

Draft Minutes
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting

Amended Agenda – (June 16, 2014)

See Agenda Item #20

Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Ave.
Tonopah, NV 89049

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: Public comment allowed on each action item and regulation workshop items and at the end of the meeting

Friday, June 20, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

- 1 Call to Order, Introduction and Roll Call of County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Robb
- 2 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action
- 3 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence - Chairman Robb - Informational
- 4 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational
- 5 Approval of Minutes – Chairman Robb - For Possible Action
Commission minutes from the March 21 and 22, 2014, meeting.
- 6 Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Big Game Release Plan Amendment – Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox - For Possible Action
Department staff are requesting to amend the Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 (through June 2015) Big Game Release Plan to add a desert bighorn augmentations for the Garfield Hills and Gillis Range in Mineral County.
- 7 Request for Translocation of California Bighorn Sheep to South Dakota for Study Project - Dr. Peregrine L. Wolff, DVM - For Possible Action
A project is being conducted by principal investigators from Washington State University, South Dakota State University, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center to investigate the role of super-shedders in respiratory disease persistence and transmission in bighorn sheep, and are requesting that the Nevada Department of Wildlife provide eight to 15 California bighorn sheep from the Snowstorm herd to the study project entitled "Investigating the role of super-shedders in respiratory disease persistence and transmission in bighorn sheep." The animals will be captured in late November 2014 and will be transported to South Dakota.
- 8 Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka – For Possible Action
The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Duck Stamp funds.

- 9 Upland Game Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka – For Possible Action
The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Upland Game stamp funds.
- 10 Finance Committee – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck and Deputy Director Patrick Cates
- A Finance Committee Report – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck Informational
The Commission will hear a report from the Finance Committee chairman.
- B Fiscal Year 2015 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Deputy Director Patrick Cates – For Possible Action
The Commission may approve budgets for County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife for Fiscal Year 2015.
- C Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 NDOW Biennial Budget – Deputy Director Patrick Cates – For Possible Action
The Commission may make recommendations to the Department for the biennial budget request.
- 11 Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Wild Horse Lawsuit – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action
The Commission will discuss the NACO wild horse lawsuit and may take action.
- 12 Crossbow Usage – Division Administrator Conservation Education Teresa Moiola – For Possible Action
The Commission will hear a presentation from the Department regarding the development of a permit to allow the use of a crossbow during a hunt that is restricted to archery for certain permanently disabled persons. A “permanent disability” in this application means a person has a permanent disability of the upper torso or has had one or both arms or a part thereof, amputated, and the permanent disability or amputation prevents the person from manually drawing and holding at full draw a bow. The Commission may take action to provide guidance on the development of related regulations.
- 13 Reports – Informational
- A Overton Wildlife Management Area Conceptual Management Plan (CMP) – Division Administrator Habitat Alan Jenne
A draft CMP was released for public review on May 20, 2014. Public comments are due July 1, 2014.
- B Sage-grouse Update – Secretary Wasley
Secretary Wasley will provide an update on the status of sage-grouse.
- C Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley
Director Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.
- D Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General David Newton
- 14 Public Comment Period
- Saturday, June 21, 2014 – 8:30 a. m.
- 15 Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Robb
- 16 Commission Appreciation – Secretary Wasley
- 17 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action
- 18 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence - Chairman Robb - Informational
- 19 County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items - Informational
- 20 Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates – Secretary Wasley – Informational
The Commission may choose to have project updates from miscellaneous projects.

- 21 Wildlife Heritage Committee – Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates
- A Heritage Committee Report – Committee Chairman Commissioner Wallace– Informational
The Commission will hear a report from the Wildlife Heritage Committee chairman.
- B Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2013 Heritage Project Extensions - Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action
Pursuant to NAC 501.340, the Commission may approve requests for extension of 2013 and 2014 Heritage projects.
- C Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2013 Heritage Funding Reallocation - Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action
Pursuant to NAC 501.300, the Commission may approve reallocation of unused Heritage funds from a previously approved 2013 or 2014 project to any other previously considered 2013 or 2014 project application.
- D Fiscal Year 2015 Heritage Project Proposals – Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action
The Commission will hear the recommendations from the Heritage Committee and may take action to approve project applications for 2015.
- 22 Commission Regulations – Adoption/Workshop – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed
- A Commission Regulation 14 - 07 Amendment #1, 2015 Heritage Tag Vendors –Chief of Operations Bob Haughian – For Possible Action
The Commission will select vendor recommendations for the 2015 Heritage tags.
- B Commission Regulation 14 - 11 – Upland Game, Migratory Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Limits – Wildlife Staff Specialists Shawn Espinosa and Russell Woolstenhulme – For Possible Action
The Commission will establish regulations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for upland game birds, rabbits, wild turkey, furbearers, American crow, mourning dove, falconry seasons, and white-winged dove for 2014 - 2015 seasons.
- 23 Amendment of Biennial Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 Upland Game Release Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa – For Possible Action
Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa is requesting an amendment to the Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 to add an additional release location for wild turkeys along the Humboldt River near Battle Mountain.
- 24 Trapping Regulation Committee Report and Recommendations – Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action
The Commission will hear a report from the Trapping Committee. The Trapping Committee has received considerable testimony at various meetings around the state regarding various trapping related issues. The report may contain recommendations regarding the development of regulations related to the frequency of visitation of a trap, snare or similar device, in various areas of the state. Recommendations may also be brought forward on other matters related to trapping such as demerit points, education, trapping on private lands and other matters related thereto. The Commission may take action to provide guidance on the development of trapping related regulations.
- 25 Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments - Secretary Tony Wasley and Chairman Robb - For Possible Action
The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 15 and 16, 2014, in Fallon, and 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.
- 26 Public Comment Period

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners present for two day meeting:

Chairman Jack Robb	Vice Chairman Jeremy Drew	Commissioner Chad Bliss
Commissioner Karen Layne	Commissioner David McNinch	Commissioner Pete Mori
Commissioner Michael McBeath	Commissioner Grant Wallace	

*Commissioner Bill Young Excused Absence

Secretary Tony Wasley
Recording Secretary Suzanne Scourby

Deputy Attorney General David Newton

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel/two days:

Acting Chief Game Warden Paul Dankowski	Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa
Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne	Chief of Operations Bob Haughian
Administrative Assistant 3 Joanne Trendler	Tom Donham, Biologist 3 Southern Region
Conservation Educator 4 Doug Nielsen	Conservation Educator 3 Martin Olson
Administrative Assistant 3 Joanne Trendler	Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox
Mike Zahradka, Wildlife Staff Specialist	Ken Gray, Biologist 4 Eastern Region
Mark Farman, Wildlife Staff Specialist	

Others in attendance/two days:

Chairman Paul R. Dixon, Clark CABMW	Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW
Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW	Chairman Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW
Catherine Smith, self	Dave Stowater, Nevada Trapper's Association
Debra Stowater, Nevada Trapper's Association	Tom Barnes, Elko CABMW
Miles Humphreys, Washoe CABMW	Richard Pabst, Clark County resident, RMEF/SNCW
Jana Wright, Las Vegas, Clark County	John Terras, Nye CABMW
Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW	Don Molde, self
Chairman Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW	Chairman Cory Lytle, Lincoln CABMW
Monty Martin, SCI	Randall Stoeberl, Elko, Nevada Trapper's Association
Bob Brunner, Washoe County, self	Joel Blakeslee, Nevada Trapper's Association
Caron Tayloe, Nevada Resident	Shannon Ireland, trapper
Craig Burnside, Douglas	Mike Reese, Clark CABMW/Southern Nevada Coalition
Bill Taylor, self	Mitchell McGuire, Hunter/trapper
Kevin Strozzi, Nye CABMW	M. Campos, Nye County
John Friel, self	Dane Bradfield, Lincoln CABMW
Rev. Joan Laliberte, self	Jed Rybatz, self
Bob Sorensen, self	Paul Crawford, self
Ben Crawford, self	Amanda Crawford, self
Trevor Walch, Nevada Trapper's Association	Jim Curran, Churchill CABMW
Mary Maguire, self	Dave Gowan, Nevada Houndsmen Association
Fred Fisher, self	Mitch Bailey, Nevada Trapper's Association
Sherry Cardella, self	Charlie Cecchini, Nye CABMW/Nevada Trapper's Association
Jared Ward, self	Mike Olsen, Churchill CABMW
Dan Peixoto, Nevada Trapper's Association	John Sullivan, self
Trish Swain, Trail Safe Nevada	Steve Nelson, trapping

Friday, June 20, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.

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

Commissioners in attendance for both days: Chairman Robb, Drew, Bliss, Layne, McBeath, McNinch, Mori, and Wallace.

Commissioner Young absent for the two day meeting, and Commissioner Layne absent until 9:14 a.m.

CABMW Members in Attendance, Gil Yanuck, Carson; Glenn Bunch, Mineral; Tom Barnes, Elko; Mile Humphreys, Washoe; Rex Flowers, Washoe; Paul Dixon, Clark; Craig Burnside, Douglas; Cory Lytle, Lincoln; Joe Crim, Pershing; and Dahl Bradfield, Lincoln.

- 2 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Robb – 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.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 3 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence - Chairman Robb - 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.

Commissioner Wallace said the Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC) which he serves on as the Commission representative recently met and discussed funding.

Chairman Robb said he traveled to Las Vegas for a ride along with Law Enforcement staff and to observe the drought conditions and quagga infestation at Lake Mead. He said he would recommend that the Commission take a field trip in the future to observe the quagga infestation and other points of interest in Southern Nevada.

- 4 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.

None

- 5 Approval of Minutes – Chairman Robb - For Possible Action
Commission minutes from the March 21 and 22, 2014, meeting.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION APPROVED WITH COMMISSIONER MCNINCH ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE BECAUSE HE WAS ABSENT FROM THE MARCH MEETING. COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, DREW, BLISS, MCBEATH, MORI, AND WALLACE. MOTION CARRIED WITH SIX VOTES IN FAVOR, COMMISSIONER MCNINCH ABSTAINED, LAYNE ABSENT AND YOUNG EXCUSED ABSENCE.

- 6 Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 Big Game Release Plan Amendment – Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox - For Possible Action
Department staff are requesting to amend the Fiscal Year 2014 - 2015 (through June 2015) Big Game Release Plan to add a desert bighorn augmentations for the Garfield Hills and Gillis Range in Mineral County.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Cox said the Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 Big Game Release Plan was approved and since then the Division assessed the Garfield Hills and Gillis Range as sites for additional releases. However, since submitting this item for the agenda, the situation has

changed due to disease issues which have been brought forth during previous Commission agenda items this past year, and therefore cannot support the transplant of sheep at this time.

Commission discussion whether the item could be approved to allow the Department to react and proceed as the situation could change and improve. Biologist Cox said he would prefer to wait one year and return with the item for consideration.

Public Comment –

Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW, said his CABMW voted to support the augmentation as they did not have this information available on the pathogens and he is sure that the board would support Biologist Mike Cox's suggestion to postpone. He said the Department's biologists are trusted and hopes we don't become too cautious due to the unknown though.

Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW, said he would like the release to be passed because sportsmen in Mineral County have built new water developments which are ready for sheep and if the water developments are not used they need to be drained because water quality will deteriorate. The releases need to be in the toolbox as sportsmen have built the units and they have put water in them. He said sportsmen Andy Stinson put a trail camera on one development and the guzzler had use immediately.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, voted to support and reiterates what Commissioner McNinch said, and to Mr. Bunch's comments, would say no, because we need to be smart as we know more about wildlife health and would be foolhardy to proceed, as that could exacerbate problems and until we deal with "meta" populations. He understands the political pressure because we have built things and said it would be wise to table as Commissioner Drew said.

Chairman Robb reiterated that the Department staff needs flexibility to make decisions quickly as the Commission does not meet frequently enough to allow that flexibility.

