

**Mule Deer Hunting and Management: Written Comments from a Mail and Online Survey of Nevada Mule Deer Hunters**

Prepared by:

Alexandria Middleton, Research Assistant

Ed Krumpe, Ph.D., Professor

Nick Sanyal, Ph.D., Associate Professor

University of Idaho, College of Natural Resources

For:

Nevada Department of Wildlife

April 17, 2014

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Access	We as hunters need to have 100% access to our national forest lands. Not having full access continually restricts hunting/hunters opportunities to a bare minimum. Trespass fees are not the answer for the average hunter.
	Restriction of Motor vehicle use/access is important to me.
	This survey is geared towards resident hunters. As a non-resident hunter I have very slim draw odds for tags in Nevada thanks to Harry Reid. I do not have the access to public land tags for hunting that residents do. Most non resident hunters tend to be more trophy hunters than residents do. Non resident hunters go to great expense to hunt out of their state. It usually limits their ability to take many family and friends along for the experience. Non resident hunters are good cash flow for the gam departments as they pay much higher license fees as well as the communities they stay in while hunting. As a non resident hunter, I, as well as most others, can only afford to be gone from home and work for a week or two to hunt. Longer seasons are not aimed at non resident hunters but resident hunters.
	The last deer hunt in northern washoe was like it was 15 years ago lots of animals healthy looking the only down side was the closed off areas outside of cederville as you get into Nevada thank you for your time
	The area I hunt in Nevada is very remote and only accessible by foot. In the past 30 years I have only seen two other hunters during the season, and have only drawn four times. It would be nice to see a few more tags aloud in these areas, with only foot ccess. The zone I applied for only allows 25 tags for the hole zone. We have always applied as a party of four and and try for the latest season offered. Average only drawing every 7 years. So every year we just plan on getting are money back. Nevada sould have a application fee that requires everyone to purchases a license and charge for the tags only if you draw. This way everyone would be on the same level for points and the points system could go away thru attrition. Myself and our party only hav one more hunt in us for this type of area so if there would have been a few more chances for tags in remote /wilderness areas would have been nice. To late for us, but maybe for the future hunters of Nevada less tags in accessible areas and more tags in remote areas.

<sup>1</sup> Comments are provided verbatim with no editing; all names were removed. Comments containing multiple topics are repeated under each topic so that the reader can see the complete context in which the topic was mentioned.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	There were surtain areas that where blocked for hunting that where not last time so we had less space fore hunting. The horses are also a very big problem. -
Access	I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retricted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum requirements for taking a buck.
	The amount of wilderness land that is in Nevada is criminal. I'm all for preservation but giving rich ranchers their own private hunting grounds is a joke (cave valley ranch). it limits where many hunters can access causing higher densities in other easil accessible areas and substandard harvests. I used to see huge bucks here in Nevada. now you only hear of a few good bucks taken each year. I'm not a lazy hunter I put in at least 10 miles of boot time a day and endless hours of glassing. I was fine knowig I was only going to draw every other year. Bring back the big bucks please... thanks
	Nevada has many inaccessible areas to maintain good populations and trophy sizes. Limiting access to OHVs by forest service would hinder harvesting of either sex. Wilderness area tags would not be good as most law abiding citizens know access rules for widerness.
	I have been drawn for exactly two deer tags in 13 years, so it should be obvious on this questionnaire that I don't care much for NV,in terms of hunting access to it's own residents. It's remarkable to me that ANY out-of-state licenses are given when residents are denied access to hunt their own state. However, I know that Dean Heller and his hunting friends hunt deer yearly. Gee, he must be awfully lucky! But, I get it. Ranching, Mining and State Senators are top priorities, not a simple resident of he State of Nevada trying to pass on a love of hunting to his children.
	It was so much better in the early 90's less hunters more deer. Also to many mtn. ranges with no access.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Access	<p>I am originally from Canada where: 1) you buy white-tailed deer and moose permits at stores (e.g. any store that sold firearms) even during the hunting season; 2) can hunt in any Crown Land (similar to BLM) area you want (no zone preselection required or restrictions); 3) there is NO lottery bullshit. NDOW should consider the ZEC (Zone Ecologically Controlled) system used in Quebec where large areas of land are placed under the jurisdiction of non-private ZEC clubs that are managed by its members, under the watchful eye of fish &amp; game. Then, rather than the tragedy of the commons, you get a "club" of like-minded individuals that are interested in a specific area. They take philosophical ownership of said area. Quotas for that area are set by fish &amp; game. Back home, we would pay \$300 for a combined hunting &amp; fishing ZEC membership, in addition to the provincial permit for whatever you were hunting for. People are happy to pay it because ZECs are well-managed and full of game. I want to hunt in an area I know...not where NDOW tells me I drew a tag because of lower pressure in some area I have no connection to. And, I want to hunt with my son and colleagues/friends...that is near impossible with a random lottery system. Back home, I hunted where my father hunted, which is where his father hunted, etc. Losing that connection to the land and not allowing displaced hunters such as myself to redevelop it will result in fewer hunters and hunters going to other states. Don't believe me? I recently bought 500 acres of forest land in Maine, where landowners are strongly favored for white-tailed deer tags...drawing something like 75% of the time. I will never waste my money on a big game lottery in Nevada again. NDOW has forgotten what hunting is about: Hunting is: (1) hunting in an area you feel connected to, whether it is family history or something else; (2) hunting with the people you chose to hunt with, in my case hunting partners;</p>
	<p>Allow more areas for OHVS. Most hunters around the age of 40 cannot climb up + down the mountains in the wilderness areas. When I talk to game officials for info the answer is always climb the mountain + get off the ATV. I view this as discrimination apparently NEV. wants guideservice for all hunts driving costs thru the roof. Maybe we should all have Horses. \$ The seasons for any legal weapon need to be in NOV. with all your other hunts, the traffic just moves the deer out of the area. NDOW needs to police these areas' (#10) ranchers post hunting areas with are not. I know they chain off road illegally and nothing is ever done. Nevada needs to work/help everyday people hunt and enjoy it.</p>
	<p>During this past hunting season 2013, in areas 101-109, the land owners had blocked county access roads with private property signs and fences. That proved to make our hunt extremely difficult and not enjoyable.</p>
	<p>I think when counting the deer population, it should be taken into consideration how many deer are in or on private property that a lot of hunters can't hunt on before establishing the number of tags in areas.</p>
	<p>To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do think NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many people being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.</p>
	<p>To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do think NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many people being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Access	<p>The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the secondary sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issue tags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Mayb start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.</p>
	<p>I had a slightly less than desirable Mule Deer Hunt this past year. The area where we drew tags has a very large "Wilderness Area" designation that severely limits access to prime hunting areas when on foot or using an OHV. At almost 65 years of age, I can't hike for extended periods of time in rough country without several days of knee pain afterward. Access to good hunting areas is very important to me as an aging hunter and this seems to be disappearing in Nevada. More and more areas that used to be accessible are now "Wilderness Areas". It seems that is a popular thing to do for politicians sitting in Washington D.C., preserve things for the future by 'stopping' access to public areas for the majority of the current population. I do not own any horses and don't have any friends with horses so I am shut out of most of these Wilderness Areas. I am seriously considering moving my hunting activities out of Nevada for better access and greater Deer Tag availability else where, even if i would cost more to hunt in these other locations.</p>
	<p>I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.</p>
	<p>I have hunted with friends and family for years and the one single issue that comes up is access to hunting areas. May times we will find deer only on private land. I have talked to land owners and most will not allow hunting on their property. Also with imited success drawing tags in Nevada I have purchased over the counter tags in Idaho and taken deer.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Access	<p>I feel there are far to many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking woul not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for foo with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. Whats wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previousl were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire.sk more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memorable hunt.</p>
	<p>I am concerned over the proposed changes to access roads to government lands. It is my understanding that fewer access roads are going to be available in Elko County limiting access to the Ruby Mountains. These are public lands and these access roads ned to provide full access to many draws.</p>
	<p>Shutting down roads me and my family have been using all my life.</p>
	<p>One topic that seems to be avoided in your survey was access to public grounds. Rights should be made to ALL hunters to public lands if it is blocked by land owners.</p>
	<p>I became interested in Nevada Mule deer hunting in the late 70's. I have applied many many times and have drew last choice archery tags in 2000 &amp; 2001. In 2013, I finally drew an any weapon tag, it was my last choice. Access to public land were blocked by so called land owners. High number of hunter were confined to limited areas, decreasng success rates. My thoughts are should I ever apply again or buy a trophy tag from a land owner?</p>
	<p>We need to find an accommodation to allow able bodied seniors to hunt Wilderness areas with their middle/younger age kids.</p>
	<p>Please make the use of trail camera's illegal in the state of Nevada. Guides (and some hunters) have commercialized Mule Deer hunting to an excessive state. Due to the price that some "hunters" are willing to pay for a large B&amp;C Mule Deer heads, guides ar going to extreme measures to keep honest hunters out of specific areas. Guides are known to pay friends and/or family to block roads during the hunting season to keep hunters our of a trophy bucks home area. I know a lot of hunters hate OHV's. I haveno problem running into OHV's that is being driven on designated roads or offroad while retrieving downed game, but trail cameras are truly unethical.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Cameras	<p>Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer popu</p>
	<p>The guided hunt thing has become a real disappointment for me. They use trail cameras and sell big bucks to clients they also use other people to spot big bucks for them to sell to clients it is bull.</p>
	<p>The use of game cams and feeders.</p>
	<p>Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!</p>
	<p>California's non effort to control the cougar population is starting to kill the mule deer on Nevada's border to devastating proportions. in the hunt in December of 2013 in unit 15 there was a trail cam picture in that unit where 4 cougars were in the sam picture. also in that unit were numerous cougar sitings and very few deer. I imagine the burn from 2012 did not help the unit much either.</p>
	<p>Please make the use of trail camera's illegal in the state of Nevada. Guides (and some hunters) have commercialized Mule Deer hunting to an excessive state. Due to the price that some "hunters" are willing to pay for a large B&amp;C Mule Deer heads, guides ar going to extreme measures to keep honest hunters out of specific areas. Guides are known to pay friends and/or family to block roads during the hunting season to keep hunters our of a trophy bucks home area. I know a lot of hunters hate OHV's. I haveno problem running into OHV's that is being driven on designated roads or offroad while retrieving downed game, but trail cameras are truly unethical.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Cost	I have hunted in Nevada on and off for twenty years, and have had a great experiences. Your management has been above all others, and your passion for quality and not just trying to use tags and licenses to balance the states budget is refreshing. The cos of your Mule Deer tags and your license fees are affordable and your Elk management is incredible, with the opportunity to harvest a 400 class bull. Keep up the good work, and by sending this survey shows me that you guys actually want feed back from spotsmen. And that's peeks volumes. Thank you
	When you by points you should NOT take away if a hunter doesn't apply the next year. Some times the coast interferences with applying for tags.
	As a sportsman I believe most hunters would embrace the quality of a hunt rather than the quantity of times they get to hunt. It is not an enjoyable experience to run into multiple hunting parties on every hilltop you hike or 4wd road you drive on. We wai too long for these tags only to have our hopes crushed by too many hunters in the area. This is forcing hunters into the overpriced hands of guide services. Don't let hunting become a rich mans only sport.
	As a nonresident participating in the lottery drawings for tags I suggest that the bonus/preference point programs have long run their course and have morphed into essentially Ponzi schemes to various degrees. There is no logical reason that a person whohas applied in the past should receive any credit or advantage, no matter how small, over someone who is applying for the first time. The only fair drawing structure is one in which all participants have the same chance in each drawing as all other partiipants. This approach also encourages participation of the greatest number of applicants which is key to maintaining the largest pool of interest in the sport. On another note the small allotment of tags to nonresidents (on Federal lands especially) i also discouraging participation in the hunting sports contributing to a slow death of the heritage. License and tag programs need to be structured to elevate interest and encourage, not discourage, the greatest numbers of ongoing participants. Financia disincentives within the drawing application process such as the requirement to buy an advance license to apply or build points (which again, should be eliminated anyway) also reduce participation, ultimately.
	Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer population.
	the bonus point system is not very non resident friendly, to earn a point a non res of nevada must purchase a license of 142.00 \$ in order to get a bonus point for following years . . that is to much money. neighboring states charge around 20.00\$ Isothe deer population is not as high as neighboring states . i understand the geography aspect of nevada however i believe the state could support more numbers of deer.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Cost	<p>we use to put in for party of 2 or more but that makes a party of 5 not very likley to draw. Now we put in a party of 2. Takes 5-6 yr's to get drawn. Me + my son had 6 pt's a peice...146 got drawn for our 5th choice at 1752. I feel the real stuff is the resident hunter, thats has to draw. If you want to get a Bonus pt. It should be a smaller fee not you lil every year at \$142.00 Over all we enjoy our hunts in Nevada it just takes to long to draw even with bonus pt's. I grew up in Pennsylvania, so I am by no means an expert on mule deer hunting. When starting out, I depended on the advice and strategies of friends from my home town of Fallon. I feel that I've become as proficient (or more) of a mule deer hunter than considerable amount of my acquaintances and friends due to my commitment to the sport. I've made the sacrifices to aquire the best optics (Swarovski) available in my pursuit of mule deer. I thourghly enjoy to glass game, which I feel is ensential to sucess. Also, I've made it a point to scout various areas, during several seasons state wide. I've seen some very nice bucks here in Nevada, but have only aquired two tags in my eight years of residency (Not havesting in 08, but killing a very nice 5X4 n 2012). This does not bother me, since I realize that there are only a finite amount of available resources in comparison to the hunters in the draw. I enjoyed taking this survey, and it supports my thinking of NDOW going the extra mile for hunters andwildlife.</p>
	<p>for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and oppertunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability o get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I perfer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for eveyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed.</p>
	<p>I think it is really unfair that there are people who draw tags every year and other cant get a tag for ,( in my case) 3 years. In one of my freinds case, he has not drawn a tag in 8 years, but yet there are still poeple that I know who draw a tag every yar. This is my opinion. For all who apply, those who do not draw a tag one year, should be moved to the top of a list and be given first chance at a tag the next year. I would like to see it become more equal for everyone to get the oppertunity to hunt. In my Situation, I can only apply for one tag a year. After talking with my freinds, they all choose deer. I really can not afford the \$120.00 Elk Tag. \$30.00 deer tag is good. So that is what I go for. I have applied the last 3 yrs and still have not dawn a tag. This is my thought as to why I try to go hunting. I am on a fixed income. I do not have a lot of money to keep applying for tags. I want an elk tag and a deer tag. that would cost me \$150.00 plus application fees. If i draw 1 deer and 1 elktag. for under \$200.00 I can fill my freezer and have food for almost a year. I think nevada resident should get the same equal chance to put food on thier table to feed thier families. Well that is my opinion. Make it where every hunter gets a chanc to experience a Nevada Deer Hunt. I dont like the Drawing. Mostly cause I do not get drawn. But I do think that it would be a good idea to take the people who did not draw the previous year, get moved to the top of the list and they get first chance a the draw next year.</p>
	<p>The last two year have been a disappointment for myself and others. The reason I believe is because of the amount of tags which are too many. Hunting seems to be a "rich mans sport" anymore, Nevada has been known to be a great state to hunt because of he success people have, but if we keep putting out the large amount of tags that will not last for long! Many people I've talked to would rather have less tags and a higher chance of success even if it means not drawing a tag every year. Thank you fr the oppportunity to let myself and other fellow hunters to express or options!!</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Cost	I believe that there should be an increased number of tags given to non residents, since the majority of the land that is available to hunt is funded by federal tax dollars and not state. If it is 10% now it should go to at least 15%, but 20% would b better. If you do not change things up for non residents quick, I believe you will start losing interest from people, just because most people know they are chasing a ghost(that being a guaranteed tag) and not getting anything for their out of pocket application/bonus point fees. New Mexico has the best system hands down, no preference points! Everyone has the same shot every year! I think it cost me close to \$500 last year to build points for 5 species, and put in for 2 silver tags, ridiculous!!!!
	Lower fees by Nevada mule deer & elk hunting guides & land owner tags.
	The cost of tags license and filing fees play a large part in if my family and I can hunt.
	More tag success. Fees are extremely high also.
	Allow more areas for OHVS. Most hunters around the ago of 40 cannot climb up + down the mountains in the wilderness areas. WHEN I talk to game officials for info the answer is always climb the mountain + get off the ATV. I view this as discrimination apparntly NEV. wants guideservice for all hunts driving costs thru the roof. Maybe we should all have Horses. \$ The seasons for any legal weapon need to be in NOV. with all your other hunts, the traffic just moves the deer out of the area. NDOW needs to police there area's (#10) ranchers post hunting areas with are not. I know they chain off road illegally and nothing is ever done. Nevada needs to work/help everyday people hunt and enjoy it.
	Please have more trophy hunts (late seasons) with a few tags to ease the number of first choice applicants. Then people like myself will have more time to hunt and still have mature deer. Lower the price of non resident tags so rich people are not the onl ones hunting! There are still some real hunters left. You are pricing us out!
	My concern is the cost of the tags as well as a license. it is rather expensive. Combine that with the cost of a hunting trip. there is potential to spend upwards of \$600.00 to \$700.00 for a week in the wilderness. The last trip i took I seen approximatey 100 people in the same area. Its a shame to spend that much money and see that many people and not fill my tag.
Coyotes	I have been hunting the same unit and specific area, within one square mile, since 1998. The deer numbers and the quality of the deer have decreased dramatically. Sitting in the same exact location in 2013 that I did in 1998 I now see about 20-30 deer in ne day where I would have seen around 100 then, with several of those being mature bucks. Inversely related to that I did not see a single wild horse in 1998 and in 2013 I saw well over 50 unique horses sitting in that very spot in one day. The horses hav severely damaged the sage brush and a lot of other vegetation. Also, the coyote densities are very high and I have never seen any sign of mountain lions in the area and I caught two distinct lions on a trail camera in 2013. I spent several days scouting nd one day hunting. I did harvest a mature buck which scored 190+ on opening morning of the season; however, it was the only mature buck I saw. Besides him I only saw two young bucks and a handful of does, on opening day, where in years prior I would haveseen at the very least 50 deer. While scouting, the deer numbers that I saw weren't any better, and I even went an entire day without seeing a single deer (I suspect a mountain lion moved in and pushed the deer out). I mainly, just encountered a lot of hoses & coyotes. The weather conditions were very warm & dry.
	I think a quality hunt is better with less people in the field. I like the way Nevada used to do it small number of tags. I know alot of sportsman complained about not drawing tags. But I would rather wait a year or two to have a better quality hunt. If rising more money is what they are trying to do I would rather pay more for a lower number of tags. I would also like to share that in the field this year I witnessed a coyote taking down a fawn. I have to think that if I witnessed it happening that it hapens alot more than people think. Thank you for getting the opinions from the sportsmen.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Coyotes	<p>I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retracted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum requirements for taking a buck.</p>
	<p>Get handle on the mountain Lion,&amp; coyotes , also put a open season on ravens&amp; crows to help out the sage grouse,or we won't be able to go deer hunting where we would like to,because if they list the sage grouse there will be all kind of restrictions on ou public lands. Our wonderful Harry Reid has had already made to many wilderness areas I'm getting up in years so those areas off limits to me,and I. Don't think that's the right way to treat your older people that have hunted most of there life.there lgot that off my chest!</p>
	<p>Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a min contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry catsand coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on nely born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes most areas that i hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused b Wild Horses lends to an easy take by hungry predators.</p>
	<p>To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fai to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada boarder with California due to California's non mangement of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to kee those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . .</p>
	<p>Management hunting for coyote</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Disease	<p>I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETITION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks &amp; does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it.</p>
	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope heards are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illenesses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer heards have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer heards in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state deparments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the heards. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Does	<p>I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratis to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in ood habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factr in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more . DON'T YOU THINK???</p>
	<p>I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks &amp; does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted. . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. ...</p>
	<p>There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 huntrs trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!</p>
	<p>A very big problem in Nevada, the driest state in the west, is the private lands homesteads, roads and developments that tie-up the natural water courses and sources in many habitatareas. The barriers to game getting water in bottom lands are great. the state should buy-up land with water for game and create preserves and management areas when possible (also through land donations). In my last few years of hunting it has come to my attention that it is extremely difficult to get a doe tag. However; when we are out there, there are so many doe that they definitely outnumber the bucks over 15 to 1.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Does	<p>I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and I don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.</p>
	<p>I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and check on the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There needs to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons take place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendar wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is surprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.</p>
	<p>I'm against doe hunts. I don't think they help one bit except to put more money in their bank.</p>
	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire. Ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memorable hunt.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Does	I think that the harvest of does is absolutely NOT necessary. I don't believe that any of the mule deer areas I am familiar with are approaching a large limiting factor such as summer or winter range capacities. The deer numbers have been down since the 92-93 winter loss and have not been allowed to come back because there are too many deer being harvested. I would wait as long as necessary to get a deer tag, if I knew that when I draw there would be a significant amount older age class bucks in the population to harvest, that is a quality experience to me not killing for the sake of killing.
	I'm very concerned about the amount of doe tags being sold each year- when does are taken some of them have young fawns & they will die.
	My decision to pursue does is typically constrained by the pursuit of an antlered deer tag. I do like the proposal of antlered/antlerless archery deer tags that may help manage herds without increasing hunter numbers.
Elk	I have hunted in Nevada on and off for twenty years, and have had a great experiences. Your management has been above all others, and your passion for quality and not just trying to use tags and licenses to balance the states budget is refreshing. The cost of your Mule Deer tags and your license fees are affordable and your Elk management is incredible, with the opportunity to harvest a 400 class bull. Keep up the good work, and by sending this survey shows me that you guys actually want feed back from sportsmen. And that's peeks volumes. Thank you
	I've enjoyed many season of hunting and going with friends & family. Mule deer, Antelope & Elk. in 2012 I was able to draw a bull Elk tag "Area 221-222" ely. I 'am the most surprised @ the trophy Elk. I think you do a great job. I would love to get more tgs, but I understand the need for hunter conservation and try to make the most of my oppertunetes.Keep up the good work. nonresident
	the elk , horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer i seen 25 yrs ago in elko cnty out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals , they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope i watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see th animals , the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk , i will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... i think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern nevada????
	I hunted in area 231 in 2013. I found there to be way too many wild horses. They were on the roads making travel very dangerous at night, they spooked the deer I was hunting and ate everything in sight. I support wild horses but there are too many in tis area. I did not experience competition from other mule deer hunters. I was competing with cow elk hunters, archery elk hunters, muzzleloader elk hunters and wood cutters. I had several occations where these people disturbed my hunt or actual blew ou deer I was stalking.
	I drew a deer tag in 2013 for unit 081. I applied for this unit because it was a Dec/Jan hunt I wasted 12 points on this hunt thinking it was a trophy area. It was not! Seen over 400 deer but all doe + 2 or 3 yr old bucks seen lots of elk but no good bucks scouted 4 days prior to season, then hunted 10 days. I dont mind not getting or seeing trophy deer, but it should not be advertised as such I wasted 12 year of applying :(
	I am a 68 year old native Nevadan. I have applied for an Elk tag for 18 years. No success. Long time residents over 65 with eight years or more of appling should be put in a special catagory. Where recieving a tag is greatly improved.
	Archery season used to be pretty low-impact. With the introduction of muzzle-loaders & all of their seasons along with the booming population of elk & the numbers of people that come with EACH tag, huntable areas for those of us without horses/pack animals has become "competitive". * Those w/o horses use the populat OHV/ATV. Used properly, its not an issue. However, fast "mentality" that is being socitally engineered into us, hunting has become "sport" more than a recreation. I really don't know how to address this. The hunting 20 years ago was

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	much more enjoyable than in modern times. *People with Elk tags seem to find it necessary to scout during archery season, even though they have a late season cow-tag.
Elk	I hunted the Pole Creek area for deer and elk most of October this year and the number of cow elk hunters (300) concentrated in that short time span seriously affected both deer and elk hunting. Most of the elk moved into the wilderness and the deer were extremely flighty. As a result, I am not in favor of pushing too many hunters into a small area. It seriously changes the hunting experience and probably the harvest success rates in my opinion.
	Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what has happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVASTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk and antelope herds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illnesses they seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to do with how they have been managed but like many hunters we just don't know. Our deer herds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitat loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations because of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer herds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen their state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great state based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the herds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....
	1. Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw units to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee to reduce hunter congestion. 10. Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11. Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12. Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunter congestion.
	To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OHV's to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do think NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many people being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.
	Compared to other states, I think the NDOW does a good job of managing both deer and elk herds.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Elk	<p>All of my hunting buddies and immediate family members (other than my children and wife) are non-residents. It is virtually impossible to draw a quality tag if you enter the draw with a non-resident. I would like to see more opportunities for non-resident even if it means reducing resident opportunities. Also, I don't believe there is another hunting experience on the planet that is like hunting bull elk while they are in the rut. I would like to see much more opportunities to hunt bull elk during he rt. Nothing matches this experience. Why does Nevada have so many late fall hunts instead of early fall rut hunts?</p>
	<p>I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NR had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer densit over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for al their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.</p>
Experience	<p>My family loves to have the privilege to hunt in Nevada, but wish the draw system gave more opportunities to adults and youth for receiving a tag. We are not big trophy hunters, but do our best to use skills to find a mature buck. It is more important to ave the experience in the field with my family yearly than to always harvest. I wish more hunters were more respectful to other hunters, the habitat, and the wildlife in the field.</p>
	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was disappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Experience	<p>Archery season used to be pretty low-impact. With the introduction of muzzle-loaders &amp; all of their seasons along with the booming population of elk &amp; the numbers of people that come with EACH tag, huntable areas for those of us without horses/pack animals has become "competitive". * Those w/o horses use the popular OHV/ATV. Used properly, its not an issue. However, fast "mentality" that is being socially engineered into us, hunting has become "sport" more than a recreation. I really don't know how to address this. The hunting 20 years ago was much more enjoyable than in modern times. *People with Elk tags seem to find it necessary to scout during archery season, even though they have a late season cow-tag.</p>
	<p>I am originally from Canada where: 1) you buy white-tailed deer and moose permits at stores (e.g. any store that sold firearms) even during the hunting season; 2) can hunt in any Crown Land (similar to BLM) area you want (no zone preselection required or restrictions); 3) there is NO lottery bullshit. NDOW should consider the ZEC (Zone Ecologically Controlled) system used in Quebec where large areas of land are placed under the jurisdiction of non-private ZEC clubs that are managed by its members, under the watchful eye of fish &amp; game. Then, rather than the tragedy of the commons, you get a "club" of like-minded individuals that are interested in a specific area. They take philosophical ownership of said area. Quotas for that area are set by fish &amp; game. Back home, we would pay \$300 for a combined hunting &amp; fishing ZEC membership, in addition to the provincial permit for whatever you were hunting for. People are happy to pay it because ZECs are well-managed and full of game. I want to hunt in an area I know...not where NDOW tells me I drew a tag because of lower pressure in some area I have no connection to. And, I want to hunt with my son and colleagues/friends...that is near impossible with a random lottery system. Back home, I hunted where my father hunted, which is where his father hunted, etc. Losing that connection to the land and not allowing displaced hunters such as myself to redevelop it will result in fewer hunters and hunters going to other states. Don't believe me? I recently bought 500 acres of forest land in Maine, where landowners are strongly favored for white-tailed deer tags...drawing something like 75% of the time. I will never waste my money on a big game lottery in Nevada again. NDOW has forgotten what hunting is about: Hunting is: (1) hunting in an area you feel connected to, whether it is family history or something else; (2) hunting with the people you chose to hunt with, in my case hunting partners;</p>
	<p>I moved to Nevada three years ago from Wisconsin, where I did not hunt white tail deer because of the very high hunter density, behaviors with alcohol, and hunting/driving techniques that made the sport unsafe in the areas where I was likely to hunt. This is why I prefer a low hunter density even if that means less chance of getting a tag every year. I hunt waterfowl and upland game and prefer to hunt with a small party of close friends whom I trust. I do not trophy hunt and I do not hunt for the meat, although I eat what I kill. I enjoy the exercise and camaraderie. I have a handicap in the left knee that affects my stamina and makes climbing in rough country difficult. I've never hunted from horseback but am looking forward to trying that; I do not favor motorized vehicles in pristine areas because of the tendency to destroy habitat and trails. Thank you for the opportunity to do this survey. I regret that I don't have a history of hunting in Nevada--but I will!</p>
	<p>I have been hunting since I was a young child. My family and I begin plan our hunting trips yearly and bring many family members with us to teach them about hunting safely, the area, and how to properly take care of a harvested animal. This is a family tradition we have. We are not a family that looks for the biggest deer, we mainly care about clean shots and the overall experience of hunting.</p>
	<p>Less wilderness management areas and More opportunity to hunt for long time residents. I grew up in the state of NV with fond memories of hunting and spending time in the wilderness with my father and siblings. I feel like the gap between tags takes away a lot of those opportunities that I should be having with my children. Which would also allow them the memories of caring for our wilderness and wildlife and quality outdoors time and less TV and Games etc.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Experience	Dear Nick, I am extremely pleased that you are taking the time to improve the overall experience of hunting in Nevada. I love this state and would do anything to preserve it for my children. I get the whole study and I hope reasonable considerations are made for everyone to harvest meat for their families. Best Regards David M.
	I grew up hunting in Nevada and have seen the mule deer herds increase and decrease over the years. I actually prefer the controlled hunt system because it limits the number of hunters in the field. That being said if the hunters in the field are all riding atv's anywhere they choose and making roads where they have no business riding it destroys the hunting experience for those of us who treasure the solitude and enjoy the challenge of the hunt without interference from motorized vehicles scaring away the game. At my age it is more and more difficult to find areas where I can hike far enough to get away from two tracks that seem to be everywhere these days. I used to ride an atv to get to the end of the road and hike from there. I am ashamed to be seen on one anymore because of the abusers and cheats making it increasingly difficult to find the end of the road!
	I prefer to hunt in a certain geographic area of the State and prefer the season to be a month long. I have never had much success with the draw system and resent the way its implementation has ruined my historical hunting experience. I never get to hunt as long as I used to and rarely am able to hunt where I want. At times, it seems to me that NDOW is more concerned with selling "Hunting Lottery Tickets" than managing the states game resources.
	Harvest is not the important part-being there is great. Camping & fishing or sm. game fills in for no deer. See new areas is good to being from the desert. Thanks
	Please note that some of the answers provided for questions were not exactly how I would have liked to answer. In five years of applying I have received two tags. I have not harvested a deer yet, bummer... The other years I have gotten to go because my son drew a tag! It has been a very fun time! I hope to get a deer some time soon, so I will continue to apply for tags. Thank you NDOW for all the hard you guys do!
	I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.
	I very much enjoy my time hunting in Nevada. I hunt in the wilderness of the Ruby Mountains, so a few of your questions were a little hard for me to answer. The Nevada draw system has given my 2 sons and I a great opportunity to hunt together without having to wait for many years to do so. Thank You for that experience. I also enjoy the length of the archery mule deer season, because I spend much of the time scoping out the deer and making a decision of which one to go after. Without the length of the season you offer this would not be possible.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Experience	All of my hunting buddies and immediate family members (other than my children and wife) are non-residents. It is virtually impossible to draw a quality tag if you enter the draw with a non-resident. I would like to see more opportunities for non-resident even if it means reducing resident opportunities. Also, I don't believe there is another hunting experience on the planet that is like hunting bull elk while they are in the rut. I would like to see much more opportunities to hunt bull elk during he rt. Nothing matches this experience. Why does Nevada have so many late fall hunts instead of early fall rut hunts?
	Overall I am satisfied with the NDOW. Harvesting an animal is less important at my stage of life, where the hunting experience is the important experience.
Fire	There was nothing mentioned about habitat damage from wildfires. There had been considerable damage in the last 20 years
	I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratis to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in ood habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factr in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more. DON'T YOU THINK???
	I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks & does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. ...
	If we have a buck to doe ratio that has too many bucks don't shoot more does when a rancher has to mnay bulls for the cows he has he gets more cows We can't shoot our breed stock. Letting these wild fires burn out of control before they start fighting them is stupid. We're burning up our habitat. I know what it was like in the 60's & 70's our managment sucks and there was alot of hunters then. you could drive here & buy tags over the counties. I hear there is supost to be more hunters now than then and thats bull shit. Wise management is our problem. Too many

