

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda

The public is invited to attend and provide public comment from the following locations:

Meeting Location: Clark County Government Center
Commission Chambers
500 S. Grand Central Parkway
Las Vegas, NV 89155

Teleconference Locations: Nevada Department of Wildlife
Western Region Office
1100 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Eastern Region Office
60 Youth Center Road
Elko, NV 89801

Public comment will be taken on every action item and regulation workshop item after discussion but before action on each item, and at the end of each day's meeting. Public comment 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, Jan. 29, 2016 – 10 a.m.

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

- 2 **Approval of Agenda – Chairman Drew – 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.

- 3 **Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Drew – 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.
- 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.
- 5* **Approval of Minutes – Chairman Drew – For Possible Action**
The Commission may approve Commission minutes from the November 13 and 14, 2015, meeting.
- 6* **Draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Predation Management Plan – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**
The draft FY 2017 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review and input for submission to the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee.

Commission General Regulation – Workshop/Informational – Public Comment Allowed – Persons Wishing to Provide Comment on Regulations are Requested to Complete a Regulation Speaker’s Card and Present it to the Recording Secretary

- 7* **Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel, LCB File No. R031-15 – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed**
The Commission will consider permanent adoption of a regulation relating to amending Nevada Administrative Code 502.42283 by which the Commission may facilitate decisions by appointing or serving as the arbitration panel should arbitration of elk incentive tag awards become necessary; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. A workshop on the temporary regulation was held on March 20, 2015, and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ meetings. An additional workshop was held on August 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ meeting and no further changes were made. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners adopted this regulation as a permanent regulation on September 26, 2015; however, on October 27, 2015 the Legislative Commission deferred the regulation.
- 8* **Commission General Regulation 458, Electronic Rifle Triggers, Caliber and Cartridge Length, and Smokeless Powder Restrictions, LCB File No. R144-15 – Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed**
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. It revises provisions relating to hunting;

deleting the prohibition against using smokeless powder in a muzzle-loading firearm while hunting a big game mammal under certain circumstances; making it unlawful to use certain firearms and cartridges while hunting a big game mammal; and proving other matters properly relating thereto.

- 9* **Commission General Regulation 459, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones), LCB File No. R145-15 – Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed – Workshop/Public Comment Allowed**
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapters 501 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code. It revises provisions governing the use of aircraft, hot air balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles, satellites or certain other devices to locate or observe, for the purpose of hunting, a big game mammal; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.
- 10 **Reports – Informational**
- A **Bighorn Sheep Disease Surveillance and Herd Performance from 2012 to 2015 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox and Wildlife Veterinarian Dr. Peri Wolff – Informational**
The Department will provide a presentation depicting our bighorn sheep herd responses (lamb recruitment as primary metric) over time in relation to disease exposure, environmental factors, and other variables. This presentation will cover information developed from data collected from 2012 through 2015.
- B **Status of the Helicopters Owned and Operated by the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Game Division – Deputy Director Jack Robb, Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling, and Chief Pilot Greg Smith – Informational**
The Department will provide a presentation primarily on the helicopters owned by the Department, but reference the fixed-wing aircraft, and provide an overview of the status and utility of the Bell Jet Rangers. The Department will discuss air fleet modernization and possible mechanisms to improve performance.
- C **Mid-Winter Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference Report – Secretary Wasley and Commissioners McNinch and Wallace – Informational**
A report will be provided on the recent mid-winter conference held in San Diego, Calif.
- D **Humboldt County Elk Management Sub-Plan Update – Chairman Drew and Commissioner Mori and Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – Informational**
The Humboldt County Elk Management Sub-Plan Steering Committee met recently and a brief summary of the meeting will be provided as well as a report on the committee's progress.
- E **Sage-grouse Update – Secretary Wasley – Informational**
Secretary Wasley will provide an update on the status of sage-grouse.
- F **Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley – Informational**
Secretary Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.

- G* **Wildlife Heritage Account Report – Deputy Director Liz O’Brien – Informational**
A report will be provided on the funds available (interest and principal) for expenditure from the Wildlife Heritage account in the upcoming year.
- H **Administrative Procedures, Regulations, and Policy Committee Report – Commissioner and Committee Chairman McNinch – Informational**
The Committee chair will provide an update on recent committee activities and plans.
- I* **Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee Report – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Johnston – Informational**
A report will be provided on the committee’s recent meeting.
- J* **Wildlife Damage Management Committee – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Bliss – Informational**
The Committee chair will provide an update on recent committee activities and plans.
- K* **Litigation Report – Senior Deputy Attorney General David Newton – Informational**
- 11 **Public Comment Period**
Persons wishing to speak are requested to complete a speaker’s card and present it to the recording secretary. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016 – 9 a. m.