Commissioner Drew said if transplant approved may put Department in hot spot because of public expectation and knows the Commission will be meeting in August and other dates.

Commissioner Layne said she is struggling with this, and there was lengthy discussion at Clark CABMW, and we have all these other issues with disease and we know how far sheep can travel. She said she is hard pressed to support this particular amendment.

Commissioner Bliss had same concern of Commissioner McBeath as healthy population in the Bares and understands concern with putting clean sheep in with sick sheep. He is concerned with Bares, and if matter is tabled, could an agenda item be on future agendas to discuss other ideas.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO TABLE FISCAL YEAR 2014 - 2015 BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN AMENDMENT AND ENCOURAGE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT BACK AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE BRING BACK AMENDMENT IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chairman Robb said he will not support the motion because he believes the Department needs flexibility and recognizes what Mr. Bunch said, and if this motion fails, he will make another motion that we will approve this and support the decision by the Department with caveat that

because we approved it, does not mean it happens. He said we have to be prudent, and does not want to shut the door.

COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR OF MOTION: COMMISSIONERS MCNINCH, DREW, LAYNE, MORI AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS OPPOSED: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, AND MCBEATH. MOTION PASSED 5 - 3.

7 Request for Translocation of California Bighorn Sheep to South Dakota for Study Project - Dr. Peregrine L. Wolff, DVM - For Possible Action

A project is being conducted by principal investigators from Washington State University, South Dakota State University, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center to investigate the role of super-shedders in respiratory disease persistence and transmission in bighorn sheep, and are requesting that the Nevada Department of Wildlife provide eight to 15 California bighorn sheep from the Snowstorm herd to the study project entitled "Investigating the role of super-shedders in respiratory disease persistence and transmission in bighorn sheep." The animals will be captured in late November 2014 and will be transported to South Dakota.

Dr. Wolff presented a power point presentation on the Department's request for translocation of California bighorn sheep to Brookings, South Dakota, to study the role of "super" shedders in the persistence of disease in bighorns herds. Dr. Wolff said sheep from the Snowstorms would be studied, and the hypothesis is whether removing chronic M.ovi shedders will increase lamb survival. The plan is to move the sheep in November and this is a great opportunity to work toward solution for when animals get infected rather than watching the herd slowly decline and will help us understand if sheep positive for m.ovi and understanding how disease manifests in the population.

Public Comment -

Debra Stowater, Clark County resident, said she applauds Dr. Wolff for her presentation and asked for the Commission to support the other states in that Nevada is willing to work with other states and they will work with us in turn.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, said the Douglas CABMW supported the study as frustrating to watch this happen and if anything can be done to curtail that in the future, they support that.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR TRANSLOCATION OF CALIFORNIA BIGHORN SHEEP TO SOUTH DAKOTA FOR STUDY PROJECT. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, DREW, LAYNE, MCNINCH, MCBEATH, MORI, AND WALLACE. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8 Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka – For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Duck Stamp funds.

Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka presented the duck stamp funding projects for fiscal year 2015 as provided in the support material. Page nine of the report denotes the new FY 2015 Duck Stamp Proposals which total \$233,123. All of the projects listed are

continuing from year to year with the exception of three totally new projects: Wilson and Pintail Pond improvements at Overton Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Spring Pond improvements at Carson Lake and Pasture, and geolocators for waterfowl dispersal patterns project. Page 10 of the report provides the Duck Stamp Account Budget status which assumes full funding from the Commission and a constant revenue stream of \$92,440 into the account, leaving a balance of \$321,406 at the end of fiscal year 2015.

Commissioner Drew said a question arose at a CABMW meeting regarding Mason Valley WMA and the well pumping projects and they wanted clarification as to whether that is an operational cost versus a project cost.

Mr. Zahradka answered that the funding they are requesting is for electrical charges that happen when wells are turned on and to move the water from the fish hatchery. The funding pays the electrical costs to operate these wells.

Mr. Farman explained that this year smaller projects were dropped, and moving in direction where NDOW will pick up smaller base projects as part of base operating budget which is funded by the federal grant. However, in the near term, it was decided to keep mid-range project proposals as part of the request as staff have not had chance to budget the increased costs to grant budgets, and the cost is higher than smaller cost items, that were dropped such as weed spraying of herbicides.

Commissioner McNinch asked about 3 percent of overhead being charged by Nevada Waterfowl Association for the wood duck project.

Biologist Woolstenhulme answered that 3 percent has always been there and is to essentially recoup contract costs through UNR as they charge 17 percent and the loophole is UNR does not charge NGOs overhead and that allows a workaround and compensates NWA for handling the paperwork.

Commissioner Bliss said his question is about Steptoe Valley WMA which had duck ponds put in and it seems like there is not much going on and he may be missing what has been done, but the area seems to not be utilized and he is curious whether there are plans to do more farming. He thinks more could be done and is asking because he knows local people have concerns.

Mr. Zahradka said a year ago he supervised Steptoe WMA for six years and Commissioner Bliss is right that 13 ponds developed and completed in 2009, and over the last few years that was the majority of work on Steptoe WMA, establishing vegetation and water management of ponds. He said they are moving onto other things but not necessarily getting back into farming rather they are establishing natural native vegetation in the fields that were agriculture in the past. There are no plans for farming; instead microfood food plots (one to five acres) are being put in on some of the fallow fields.

Mr. Farman said if local persons have ideas, they should contact current staff at Steptoe to develop new Level B project proposals as we could have co-funding of projects to benefit upland game and waterfowl and other species to benefit wildlife and there is nothing to prevent other projects. He said it is just a matter of getting project designed for next year's funding cycle.

Public Comment –

Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW said they supported the projects and the amounts requested as they are minimal amounts.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, voted to support all the projects, and he his CABMW was the one that asked question on electricity costs which need to be moved to the operations budget.

COMMISSIONER BLISS MOVED TO SUPPORT DUCK STAMP REQUEST AS PROVIDED BY STAFF. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 9 Upland Game Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka – For Possible Action
The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Upland Game stamp funds.

Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka presented the Department’s Upland Game Bird Stamp Project proposed for FY 15 as summarized in the report in support material for this agenda item. He said on page 18 they are proposing a total of \$365,015 for new FY 15 projects, and that NDOW staff are denoted as project managers on the projects. The balance of the account at the end of FY 2015 will be \$403,041 and the account brings in \$292,376 per year in revenue.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Espinosa said the data collection application will use tablets to input data seamlessly into the database, and would allow the data to be used quickly. The other project is the riparian habitat use assessment by both livestock and cattle, which is a project developed by UNR Cooperative Extension and the project looks at effect in cattle and livestock to determine differentiation of use of both of those species, and tie that to certain areas of state where demographic data for sage-grouse is available through studies conducted by USGS and give an idea of female and juvenile survival is at particular times of the year. That is critical phase for sage-grouse.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE UPLAND GAME STAMP REQUEST PROJECTS AS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER DREW SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 10 Finance Committee – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck and Deputy Director Patrick Cates
A Finance Committee Report – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck Informational
The Commission will hear a report from the Finance Committee chairman.

Finance Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck reported that a meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Finance Committee was held on June 16, 2014, at the Valley Road office of the Nevada Department of Wildlife’s facility in Reno, Nevada at 2 p.m. Present in Reno was Chair Yanuck, attending telephonically were member Dixon, member Johnson and Commissioner Layne. Commissioner McBeath was absent. The second item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting of June 13, 2013. There were no comments or correction and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes

of the June 13, 2013. The motion passed unanimously. The third item on the agenda was Member Comments. There were no Member comments. The fourth item on the agenda was an action item to Review the County Advisory Board State's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Requests. The Members of the Finance Committee reviewed the data provided by the Department's Financial Analyst, Bruce McDaniel. Chair Yanuck explained the process by which the information submitted by each County Advisor Board was collected together with the information from each County's Finance Officer to determine the amount of augmentation required by each county. Member Dixon asked why was the total amount of augmentation was slightly higher than the amount shown on previously supplied documentation? Chair Yanuck explained that that the reason the latest update was \$720 higher was due to the fact that one county realized that the costs to pay for their secretarial services was omitted in their budget submittal for two of their meetings. Member Dixon also asked a question concerning why some counties had what appeared to be a substantial amount of funds remaining in their accounts while others appeared to have very little. Chair Yanuck provided an explanation that primarily had to do with the fact that some Advisory Board members do not seek reimbursement for their expenses and that some Advisory Boards do not attend all the meetings. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the CAB Budget Request in the amount of \$48,688. The motion passed unanimously. The fifth item on the agenda was an in-depth presentation by Deputy Director Cates regarding the primary concepts used to prepare the NDOW FY 16 - 17 Budget Request. This item will be covered in more detail by Deputy Director Cates under Agenda item 10C this morning. The sixth item on the agenda was Public Comment. Chair Yanuck expressed his appreciation to all the members of the committee for their time and efforts to review the various documents and to Deputy Director Cates for the detailed presentation of the FY 16-17 Budget and to Financial Analyst McDaniel for the tremendous effort put forth to assemble the CAB Budget submittals. There being no further public comment, a motion was made to adjourn that was seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.

- B Fiscal Year 2015 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Deputy Director Patrick Cates – For Possible Action
The Commission may approve budgets for County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife for Fiscal Year 2015.

Deputy Director Cates provided a spreadsheet on CABMW budgets and requested approval from the Commission.

Public Comment –

Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW, said his CABMW may possibly require an augmentation in the future due to low balance.

Tom Barnes, Elko CABMW, thanked the Finance Committee for the spreadsheet as it was immensely helpful.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE CABMW BUDGETS AS RECOMMENDED. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017 NDOW Biennial Budget – Deputy Director Patrick Cates – For Possible Action
The Commission may make recommendations to the Department for the biennial budget request.

Deputy Director Cates reviewed the Department's FY 16 – 17 Budget Request Budget Concepts. He said the Department's budget is due to the budget office in August. He reviewed the document provided as support material to this agenda item, and said an additional budget item is to obtain a contract with a professional videographer and also in fiscal services an audit result will be released denoting that the Department is deficient in contract and fleet management. Deputy Director Cates said 90 percent of the FY 2016 – 2017 budget was based on the previous base budget and he highlighted items that would be new.

Public Comment – None

Commissioner McNinch said no motion required at this time as no recommendation from the Commission on the biennial budget.

11 Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Wild Horse Lawsuit – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action

The Commission will discuss the NACO wild horse lawsuit and may take action.

Chairman Robb said at the last meeting possible actions were discussed and the Commission asked DAG Newton to research the Commission's authority as to joining the NACO lawsuit. Chairman Robb said two parts to what the Commission wanted to do, and due to recent turnover at the Governor's Office, the Commission may be back to the letter writing stage. He said part three, was seeing if other state agencies' such as Department of Agriculture would sign on, and he said this needs more work than making a few phone calls

DAG Newton said while conducting research the statutes are silent and there is no enabling legislation for the Commission. The option available to the Commission is to become an intervener; he said that he could not find that the Department has that authority either.

Commissioner McBeath said he is puzzled as the Department has already been involved before in lawsuits regarding horses. He said we have intervened in lawsuits that were filed by horse advocates against the BLM and that is a third party suing the BLM and is exactly the fact pattern we have. To him the question is one of "standing" and if we have wild horses impacting wildlife and this agency is over the wildlife, we clearly have status in being an intervener in a suit. The same exact standing we have when horses are impacting particular habitat and over AML and horse advocates try to stop the round-up the agency intervenes as we have interest and therefore we have standing. He said he does not see how we could not have standing to be able to intervene in a lawsuit, we have done it before. The horse advocates have not challenged the Department's status. The Department is the state agency that manages wildlife. From a standpoint of the Commission he agrees and his idea was not to write a letter in support of NACO, but to write a letter to Governor to direct NDOW to intervene in the lawsuit. He would encourage the Department to intervene. He said Wyoming wins BLM resources due to their lawsuit, and Nevada loses every time, and disturbs him that the agency that is most relevant to the issue will not be a part of the suit and implores the Commission to stress how important it is to be a part of the lawsuit. He said the Department and the state need to get behind the lawsuit.