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	predatures also.
Fire	<p>There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 huntrs trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!</p>
	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my imput for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope hears are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illeneses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer hears have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer hears in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the hears. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>We have been lucky in the fact that there has not been any major fires in the Pine forest area, so don't understand why there seems to be a decline in deer population. Have often wondered if the employees of Alder Creek Ranch, Drake Ranch and Lenoar Creek ranch aren't hunting illegally.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Fire	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights, invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire. Ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memorable hunt.</p>
	<p>I think that wildfire, range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife only has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because they have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better physical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of their habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.</p>
	<p>California's non effort to control the cougar population is starting to kill the mule deer on Nevada's border to devastating proportions. In the hunt in December of 2013 in unit 15 there was a trail cam picture in that unit where 4 cougars were in the same picture. Also in that unit were numerous cougar sightings and very few deer. I imagine the burn from 2012 did not help the unit much either.</p>
	<p>I think that NDOW needs to work with the forest service &amp; BLM on the issue of forest fire containment &amp; putting the fire out faster. I have seen fire crews waiting around for the commander to show up &amp; direct. Also a little known fact is that fires are let to grow beyond 3500 acres so the federal money kicks in. I have personally had trucks show up at my shop for repair that were not on the fire line. If the deer do not have cover they move or die. Kind of like SAGE grouse. No sage brush no grouse</p>
	<p>The state should be putting more emphasis on restoration of habitat lost through wildfire and OHV's traveling overland. I cannot believe the changes that have occurred to Nevada's landscape due to wildfire in last 30 years. Many winter ranges or intermediate habitats have been transformed from shrub zones to cheatgrass. The overland OHV issue needs to be solved and I think we</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Fire	There have been fires in Elko county, which have destroyed food and habitat. Also, this last year , 2013, we thought that too many tags were allowed in our favorite area.
Guides	Tony Wasley helped me get my NV Mountain Goat. I would participate in anything this guy ever asked of me, he is quality folk and as redundant as this survey was, he deserves full participation.
	As a sportsman I believe most hunters would embrace the quality of a hunt rather than the quantity of times they get to hunt. It is not an enjoyable experience to run into multiple hunting parties on every hilltop you hike or 4wd road you drive on. We wai too long for these tags only to have our hopes crushed by too many hunters in the area. This is forcing hunters into the overpriced hands of guide services. Don't let hunting become a rich mans only sport.
	I feel you have to many auction tags and or raffle tags. It seems difficult for a non-resident to draw and not sure I favor the non-resident guide draw. It once again favors the individuals with more money. All non resident tags should go into same draw.Need to do something about the wild horses and their competition with other wildlife.
	Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough usiness. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, t completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landownersare getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a rophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be ableto hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with te money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drastically. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.
	Allow more areas for OHVS. Most hunters around the ago of 40 cannot climb up + down the mountains in the wilderness areas. WHEN I talk to game officials for info the answer is always climb the mountain + get off the ATV. I view this as discrimination apparntly NEV. wants guideservice for all hunts driving costs thru the roof. Maybe we should all have Horses. \$ The seasons for any legal weapon need to be in NOV. with all your other hunts, the traffic just moves the deer out of the area. NDOW needs to police there area's (#10) ranchers post hunting areas with are not. I know they chain off road illegally and nothing is ever done. Nevada needs to work/help everyday people hunt and enjoy it.
	The guided hunt thing has become a real disappointment for me. They use trail cameras and sell big bucks to clients they also use other people to spot big bucks for them to sell to clients it is bull.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Guides	<p>Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!</p>
	<p>I was at a sportsman's show in Kansas City, Missouri and was shocked to find out how Nevada land owner tags we being marketed. Numerous outfitters advetised trophy Nevada hunts for mule deer, Elk, and pronghorn, on guaranteed land owner tags, and never have to apply. That was an eye opener for me, having unsuccessfully applied for years.</p>
	<p>It seems criminal that land owner tags and outfitter tags shoul not be included in a common draw. Resident and Non-resident draw together, so why not have owners and outfitters included in the same draw? Land owner tags should be for land owners and their family's sole use, and not be allowed to be sold to the higherbidder, and still be called land owner tags.</p>
	<p>I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NR had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer densit over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for al their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.</p>
	<p>Lower fees by Nevada mule deer &amp; elk hunting guides &amp; land owner tags.</p>
	<p>Please make the use of trail camera's illegal in the state of Nevada. Guides (and some hunters) have commercialized Mule Deer hunting to an excessive state. Due to the price that some "hunters" are willing to pay for a large B&amp;C Mule Deer heads, guides ar going to extreme measures to keep honest hunters out of specific areas. Guides are known to pay friends and/or family to block roads during the hunting season to keep hunters our of a trophy bucks home area. I know a lot of hunters hate OHV's. I haveno problem running into OHV's that is being driven on designated roads or offroad while retrieving downed game, but trail cameras are truly unethical.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>I have been hunting the same unit and specific area, within one square mile, since 1998. The deer numbers and the quality of the deer have decreased dramatically. Sitting in the same exact location in 2013 that I did in 1998 I now see about 20-30 deer in ne day where I would have seen around 100 then, with several of those being mature bucks. Inversely related to that I did not see a single wild horse in 1998 and in 2013 I saw well over 50 unique horses sitting in that very spot in one day. The horses hav severely damaged the sage brush and a lot of other vegetation. Also, the coyote densities are very high and I have never seen any sign of mountain lions in the area and I caught two distinct lions on a trail camera in 2013. I spent several days scouting nd one day hunting. I did harvest a mature buck which scored 190+ on opening morning of the season; however, it was the only mature buck I saw. Besides him I only saw two young bucks and a handful of does, on opening day, where in years prior I would have seen at the very least 50 deer. While scouting, the deer numbers that I saw weren't any better, and I even went an entire day without seeing a single deer (I suspect a mountain lion moved in and pushed the deer out). I mainly, just encountered a lot of hoses and coyotes. The weather conditions were very warm and dry.</p>
	<p>I feel it would be important to have people to raise mule deer on private ranches or farms. That way when you have a decline of deer the population can be reploenished. I know things like drought and encroachment of habitat comes into play, but it would be nice to see more deer more often.</p>
	<p>I hear a lot about the loss of habitat due to developent and fires, but quite frankly as I travel the state, I do not see enough evidence of it to consider it a factor in the population decline of the deer. It is over hyped in my opinion.</p>
	<p>My observations have been that the wild horse population in th NW quadrant of the state has decimated the grass. I appreciate seeing wild horses, but having grown up on a ranch in AZ, understand that the carrying capacity of the land cannot sustain the populations of horses. I have also seen a significant number o springs which have packed down and stopped by the horses. I also understand that deer are browsers of forbs and brush and that their diet is not dependent on grass.</p>
	<p>As you know, Mule Deer and human population growth is a zero sum game with the deer coming out losers. Any means to limit/decrease intrusion into wild places will help deer population growth. I don't follow the logic of killing off does to increase herdsiz or size of bucks. Oil exploration (fracking) has a high probability of detrimentally affecting nearby and migrating deer herds. Any decision about mining or oil exploration should have DOW actively involved to prevent further deer herd reductions.</p>
	<p>6+ years is to long to go with out a deer tag when you put in every year. A lot of people would find something else to do. Nevada Blm and NDOW should break out the old ely chain and get going on some habitat work. We have a lot of catching up to do. It wuld help our deer populations more than anything. Feral horse (I refuse to call them wild) reduction would go a long ways too.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratis to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in ood habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factr in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more . DON'T YOU THINK???</p>
	<p>I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks &amp; does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. ...</p>
	<p>Thank you for giving me the chance to take this survey. I would like to see the amount of deer tags decreased in order to allow deer populations to reestablish. I would also like to see areas with low deer populations changed to four point or better. feel that this will increase the deer populations and produce better quality bucks. I think that the heavily burned areas should be reseeded in order for the deer to reestablish in those areas.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what has happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVASTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk and antelope herds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illnesses they seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to do with how they have been managed but like many hunters we just don't know. Our deer herds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitat loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations because of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer herds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen their state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great state based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the herds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>I hear so much hype about predators being the cause of our deer issues and wonder where these people if educated got their parchment. I see more damage by highways, shed hunters, fences, lack of moisture, loss of habitat, take Spring Creek and parts of Elko, prime mule deer habitat, being destroyed for economical gain. And the big one- Mining, it may work for Nevada BUT it sure doesn't work for Nevada's wildlife.....</p>
	<p>get rid of the wild horses!!(MUSTANGS?) they are not part of the natural ecosystem of north america any longer,they destroy resources needed by big and small game and provide predators (MOUNTAIN LIONS IN PARTICULAR ) a means to maintain higher than normal populations</p>
	<p>I think more funding and time should be spent on habitat improvements.</p>
	<p>A very big problem in Nevada, the driest state in the west, is the private lands homesteads, roads and developments that tie-up the natural water courses and sources in many habitat areas. The barriers to game getting water in bottom lands are great. the state should buy-up land with water for game and create preserves and management areas when possible (also through land donations). In my last few years of hunting it has come to my attention that it is extremely difficult to get a doe tag. However; when we are out there, there are so many doe that they definitely outnumber the bucks over 15 to 1.</p>
	<p>Mule deer hunting in Nevada has been on the decline over the last 10 yrs.! I believe the lion population may be somewhat responsible as well as forage change and POACHING I don't think the Nevada fish and game commission is doing a very good job, it's too political they need some input from ranchers, cowboys and sheep herders who LIVE in the areas!</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>It seems to me the future of Mule Deer hunting and, accordingly, the future funding of management and habitat programs is based on young hunters. I see a trend of more older hunters and fewer young people. Certainly there are societal reasons for this but also I think we should do what we can to encourage young people, especially those under 18 years of age, to be involved. A lot of older hunters have been drawing tags and filling their freezers for years, which is terrific, but to stimulate the interest of younger sportsmen and women I sincerely think they should get first chance at tags. Also, I agree that it isn't right for an older hunter, mentor, parent or other relative to fill a younger hunter's tag. The reverse situation should be allowed though without fine or penalty. If I draw and my young daughter or a grandchild didn't, because the system didn't give them preference, I should be able to let them fill my tag. Naturally they should have a hunting license and meet all the other requirements for hunter safety, proper weapon for the tag issued such as muzzle loader, archery or whatever. Making it illegal to have a young person fill an older relative's tag makes no sense.</p>
	<p>the drought has really reduced vegetation that the deer need to survive. atv's should not be used during hunting you should have to walk on foot or ride horseback</p>
	<p>I own a private ranch in California. I have watched blacktail numbers decline by over 90% since the 50's. CDF&amp;W has done nothing to improve these numbers because it is private lands. I support the work that Nevada has done to improve Mule Deer and hope to see you continue your work. I am a strong supporter of our California Deer Association and the Mule Deer Foundation. In a nutshell, it's all about habitat.</p>
	<p>for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and opportunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability to get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I prefer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for everyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed</p>
	<p>Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitat loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife resources. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife management for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, the question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. We rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the people who told me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approve of the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!</p>
	<p>The loss and degradation of habitat is the primary reason for declines in deer. Land managers need to do a better job to protect Nevada's wildlife habitat.</p>
	<p>I am most concerned with the decision to masticate the pinon and juniper in the Sunrise Pass area--Before this happened I would see mule deer, antelope and...a few wild horses. Now--not a single deer, antelope or wild horse-The area is sadly destroyed for the...that haven't been seen in the area for over 60 years--</p>
	<p>I think the lack of Wild horse management is greatly impacting the feed available. The wild horses are very aggressive and territorial especially when you are hunting horse back. Their aggressive nature pushes off a lot of wild life on top of ruining watering holes and eating all the feed close to the water and not moving off the water until it's gone or a mud pit.</p>
	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire. Ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memor</p>
	<p>We need to improve the winter food supply. We need to protect migration routes near highways. We need to manage the predators of deer, and increase the capture and punishment of poachers by funding a larger number of game wardens. We also need to look at the numbers of deer harvested by native Americans. Not all native Americans live off the land and need to harvest an unlimited number of deer.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I would like to see an increase in predator control and a decrease in overall tag numbers. A shorter season would not be a bad thing. The wild horses NEED to be kept at or below AML. I would like to see NDOW look at grazing as a very beneficial habitat management program.</p>
	<p>I think that wildfire, range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife only has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because they have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better physical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of their habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.</p>
	<p>I spend approximately 40 to 60 days in the field in Nevada a year, mainly in Washoe county &amp; Pershing county. Wild horses have a huge impact on mule deer habitat for mule deer because horses push them out of these areas for good. I have a tough time finding deer now in areas where you could always find them now you find many horses &amp; very few deer. The NDOW does a fair job with management of our wildlife here in Nevada But if they worked as hard to provide for mule deer as they have for bighorn sheep in this state we probably wouldn't be sending out questionnaires, pointing out our dwindling mule deer herds. Trying to find out what our sportsmen will give up to get mule deer back. NDOW has seen this in the making from long ago in my opinion sheep herds are getting larger because NDOW can make more revenue from those tags. Don't get me wrong I love wild sheep as much as the next conservative sportsman here in Nevada, but our other big and small game species are paying the price for it.</p>
	<p>The state should be putting more emphasis on restoration of habitat lost through wildfire and OHV's traveling overland. I cannot believe the changes that have occurred to Nevada's landscape due to wildfire in last 30 years. Many winter ranges or intermediate habitats have been transformed from shrub zones to cheatgrass. The overland OHV issue needs to be solved and I think we</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Habitat	There have been fires in Elko county, which have destroyed food and habitat. Also, this last year , 2013, we thought that too many tags were allowed in our favorite area.
Herd	Yes I think that u should only let 4 points or better be taken an no hunt for a year . Deer heard r very bad in Nevada poor management .
	the elk , horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer i seen 25 yrs ago in elko cnty out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals , they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope i watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see th animals , the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk , i will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... i think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern nevada????
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other hunes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
	I think NDOW is going an amazing job. The visable deer have gone down significantly since i firsted hunted Nevada in 1995 I think maybe two seasons, one season for the folks that want to shoot the 3 points and smaller which is the majority, and an other eason for the 4 points and larger. The seasons should run a little later too.
	Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer popu

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	the bonus point system is not very non resident friendly, to earn a point a non res of nevada must purchase a license of 142.00 \$ in order to get a bonus point for following years . . that is to much money. neighboring states charge around 20.00\$ Isothe deer population is not as high as neighboring states . i understand the geography aspect of nevada however i believe the state could support more numbers of deer.
	I have been hunting the same unit and specific area, within one square mile, since 1998. The deer numbers and the quality of the deer have decreased dramatically. Sitting in the same exact location in 2013 that I did in 1998 I now see about 20-30 deer in ne day where I would have seen around 100 then, with several of those being mature bucks. Inversely related to that I did not see a single wild horse in 1998 and in 2013 I saw well over 50 unique horses sitting in that very spot in one day. The horses hav severely damaged the sage brush and a lot of other vegetation. Also, the coyote densities are very high and I have never seen any sign of mountain lions in the area and I caught two distinct lions on a trail camera in 2013. I spent several days scouting nd one day hunting. I did harvest a mature buck which scored 190+ on opening morning of the season; however, it was the only mature buck I saw. Besides him I only saw two young bucks and a handful of does, on opening day, where in years prior I would haveseen at the very least 50 deer. While scouting, the deer numbers that I saw weren't any better, and I even went an entire day without seeing a single deer (I suspect a mountain lion moved in and pushed the deer out). I mainly, just encountered a lot of hoses and coyotes. The weather conditions were very warm and dry.
	From my perspective the the quantity and the quality of the deer herd where I hunt in Nevada has declined in the last 15 years, and especially in the last five. There has been no encroachment from humans in this area and the vegetation and water supply is plentiful. I have no doubts, from my first hand eperience, that the decline is due to the increased and very large number of horses and predators in the area.
	For me- as a farmer in California, I think it is so relaxing to get away and hunt in Nevada. My crops are all in by Oct 15-Nov 1st so I get to catch the last week of the season. Great break from reality! I own my own ranch in the coastal range in California. I kill a deer every 3 or 4 years- I like to take one that is a year from dying of old age. I do the same in Nevada. I hadn't been drawn for Nevada in over 10 years and I DID NOT harvest a buck-all to small. I saw over 1,000 deer. 70 bucks. The deer herd looks very healthy- good job.
	I lived in Boise from 1999 to 2007 I also hunted I don't want to offend anyone one but Idaho reintroduce the wolfs which was a mistake as everyone knows. I hope Idaho has learn from that mistake and Nevada and Idaho will work together improving hunting coditions and mule deer populations. Thanks Jim Kelly
	I feel it would be important to have people to raise mule deer on private ranches or farms. That way when you have a decline of deer the population can be reploenished. I know things like drought and encrochement of habitat comes into play, but it would be nice to see more deer more often.
	When we first started hunting Nevada (1988) it was relatively easy and hunting was fabulous. I got (a 32" spread the first year). Every year since it has been harder to get drawn and the # of quality bucks seen has gone down while the # of hunters seems t be increasing. That said, Nevada still has great hunting. I would rather be drawn every 3-4 years and have the quality of hunting improve.
	As you know, Mule Deer and human population growth is a zero sum game with the deer coming out losers. Any means to limit/decrease intrusion into wild places will help deer population growth. I don't follow the logic of killing off does to increase herdsiz or size of bucks. Oil exploration (fracking) has a high probability of detrimentally affecting nearby and migrating deer herds. Any decision about mining or oil exploration should have DOW actively involved to prevent further deer herd reductions.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	The last dear hunt in northern washoe was like it was 15 years ago lots of animals healthy looking the only down side was the closed off areas outside of cederville as you get into Nevada thank you for your time
	The State has to many different mule deer hunts. The deer do not have a chance to grow or develop. Some of the hunts should be cut out. It appears the all the State wants is the revenue from the number of hunts they have, through the cost of quality o hunting to the sportsman and deer populations.
	Dear Sirs, The number of tags is OK as it is. I think NDOW should use a 4 point or better system for antlered deer hunts. In other words, only bucks with 4 points or better on one side could be legally harvested. This would allow younger bucks to mature. ight now, most of the time the young bucks get slaughtered before they pass on their genetics, etc. I believe this would help the health of the deer population, and allow hunters to get a decent sized buck.
	I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks & does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. ...
	If we have a buck to doe ratio that has too many bucks don't shoot more does when a rancher has to mnay bulls for the cows he has he gets more cows We can't shoot our breed stock. Letting these wild fires burn out of control before they start fighting them is stupid. We're burning up our habitat. I know what it was like in the 60's & 70's our managment sucks and there was alot of hunters then. you could drive here & buy tags over the counties. I hear there is supost to be more hunters now than then and thats bull shit. Wise management is our problem. Too many predatures also.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>
	<p>Thank you for giving me the chance to take this survey. I would like to see the amount of deer tags decreased in order to allow deer populations to reestablish. I would also like to see areas with low deer populations changed to four point or better. feel that this will increase the deer populations and produce better quality bucks. I think that the heavily burned areas should be reseeded in order for the deer to reestablish in those areas.</p>
	<p>I prefer to trophy hunt mule deer but some years go with family and friends and the opportunity to see and get a shot at any buck is important to the quality of the hunt. Seeing deer is important when teaching hunting to young hunters. I often apply fr local hunting as a party with my very senior father and must road hunt with him so again. Getting him a shot opportunity is important, then I will return alone to trophy hunt. I Apply for and hunt all Nevada species when I draw a tag.</p>
	<p>I have only had 1 tag in Nevada, in 2005. I harvested, and I had a great time in the 21/2 weeks I hunted. I really like the Nevada overpasses and underpasses that allow Deer to cross highways. Predators are a BIG problem and the Deerhave to many!. States such as Oregon and California that don't allow dogs for hunting are not helping Nevada's predator populations. Thank you</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope hears are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illeneses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer hearsds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer hearsds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the hearsds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>I normally hunt in area 033 and 032 and seems as if there are a lot of predators in the area with a lower amount of deer.</p>
	<p>We have been lucky in the fact that there has not been any major fires in the Pine forest area, so don't understand why there seems to be a decline in deer population. Have often wondered if the employees of Alder Creek Ranch, Drake Ranch and Lenoar Creek ranch aren't hunting illegally.</p>
	<p>*We know the mountain lion population is up, lowering deer populations. *We know animal rights people are on the deer survey count, and the anti hunters are buying tags each year to keep hunters tags low. *We were in the NDOW office 2 yrs ago, and oveheard the girls in the office talking about all the tags they "drew". Imagine that--</p>
	<p>Nevada has many inaccessible areas to maintain good populations and trophy sizes. Limiting access to OHVs by forest service would hinder harvesting of either sex. Wilderness area tags would not be good as most law abiding citizens know access rules for widerness.</p>
	<p>I started hunting deer in 1989. Deer everywhere in area 8. Hunted in area 8 the following year and what a difference. Not many deer. I have always enjoyed hunting no-matter what the conditions have been. Nev. is a special place to hunt. To hunt special plces there has to be some sacrifice, like waiting a year or two to hunt it.</p>
	<p>I moved away in 2001 I moved back 2010, My wife and I put in for a tag in 2013 but was not successful. we spend a lot of time in the hills and don't see the deer like back in the past, I think predators have a lot to do with the lack of deer and to many ags sold. I think out for state tags should not be sold for 5yars to try to get the deer hard back, some people think it is about the money, I don't think that is it at all, I hope not.</p>
	<p>It was so much better in the early 90's less hunters more deer. Also to many mtn. ranges with no access.</p>
	<p>A very big problem in Nevada, the driest state in the west, is the private lands homesteads, roads and developments that tie-up the natural water courses and sources in many habitatareas. The barriers to game getting water in bottom lands are great. the state should buy-up land with water for game and create preserves and management areas when possible (also through land donations). In my last few years of hunting it has come to my attention that it is extremely difficult to get a doe tag. However; when we are out there, there are so many doe that they</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	definitely outnumber the bucks over 15 to 1.
Herd	I feel that closing hunting seasons for 5 years to allow the population numbers to increase and the herds to increase their size and ranges I remember when you always saw deer when you went out now your lucky to see one. Stop giving out so many tags each ear especially out of state tags or non resident tags. Stop worrying about revenue and do what's right for the deer you have many hunters in Nevada that hunt for food not trophy's some times that may be their only meat. You need to think of the deer and te people that hunt for food. this is my opinion.
	The primary goal of NDOW or any other conservation organization is to successfully harvest animals to keep herd quantities in check. It has been my experience that when I draw a tag closer to my house (within 2 hours to camp) I am able to do far more i-depth preseason scouting. When I have been able to scout for at least as many days as I hunt I have had great success. I guess my comment is that if there is someway you could provide tags in the draw area they apply for that is closest to the zip coe of the applicant (out of the 5 options they have provided), not based off of preference how it is currently set up, then hunters would likely have more time to scout and have a more successful end result. Thank you for this survey, I think it is grea that you guys care about conservation as much we care about hunting. ...
	I grew up hunting in Nevada and have seen the mule deer herds increase and decrease over the years. I actually prefer the controlled hunt system because it limits the number of hunters in the field. That being said if the hunters in the field are all riing atv's anywhere they choose and making roads where they have no business riding it destroys the hunting experience for those of us who treasure the solitude and enjoy the challenge of the hunt without interference from motorized vehicles scaring away te game. At my age it is more and more difficult to find areas where I can hike far enough to get away from two tracks that seem to be everywhere these days. I used to ride an atv to get to the end of the road and hike from there. I am ashamed to be see on one anymore because of the abusers and cheats making it increasingly difficult to find the end of the road!
	for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and oppertunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability o get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I perfer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for eveyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed
	Over the past 30 years the numbers of mule deer in Nevada have been on a constant decline. It does not matter how remote the location, the numbers of mule deer just are not what they used to be. There are Wild Horses everywhere and usually they reek havc on the water holes and in times of short water supply, will guard the water hole and chase off anything that attempts to drink. If I find Wild Horses in the area, I will usually look for other places to hunt.
	Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a min contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry catsand coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on nely born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes most areas that i hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused b Wild Horses lends to an easy take by hungry predators.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	we did not see any deer at only in 2013 when we went hunting. we were out for 4 days that is very sad.
	As I hope this survey indicates that I feel there is to much pressure put on the Mule Deer. I would be willing to miss a year or two for improved deer numbers and less pressure.
	I remember when ranchers had to double stack there alalfa to protect from mule deer herds. Also upset how NDOW counts herds from the air.
	Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitt loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife recourses. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife mangement for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, te question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. W rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.
	I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.
	I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and checkon the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There need to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons ake place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendarr wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is srprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.
	More deer, less hunters.
	The loss and degradation of habitat is the primary reason for declines in deer. Land managers need to do a better job to protect Nevada's wildlife habitat.
	I am most concerned with the decision to masticate the pinon and juniper in the Sunrise Pass area--Before this happened I would see mule deer, antelope and...a few wild horses. Now--not a single deer, antelope or wild horse-The area is sadly destroyed for the...that haven't been seen in the area for over 60 years--

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	<p>I last drew a tag in 2012 in the area around Kington. I didn't know the areas very well, but I hunted the whole area that was not within city limits. I only saw about 3 bucks and 4 doe all on private property (ranch land) and all in the same field. All of the other huntable areas. Only had very old sign. (white to light brown scat and prints that were made in mud when it had not rained in months)</p>
	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights, invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire. Ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memorable hunt.</p>
	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I think generally it is a great state to hunt in with lots of deer and big deer to see and few hunters. My only change would be: as I understand it now, if there are leftover tags after the draw if one wants to get one they have to give up all preference points. It would be nice to be able to retain those points for a more desirable hunt, but still be able to go hunting in a zone that has left over tags.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	<p>To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fail to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada border with California due to California's non management of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to keep those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . . sincerely . . .</p>
	<p>I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NR had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer density over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for all their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.</p>
	<p>Deer numbers have dropped drastically which is obvious. Nevada needs to get a handle on it in my opinion. Predators, poaching, and tag numbers need to be addressed badly. This survey needs re-writing. A lot of the questions are very hard to understand and vague. Contradicting. You almost need a bachelors degree to decipher some of the questions.</p>
	<p>I first started hunting deer in Nevada in 1987. It was nothing to see 300 head of deer in one day in northern Nevada and not one elk. Today it is just the opposite. I'm not sure where the deer have gone but I know its not just Nevada mule deer Arizoa has seen a decrease also. I think cutting way back on tags every couple of years might help build the herds. I think there are to many hunters. It has discouraged me from hunting because of the increase of hunters.</p>
	<p>I think that wildfire, range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife nly has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because they have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better physical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of their habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.</p>
	<p>I drew a PIW tag in 2013 very lucky Harvested a 190+ 8x6 in unit 081 Hunted 27 days total between all legal seasons. I believe NDOW is trying to manage areas not units when areas were smaller 5 years ago example Area 15 was managed by 2 units, Area 6 066 067 068 061 062 063 064 065 is too large to manage as one choice meaning the units that seem to have more animals are receiving the majority of hunter pressure, Also I believe that when deer counts are being done NDOW is counting animals that are on private ground + cannot be hunted Example T.S. Ranch, Marys Rive Ranch, Filipin Ranch, Horse shoe Ranch, Patave Ranches, IL properties. Thank you for the chance to complete the survey.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Herd	Non-resident hunters are taking hunting opportunities from Nevada residents who want or need to hunt. Not sure what the right answer is...but it can be very frustrating for resident hunters. Since non-resident hunters have to travel by definition, why nt restrict their tag availability to the areas most populated with game? Maybe there shouldn't be non-resident tags until the deer population can sustain the demand for resident hunters first. Just saying...
	I think that the harvest of does is absolutely NOT necessary. I don't believe that any of the mule deer areas I am familiar with are approaching a large limiting factor such as summer or winter range capacities. The deer numbers have been down since the 92-93 winter loss and have not been allowed to come back because there are too many deer being harvested. I would wait as long as necessary to get a deer tag, if I knew that when I draw there would be a significant amount older age class bucks in the population to harvest, that is a quality experience to me not killing for the sake of killing.
	California's non effort to control the cougar population is starting to kill the mule deer on Nevada's border to devastating proportions. in the hunt in December of 2013 in unit 15 there was a trail cam picture in that unit where 4 cougars were in the same picture. also in that unit were numerous cougar sightings and very few deer. I imagine the burn from 2012 did not help the unit much either.
	I spend approximately 40 to 60 days in the field in Nevada a year, mainly in Washoe county & Pershing county. Wild horses have a huge impact on mule deer less habitat for mule deer because horses push them out of those areas for good. I have a tough time finding deer now in areas where you could always find them now you find many horses & very few deer. The NDOW does a fair job with management of our wildlife here in Nevada But if they worked as hard to provide for mule deer as they have for bighorn sheep in this state we probably wouldn't be sending out questionnaires, pointing out our dwindling mule deer herds. Trying to find out what our sportsmen will give up to get mule deer back. NDOW has seen this in the making from long ago in my opinion sheep herds are getting larger because NDOW can make more revenue from those tags. Don't get me wrong I love wild sheep as much as the next conservative sportsman here in Nevada, but our other big and small game species are paying the price for it.
	We need to let the mule deer population, re-bound and get stronger. enjoy the Hunt!
	The reason for children not hunting is because of age. 2 yrs old! A lower population of mountain lions would greatly increase our deer population.
	My decision to pursue does is typically constrained by the pursuit of an antlered deer tag. I do like the proposal of antlered/antlerless archery deer tags that may help manage herds without increasing hunter numbers.
	My first concern is to have a healthy herd where the population stays approximately the same throughout the years. When weather reduces the herd number I believe hunting should be limited until the herd is healthy again. I believe a true hunter and sportsman believe in a healthy herd and is willing to skip a season to accomplish this; now ever, killers who use the system always complain about limiting their tags. Back in the 1993 season (I believe it was that year of great snow) when we lost all fawns and ninety percent of yearlings I would have closed the season for that year and the following to allow the herds to repopulate, and most real hunters agreed, but the commission listened to the killers in Las Vegas and issued seventy percent. Let's approach any and all problems with good common sense and rational thinking to keep our number one goal the same, the good health of your herds.
	The draws should truly be a random draw and the family and friends of NDOW officers and staff should not have first come first tag privileges. The opportunity should be for everyone not those "privileged" members family and friends. The short seasons of 4 days over crowding the hunting areas is very destructive to the herds and habits and should be reevaluated. Thank you.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Horses	Thanks, help us protect HABITAT Remove more HORSES!
	the elk , horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer i seen 25 yrs ago in elko cnty out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals , they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope i watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see th animals , the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk , i will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... i think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern nevada????
	I hunted in area 231 in 2013. I found there to be way too many wild horses. They were on the roads making travel very dangerous at night, they spooked the deer I was hunting and ate everything in sight. I support wild horses but there are too many in tis area. I did not experience competition from other mule deer hunters. I was competing with cow elk hunters, archery elk hunters, muzzleloader elk hunters and wood cutters. I had several occations where these people disturbed my hunt or actual blew ou deer I was stalking.
	I have been hunting the same unit and specific area, within one square mile, since 1998. The deer numbers and the quality of the deer have decreased dramatically. Sitting in the same exact location in 2013 that I did in 1998 I now see about 20-30 deer in ne day where I would have seen around 100 then, with several of those being mature bucks. Inversely related to that I did not see a single wild horse in 1998 and in 2013 I saw well over 50 unique horses sitting in that very spot in one day. The horses hav severely damaged the sage brush and a lot of other vegetation. Also, the coyote densities are very high and I have never seen any sign of mountain lions in the area and I caught two distinct lions on a trail camera in 2013. I spent several days scouting nd one day hunting. I did harvest a mature buck which scored 190+ on opening morning of the season; however, it was the only mature buck I saw. Besides him I only saw two young bucks and a handful of does, on opening day, where in years prior I would haveseen at the very least 50 deer. While scouting, the deer numbers that I saw weren't any better, and I even went an entire day without seeing a single deer (I suspect a mountain lion moved in and pushed the deer out). I mainly, just encountered a lot of hoses and coyotes. The weather conditions were very warm and dry.
	From my perspective the the quantity and the qualty of the deer herd where I hunt in Nevada has declined in the last 15 years, and especially in the last five. There has been no encroachment from humans in this area and the vegetation and water supply is plentiful. I have no doubts, from my first hand eperience, that the decline is due to the increased and very large number of horses and predators in the area.
	I would like to see very aggressive predator management program. Also somehting has to be done with the wild horses there are way to many.
	My observations have been that the wild horse population in th NW quadrant of the state has decimated the grass. I appreciate seeing wild horses, but having grown up on a ranch in AZ, understand that the carrying capacity of the land cannot sustain the populations of horses. I have also seen a significant number o springs which have packed down and stopped by the horses. I also understand that deer are browsers of forbs and brush and that their diet is not dependent on grass.
	6+ years is to long to go with out a deer tag when you put in every year. A lot of people would find something else to do. Nevada Blm and NDOW should break out the old ely chain and get going on some habitat work. We have a lot of catching up to do. It wuld help our deer populations more than anything. Feral horse (I refuse to call them wild) reduction would go a long ways too.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Horses	I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratis to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in ood habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factr in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more . DON'T YOU THINK???
	I feel you have to many auction tags and or raffle tags. It seems difficult for a non-resident to draw and not sure I favor the non-resident guide draw. It once again favors the individuals with more money. All non resident tags should go into same draw.Need to do something about the wild horses and their competition with other wildlife.
	Wild horses and mountain lions are a major problem .
	There were surtain areas that where blocked for hunting that where not last time so we had less space fore hunting. The horses are also a very big problem.
	Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my imput for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope hearsds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illenesses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer hearsds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer hearsds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the hearsds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....
	I have seen overgrazing by cattle + wild horses in drought years
	get rid of the wild horses!!(MUSTANGS?) they are not part of the natural ecosystem of north america any longer,they destroy resourses needed by big and small game and provide predators (MOUNTAIN LIONS IN PARTICULAR ) a means to maintain higher than norml populations