- 12 **Call to Order, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Drew**
- 13 **Approval of Agenda – Chairman Drew – 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.
- 14 **Hunter Education Instructor Southern Region Award Presentation – Conservation Educator 3 Martin Olson**
Southern Region Hunter Education Instructor Floyd Coons will be recognized for 30 years of dedicated service as a certified volunteer hunter education instructor.
- 15 **Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Drew – 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.

16 **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.

17 **Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates – Secretary Wasley – Informational**

The Commission has requested that the Department provide regular project updates for ongoing projects and programs as appropriate based on geography and timing of meetings. These updates are intended to provide additional detail in addition to the summaries provided as part of the regular Department Report and are intended to educate the Commission and public as to the Department's ongoing duties and responsibilities.

Commission Regulations and Commission General Regulations – Adoption – For Possible Action – Public Comment Allowed Persons Wishing to Provide Comment on Regulations are Requested to Complete a Regulation Speaker's Card and Present it to the Recording Secretary

18* **Commission Regulation 15 – 09 – Amendment #2 – Big Game Seasons – Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider amendment #2 of the 2016 – 2017 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas.

19* **Commission Regulation 16 – 09, Big Game Mountain Lion Harvest Limits for 2016 – 2017 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider the adoption of 2016 – 2017 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

20* **Commission Regulation 16 – 10, 2016 Black Bear Seasons – Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider the adoption of 2016 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear. The Department will provide the annual hunt and population status report following the 2015 bear season.

21* **Commission Regulation, 16 – 03, 2017 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2017 Heritage Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.

22* **Commission Regulation, 16 – 04, Dream Tag 2016 Seasons – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**

The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Dream Tag seasons.

- 23* **Commission Regulation, 16 – 05, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) 2016 Season and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 PIW hunt species, seasons and quotas.
- 24* **Commission Regulation, 16 – 06, Silver State Tag 2016 Season and Quotas – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Silver State Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.
- 25* **Commission Regulation 16 – 07, 2016 Big Game Application Deadline Information – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2016 big game tag application deadline information.
- 26* **Commission Regulation 16 – 08, 2016 Big Game Tag Application Eligibility – Management Analyst 3 Maureen Hullinger – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2016 big game tag application eligibility.
- 27* **Commission General Regulation 456, Special Incentive Elk Arbitration Panel, LCB File No. R031-15 – Game Division Administrator Brian F. Wakeling – For Possible Action**
The Commission will consider permanent adoption of a regulation relating to amending NAC 502.42283 by which the Commission may facilitate decisions by appointing or serving as the arbitration panel should arbitration of elk incentive tag awards become necessary; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. A workshop on the temporary regulation was held on March 20, 2015, and the temporary regulation was adopted on May 15, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission meetings. An additional workshop was held on August 7, 2015, at the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission meeting and no further changes were made. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners adopted this regulation as a permanent regulation on September 26, 2015; however, on October 27, 2015 the Legislative Commission deferred the regulation. A workshop was held yesterday, January 29, 2015, and subsection 3 on page 3 was suggested for removal by the Department. Note: See agenda item #7 for support material.
- 28* **Potential Congressional Land Transfer to the Moapa Band of Paiutes in Southern Nevada – Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne – For Possible Action**
The Department will present a brief overview of a potential congressional land transfer and discuss possible issues with wildlife management and public access in and around lands being considered for transfer. The Commission may choose to develop correspondence and provide input to the Congressional delegation as part of their consideration of Senate bill S.1986.

29 **Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Wasley and Chairman Drew – For Possible Action**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for March 25 and 26, 2016, in Yerington and the Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

30 **Public Comment Period**

Persons wishing to speak are requested to complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at ndow.org.

* Support material for this meeting may be requested from Recording Secretary Suzanne Scourby at (775) 688-1599; supporting material for this meeting is available for the public at the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, NV, 89512. In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at NDOW.org and at the following Department of Wildlife offices: 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Reno, NV 89511; 1100 Valley Road, Reno, NV, 89512; 380 W. "B" Street, Fallon, NV, 89406; 815 E. Fourth Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445; 60 Youth Center, Elko, NV, 89801; 1218 N. Alpha Street, Ely, NV 89301; 744 S. Racetrack Road, Henderson, NV 89015; and 4747 W. Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV, 89108.

Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone (TTY) telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868. Disabled individuals in need of special services should contact the Department prior to the meeting at (775) 688-1599.