Chairman Robb agreed with Commissioner McBeath's comment and said he supports encouraging the Governor to direct the State of Nevada to sue on behalf of the Department. The situation needs to be re-addressed and the Commission needs to get direction from the Governor's Office.

Public Comment –

Tom Barnes, Elko CABMW, said they have big problem in Elko County with wild horses and at their prior meeting the CABMW supported letter and their motion at last meeting was stronger and was to file as intervener in NACO wild horse lawsuit. Tom Barnes, speaking as Board of Director member of Nevada Cattleman's Association, said speaking on behalf of wild horse issue that they met with Ted Koch and were told by Mr. Koch that with BLM not being able to do their job that will be enough for USFWS to list sage-grouse.

Cory Lytle, Lincoln CABMW, said they support the Department intervening in the lawsuit.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, said historically his CABMW has discussed wild horses for years and filing a lawsuit is one of those things you have to do for the situation to get better. He said, if we don't, wildlife will pay as Nevada is one of driest states.

Mikes Humphreys, Washoe CABMW, said they supported the lawsuit and he read section from the Wild Horse and Burro Act. He said at all costs the ecological balance needs to be restored.

Joel Blakeslee, speaking for himself, said wild horses are problem because wild horses managed with politics not science. He would encourage the lawsuit and to use science as the answer.

Rich Pabst, Clark County resident, said the Commission discusses fines and demerits, and when he travels areas he sees notice that it is illegal to feed these animals and he has watched law enforcement go right by. He asked why police sportsmen and whose responsibility is it, and asked if something can be done as we follow the rules and so should others on the other side of issues.

Don Molde, speaking for himself, understands people think and believe there is a problem, and when generic terms are used such as wildlife is taking a beating you can't use big game to illustrate that with the existing high population numbers. He named many animals that are not being affected and asked what wildlife are you talking about as he would like to know.

Randall Stoberl agreed with Commissioner McBeath that it is all of our responsibility to protect wildlife and wild horses are no different than wild cats. He said the horses are not being managed and are over-running Elko County.

Bob Brunner said for informational purposes the Coalition is writing a bill for Reid-Heller to obtain new funding and do something to prevent listing of sage-grouse.

Chairman Robb committed to setting up a meeting with himself, Director Wasley, DAG Newton and the Governor's new chief of staff, to discuss what has been heard here and at the Cattleman's meeting, within the next two weeks.

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Commissioner Bliss asked if there is a timeframe for intervening in the lawsuit.

DAG Newton said there usually are deadlines and during his review of the complaint he could not determine the deadline.

Commissioner Mori said if there is a meeting with Governor's Office, that the message that we are ready to go, needs to be conveyed from his standpoint.

Commissioner Wallace agreed with Commissioner Mori.

Commissioner McBeath said he realizes this is a complex issue and does really feel that we have opportunity and multiple reasons plus statement from Ted Koch would probably require Governor's Office to want to get over on this issue. He said wild horses issue has been discussed at length and if Commission does not make maximum effort, we are missing an opportunity which won't be good for state.

Commissioner Bliss asked in accordance with Commission Policy #67 whether staff interact with BLM on wild horse issues.

Secretary Wasley said staff meet with BLM staff almost weekly and he knows BLM staff is frustrated too, and at this point the question is, what is the best course of action.

Chairman Robb said strategy at meeting with Governor's Office should be to provide wildlife issues and determine next course of action, and the Department could possibly be in a stronger position by marrying up with Department of Agriculture, but two different sets of issues.

12 Crossbow Usage – Division Administrator Conservation Education Teresa Moiola – For Possible Action

The Commission will hear a presentation from the Department regarding the development of a permit to allow the use of a crossbow during a hunt that is restricted to archery for certain permanently disabled persons. A "permanent disability" in this application means a person has a permanent disability of the upper torso or has had one or both arms or a part thereof, amputated, and the permanent disability or amputation prevents the person from manually drawing and holding at full draw a bow. The Commission may take action to provide guidance on the development of related regulations.

Chief of Conservation Administrator Teresa Moiola provided a power point presentation on crossbow usage (exhibit file) development of a permit to allow the use of a crossbow during a hunt that is restricted to archery for certain permanently disabled persons. A "permanent disability" in this application means a person who has permanent and severe disabilities of the upper torso or has had one or both arms or a part thereof, amputated, and the permanent disability or amputation prevents the person from manually drawing and holding at full draw a bow.

Commissioner Bliss said he totally supports the development of a regulation, and speaking from personal experience would suggest that provision be included for a licensed hunter to accompany that disabled person because if animal wounded they may need assistance to pursue the wounded animal.

Public Comment –

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, said his CABMW supported the proposal and appreciated definition of disabled as provided.

Dane Bradfield, Lincoln CABMW, his CABMW took no action due to no available information at their meeting and he suggested open sights or something similar to muzzleloader.

Mile Humphreys, Washoe CABMW, said NDOW staff were present at their meeting and explained crossbow usage by disabled person to them and their vote was unanimously to support. He said persons in attendance brought up the optic issue.

Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW, said Commissioner Bliss brought up an issue that may have been overlooked and his board discussed other issues such as injured game, assistant to hunter and whether or not they need license, and other matters.

Rex Flowers speaking for himself said he believes in concept and although other issues there is time to work out the kinks as the temporary regulation process is underway.

Randall Stoberl said he supports this as he is someone who cannot draw a bow back and contrary to what person from Lincoln County stated, that he believes in having best sights on gun to ensure less wounding.

Rich Pabst supports concept of crossbow for disabled because they are designed now to use optics, and as a archery hunter, he would suggest looking at all the states to see who has best actionable regulations as to who can do this as you should need more than a note from doctor.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, asked if ADA requirement driving this as the case with muzzleloader issue previously and thought pattern of the season being kept primitive and the more technology you put on gives the hunter unfair advantage. He said the same technology issue for crossbows as muzzleloaders.

Secretary Wasley said that if the Commission desires to have this available for next year's hunt, it would be best to have draft language to LCB by June 30 as a starting point and with some of the aspects such as game retrieval being addressed in another regulation. Prior to June 30 and later this fall would provide ample time to have a regulation in place for next year's archery season.

COMMISSIONER BLISS MOVED TO GIVE THE DEPARTMENT THE AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP A PERMIT TO ALLOW THE USE OF CROSSBOWS DURING THE HUNT RESTRICTED TO ARCHERY FOR CERTAIN PERMANENTLY DISABLED PERSONS. COMMISSIONER DREW SECONDED THE MOTION WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT MOTION MAKER IS REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT MOVE FORWARD WITH DEVELOPING REGULATION WITH REQUEST OR IMPLICATION THAT WE WOULD DIRECT THEM TO TRY AND TO GET DRAFT REGULATION TO LCB AS PLACEHOLDER PRIOR TO JUNE 30. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13 Reports – Informational

A Overton Wildlife Management Area Conceptual Management Plan (CMP) – Division Administrator Habitat Alan Jenne
A draft CMP was released for public review on May 20, 2014. Public comments are due July 1, 2014.

Division Administrator Alan Jenne said the Overton CMP has been discussed at previous Commission meetings. Staff did excellent job of developing CMP and the plan was sent to all

Commissioners and CABMW members, and is available on NDOW's website. The comment period is open through July 1, and tentative timeline is to compile the comments and evaluate them, and return to the August Commission meeting with a compilation of the comments and discuss and present the final plan and finalize the plan at the September Commission meeting.

- B Sage-grouse Update – Secretary Wasley
Secretary Wasley will provide an update on the status of sage-grouse.

Secretary Wasley and Humboldt-Toiyabe Forest Supervisor Bill Dunkelberger are co-chairs of the Executive Oversight Committee (EOC) for the bi-state sage-grouse population and together have authored a letter to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Director Dan Ashe, Regional USFWS Director Ren Lohofener in California requesting USFWS to postpone the listing decision in view of new science and re-open the comment period. USFWS agreed and extended comment period recently closed. The EOC was able to secure letters of financial commitment from state, county and federal partners in the amount of \$46 million toward implementation of the Bi-state Action Plan. He said USFWS felt action plan implementation would be adequate to preclude need for listing and with the \$46 million it was felt that the money is adequate for implementation. He said April 15, 2015, will be listing decision, with all optimistic and hopeful as this is a game changer.

Secretary Wasley said in regard to the Greater Sage-grouse that Mr. Shawn Espinosa just coordinated the Western States Sage and Columbian Sharp-tail Grouse Workshop this past week in Elko with about 200 persons attending of which 60 were federal employees, about 60 state wildlife agency employees, 60 researchers, and several industry representatives, who participated in discussions and field trips. Secretary Wasley complimented Mr. Espinosa for putting that together as the conference was very well done. The state planning process as it relates to the Greater Sage-grouse through the Sage-grouse Ecosystem Council (SEC) and SEC Technical Team is currently focused on the Conservation Credit System (CCS), which is the state's mitigation strategy, and attention is on development of the CCS, and to try to meet expectations of federal partners. He said there is a lot of coordination with BLM, and 3 percent disturbance cap and current discussion is that CCS is actually more flexible and responsive and provides the best or more appropriate response to impacts on landscape. The next SEC meeting will be June 23.

- C Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley
Director Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.

Secretary Wasley said July will be Bear Logic month and a Governor's Proclamation will be issued stating such. A media event is planned in July highlighting the Department's new family trap, and that a conviction was issued on bear trap tampering case in Incline Village. With respect to bear break-ins there have been 14 break-ins, and we have seen increase in coyote calls and conflicts in Southern Nevada. He said a Las Vegas Homeowner's Association encouraged residents to inundate the Department with calls to prompt action on coyotes. He said with the many attractants the problem will not get better. The Department plans to step up media and education efforts. All fiscal services vacancies have been filled. Chet Van Dellen and Kristy Klinger were recently recognized as recipients of the Ted C. Frantz Employee of the Year Award. The Marlette spawn is underway and at Wild Horse Reservoir, the limit has been taken off to salvage fish and provide opportunity before a die-off. Chief of Law Enforcement position is open and the agency is grateful to Paul Dankowski for filling in, quagga and AIS enforcement are underway as well as development of civilian reserve program. Secretary Wasley said the Game Division administrator position is still vacant, and that USFWS Region 8 has temporarily

withdrawn from waterfowl issues in the western region due to backlog of permitting energy facilities. Mule deer collaring continues. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in fisheries is static, and decontamination stations in place. Habitat Division has been busy with mining project review which is nexus to sage-grouse and other sage-grouse projects, staff are developing truck accessible water developments rather than refilling using helicopter, and pinion-juniper thinning and re-vegetation work to benefit sage grouse ongoing. Wildlife Diversity has been working on tortoise sterilization and raptor nesting surveys. He said the Conservation Education Division is the lead for the Bear Logic month and are assisting in planning the WAFWA conference in Reno in 2015.

D Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General David Newton

Report in submitted in support material.

Commissioner McNinch asked for clarification from DAG Newton on Clinton Felton appeal.

DAG Newton said Mr. Felton is appealing the actions taken by the Commission and Department. It is a petition for judicial review which means the review is limited to the record established and the matter is not being re-heard as all that can be looked at is the transcript and records provided to the Department or the Commission. The standard is generally arbitrary and capricious, and if the Board did not act that way the board's actions are upheld.

14 Public Comment Period

Tom Barnes, Elko CABMW, said he won't be able to attend tomorrow's meeting and provided his board's recommendation: They discussed shortening the sage-grouse season and voted to support recommendation by the Department, Trapping Committee recommendation not supported as they want to leave it the way it was, and trappers came forth and brought forth idea of trapper education courses similar to hunter education courses.