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Horses	To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do thik NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many eople being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.
	During a hunting trip in 2012, a pack of wild horses was encountered. They are not beneficial to natural wildlife and their presence is concerning. Table Mountain wildlife area, 2012. Reducing the access quads/Atv/OHV is a great thing. The more wildlife aea the better!
	for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and oppertunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability o get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I perfer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for eveyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed
	Over the past 30 years the numbers of mule deer in Nevada have been on a constant decline. It does not matter how remote the location, the numbers of mule deer just are not what they used to be. There are Wild Horses everywhere and usually they reek havc on the water holes and in times of short water supply, will guard the water hole and chase off anything that attempts to drink. If I find Wild Horses in the area, I will usually look for other places to hunt.
	Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a min contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry catsand coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on nely born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes most areas that i hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused b Wild Horses lends to an easy take by hungry predators.
	Thin out wild horses unit 23 & 22 Super bad M.C.
	I think the lack of Wild horse management is greatly impacting the feed available. The wild horses are very aggressive and territorial especially when you are hunting horse back. Their aggressive nature pushes off a lot of wild life on top of ruining wateing holes and eating all the feed close to the water and not moving off the water until it's gone or a mud pit.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Horses	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire. Ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memor</p>
	<p>To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fail to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada border with California due to California's non management of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to keep those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . . sincerely . . .</p>
	<p>I would like to see an increase in predator control and a decrease in overall tag numbers. A shorter season wouldnt be a bad thing. The wild horses NEED to be kept at or below AML. I would like to see NDOW look at grazing as a very beneficial habitat management program.</p>
	<p>I spend approximately 40 to 60 days in the field in Nevada a year, mainly in Washoe county &amp; Pershing county. Wild horses have a huge impact on mule deer less habitat for mule deer because horses push them out of these areas for good. I have a tough time finding deer now in areas where you could always find them now you find many horses &amp; very few deer. The NDOW does a fair job with management of our wildlife here in Nevada But if they worked as hard to provide for mule deer as they have for bighorn sheep in this state we probably wouldn't be sending out questionnaires, pointing out our dwindling mule deer herds. Trying to find out what our sportsmen will give up to get mule deer back. NDOW has seen this in the making from long ago in my opinion sheep herds are getting larger because NDOW can make more revenue from those tags Dont get me wrong I love wild sheep as much as the next conservative sportsman here in Nevada, but our other big and small game species are paying the price for it.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	I would Like to see Nevada have 6 to 10 units managed for trophy bucks with later hunt dates and fewer tags like the strip and kiabab in arizona. I also think you should only be able to hunt one buck per year whether you draw the tag or buy a land owner ag, Also they should not over lap hunts such as a buck deer hunt and a cow elk hunt in the same unit at the same time. such as an early archery elk tag and a rifle cow hunt and a muzzle loader deer hunt as is the case in unit 222 when it takes 10 t 15 years to draw a good tag, ALL cow elk and doe deer hunts should never take place the same time as your antlered hunts this puts to many hunters in the unit at the same time. If your goal is to take cows and does out for management purposes then deember and jan would be much better and they would have a higher success rate without interfering with hard to draw tags!!
	I have been hunting the Ruby mountains since 1990. The Ruby's have been swarmed the last few years with atv's and hoards of hunters that will shoot anything that moves, leading to dangerous situations in the field. Last season my hunting party was actully stalked by three hunters on atv's before dawn, we had to wave hats and jackets to assure we weren't going to get shot, it just seems like nobody puts boots on the ground anymore. I would like to see a stronger ranger presence in the area to curtail soe of the questionable practices that I have witnessed over the years. I wish everyone to be on an equal playing field when it comes to harvesting an animal. Thank You for letting me participate in your survey.
	the elk , horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer i seen 25 yrs ago in elko cnty out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals , they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope i watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see th animals , the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk , i will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... i think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern nevada????
	Only hunted one year in Nevada and I saw people and coyotee's everywhere I looked. But I still put in for tags for certain areas because certain areas do offer shots at huge bucks.
	Hunting deer in Nevada with my bow is the highlight of my year; nearly every year. I have drawn a Nevada archery tag in all but one year in the last 20+ years. Do not make Nevada like Utah with tons of hunters; keep the quality.
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other huntes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
	as of last year Nevada would only let non residents apply as a group for one limited entry species together. I would like to apply for all species as a group ( where tags are available ) This would help reduce the number of non tag holders in the field.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	As a sportsman I believe most hunters would embrace the quality of a hunt rather than the quantity of times they get to hunt. It is not an enjoyable experience to run into multiple hunting parties on every hilltop you hike or 4wd road you drive on. We wai too long for these tags only to have our hopes crushed by too many hunters in the area. This is forcing hunters into the overpriced hands of guide services. Don't let hunting become a rich mans only sport.
	I hunted in area 231 in 2013. I found there to be way too many wild horses. They were on the roads making travel very dangerous at night, they spooked the deer I was hunting and ate everything in sight. I support wild horses but there are too many in tis area. I did not experience competition from other mule deer hunters. I was competing with cow elk hunters, archery elk hunters, muzzleloader elk hunters and wood cutters. I had several occations where these people disturbed my hunt or actual blew ou deer I was stalking.
	When we first started hunting Nevada (1988) it was relatively easy and hunting was fabulous. I got (a 32" spread the first year). Every year since it has been harder to get drawn and the # of quality bucks seen has gone down while the # of hunters seems t be increasing. That said, Nevada still has great hunting. I would rather be drawn every 3-4 years and have the quality of hunting improve. Jan c. cobb
	I have enjoyed my hunting experiences in nevada. There are 4 of us who apply every year. We do not apply as a group because if some body draws a tag we all go hunting. I have only drawn a deer tag 5 times since 1996, but have hunted about 8 or 9 times bcause my buddies have drawn when I didn't. I have hunted area 16,13,15,10 and 7. The reason we hunt nevada is because the hunting pressure is so light. A guy can actually spot and stalk a nice buck without other hunters screwing it up. I have spent may days afield hunting in those areas and haven't seen another hunter. That is why I come back year after year because it is truly hunting. Try to do that in utah it will not happen. Nevada also has the best draw system for big game in the western UnitedStates. I enjoy trophy hunting with no hunting pressure and that means if I only draw a deer tag every 3 to 5 years I am ok with that because when I do draw it means I have a chance at a trophy deer.
	I have been hunting deer in NV for over 30 years now. I have never seen it so difficult to draw a tag, as I have not drawn in over 4 years applying for archery and muzzleloader. When I go out hunting with friends, we see three to four times as many hunter than deer, and this is in areas where I have been very successful in 10, 20, and 30 years ago. I think the split seasons (early and late) have caused a negative impact to the quality of deer hunting. The small town locals (where some of the best hunting se to be) do not stand a very good chance at even drawing a tag anymore, when trying to compete with the number of applicants from Vegas and Reno. They have completely flooded our areas, and most of them don't have a clue of what they are doing in the fied.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	<p>I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETITION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks &amp; does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted. The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it.</p>
	<p>I appreciate the efforts of NDOW, but I am concerned with the dramatic increase in tags 2 years ago. I would prefer fewer hunt opportunities and fewer hunters on the hill. I also am discouraged with all the atv hunters. I would prefer to hunt areas without them.</p>
	<p>If hunter numbers would decrease and quality of hunts would increase I would not have a problem if some areas were designated an every other year status whereby a person could not draw that area every year. This could be done statewide in that you would hve to wait to reapply for a deer tag like you do if you draw an antelope tag (5 years), but make it 1 year. I also believe it would be nice to increase the number of areas offering a late archery tag. In areas 10 and 7 where this has been done successremains low (10% or so) but many people have an opportunity to hunt. By giving out more late season archery tags you would reduce the amount of hunters applying for rifle hunts. I also believe NDOW should limit the number of nonhunters on hunts. It is etting ridiculous when you draw an elk tag and you see 20 people in your area. One has a tag and the rest are scouting, attempting to secure roads to areas and being a royal pain. If you give out 100 elk tags in an area you have 500 people there with 400 ot even hunting. Silly. Make them stay in camp!</p>
	<p>I think a quality hunt is better with less people in the field. I like the way Nevada used to do it small number of tags. I know alot of sportsman complained about not drawing tags. But I would rather wait a year or two to have a better quality hunt. If rising more money is what they are trying to do I would rather pay more for a lower number of tags. I would also like to share that in the field this year I witnessed a coyote taking down a fawn. I have to think that if I witnessed it happening that it hapens alot more than people think. Thank you for getting the opinions from the sportsmen.</p>
	<p>Archery season used to be pretty low-impact. With the introduction of muzzle-loaders &amp; all of their seasons along with the booming population of elk &amp; the numbers of people that come with EACH tag, huntable areas for those of us without horses/pack animals has become "competitive". * Those w/o horses use the populat OHV/ATV. Used properly, its not an issue. However, fast "mentality" that is being socitally engineered into us, hunting has become "sport" more than a recreation. I really don't know how to address this. The hunting 20 years ago was much more enjoyable than in modern times. *People with Elk tags seem to find it necessary to scout during archery season, even though they have a late season cow-tag.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	I hunted the Pole Creek area for deer and elk most of October this year and the number of cow elk hunters (300) concentrated in that short time span seriously affected both deer and elk hunting. Most of the elk moved into the wilderness and the deer were extremely flighty. As a result, I am not in favor of pushing too many hunters into a small area. It seriously changes the hunting experience and probably the harvest success rates in my opinion.
	There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 hunters trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit. I am not sure why deer are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large bucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if your survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!
	We have been lucky in the fact that there has not been any major fires in the Pine forest area, so don't understand why there seems to be a decline in deer population. Have often wondered if the employees of Alder Creek Ranch, Drake Ranch and Lenoar Creek ranch aren't hunting illegally.
	The amount of wilderness land that is in Nevada is criminal. I'm all for preservation but giving rich ranchers their own private hunting grounds is a joke (cave valley ranch). it limits where many hunters can access causing higher densities in other easily accessible areas and substandard harvests. I used to see huge bucks here in Nevada. now you only hear of a few good bucks taken each year. I'm not a lazy hunter I put in at least 10 miles of boot time a day and endless hours of glassing. I was fine knowing I was only going to draw every other year. Bring back the big bucks please... thanks
	I would like to have the system set up to where if you draw a tag you are not able to reapply for that same species of tag for one yr. the hunting areas are over run with hunters and harvesting quality animals has drastically reduced. I feel OHV should be used for game retrieval only. Year after year you see people pull several tags. I feel a person should be limited to two tags a yr. I feel the number one problem with hunting in Nevada is there are too many hunters.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all species in Nevada. I feel that there is too many tags, for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have dropped drastically. Too many hunters, and use of ATVs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more. It is sad that you have to hunt other states because of so many people.
	It was so much better in the early 90's less hunters more deer. Also too many mtn. ranges with no access.
	1. Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw units to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee to reduce hunter congestion. 10. Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11. Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12. Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunter congestion.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	I moved to Nevada three years ago from Wisconsin, where I did not hunt white tail deer because of the very high hunter density, behaviors with alcohol, and hunting/driving techniques that made the sport unsafe in the areas where I was likely to hunt. This is why I prefer a low hunter density even if that means less chance of getting a tag every year. I hunt waterfowl and upland game and prefer to hunt with a small party of close friends whom I trust. I do not trophy hunt and I do not hunt for the meat, although I eat what I kill. I enjoy the exercise and camaraderie. I have a handicap in the left knee that affects my stamina and makes climbing in rough country difficult. I've never hunted from horseback but am looking forward to trying that; I do not favor motorized vehicles in pristine areas because of the tendency to destroy habitat and trails. Thank you for the opportunity to do this survey. I regret that I don't have a history of hunting in Nevada--but I will!
	stop cramming hunters into shorter seasons! have more 2x2 or spiked hunts to lessen the pressure on more mature bucks. in areas where you don't see many big bucks rotate hunts on 4x4 only one season and 2x2 or spiked hunts two seasons that allows more bigbucks to mature in those areas and make larger hunt units to spread hunters out more and longer seasons that insures better success!!!! and why we can't use crossbows for bow hunts and scopes on black powder it just makes greater success /// we want succes to control pop. better other states have great success with these
	To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do think NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many people being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.
	I bowhunt because I enjoy the challenge, because tags are always available, and because there are fewer hunters afield during bow season. Motorcycles and atv's are a major source of annoyance to serious bowhunters and frequently cause us to search for new hunting areas.
	I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and I don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.
	My concern is the cost of the tags as well as a license. it is rather expensive. Combine that with the cost of a hunting trip. there is potential to spend upwards of \$600.00 to \$700.00 for a week in the wilderness. The last trip I took I seen approximately 100 people in the same area. Its a shame to spend that much money and see that many people and not fill my tag.
	It would be nice to see hunts spread more throughout the fall into winter. It would also be nice to see less hunters in the areas we hunt. It also would be nice to see seasons start later in the year.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	Perhaps consider offering some weekday only hunts and some weekend only hunts as a way to reduce hunter pressure.
	I grew up hunting in Nevada and have seen the mule deer herds increase and decrease over the years. I actually prefer the controlled hunt system because it limits the number of hunters in the field. That being said if the hunters in the field are all riding atv's anywhere they choose and making roads where they have no business riding it destroys the hunting experience for those of us who treasure the solitude and enjoy the challenge of the hunt without interference from motorized vehicles scaring away the game. At my age it is more and more difficult to find areas where I can hike far enough to get away from two tracks that seem to be everywhere these days. I used to ride an atv to get to the end of the road and hike from there. I am ashamed to be seen on one anymore because of the abusers and cheats making it increasingly difficult to find the end of the road!
	for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and opportunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability to get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I prefer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for everyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed
	As I hope this survey indicates that I feel there is too much pressure put on the Mule Deer. I would be willing to miss a year or two for improved deer numbers and less pressure.
	NDOW needs to consider the number of people in the field SCOUTING for deer when high numbers of tags for ANY species are issued in an area. I have seen large numbers of people in the field looking for animals to fill depredation tags for elk before their seasons have opened. Just because there are fewer tag holders per season doesn't mean that there are fewer people in the field. Overall - good job guys. It's a tough balance.
	Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitat loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife resources. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife management for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, the question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. We rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.
	More deer, less hunters.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	<p>From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the poeple whotold me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approveof the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!</p>
	<p>The last year my wife &amp; I drew tags the area had so much psi opening day that there was nothing to be seen. We talked with a lot of ranchers that said that hunters jumped a 4x4 buck in a canyon &amp; the buck had somany holes in it know one was shure who made the kill. Thats not hunting to me! Thank you Rex</p>
	<p>The draws should truly be a random draw and the family and friends of NDOW officers and staff should not have first come first tag privileges. The opportunity should be for everyone not those "privileged" members family and friends. The short seasons of 4 days over crowding the hunting areas is very destructive to the herds and habits and should be reevaluated. Thank you.</p>
	<p>Some specific concerns I have as a hnter is that if population numbers increase to the point where more animals should be harvested (based on suvey data), the answer is not always as simple as increasing tags but keeping the same season structures. In some areas in Nevada, roads are limitedand the terrain is rough and more tags results in more people out hunting however there are still only the same amount of accessible areas to hunt. This results in intense pressure on the animals that are acessible and pressure can move these animals intoareas where the average hunter cannot access them and overall success rates decline. This is especially true for cow elk hunts and in some areas, pronghorn and mule deer hunts. The harvest objectives may not be reached or they may be reached but the overll quality of animals harvested goes down and the experience quality goes down. A season structure such as Colorado which runs 4 shorter seasons can provide more hunting opportunities and more harvest but not have overcrowding issues that plaque states tht run two longer seasons with roughly the same amount of tags. The other advantage is that the number of tags can be reduced in the seasons that generally correspond to favorable weather conditions to provide</p>
	<p>Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an opportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapiointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	<p>I feel there are far too many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking would not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for food with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. What's wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previously were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights, invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire, ask more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memorable hunt.</p>
	<p>My main concern is the early season hunt. Last year it was in the 70's during my hunt and there was a hunter on every ridge top. The use of ATV's is outrageous and the people who use them to hunt are ignorant. Example : Last year we were watching a nice buck from a ridge in the next valley that we hiked to off of the main road. A hunter on an ATV drove his ATV up to the ridge (no access road) to see what we were doing. The buck blew out. I bring an ATV with me and use it ONLY if I am successful AND need the ATV to get the meat out. Otherwise the meat is on our backs.</p>
	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I think generally it is a great state to hunt in with lots of deer and big deer to see and few hunters. My only change would be: as I understand it now, if there are leftover tags after the draw if one wants to get one they have to give up all preference points. It would be nice to be able to retain those points for a more desirable hunt, but still be able to go hunting in a zone that has left over tags.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunters	I became interested in Nevada Mule deer hunting in the late 70's. I have applied many many times and have drew last choice archery tags in 2000 & 2001. In 2013, I finally drew an any weapon tag, it was my last choice. Access to public land were blocked by so called land owners. High number of hunter were confined to limited areas, decreasing success rates. My thoughts are should I ever apply again or buy a trophy tag from a land owner?
	Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed hunting Mule Deer in Nevada for many, many years. I was born in Nevada and grew up hunting mule deer there. I think NDOW does a great job at managing the deer herds. Of course, I wish my hunting partners (life-long friend, and our sons) could draw a tag more regularly and predictably, but when we do get a tag, we enjoy the quality of our hunt immensely. Low hunter density and reasonably good chances at success are important to us.
	I first started hunting deer in Nevada in 1987. It was nothing to see 300 head of deer in one day in northern Nevada and not one elk. Today it is just the opposite. I'm not sure where the deer have gone but I know it's not just Nevada mule deer Arizona has seen a decrease also. I think cutting way back on tags every couple of years might help build the herds. I think there are too many hunters. It has discouraged me from hunting because of the increase of hunters.
	I think that wildfire, range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife only has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because they have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better physical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of their habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.
	I drew a PIW tag in 2013 very lucky Harvested a 190+ 8x6 in unit 081 Hunted 27 days total between all legal seasons. I believe NDOW is trying to manage areas not units when areas were smaller 5 years ago example Area 15 was managed by 2 units, Area 6 066 067 068 061 062 063 064 065 is too large to manage as one choice meaning the units that seem to have more animals are receiving the majority of hunter pressure, Also I believe that when deer counts are being done NDOW is counting animals that are on private ground + cannot be hunted Example T.S. Ranch, Marys Rive Ranch, Filipin Ranch, Horse shoe Ranch, Patave Ranches, IL properties. Thank you for the chance to complete the survey.
	Late seasons and few hunters are the best thing about NV. deer hunting. Maybe winter type bowhunting could be added.
	The hunter density in the last 2 years has been too extreme. Far too many hunters with tags in the field.
Hunts	Mule Deer hunting is one of my favorite passions. My opinion is that there are trophy mule deer in the mountains but finding them is the hardest part. Good management is a key aspect to good Mule Deer quality, but diligence and good hunting skills are far more important in finding a quality mule deer. Late season hunts are the best way to find bigger Bucks. Offer more late hunts and bigger bucks will be easier to find.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Hunts	The State has to many different mule deer hunts. The deer do not have a chance to grow or develop. Some of the hunts should be cut out. It appears the all the State wants is the revenue from the number of hunts they have, through the cost of quality o hunting to the sportsman and deer populations.
	I would like to see archery seasons and hunts extended.to be more available to people. they are typically lower success hunts. allowing people more time to enjoy the outdoors without significantly increasing deer kill. I would also like to see "no huntin zones" within one mile of the recently built deer crossings. it is like shooting fish in a barrel.
	variety is key, having some hunts that people really want for trophy hunts, having some mediocre trophy hunts, and then having more of the quantity not quality of trophy hunts. Love hunting in the state, would like to draw a mediocre tag every 5 years if ossible, now going on 7.
	1.Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw unts to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion. 10.Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11.Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12.Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.
	The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the seconday sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issuetags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Mayb start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.
	Perhaps consider offering some weekday only hunts and some weekend only hunts as a way to reduce hunter pressure.
	I love to hunt "all" big animals in Nevada. I look for high draw odds 1 to1 up to 5 to1 this way I may hunt every year There are big deer in every unit in Nevada-you have to get out & want it. Thank you "NDOW".
	I've had some wonderful hunts in Nevada.However, I will admit that the hills seem a little steeper than they used to be. It would be nice if you could permit a senior hunt like they do a junior hunt. Thank you, Wayne
Info	Hunting maps of roads and names of areas made easier to find. The unit maps are very faque. May put a more detailed map available on the website for purchase
	It would be helpful to have the Department of Wildlife provide geographical information and maps regarding the hunting zones. I am fairly new to Nevada and don't know all of the area well. When I try to call the Forest Service for maps they are extremel unhelpful and sporting good stores like Cabelas and Sportsmans Warehouse mostly carry other state maps and very few good Nevada maps. If the Nevada Department of Wildlife could provide more information on the lay of the land for each zone that would be reat.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Info	Some times it is hard to know just when I must apply for Nevada tags, since it usually is quite early in the year. It would be easy to miss the deadline if on vacation, etc. My hunting partners communicate with each others to keep us informed Normally we will put in for a group (all or none).
	My dad and his siblings where born and raised in White Pine county Nevada and have all been hunting in the areas surrounding Ely, Nv. I have been hunting with them and we all agree that some of the unit lines are not as easy to follow as the could be sinc every person in the area or who come to the areas have different names for mountain tops, canyons, valleys and flats with in hunt units not including the big obvious ones that are on all maps.
	I would not be able to attend a seminar on improving hunter success/game processing, but would enjoy watching one over the internet.
Lions	The mountain lion population is out of control!
	Wild horses and mountain lions are a major problem .
	I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retracted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum requirements for taking a buck.
	*We know the mountain lion population is up, lowering deer populations. *We know animal rights people are on the deer survey count, and the anti hunters are buying tags each year to keep hunters tags low. *We were in the NDOW office 2 yrs ago, and oveheard the girls in the office talking about all the tags they "drew". Imagine that--
	get rid of the wild horses!!(MUSTANGS?) they are not part of the natural ecosystem of north america any longer,they destroy resourses needed by big and small game and provide predators (MOUNTAIN LIONS IN PARTICULAR ) a means to maintain higher than norml populations
	I live near GBNP and lions are a big problem with deer. Work on lowering lion numbers
	Mule deer huntingi n Nevada has been on the decline over the last 10 yrs.! I believe the lion population may be somewhat responsible as well as forage change and POACHING I don't htink the Nevada fish and game comission is doing a very good job, it's too political they need some input from ranchers, cowboys and sheep herders who LIVE in the areas!
	Get handle on the mountain Lion,& coyotes , also put a open season on ravens& crows to help out the sage grouse,or we won't be able to go deer hunting where we would like to,because if they list the sage grouse there will be all kind of restrictions on ou public lands. Our wonderful Harry Reid has had already made to many wilderness areas I'm getting up in years so those areas off limits to me,and I. Don't think that's the right way to treat your older people that have hunted most of there life.there Igot that off my chest!

