated item 3. B of the report which is where the U.S. Board of Water Commissioners has alleged that NDOW is creating meanders at the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area which has drawn water from the main channel of the river. DAG Stockton said the report states that no pleadings have been filed and since the report was submitted all the pleadings have been filed. A hearing on the petition has been scheduled for Aug. 23 with the hearing limited to whether they are entitled to preliminary injunction to stop the project. USFWS has also filed in that case, and will bring their experts.

19 CABMW Workshop Session – Informational

- Welcome and Opening Comment, NDOW Organizational Review, CABMW Duties, Operations, Regulations Processes and Commission Interactions – Secretary Wasley

Secretary Wasley welcomed CABMW members to the workshop and presented Power Point presentations. The group had discussion on participation by CABMWs and the public with the following suggestions for more public participation at meetings:

- CABMWs hold later meeting to see if public who works would attend
- Letter from State to encourage people to participate
- Hold "workshop" instead of OML type meeting
- Make exception for CABMW workshop to allow more than one CABMW member to attend

Commissioner Drew brought up bullet points for improvement:

- Charge to Commissioners to attend a CABMW meeting – he has almost attended a meeting in every county
- If CABMW member have questions call or email a Commissioner that is why their numbers are posted online

- Appreciates the CABMW members present as they are always very helpful and bring information to the Commission
- Encourage everyone to attend and this may be an opportunity for the Commission to write a letter to CABMWs about their participation

Commissioner Drew said he requested the regulation presentation so it is clear to all why regulations are hear several times or deferred. Secretary Wasley said when LCB changes the language it sends the regulation back into workshop mode. The regulation process can be lengthy.

- NDOW License Simplification Strategy Update Power Point and NDOW Update on Harvest Management Guidelines provided by Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling

Division Administrator Wakeling presented two Power Point presentations (website/exhibit file).

20 Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Wasley and Chairman Grant Wallace

Secretary Wasley provided a list of future Agenda items: Set and revise biennial fishing regulations; Commission Policies #10 and #11 for second reading; harvest guidelines for finalization in November; drafting of a water policy resolution possibly for November meeting; regulations for Truckee river tackle restrictions, motorized vehicles on Truckee River and special hunter's assistance. The September meeting will be video conferenced; however staff still searching for November location in Reno as usual sites are not available.

Commissioner McNinch said the petition regulation may be ready for September but not the appeal regulation. He asked about the wildlife contest policy and will Chairman Wallace coordinate with the Department on next steps.

Commissioner Drew said yesterday's discussion direction was to keep the policy at the Commission level.

Chairman Wallace confirmed that as correct.

Commissioner McNinch continued that local humane society sent out a request in the newspaper for citizens to home stray cats in Washoe County which will basically develop cat colonies. He said the Commission needs to take a position on that matter.

Commissioner Hubbs said that during the discussion of the contest policy she had mentioned Project Coyote's documentary and wanted to know the process for that or who they should contact.

Secretary Wasley said the organization could provide a DVD to the Commission via the Director's office.

21 Public Comment Period -

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, requested that support material be available as one document to download. He said request for the following items where brought forth from their CABMW meeting: Allow shotguns for the bear hunt came, add bear tag(s) for Heritage tag(s), and that the hunt units where bears occur to be open where all big game tags are allowed, hunt within the basin.

Karen Jacobs provided her written testimony: I am retired law enforcement, my non-profit is called Tactical Team for the protection of Animals (all animals). Our regulation number is 47-4418897 under the IRS.I am involved in the legislative process in Carson City. I am here is support of all coyotes in question – to not be killed in these coyote killing contests. I do not support these coyote killing contests, these contests should be against the law. This is nothing more than animal cruelty. Aren't coyotes animals? And shouldn't they deserve the same protections against animal cruelty as other wildlife and domestic animals? I have written an animal cruelty prevention curriculum for all schools. She is in the public schools teaching this right now and have been accepted to teach this curriculum at the Boys and Girls Club and other places as well. Please tell me as an educator in animal cruelty prevention and someone with my education that while teaching students about animal cruelty that they are not to abuse or cause harm to domesticated animals, dogs or cats or any other animals, but that it is okay for them to attend a coyote killing contest with a parent and may be even be involved in the process. How are they going to learn to follow the law and respect the law when they become adults? This is wrong and it is confusing to them. They grow up disrespecting laws and law enforcement. NRS 574.100 Animal Cruelty. These coyote killing contests kill the parents, leaving the newborns or weeks old pups to be on their own. They don't survive. That's abandonment by humans because humans killed the mother under NRS 574.100, NRS 574.100 covers torturing using fake means to make a fake pup cry exposing the coyote to be maimed or killed. Item: (d) NRS 574.100 (d) Instigate, engage in, or in any way further an act of cruelty to any animal, or any act tending to produce such cruelty. She called on this Commission today to adopt a policy for coyotes. A policy to protect coyotes and to make coyote contests unlawful. It is unfair to these animals because they were born coyotes. She will meet with Governor Brian Sandoval to see if he can further allow protections for coyotes and other wildlife, foxes, bobcats, and other species and add policies to Nevada law.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Note: The meeting has been videotaped and is available for viewing at www.ndow.org. The minutes are only a summary of the meeting. A complete record of the meeting can be obtained at the Nevada Department of Wildlife Headquarters Office in Reno.