Bob Brunner, said at the CABMW meeting he attended both sides of trapping issue were upset because they learned that pre-written regulation was sent to LCB by the Department before it went to the Commission.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, said the CABMW provided a detailed action report due to the changes they are requesting for the seasons, in particular to wild turkey season. They want the hunt condensed to keep it all in April when it is cooler, and this year they had to do emergency regulation because forgot Overton was in new hunt unit. He said they also recommend moving up tag application and issuance process by a month to prevent hunters from learning they have a tag two to three weeks before the season, and changing the season dates to keep all three Moapa Valley seasons in April and not get into May. He said they recommended that gray fox not mirror the bobcat season, all supported shortened bobcat season, and the vote was close to unanimous that we should go back to having gray fox season start Nov. 1 to last day in February. He said no action taken on trapping map due to change in map but had much discussion on both maps.

Joel Blakeslee said speaking for himself, that he is concerned with integrity and relevance of current Commission and CABMW system, and he supports the Seventh Sister of wildlife management. He said there is a drift toward managing wildlife by using politics and he thinks that is a dangerous shift.

Don Molde, speaking for himself, said he has in hand the Seven Sisters of the North American wildlife model which he read: Wildlife is held in the public trust, prohibition of commerce of dead wildlife, democratic rule of law, hunting opportunity, non-frivolous use, international resources, and the one Mr. Blakeslee mentioned is the scientific management. He said he and others don't understand data collection for science which has little to do around here as no such science that tells you to kill an animal or not kill it, that is purely a value decision since wildlife is publically owned. He said they have an opinion that is just as good as Mr. Blakeslee.

Glenn Bunch, Mineral CABMW, said from the earlier discussion on allowing a disabled archer permit, he suggested that we don't get tied up in their mobility as there are two disabled persons in Hawthorne with motorized wheelchairs with tracks, and would urge the Commission to not get tied up in how they do it.

Shannon Ireland, Clark County, said as Dr. Molde brought up Seven Sisters and wildlife belongs to everybody, that there are only 1,100 trappers in Nevada and she asked how many of those actively trap, and how many trappers in comparison to everyone else, who have full year usage of the state property and trappers comply with laws and seasons just to trap.

Meeting adjourned 3:42 p.m.

Saturday, June 21, 2014 – 8:30 a. m.

15 Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Robb

Commissioners in attendance for both days: Chairman Robb, Drew, Bliss, Layne, McBeath, McNinch, Mori, and Wallace.

Commissioner Young absent for the two day meeting.

CABMW Members in Attendance, Gil Yanuck, Carson; Glenn Bunch, Mineral; Mile Humphreys, Washoe; Rex Flowers, Washoe; Paul Dixon, Clark; Craig Burnside, Douglas; Cory Lytle, Lincoln; Joe Crim, Pershing; Kevin Strozzi, Nye; Mike Reese, Clark, and Dahl Bradfield, Lincoln.

16 Commission Appreciation – Secretary Wasley

Secretary Wasley presented awards from the Department to Commissioners to Chairman Robb and Commissioner McBeath for their six years of dedicated service to the State of Nevada on the Wildlife Commission. Commissioner Drew presented awards and to Chairman Robb and Commissioner McBeath on behalf of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

17 Approval of Agenda – Chairman Robb – 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.

**COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.
COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 18 Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence - Chairman Robb - 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.

Commissioner McNinch said there will be a meeting of the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) to address solid waste issues on June 25 which he plans to attend. He said he may need assistance from NDOW with a solid waste grant, which is roughly \$25,000 to develop an educational video on trash management in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Commissioner McBeath thanked and acknowledged Commissioner Layne for serving on the Commission as she is in a tough position on the Commission.

- 19 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.

Gil Yanuck, Carson CABMW, his board thanked Commissioners McBeath and Robb for their outstanding service to the state and thanked Commissioner Drew for attending the Carson CABMW meeting. Commissioner Drew's contribution of information that they had been looking for was forthcoming and made sense, and they appreciate the Commissioners' attendance.

Commissioner Drew said Lyon CABMW sent email that they are interested in having discussion on controlled goose hunt at Mason Valley WMA.

20 Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates – Secretary Wasley – Informational
The Commission may choose to have project updates from miscellaneous projects.

Secretary Wasley said presentations on preliminary projects will be provided: Pat Jackson, Project 25 from the \$3 fee predator fee and Big Game Biologist Carl Lackey an update on a Heritage project using trail cameras to monitor bear activity.

- 21 Wildlife Heritage Committee – Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates
- A Heritage Committee Report – Committee Chairman Commissioner Wallace–
Informational
The Commission will hear a report from the Wildlife Heritage Committee chairman.

Commissioner Wallace said the committee met on June 16 and discussed the Heritage tag vendor premiums and a document provided in support material summarized the charges that some groups are charging for Heritage tags.

Chairman Robb said at previous meeting some vendors were not selected due to the buyer's premium being charged, and he contacted Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and they have changed their premium tag auction strategy to sell those tags and as a result have decided

to not charge the buyer's premium anymore to maximize value of tags for wildlife in each state. Wild Sheep Foundation also have a buyer's premium and he received a commitment from them that they won't unless a credit card is used.

- B Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2013 Heritage Project Extensions - Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action Pursuant to NAC 501.340, the Commission may approve requests for extension of 2013 and 2014 Heritage projects.

Deputy Director Patrick Cates said support material has the list of 10 projects that requested extensions, and the committee recommended extension of all the projects.

Public Comment - None

COMMISSIONER WALLACE MOVED TO APPROVE FY 14 AND 13 EXTENSIONS AS PROVIDED IN SUPPORT MATERIAL. COMMISSIONER BLISS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C Fiscal Year 2014 and Fiscal Year 2013 Heritage Funding Reallocation - Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action Pursuant to NAC 501.300, the Commission may approve reallocation of unused Heritage funds from a previously approved 2013 or 2014 project to any other previously considered 2013 or 2014 project application.

Deputy Director Cates said no money available for reallocation as statute requires that money has to be reallocated in same year and the two projects were from 2012.

- D Fiscal Year 2015 Heritage Project Proposals – Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates - For Possible Action
The Commission will hear the recommendations from the Heritage Committee and may take action to approve project applications for 2015.

Commissioner Wallace said the funds were allocated at the last Heritage Committee and as denoted in support material.

Public Comment –

Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW, suggested approval as presented. Secondly, representing himself said on Project 15 – 08 and 15 – 17, that these are upland game projects and he would like to see these projects earlier so that the Department can partner with private individuals so these can be presented under Upland Game Stamp monies and use Heritage funds for other projects.

COMMISSIONER BLISS MOVED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

22 Commission Regulations – Adoption/Workshop – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed

- A Commission Regulation (CR) 14 - 07 Amendment #1, 2015 Heritage Tag Vendors – Chief of Operations Bob Haughian – For Possible Action
The Commission will select vendor recommendations for the 2015 Heritage tags.

Chief of Operations Haughian provided revised CR that denotes the Heritage Committee recommendation for a minor change in vendor selection for one of the two elk tags, having the elk tag go from Nevada Bighorns Unlimited (NBU) to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF).

Public Notice –

Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW, said the board supported RMEF having elk tag but do not support the Wild Sheep Foundation receiving a tag due to the 5 percent premium even though there is a verbal agreement. He said one of the desert sheep tags should go to Fallon NBU and the other to Reno NBU, and the California sheep tag to NBU Reno.

COMMISSIONER WALLACE MOVED TO APPROVE CR 14 – 07, AMENDMENT #1 2015 HERITAGE TAG VENDORS, AS PRESENTED WITH CHANGES FROM THE HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING ON JUNE 16, 2014. COMMISSIONER BLISS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Commissioner Drew asked if there was discussion on the whether the Wild Sheep Foundation will charge a premium.

Chairman Robb said Mr. Thornton of the Wild Sheep Foundation stated they will not charge a premium.

COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, DREW, BLISS, MCBEATH, MCNINCH, MORI, AND WALLACE. MOTION PASSED 7 – 1. COMMISSIONER LAYNE ABSTAINED.

- B Commission Regulation (CR) 14 - 11 – Upland Game, Migratory Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Limits – Wildlife Staff Specialists Shawn Espinosa and Russell Woolstenhulme – For Possible Action
The Commission will establish regulations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for upland game birds, rabbits, wild turkey, furbearers, American crow, mourning dove, falconry seasons, and white-winged dove for 2014 - 2015 seasons.

CR 14-11 Upland Game, Migratory Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Limits were presented by NDOW Biologists Espinosa and Woolstenhulme.

Upland Game Youth Hunts –

Mr. Espinosa said no recommended changes by NDOW to upland game youth hunts; however, one CABMW recommendation for a pygmy rabbit exception which he recommends adding to allow for the take of two daily or four in possession, the same as the regular season and copy it over into the youth.

Public Comment - None

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE SPECIFIC PORTION OF CR 14 – 11 TO YOUTH HUNTS AS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT WITH ADDITION OF LANGUAGE THAT MR. ESPINOSA REFERENCED FOR PYGMY RABBIT. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Sage-grouse –

Public Comment –

Don Molde said he is encouraged by recommended unit closings as ultimately sage-grouse seasons will be closed as humans are number one predators in the absence of hard-core numbers. The crazy part is notion that when humans kill sage-grouse it produces more sage-grouse as is compensatory but when a raven takes one sage-grouse egg the world goes to pot, and the way things are going to sit here and allow human take of live, healthy sage-grouse is nonsense.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, said his board voted unanimously to support all of the seasons except one item which he will bring up.

Kevin Strozzi, Nye CABMW, his board voted unanimously to support the entire CR as recommended by NDOW.

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH MOVED TO APPROVE THAT PORTION OF CR 14 - 11 SAGE GROUSE SEASONS AS PRESENTED BY NDOW. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Blue (Dusky and Sooty) Ruffed Grouse, Snowcock, and Chukar and Hungarian Partridge, California and Gambel's and Mountain Quail -

NDOW recommended no changes.

Public Comment -

Mike Reese, Clark CABMW, said they agree with everything but quail, chukar and rabbit they would like to open Oct. 1 as no hunting occurring other than muzzleloader and that is big stimulation to their economy with quail as a big attraction.

Biologist Espinosa said in regard to Clark CABMW's proposal, that there is a BYU study on chukar in Western Utah where it was noted that for that population, that an earlier opening did create additive mortality, as the population relied on guzzlers and those were the sites that the hunters went to and from. He said that was a concern and Utah did change their chukar seasons to open later because of that study.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE CR 14 – 11 AS PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC TO RUFFED GROUSE, SNOWCOCK, HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE, CHUKAR, QUAIL, PHEASANT AND RABBITS (ALL BUT TURKEYS). MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wild Turkey

Biologist Espinosa said there is a recommendation from the Clark CABMW regarding changing the wild turkey application time periods.

Public Comment -

Mike Reese, Clark CABMW, said they are requesting approval of the wild turkey application process to be postponed to August to have the draw moved back. The current timeframe for announcement of the successful draw and delivery of tags allows too little time for adequate hunt planning; therefore, they recommend moving back all application and draw deadlines by one month. He stated the recommendation: Applications accepted until 11 p.m. on the third Tuesday in January; applications of bonus points will be accepted until 11 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday in January; and the release date will be the first Friday in February.

Chief of Operations Haughian provided a mock-up of the Clark CABMW request and he noted they also have season changes. He said there is no problem with waiting until the August meeting to change the application period.

Biologist Espinosa said the Department is recommending for the junior wild turkey hunt is to add a youth season for the Moapa Valley portion of Clark County from the third Saturday in March to the first Sunday in May, with a recommended quota of three, and the other youth hunts would remain the same.

Commissioner Drew said the Clark CABMW also had a recommendation to change the youth dates.