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Lions	Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a min contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry cats and coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on newly born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes most areas that I hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused by Wild Horses leads to an easy take by hungry predators.
	I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more emphasis to control these predators.
	I think predator, Mountain Lion in particular are a big issue and harvest numbers and quotas need to increase greatly.
	To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fail to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada border with California due to California's non management of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to keep those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . . sincerely . . .
	California's non effort to control the cougar population is starting to kill the mule deer on Nevada's border to devastating proportions. in the hunt in December of 2013 in unit 15 there was a trail cam picture in that unit where 4 cougars were in the same picture. also in that unit were numerous cougar sightings and very few deer. I imagine the burn from 2012 did not help the unit much either.
	The reason for children not hunting is because of age. 2 yrs old! A lower population of mountain lions would greatly increase our deer population.
Mature	I apply for hunts in many western states each year. I seek quality hunting experiences with the opportunity to see mature game animals. Many times I apply for points only and have a long term hunting plan. When I do apply for a mule deer hunt in the future, I will have several points and will try to convince a hunting buddy to join my application as a party, so we can travel to Nevada and have a quality hunt. It's perfectly acceptable for me to apply for many years and gain points before drawing a tag if the payoff is a quality hunting experience.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Mature	I have been hunting the same unit and specific area, within one square mile, since 1998. The deer numbers and the quality of the deer have decreased dramatically. Sitting in the same exact location in 2013 that I did in 1998 I now see about 20-30 deer in ne day where I would have seen around 100 then, with several of those being mature bucks. Inversely related to that I did not see a single wild horse in 1998 and in 2013 I saw well over 50 unique horses sitting in that very spot in one day. The horses hav severely damaged the sage brush and a lot of other vegetation. Also, the coyote densities are very high and I have never seen any sign of mountain lions in the area and I caught two distinct lions on a trail camera in 2013. I spent several days scouting nd one day hunting. I did harvest a mature buck which scored 190+ on opening morning of the season; however, it was the only mature buck I saw. Besides him I only saw two young bucks and a handful of does, on opening day, where in years prior I would have seen at the very least 50 deer. While scouting, the deer numbers that I saw weren't any better, and I even went an entire day without seeing a single deer (I suspect a mountain lion moved in and pushed the deer out). I mainly, just encountered a lot of hoses and coyotes. The weather conditions were very warm and dry.
	For me- as a farmer in California, I think it is so relaxing to get away and hunt in Nevada. My crops are all in by Oct 15-Nov 1st so I get to catch the last week of the season. Great break from reality! I own my own ranch in the coastal range in California. I kill a deer every 3 or 4 years- I like to take one that is a year from dying of old age. I do the same in Nevada. I hadn't been drawn for Nevada in over 10 years and I DID NOT harvest a buck-all to small. I saw over 1,000 deer. 70 bucks. The deer herd looks very healthy- good job.
	My family loves to have the privilege to hunt in Nevada, but wish the draw system gave more opportunities to adults and youth for receiving a tag. We are not big trophy hunters, but do our best to use skills to find a mature buck. It is more important to ave the experience in the field with my family yearly than to always harvest. I wish more hunters were more respectful to other hunters, the habitat, and the wildlife in the field.
	Last two time I hunted mule deer, all I saw were immature bucks. I did not really see a mature buck.
	maanagement of units 10 and11 seem to have been overharvested of small bucks hence larger bucks are fewer!
	Dear Sirs, The number of tags is OK as it is. I think NDOW should use a 4 point or better system for antlered deer hunts. In other words, only bucks with 4 points or better on one side could be legally harvested. This would allow younger bucks to mature. ight now, most of the time the young bucks get slaughtered before they pass on their genetics, etc. I believe this would help the health of the deer population, and allow hunters to get a decent sized buck.
	Thank you for giving me the chance to take this survey. I would like to see the amount of deer tags decreased in order to allow deer populations to reestablish. I would also like to see areas with low deer populations changed to four point or better. feel that this will increase the deer populations and produce better quality bucks. I think that the heavily burned areas should be reseeded in order for the deer to reestablish in those areas.
	I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retricted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	requirements for taking a buck.
Mature	<p>There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 hunters trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!</p>
	<p>The amount of wilderness land that is in Nevada is criminal. I'm all for preservation but giving rich ranchers their own private hunting grounds is a joke (cave valley ranch). it limits where many hunters can access causing higher densities in other easil accessible areas and substandard harvests. I used to see huge bucks here in Nevada. now you only hear of a few good bucks taken each year. I'm not a lazy hunter I put in at least 10 miles of boot time a day and endless hours of glassing. I was fine knowig I was only going to draw every other year. Bring back the big bucks please... thanks</p>
	<p>stop cramming hunters into shorter seasons! have more 2x2 or spiked hunts to lesson the pressure on more mature bucks. in areas where you don't see many big bucks rotate hunts on 4x4 only one season and 2x2 or spiked hunts two seasons that allows more bigbucks to mature in those areas and make larger hunt units to spread hunters out more and longer seasons that insures better success!!!! and why we can't use crossbows for bow hunts and scopes on black powder it just makes greater success /// we want succes to control pop. better other states have great success with these</p>
	<p>Please have more trophy hunts (late seasons) with a few tags to ease the number of first choice applicants. Then people like myself will have more time to hunt and still have mature deer. Lower the price of non resident tags so rich people are not the onl ones hunting! There are still some real hunters left. You are pricing us out!</p>
	<p>I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and checkon the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There need to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons ake place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendarr wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is sprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.</p>
	<p>I would like to see the regulations changed to require a minimum size to harvest a buck. Taking a spike or a small forked horn prevents the animal from reaching maturity and possible trophy size. I would also like to see a requirement that any adult wo accompanies a junior hunter attend a class on hunting regulations and hunting ethics. A few years ago, I ran into an adult with 2 junior hunters who were about to shoot a small buck from their vehicle 15 minutes after sundown. When I informed him that h couldn't let the kids shoot, it became apparent that he was unfamiliar with the regulations and he was clueless about ethics.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Mature	I think generally it is a great state to hunt in with lots of deer and big deer to see and few hunters. My only change would be: as i understand it now, if there are leftover tags after the draw if one wants to get one they have to give up all preferencepoints. it would be nice to be able to retain those points for a more desirable hunt, but still be able to go hunting in a zone that has left over tags.
	I would like to see less tags issued and/or areas closed to hunting. A 2x2 or 3x3 or 2x3 and doe harvest area only. This would allow for areas to mature larger bucks and populations.
	I think that wildfire,range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife nly has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because the have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better pysical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of there habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.
	I think that the harvest of does is absolutely NOT necessary. I don't believe that any of the mule deer areas I am familiar with are approaching a large limiting factor such as summer or winter range capacities. The deer numbers have been down since the92-93 winter loss and have not been allowed to come back because there are too many deer being harvested. I would wait as long as necessary to get a deer tag, if I knew that when I draw there would be a significant amount older age class bucks in the poplation to harvest, that is a quality experience to me not killing for the sake of killing.
	Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may sart with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tgs. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectaions by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.
	I BELIVE THERE SHOULD BE A POINT RESTRICTION IN NEVADA LIKE 3 POINT OR BIGGER ON DEER TO HELP HAVE QUALITY AGE CLASS
Meat	Im against the late season so called trophy hunts. Part of the experience should be the meat not run down deer after the rut. What about mussel loader hunts. These modern mussel loaders shoot verey good, why should they have a advantage in the draw.
	I feel that closing hunting seasons for 5 years to allow the population numbers to increase and the herds to increase their size and ranges I remember when you always saw deer when you went out now your lucky to see one. Stop giving out so many tags each ear especially out of state tags or non resident tags. Stop worrying about revenue and do what's right for the deer you have many hunters in Nevada that hunt for food not trophy's some times that may be their only meat. You need to think of the deer and te people that hunt for food. this is my opinion.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Meat	I think the mule deer have been managed well so far. It is important for me and my family to draw our tags every year because this is our main meat source for the year that feeds us. It also is our only vacation time and teaching our children values and respect. It is critical that we draw together so that we can take the time off to hunt since it would be too expensive to have several different hunts.
	I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and I don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.
	Dear Nick, I am extremely pleased that you are taking the time to improve the overall experience <sup>3</sup> of hunting Nevada. I love this state and would do anything to preserve it for my children. I get the whole study and I hope reasonable considerations are made for everyone to harvest meat for their families. Best Regards David m..
	I think it is really unfair that there are people who draw tags every year and other can't get a tag for ,( in my case) 3 years. In one of my friends case, he has not drawn a tag in 8 years, but yet there are still people that I know who draw a tag every year. This is my opinion. For all who apply, those who do not draw a tag one year, should be moved to the top of a list and be given first chance at a tag the next year. I would like to see it become more equal for everyone to get the opportunity to hunt. In my situation, I can only apply for one tag a year. After talking with my friends, they all choose deer. I really can not afford the \$120.00 Elk Tag. \$30.00 deer tag is good. So that is what I go for. I have applied the last 3 yrs and still have not drawn a tag. This is my thought as to why I try to go hunting. I am on a fixed income. I do not have a lot of money to keep applying for tags. I want an elk tag and a deer tag. that would cost me \$150.00 plus application fees. If I draw 1 deer and 1 elk tag. for under \$200.00 I can fill my freezer and have food for almost a year. I think Nevada resident should get the same equal chance to put food on their table to feed their families. Well that is my opinion. Make it where every hunter gets a chance to experience a Nevada Deer Hunt. I don't like the drawing. Mostly cause I do not get drawn. But I do think that it would be a good idea to take the people who did not draw the previous year, get moved to the top of the list and they get first chance at the draw next year.
	I typically trophy hunt for mule deer most of the season. If I haven't had any success in harvesting a trophy buck before the last couple days I have to hunt, I do my best to harvest any legal buck for the meat. My son is currently a toddler, but I look forward to teaching him about wildlife and hunting.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	Keep working with conservation groups to do the right thing for Nevada's wildlife.
	The State has to many different mule deer hunts. The deer do not have a chance to grow or develop. Some of the hunts should be cut out. It appears the all the State wants is the revenue from the number of hunts they have, through the cost of quality o hunting to the sportsman and deer populations.
	If we have a buck to doe ratio that has too many bucks don't shoot more does when a rancher has to mnay bulls for the cows he has he gets more cows We can't shoot our breed stock. Letting these wild fires burn out of control before they start fighting them is stupid. We're burning up our habitat. I know what it was like in the 60's & 70's our managment sucks and there was alot of hunters then. you could drive here & buy tags over the counties. I hear there is supost to be more hunters now than then and thats bull shit. Wise management is our problem. Too many predatures also.
	There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 huntrs trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!
	Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my imput for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope hearsds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illenesses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer hearsds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer hearsds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the hearsds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	<p>Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough usiness. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, t completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landownersare getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a rophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be ableto hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with te money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.</p>
	<p>Mule deer hunting has been a integral part of my life. Nevada sportsman are spoiled with what we have and regularly act greedy by wanting more. through the years i have seen various game wardens in the field while hunting big game and the most courteous f them are the hunters in the bunch. i have talked with game biologists on the phone and wonder how they get their information because they are seldom seen during the hunting season out checking hunters. I know both NDOW biologists and Wardens and, hen i want information on camp areas, road situations, hunter congestion, low use areas, I talk with the ones that know - the Wardens. If I want to know a generic answer to questions I call the biologist.</p>
	<p>A very big problem in Nevada, the driest state in the west, is the private lands homesteads, roads and developments that tie-up the natural water courses and sources in many habitatareas. The barriers to game getting water in bottom lands are great. the state should buy-up land with water for game and create preserves and management areas when possible (also through land donations). In my last few years of hunting it has come to my attention that it is extremely difficult to get a doe tag. However; when we are out there, there are so many doe that they definitely outnumber the bucks over 15 to 1.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	<p>I am originally from Canada where: 1) you buy white-tailed deer and moose permits at stores (e.g. any store that sold firearms) even during the hunting season; 2) can hunt in any Crown Land (similar to BLM) area you want (no zone preselection required or restrictions); 3) there is NO lottery bullshit. NDOW should consider the ZEC (Zone Ecologically Controlled) system used in Quebec where large areas of land are placed under the jurisdiction of non-private ZEC clubs that are managed by its members, under the watchful eye of fish &amp; game. Then, rather than the tragedy of the commons, you get a "club" of like-minded individuals that are interested in a specific area. They take philosophical ownership of said area. Quotas for that area are set by fish &amp; game. Back home, we would pay \$300 for a combined hunting &amp; fishing ZEC membership, in addition to the provincial permit for whatever you were hunting for. People are happy to pay it because ZECs are well-managed and full of game. I want to hunt in an area I know...not where NDOW tells me I drew a tag because of lower pressure in some area I have no connection to. And, I want to hunt with my son and colleagues/friends...that is near impossible with a random lottery system. Back home, I hunted where my father hunted, which is where his father hunted, etc. Losing that connection to the land and not allowing displaced hunters such as myself to redevelop it will result in fewer hunters and hunters going to other states. Don't believe me? I recently bought 500 acres of forest land in Maine, where landowners are strongly favored for white-tailed deer tags...drawing something like 75% of the time. I will never waste my money on a big game lottery in Nevada again. NDOW has forgotten what hunting is about: Hunting is: (1) hunting in an area you feel connected to, whether it is family history or something else; (2) hunting with the people you chose to hunt with, in my case hunting partners;</p>
	<p>Mule deer hunting in Nevada has been on the decline over the last 10 yrs.! I believe the lion population may be somewhat responsible as well as forage change and POACHING I don't think the Nevada fish and game commission is doing a very good job, it's too political they need some input from ranchers, cowboys and sheep herders who LIVE in the areas!</p>
	<p>To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OHV's to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do think NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many people being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.</p>
	<p>I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and I don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	<p>It seems to me the future of Mule Deer hunting and, accordingly, the future funding of management and habitat programs is based on young hunters. I see a trend of more older hunters and fewer young people. Certainly there are societal reasons for this but also I think we should do what we can to encourage young people, especially those under 18 years of age, to be involved. A lot of older hunters have been drawing tags and filling their freezers for years, which is terrific, but to stimulate the interest of younger sportsmen and women I sincerely think they should get first chance at tags. Also, I agree that it isn't right for an older hunter, mentor, parent or other relative to fill a younger hunter's tag. The reverse situation should be allowed though without fine or penalty. If I draw and my young daughter or a grandchild didn't, because the system didn't give them preference, I should be able to let them fill my tag. Naturally they should have a hunting license and meet all the other requirements for hunter safety, proper weapon for the tag issued such as muzzle loader, archery or whatever. Making it illegal to have a young person fill an older relative's tag makes no sense.</p>
	<p>Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a minor contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry cats and coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on newly born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes in most areas that I hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused by Wild Horses leads to an easy take by hungry predators.</p>
	<p>I prefer to hunt in a certain geographic area of the State and prefer the season to be a month long. I have never had much success with the draw system and resent the way its implementation has ruined my historical hunting experience. I never get to hunt as long as I used to and rarely am able to hunt where I want. At times, it seems to me that NDOW is more concerned with selling "Hunting Lottery Tickets" than managing the state's game resources.</p>
	<p>Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitat loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife resources. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife management for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, the question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. We rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.</p>
	<p>I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.
Management	Please do what you have to whether or not it makes people happy. Can't please everyone.
	I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and checkon the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There need to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons ake place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendarr wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is srprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.
	The loss and degradation of habitat is the primary reason for declines in deer. Land managers need to do a better job to protect Nevada's wildlife habitat.
	I think the lack of Wild horse management is greatly impacting the feed available. The wild horses are very aggressive and territorial especially when you are hunting horse back. Their aggressive nature pushes off a lot of wild life on top of ruining wateing holes and eating all the feed close to the water and not moving off the water until it's gone or a mud pit.
	I appreciate that NDOW is gathering public opinion on management of mule deer however the overall process with CAB's and the commission sometimes takes away from letting professional biologists manage mule deer and their habitats and puts the management o wildlife into something that is based on popular opinion and not based on sound scientific knowledge. I also realize that is probably not likely to change anytime soon but management based on scientifically proven methods is preferable to me since I woul prefer managers to not waste my hard earned money on techniques (such as widespread predator control) that have been scientifically proven (through correct study design and peer review) to be largely unsuccessful.
	I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NR had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer densit over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for al their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.
	I drew a PIW tag in 2013 very lucky Harvested a 190+ 8x6 in unit 081 Hunted 27 days total between all legal seasons. I believe NDOW is trying to manage areas not units when areas were smaller 5 years ago example Area 15 was managed by 2 units, Area 6 066 067 068 061 062 063 064 065 is too large to manage as one choice meaning the units that seem to have more animals are recieving the majority of hunter pressure, Also I believe that when deer counts are being done NDOW is counting animals that are on privity ground + cannot be hunted Example T.S. Ranch, Marys Rive Ranch, Filipin Ranch, Horse shoe Ranch, Patave Ranches, IL propertys. Thank you for the chance to complete the survey.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	I spend approximately 40 to 60 days in the field in Nevada a year, mainly in Washoe county & Pershing county. Wild horses have a huge impact on mule deer less habitat for mule deer because horses push them out of these areas for good. I have a tough time finding deer now in areas where you could always find them now you find many horses & very few deer. The NDOW does a fair job with managment of our wildlife here in Nevada But if they worked as hard to provide for mule deer as they have for bighorn sheep in this state we porbably wouldn't be sending out questianaires, pointing out our dwindling mule deer herds. Trying to find out what our sportsmen will give up to get mule deer back. NDOW has seen this in the making from long ago in my opinion sheep herds are getting larger because NDOW can make more revenue from those tagsDont get me wrong I love wild sheep as much as the next conservative sportsman here in Nevada, but our other big and small game species are paying the price for it.
	All deer hunting should be stopped for 1 year. Anyone getting a deer tag should also recieve a cat. tag. Cut nonresident tags by 60-80%. Get fish +game management employes out of office and in the field. If they won't get out in the field and manage the wildlife then get rid of them. Get some employes that will work for their wages and not try to figure ways to get more money in their pockets + screw the sportsman.
	I think that NDOW-needs to work with- the forest service & BLM on the issue of forest fire-containment & puting the fire out faster. I have seen fire crews waiting around for the commander to show up & direct. Also a little known fact is that fires are let to grow beyond 3500 acers so the federal money kicks in. I have personal had trucks show up at my shop for repair that were not on the fire line. If the deer do not have cover they move or die. kind of like SAGE grouse. No sage brush no grouse
	Overall I think the state is doing a good job at managing what deer resource we have. I think mutiple management strategies spread across the units, along with the multiple weapon classes and season dates offers the hunter a multitude of choices. I believe most often those that are complaining the most are limiting their options to one or two hunt nits with the expectation of drawing every year and then having a quality hunt.
	I have hunted in Nevada on and off for twenty years, and have had a great experiences. Your management has been above all others, and your passion for quality and not just trying to use tags and licenses to balance the states budget is refreshing. The cos of your Mule Deer tags and your license fees are affordable and your Elk management is incredible, with the opportunity to harvest a 400 class bull. Keep up the good work, and by sending this survey shows me that you guys actually want feed back from spotsmen. And that's peeks volumes. Thank you
	I have been hunting the Ruby mountains since 1990. The Ruby's have been swarmed the last few years with atv's and hoards of hunters that will shoot anything that moves, leading to dangerous situations in the field. Last season my hunting party was actully stalked by three hunters on atv's before dawn, we had to wave hats and jackets to assure we weren't going to get shot, it just seems like nobody puts boots on the ground anymore. I would like to see a stronger ranger presence in the area to curtail soe of the questionable practices that I have witnessed over the years. I wish everyone to be on an equal playing field when it comes to harvesting an animal. Thank You for letting me participate in your survey.
	Yes I think that u should only let 4 points or better be taken an no hunt for a year . Deer heard r very bad in Nevada poor management .
	Mule Deer hunting is one of my favorite passions. My opinion is that there are tropy mule deer in the mountains but finding them is the hardest part. Good management is a key aspect to good Mule Deer quality, but diligence and good hunting skills are fa more important in finding a quality mule deer. Late season hunts are the best way to find bigger Bucks. Offer more late hunts and bigger bucks will be easier to find.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Management	I believe that Residents of Nevada should have priority on all tags and seasons over Non-Residents. It seems that NDOW is more concerned about the revenue produced through the sale of Non-Resident tags and licenses. There should be trophy areas with redced tags to allow for more mature bucks.
	I have only actually had one tag in the last 10 years or so, but I religiously hunt mule deer on an annual basis. The lack of mature animals that are being harvested let alone seen is very concerning. I am glad the state is stating to do something, but I m afraid you are starting too late to save NV's quality mule deer hunting.
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other huntes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
Money	I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratis to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in ood habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factr in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more . DON'T YOU THINK???
	It seems to me that you have to apply & buy liscense for several years to get drawn. Like it is more of a MONEY game!

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Money	<p>There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 hunters trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!</p>
	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope herds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illnesses they seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to do with how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer herds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitat loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations because of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer herds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen their state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great state based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the herds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough business. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, it completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landowners are getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a trophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be able to hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with the money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Money	The guided hunt thing has become a real disappointment for me. They use trail cameras and sell big bucks to clients they also use other people to spot big bucks for them to sell to clients it is bull.
	I feel that closing hunting seasons for 5 years to allow the population numbers to increase and the herds to increase their size and ranges I remember when you always saw deer when you went out now your lucky to see one. Stop giving out so many tags each ear especially out of state tags or non resident tags. Stop worrying about revenue and do what's right for the deer you have many hunters in Nevada that hunt for food not trophy's some times that may be their only meat. You need to think of the deer and te people that hunt for food. this is my opinion.
	The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the seconday sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issuetags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Mayb start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.
	I do not like the policy of only having one weekend in a hunting season. Weekends are the only time most hunters can get away from work to go hunting. It lowers hunter success rates and only raises more money from tags,gives your group more money to sped on more Surveys.
	Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitt loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife recourses. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife mangement for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, te question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. W rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.
	From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the poeple whotold me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approveof the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!
	I'm against doe hunts. I don't think they help one bit except to put more money in their bank account.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Money	I wish there were a higher percentage of tags available for non-residents. I understand residents are the priority, but non-residents bring in more \$ to help the local areas where they hunt. Thanks.
	I spend approximately 40 to 60 days in the field in Nevada a year, mainly in Washoe county & Pershing county. Wild horses have a huge impact on mule deer less habitat for mule deer because horses push them out of these areas for good. I have a tough time finding deer now in areas where you could always find them now you find many horses & very few deer. The NDOW does a fair job with management of our wildlife here in Nevada But if they worked as hard to provide for mule deer as they have for bighorn sheep in this state we probably wouldn't be sending out questionnaires, pointing out our dwindling mule deer herds. Trying to find out what our sportsmen will give up to get mule deer back. NDOW has seen this in the making from long ago in my opinion sheep herds are getting larger because NDOW can make more revenue from those tags. Don't get me wrong I love wild sheep as much as the next conservative sportsman here in Nevada, but our other big and small game species are paying the price for it.
	All deer hunting should be stopped for 1 year. Anyone getting a deer tag should also receive a cat. tag. Cut nonresident tags by 60-80%. Get fish + game management employees out of office and in the field. If they won't get out in the field and manage the wildlife then get rid of them. Get some employees that will work for their wages and not try to figure ways to get more money in their pockets + screw the sportsman.
Non-hunters	If hunter numbers would decrease and quality of hunts would increase I would not have a problem if some areas were designated an every other year status whereby a person could not draw that area every year. This could be done statewide in that you would have to wait to reapply for a deer tag like you do if you draw an antelope tag (5 years), but make it 1 year. I also believe it would be nice to increase the number of areas offering a late archery tag. In areas 10 and 7 where this has been done success remains low (10% or so) but many people have an opportunity to hunt. By giving out more late season archery tags you would reduce the amount of hunters applying for rifle hunts. I also believe NDOW should limit the number of nonhunters on hunts. It is getting ridiculous when you draw an elk tag and you see 20 people in your area. One has a tag and the rest are scouting, attempting to secure roads to areas and being a royal pain. If you give out 100 elk tags in an area you have 500 people there with 400 or even hunting. Silly. Make them stay in camp!
NON-RESIDENT	I've enjoyed many seasons of hunting and going with friends & family. Mule deer, Antelope & Elk. In 2012 I was able to draw a bull Elk tag "Area 221-222" etc. I am the most surprised @ the trophy Elk. I think you do a great job. I would love to get more tags, but I understand the need for hunter conservation and try to make the most of my opportunities. Keep up the good work. noNon-residentresident
	I believe that Residents of Nevada should have priority on all tags and seasons over Non-Residents. It seems that NDOW is more concerned about the revenue produced through the sale of Non-Resident tags and licenses. There should be trophy areas with reduced tags to allow for more mature bucks.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
NON-RESIDENT	As a non-resident participating in the lottery drawings for tags I suggest that the bonus/preference point programs have long run their course and have morphed into essentially Ponzi schemes to various degrees. There is no logical reason that a person who has applied in the past should receive any credit or advantage, no matter how small, over someone who is applying for the first time. The only fair drawing structure is one in which all participants have the same chance in each drawing as all other participants. This approach also encourages participation of the greatest number of applicants which is key to maintaining the largest pool of interest in the sport. On another note the small allotment of tags to non-residents (on Federal lands especially) is also discouraging participation in the hunting sports contributing to a slow death of the heritage. License and tag programs need to be structured to elevate interest and encourage, not discourage, the greatest numbers of ongoing participants. Financial disincentives within the drawing application process such as the requirement to buy an advance license to apply or build points (which again, should be eliminated anyway) also reduce participation, ultimately.
	the bonus point system is not very non resident friendly, to earn a point a non res of Nevada must purchase a license of 142.00 \$ in order to get a bonus point for following years . . that is to much money. neighboring states charge around 20.00\$ Isothe deer population is not as high as neighboring states . i understand the geography aspect of Nevada however i believe the state could support more numbers of deer.
	For me- as a farmer in California, I think it is so relaxing to get away and hunt in Nevada. My crops are all in by Oct 15-Nov 1st so I get to catch the last week of the season. Great break from reality! I own my own ranch in the coastal range in California. I kill a deer every 3 or 4 years- I like to take one that is a year from dying of old age. I do the same in Nevada. I hadn't been drawn for Nevada in over 10 years and I DID NOT harvest a buck-all to small. I saw over 1,000 deer. 70 bucks. The deer herd looks very healthy- good job.
	While I have applied for several years, I have not drawn a tag yet so have never actually hunted in Nevada. I have hunted in Idaho for the past 40+ years except for a year in Montana (1975) and Colorado (1985). I have lived in and hunted in Colorado for the last 2 years since retirement.
	I have enjoyed my hunting experiences in Nevada. There are 4 of us who apply every year. We do not apply as a group because if some body draws a tag we all go hunting. I have only drawn a deer tag 5 times since 1996, but have hunted about 8 or 9 times because my buddies have drawn when I didn't. I have hunted area 16,13,15,10 and 7. The reason we hunt Nevada is because the hunting pressure is so light. A guy can actually spot and stalk a nice buck without other hunters screwing it up. I have spent many days afield hunting in those areas and haven't seen another hunter. That is why I come back year after year because it is truly hunting. Try to do that in Utah it will not happen. Nevada also has the best draw system for big game in the western United States. I enjoy trophy hunting with no hunting pressure and that means if I only draw a deer tag every 3 to 5 years I am ok with that because when I do draw it means I have a chance at a trophy deer.
	This survey is geared towards resident hunters. As a non-resident hunter I have very slim draw odds for tags in Nevada thanks to Harry Reid. I do not have the access to public land tags for hunting that residents do. Most non resident hunters tend to be more trophy hunters than residents do. Non resident hunters go to great expense to hunt out of their state. It usually limits their ability to take many family and friends along for the experience. Non resident hunters are good cash flow for the game departments as they pay much higher license fees as well as the communities they stay in while hunting. As a non resident hunter, I, as well as most others, can only afford to be gone from home and work for a week or two to hunt. Longer seasons are not aimed at non resident hunters but resident hunters.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
NON-RESIDENT	I feel you have to many auction tags and or raffle tags. It seems difficult for a non-resident to draw and not sure I favor the non-resident guide draw. It once again favors the individuals with more money. All non resident tags should go into same draw. Need to do something about the wild horses and their competition with other wildlife.
	Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough usiness. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, t completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landownersare getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a rophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be ableto hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with te money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.
	Please have more trophy hunts (late seasons) with a few tags to ease the number of first choice applicants. Then people like myself will have more time to hunt and still have mature deer. Lower the price of non resident tags so rich people are not the onl ones hunting! There are still some real hunters left. You are pricing us out!
	I was born and raised in Nv but have lived in Inyo Co CA next to the NV border for 30 years. My family goes back 5 generations in White Pine Co. NV where I started deer hunting and still do deer hunt myself if I draw a tag or go along with family as a nonhunter just to go and see the country ect... It seems to me from what I read and hear that NDOW does a good job at managing deer herds in the state
	I have now moved out of the state of Nevada, no longer a resident.
	I wish there were a higher percentage of tags available for non-residents. I understand residents are the priority, but non-residents bring in more \$ to help the local areas where they hunt. Thanks.
	I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NON-RESIDENT had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer densit over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for al their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
NON-RESIDENT	I believe that there should be an increased number of tags given to non residents, since the majority of the land that is available to hunt is funded by federal tax dollars and not state. If it is 10% now it should go to at least 15%, but 20% would b better. If you do not change things up for non residents quick, I believe you will start losing interest from people, just because most people know they are chasing a ghost(that being a guaranteed tag) and not getting anything for their out of pocket application/bonus point fees. New Mexico has the best system hands down, no preference points! Everyone has the same shot every year! I think it cost me close to \$500 last year to build points for 5 species, and put in for 2 silver tags, ridiculous!!!!
OHV	i am a disabled hunter (wheelchair) i hunt from my 4 wheeler or jeep when allowed. i have dreamed of harvesting a big muledeer but have not ever drawn a tag.
	I have been hunting the Ruby mountains since 1990. The Ruby's have been swarmed the last few years with atv's and hoards of hunters that will shoot anything that moves, leading to dangerous situations in the field. Last season my hunting party was actully stalked by three hunters on atv's before dawn, we had to wave hats and jackets to assure we weren't going to get shot, it just seems like nobody puts boots on the ground anymore. I would like to see a stronger ranger presence in the area to curtail soe of the questionable practices that I have witnessed over the years. I wish everyone to be on an equal playing field when it comes to harvesting an animal. Thank You for letting me participate in your survey.
	I have hunter unit 222 in the past, and having a wilderness in the zone is a good thing. I am a hard hunter and in good hunting shape. I like going places that other people can't go, or will not go. Maybe have separate drawings to hunt in wilderness ars in some of these units can be a good thing. I think more restrictions of motor vehicles is a good thing.
	the elk , horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer i seen 25 yrs ago in elko cnty out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals , they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope i watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see th animals , the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk , i will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... i think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern nevada????
	Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer population.
	Restriction of Motor vehicle use/access is important to me.
	I have hunted since I was a small kid. I always wanted to see what was on the other side. I am at a point that I am hardley walk and could not hunt with out my ORV the desire is still there, the body leaves a lot to be desired.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
OHV	I tried to take this survey on-line but after several attempts I could still not get the address you provided to work. So thanks for sending one in the mail. We need to come up with a solution to the OHV problem there is during hunting seasons and shed antler hunting months. These people make unwanted roads and drive OHV's anywhere they want. Its really upsetting to hike for hours into a place you know has no roads to get to where you want and have two or three four wheelers parked on the ridge above you. Also people running herds of deer until their tongues are hanging out with OHVs during February and March trying to find shed antlers. (Harrison Pass) sorry for the gripe, but had to get it off my chest! Thanks.
	I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETITION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks & does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted. . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. . . .
	I appreciate the efforts of NDOW, but I am concerned with the dramatic increase in tags 2 years ago. I would prefer fewer hunt opportunities and fewer hunters on the hill. I also am discouraged with all the atv hunters. I would prefer to hunt areas without them.
	OHV vehicles should be restricted to using well established roads. This will eliminate a lot of road hunting with the exception of disabled hunters. Disabled hunters should have a visual tag on their OHV, free of charge that proves their disability. However OHV should be allowed to retrieve game animals once they are harvested.
	Archery season used to be pretty low-impact. With the introduction of muzzle-loaders & all of their seasons along with the booming population of elk & the numbers of people that come with EACH tag, huntable areas for those of us without horses/pack animals has become "competitive". * Those w/o horses use the popular OHV/ATV. Used properly, its not an issue. However, fast "mentality" that is being socially engineered into us, hunting has become "sport" more than a recreation. I really don't know how to address this. The hunting 20 years ago was much more enjoyable than in modern times. *People with Elk tags seem to find it necessary to scout during archery season, even though they have a late season cow-tag.
	Because Nevada is so open a huge problem has been created with ATV's. These need to be controlled. Wilderness areas, road less areas, and even high use areas are being destroyed by these machines. limit the use by time frame slots, make retrieval of game, no more than 300 yards from road (most don't hunt further than that from a road anyhow.
	Nevada has many inaccessible areas to maintain good populations and trophy sizes. Limiting access to OHVs by forest service would hinder harvesting of either sex. Wilderness area tags would not be good as most law abiding citizens know access rules for wilderness.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
OHVs	i would like to have the system set up to where if you draw a tag you are not able to reapply for that same species of tag for one yr. the hunting area's are over ran with hunters and harvesting quality animals has drastically reduced. I feel ohv should b used for game retrieval only. Year after year you see people pull several tags. I feel a person should be limited to two tags a yr. I fell the number one problem with hunting in nevada is there are to many hunters.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drasticly. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.
	I moved to Nevada three years ago from Wisconsin, where I did not hunt white tail deer because of the very high hunter density, behaviors with alcohol, and hunting/driving techniques that made the sport unsafe in the areas where I was likely to hunt. Thisis why I prefer a low hunter density even if that means less chance of getting a tag every year. I hunt waterfowl and upland game and prefer to hunt with a small party of close friends whom I trust. I do not trophy hunt and I do not hunt for the meat, although I eat what I kill. I enjoy the exercise and camaraderie. I have a handicap in the left knee that affects my stamina and makes climbing in rough country difficult. I've never hunted from horseback but am looking forward to trying that; I do not favor otorized vehicles in pristine areas because of the tendency to destroy habitat and trails. Thank you for the opportunity to do this survey. I regret that I don't have a history of hunting in Nevada--but I will!
	Allow more areas for OHVS. Most hunters around the ago of 40 cannot climb up + down the mountains in the wilderness areas. When I talk to game officials for info the answer is always climb the mountain + get off the ATV. I view this as discrimination apparntly NEV. wants guideservice for all hunts driving costs thru the roof. Maybe we should all have Horses. \$ The seasons for any legal weapon need to be in NOV. with all your other hunts, the traffic just moves the deer out of the area. NDOW needs to police there area's (#10) ranchers post hunting areas with are not. I know they chain off road illegally and nothing is ever done. Nevada needs to work/help everyday people hunt and enjoy it.
	To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do thik NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many eople being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.
	To many hunters in the field and to many OHV in the field off road. I don't mind the use of OH'S to get to some hard to reach by vehicle areas but driving off road and in areas where the rider knows other hunters are in the field is just wrong. I do thik NDOW does a good job but the public has a bad idea of what the true purpose of the NDOW is. I do not think Elk are a problem for the mule deer, I do think the wild horses are a big problem and are being allowed to take over the range. Why are so many eople being allowed to fence and gate areas that allow access to long time hunting areas. I ask mostly about areas around Wells Nevada and the black rock area.
	I bowhunt because I enjoy the challenge, because tags are always available, and because there are fewer hunters afield during bow season. Motorcycles and atv's are a major source of annoyance to serious bowhunters and frequently cause us to search for newhunting areas.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
OHVs	<p>The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the secondary sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issue tags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Mayb start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.</p>
	<p>the drought has really reduced vegetation that the deer need to survive. atv's should not be used during hunting you should have to walk on foot or ride horseback</p>
	<p>During a hunting trip in 2012, a pack of wild horses was encountered. They are not beneficial to natural wildlife and their presence is concerning. Table Mountain wildlife area, 2012. Reducing the access quads/Atv/OHV is a great thing. The more wildlife aea the better!</p>
	<p>I grew up hunting in Nevada and have seen the mule deer herds increase and decrease over the years. I actually prefer the controlled hunt system because it limits the number of hunters in the field. That being said if the hunters in the field are all riing atv's anywhere they choose and making roads where they have no business riding it destroys the hunting experience for those of us who treasure the solitude and enjoy the challenge of the hunt without interference from motorized vehicles scaring away te game. At my age it is more and more difficult to find areas where I can hike far enough to get away from two tracks that seem to be everywhere these days. I used to ride an atv to get to the end of the road and hike from there. I am ashamed to be see on one anymore because of the abusers and cheats making it increasingly difficult to find the end of the road!</p>
	<p>for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good acess, plenty of bucks and oppertunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability o get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I perfer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for eveyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed</p>
	<p>My main concern is the early season hunt. Last year it was in the 70's during my hunt and there was a hunter on every ridge top. The use of ATV's is outrageous and the people who use them to hunt are ignorant. Example : Last year we were watching a nic buck from a ridge in the next valley that we hiked to off of the main road. A hunter on an ATV drove his ATV up to the ridge (no access road) to see what we were doing. The buck blew out. I bring an ATV with me and use it ONLY if I am sucessful AND eed the ATV to get the meat out. Otherwise the meat is on our backs.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
OHVs	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I think that wildfire, range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife only has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because they have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better physical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of their habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.</p>
	<p>The state should be putting more emphasis on restoration of habitat lost through wildfire and OHV's traveling overland. I cannot believe the changes that have occurred to Nevada's landscape due to wildfire in last 30 years. Many winter ranges or intermediate habitats have been transformed from shrub zones to cheatgrass. The overland OHV issue needs to be solved and I think we</p>
	<p>Please make the use of trail camera's illegal in the state of Nevada. Guides (and some hunters) have commercialized Mule Deer hunting to an excessive state. Due to the price that some "hunters" are willing to pay for a large B&amp;C Mule Deer heads, guides are going to extreme measures to keep honest hunters out of specific areas. Guides are known to pay friends and/or family to block roads during the hunting season to keep hunters out of a trophy bucks home area. I know a lot of hunters hate OHV's. I have no problem running into OHV's that is being driven on designated roads or offroad while retrieving downed game, but trail cameras are truly unethical.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Out-of-State	I am a Nevada, lander county resident for 24 years. And I have been putting in for mule deer tags for around 22 years. I have been able to draw 5 tags. I know people from Utah and California that have been putting in for tags for around 11 years an have got any were from 7 to 11 tags. That is wrong in all sort of ways. And I know of residents that draw every single year. I don't know how the draw is done. But its not random luck. Ndow or who ever can say what they will. But bull crude. I don't wantmy kid to go through this same fate. And it makes it real hard to support any thing with these results. Would love to have more opportunities. And change the way I fill about helping again.
	It should be noted that this was the first year that I applied for a tag. I have a relative in Nevada and put in with him and his group. I was notified that that I had not been drawn for the fall of 2013. I've never received nor filled out a hunter surveythat I did not participate in the hunt. As a former research biologist, I know the importance of accuracy. I did not notice any comment or question if I had even been drawn or declined. I answered all questions best I could without having any experience i NV. I guess I am just assuming you would want information from hunters that have actually participated in a Mule deer hunt in NV otherwise there would be a section to indicate such information. Good Luck, but ya'll did elect Harry Reid
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other huntes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
	as of last year Nevada would only let non residents apply as a group for one limited entry species together. I would like to apply for all species as a group ( where tags are available ) This would help reduce the number of non tag holders in the field.
	Lower amount of OUT OF STATE NON RESIDENT TAGS!
	I moved away in 2001 I moved back 2010, My wife and I put in for a tag in 2013 but was not successful. we spend a lot of time in the hills and don't see the deer like back in the past, I think predators have a lot to do with the lack of deer and to many ags sold. I think out for state tags should not be sold for 5yars to try to get the deer hard back, some people think it is about the money, I don't think that is it at all, I hope not.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drastically. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Out-of-State	I have been drawn for exactly two deer tags in 13 years, so it should be obvious on this questionnaire that I don't care much for NV, in terms of hunting access to it's own residents. It's remarkable to me that ANY out-of-state licenses are given when residents are denied access to hunt their own state. However, I know that Dean Heller and his hunting friends hunt deer yearly. Gee, he must be awfully lucky! But, I get it. Ranching, Mining and State Senators are top priorities, not a simple resident of the State of Nevada trying to pass on a love of hunting to his children.
	Decrease the number of out of state tags
	I feel that closing hunting seasons for 5 years to allow the population numbers to increase and the herds to increase their size and ranges I remember when you always saw deer when you went out now your lucky to see one. Stop giving out so many tags each year especially out of state tags or non resident tags. Stop worrying about revenue and do what's right for the deer you have many hunters in Nevada that hunt for food not trophy's some times that may be their only meat. You need to think of the deer and the people that hunt for food. this is my opinion.
	The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the secondary sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issue tags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Maybe start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.
	more residents should get tags rather than out of state people
	I have hunted with friends and family for years and the one single issue that comes up is access to hunting areas. Many times we will find deer only on private land. I have talked to land owners and most will not allow hunting on their property. Also with limited success drawing tags in Nevada I have purchased over the counter tags in Idaho and taken deer.
	I was at a sportsman's show in Kansas City, Missouri and was shocked to find out how Nevada land owner tags were being marketed. Numerous outfitters advertised trophy Nevada hunts for mule deer, Elk, and pronghorn, on guaranteed land owner tags, and never have to apply. That was an eye opener for me, having unsuccessfully applied for years.
	It seems criminal that land owner tags and outfitter tags should not be included in a common draw. Resident and Non-resident draw together, so why not have owners and outfitters included in the same draw? Land owner tags should be for land owners and their family's sole use, and not be allowed to be sold to the highest bidder, and still be called land owner tags.
	All of my hunting buddies and immediate family members (other than my children and wife) are non-residents. It is virtually impossible to draw a quality tag if you enter the draw with a non-resident. I would like to see more opportunities for non-resident even if it means reducing resident opportunities. Also, I don't believe there is another hunting experience on the planet that is like hunting bull elk while they are in the rut. I would like to see much more opportunities to hunt bull elk during the rut. Nothing matches this experience. Why does Nevada have so many late fall hunts instead of early fall rut hunts?