Mike Reese, Clark CABMW, said the recommendation was a change for the end of the season to end the second or third week of April.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED FOR WILD TURKEY APPLICATION FEE PROCEDURES BE DELAYED UNTIL AUGUST COMMISSION MEETING. COMMISSIONER BLISS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Biologist Espinosa said there are no other changes for wild turkey other than the Moapa Valley hunt which had to be previously changed this past spring by the Commission because of the unit description. The correction was to change the unit description to simply state "the Moapa Valley portion of Clark County."

Commissioner Layne and Mike Reese from Clark CABMW reviewed the proposed date changes from the Clark CABMW meeting: The first hunt's opening day as March 28 – April 3; second hunt April 4 to April 10; and last season April 11 – April 17. The youth hunt would be the week before and close on April 17 for 2015.

Commissioner Drew asked NDOW staff if dates are used will they need to be adjusted or amended for next year as they will be off or use first Sunday in April, first Friday in April.

Biologist Espinosa said that would be how the language would be written

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH MOVED TO APPROVE CR 14 – 11 WILD TURKEY 2014 - 2015 AND 2016 SPRING LIMITED ENTRY HUNTS 0131 AND 0132, UNIT 091 OF ELKO COUNTY, UNIT 101 OF ELKO COUNTY, UNITS 102 AND 065 OF ELKO COUNTY, UNITS 151 AND 152 OF LANDER COUNTY, MASON VALLEY WMA ONLY OF UNIT 203, AND MOAPA VALLEY PORTION OF CLARK COUNTY WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES: HUNT 1, LAST SATURDAY IN MARCH TO FIRST FRIDAY IN APRIL; HUNT 2, FIRST SATURDAY IN APRIL, SECOND FRIDAY IN APRIL, AND THIRD HUNT SECOND SATURDAY IN APRIL TO THIRD SATURDAY IN APRIL, IN PERSHING COUNTY AND UNIT 115 OF WHITE PINE COUNTY, AND THE REST AS PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Junior Wild Turkey Hunt

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ADOPT THE JUNIOR WILD TURKEY 2015 – 2016 GENERAL JUNIOR TURKEY SPRING HUNTS 0138 AS PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGE: MOAPA VALLEY, CLARK COUNTY GO TO THIRD SATURDAY IN MARCH THROUGH THIRD FRIDAY IN APRIL. MOTION SECONDED MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Open Quota Landowners Hunts 0135 and 0137

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE WILD TURKEY 2015 AND 2016 SPRING HUNTS 0135 AND 0137 FOR UNIT 192 OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, UNITS IN LYON COUNTY AND PARADISE VALLEY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY AS PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Falconry

COMMISSIONER WALLACE MOVED TO APPROVE FALCONRY SEASONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS AND RABBITS IN CR 14 - 11 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER DREW SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Furbearing Animals

Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme presented the furbearing seasons which remain the same with the exception of the bobcat and gray fox season, the Department is recommending a season for those species of Dec. 1 to Feb. 21. He said pelt sealing date recommendations have been made as well.

Commissioner Layne said at the Clark CABMW meeting that she attended, there was a discussion with member John Sullivan, who stated that NDOW had presented a number of statistics to him and others at Nevada Trapper's Association meeting. She said she is frustrated because she did not have the information presented and does not know who presented it and asked that he tell the Commission what the information was and the reason for the change to the bobcat season.

Biologist Russell Woolstenhulme said he does not know what that is in reference to. He said what the Department bases this off is that part of support material had a spreadsheet with bobcat harvest data. The data provides guidance on season setting and using that data showed

for second consecutive year diminished kitten production, and based upon that the Department is recommending a shortened season which will reduce take.

Commissioner Layne asked why the red fox season was not reduced since the gray fox season was reduced in conjunction with bobcat season.

Biologist Woolstenhulme said gray fox is separated out and trying to keep in line temporary season with bobcat is because with those two species there is overlap from where they are trapped and with other two fox species is vastly different.

Commissioner Drew asked if there is a biological concern on gray fox numbers or is it the overlap issue.

Biologist Woolstenhulme said it is the overlap issue and biologically there is nothing that has raised any concern with gray fox harvest. He said the recommendation and intent in shortening the bobcat season is to reduce bobcat take and if gray fox season is longer there is the possibility that a bobcat could be taken which from the Department's viewpoint would defeat the purpose of shortening the bobcat season.

Public Comment –

Jana Wright, Clark County, said she had a question at the CABMW meeting as to why there are no harvest limits for furbearing animals. She said she does not understand that part of it, and she thanked Commissioner Layne for bringing up comment that it appeared that the Department had provided the Trapper's Association data, and she just heard Mr. Woolstenhulme say that he does not know what they were but is still a question in her mind.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, recommended shortening the bobcat season but to leave gray fox season as it was, Nov. 1 through end of February.

Joel Blakeslee, Nevada Trappers Association (NTA), said in response to Ms. Wright's question, that the reason there are no limits, stems back to the 1970s when bobcats were regulated under the CITIES treaty, at that time the federal government told the states they either had to have limits or population estimates. Nevada along with three other states chose limits, there was an Act of Congress in early 1980s that told states they did not need population estimates to manage wildlife and that accepted technique of using trend data would be acceptable. A few states stayed with limits. He said as far as the data being provided from NDOW. NDOW has provided that data every year for the last 35 years because obviously they want to understand what is going on believe in science and for that fact, they approve the shortened bobcat season. He said six years ago the season was shortened but did not separate the gray fox season, and they have concern with linking species to another because you could shorten deer hunting season in case someone may poach an elk – that is not a place we want to go. Mr. Blakeslee said if you want to shorten gray fox, do it based on science not because of behavior.

Randall Stoeberl, Elko County, said in northern Nevada you find gray fox with bobcat and their concern up there is that there may be individuals who would take advantage of trapping gray fox early in the season and to keep things clean, would recommend keeping gray fox same as bobcat to prevent problems in northern Nevada.

John Sullivan, Clark CABMW member, said all trappers are not on same page about gray fox season, and the spreadsheet he received as Clark CABMW member is where he received the

data. The spreadsheet shows bobcat management in Nevada which is unique in the nature of its accumulation of data. Total harvest data shows over 3,000 bobcats taken which is high and if we had a limit season on total harvest, there would be no biological reason to reduce the season. The kitten/female ration is showing a slip and is best and early prediction of health of species. If all we knew was the 3,000 harvest that do not take lower jaw data and all the other information we would not have data. Mr. Sullivan said he supports that 100 percent and this is a pretty radical proposal as bobcat has highest pelt value of any animal in North America. He said this was done six years ago, and the population bounced back. He supports NDOW on the bobcat season as does NTA, but he does not support coupling the gray fox hunt with the bobcat season.

Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW, said his board voted to support Department recommendation for furbearers with exception of aligning the gray fox and bobcat season. If the season dates were adjusted only due to science they are okay, but if not they are against.

Cory Lytle, Lincoln CABMW, said economics is a strong driver on this and felt with where the harvest trend is heading that they voted for season dates of Dec. 1 – Jan. 31 to shorten the season to check ourselves and get ahead of the curve. He said they also voted to parallel the bobcat and gray fox. He said the sealing dates for Lincoln County that the dates are a week before the end of trapping season, and depending on date for the season, they would request a sealing date change for Panaca in 2015 and 2016. The biologist had no issue with change and he would recommend if Feb. 21 is accepted as closing date for bobcat season, that the Panaca sealing dates be Feb. 26 instead of Feb. 12; and Feb. 25 instead of Feb. 11.

Tracy Truman said NDOW has data showing harvest information is not very good, we wait a few years and recommend the season be shortened and is pointing out, that to extent you will curtail the season based on two years of data, and if positive, renew current season dates. For the gray fox only possible season opener is Nov. 1 and does not mind if it mirrors the bobcat closing date, but the Nov. 1 opening is needed as some areas are inaccessible after Dec. 1. If you agree to leave gray fox season as is the NTA will provide workshop at Trapper Education Day on how to successfully release a bobcat in case it happens as point brought up that newer and inexperience trappers are more likely to run into that situation and they are more likely to attend NTA events to gain information.

Jim Curran, Churchill CABMW, said the CABMW accepted NDOW recommendation for all furbearers; they disagree with NDOW recommendation on gray fox. Their recommendation is Nov. 1 – Feb. 28, which is the historical season and to keep bobcat and gray fox seasons separate during those years when reduction in bobcat season is required due to science provided.

Caron Tayloe, Washoe County, said she applauds those who are looking at this issue on science basis, however would reiterate as she said two years ago in Elko, that this is management based on dead animals and self-report. Although self-report can be a valuable science tool, self-report by itself is poor science. She read section from Journal of Business and Psychology on understanding self-report bias in organizational behavior (11:33 a.m.).

Rex Flowers, Washoe CABMW, said they voted to support NDOW's recommendations.

Shannon Ireland, Clark County, as far as self-reporting and fear of psychology and analysis, that as far as bobcats they never said no kittens, there is concern with lower litter production

ratio. She said as far as self-reporting, every bobcat is accounted for due to CITIES, with jaw and sealing that is done by NDOW.

Mike Reese, president of Southern Nevada Coalition for Wildlife, said they look at this as a prescription that a doctor gives, and that in 2010 and 2011 the same thing came up and they shortened bobcat season for a reason. He said it came back and did not administer anything for any other furbearer i.e. the gray fox, and to tie gray fox with bobcat, is like trying to deal with two different diseases which may or may not work – they want the gray fox season to stay at Nov. 1 – Feb. 28, and the bobcats season to be Dec. 1 to Feb. 21.

Dave Stowater, Las Vegas, said bobcat data report is best data in the world and only question he has is people wonder how do you know it's true and there may be something to that as he caught five kittens in Clark County and there is only 11 listed, and knows someone else who caught two, but...he trusts NDOW who does good job and they work together and for sound science you gotta do things, and is in agreement with bobcat season. For gray fox the season needs to be the same – Nov. 1 through end of February. No one caught taking an animal out of season, and if that occurs they should be caught.

Fred Fisher, Ely, said all the programs time tested and have tons of data – and these issues have been before the Commission and will again. He would encourage the Commission to give weight to majority opinion. He said the proposals affect many lives and others that recreate in this state.

Bob Brunner said six years ago this was done and had excellent outcome and should be able to do it without splitting the bobcat and gray fox start dates.

Dave Gowan representing himself said on harvest data with kittens, that as a trapper and houndsman, he generally releases all the kittens he catches to insure the population, and there are a lot of trappers who don't harvest kittens, it is a selective process especially when you use dogs.

Don Molde said he will echo a statement made by Bob Brunner yesterday where he complained about a done deal with respect to some LCB language and maps that were submitted before the Washoe CABMW and he got draft minutes of Washoe CABMW meeting of June 12 and at that meeting Mr. Blakeslee stated that the NTA has already signed off on the one month bobcat season shortening. He provided his statement in writing for the minutes:

Regarding: NDOW bobcat trapping season recommendation for 2014-2015

Dear Chairman Robb

Once again, bobcat "harvest" data from last trapping season became available to the public only a few days before this meeting. Again, there was no public discussion of this data, or how the department decided to recommend a shorter trapping season next year. And, once again, I see from comments made by Mr. Blakeslee at the Washoe CAB meeting on June 12th, that the trappers had "already agreed" to the shortened season, even before the data became public. I have some questions. How, when and where did the trappers "agree" to this? Was there a meeting? If so, was it a public meeting? Was there notice? An agenda? I never saw any notice of any such meeting. If there was no public meeting, then when IS the public provided the opportunity to talk about our concerns? If you claim it is here, now, during a 3-minute sound bite...after a "deal" has already been cut....this becomes a sham. Here's what's wrong with this.

It makes it look like a “good old boy”, insider arrangement, where these animals are privately owned by trappers or NDOW and the public has no business deciding how they are to be killed. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. Had there been a public meeting about this matter, I suspect the department would have heard ideas and suggestions that probably were not mentioned during these otherwise secret discussions; such as turning loose adult female bobcats and juveniles in Management Areas where juveniles are now almost non-existent; pulling up traps in those areas if juveniles are seen nearby; directing trappers to stay out of Management Units where juveniles are sparse, and more. Also, we’d have suggested that goals and objectives be set for next season so that the public would have some idea what parameters were expected to improve given the actions taken, and accountability could be imposed.

The current so-called “management” system appears to be a set of consistent data collection, year to year, but with an utterly opaque process of deciding what the data means, if anything. Many of us who follows fish and game stuff know the well-recognized limitations of depending on “harvest data” as a sole source for predicting parameters of live populations.

And when one combines that limitation with a failure to set goals and objectives, year by year, it isn’t much of a management system. For example, how many bobcats do you expect to be killed next year, give or take 500? How many bobcats do we have alive in the state this year? What rate of juvenile survival do we expect or predict? Where are the thresholds or cutoff points beyond which certain other management actions are triggered? We all know the answer. There are no such things, and therefore, we can’t claim to have a “management plan” for bobcats. Rather, we have an opaque, seat-of-the-pants arrangement, depending solely on “harvest data” and analyzed by idiosyncratic notions not available to public scrutiny. Or so it seems to me.

Richard Patch speaking for himself said linking species with regard to potential challenges being trapped, adding potentially another species of red fox to shortened seasons, questioning self-reporting, and throwing out numbers and questioning the science, all are effort to smoke and chaff to delay, slow, erode process – as their only true desire is to remove trappers from state of Nevada.

Steve Nelson, Churchill County, said agreeing with Fish and Game was done at their Board of Directors’ meeting and nobody else needed to be involved but the trappers. He said he would like Feb. 21 as the end date for bobcat season as that prevents interference with chukar hunters around guzzlers.

Jed Rybak, NTA, said if this was not science and this stuff wasn’t correct we would not have any cats left in state, and thinks we are all missing the main point some people are proposing and that is they just don’t want any animals killed in state.

Commissioner McBeath asked Mr. Woolstenhulme to address the self-reporting bias issue as you cannot sell the pelt without the seal and you cannot get the seal without bringing in the jaw, and NDOW analyzes the jaw. He asked how can there be a bias in that data.

Biologist Woolstenhulme explained NDOW’s process: Law requires that every harvested bobcat be checked in by NDOW and the federal CITIES seal is put in to comply with CITIES. Prior to that Nevada used a state seal. The trappers must provide to NDOW harvest information as to where bobcat harvested, and provide lower jaw of bobcat. NDOW has a 100 percent reporting rate on legally taking bobcats in the state and the lower jaw is used for age data with the age determined by NDOW. Mr. Woolstenhulme responded to Commissioner Drew’s question as to how season recommendations are arrived at explained that NDOW staff meet and discuss biological issues using data.

Chairman Robb asked if any Commissioners were present or if Mr. Woolstenhulme discussed this with Commissioners.

Mr. Woolstenhulme answered no Commissioners present nor did he discuss it with any Commissioners.

Commissioner McNinch asked why Dec. 1 date was not moved.

Mr. Woolstenhulme answered that could have been done, and his mindset was to move that date to capture the fur sale.

Commissioner Mori asked for verification if the fact is that there were no violations when the seasons for bobcat and gray fox were separated before.

Mr. Woolstenhulme said he had no knowledge of that as does not deal with law enforcement aspect of this. He did not hear of any but cannot answer with certainty.

Acting Chief Game Warden Paul Dankowski said he does not have data with him nor does it stand out like there was a large problem with that then.

Commissioner Drew asked for the Department position on proposed change to sealing dates from Lincoln CABMW.

Mr. Woolstenhulme said the local biologist was consulted and was okay with the change as is he.

Commissioner Bliss said trappers he spoke to said they were in favor of gray fox mirroring the bobcat season, and after hearing LE say no issues, he is struggling with how to proceed.

Chairman Robb said he would like to comment regarding the accusation that NDOW met with Commission and or NDOW met with NTA. He said NTA comments that they are in agreement with shortened season bobcat season is the same as Lincoln CABMW saying they are in agreement. He said no one on the Commission said that a meeting ever occurred or this was a foregone conclusion. Also, with split season, if novice trapper and if the Commission splits these seasons out, and if a trapper catches and has to take a bobcat due to injury during gray fox season, that is a nine demerit violation.

Commissioner Layne clarified that the statement made by Acting Chief Game Warden Dankowski was that he was not aware of any violations, and her question is will there be an issue for law enforcement if seasons split.

Acting Chief Game Warden Paul Dankowski said in the past there have been specific incidents but can't say they are overwhelming or major.

A failed motion was made by Commissioner McNinch to adopt the furbearer season as proposed by the Department.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ADOPT THAT PORTION OF CR 14 – 11 FOR ALL FURBEARING ANIMALS WITH ONE EXCEPTION TO CHANGE GRAY FOX SEASON FROM DEC. 1 – FEB. 21 AS PROPOSED TO NOV. 1 TO THE LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MORI.

Commissioner McNinch expressed concern with extension of the season.

Commissioner Layne said she will not vote for the motion as she supports the Department recommendation.

COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, DREW, MCBEATH, MORI, AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS LAYNE AND MCNINCH OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED 6 - 2.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BOBCAT SEALING DATES AS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT WITH ONE CHANGE THAT THE SEALING DATE FOR PANACA BE CHANGED FROM FEB. 12 TO FEB. 25 FOR THE 2014 AND 2015 SEASON FROM FEB. 11 TO FEB. 26 FOR 2015 – 2016 SEASON. MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

American Crow

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO APPROVE CR 14 - 11 MIGRATORY UPLAND GAME BIRDS AMERICAN CROW, MOURNING AND WHITE-WING DOVE AS PROPOSED. COMMISSIONER DREW SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recognition of Deputy Director Rich Haskins and his upcoming retirement from NDOW.

- 23 Amendment of Biennial Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 Upland Game Release Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa – For Possible Action
Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa is requesting an amendment to the Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 to add an additional release location for wild turkeys along the Humboldt River near Battle Mountain.

Biologist Ken Gray said the Department is requesting for an amendment to Biennial Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 Upland Game Release Plan for additional turkeys on Seldin Properties in Lander County.

COMMISSIONER BLISS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2014 AND 2015 UPLAND BIENNIAL BIG GAME RELEASE PLAN. COMMISSIONER WALLACE SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 24 Trapping Regulation Committee Report and Recommendations – Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action
The Commission will hear a report from the Trapping Committee. The Trapping Committee has received considerable testimony at various meetings around the state regarding various trapping related issues. The report may contain recommendations regarding the development of regulations related to the frequency of visitation of a trap, snare or similar device, in various areas of the state. Recommendations may also be brought forward on other matters related to trapping such as demerit points, education, trapping on private lands and other matters related thereto. The Commission may take action to provide guidance on the development of trapping related regulations.

Commissioner McNinch said prior to this meeting questions raised regarding the process followed by the Trapping Committee. He reported that the Trapping Committee met several times over the past months and has made recommendations as denoted in committee motions. At the May 29 Trapping Committee meeting further motions were made and staff prepared a draft Commission General Regulation which was submitted to Legislative Counsel Bureau as a placeholder for the Commission in order for the regulation to be permanent due to LCB deadlines; there has been no intent to circumvent anyone from the process.

Deputy Director Haskins added that the information taken from the committee actions was crafted into a draft regulation as a placeholder for a regulation in the event the Commission chooses to take action with the intent to have something in place prior to the next trapping season.

Commissioner McNinch said there were issues on the Trapping Committee meeting minutes and that they were not available to the public. Commissioner McNinch reviewed and explained the motions from the committee meetings.

Chairman Robb said in regard to the southern Nevada map that he himself travelled the area to view it personally, and the map was voted on with revisions that he submitted.

Trapping Committee Member's Positions on 96 Hour Trap Check (2:24 p.m. See Motions from Trapping Committee in Exhibit file – support material)

Commissioners Layne and McNinch both said they do not support the 96 hour trap visitation as it is too long. Chairman Robb said his intent is to protect the wildlife resource and he supports the 96 hours as it allows for distribution of trappers and flexibility. Commissioner Drew said he supports much of what Chairman Robb said relative to what is humane for wildlife as a set number of hours, and in the rural areas with less conflict more distribution of traps makes sense. He said he is not sure how to make it work cleanly as to what hour of time is better than another. He said the biggest thing to him is that wider distribution makes more sense from a population standpoint.

Committee Member John Sullivan stated his positions: Supported mandatory trapping education, the motions made in Elko he supported for rural game units, for Clark County supported vote on firearms discharge area, the demerit changes and private property were out of the blue and the committee should have stayed on subject of visitation, and supported Clark County map.

Commission Comments on 96 Hour Trap Visitation (2:44:40 p.m.)

Commissioner McBeath said in context of SB 213 the animal welfare issues are same whether close proximity or outside of close proximity, and does not think that is on the table. He said he does not think the committee considered science of animal welfare so that cannot be considered. He said he had major heartburn with use of 24 hours as means to keep trappers out of area because Commission already has dealt with the issue of where there is no trapping, and there is already a regulation. He said he finds it difficult to believe that trappers can trap check in 24 hours as too many potential issues, and believes it needs to be more than 24. Both sides took extreme positions – 24 or 96 hours, and cannot see less than 48 hours, and the “calendar day” position was confusing to him at first and the exigencies that can come up make that difficult as opposed to a fixed time such as 96 hours. He said he supports hours not calendar day and also relates the time check to the area. Commissioner McBeath said he will agree that

illegal discharge of firearms area should be a shorter check time. Commissioner McBeath said he is not familiar with Washoe County and does have concerns with using units and if those are federal/public lands.

Commissioner Drew said he did not vote for the northern Nevada maps due to public land and disagreed with Chairman Robb on designating Wilderness Areas and concerned that bigger issue may be created than what exists. He had concerns with using units too.

Chairman Robb said USFS and BLM have different definition of Wilderness from him as some wilderness areas are high use and he provided different examples such as Mt. Rose and ski area use. He said calendar day relaxes it versus 24 hours, and the calendar affords flexibility.

Commissioner McNinch said the biggest struggle has been interpreting SB 213 and each committee person came up with their own understanding and determination of it and in hindsight the Commission should have established that at the beginning. He said they largely dealt with intent and took no action to pick a direction and he personally believes that the legislature expects the Commission to address the conflict they were hearing about.

Commissioner Bliss shares concerns with Commissioner McBeath as to definition of calendar day and prefers two calendar days because if too tight that will create more of a problem.

Chairman Robb said procedurally the Commission will take a vote on the committee recommendation from the committee motions and proceed from there.

Public Comment –

David Stowater, district director of NTA for Clark and E. Nye County, said they were never told what the problem was and to this day does not know what the problem was. He said if we have problem it should be done right. He said that the Las Vegas maps ended up being approved in Reno seemed strange, and many places an hour out of Henderson are not congested such as hills behind Henderson. He said 96 hours is great and if changed to 48 hours many trappers will be done.

Jared Ward traps in Southern Nevada and supports 96 hour trap check throughout as it works great; however, he has considered that if we need to do 48 hours then allow use of a snare or a conibear trap.

Bob Brunner requested that the committee recommendation be turned down by the Commission because like Commissioner McNinch said regarding interpretation of SB 213. He was at the legislative meetings when SB 213 passed and there was tremendous opposition to changing trapping rules and those ratios remain the same for those who are against it and those who want to change it. In his opinion the legislature said this is a loser and gave the close proximity issue to the Commission, and this is already lost in the legislature. He said SB 213 states for the Commission to “consider” which has been done, and in regard to congested areas the counties will close them and don’t want to start that. With wilderness in both of these areas not focused on what is going on, and financial impact submitted to legislature is incorrect as there will be impact to critter control businesses.