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Out-of-State	Non-resident hunters are taking hunting opportunities from Nevada residents who want or need to hunt. Not sure what the right answer is...but it can be very frustrating for resident hunters. Since non-resident hunters have to travel by definition, why nt restrict their tag availability to the areas most populated with game? Maybe there shouldn't be non-resident tags until the deer population can sustain the demand for resident hunters first. Just saying...
	All deer hunting should be stopped for 1 year. Anyone getting a deer tag should also recieve a cat. tag. Cut noNon-resident tags by 60-80%. Get fish +game management employes out of office and in the field. If they won't get out in the field and manage the wildlife then get rid of them. Get some employes that will work for their wages and not try to figure ways to get more money in their pockets + screw the sportsman.
	Reduce the amount of tags a person can get in one year to allow others to draw. Reduce out of state tags.
	Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may sart with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tgs. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectaions by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.
	Seems like most tags go to out of state hunters and not resident hunters.
	We love mule deer hunting in Nevada, but haven't hunted their since 2006 because we haven't been successful in the draw due to trying to draw a good unit that my cousin has hunted. We hunt mule deer every year, but normally in other states where we can drw tags.
Opportunity	Less wilderness management areas and More opportunity to hunt for long time residents. I grew up in the state of NV with fond memories of hunting and spending time in the wilderness with my father and siblings. I feel like the gap between tags takes away lot of those opportunities that I should be having with my children. Which would also allow them the memories of caring for our wilderness and wildlife and quality outdoors time and less TV and Games etc.
	I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the pportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and i don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my lineat three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts sice I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course woud like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get oe I will be happy.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Opportunity	Currently in Nevada we can apply for deer tags annually, however, Antelope tags may only be applied for every five years if successful. When we are in the field, we see many more Antelope than deer. It makes sense to me to lower the wait period for Antelope to two years, and raise the period for Mule deer to two years.
	The draws should truly be a random draw and the family and friends of NDOW officers and staff should not have first come first tag privileges. The opportunity should be for everyone not those "privileged" members family and friends. The short seasons of 4 days over crowding the hunting areas is very destructive to the herds and habits and should be reevaluated. Thank you.
	Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!
	I think it is really unfair that there are people who draw tags every year and other cant get a tag for ,( in my case) 3 years. In one of my freinds case, he has not drawn a tag in 8 years, but yet there are still poeple that I know who draw a tag every yar. This is my opinion. For all who apply, those who do not draw a tag one year, should be moved to the top of a list and be given first chance at a tag the next year. I would like to see it become more equal for everyone to get the oppertunity to hunt. In my Situation, I can only apply for one tag a year. After talking with my freinds, they all choose deer. I really can not afford the \$120.00 Elk Tag. \$30.00 deer tag is good. So that is what I go for. I have applied the last 3 yrs and still have not dawn a tag. This is my thought as to why I try to go hunting. I am on a fixed income. I do not have a lot of money to keep applying for tags. I want an elk tag and a deer tag. that would cost me \$150.00 plus application fees. If i draw 1 deer and 1 elktag. for under \$200.00 I can fill my freezer and have food for almost a year. I think nevada resident should get the same equal chance to put food on thier table to feed thier families. Well that is my opinion. Make it where every hunter gets a chanc to experience a Nevada Deer Hunt. I dont like the Drawing. Mostly cause I do not get drawn. But I do think that it would be a good idea to take the people who did not draw the previous year, get moved to the top of the list and they get first chance a the draw next year.
	As a native Nevadan & a life long bow hunter I must say it is a privilege to hunt big game in Nevada! The quality of animals on our public land is unmatched. (lets keep it that way). I would like to see more oppportunity for us bow hunters to hunt during the rut in trophy areas, not all of us like our game bedding down by 8:30 am.
	Never had the oppportunity to hunt Mule Deer in Nevada, but looking forward to it in the coming years. Thank you for all that you.
	Although I have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada several times in my life, it is not a regular activity for me. I am primarily a chukar hunter.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Poaching	We need to improve the winter food supply. We need to protect migration routes near highways. We need to manage the predators of deer, and increase the capture and punishment of poachers by funding a larger number of game wardens. We also need to look t the numbers of deer harvested by native americans. Not all native americans live off the land and need to harvest an unlimited number of deer.
	Mule deer huntingi n Nevada has been on the decline over the last 10 yrs.! I believe the lion population may be somewhat responsible as well as forage change and POACHING I don't htink the Nevada fish and game comission is doing a very good job, it's too political they need some input from ranchers, cowboys and sheep herders who LIVE in the areas!
	Deer numbers have dropped drastically which is obvious. Nevada needs to get a handle on it in my opinion. Predators, poaching, and tag numbers need to be addressed badly. This survey needs re-writing. A lot of the questions are very hard to understand andvague. Contradicting. You almost need a bachelors degree to decipher some of the questions.
Positive Comments	I have hunted in five western states in my lifetime and I can honestly say that no one manages their deer herds like the state of Nevada. The only thing I would like to see is maybe have them create a trophy tag season? That way in certain areas you can arvest a four point or better? Keep up the great work Nevada!
	I think NDOW is going an amazing job. The visable deer have gone down significantly since i firsted hunted Nevada in 1995 I think maybe two seasons, one season for the folks that want to shoot the 3 points and smaller which is the majority, and an other eason for the 4 points and larger. The seasons should run a little later too.
	I appreciate having taken this survey and the fact that NDOW is participating in lerning the attitudes and desires of the hunting public.... their customers.
	Keep up the good work and thanks for the chance to hunt and commit on deer hunting in Nev.
	I USUALLY DON'T GET MY FIRST CHOICE UNIT. I usually get drawn once every three years. i am pleased with our hunting program.
	Thank You.
	I was born and raised in Nv but have lived in Inyo Co CA next to the NV border for 30 years. My family goes back 5 generations in White Pine Co. NV where I started deer hunting and still do deer hunt myself if I draw a tag or go along with family as a nonhunter just to go and see the country ect... It seems to me from what I read and hear that NDOW does a good job at managing deer herds in the state
	NDOW needs to consider the number of people in the field SCOUTING for deer when high numbers of tags for ANY species are issued in an area. I have seen large numbers of people in the field looking for animals to fill depredation tags for elk before theirseasons have opened. Just because there are fewer tag holders per season doesn't mean that there are fewer people in the field. Overall - good job guys. It's a tough balance.
	I'm sorry their was one question I didn't answer because I can't remember the last time I harvested a muledeer in nevada I have to look it up on the ndow website. But in the thirty some years that I have drawn I've enjoyed every hunt .I hope my input hlpis.
	Compared to other states, I think the NDOW does a good job of managing both deer and elk herds.
	I thoroughly enjoyed my 2013 hunt in Nevada, it was my first time hunting here & look forward to receiving my next tag so that I can continue to hunt here. I applaud the management of NDOW and look forward to more large game hunting in my future.
	Keep up the good work!!
	I believe Nevada has a good management program and that is why it takes so long to draw a

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	trophy tag.
Positive Comments	Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed hunting Mule Deer in Nevada for many, many years. I was born in Nevada and grew up hunting mule deer there. I think NDOW does a great job at managing the deer herds. Of course, I wish my hunting partners (life-long friend, and our sons) could draw a tag more regularly and predictably, but when we do get a tag, we enjoy the quality of our hunt immensely. Low hunter density and reasonably good chances at success are important to us.
	You guys are doing a good job. Keep it up. Thank you for all the hard work you guys do. Remember to consider the older hunters who have limited hunting time left. They should have better chances of drawing a tag. Every one will have the same chance when they get older. Thank you
	Keep up the good work NDOW!!! You rock!!!
	Mule deer is my favorite game animal species. I love Nevada and enjoy hunting here. My greatest thrill is to be out in the wilds and to see deer who have not yet seen me and to observe them in their natural state. I was so proud of myself last fall to sneak into an area and find four does which had not seen me. However as I glassed further, I found 11 others that were already focused on me....Aaargh!
Predators	the elk, horses and predators have pushed 80% of the deer I seen 25 yrs ago in Elko county out... ohv have changed the habits of the animals, they stay away from roads... thru my spotting scope I watch lots of hunters ride thru areas and not even see the animals, the northern parts of the state are being taken over by elk, I will start hunting south or out of state in the future.... I think mule deer are more of a trophy than some stinking elk... are the elk native to northern Nevada????
	Only hunted one year in Nevada and I saw people and coyote's everywhere I looked. But I still put in for tags for certain areas because certain areas do offer shots at huge bucks.
	Predator control, NDOW will not fess up to the truth that it works. It does work. Its a money game.
	From my perspective the quantity and the quality of the deer herd where I hunt in Nevada has declined in the last 15 years, and especially in the last five. There has been no encroachment from humans in this area and the vegetation and water supply is plentiful. I have no doubts, from my first hand experience, that the decline is due to the increased and very large number of horses and predators in the area.
	I would like to see very aggressive predator management program. Also something has to be done with the wild horses there are way to many.
	I have seen a significant increase in predators over the past few years in Nevada and consider them to be the greatest threat to the mule deer population. I have taken up predator calling as a sport and would be happy to participate with the NDOW in any of their predator management activities.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Predators	<p>I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETITION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks &amp; does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. . . .</p>
	<p>If we have a buck to doe ratio that has too many bucks don't shoot more does when a rancher has to many bulls for the cows he has he gets more cows We can't shoot our breed stock. Letting these wild fires burn out of control before they start fighting them is stupid. We're burning up our habitat. I know what it was like in the 60's &amp; 70's our managment sucks and there was alot of hunters then. you could drive here &amp; buy tags over the counties. I hear there is supost to be more hunters now than then and thats bull shit. Wise management is our problem. Too many predatures also.</p>
	<p>I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retricted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum requirements for taking a buck.</p>
	<p>I have only had 1 tag in Nevada, in 2005. I harvested, and I had a great time in the 21/2 weeks I hunted. I really like the Nevada overpasses and underpasses that allow Deer to cross highways. Predators are a BIG problem and the Deerhave to many!. States such as Oregon and California that don't allow dogs for hunting are not helping Nevada's predator populations. Thank you</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Predators	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what as happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVISTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk an antelope hears are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illenesses thay seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to dowith how they have been managed but like many hunters we just dont know. Our deer hears have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitate loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations becuse of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer hears in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen teir state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great sate based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the hears. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDEDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>I normally hunt in area 033 and 032 and seems as if there are a lot of predators in the area with a lower amount of deer.</p>
	<p>I hear so much hype about predators being the cause of our deer issues and wonder where these people if educated got their parchment. i see more damage by highways, shed hunters, fences, lack of moisture, oss of habitat, take Spring Creek and parts of Elko, prime mule deer habitat, being destroyed for economical gain. And the big one- Mining, it may work for Nevada BUT it sure doesn't work for Nevada's wildlife.....</p>
	<p>I moved away in 2001 I moved back 2010, My wife and I put in for a tag in 2013 but was not successful. we spend a lot of time in the hills and don't see the deer like back in the past, I think predators have a lot to do with the lack of deer and to many ags sold. I think out for state tags should not be sold for 5yars to try to get the deer hard back, some people think it is about the money, I don't think that is it at all, I hope not.</p>
	<p>get rid of the wild horses!!(MUSTANGS?) they are not part of the natural ecosystem of north america any longer,they destroy resources needed by big and small game and provide predators (MOUNTAIN LIONS IN PARTICULAR ) a means to maintain higher than norml populations</p>
	<p>Coyotes and Mountain Lions are also a min contributor to the loss of Mule Deer. There are so many Coyotes that the rabbit population is almost gone. Thus, predators must feed on something else. Even when the winter is good and many fawns are born in Spring, they are subject to hungry catsand coyotes. In years past, Jack Rabbits were everywhere. Now you hardly see any. I would support a management plan to reduce the numbers of Coyotes and Mountain Lions which should allow the rabbit population to increase and reduce the pressure on nely born deer and elk. I believe the low numbers of deer we now see are due to a lower than normal survival rate of fawns. I see signs of big cats and many coyotes most areas that i hunt in. This coupled with the competition and distraction caused b Wild Horses lends to an easy take by hungry predators.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Predators	for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and opportunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability o get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I prefer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for eveyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed
	Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitt loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife recourses. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife mangement for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, te question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. W rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.
	I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.
	From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the poeple whotold me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approveof the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!
	I think predator, Mountain Loin in particular are a big issue and harvest numbers and quotas need to increase greatly.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Predators	<p>I feel there are far to many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking woul not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count. Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for foo with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. Whats wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previousl were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nevada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire.sk more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memor able hunt.</p>
	<p>To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fai to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada boarder with California due to California's non mangement of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to kee those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . . sincerely . . .</p>
	<p>I would like to see an increase in predator control and a decrease in overall tag numbers. A shorter season wouldnt be a bad thing. The wild horses NEED to be kept at or below AML. I would like to see NDOW look at grazing as a very beneficial habitat management program.</p>
	<p>Deer numbers have dropped drastically which is obvious. Nevada needs to get a handle on it in my opinion. Predators, poaching, and tag numbers need to be addressed badly. This survey needs re-writing. A lot of the questions are very hard to understand and vague. Contradicting. You almost need a bachelors degree to decipher some of the questions.</p>
	<p>I lived in Boise from 1999 to 2007 I also hunted I don't want to offend anyone one but Idaho reintroduce the wolfs which was a mistake as everyone knows. I hope Idaho has learn from that mistake and Nevada and Idaho will work together improving hunting coditions and mule deer populations. Thanks.</p>
Quality	<p>As a sportsman I believe most hunters would embrace the quality of a hunt rather than the quantity of times they get to hunt. It is not an enjoyable experience to run into multiple hunting parties on every hilltop you hike or 4wd road you drive on. We wai too long for these tags only to have our hopes crushed by too many hunters in the area. This is forcing hunters into the overpriced hands of guide services. Don't let hunting become a rich mans only sport.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Quality	I apply for hunts in many western states each year. I seek quality hunting experiences with the opportunity to see mature game animals. Many times I apply for points only and have a long term hunting plan. When I do apply for a mule deer hunt in the future, I will have several points and will try to convince a hunting buddy to join my application as a party, so we can travel to Nevada and have a quality hunt. It's perfectly acceptable for me to apply for many years and gain points before drawing a tag if the payoff is a quality hunting experience.
	When we first started hunting Nevada (1988) it was relatively easy and hunting was fabulous. I got (a 32" spread the first year). Every year since it has been harder to get drawn and the # of quality bucks seen has gone down while the # of hunters seems to be increasing. That said, Nevada still has great hunting. I would rather be drawn every 3-4 years and have the quality of hunting improve.
	I appreciate the efforts of NDOW, but I am concerned with the dramatic increase in tags 2 years ago. I would prefer fewer hunt opportunities and fewer hunters on the hill. I also am discouraged with all the atv hunters. I would prefer to hunt areas without them.
	If hunter numbers would decrease and quality of hunts would increase I would not have a problem if some areas were designated an every other year status whereby a person could not draw that area every year. This could be done statewide in that you would have to wait to reapply for a deer tag like you do if you draw an antelope tag (5 years), but make it 1 year. I also believe it would be nice to increase the number of areas offering a late archery tag. In areas 10 and 7 where this has been done success remains low (10% or so) but many people have an opportunity to hunt. By giving out more late season archery tags you would reduce the amount of hunters applying for rifle hunts. I also believe NDOW should limit the number of nonhunters on hunts. It is getting ridiculous when you draw an elk tag and you see 20 people in your area. One has a tag and the rest are scouting, attempting to secure roads to areas and being a royal pain. If you give out 100 elk tags in an area you have 500 people there with 400 or even hunting. Silly. Make them stay in camp!
	I think a quality hunt is better with less people in the field. I like the way Nevada used to do it small number of tags. I know a lot of sportsmen complained about not drawing tags. But I would rather wait a year or two to have a better quality hunt. If raising more money is what they are trying to do I would rather pay more for a lower number of tags. I would also like to share that in the field this year I witnessed a coyote taking down a fawn. I have to think that if I witnessed it happening that it happens a lot more than people think. Thank you for getting the opinions from the sportsmen.
	we use to put in for party of 2 or more but that makes a party of 5 not very likely to draw. Now we put in a party of 2. Takes 5-6 yr's to get drawn. Me + my son had 6 pt's a piece...146 got drawn for our 5th choice at 1752. I feel the real stuff is the resident hunter, that has to draw. If you want to get a Bonus pt. It should be a smaller fee not you lil every year at \$142.00 Over all we enjoy our hunts in Nevada it just takes too long to draw even with bonus pt's. I grew up in Pennsylvania, so I am by no means an expert on mule deer hunting. When starting out, I depended on the advice and strategies of friends from my home town of Fallon. I feel that I've become as proficient (or more) of a mule deer hunter than considerable amount of my acquaintances and friends due to my commitment to the sport. I've made the sacrifices to acquire the best optics (Swarovski) available in my pursuit of mule deer. I thoroughly enjoy to glass game, which I feel is essential to success. Also, I've made it a point to scout various areas, during several seasons state wide. I've seen some very nice bucks here in Nevada, but have only acquired two tags in my eight years of residency (Not harvesting in 08, but killing a very nice 5X4 in 2012). This does not bother me, since I realize that there are only a finite amount of available resources in comparison to the hunters in the draw. I enjoyed taking this survey, and it supports my thinking of NDOW going the extra mile for hunters and wildlife.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Quality	I prefer to trophy hunt mule deer but some years go with family and friends and the opportunity to see and get a shot at any buck is important to the quality of the hunt. Seeing deer is important when teaching hunting to young hunters. I often apply fr local hunting as a party with my very senior father and must road hunt with him so again. Getting him a shot opportunity is important, then I will return alone to trophy hunt. I Apply for and hunt all Nevada species when I draw a tag.
	I hunted the Pole Creek area for deer and elk most of October this year and the number of cow elk hunters (300) concentrated in that short time span seriously affected both deer and elk hunting. Most of the elk moved into the wilderness and the deer wereextremely flighty. As a result, I am not in favor of pushing too many hunters into a small area. It seriously changes the hunting experience and probably the harvest success rates in my opinion.
	Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough usiness. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, t completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landownersare getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a rophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be ableto hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with te money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.
	i would like to have the system set up to where if you draw a tag you are not able to reapply for that same species of tag for one yr. the hunting area's are over ran with hunters and harvesting quality animals has drastically reduced. I feel ohv should b used for game retrieval only. Year after year you see people pull several tags. I feel a person should be limited to two tags a yr. I fell the number one problem with hunting in nevada is there are to many hunters.
	I started hunting deer in 1989. Deer everywhere in area 8. Hunted in area 8 the following year and what a difference. Not many deer. I have always enjoyed hunting no-matter what the conditions have been. Nev. is a special place to hunt. To hunt special plces there has to be some sacrifice, like waiting a year or two to hunt it.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drastically. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.
	Mule deer huntingi n Nevada has been on the decline over the last 10 yrs.! I believe the lion population may be somewhat responsible as well as forage change and POACHING I don't htink the Nevada fish and game comission is doing a very good job, it's too political they need some input from ranchers, cowboys and sheep herders who LIVE in the areas!

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Quality	<p>Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitat loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife resources. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife management for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, the question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. We rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.</p>
	<p>From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the people who told me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approve of the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!</p>
	<p>Some specific concerns I have as a hunter is that if population numbers increase to the point where more animals should be harvested (based on survey data), the answer is not always as simple as increasing tags but keeping the same season structures. In some areas in Nevada, roads are limited and the terrain is rough and more tags results in more people out hunting however there are still only the same amount of accessible areas to hunt. This results in intense pressure on the animals that are accessible and pressure can move these animals into areas where the average hunter cannot access them and overall success rates decline. This is especially true for cow elk hunts and in some areas, pronghorn and mule deer hunts. The harvest objectives may not be reached or they may be reached but the overall quality of animals harvested goes down and the experience quality goes down. A season structure such as Colorado which runs 4 shorter seasons can provide more hunting opportunities and more harvest but not have overcrowding issues that plague states that run two longer seasons with roughly the same amount of tags. The other advantage is that the number of tags can be reduced in the seasons that generally correspond to favorable weather conditions to provide</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Quality	<p>Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!</p>
	<p>I feel there are far to many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking woul not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count.Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for foo with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the oppportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. Whats wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previousl were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nvada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire.sk more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memor able hunt.</p>
	<p>It just keeps getting worse</p>
	<p>Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed hunting Mule Deer in Nevada for many, many years. I was born in Nevada and grew up hunting mule deer there. I think NDOW does a great job at managing the deer herds. Of course, I wish my hunting partners (life-long frien, and our sons) could draw a tag more regularly and predictably, but when we do get a tag, we enjoy the quality of our hunt immensely. Low hunter density and reasonably good chances at success are important to us.</p>
	<p>I wish I had more ideas about how to mintain the high quality of our hunt, and yet increase our success rate in drawing a tag among our small group. Please keep up your great work.</p>
	<p>Quality hunts are better than quantity. If people want to camp and drink beer, they can go fishing.</p>
	<p>As a native Nevadan &amp; a life long bow hunter I must say it is a privilege to hunt big game in Nevada! The quality of animals on our public land is unmatched. (lets keep it that way). I would like to see more oppportunity for us bow hunters to hunt during the rut in trophy areas, not all of us like our game bedding down by 8:30 am.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Quality	I think that the harvest of does is absolutely NOT necessary. I don't believe that any of the mule deer areas I am familiar with are approaching a large limiting factor such as summer or winter range capacities. The deer numbers have been down since the 92-93 winter loss and have not been allowed to come back because there are too many deer being harvested. I would wait as long as necessary to get a deer tag, if I knew that when I draw there would be a significant amount older age class bucks in the population to harvest, that is a quality experience to me not killing for the sake of killing.
	Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may start with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tags. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectations by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.
	I BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE A POINT RESTRICTION IN NEVADA LIKE 3 POINT OR BIGGER ON DEER TO HELP HAVE QUALITY AGE CLASS
Seasons	to me the long bow season is very well but the rifle season is a little long for some area in Nevada
	I would like to see Nevada have 6 to 10 units managed for trophy bucks with later hunt dates and fewer tags like the strip and kiabab in Arizona. I also think you should only be able to hunt one buck per year whether you draw the tag or buy a land owner tag. Also they should not overlap hunts such as a buck deer hunt and a cow elk hunt in the same unit at the same time. Such as an early archery elk tag and a rifle cow hunt and a muzzle loader deer hunt as is the case in unit 222 when it takes 10 to 15 years to draw a good tag. ALL cow elk and doe deer hunts should never take place the same time as your antlered hunts this puts too many hunters in the unit at the same time. If your goal is to take cows and does out for management purposes then December and January would be much better and they would have a higher success rate without interfering with hard to draw tags!!
	I believe that Residents of Nevada should have priority on all tags and seasons over Non-Residents. It seems that NDOW is more concerned about the revenue produced through the sale of Non-Resident tags and licenses. There should be trophy areas with reduced tags to allow for more mature bucks.
	I do like the season structure and the length of the seasons, as it gives the hunter a lot of opportunity and time to be in the field.
	I have only drawn a NV tag every 11 yrs since I began applying. I do not like the "split seasons".
	This survey is geared towards resident hunters. As a non-resident hunter I have very slim draw odds for tags in Nevada thanks to Harry Reid. I do not have the access to public land tags for hunting that residents do. Most non-resident hunters tend to be more trophy hunters than residents do. Non-resident hunters go to great expense to hunt out of their state. It usually limits their ability to take many family and friends along for the experience. Non-resident hunters are good cash flow for the game departments as they pay much higher license fees as well as the communities they stay in while hunting. As a non-resident hunter, I, as well as most others, can only afford to be gone from home and work for a week or two to hunt. Longer seasons are not aimed at non-resident hunters but resident hunters.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Seasons	<p>I have been hunting deer in NV for over 30 years now. I have never seen it so difficult to draw a tag, as I have not drawn in over 4 years applying for archery and muzzleloader. When I go out hunting with friends, we see three to four times as many hunter than deer, and this is in areas where I have been very successful in 10, 20, and 30 years ago. I think the split seasons (early and late) have caused a negative impact to the quality of deer hunting. The small town locals (where some of the best hunting se to be) do not stand a very good chance at even drawing a tag anymore, when trying to compete with the number of applicants from Vegas and Reno. They have completely flooded our areas, and most of them don't have a clue of what they are doing in the fied.</p>
	<p>If hunter numbers would decrease and quality of hunts would increase I would not have a problem if some areas were designated an every other year status whereby a person could not draw that area every year. This could be done statewide in that you would hve to wait to reapply for a deer tag like you do if you draw an antelope tag (5 years), but make it 1 year. I also believe it would be nice to increase the number of areas offering a late archery tag. In areas 10 and 7 where this has been done successremains low (10% or so) but many people have an opportunity to hunt. By giving out more late season archery tags you would reduce the amount of hunters applying for rifle hunts. I also believe NDOW should limit the number of nonhunters on hunts. It is etting ridiculous when you draw an elk tag and you see 20 people in your area. One has a tag and the rest are scouting, attempting to secure roads to areas and being a royal pain. If you give out 100 elk tags in an area you have 500 people there with 400 ot even hunting. Silly. Make them stay in camp!</p>
	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>
	<p>1.Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw units to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion. 10.Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11.Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12.Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Seasons	season is to early season should be later when it is cooler and should be longer
	Allow more areas for OHVS. Most hunters around the ago of 40 cannot climb up + down the mountains in the wilderness areas. WHEN I talk to game officials for info the answer is always climb the mountain + get off the ATV. I view this as discrimination appantly NEV. wants guideservice for all hunts driving costs thru the roof. Maybe we should all have Horses. \$ The seasons for any legal weapon need to be in NOV. with all your other hunts, the traffic just moves the deer out of the area. NDOW needs to police there area's (#10) ranchers post hunting areas with are not. I know they chain off road illegally and nothing is ever done. Nevada needs to work/help everyday people hunt and enjoy it.
	stop cramming hunters into shorter seasons! have more 2x2 or spiked hunts to lesson the pressure on more mature bucks. in areas where you don't see many big bucks rotate hunts on 4x4 only one season and 2x2 or spiked hunts two seasons that allows more bigbucks to mature in those areas and make larger hunt units to spread hunters out more and longer seasons that insures better success!!!! and why we can't use crossbows for bow hunts and scopes on black powder it just makes greater success /// we want succes to control pop. better other states have great success with these
	Please have more trophy hunts (late seasons) with a few tags to ease the number of first choice applicants. Then people like myself will have more time to hunt and still have mature deer. Lower the price of non resident tags so rich people are not the onl ones hunting! There are still some real hunters left. You are pricing us out!
	I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and i don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.
	It would be nice to see hunts spread more through out the fall into winter. It would also be nice to see less hunters in the areas we hunt. It also would be nice to see seasons start later in the year.
	The biggest problem right now with mule deer hunting is all the seasons running together. This year I was hunting deer with bow, cow and I think musket elk hunters. You can shoot a cow or doe anytime, why could a trophy hunt with those hunts. Also season need to be later all around because it's too warm and there's not even a hint of rut going on.
	I do not like the policy of only having one weekend in a hunting season. Weekends are the only time most hunters can get away from work to go hunting. It lowers hunter success rates and only raises more money from tags, gives your group more money to spend on more surveys.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Seasons	I prefer to hunt in a certain geographic area of the State and prefer the season to be a month long. I have never had much success with the draw system and resent the way its implementation has ruined my historical hunting experience. I never get to hun as long as I used to and rarely am able to hunt where I want. At times, it seems to me that NDOW is more concerned with selling "Hunting Lottery Tickets" than managing the states game resources.
	I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.
	I would like to see the deer seasons run later in order to avoid the hotter weather and to hunt closer to the rut.
	I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and checkon the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There need to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons ake place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendarr wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is sprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.
	The draws should truly be a random draw and the family and friends of NDOW officers and staff should not have first come first tag privileges. The opportunity should be for everyone not those "privileged" members family and friends. The short seasons of 4 days over crowding the hunting areas is very destructive to the herds and habits and should be reevaluated. Thank you.
	Some specific concerns I have as a hnter is that if population numbers increase to the point where more animals should be harvested (based on suvey data), the answer is not always as simple as increasing tags but keeping the same season structures. In some areas in Nevada, roads are limitedand the terrain is rough and more tags results in more people out hunting however there are still only the same amount of accessible areas to hunt. This results in intense pressure on the animals that are acessible and pressure can move these animals intoareas where the average hunter cannot access them and overall success rates decline. This is especially true for cow elk hunts and in some areas, pronghorn and mule deer hunts. The harvest objectives may not be reached or they may be reached but the overll quality of animals harvested goes down and the experience quality goes down. A season structure such as Colorado which runs 4 shorter seasons can provide more hunting opportunities and more harvest but not have overcrowding issues that plaque states tht run two longer seasons with roughly the same amount of tags. The other advantage is that the number of tags can be reduced in the seasons that generally correspond to favorable weather conditions to provide

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Seasons	<p>Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!</p>
	<p>My main concern is the early season hunt. Last year it was in the 70's during my hunt and there was a hunter on every ridge top. The use of ATV's is outrageous and the people who use them to hunt are ignorant. Example : Last year we were watching a nic buck from a ridge in the next valley that we hiked to off of the main road. A hunter on an ATV drove his ATV up to the ridge (no access road) to see what we were doing. The buck blew out. I bring an ATV with me and use it ONLY if I am sucessful AND eed the ATV to get the meat out. Otherwise the meat is on our backs.</p>
	<p>I very much enjoy my time hunting in Nevada. I hunt in the wilderness of the Ruby Mountains, so a few of your qustions were a little hard for me to answer. The Nevada draw system has given my 2 sons and I a great opporitunity to hunt together without havig to wait for many years to do so. Thank You for that experiance. I also enjoy the length of the archery mule deer season, because I spend much of the time scoping out the deer and making a decision of which one to go after. Without tthe length of the seson you offer this would not be possible.</p>
	<p>I would like to see an increase in predator control and a decrease in overall tag numbers. A shorter season wouldnt be a bad thing. The wild horses NEED to be kept at or below AML. I would like to see NDOW look at grazing as a very beneficial habitat management program.</p>
	<p>Late seasons and few hunters are the best thing about NV. deer hunting. Maybe winter type bowhunting could be added.</p>
	<p>The early season is to woarm with to may tags given out. Need more late season tags. Thanks</p>
	<p>Make the hunt season later in the year. If we do harvest, you have to rush home to avoid spoiling the meat.</p>
Skills	<p>People need to be held responsible for knowing how to PROPERLY break down a deer, keep meat cool and clean.....</p>
	<p>I have hunter unit 222 in the past, and having a wilderness in the zone is a good thing. I am a hard hunter and in good hunting shape. I like going places that other people can't go, or will not go. Maybe have separate drawings to hunt in wilderness ars in some of these units can be a good thing. I think more restrictions of motor vehicles is a good thing.</p>
	<p>Mule Deer hunting is one of my favorite passions. My opinion is that there are tropy mule deer in the mountains but finding them is the hardest part. Good management is a key aspect to good Mule Deer quality, but diligence and good hunting skills are fa more important in finding a quality mule deer. Late season hunts are the best way to find bigger Bucks. Offer more late hunts and bigger bucks will be easier to find.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Skills	<p>My family loves to have the privilege to hunt in Nevada, but wish the draw system gave more opportunities to adults and youth for receiving a tag. We are not big trophy hunters, but do our best to use skills to find a mature buck. It is more important to ave the experience in the field with my family yearly than to always harvest. I wish more hunters were more respectful to other hunters, the habitat, and the wildlife in the field.</p>
	<p>Mule deer is my favorite game animal species. I love Nevada and enjoy hunting here. My greatest thrill is to be out in the wilds and to see deer who have not yet seen me and to observe them in their natural state. I was so proud of myself last fall tosneek into an area and find four does which had not seen me. However as I glassed further, I found 11 others that were already focused on me....Aaargh!</p>
	<p>I wish that NDOW would require a license for all hunting opportunities. It would seem there is a lost opportunity for income by not requiring this of people hunting coyotes. It would also make it safer by insuring everyone completed a hunter safety course As other states have already done, we should give consideration to the use of sound suppression for big game hunting. It is a safety issue. the sudden sonic boom of a 300 win mag is deafening. Though many areas have great access, some areas have retracted access due to mining claims. claim owners should not cut off public access during hunting season. There should be more focus on predation. Lion hunts have a very low success rate. Perhaps one of greatest improvements we could make for our deer eard would be to change the classification of Mountain Lion to unprotcted species. Same as coyotes. Personally, I wish folks would let spikes and forks walk. Perhaps we could change the minimum requirements for taking a buck.</p>
	<p>we use to put in for party of 2 or more but that makes a party of 5 not very likley to draw. Now we put in a party of 2. Takes 5-6 yr's to get drawn. Me + my son had 6 pt's a peice...146 got drawn for our 5th choice at 1752. I feel the real stuff is the resident hunter, thats has to draw. If you want to get a Bonus pt. It should be a smaller fee not you lil every year at \$142.00 Over all we enjoy our hunts in Nevada it just takes to long to draw even with bonus pt's. I grew up in Pennsylvania, so I am by no means an expert on mule deer hunting. When starting out, I depended on the advice and strategies of friends from my home town of Fallon. I feel that I've become as proficient (or more) of a mule deer hunter than considerable amount of my acquaintances and friends due to my commitment to the sport. I've made the sacrifices to aquire the best optics (Swarovski) available in my pursuit of mule deer. I thouroughly enjoy to glass game, which I feel is ensential to sucess. Also, I've made it a point to scout various areas, during several seasons state wide. I've seen some very nice bucks here in Nevada, but have only aquired two tags in my eight years of residency (Not havesting in 08, but killing a very nice 5X4 n 2012). This does not bother me, since I realize that there are only a finite amount of available resources in comparison to the hunters in the draw. I enjoyed taking this survey, and it supports my thinking of NDOW going the extra mile for hunters andwildlife.</p>
	<p>I have been hunting since I was a young child. My family and I begin plan our hunting trips yearly and bring many family members with us to teach them about hunting safely, the area, and how to properly take care of a harvested animal. This is a family radition we have. We are not a family that looks for the biggest deer, we mainly care about clean shots and the overall experience of hunting.</p>
	<p>I think the mule deer have been managed well so far. It is important for me and my family to draw our tags every year because this is our main meat source for the year that feeds us. It also is our only vacation time and teaching our children values andrespect. It is critical that we draw together so that we can take the time off to hunt since it would be too expensive to have several different hunts.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Skills	<p>The primary goal of NDOW or any other conservation organization is to successfully harvest animals to keep herd quantities in check. It has been my experience that when I draw a tag closer to my house (within 2 hours to camp) I am able to do far more i-depth preseason scouting. When I have been able to scout for at least as many days as I hunt I have had great success. I guess my comment is that if there is someway you could provide tags in the draw area they apply for that is closest to the zip coe of the applicant (out of the 5 options they have provided), not based off of preference how it is currently set up, then hunters would likely have more time to scout and have a more successful end result. Thank you for this survey, I think it is grea that you guys care about conservation as much we care about hunting.</p>
	<p>The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the seconday sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issuetags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Mayb start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.</p>
	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and ho 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone i the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hnter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the inority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I typically trophy hunt for mule deer most of the season. If I haven't had any success in harvesting a trophy buck before the last couple days I have to hunt, I do my best to harvest any legal buck for the meat. My son is currently a toddler, but I look frward to teaching him about wildlife and hunting.</p>
Success	<p>I became interested in Nevada Mule deer hunting in the late 70's. I have applied many many times and have drew last choice archery tags in 2000 &amp; 2001. In 2013, I finally drew an any weapon tag, it was my last choice. Access to public land were blocked by so called land owners. High number of hunter were confined to limited areas, decreasng success rates. My thoughts are should I ever apply again or buy a trophy tag from a land owner?</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Success	<p>To whom it may concern, In regards to deer hunters in Nevada. Most do not venture more than 2 miles from any road even those accessible by atv's. There are very nice deer in Nevada, hunters just need to get out and hunt that in itself is why hunters fail to fill tags. As far as predators coyotes and bobcats are not an issue here in Nevada towards deer populations. Mountain lions populations on the other hand I have seen explode along the northern Nevada boarder with California due to California's non management of lion populations. With that the deer have taken a beating from this. As well the "normal" Nevada droughts and wild fires, and the non live stock on open ranges burros and feral horses. The state might try a horse or burro season, in order to keep those numbers in check. feel free to contact me at . . . sincerely . . .</p>
	<p>Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed hunting Mule Deer in Nevada for many, many years. I was born in Nevada and grew up hunting mule deer there. I think NDOW does a great job at managing the deer herds. Of course, I wish my hunting partners (life-long friend, and our sons) could draw a tag more regularly and predictably, but when we do get a tag, we enjoy the quality of our hunt immensely. Low hunter density and reasonably good chances at success are important to us.</p>
	<p>I wish I had more ideas about how to maintain the high quality of our hunt, and yet increase our success rate in drawing a tag among our small group. Please keep up your great work.</p>
	<p>The last two years have been a disappointment for myself and others. The reason I believe is because of the amount of tags which are too many. Hunting seems to be a "rich man's sport" anymore, Nevada has been known to be a great state to hunt because of the success people have, but if we keep putting out the large amount of tags that will not last for long! Many people I've talked to would rather have less tags and a higher chance of success even if it means not drawing a tag every year. Thank you for the opportunity to let myself and other fellow hunters express our options!!</p>
Survey	<p>It should be noted that this was the first year that I applied for a tag. I have a relative in Nevada and put in with him and his group. I was notified that that I had not been drawn for the fall of 2013. I've never received nor filled out a hunter survey that I did not participate in the hunt. As a former research biologist, I know the importance of accuracy. I did not notice any comment or question if I had even been drawn or declined. I answered all questions best I could without having any experience in NV. I guess I am just assuming you would want information from hunters that have actually participated in a Mule deer hunt in NV otherwise there would be a section to indicate such information. Good Luck, but ya'll did elect Harry Reid</p>
	<p>I tried to take this survey on-line but after several attempts I could still not get the address you provided to work. So thanks for sending one in the mail. We need to come up with a solution to the OHV problem there is during hunting seasons and shed antler hunting months. These people make unwanted roads and drive OHVs anywhere they want. It's really upsetting to hike for hours into a place you know has no roads to get to where you want and have two or three four wheelers parked on the ridge above you. Also people running herds of deer until their tongues are hanging out with OHVs during February and March trying to find shed antlers. (Harrison Pass) sorry for the gripe, but had to get it off my chest! Thanks.</p>
	<p>Q23 asks about length of antlers. Not sure what you are asking. Length of a tine? Then 8" or so per tine is a nice buck. Length of all tines and main beams? 120" is a nice buck. Length of main beams only? 40" total would be a nice buck. Re Q23, I think most hunters would be confused by this portion of Q23 but the last portion of the question re P&amp;Y or B&amp;C inches will be something most hunters can quantify. 160 is a nice buck with 190 and above a very nice buck.</p>
	<p>I tried to get on your website four different times and never found any survey to fill out. Called to get information, got no response for a while.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Survey	Some of the questions in this survey are difficult to answer because my answers change depending on the area in Nevada. Some areas in my opinion are have lower success rates but give more tags, other areas give fewer tags but have more trophy deer. I likehaving trophy areas as well as areas where I can get a tag more often because it lets me choose what kind of experience I want. If I just want to get a tag and get out there with my sons, I have that option. But, if I am looking for a trophy buck I don't ind taking a few years for a chance. The one question that was not asked was about the junior hunts in Nevada. My sons are too young to hunt now but I think it has become harder to draw a junior tag. My nephew has 3 points and has not drawn out since he sarterd putting in. I think youth should have a better chance to draw out in Nevada than they currently do.
	Thank you for your help in this matter. Mule deer hunting is very important to me and this is a resource that I do not want to see go away.
	The primary goal of NDOW or any other conservation organization is to successfully harvest animals to keep herd quantities in check. It has been my experience that when I draw a tag closer to my house (within 2 hours to camp) I am able to do far more i-depth preseason scouting. When I have been able to scout for at least as many days as I hunt I have had great success. I guess my comment is that if there is someway you could provide tags in the draw area they apply for that is closest to the zip coe of the applicant (out of the 5 options they have provided), not based off of preference how it is currently set up, then hunters would likely have more time to scout and have a more successful end result. Thank you for this survey, I think it is grea that you guys care about conservation as much we care about hunting.
	I would like to thank you people for doing this survey I hope it help to get our mule deer back in perspective for good hunting in the state. (thanks)
	I look forward to next years hunt. Thank you for randomly selecting me to take part in the survey.
	I'm sorry their was one question I didn't answer because I can't remember the last time I harvested a muledeer in nevada I have to look it up on the ndow website. But in the thirty some years that I have drawn I've enjoyed every hunt .I hope my input hlp.
	Please note that some of the answers provided for questions were not exactly how I would have liked to answer. In five years of applying I have received two tags. I have not harvested a deer yet, bummer... The other years I have gotten to go because myson drew a tag! It has been a very fun time ! I hope to get a deer some time soon, so I will continue to apply for tags. Thank you NDOW for all the hard you guys do!
	I hope this helps out!
	One of the initial questions ask the primary weapon when "applying" for tags. I answered with "any legal weapon." However, I have only been drawn for archery (6 times in total). Also, I mistakenly checked that I hunted in 2012 for mule deer; that hun was for pronghorn.
	Deer numbers have dropped drastically which is obvious. Nevada needs to get a handle on it in my opinion. Predators, poaching, and tag numbers need to be addressed badly. This survey needs re-writing. A lot of the questions are very hard to understand andvague. Contradicting. You almost need a bachelors degree to decipher some of the questions.
	This survey seemed to long.
	Thank you for sending me this paper application because I am not very computer savvy.
Tags	I am a Nevada, lander county resident for 24 years. And I have been putting in for mule deer tags for around 22 years. I have been able to draw 5 tags. I know people from Utah and California that have been putting in for tags for around 11 years an have got any were from 7 to 11 tags. That is wrong in all sort of ways. And I know of residents that draw every single year. I don't know how the draw is done. But its not random luck. Ndown or who ever can say what they will. But bull crude. I don't wantmy kid to go through this same fate. And it makes it real hard to support any

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	thing with these results. Would love to have more opportunities. And change the way I fill about helping again.
Tags	I would Like to see Nevada have 6 to 10 units managed for trophy bucks with later hunt dates and fewer tags like the strip and kiabab in arizona. I also think you should only be able to hunt one buck per year whether you draw the tag or buy a land owner ag, Also they should not over lap hunts such as a buck deer hunt and a cow elk hunt in the same unit at the same time. such as an early archery elk tag and a rifle cow hunt and a muzzle loader deer hunt as is the case in unit 222 when it takes 10 t 15 years to draw a good tag, ALL cow elk and doe deer hunts should never take place the same time as your antlered hunts this puts to many hunters in the unit at the same time. If your goal is to take cows and does out for management purposes then deember and jan would be much better and they would have a higher success rate without interfering with hard to draw tags!!
	I have hunted in Nevada on and off for twenty years, and have had a great experiences. Your management has been above all others, and your passion for quality and not just trying to use tags and licenses to balance the states budget is refreshing. The cos of your Mule Deer tags and your license fees are affordable and your Elk management is incredible, with the opportunity to harvest a 400 class bull. Keep up the good work, and by sending this survey shows me that you guys actually want feed back from spotsmen. And that's peeks volumes. Thank you
	I've enjoyed many season of hunting and going with friends & family. Mule deer, Antelope & Elk. in 2012 I was able to draw a bull Elk tag "Area 221-222" ely. I 'am the most surprised @ the trophy Elk. I think you do a great job. I would love to get more tgs, but I understand the need for hunter conservation and try to make the most of my oppertunetes.Keep up the good work. noNon-residentresident
	i am a disabled hunter (wheelchair) i hunt from my 4 wheeler or jeep when allowed. i have dreamed of harvesting a big muledeer but have not ever drawn a tag.
	I believe that Residents of Nevada should have priority on all tags and seasons over Non-Residents. It seems that NDOW is more concerned about the revenue produced through the sale of Non-Resident tags and licenses. There should be trophy areas with redced tags to allow for more mature bucks.
	I have only actually had one tag in the last 10 years or so, but I religiously hunt mule deer on an annual basis. The lack of mature animals that are being harvested let alone seen is very concerning. I am glad the state is stating to do something, but I m afraid you are starting too late to save NV's quality mule deer hunting.
	Hunting deer in Nevada with my bow is the highlight of my year; nearly every year. I have drawn a Nevada archery tag in all but one year in the last 20+ years. Do not make Nevada like Utah with tons of hunters; keep the quality.
	It should be noted that this was the first year that I applied for a tag. I have a relative in Nevada and put in with him and his group. I was notified that that I had not been drawn for the fall of 2013. I've never received nor filled out a hunter surveythat I did not participate in the hunt. As a former research biologist, I know the importance of accuracy. I did not notice any comment or question if I had even been drawn or declined. I answered all questions best I could without having any experience i NV. I guess I am just assuming you would want information from hunters that have actually participated in a Mule deer hunt in NV otherwise there would be a section to indicate such information. Good Luck, but ya'll did elect Harry Reid