Joel Blakeslee, NTA, said both maps and demerits have been heard before at the legislature. Demerits have been heard by previous Commissions and they said no. He said this Commission will break precedence by accepting this. NTA rejected the maps because he still

does not know why we need it, these are both bad laws and could make things worse. It was stated distribution problem, but has anyone quantified it he asked if it is known how many dogs caught and or how many violations. Directives as to what the wardens are going to do and leave the demerits at three, worst case scenario is to accept committee recommendation, and he said not one CABMW agreed with this and the best course is to accept NTA recommendation.

Dane Bradfield said for the Commission to vote down committee recommendation on maps, keep the 96 hours as laws on books to protect roads and that this is tip of iceberg to stop recreation on public lands in the future.

Kevin Strozzi, Nye CABMW, said they voted to oppose any change to 96 hour trap visitation statewide. Speaking for himself, he said the 24 hour trap check, will create more conflict as the trappers will just have to stay out there and be closer to urban areas.

John Sullivan, Clark CABMW, said this issue is bigger than just maps and believes the ultimate goal is to ban trapping. He cited example of Washoe County and trail issue with regulation change and then same in southern Nevada and then SB 213 of which the end game is to eliminate trapping, then hunting is next.

Shannon Ireland said education would have been beneficial as to areas and hours to trap, and she said the coyote issue in Clark County has grown. She brought a large binder with event numbers from Las Vegas Police Department noting animal events in Clark County.

Cory Lytle, Lincoln CABMW, said they voted for 96 hour trap check statewide and to keep demerit points where they are. He said they had long discussions and appreciate the amount of time all have spent on the issue and they support education and science.

Jana Wright, Clark County, said she supports shorter trap visitation statewide although she knows the Commission does not have an appetite for that, and the shorter visitation is supported by her as a humane aspect for targeted and non-targeted animals. She asked the Commission to support the committee maps to meet the mandate of SB 213.

Tracy Truman said in regard to Cold Creek, Lee and Kyle Canyon, that the first thing there is a prison and that is not a use associated with congested area and on the map the entire road is there, same for Lee Canyon. His point is that some of the areas on the map are needless because on the roads as there is a limitation already.

Amanda Crawford, Las Vegas, supports trapping as it is now and classmates at college are more afraid of their dogs being eaten by coyotes.

Jim Curran, Churchill CABMW, said at their meeting they voted unanimously to oppose committee recommendation in regard to the maps and proposed demerit changes. He said to propose a change in demerits for visitation is methodology and has no impact to resource, and system was set-up to deal with severity of violation. He said in regard to trespass that will be 12 points which is equivalent to killing a bald eagle or a deer out of season, and he does not know you could say trespassing on someone's posted property isn't willful, and there is no other way to trespass than willful, and the emphasis is on trapping but if he retrieved game from private property you could have license taken away for five years. He asked the Commission to reconsider what it is asking for and to comparing it to shooting an endangered species.

Joan Laliberti, Tonopah, said ancestors trapped and culture taught not to inflict pain or harm to animals, and 96 hours is extreme. She said we need regulations as we will be subject to PETA and HSUS/animal extremists as we need rules and regulations so that we are not being unnecessarily cruel but respect what we are doing.

Mike Olsen, Churchill CABMW, said his request is for the Commission to adhere to the CABMW political process and their input, and for that to be on the record.

Debra Stowater, Las Vegas, requested to keeping everything as is and her experience as a trapper's wife is that things happen.

Joe Bennett, representing himself, said Commissioner McBeath already stated his concerns. He said concerning trapping we need to define what the problem is and use the science to dictate your decision. The argument that we do as surrounding states such as California and Oregon, which he would not recommend as they have so many wildlife problems with coyotes, and would resist being like those states. For demerits he agreed with Chairman Robb that very serious to purposely go on someone's property and trap but leaving definition up to warden is serious. He said he attended Las Vegas and Elko committee meetings and appreciated the length of time persons were allowed to speak.

Charlie Cecchini, Nye CABMW and board of directors NTA, said he supports what Mr. Blakeslee and the Nye CABMW stated and sees no reason for 24 hour trap check.

Miles Humphreys, Washoe CABMW, said they recommended the Commission deny the proposed 24 hour visitation and same for the proposed maps and no change to demerits. The proposed regulation needs to be rejected, and they fully supported trapping education for trappers and the public. He said speaking for himself, that he totally agrees with Commissioner McBeath's comments and commented that trapping is legal and has been there, and there is nothing that needs to be changed.

Gil Yanuck, representing Friends of Nevada Wildlife, said this started with personal animal being caught in trap, and that is pet owner's liability. He said he knows that trappers know that the animal is less valuable the longer it is in a trap so it is in the trapper's best interest to get their animal out of trap. He said with proposed time limits there will be less that trappers can do and possibly less income. Mr. Yanuck said he does not have solution; the Commission will have to make the decision.

Jed Ryback, of northern Nevada, said he is a trapper in Washoe County and requested that the 96 hour trap visitation stay in place and wants to continue the heritage of trapping.

Trish Swain, Trail Safe, thanked the committee for their work and quoted Commissioner Layne that anytime in a trap is too long. She asked the Commission to accept the findings of the committee as there were about seven meetings and does not see where any more testimony will change anything. She briefly commented on SB 213 and said it is astonishing to her why anyone would say that they don't know why this matter is being heard and your constituents are the animals in her view and deserve protection. She hates to hear of an animal suffering and when they go out in public to educate people about trapping, people start crying and ask how it can happen, much public sentiment that is not organized or focused. Ms. Swain said science at play here is sociology and psychology. We have alliances, peer relationships, loyalties, traditions and she respects that but in no way she will back down from animals suffering needlessly and believes solution can be found in smaller group committees with more

interpersonal discussions if this goes on and hopes that does not happen. She said the phrase “skin in the game” and “pound of flesh” are used frequently in these meeting and the animals are the ones that have that.

Mike Campos, speaking for himself, said he agreed with Commissioner McBeath that 24 hours is being used as a tool to deter trapping around highly populated areas. He does not agree with a 24 hour check in any part of the state.

Caron Tayloe, Washoe County resident, said to please accept the maps as everyone has worked very hard and supports what Ms. Swain said.

Richard Patch, Coalition of Southern Nevada Wildlife, said Coalition has looked at this from a number of perspectives and want to look at honesty and sportsmen are honest and know the pelts are a consumptive use and hunters use game for meat, same for fisherman. The honesty from the other side is vague, and they say they are willing to barter. He said this agreement is an end to way of life as their one mission is to completely eradicate hunting, fishing, trapping, and they feel they have a more enlightened way of the world and are better individuals. He said they see things differently as we are hicks, we are rednecks or whatever. The Commission has been given a pie to look at and some of you feel you have to take action, and no, all the Commission had to do was consider and the consideration should be not in brokering a deal with the people who have no interest in the deal you brokered as it is meaningless to them because they have a different brokerage in mind. He said if you don't stop it this will be the fatal flaw that people look back as when the Nevada heritage of being an outdoor sportsman began to die.

Steve Nelson, representing himself, said on the issues of demerits it appears to him that trappers are being picked on and singled out.

Dr. Paul Crawford, representing himself, said he had a friend with chickens in the middle of Las Vegas that had 12 chickens killed by coyotes. He said some of you on Commission represent farming and that is why he brought that up as directly impacted his way of life and changing anything other than regulations in Clark County than what they are will result in more coyote/farmer conflicts. He said there is a village at Cold Creek and is not congested and the shaded areas on the map are considered prime trapping areas and driving another 15 minutes is not feasible. Hunting and trapping are quite different and none of the Commissioners said they are familiar with trapping, and going another 15 minutes every four days for a month makes a big difference in time and adds up. His last point is this is a slippery slope and if we don't stop we will be just like California.

Don Molde said he is puzzled about lack of understanding of humanness as he turned a coyote loose from a trap and portion of foot below where it was caught in the trap had turned black and skin broken revealing bone and tendon. Upon release the coyote could not stand. He said he will give the Commission the warden's report regarding a citation issued to a Commission constituent for failure to visit traps in a timely manner, he was cited for a 10 day visitation screw-up, if you read report the traps were not visited for two weeks, not 96 hours. This person was in a position to know what trap visitation was because he is the noisiest voices saying everything is fine, nothing is wrong, don't change it. This person had traps from Smoke Creek Desert all the way to Cedarville airport, and he may have as many as 300 traps as claimed in the past by him. We have situation where animals targeted or not could have been sitting in a trap for up to two weeks and this person was ill but able to pick up people from airport. To him this is egregious violation and nothing excusable, and concern is that public comments after published it appears

from his point of view, that trap visitation is merely a suggestion or recommendation and is adjustable by individual circumstances that may come up. He said he hopes that is not what we are talking about, and brings this to the Commission's attention for educational purposes.

Dave Gowan, Nevada Houndsmen Association, recommended not accepting the proposals and the maps. Mr. Gowan said the maps will not be the end as seen with maps created for bear hunt and Commission's goodwill effort to remove bear hunt from Tahoe basin area to appease those who opposed the hunt of which many of these people are in the same groups. Trapping and hunting are more humane than nature's way. Mr. Gowan read letter from friend about trapping.

Fred Fisher said he agreed with most of what has been said regarding keeping the 96 hours.

Mitch Baily said he is 54 years old and trapping is at forefront because of the method of take and trapping under fire due to method of take and wondered why no requirement or prerequisite to get a trapping license but if he wants to hunt you have to take a eight hour class. He was taught by a mentor where not to put a trap – Joel Blakeslee - and suggested giving trappers an 8 hour class and that will eliminate the need for maps in the congested areas and if you close hunting, close them in other areas.

Mike Reese, Southern Nevada Coalition, said the firearms area in Clark County was initially designated to enable enforcement of trash dump laws, and he appreciates Commissioner McBeath's comments and bringing up what he did. Mr. Reese cited examples of predators entering schools and urban areas and knows trappers are not the final solution. Mr. Reese said he advocates more trappers and SB 226 went from 200 feet to one-half mile near a dwelling. He spoke to legislators and told them they forced the Wildlife Commission to take such drastic action and went from 200 feet to one-half mile and every CABMW in the state requested 1,000 feet with the exception of Clark County. He said a convicted sex offender only has to go 1,000 feet from a school and the law abiding trapper has to go one-half mile, and hopes it goes back the other way as Mr. Blakeslee said. He said legislators need to be told that the prescription they gave worked for a minute and that's it, and when that happened they started getting all these predators in the valley and never in the 40 years he has lived there has he seen the amount of predators since SB 226 enacted. He said to leave it at 96 hours and supports education and his organization would help with education, and no change to demerits as more violations on fishing than hunting.

Rex Flowers representing himself said he hopes the Commission denies everything except education. He said Don Molde commented that he released a coyote from a trap and questioned if that is an egregious offense where he would be given 12 demerit points. He asked if it was humane to turn loose a crippled animal to die over longer period of time then stay in trap and have the trapper put it down. Mr. Flowers said for demerits, that habitual criminals have three strikes and most of us work and if we make a mistake you are not thrown out. Maybe after three times you are gone. Lastly, all these public lands are multiple use and when is somebody going to stand up and recognize they are multiple use. He said Chairman Robb said you don't want to trap 48 hours and for trappers to toughen up and drive 15 more minutes, and he asked when are we going to have a backbone and tell the non-consumptive user if you don't want to walk your dog where there are traps to toughen up and drive 15 more minutes.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, said NTA representative attended their CABMW meeting and several residents as well, and everyone in the room had sentiment, that the legislature did ask that this issue be considered, all agreed it had been considered. Mr. Burnside said they

unanimously voted to recommend to the Commission that all the committee recommendations be rejected and is not to discount the amount of time, work and effort, but that was vote.