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it has during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immature bucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other hunters during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bucks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas have premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Western United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until they gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.</p>
	<p>as of last year Nevada would only let non residents apply as a group for one limited entry species together. I would like to apply for all species as a group ( where tags are available ) This would help reduce the number of non tag holders in the field.</p>
	<p>I tried several times to use website, it would not come up The area we applied for in 2013, the draw odds were 1,200 to 1</p>
	<p>As a non-resident participating in the lottery drawings for tags I suggest that the bonus/preference point programs have long run their course and have morphed into essentially Ponzi schemes to various degrees. There is no logical reason that a person who has applied in the past should receive any credit or advantage, no matter how small, over someone who is applying for the first time. The only fair drawing structure is one in which all participants have the same chance in each drawing as all other participants. This approach also encourages participation of the greatest number of applicants which is key to maintaining the largest pool of interest in the sport. On another note the small allotment of tags to non-residents (on Federal lands especially) is also discouraging participation in the hunting sports contributing to a slow death of the heritage. License and tag programs need to be structured to elevate interest and encourage, not discourage, the greatest numbers of ongoing participants. Financial disincentives within the drawing application process such as the requirement to buy an advance license to apply or build points (which again, should be eliminated anyway) also reduce participation, ultimately.</p>
	<p>I have not had an opportunity to hunt Mule deer in NV yet. I have been trying to draw out for one of the more highly sought after tags in some of the units that are considered "trophy" type units. I will wait to hunt NV when I draw, what I feel, is a trophy unit Then I will hunt Nevada.</p>
	<p>I apply for hunts in many western states each year. I seek quality hunting experiences with the opportunity to see mature game animals. Many times I apply for points only and have a long term hunting plan. When I do apply for a mule deer hunt in the future, I will have several points and will try to convince a hunting buddy to join my application as a party, so we can travel to Nevada and have a quality hunt. It's perfectly acceptable for me to apply for many years and gain points before drawing a tag if the payoff is a quality hunting experience.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer popu
	I've been putting in for over 10 years and haven't yet drawn a tag. We even buy licenses to get points
	I have only drawn a NV tag every 11 yrs since I began applying. I do not like the "split seasons".
	While I have applied for several years, I have not drawn a tag yet so have never actually hunted in Nevada. I have hunted in Idaho for the past 40+ years except for a year in Montana (1975) and Colorado (1985). I have lived in and hunted in Colorado for te last 2 years since retirement.
	Lower amount of OUT OF STATE NON RESIDENT TAGS!
	I drew a deer tag in 2013 for unit 081. I applied for this unit because it was a Dec/Jan hunt I wasted 12 points on this hunt thinking it was a trophy area. It was not! Seen over 400 deer but all doe + 2 or 3 yr old bucks seen lots of elk but no good bucks scouted 4 days prior to season, then hunted 10 days. I dont mind not getting or seeing trophy deer, but it should not be advertised as such I wasted 12 year of applying :(
	My family loves to have the privilege to hunt in Nevada, but wish the draw system gave more opportunities to adults and youth for receiving a tag. We are not big trophy hunters, but do our best to use skills to find a mature buck. It is more important to ave the experience in the field with my family yearly than to always harvest. I wish more hunters were more respectful to other hunters, the habitat, and the wildlife in the field.
	I am a 68 year old native Nevadan. I have applied for an Elk tag for 18 years. No success. Long time residents over 65 with eight years or more of appling should be put in a special catagory. Where recieving a tag is greatly improved.
	When we first started hunting Nevada (1988) it was relatively easy and hunting was fabulous. I got (a 32" spread the first year). Every year since it has been harder to get drawn and the # of quality bucks seen has gone down while the # of hunters seems t be increasing. That said, Nevada still has great hunting. I would rather be drawn every 3-4 years and have the quality of hunting improve.
	6+ years is to long to go with out a deer tag when you put in every year. A lot of people would find something else to do. Nevada Blm and NDOW should break out the old ely chain and get going on some habitat work. We have a lot of catching up to do. It wuld help our deer populations more than anything. Feral horse (I refuse to call them wild) reduction would go a long ways too.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>I have enjoyed my hunting experiences in Nevada. There are 4 of us who apply every year. We do not apply as a group because if some body draws a tag we all go hunting. I have only drawn a deer tag 5 times since 1996, but have hunted about 8 or 9 times because my buddies have drawn when I didn't. I have hunted area 16,13,15,10 and 7. The reason we hunt Nevada is because the hunting pressure is so light. A guy can actually spot and stalk a nice buck without other hunters screwing it up. I have spent many days afield hunting in those areas and haven't seen another hunter. That is why I come back year after year because it is truly hunting. Try to do that in Utah it will not happen. Nevada also has the best draw system for big game in the western United States. I enjoy trophy hunting with no hunting pressure and that means if I only draw a deer tag every 3 to 5 years I am ok with that because when I do draw it means I have a chance at a trophy deer.</p>
	<p>I have been hunting deer in NV for over 30 years now. I have never seen it so difficult to draw a tag, as I have not drawn in over 4 years applying for archery and muzzleloader. When I go out hunting with friends, we see three to four times as many hunters than deer, and this is in areas where I have been very successful in 10, 20, and 30 years ago. I think the split seasons (early and late) have caused a negative impact to the quality of deer hunting. The small town locals (where some of the best hunting is to be) do not stand a very good chance at even drawing a tag anymore, when trying to compete with the number of applicants from Vegas and Reno. They have completely flooded our areas, and most of them don't have a clue of what they are doing in the field.</p>
	<p>I believe that wildfires have taken a large amount of habitat in Nevada some areas more than others. The BLM's lack of managing the wild horse, burros and range cattle in Nevada has taken a toll on the habitat and has to be monitored closer. The tag ratio to deer in a lot of areas are way off. I drew area 181-184 and so did my grandson I seen a total of 13 deer 2 small 2 point bucks 11 does and fawns this area had over 300 tags given out. Not only did I not see deer I didn't see a lot of sign even in good habitat areas. I was not the only hunter that made this observation and I spent a lot of time hunting and scouting. I am not a fan of depuration doe hunts or doe hunts all together except for the youth hunts. I also believe that money is a driven factor in this equation. The NDOW only receives a small amount of support from the state. The rest of their budget comes from hunting and fishing licenses and grant money from the federal government. Thank God for sportsman groups such as Wild sheep, Mule deer and Elk and chucker foundations NDOW may have more financial problems. If the federal government wants to control so much they should help more. DON'T YOU THINK???</p>
	<p>I feel you have too many auction tags and or raffle tags. It seems difficult for a non-resident to draw and not sure I favor the non-resident guide draw. It once again favors the individuals with more money. All non resident tags should go into same draw. Need to do something about the wild horses and their competition with other wildlife.</p>
	<p>I have wanted to hunt a back country hunt in Nevada for a long time. I have not been able to draw. But I am willing to wait.</p>
	<p>I used to get a mule deer tag every 2 years, now since 2009 when I got a mule deer tag and elk tag, and harvested both, and they both were trophy's and both were mounted from taxidermy, and they both were my first deer harvested in this state of Nevada, actually my first ever harvested, I have not gotten a tag, now I pass on smaller deer here in Nevada for every other hunt. I only hunt trophy mule deer and elk when I do get a tag.. for that being said I talked to the DNON-RESIDENT about this and was told that because I did not buy a license when applying for a tag, and I hit on computer I will only buy a hunting license if I receive a mule deer or elk or antelope tag, I was told my chances were smaller because of this. and that makes no sense to me, why would I buy a license if I am not successful in getting a tag? only other reason for me to buy a Nevada license would be to quail hunt, and I do that maybe every other year. but I do not buy my license until I decide I am going, if for 1 weekend, or for a week.. might be Nov until I buy a tag, and when I do I also purchase a mountain lion tag.. so all this depends on if I get a deer tag... to be</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	Punished !!! (( For holding out on buying a license until i find out if i get a deer tag to me is Ludicrous !!!! ))
Tags	Dear Sirs, The number of tags is OK as it is. I think NDOW should use a 4 point or better system for antlered deer hunts. In other words, only bucks with 4 points or better on one side could be legally harvested. This would allow younger bucks to mature. ight now, most of the time the young bucks get slaughtered before they pass on their genetics, etc. I believe this would help the health of the deer population, and allow hunters to get a decent sized buck.
	I know there has been a decline in mule deer populations. In Northern Nevada there are many reasons. FIRE (the thousands of acres we have lost , and I mean thousands) PREDATORS (Lion, coyotes), DISEASES, THE COMPETITION WITH CHUCKER HUNTERS, They are in the field for 5 months, most of hunting is in prime deer country, deer don't even have a chance to breed, they are pushed from one canyon to another It is terrible, the hunters are aggressive as a deer hunter. SHED HUNTERS in early spring thru-out summer. Then the major one (THE FOUR-WHEELER) We all know how stressed deer can become, the last several years the poor deer does not have a chance. Hundreds of people are in the field thru-out the whole year. How can you expect the herd to increase, they don't even have time to sniff one another. It is a shame but that is the fact. We cannot keep giving big harvest numbers (both bucks & does) and expect the numbers to grow. It has been in decline for many years. I've been hunting for over 65 years, covered many many miles. I have to say a sad situation. Just hope and pray. If you need any other information, I would be happy to assist. I've been to county board meetings and also state wildlife meetings here in Reno, Nevada. And I have spoke before the commission. (NUMBER OF TAGS, DOE SEASONS and FOUR WHEELERS) to many tags in certain areas and doe hunts in certain areas. We have to use common sense and talk to everybody including ranchers and farmers, they know what goes on out in the field more than anybody. I talk to them all the time, and they know the numbers Respectfully submitted . . . The deer are never left alone, stressed out, some of habitat is terrible. We have a problem, hope WE can solve it. . . .
	I appreciate the efforts of NDOW, but I am concerned with the dramatic increase in tags 2 years ago. I would prefer fewer hunt opportunities and fewer hunters on the hill. I also am discouraged with all the atv hunters. I would prefer to hunt areas without them.
	I am a non-resident to Nevada. I have applied for tag thru Cabela's tag but have not been successful in drawing a tag. Due to my job, scheduling time off is hard and limits scheduled time off to hunt with anyone else as a party type hunt. I am primarily a bow hunter but given an opportunity to hunt in a state that you are more likely to draw out a tag, if you hunt with any legal weapon, then I will accept that.
	I think a quality hunt is better with less people in the field. I like the way Nevada used to do it small number of tags. I know a lot of sportsmen complained about not drawing tags. But I would rather wait a year or two to have a better quality hunt. If raising more money is what they are trying to do I would rather pay more for a lower number of tags. I would also like to share that in the field this year I witnessed a coyote taking down a fawn. I have to think that if I witnessed it happening that it happens a lot more than people think. Thank you for getting the opinions from the sportsmen.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>The area I hunt in Nevada is very remote and only accessible by foot. In the past 30 years I have only seen two other hunters during the season, and have only drawn four times. It would be nice to see a few more tags aloud in these areas, with only foot ccess. The zone I applied for only allows 25 tags for the hole zone. We have always applied as a party of four and and try for the latest season offered. Average only drawing every 7 years. So every year we just plan on getting are money back. Nevada sould have a application fee that requires everyone to purchases a license and charge for the tags only if you draw. This way everyone would be on the same level for points and the points system could go away thru attrition. Myself and our party only hav one more hunt in us for this type of area so if there would have been a few more chances for tags in remote /wilderness areas would have been nice. To late for us, but maybe for the future hunters of Nevada less tags in accessible areas and more tags iNon-residentemote areas.</p>
	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>
	<p>It seems to me that you have to apply &amp; buy liscense for several years to get drawn. Like it is more of a MONEY game!</p>
	<p>Thank you for giving me the chance to take this survey. I would like to see the amount of deer tags decreased in order to allow deer populations to reestablish. I would also like to see areas with low deer populations changed to four point or better. feel that this will increase the deer populations and produce better quality bucks. I think that the heavily burned areas should be reseeded in order for the deer to reestablish in those areas.</p>
	<p>variety is key, having some hunts that people really want for trophy hunts, having some mediocre trophy hunts, and then having more of the quantity not quality of trophy hunts. Love hunting in the state, would like to draw a mediocre tag every 5 years if ossible, now going on 7.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>we use to put in for party of 2 or more but that makes a party of 5 not very likley to draw. Now we put in a party of 2. Takes 5-6 yr's to get drawn. Me + my son had 6 pt's a peice...146 got drawn for our 5th choice at 1752. I feel the real stuff is the resident hunter, thats has to draw. If you want to get a Bonus pt. It should be a smaller fee not you lil every year at \$142.00 Over all we enjoy our hunts in Nevada it just takes to long to draw even with bonus pt's. I grew up in Pennsylvania, so I am by no means an expert on mule deer hunting. When starting out, I depended on the advice and strategies of friends from my home town of Fallon. I feel that I've become as proficient (or more) of a mule deer hunter than considerable amount of my acquaintances and friends due to my commitment to the sport. I've made the sacrifices to aquire the best optics (Swarovski) available in my pursuit of mule deer. I thourghly enjoy to glass game, which I feel is ensential to sucess. Also, I've made it a point to scout various areas, during several seasons state wide. I've seen some very nice bucks here in Nevada, but have only aquired two tags in my eight years of residency (Not havesting in 08, but killing a very nice 5X4 n 2012). This does not bother me, since I realize that there are only a finite amount of available resources in comparison to the hunters in the draw. I enjoyed taking this survey, and it supports my thinking of NDOW going the extra mile for hunters andwildlife.</p>
	<p>I prefer to trophy hunt mule deer but some years go with family and friends and the opportunity to see and get a shot at any buck is important to the quality of the hunt. Seeing deer is important when teaching hunting to young hunters. I often apply fr local hunting as a party with my very senior father and must road hunt with him so again. Getting him a shot opportunity is important, then I will return alone to trophy hunt. I Apply for and hunt all Nevada species when I draw a tag.</p>
	<p>I have only had 1 tag in Nevada, in 2005. I harvested, and I had a great time in the 21/2 weeks I hunted. I really like the Nevada overpasses and underpasses that allow Deer to cross highways. Predators are a BIG problem and the Deerhave to many!. States such as Oregon and California that don't allow dogs for hunting are not helping Nevada's predator populations. Thank you</p>
	<p>There are many factors that impact hunting Nevada. Drought, past fires, and the politics of everyone's opinions. I know there are too many hunts that go on at the same time. I think the areas need to be broken down to more specific so there isn't 750 huntrs trying to hunt the same mountain range at the same time for example. Also, if a land owner gets an allocation of tags, they should not be sold for his profit.. I am not sure why does are harvested. I have seen more bucks than does lately, Not large ucks, but smaller, two to four year old. With the drought going on, the state will need to focus on water sheds that are drying up earlier in the year. Seems to me a lot more common sense would go a long, long way in managing Nevada. Not sure if you survey will really help as it always boils down to politics and money which the state is always short of. Opinions are good, but no one will ever agree, unfortunately, for the sake of managing the wildlife!! Good Luck though!</p>
	<p>Since I am nearing the end of my hunting life (70 years old), I would prefer to draw a tag each year even if it means more hunters.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>Greetings!!!...Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input for this survey. I am a native Nevadan of 52 years and have been hunting in Nevada all of my life. I have seen the best of times growing up hunting in Nevada... it is a shame to see what has happened to the deer populations in our great state...they have been DEVASTATED. Areas I hunted in as a kid have been obliterated. I have been fortunate to hunt and observe all but the sheep species here and I am happy to say that it appears the elk and antelope herds are thriving...THAT IS GREAT NEWS. I know the sheep in our state have more of a challenge because of the illnesses they seem to be susceptible to. I would like to say the success of "some" of the big game species has had a lot to do with how they have been managed but like many hunters we just don't know. Our deer herds have suffered great declines because of the lack of water, fires, habitat loss, predators and the TOTAL AND COMPLETE mismanagement of the wildhorse populations because of politics. I would like to say the Nevada Department of Wildlife has done a "good" job in their efforts to manage the deer herds in our state ..... but quite honestly ....I DO NOT BELIEVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!... Our state, like many others has seen their state government budgets cut because of revenue shortfalls. The Nevada Department of Wildlife has experienced cuts just like the rest of the state departments. There are "MANY" that believe NDOW has had to resort to managing the wildlife in our great state based upon their "budget" needs rather than the needs of the herds. Why else would they issue so many deer tags in areas that CANNOT support the number of hunters. I am NOT the only one that has experienced this ....hunt units with HUNDREDS and HUNDREDS of tags issued and you NEVER see a deer???? This is UNACCEPTABLE!!! Do they REALLY survey these areas before they set the quotas??? It REALLY makes you wonder?????.....</p>
	<p>Some of the questions in this survey are difficult to answer because my answers change depending on the area in Nevada. Some areas in my opinion have lower success rates but give more tags, other areas give fewer tags but have more trophy deer. I like having trophy areas as well as areas where I can get a tag more often because it lets me choose what kind of experience I want. If I just want to get a tag and get out there with my sons, I have that option. But, if I am looking for a trophy buck I don't mind taking a few years for a chance. The one question that was not asked was about the junior hunts in Nevada. My sons are too young to hunt now but I think it has become harder to draw a junior tag. My nephew has 3 points and has not drawn out since he started putting in. I think youth should have a better chance to draw out in Nevada than they currently do.</p>
	<p>Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough business. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, it's not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, it completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landowners are getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a trophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be able to hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. It's even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until it's dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with the money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	The areas I apply for I only average a tag about every 4 years, would love to have the opportunity to get a tag every year or two.
	*We know the mountain lion population is up, lowering deer populations. *We know animal rights people are on the deer survey count, and the anti hunters are buying tags each year to keep hunters tags low. *We were in the NDOW office 2 yrs ago, and overheard the girls in the office talking about all the tags they "drew". Imagine that--
	i would like to have the system set up to where if you draw a tag you are not able to reapply for that same species of tag for one yr. the hunting area's are over ran with hunters and harvesting quality animals has drastically reduced. I feel ohv should b used for game retrieval only. Year after year you see people pull several tags. I feel a person should be limited to two tags a yr. I fell the number one problem with hunting in nevada is there are to many hunters.
	I moved away in 2001 I moved back 2010, My wife and I put in for a tag in 2013 but was not successful. we spend a lot of time in the hills and don't see the deer like back in the past, I think predators have a lot to do with the lack of deer and to many ags sold. I think out for state tags should not be sold for 5yars to try to get the deer hard back, some people think it is about the money, I don't think that is it at all, I hope not.
	I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drasticy. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.
	I have been drawn for exactly two deer tags in 13 years, so it should be obvious on this questionnaire that I don't care much for NV,in terms of hunting access to it's own residents. It's remarkable to me that ANY out-of-state licenses are given when residents are denied access to hunt their own state. However, I know that Dean Heller and his hunting friends hunt deer yearly. Gee, he must be awfully lucky! But, I get it. Ranching, Mining and State Senators are top priorities, not a simple resident of he State of Nevada trying to pass on a love of hunting to his children.
	1.Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw units to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion. 10.Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11.Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12.Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>I am originally from Canada where: 1) you buy white-tailed deer and moose permits at stores (e.g. any store that sold firearms) even during the hunting season; 2) can hunt in any Crown Land (similar to BLM) area you want (no zone preselection required or restrictions); 3) there is NO lottery bullshit. NDOW should consider the ZEC (Zone Ecologically Controlled) system used in Quebec where large areas of land are placed under the jurisdiction of non-private ZEC clubs that are managed by its members, under the watchful eye of fish &amp; game. Then, rather than the tragedy of the commons, you get a "club" of like-minded individuals that are interested in a specific area. They take philosophical ownership of said area. Quotas for that area are set by fish &amp; game. Back home, we would pay \$300 for a combined hunting &amp; fishing ZEC membership, in addition to the provincial permit for whatever you were hunting for. People are happy to pay it because ZECs are well-managed and full of game. I want to hunt in an area I know...not where NDOW tells me I drew a tag because of lower pressure in some area I have no connection to. And, I want to hunt with my son and colleagues/friends...that is near impossible with a random lottery system. Back home, I hunted where my father hunted, which is where his father hunted, etc. Losing that connection to the land and not allowing displaced hunters such as myself to redevelop it will result in fewer hunters and hunters going to other states. Don't believe me? I recently bought 500 acres of forest land in Maine, where landowners are strongly favored for white-tailed deer tags...drawing something like 75% of the time. I will never waste my money on a big game lottery in Nevada again. NDOW has forgotten what hunting is about: Hunting is: (1) hunting in an area you feel connected to, whether it is family history or something else; (2) hunting with the people you chose to hunt with, in my case hunting partners.</p>
	tag draws suck!
	I have not had a buck tag in 3 seasons, I would like a system that would get out tags more often.
	I really enjoy hunting with friends, however, I find it difficult to tag in the same areas they do at the same time. That's why I turned in my tag for 2013. 2013 was the first tag I drew in the last 4 years.
	Less wilderness management areas and More opportunity to hunt for long time residents. I grew up in the state of NV with fond memories of hunting and spending time in the wilderness with my father and siblings. I feel like the gap between tags takes away a lot of those opportunities that I should be having with my children. Which would also allow them the memories of caring for our wilderness and wildlife and quality outdoors time and less TV and Games etc.
	I drew a tag for 2013, and was severely injured in an accident that prevented me from hunting. I did not turn the tag back, as I had hoped to recover in time, but did not.
	I have only drawn 2 deer tags and only 1 antelope tag in the last 18 years. Short on tags. Don't have tags I cannot hunt like I would like to
	I was only able to hunt 1 day for the 2013 season which is the only tag I have drawn for Nevada, I was successful during that hunt but realize this is not normal. I patiently wait for my next opportunity.
	I feel that closing hunting seasons for 5 years to allow the population numbers to increase and the herds to increase their size and ranges I remember when you always saw deer when you went out now you're lucky to see one. Stop giving out so many tags each year especially out of state tags or non-resident tags. Stop worrying about revenue and do what's right for the deer you have many hunters in Nevada that hunt for food not trophy's some times that may be their only meat. You need to think of the deer and the people that hunt for food. This is my opinion.
	I think when counting the deer population, it should be taken into consideration how many deer are in or on private property that a lot of hunters can't hunt on before establishing the number of tags in areas.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	I think the mule deer have been managed well so far. It is important for me and my family to draw our tags every year because this is our main meat source for the year that feeds us. It also is our only vacation time and teaching our children values and respect. It is critical that we draw together so that we can take the time off to hunt since it would be too expensive to have several different hunts.
	The primary goal of NDOW or any other conservation organization is to successfully harvest animals to keep herd quantities in check. It has been my experience that when I draw a tag closer to my house (within 2 hours to camp) I am able to do far more in-depth preseason scouting. When I have been able to scout for at least as many days as I hunt I have had great success. I guess my comment is that if there is some way you could provide tags in the draw area they apply for that is closest to the zip code of the applicant (out of the 5 options they have provided), not based off of preference how it is currently set up, then hunters would likely have more time to scout and have a more successful end result. Thank you for this survey, I think it is great that you guys care about conservation as much we care about hunting.
	I bowhunt because I enjoy the challenge, because tags are always available, and because there are fewer hunters afield during bow season. Motorcycles and atv's are a major source of annoyance to serious bowhunters and frequently cause us to search for new hunting areas.
	The current use of Antelope/Deer Compensation and Elk Incentive Tags bugs the snot out of me. If crops/forage are being damaged, limit the tag to the landowner or their named EMPLOYEE only, not as a profitable business exchange. Don't allow the secondary sale of a tag for any reason. If someone wants to hunt, go through a common tag draw with everyone else. If someone wants to charge a trespass fee, fine, it's their land. END "landlocked" public land hunt areas. Have an access to them, or don't issue tags for them. Hunting is becoming a buy the hunt game. End the Silver State, Wildlife Heritage, and other like programs. Money should not be the determining factor in getting a tag. Limit the out-of-state tags to 25% of resident tag numbers. Maybe start a new type of hunt, the "Classic" tag. No lasers, no GPS, no tricorder... No ATV/ORV use in the hunt. Drive to your hunt camp, then walk. Drive out to pick-up your kill, not to hunt from the truck, atv or whatever.
	I have never before put much thought into wildlife management, I understand that NDOW does what is necessary but I have heard others complain before about the strategies. I also understand that sometimes the decisions are not easy and do not always have a correct answer and that the people who make these decisions are educated and experienced. I generally trust their judgement. After taking this survey I have identified that the things that are important to me include longer hunting seasons and having the opportunity to hunt without running into too many other hunters. I also realize that this would decrease the odds of drawing a tag and I don't want to disadvantage my fellow hunters nor do I want to wait more than a few years for tags. I would draw my line at three years. I understand that this is a contradiction and that the purpose of this survey might be to determine which direction Nevada hunters want NDOW to go in and that my argument is unhelpful but I wanted to take the time to explain my thoughts since I took the time to take this survey to start with. I would also like to add that I am perfectly happy receiving a doe tag and the two main reasons I hunt is as an excuse to drive to the middle of nowhere and go hiking, and for the meat. I of course would like to shoot a record buck and have him mounted for all my friends and family to see but as it stands I am still a young man with many more years of hunting to try to accomplish that. As long as some buck tags are given out and I can occasionally get one I will be happy.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>It seems to me the future of Mule Deer hunting and, accordingly, the future funding of management and habitat programs is based on young hunters. I see a trend of more older hunters and fewer young people. Certainly there are societal reasons for this but also I think we should do what we can to encourage young people, especially those under 18 years of age, to be involved. A lot of older hunters have been drawing tags and filling their freezers for years, which is terrific, but to stimulate the interest of younger sportsmen and women I sincerely think they should get first chance at tags. Also, I agree that it isn't right for an older hunter, mentor, parent or other relative to fill a younger hunter's tag. The reverse situation should be allowed though without fine or penalty. If I draw and my young daughter or a grandchild didn't, because the system didn't give them preference, I should be able to let them fill my tag. Naturally they should have a hunting license and meet all the other requirements for hunter safety, proper weapon for the tag issued such as muzzle loader, archery or whatever. Making it illegal to have a young person fill an older relative's tag makes no sense.</p>
	<p>I feel we should have the ability to purchase tags OTC. Also if there are Junior tags left in an area any Hunter should be able to purchase that tag, once the draw is done for juniors. What difference does it make if the animal is harvested by an adult or Junior, the object is management.</p>
	<p>for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and opportunity, but you have to get out and work for them ( Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, Lots of Wildhorses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability to get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of Muledeer, I prefer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for everyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed</p>
	<p>I prefer to hunt in a certain geographic area of the State and prefer the season to be a month long. I have never had much success with the draw system and resent the way its implementation has ruined my historical hunting experience. I never get to hunt as long as I used to and rarely am able to hunt where I want. At times, it seems to me that NDOW is more concerned with selling "Hunting Lottery Tickets" than managing the states game resources.</p>
	<p>NDOW needs to consider the number of people in the field SCOUTING for deer when high numbers of tags for ANY species are issued in an area. I have seen large numbers of people in the field looking for animals to fill depredation tags for elk before their seasons have opened. Just because there are fewer tag holders per season doesn't mean that there are fewer people in the field. Overall - good job guys. It's a tough balance.</p>
	<p>Currently in Nevada we can apply for deer tags annually, however, Antelope tags may only be applied for every five years if successful. When we are in the field, we see many more Antelope than deer. It makes sense to me to lower the wait period for Antelope to two years, and raise the period for Mule deer to two years.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>Granted there are a lot of factors that come into play when determining tag quotas, special seasons and responsible management of areas where populations are down. Other considerations include the negative aspects of predation, large areas of habitat loss due to fire and increasing demands on our wildlife resources. This may seem to be an un-informed perspective, but my impression of NDOW big game hunting management has been primarily based upon revenue generation. In my opinion, wildlife management for the health and regeneration of our depleted mule deer populations should be priority one, even if it means lower hunting quotas or temporary closure of management areas to facilitate wild life recovery. After the inception of the Nevada muledeer draw system, the Nevada mule deer populations and quality of animals dramatically and successfully rebounded. The statistics from those early years are impressive; hunter success ratios were up and hunter satisfaction was high. We have digressed, the question is why? Nevada's dedicated Big Game Sportsman put the quality of our big game population habitat first and fair and equitable access to those populations second. In my opinion, this has always been the basis of sound wildlife management. We rely on those entrusted with wildlife management responsibility, to act wisely in the preservation of our wildlife resources. In short, an ever increasing demand on a finite resource is not the solution.</p>
	<p>I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more emphasis to control these predators.</p>
	<p>From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the people who told me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approve of the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!</p>
	<p>more residents should get tags rather than out of state people</p>
	<p>The draws should truly be a random draw and the family and friends of NDOW officers and staff should not have first come first tag privileges. The opportunity should be for everyone not those "privileged" members family and friends. The short seasons of 4 days over crowding the hunting areas is very destructive to the herds and habits and should be reevaluated. Thank you.</p>
	<p>It's been 10 long years since I've drew a deer tag from great state of Nevada. But that hasn't stopped me from getting out and helping friends or friends of friends. Or my son that received a great Mule Deer tag two years in a row. I just like to say in the past 10+ years I've been out there looking, helping, hunting, and camping. Thank you for caring about our needs and the needs of our Mule Deer. Thanks for sending me this survey.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>Some specific concerns I have as a hnter is that if population numbers increase to the point where more animals should be harvested (based on suvey data), the answer is not always as simple as increasing tags but keeping the same season structures. In some areas in Nevada, roads are limitedand the terrain is rough and more tags results in more people out hunting however there are still only the same amount of accessible areas to hunt. This results in intense pressure on the animals that are acessible and pressure can move these animals intoareas where the average hunter cannot access them and overall success rates decline. This is especially true for cow elk hunts and in some areas, pronghorn and mule deer hunts. The harvest objectives may not be reached or they may be reached but the overll quality of animals harvested goes down and the experience quality goes down. A season structure such as Colorado which runs 4 shorter seasons can provide more hunting opportunities and more harvest but not have overcrowding issues that plaque states tht run two longer seasons with roughly the same amount of tags. The other advantage is that the number of tags can be reduced in the seasons that generally correspond to favorable weather conditions to provide</p>
	<p>Please note that some of the answers provided for questions were not exactly how I would have liked to answer. In five years of applying I have received two tags. I have not harvested a deer yet, bummer... The other years I have gotten to go because myson drew a tag! It has been a very fun time ! I hope to get a deer some time soon, so I will continue to apply for tags. Thank you NDOW for all the hard you guys do!</p>
	<p>I have hunted with friends and family for years and the one single issue that comes up is access to hunting areas. May times we will find deer only on private land. I have talked to land owners and most will not allow hunting on their property. Also with imited success drawing tags in Nevada I have purchased over the counter tags in Idaho and taken deer.</p>
	<p>I feel there are far to many tags and not enough deer, the split season for rifle is ok at a week each season but there are far too many hunters in the field competing for too few deer. I am not a biologist but killing the Does in my way of thinking woul not improve fawn production. I typically hunt area 6 and can recall in the 80s and 90s more deer/ Bucks than a hunter could count.Now we see ( when we get a tag approx. every 4 years ) lots of hunters and very few deer / Bucks. I am not a meat hunter or trophy hunter. I just like to kill a nice buck. They seem to be few and far between. It seems like it is the perfect storm that has ravaged our mule deer population. Wild fires, predation, lack of access due to mines and private land, competition for foo with the cattle and wild horses as well as drought ! Then you throw in hunters on every hill and the opportunity for a good hunt becomes a thing of the past. This may be a far stretch but I have known quite a few hunters that have drawn 2 and 3 big gametags in the same season. Whats wrong with letting the hunter choose the one species he wants to hunt and he gets his points back for the other species. This might be simple thinking but there would be 1 or 2 more hunters that would get a tag who previousl were rejected on all their applications. The entire deer tag process does not seem fair or proper. The 4 of us apply as a party and draw every 4 or so years yet there are many folks that get a tag every other year and many get tags that have no points. Nvada is my home and I am an avid hunter when I can get a tag. If it made a difference I'd say close the season for several years, bring back a bounty on predators, minimize wild horses and grazing rights invest in habitat rejuvenation due to loss by fire.sk more of the private groups to install more large game guzzlers. Fish and game biologists in my opinion don't have it right, killing Does or putting more hunters in the field does not lend itself to a memor able hunt.</p>
	<p>Haven't drawn a tag yet, but excited to :)</p>
	<p>Some times it is hard to know just when I must apply for Nevada tags, since it usually is quite early in the year. It would be easy to miss the deadline if on vacation, etc. My hunting partners communicate with each others to keep us informed Normlly we will put in for a group (all or none).</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	<p>I think it is really unfair that there are people who draw tags every year and other cant get a tag for ,( in my case) 3 years. In one of my freinds case, he has not drawn a tag in 8 years, but yet there are still poeple that I know who draw a tag every yar. This is my opinion. For all who apply, those who do not draw a tag one year, should be moved to the top of a list and be given first chance at a tag the next year. I would like to see it become more equal for everyone to get the oppertunity to hunt. In my Situation, I can only apply for one tag a year. After talking with my freinds, they all choose deer. I really can not afford the \$120.00 Elk Tag. \$30.00 deer tag is good. So that is what I go for. I have applied the last 3 yrs and still have not dawn a tag. This is my thought as to why I try to go hunting. I am on a fixed income. I do not have a lot of money to keep applying for tags. I want an elk tag and a deer tag. that would cost me \$150.00 plus application fees. If i draw 1 deer and 1 elktag. for under \$200.00 I can fill my freezer and have food for almost a year. I think nevada resident should get the same equal chance to put food on thier table to feed thier families. Well that is my opinion. Make it where every hunter gets a chanc to experience a Nevada Deer Hunt. I dont like the Drawing. Mostly cause I do not get drawn. But I do think that it would be a good idea to take the people who did not draw the previous year, get moved to the top of the list and they get first chance a the draw next year.</p>
	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and ho 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone i the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hnter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the inority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.</p>
	<p>I think generally it is a great state to hunt in with lots of deer and big deer to see and few hunters. My only change would be: as i understand it now, if there are leftover tags after the draw if one wants to get one they have to give up all preferencepoints. it would be nice to be able to retain those points for a more desirable hunt, but still be able to go hunting in a zone that has left over tags.</p>
	<p>I very much enjoy my time hunting in Nevada. I hunt in the wilderness of the Ruby Mountains, so a few of your qustions were a little hard for me to answer. The Nevada draw system has given my 2 sons and I a great opporitunity to hunt together without havig to wait for many years to do so. Thank You for that experience. I also enjoy the length of the archery mule deer season, because I spend much of the time scoping out the deer and making a decision of which one to go after. Without tthe length of the seson you offer this would not be possible.</p>
	<p>I became interested in Nevada Mule deer hunting in the late 70's. I have applied many many times and have drew last choice archery tags in 2000 &amp; 2001. In 2013, I finally drew an any weapon tag, it was my last choice. Access to public land were blocked by so called land owners. High number of hunter were confined to limited areas, decreasng success rates. My thoughts are should I ever apply again or buy a trophy tag from a land owner?</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Tags	I was at a sportsman's show in Kansas City, Missouri and was shocked to find out how Nevada land owner tags were being marketed. Numerous outfitters advertised trophy Nevada hunts for mule deer, Elk, and pronghorn, on guaranteed land owner tags, and never have to apply. That was an eye opener for me, having unsuccessfully applied for years.
	It seems criminal that land owner tags and outfitter tags should not be included in a common draw. Resident and Non-resident draw together, so why not have owners and outfitters included in the same draw? Land owner tags should be for land owners and their family's sole use, and not be allowed to be sold to the higherbidder, and still be called land owner tags.
	My brother-in-law and nephew drew in 2012, having drawn 7yrs and 10yrs respectively prior, and I went with them. In 2013 I drew my first and only any weapon tag, I drew bow tags twice before in 2000 & 2001. With the drawing results of the past, I don't even know if it will be worth my time to apply ever again.
	I would like to see an increase in predator control and a decrease in overall tag numbers. A shorter season wouldnt be a bad thing. The wild horses NEED to be kept at or below AML. I would like to see NDOW look at grazing as a very beneficial habitat management program.
	Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed hunting Mule Deer in Nevada for many, many years. I was born in Nevada and grew up hunting mule deer there. I think NDOW does a great job at managing the deer herds. Of course, I wish my hunting partners (life-long friend, and our sons) could draw a tag more regularly and predictably, but when we do get a tag, we enjoy the quality of our hunt immensely. Low hunter density and reasonably good chances at success are important to us.
	The last two years have been a disappointment for myself and others. The reason I believe is because of the amount of tags which are too many. Hunting seems to be a "rich mans sport" anymore, Nevada has been known to be a great state to hunt because of the success people have, but if we keep putting out the large amount of tags that will not last for long! Many people I've talked to would rather have less tags and a higher chance of success even if it means not drawing a tag every year. Thank you for the opportunity to let myself and other fellow hunters to express our options!!
	I grew up in Wyoming and was lucky enough to hunt every year if I wanted. I worry that my kids won't have that same opportunity because it is so hard to draw a deer tag in NV. Drawing a tag once every 4 years is not acceptable to me. Anything that can be done to increase the odds of drawing a deer tag at least every other year would be great. I don't know what the answer is, but I just want to be able to hunt Mule deer almost every year if possible.
	I would like to see less tags issued and/or areas closed to hunting. A 2x2 or 3x3 or 2x3 and doe harvest area only. This would allow for areas to mature larger bucks and populations.
	Deer numbers have dropped drastically which is obvious. Nevada needs to get a handle on it in my opinion. Predators, poaching, and tag numbers need to be addressed badly. This survey needs re-writing. A lot of the questions are very hard to understand and vague. Contradicting. You almost need a bachelors degree to decipher some of the questions.
	I first started hunting deer in Nevada in 1987. It was nothing to see 300 head of deer in one day in northern Nevada and not one elk. Today it is just the opposite. I'm not sure where the deer have gone but I know it's not just Nevada mule deer Arizona has seen a decrease also. I think cutting way back on tags every couple of years might help build the herds. I think there are too many hunters. It has discouraged me from hunting because of the increase of hunters.
	I think that the harvest of does is absolutely NOT necessary. I don't believe that any of the mule deer areas I am familiar with are approaching a large limiting factor such as summer or winter range capacities. The deer numbers have been down since the 92-93 winter loss and have not been allowed to come back because there are too many deer being harvested. I would wait as long as necessary to get a deer tag, if I knew that when I draw there would be a significant amount of older age class bucks in the population to harvest, that is a quality experience to me not