Randall Stoeberl, director of NTA, passed out document and in regard to trespassing on private property that he agrees with Chairman Robb 100 percent. Mr. Stoeberl relayed a true story about trapping a red fox that was released, and second incident a dog caught in his trap that was released by person who was not charged with tampering with a trap. He said that is a serious problem with trappers and other side is doing something wrong too.

Joe Crim, representing himself asked why trappers are being singled out for higher demerits than anyone else, and the 96 hour check should be universal across the state.

Cathy Smith, of Reno, said she appreciates the effort everyone expended in this process and she read quote from Thomas Jefferson: I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions, but laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors." Society has changed and the way people treat animals is changing. The Commission and the Department need to evolve with society and she hears repeatedly about science based decision making, again, population data has its place but to trap or not to trap is a value judgment. Whether or not there is a sustainable population is a totally separate question, is there data to confirm that trapping decreases human wildlife conflict when healthy populations are maintained. She said she could not find that and said in coyote populations their populations increase when killed randomly as confirmed in an earlier presentation today. Trapping may cause more conflict by increasing coyote numbers. She asked if trapping decrease disease transmission to humans. Not in random population, and in discussions she had with epidemiologists in several articles, the opposite is true. She said the decrease in red fox was linked to increase in Lyme disease prevalence in rodents. Does trapping increase game populations, maybe in some circumstances but depends on what is limiting the population and has not seen any evidence that trapping has increased pygmy rabbit or sage-grouse populations, and before you keep killing animals based on assumptions shouldn't you have the data to support it and shouldn't we do no harm. Society supports hunting including bird hunting with dogs, don't be fooled when trappers try to group themselves with hunters because trappers hurt your reputation. She asked how many non-target animals live after release especially after 96 hours and higher mortality after trap release has been documented in fox populations. Ms. Smith said 33 states have 24 hour trap visitation, and there are no limitations from SB 213 in what the Commission can consider, and the opportunity to make a very small difference for all of Nevada's animals not just the favored ungulates.

Public Comment closed and discussion returned to the Commission –

Chairman Robb said trapping was not singled out for increased demerits as the section reads "trapping, hunting, and fishing." He said to address the statement that trappers are being picked on that if an upland game hunter shoots twice the limit of chukar he gets nine demerits and if a trapper is twice the legal limit past 96 it is still three demerits, and compared to other violations, he is looking for equality. Chairman Robb said the demerit increase brings trappers up to par as to where everyone else is, and the purpose is to change habits not the law.

Commissioner McNinch asked for clarification from the agency on citing traps whether it will be per trap or per trap line.

Acting Chief Game Warden Dankowski said it is done by geographical location so it is not by number of traps, such as trapping in two distinct canyons, that would be considered two separate incidents. The fine could be increased by the number of traps.

Commissioner McNinch said that is important issue to clean-up and may affect how he votes and this should not affect a lot of people as assumes most are lawful.

Commissioner Drew said he recalls this issue being discussed previously and has no issue with increasing demerits for someone who willingly goes beyond that check time, and thinks the 48 hour period is not perfect but is a good way to do it. He said he would like to see this better defined as we proceed.

Commissioner Wallace said he agrees 100 percent with 12 demerits on private property rights and there is a scenario where you have creeks that run across private property with fishermen fishing and when you reach private property and do it on purpose without permission have to decide how egregious is it, and he has that situation on his property.

Discussion on willful or inadvertent trespass on private property –

Commissioner Mori said he will support the committee recommendation on demerits.

Chairman Robb asked DAG Newton if the Commission had a motion to go to 12 demerits and have the DAG and NDOW staff determine how we could have six and 12 demerit point and bring it back later.

DAG Newton said the six demerit points are in statute and that will require a statutory change.

Motion on Trespass

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH MOVED THAT WITH REGARD TO ANY VIOLATION OF 503.240 WHICH INVOLVES HUNTING, FISHING, OR TRAPPING, ON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT PERMISSION, BE INCREASED FROM SIX TO 12 DEMERIT POINTS, AND THAT ANY TRAP VISITATION VIOLATION IN EXCESS OF 48 HOURS PAST THE 96 HOUR LIMIT BE INCREASED FROM THREE DEMERITS TO SIX DEMERIT POINTS. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED WITH AMENDMENT ACCEPTED BY COMMISSIONER MCBEATH THAT THE MOTION IS 48 HOURS AFTER REQUIRED VISITATION REQUIREMENT.

Commissioner Drew made a failed amendment to the main motion for nine rather than 12 demerits.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO AMEND THE MAIN MOTION THAT THE RECOMMENDATION TO WORK ON DEMERITS RELATED TO TRAP VISITATION EXCEEDING 48 HOURS OVER THE PRESCRIPTION INCLUDE A CLARIFICATION AS TO HOW THAT WILL BE APPLIED. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE AMENDMENT. COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR OF MOTION: CHAIRMAN ROBB, MCBEATH,

MORI, DREW, MCNINCH, AND LAYNE. COMMISSIONERS BLISS AND WALLACE OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED 6 – 2.

Commissioner Drew said he is uncomfortable with the 12 demerit points and voted for this knowing it still will go through the CABMWs and then it will come back to the Commission and he said he reserves the right to change his position.

Commissioner McNinch suggested starting on visitation outside mapped areas.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO UPHOLD THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO MAINTAIN THE 96 HOUR TRAP CHECK IN AREAS OUTSIDE OF HUNT AREAS 26, 28, 19, 2, AND 29. CHAIRMAN ROBB SECONDED THE MOTION WITH THE AMENDMENT THAT IT TAKE THE LANGUAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE'S ORIGINAL MOTION AT ITS ELKO MEETING TO KEEP THE 96 HOUR TRAP CHECK STATEWIDE IN RECOGNITION OF FAR REACHING AREAS OF NEVADA. COMMISSIONER DREW SAID THE INTENT IS TO INCORPORATE THE REASONS DEFINED IN THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION INCLUDING IN CONSIDERTION OF PROXIMITY TO HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS.

Commissioner McBeath said he has heartburn with reference to units and as not defined what a heavily used or populated area, and if done this way, need to determine heavily used/populated rather than units.

Commissioner McNinch said he understands his concern but had to have a starting point and after decisions made on north and south, the committee had to make a last motion on those areas outside that were not incorporated and is a way to get there.

COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, DREW, MCBEATH MORI, AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS MCNINCH AND LAYNE OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED 6 – 2.

Commissioner McNinch made a failed motion to accept he map proposed for trap visitation in northern Nevada as proposed on the map including most of Area 19 with calendar day check.

Commissioner Drew said Douglas County was opposed to changes in their county as the urbanized areas are private property and trail area has a dog restriction. He dissented on motion in committee as makes more conflicts than it solves and will be opposed to the motion.

Commission discussion on calendar day versus hours – (6:50 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAP THAT INCLUDES UNITS 196, 194 AND THAT PORTION OF 195 DEPICTED IN PINK EXCULDING UNIT 192 AND THAT THE TIME PERIOD BE TWO CALENDAR DAYS. COMMISSIONER MORI SECONDED THE MOTION.

Commissioner Drew asked about exempting box trap or caged trap on that and exempting Mt. Rose Wilderness Areas.

Commissioner McBeath said he heard Wilderness Area was a high use area and he took that into account, and does not quite understand box trap issue at this point.

Commissioner Drew said for box or cage trap it is to reduce conflict and his concern is it will increase conflict from people using instant kill traps if we allow box or caged traps instead of how long to check a leghold.

Commissioner McBeath said the motion just dealt with leghold traps and you are exempting all traps.

Commissioner Drew said yes, and it would be 96 hours.

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH ASKED IF THE BOXED OR CAGED TRAP WAS ACCEPTED BY THE SECOND AND CHAIRMAN ROBB CLARIFIED THAT IT WAS.

Commissioner Layne said we are looking at everything but Unit 192 and including caged and boxed traps under the two calendar days.

Commissioner McNinch said no, they would be checked in 96, which is why he won't support the motion.

COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, MCBEATH, MORI AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS OPPOSED: MCNINCH, DREW, AND LAYNE. MOTION PASSED 5 – 3.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED 19, 2, AND 29 PORTIONS THAT WERE NOT DEFINED IN RELATION TO HEAVILY USED OR POPULATED REVERT TO CURRENT REGULATION OF 96 HOUR VISITATION. COMMISSIONER MCNINCH SECONDED THE MOTION.COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, DREW, BLISS, MCBEATH, MORI AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS OPPOSED MCNINCH AND LAYNE. MOTION PASSED 6 – 2.

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH PROPOSED THAT WE GO TWO CALENDAR DAYS IN CLARK COUNTY AND USE SAME LANGAUAGE AS NORTH FOR BOX AND CAGE TRAPS FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM DISCHARGE AREA AS DEPICTED ON MAP OF THIS DATE. COMMISSIONER MORI SECONDED THE MOTION. COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, MCBEATH, MORI AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONERS OPPOSED MCNINCH AND LAYNE. COMMISSIONERS LAYNE AND MCNINCH OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED 6 – 2.

Commissioner McNinch made a failed motion for portions of 26 and 28 not specifically included in increased visitation frequency motion illegal firearm discharge area that those be 96 hours.

COMMISSIONER MCBEATH MOVED THAT ALL OF THE AREAS IN PINK OUTSIDE OF THE ILLEGAL FIREARMS DISCHARGE AREA IN CLARK COUNTY REVERT BACK TO 96 HOURS WITH DIRECTION TO NDOW TO COME FORTH AT A FUTURE COMMISSION MEETING TO ADD THE COLD CREEK RESIDENTIAL AREA INTO THE “SB 226 NO TRAPPING ZONES.” CHAIRMAN ROBB SECONDED THE MOTION WITH CLARIFICATION THAT IS TO INCLUDE RESIDENT PARKING ZONES AND CAMPGROUNDS IN THAT AREA. COMMISSIONERS IN FAVOR: CHAIRMAN ROBB, BLISS, DREW, LAYNE, MCBEATH, MCNINCH, MORI, AND WALLACE. COMMISSIONER LAYNE OPPOSED. MOTION PASSED 8 – 1.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF TO BEGIN DEVELOPING AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR BOTH TRAPPER EDUCATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION ON TRAPPING. COMMISSIONER MORI SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Commissioner McNinch and Mori made further comments and the agenda item concluded at 7:16 a.m.

- 25 Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments - Secretary Tony Wasley and Chairman Robb - For Possible Action
The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 15 and 16, 2014, in Fallon, and 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.

Secretary Wasley said the next meeting is Aug. 15 and 16, 2014, in Fallon, and he and the Commission compiled a list of potential agenda items: Election of chair and vice chair; wood duck banding study – best time would be Friday evening; set revise waterfowl seasons; crossbow regulation; trapping regulation; controlled goose hunt on Mason Valley; Elk Damage and Management Committee; arbitration panel; Region 8 Pacific Flyway Council Migratory Bird Office issue; and possible Lake Mead Hatchery tour via boats to inspect decontamination stations.

- 26 Public Comment Period

Craig Burnside said he attended and observed the 2014 big game draw and found the powerpoint presentation provided to be very informative.

Joel Blakeslee, NTA, said he hopes no one is mad at him and he appreciates what was done.

Cathy Smith, Reno, said there was article in today's newspaper that BLM approved hydraulic fracturing in Elko and nothing compared to wild horse issue if the is an accident which happens. She said this is definitely an issue that should not be ignored and needs to be looked at.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

NOTE: The meeting has been videotaped and is available for viewing at ndow.org, and the minutes are a summary of the meeting. At the Department of Wildlife headquarters in Reno is a complete record of the meeting, including recordings; and all the exhibits received/referenced during the meeting. The record is available upon request.