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	killing for the sake of killing.
Tags	I believe that there should be an increased number of tags given to non residents, since the majority of the land that is available to hunt is funded by federal tax dollars and not state. If it is 10% now it should go to at least 15%, but 20% would b better. If you do not change things up for non residents quick, I believe you will start losing interest from people, just because most people know they are chasing a ghost(that being a guaranteed tag) and not getting anything for their out of pocket aplication/bonus point fees. New Mexico has the best system hands down, no preference points! Everyone has the same shot every year! I think it cost me close to \$500 last year to build points for 5 species, and put in for 2 silver tags, ridiculous!!!!
	All deer hunting should be stopped for 1 year. Anyone getting a deer tag should also recieve a cat. tag. Cut noNon-resident tags by 60-80%. Get fish +game management employes out of office and in the field. If they won't get out in the field and manage the wildlife then get rid of them. Get some employes that will work for their wages and not try to figure ways to get more money in their pockets + screw the sportsman.
	Reduce the amount of tags a person can get in one year to allow others to draw. Reduce out of state tags.
	Lower fees by Nevada mule deer & elk hunting guides & land owner tags.
	The early season is to woarm with to may tags given out. Need more late season tags. Thanks
	I drew a antlered tag for area 10 in 2012. I was working in Zmmbia during my scheduled hunt time
	I'm very concerned aobut the amount of doe tags being sold each year- when does are taken some of them have young fawns & they will die.
	Seems like most tags go to out of state hunters and not resident hunters.
	Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may sart with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tgs. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectaions by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.
	I would like to see a few more hunt units managed for Trophy Bucks, like 194, 065 and 081. But, I would like to see certain areas like 7 and 10 continue to have a lot of tags given out, so that people who like to hunt every year are satisfied.
	We love mule deer hunting in Nevada, but haven't hunted their since 2006 because we haven't been successful in the draw due to trying to draw a good unit that my cousin has hunted. We hunt mule deer every year, but normally in other states where we can drw tags.
	You guys are doing a good job. Keep it up. Thank you for all the hard work you guys do. Remember to consider the older hunters who have limited hunting time left. They should have better chances of drawinf a tag. Every one will have the same chance when they get older. Thank you
	There have been fires in Elko county, which have destroyed food and habitat. Also, this last year , 2013, we thought that too many tags were allowed in our favorite area.
	More tag success. Fees are extremely high also.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Trophy	I would Like to see Nevada have 6 to 10 units managed for trophy bucks with later hunt dates and fewer tags like the strip and kiabab in arizona. I also think you should only be able to hunt one buck per year whether you draw the tag or buy a land owner ag, Also they should not over lap hunts such as a buck deer hunt and a cow elk hunt in the same unit at the same time. such as an early archery elk tag and a rifle cow hunt and a muzzle loader deer hunt as is the case in unit 222 when it takes 10 t 15 years to draw a good tag, ALL cow elk and doe deer hunts should never take place the same time as your antlered hunts this puts to many hunters in the unit at the same time. If your goal is to take cows and does out for management purposes then deember and jan would be much better and they would have a higher success rate without interfering with hard to draw tags!!
	Yes I think that u should only let 4 points or better be taken an no hunt for a year . Deer heard r very bad in Nevada poor management .
	Mule Deer hunting is one of my favorite passions. My opinion is that there are tropy mule deer in the mountains but finding them is the hardest part. Good management is a key aspect to good Mule Deer quality, but diligence and good hunting skills are fa more important in finding a quality mule deer. Late season hunts are the best way to find bigger Bucks. Offer more late hunts and bigger bucks will be easier to find.
	I believe that Residents of Nevada should have priority on all tags and seasons over Non-Residents. It seems that NDOW is more concerned about the revenue produced through the sale of Non-Resident tags and licenses. There should be trophy areas with redced tags to allow for more mature bucks.
	I have only actually had one tag in the last 10 years or so, but I religiously hunt mule deer on an annual basis. The lack of mature animals that are being harvested let alone seen is very concerning. I am glad the state is stating to do something, but I m afraid you are starting too late to save NV's quality mule deer hunting.
	Only hunted one year in Nevada and I saw people and coyotee's everywhere I looked. But I still put in for tags for certain areas because certain areas do offer shots at huge bucks.
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other huntes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
	I have not had an oppportunity to hunt Mule deer in NV yet. I have been trying to draw out for one the more highly sought after tags in some of units that are considered "trophy" type units. I will wait to hunt NV when I draw, what I feel, is a trophy unit Then I will hunt Nevada.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Trophy	I have hunted in five western states in my lifetime and I can honestly say that no one manages their deer herds like the state of Nevada. The only thing I would like to see is maybe have them create a trophy tag season? That way in certain areas you can arvest a four point or better? Keep up the great work Nevada!
	Trail cameras are unethical and should be banned all together. Trying to restrict trail cameras through half measures like restricting at watering holes would only make the law gray and hard to enforce. If the cameras were baned outright, hunters could be empowered to remove cameras, thus making the law enforceable (there are not enough game wardens to police trail cameras). Something needs to be done, now, to reduce the use of OHV in open country. There are more and more roads" showing up each year as OHV's create more and more. This should be done even if it means you can not use your OHV to retrieve a down animal. OHV's scare the land and spook the wildlife. OHV's should be strictly restricted to established roads an drivers should be required to attend training to teach them not to destroy vegetation and water courses. Lastly, I would support incresed tag fees and restrictions on the size of mule deer taken if it means better hunting. Increasing tag fees by 0-20%, in my opinion, would not decreases the number of hunters or applications. It would simple provide additional resources to improve hunting in the state. If restricting the size of mule deer taken to 3 points and above would increase the number of ule deer reaching maturity or trophy size, this would greatly improve the hunting experience and give more hunters the chance at a nice buck each year. Nevada did an amazing job recovering the mule deer popu
	I drew a deer tag in 2013 for unit 081. I applied for this unit because it was a Dec/Jan hunt I wasted 12 points on this hunt thinking it was a trophy area. It was not! Seen over 400 deer but all doe + 2 or 3 yr old bucks seen lots of elk but no good bucks scouted 4 days prior to season, then hunted 10 days. I dont mind not getting or seeing trophy deer, but it should not be advertised as such I wasted 12 year of applying :(
	Im against the late season so called trophy hunts. Part of the experience should be the meat not run down deer after the rut. What about mussel loader hunts. These modern mussel loaders shoot verey good, why should they have a advantage in the draw.
	I have enjoyed my hunting experiences in nevada. There are 4 of us who apply every year. We do not apply as a group because if some body draws a tag we all go hunting. I have only drawn a deer tag 5 times since 1996, but have hunted about 8 or 9 times bcause my buddies have drawn when I didn't. I have hunted area 16,13,15,10 and 7. The reason we hunt nevada is because the hunting pressure is so light. A guy can actually spot and stalk a nice buck without other hunters screwing it up. I have spent may days afield hunting in those areas and haven't seen another hunter. That is why I come back year after year because it is truly hunting. Try to do that in utah it will not happen. Nevada also has the best draw system for big game in the western UnitedStates. I enjoy trophy hunting with no hunting pressure and that means if I only draw a deer tag every 3 to 5 years I am ok with that because when I do draw it means I have a chance at a trophy deer.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Trophy	<p>I Used to get a mule deer tag every 2 years, now since 2009 when i got a mule deer tag and elk tag, and harvested both, and they both were trophy's and both were mounted from taxidermy, and they both were my first deer harvested in this state of nevada, atually my first ever harvested, i have not gotten a tag, now i past on smaller deer here in nevada for every other hunt. i only hunt trophy mule deer and elk when i do get a tag.. for that being said i talked to the DNON-RESIDENT about this and was told that becaus i did not buy a license when applying for a tag, and i hit on computer i will only buy a hunting license if i recieve a mule deer or elk or antelope tag, i was told my chances were smaller because of this. and that makes no sense to me, why would i buy alicense if i am not succesful in getting a tag? only other reason for me to buy a nevada license would be to quail hunt, and i do that maybe every other year. but i do not buy my license until i decide i am going, if for 1 weekend, or for a week.. might b nov until i buy a tag, and when i do i also purchase a mountain lion tag.. so all this depends on if i get a deer tag... to be Punished !!! (( For holding out on buying a license until i find out if i get a deer tag to me is Ludicrous !!!! ))</p>
	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>
	<p>variety is key, having some hunts that people really want for trophy hunts, having some mediocre trophy hunts, and then having more of the quantity not quality of trophy hunts. Love hunting in the state, would like to draw a mediocre tag every 5 years if ossible, now going on 7.</p>
	<p>I prefer to trophy hunt mule deer but some years go with family and friends and the opportunity to see and get a shot at any buck is important to the quality of the hunt. Seeing deer is important when teaching hunting to young hunters. I often apply fr local hunting as a party with my very senior father and must road hunt with him so again. Getting him a shot opportunity is important, then I will return alone to trophy hunt. I Apply for and hunt all Nevada species when I draw a tag.</p>
	<p>Q23 asks about length of antlers. Not sure what you are asking. Length of a tine? Then 8" or so per tine is a nice buck. Length of all tines and main beams? 120" is a nice buck. Length of main beams only? 40" total would be a nice buck. Re Q23, I thinkmost hunters would be confused by this portion of Q23 but the last portion of the question re P&amp;Y or B&amp;C inches will be something most hunters can quantify. 160 is a nice buck with 190 and above a very nice buck.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Trophy	<p>Some of the questions in this survey are difficult to answer because my answers change depending on the area in Nevada. Some areas in my opinion are have lower success rates but give more tags, other areas give fewer tags but have more trophy deer. I like having trophy areas as well as areas where I can get a tag more often because it lets me choose what kind of experience I want. If I just want to get a tag and get out there with my sons, I have that option. But, if I am looking for a trophy buck I don't ind taking a few years for a chance. The one question that was not asked was about the junior hunts in Nevada. My sons are too young to hunt now but I think it has become harder to draw a junior tag. My nephew has 3 points and has not drawn out since he sarterd putting in. I think youth should have a better chance to draw out in Nevada than they currently do.</p>
	<p>Overall, I think the state of Nevada does a pretty good job of game management. However, there are some programs and issues that are ridiculous. Like the guide draw. Why does Nevada kiss all the guides asses and give them tags as if they don't get enough usiness. I think this is the worst program I have ever heard of and it should be ended, its not fair, and it lets people apply for that and if they don't draw then they can still apply for the regular tag. BS. Also, the landowner tags have GOT TO CHANGE, t completely ruins it for a person that waits years and years for a quality hunt and these people just because they have money get to hunt every open season every year. Unethical and Unmoral, if anything make them pick one season to hunt. These landowners are getting compensated for damage done to their crops, but little to no damage is being done to the crops in late November when all the harvesting is done and the deer move in and NDOW counts. (for instance in area 231 a guy that waits 5 years to draw a rophy black powder or even archery tag, is outnumbered by landowner tags. ) Furthermore, why should a non resident guide be able to guide in Nevada, we already have too many and then we allow them in also. I think the guides should have to draw to be able to hunt a unit and limit the number of guides for that particular unit. Its even worse when the Mossback type guides are on a trophy animal and they bring 30 guys over to watch him day and night until its dead. There is just so much ethically wrong with te money end of game management and Nevada is slowly turning in to Utah, where the majority of any decent tag is being taken away and given to the rich. I have been applying for Nevada now for 7 years with no tag.</p>
	<p>Nevada has many inaccessible areas to maintain good populations and trophy sizes. Limiting access to OHVs by forest service would hinder harvesting of either sex. Wilderness area tags would not be good as most law abiding citizens know access rules for widerness.</p>
	<p>I have hunted Nevada all my life. My dad had a outfitting business for several years. I am a guide for all spieces in Nevada. I feel that there is to many tags ,for mule deer being let out per year. The quality of trophy mule deer hunting seems to have drpped drastically. To many hunters ,and use of atvs have gotten bad. This has forced me to hunt out of state more.It is sad that u have to hunt other states because of so many people.</p>
	<p>Please have more trophy hunts (late seasons) with a few tags to ease the number of first choice applicants. Then people like myself will have more time to hunt and still have mature deer. Lower the price of non resident tags so rich people are not the onl ones hunting! There are still some real hunters left. You are pricing us out!</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Trophy	<p>I have been deer hunting since the age of 15 and studied deer populations extensively when living in Oregon. I am familiar with herd management also as it relates to cattle. My wife and I often travel to areas in mid-northeastern Nevada to watch and check on the deer populations, which we have observed declining in numbers - not due so much to illnesses, but rather to poor management by NDOW. There need to be more doe tags issued to "cull" and there needs to be the understanding that when hunting seasons take place well before rut, the good genetics are taken out and the breeding is then done by younger, weaker bucks. The doe population dominates. Also, Nevada's mule deer season is way off calendar wise - and with all the studies done nationwide, it is surprising nothing changes here. I have observed a trophy rich area become less so in just the past 5 years. I have seen people proud to shoot little spikes and forked horns. I have seen multiple big, barren old does still in the herds. It is shameful. Hopefully, your studies will put some common sense into this state's approach to deer.</p>
	<p>From what I understand, the quality of trophy mule deer has declined significantly from the 60's and 70's. I did not live here then, but the people who told me this DID live and hunt in Nevada then. Obviously, something has changed, either more predators, more hunters, less food, or possibly a combination of all the above. Not very many hunters I have spoken with approve of the "draw", at all. They liked it better when you could just purchase a tag. Deer, or I should say, the quality of trophy deer were much higher when this method was used. I believe hunting has become another way for the state(s) to just make more money, and because of that, I don't believe that hunting quality deer is NOT at the top of their priority list!!!</p>
	<p>I'm an avid bow hunter and disappointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! Towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucks and bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an opportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big disappointment with only 10 days to hunt this put a lot of hunters in popular spots. Kids only had 3 days to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deer, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I don't understand why a 10 mid hunt was added last year, so why mess with the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. It's not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. They would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. Not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. What's the use!</p>
	<p>I was fortunate to have hunted Mule Deer in Nevada when one could just buy a tag and hunt anywhere in the State during the open season. There were fewer hunters then and no 4-wheel drive vehicles or ATV's. There were trophy bucks then, as there are today and the deer herds seemed to be plentiful in every area. However, as time has gone by and the people population continues to grow, wild game habitat continues to shrink at an alarming rate, and hordes of "HUNTERS?" CONTINUE to apply for limited number of deer tags, I have witnessed the demise and the comeback of deer hunting in Nevada. Certainly, I was unhappy when the draw for tags system came into being. Like many other Native Nevada hunters, I was furious the first time I did not get drawn for a deer tag! Those were dark days for us true hunters. But over all these past years we have learned to accept the fact that we will, in all probability, not draw a deer tag every year. Maybe not every two years, either! What is important is that someone in the family and friends group gets a tag. Then we all get a chance to at least participate in the camping and camaraderie that is so integral to going on the hunt. Besides, when you are not the tag holder, there is no pressure to prove your prowess as a hunter, and you can concentrate on being the eyes and ears of the tag holder. The present system of tag allotments is the only viable way for the growing number of deer hunting applicants to have a chance at getting drawn for a tag. I am probably in the minority, but I am satisfied with not drawing a tag every year. If every applicant</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
	drew a tag every year, our deer herd would be gone the way of the passenger pigeon.
Trophy	I believe Nevada has a good management program and that why it takes so long to draw a trophy tag.
	I am a non resident and have only hunted mule deer there one year. I received a "turnback tag" some other NON-RESIDENT had turned back. My tag was a premium late season tag and I harvested a medium buck. My outfitter lamented about the change in mule deer densit over the years he had witnessed. Elk have really exploded it seems like in Nevada. It also seems that mule deer are the weakest of the the game animals to survive stresses. I feel Nevada though has done what they can to keep it a Trophy state for al their big game animals. I support this style of management. I live in Oregon and they seem to have the opposite plan. They seem to maximize the number of tags-- not the quality. I bought a LOP tags last year in Nevada for a elk hunt and had a fantasti hunt. The rancher I bought it from also lamented on the fact that the mule deer population is way down. We saw just a few deer and no big ones.
	As a native Nevadan & a life long bow hunter I must say it is a privilege to hunt big game in Nevada! The quality of animals on our public land is unmatched. (lets keep it that way). I would like to see more oppportunity for us bow hunters to hunt during the rut in trophy areas, not all of us like our game bedding down by 8:30 am.
	I think that wildfire,range rehabilitation, and depredation are 2 of the main factors that are affecting our deer herds in Elko County. I realize that we have more issues with the number of hunters, and that will not go away. Unfortunately the wildlife nly has so many places to get away from hunting pressure in this state. The over use of OHV has really hampered the deer's ability to get away from hunting pressure. Limiting these vehicles to the roads except for game recovery may help. The chances of deer to get to the age it needs to be a quality trophy buck are very limited. Most of the bucks I see taken each season are less than 3 years old. The bucks that would be a trophy at 6 to 8 years of age are being taken as a 2 or 3 year old because the have more points or larger horns than other bucks of the same age class. Consequently, genetically inferior bucks are doing the breeding and we (hunters) are breeding out the genetics that would produce the larger trophy bucks, and probably the better pysical attributes the animals need to survive the rigors of there habitat. It's an interesting problem, and one with no right answers. Good luck with the survey.
	Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may sart with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tgs. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectaions by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.
	I would like to see a few more hunt units managed for Trophy Bucks, like 194, 065 and 081. But, I would like to see certain areas like 7 and 10 continue to have a lot of tags given out, so that people who like to hunt every year are satisfied.
	I typically trophy hunt for mule deer most of the season. If I haven't had any success in harvesting a trophy buck before the last couple days I have to hunt, I do my best to harvest any legal buck for the meat. My son is currently a toddler, but I look frward to teaching him about wildlife and hunting.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Units	I USUALLY DON'T GET MY FIRST CHOICE UNIT. I usually get drawn once every three years. i am pleased with our hunting program.
	I have hunter unit 222 in the past, and having a wilderness in the zone is a good thing. I am a hard hunter and in good hunting shape. I like going places that other people can't go, or will not go. Maybe have separate drawings to hunt in wilderness ars in some of these units can be a good thing. I think more restrictions of motor vehicles is a good thing.
	I have never drawn a deer tag myself in Nevada. I have been putting in for 5 years now. I primarily hunt Utah because that is the state I reside. Some of the great things Nevada does with its hunts that Utah could learn from is low hunter density it ha during its hunts. I have talked to numerous hunters both Utah and Nevada and they all agree. We would much rather draw a tag once every three years but have a chance at a trophy quality deer rather than draw a tag every year and having to take immaturebucks. The problem with Utah I feel is hunting and tags are monetarily driven, so they hand out way too many tags to make money. The hunts I have been on in Nevada I was extremely shocked and satisfied that there were almost no pressure from other huntes during the hunts. I have seen many trophy animals in Nevada and that is why I continue applying for tags. I feel Nevada will get its continued success by providing opportunities for people to hunt and harvest trophy deer rather than one-two year old bcks. Proper management of units that continually produce trophy quality bucks is crucial. Utah has ruined numerous units by providing way too many tags for units that once only issued a few. The trophy units now become moderate units. Certain areas hae premium genetics and that needs to be tracked to continue the progression of the unit. One thing Utah does very well is have Premium Limited Entry areas where the great genetics have been recognized. These units are some of the BEST in the entire Westen United States. Problem is other units used to be that way until the gave out too many tags and ruined the herd.
	I drew a deer tag in 2013 for unit 081. I applied for this unit because it was a Dec/Jan hunt I wasted 12 points on this hunt thinking it was a trophy area. It was not! Seen over 400 deer but all doe + 2 or 3 yr old bucks seen lots of elk but no good bucks scouted 4 days prior to season, then hunted 10 days. I dont mind not getting or seeing trophy deer, but it should not be advertised as such I wasted 12 year of applying :(
	I have wanted to hunt a back country hunt in nevada for a long time. I have not been able to draw. But I am willing to wait.
	maanagement of units 10 and11 seem to have been overharvested of small bucks hence larger bucks are fewer!
	The area I hunt in Nevada is very remote and only accessible by foot. In the past 30 years I have only seen two other hunters during the season, and have only drawn four times. It would be nice to see a few more tags aloud in these areas, with only foot ccess. The zone I applied for only allows 25 tags for the hole zone. We have always applied as a party of four and and try for the latest season offered. Average only drawing every 7 years. So every year we just plan on getting are money back. Nevada sould have a application fee that requires everyone to purchases a license and charge for the tags only if you draw. This way everyone would be on the same level for points and the points system could go away thru attrition. Myself and our party only hav one more hunt in us for this type of area so if there would have been a few more chances for tags in remote /wilderness areas would have been nice. To late for us, but maybe for the future hunters of Nevada less tags in accessible areas and more tags iNon-residentemote areas.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Units	<p>I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!</p>
	<p>Nevada has many inaccessible areas to maintain good populations and trophy sizes. Limiting access to OHVs by forest service would hinder harvesting of either sex. Wilderness area tags would not be good as most law abiding citizens know access rules for widerness.</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make Doe tags available in all units.</li> <li>2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths.</li> <li>3. Extend hunt dates.</li> <li>4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer.</li> <li>5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw unts to decrease hunter congestion.</li> <li>6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags.</li> <li>7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters.</li> <li>8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only.</li> <li>9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion.</li> <li>10.Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts.</li> <li>11.Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY.</li> <li>12.Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.</li> </ol>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Units	<p>I am originally from Canada where: 1) you buy white-tailed deer and moose permits at stores (e.g. any store that sold firearms) even during the hunting season; 2) can hunt in any Crown Land (similar to BLM) area you want (no zone preselection required or restrictions); 3) there is NO lottery bullshit. NDOW should consider the ZEC (Zone Ecologically Controlled) system used in Quebec where large areas of land are placed under the jurisdiction of non-private ZEC clubs that are managed by its members, under the watchful eye of fish &amp; game. Then, rather than the tragedy of the commons, you get a "club" of like-minded individuals that are interested in a specific area. They take philosophical ownership of said area. Quotas for that area are set by fish &amp; game. Back home, we would pay \$300 for a combined hunting &amp; fishing ZEC membership, in addition to the provincial permit for whatever you were hunting for. People are happy to pay it because ZECs are well-managed and full of game. I want to hunt in an area I know...not where NDOW tells me I drew a tag because of lower pressure in some area I have no connection to. And, I want to hunt with my son and colleagues/friends...that is near impossible with a random lottery system. Back home, I hunted where my father hunted, which is where his father hunted, etc. Losing that connection to the land and not allowing displaced hunters such as myself to redevelop it will result in fewer hunters and hunters going to other states. Don't believe me? I recently bought 500 acres of forest land in Maine, where landowners are strongly favored for white-tailed deer tags...drawing something like 75% of the time. I will never waste my money on a big game lottery in Nevada again. NDOW has forgotten what hunting is about: Hunting is: (1) hunting in an area you feel connected to, whether it is family history or something else; (2) hunting with the people you chose to hunt with, in my case hunting partners.</p>
	<p>I really enjoy hunting with friends, however, I find it difficult to tag in the same areas they do at the same time. That's why I turned in my tag for 2013. 2013 was the first tag I drew in the last 4 years.</p>
	<p>for the 2013 season we had a large group of tagholders (8) for Ruby Mountains, lots of deer, good access, plenty of bucks and opportunity, but you have to get out and work for them (Wilderness Area). 2012 season in unit 222, not so much. difference?, lot of hunters, lots of ATVs running everywhere, lots of wild horses, in particular. muleshoe valley and south. Range was in poor condition, lots of animals competing for limited forage. I understand people will raise hell if you limit ATVs and their ability to get around easily, and the horses will be a never ending debate here! For the future of muledeer, I prefer more roadless areas and as much habitat enhancement/improvement as possible and predator control, even if it means higher tag/license cost for everyone. Will tolerate tag reductions in many units if needed</p>
	<p>There are a lot of areas that Department of Wildlife has no mule deer hunting one is the southern Nevada area Mount Charleston. I have seen many deer in this area in day and night because I would have to pull them off the roads do to cars hitting them. This is when I was working for Dep. of NDOT, but they have few tags for Bull Elk in this area but no mule deer tags.</p>
	<p>I drew a PIW tag in 2013 very lucky Harvested a 190+ 8x6 in unit 081 Hunted 27 days total between all legal seasons. I believe NDOW is trying to manage areas not units when areas were smaller 5 years ago example Area 15 was managed by 2 units, Area 6 066 067 068 061 062 063 064 065 is too large to manage as one choice meaning the units that seem to have more animals are receiving the majority of hunter pressure, Also I believe that when deer counts are being done NDOW is counting animals that are on private ground + cannot be hunted Example T.S. Ranch, Marys Rive Ranch, Filipin Ranch, Horse shoe Ranch, Patave Ranches, IL property. Thank you for the chance to complete the survey.</p>
Weapon	<p>Hunting deer in Nevada with my bow is the highlight of my year; nearly every year. I have drawn a Nevada archery tag in all but one year in the last 20+ years. Do not make Nevada like Utah with tons of hunters; keep the quality.</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Weapon	Im against the late season so called trophy hunts. Part of the experience should be the meat not run down deer after the rut. What about mussel loader hunts. These modern mussel loaders shoot verey good, why should they have a advantage in the draw.
	I would like to see archery seasons and hunts extended.to be more available to people. they are typically lower success hunts. allowing people more time to enjoy the outdoors without significantly increasing deer kill. I would also like to see "no huntin zones" within one mile of the recently built deer crossings. it is like shooting fish in a barrel.
	I am a non-resident to Nevada. I have applied for tag thru Cabela's tag but have not been successful in drawing a tag. Due to my job, scheduling time off is heard and limits scheduled time off to hunt with anyone else as a party type hunt. I am primarily abow hunter but given an opportunity to hunt in a state that you are more likely to draw out a tag, if you hunt with any legal weapon, then I will accept that.
	I feel very special as to have been selected for this survey. I was selected as an alternate for the late season archery tag in Unit 10. I am a rifle hunter first choice, but have recently changed my hunting style to archery for the opportunity to see orld class bucks in the Rubly Mountains!! This past season, I ate "tag soup" which is not a big deal to me. I enjoy the scenery, the animals, and having a good time with my friends. I would like to say that I was dissappointed in the deer numbers i sawthis year. I believe that this unit is being hunted for too long and too hard!! The season opens in August and the deer do not get a break until the season is over which was November 20th. I cut short my trip because of the low deer numbers I saw tis season. Please Please give these deer a break on tag numbers and hunt dates!! The late seson rifle season ended on the 8th and our season opened on the 10th, really??? We have to try and hunt right behind a rifle season with a bow?? Do you rally think those big bucks will be there when they see more camp trailers, OHV's, and trucks still driving the same roads. I hiked my ass off and only saw a mediocre 3 pointer that went 24" wide. I hunted him for 4 days with no luck. I would like to se a 2 week break after a rifle season, before the bow season starts. Also, limiting the number of tags from 350 to 150. Unless a Ruby Mountain hunt is separated from the Unit 10 all inclusive tag, which might work out better. The bow hunt also needs to e at least 17 days, instead of 10. I had an unusual encounter, which involved a Golden Eagle trying to take a mature doe that was being followed by the 3-pointer i was hunting. He swooped 2 times with talons out trying to kill her. I saw the same Eagle2 times flying in the same canyon. Everyone i have told, has never heard of this, but it happened and I witnessed it. That was truly amazing and capped off my hunt for sure!!!
	Archery season used to be pretty low-impact. With the introduction of muzzle-loaders & all of their seasons along with the booming population of elk & the numbers of people that come with EACH tag, huntable areas for those of us without horses/pack animals has become "competitive".* Those w/o horses use the populat OHV/ATV. Used properly, its not an issue. However, fast "mentality" that is being socitally engineered into us, hunting has become "sport" more than a recreation. I really don't know how to address this. The hunting 20 years ago was much more enjoyable than in modern times. *People with Elk tags seem to find it necessary to scout during archery season, even though they have a late season cow-tag.
	1.Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw unts to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion. 10.Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11.Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12.Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Weapon	stop cramming hunters into shorter seasons! have more 2x2 or spiked hunts to lesson the pressure on more mature bucks. in areas where you don't see many big bucks rotate hunts on 4x4 only one season and 2x2 or spiked hunts two seasons that allows more bigbucks to mature in those areas and make larger hunt units to spread hunters out more and longer seasons that insures better success!!!! and why we can't use crossbows for bow hunts and scopes on black powder it just makes greater success /// we want succes to control pop. better other states have great success with these
	I bowhunt because I enjoy the challenge, because tags are always available, and because there are fewer hunters afield during bow season. Motorcycles and atv's are a major source of annoyance to serious bowhunters and frequently cause us to search for newhunting areas.
	Im an avid bow hunter and disapointed in our local board, because the 10 late archery hunt was cut down to ten days. This hunt used to run from the 10th of November to the 30th! towards the end of this hunt, the quality of this hunt was outstanding seeing many bucksand bucks with trophy class characteristics. Just to see giant bucks was a real treat, I did not harvest a buck nor did I get an oppportunity to make an ethical shot, but I did capture some with the camera. 2013 hunt was a big diapointment with only 10 days to hunt this put alot of hunters in npopular spots. Kids only had 3 dyas to hunt because of school. I saw more hunters than deers, 31 deer to be exact and 6 of those little bucks. The weather was not a help either, quite warm. The rifle hunt had deer spooked. I dont understand why a 10 mid hunt was added lat year, so why messwith the 10 late archery it still is a challenging hunt the way it was. Myself and six of my friends will bag this hunt this year if it remains this way. Be looking at Utah or Idaho next year. Its not even economical or a family friendly hunt. The Elko advisory board seems interested in the guide service needs only. they would rather do away with the hunt all together. I thought it was the county advisory board of wildlife. not the OBAMA advisory board of wildlife. whats the use!
	I very much enjoy my time hunting in Nevada. I hunt in the wilderness of the Ruby Mountains, so a few of your qustions were a little hard for me to answer. The Nevada draw system has given my 2 sons and I a great opporitunity to hunt together without havig to wait for many years to do so. Thank You for that experience. I also enjoy the length of the archery mule deer season, because I spend much of the time scoping out the deer and making a decision of which one to go after. Without tthe length of the seson you offer this would not be possible.
	I became interested in Nevada Mule deer hunting in the late 70's. I have applied many many times and have drew last choice archery tags in 2000 & 2001. In 2013, I finally drew an any weapon tag, it was my last choice. Access to public land were blocked by so called land owners. High number of hunter were confined to limited areas, decreasng success rates. My thoughts are should I ever apply again or buy a trophy tag from a land owner?
	One of the initial questions ask the primary weapon when "applying" for tags. I answered with "any legal weapon." However, I have only been drawn for archery (6 times in total). Also, I mistakenly checked that I hunted in 2012 for mule deer; that hun was for pronghorn.
	As a native Nevadan & a life long bow hunter I must say it is a privilege to hunt big game in Nevada! The quality of animals on our public land is unmatched. (lets keep it that way). I would like to see more oppportunity for us bow hunters to hunt during the rut in trophy areas, not all of us like our game bedding down by 8:30 am.
	Archery season would be better w sept 1st opening.

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Weapon	<p>Many of the questions regarding preferences of hunt or harvest would be specific to what was drawn that year. We are lucky that we have multiple opportunities for all weapon classes all followed by a second drawing for left over tags. Many years I may start with a trophy hunt as first choice and then select another weapon class with better odds then follow with best odds as my last choice often in archery. In the years when I am selective I may wait to the second draw to go after the left over archery tgs. Although I generally like to hunt every year, there are occasions where I may have a hunt out of state (or other family obligation) where I would only want to draw if it was a good to exceptional quality hunt. Once I draw the hunt I judge my expectations by the unit I have drawn. Although I always strive to pursue a mature buck, I may settle for something less (sometimes even the smallest buck) depending on the particular situation.</p>
	<p>My decision to pursue does is typically constrained by the pursuit of an antlered deer tag. I do like the proposal of antlered/antlerless archery deer tags that may help manage herds without increasing hunter numbers.</p>
Wilderness	<p>Less wilderness management areas and More opportunity to hunt for long time residents. I grew up in the state of NV with fond memories of hunting and spending time in the wilderness with my father and siblings. I feel like the gap between tags takes away lot of those opportunities that I should be having with my children. Which would also allow them the memories of caring for our wilderness and wildlife and quality outdoors time and less TV and Games etc.</p>
	<p>I had a slightly less than desirable Mule Deer Hunt this past year. The area where we drew tags has a very large "Wilderness Area" designation that severely limits access to prime hunting areas when on foot or using an OHV. At almost 65 years of age, I am not hike for extended periods of time in rough country without several days of knee pain afterward. Access to good hunting areas is very important to me as an aging hunter and this seems to be disappearing in Nevada. More and more areas that used to be accessible are now "Wilderness Areas". It seems that is a popular thing to do for politicians sitting in Washington D.C., preserve things for the future by 'stopping' access to public areas for the majority of the current population. I do not own any horses and do not have any friends with horses so I am shut out of most of these Wilderness Areas. I am seriously considering moving my hunting activities out of the state of Nevada for better access and greater Deer Tag availability else where, even if it would cost more to hunt in these other locations.</p>
	<p>Get handle on the mountain Lion,&amp; coyotes , also put a open season on ravens&amp; crows to help out the sage grouse,or we won't be able to go deer hunting where we would like to,because if they list the sage grouse there will be all kind of restrictions on our public lands. Our wonderful Harry Reid has had already made to many wilderness areas I'm getting up in years so those areas off limits to me,and I. Don't think that's the right way to treat your older people that have hunted most of there life.there I got that off my chest!</p>
	<p>I very much enjoy my time hunting in Nevada. I hunt in the wilderness of the Ruby Mountains, so a few of your questions were a little hard for me to answer. The Nevada draw system has given my 2 sons and I a great opportunity to hunt together without having to wait for many years to do so. Thank You for that experience. I also enjoy the length of the archery mule deer season, because I spend much of the time scoping out the deer and making a decision of which one to go after. Without the length of the season you offer this would not be possible.</p>
	<p>We need to find an accommodation to allow able bodied seniors to hunt Wilderness areas with their middle/younger age kids. I have found out that when you are 70+ your body revolts at climbing the higher mountains, especially in wilderness areas.</p>
	<p>Do not like wilderness areas</p>

Topic	Written Comments <sup>1</sup>
Youth	<p>Some of the questions in this survey are difficult to answer because my answers change depending on the area in Nevada. Some areas in my opinion are have lower success rates but give more tags, other areas give fewer tags but have more trophy deer. I like having trophy areas as well as areas where I can get a tag more often because it lets me choose what kind of experience I want. If I just want to get a tag and get out there with my sons, I have that option. But, if I am looking for a trophy buck I don't ind taking a few years for a chance. The one question that was not asked was about the junior hunts in Nevada. My sons are too young to hunt now but I think it has become harder to draw a junior tag. My nephew has 3 points and has not drawn out since he sarterd putting in. I think youth should have a better chance to draw out in Nevada than they currently do.</p>
	<p>1. Make Doe tags available in all units. 2. Decrease the number of either sex tags given to youths. 3. Extend hunt dates. 4. Allow longer breaks between hunt dates to decrease hunter pressure on deer. 5. Break up multiple draw units into single draw units to decrease hunter congestion. 6. Allow adult hunters to draw for leftover youth tags. 7. Make either sex tags available to all hunters. 8. Sell tags over the counter to Nevada residents only. 9. Allow 1 buck/1 doe tag combo draw for a higher fee t reduce hunter congestion. 10. Allow visually impaired/legally blind hunters to use a crossbow during archery hunts. 11. Have special hunt dates for handicapped/disabled hunters ONLY. 12. Allow 1 either sex deer/1 antlerless elk combo draw to reduce hunte congestion.</p>
	<p>It seems to me the future of Mule Deer hunting and, accordingly, the future funding of management and habitat programs is based on young hunters. I see a trend of more older hunters and fewer young people. Certainly there are societal reasons for this bt also I think we should do what we can to encourage young people, especially those under 18 years of age, to be involved. A lot of older hunters have been drawing tags and filling their freezers for years, which is terrific, but to stimulate the intrest of younger sportsmen and women I sincerely think they should get first chance at tags. Also, I agree that it isn't right for an older hunter, mentor, parent or other relative to fill a younger hunter's tag. The reverse situation should be allowed though without fine or penalty. If I draw and my young daughter or a grandchild didn't, because the system didn't give them preference, I should be able to let them fill my tag. Naturally they should have a hunting license and meet all the other requiements for hunter safety, proper weapon for the tag issued such as muzzle loader, archery or whatever. Making it illegal to have a young person fill an older relative's tag makes no sense.</p>
	<p>I would like to attend a meeting that explains more about the decisions made to manage deer in Nevada. I don't agree with an opening day not being on a weekend. I also think the 14 day season is very limiting to working hunters. (weekends should be considered in season planning) Youth seasons should incorporate all the same days of all available adult season dates. This allows for parents to hunt with their children at the same times. I agree with the current youth tags allowing for all weapons/season and doe or buck harvest. Private land owners should not be allowed to block off public land access behind their property. I think there is a very real problem with predators reducing deer populations (especially mountain lions). There should be more ephasis to control these predators.</p>
	<p>I would like to see the regulations changed to require a minimum size to harvest a buck. Taking a spike or a small forked horn prevents the animal from reaching maturity and possible trophy size. I would also like to see a requirement that any adult wo accompanies a junior hunter attend a class on hunting regulations and hunting ethics. A few years ago, I ran into an adult with 2 junior hunters who were about to shoot a small buck from their vehicle 15 minutes after sundown. When I informed him that h couldn't let the kids shoot, it became apparent that he was unfamiliar with the regulations and he was clueless about ethics.</p>

Comments submitted by the survey respondents were categorized into 39 different topics. The table below shows the topics and the count of comments related to each topic. Comments containing multiple topics are repeated under each topic so that the reader can see the complete context in which the topic was mentioned.

Topic	Count		Topic	Count
Access	28		Money	15
Cameras	6		Non-Resident	16
Cost	14		OHV	31
Coyotes	7		Out-of-State	22
Disease	2		Opportunity	9
Does	11		Poaching	3
Elk	14		Positive	17
Experience	16		Predators	26
Fire	13		Quality	27
Guides	13		Seasons	31
Habitat	32		Skills	13
Herd	64		Success	5
Horses	26		Survey	16
Hunters	55		Tags	119
Hunts	9		Trophy	34
Info	5		Units	14
Lions	14		Weapon	17
Mature	21		Wilderness	6
Meat	7		Youth	5
Mgmnt	35			

**For more information, please contact:**

**Nick Sanyal, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
Department of Conservation Social Sciences  
and Bioregional Planning Program  
College of Natural Resources  
University of Idaho  
875 Perimeter Drive MS 1139  
Moscow, Idaho 83844-1139

208 885 7528 (phone)

208 885 6226 (fax)

[nsanyal@uidaho.edu](mailto:nsanyal@uidaho.edu)

**Ed Krumpe, Ph.D**

Professor  
Department of Conservation Social Sciences  
College of Natural Resources  
University of Idaho  
875 Perimeter Drive MS 1139  
Moscow, Idaho 83844-1139

208 885 7428 (phone)

208 885 6226 (fax)

[ekrumpe@uidaho.edu](mailto:ekrumpe@uidaho.edu)

**Alexandria Middleton**

Research Assistant  
Department of Conservation Social Sciences  
College of Natural Resources  
University of Idaho  
875 Perimeter Drive MS 1139  
Moscow, Idaho 83844-113

208 691-6753 (phone)

208 885 6226 (fax)

[midd8383@vandals.uidaho.edu](mailto:midd8383@vandals.uidaho.edu)

