

**TAG ALLOCATION AND APPLICATION HUNT COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the May 9, 2013 Meeting**

The Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC) met on 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at the City of Reno Chambers, 1 East First Street, Reno, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Jack Robb  
Rex Flowers  
Joe Crim  
Michael McBeath  
Jim Jenne - Absent

**STAFF:** Bob Haughian  
Maureen Hullinger

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chad Bliss  
Don Sefton - Wildlife Administrative Services

**NOTE:** A tape recording of these proceedings is retained by the Department of Wildlife and is available for review upon request.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Committee Members, Determination of Quorum** – Chairman Robb called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda** – Chairman Robb

Joe Crim motioned to approve the agenda.

Rex Flowers seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action**

The Committee will review the minutes from the February 1, 2013 meeting of the TAAHC and may take action to approve the minutes.

Michael McBeath motioned to approve the minutes.

Rex Flowers seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence - Chairman Robb - Informational**

Committee members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Committee. Any item requiring Committee action may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda. The Committee will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Committee since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Committee members may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by the department will also be discussed.

There were no items.

**5. Items for Consideration for Inclusion on the TAAHC Topic List – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action**

The Committee will review suggested Tag Allocation and Application Hunt topics received from County Advisory Boards and may take action to add topics to the TAAHC Topic List for future consideration for implementation.

Bob Haughian explained to the committee that the new TAAHC Topics currently were either introduced by the TAAHC members or by the CAB members. He suggested to the committee to go through each one and rank them as 1 – likely, 2 – has merit, and 3 – doubtful.

Chairman Robb said that he spoke with JJ Goicoechea who is the president of the Cattlemen Association and the concern is the cow elk hunt and the numbers of cow not being taken. The biggest concern is the hunter's success and the hunter congestion. He is concerned about the congestion when the cow elk season is at the same time as the deer hunt. This

diminishes the quality and success rate of the hunt for deer and for the cow elk hunter. How can this issue be solved? Chairman Robb suggested that if a hunter applies for a deer tag, he would also have the option of checking a box during the application period that would also allow him to be put in a secondary drawing for a cow elk tag. If he is successful in drawing the deer tag, he would also get a cow elk tag. This way it would help reduce the hunter congestion problem and reduce the cow elk in some areas. He also stated that he would like the TAAHC to think of a solution on how to reduce the cow elk population and hunter congestion problem.

Chad Bliss asked the committee if they have considered introducing a youth cow elk hunt. He suggested that if the Adult drew a deer tag in a particular area, that the youth could also draw a cow elk in the same area.

Michael McBeath suggested on opening the cow elk season earlier and asked why NDOW doesn't.

Maureen Hullinger said that question would have to be addressed by the Game Division.

Rex Flowers suggested on combining the bull elk hunt season with the cow elk season.

Michael McBeath inquired why is the waiting period on Antelope horns longer than ears if harvested is at 5 years?

Chairman Robb explained that the waiting period for all harvested animals was reviewed at the previous TAAHC and felt at that time it did not need to be changed. He asked Don Sefton with Systems Consultants if he could run the numbers of those hunter's who are in a waiting period for Antelope and how many bonus points are held for that hunt.

Don Sefton said he would run a report on how many bonus points hunter's have for Antelope.

Chairman Robb said once the TAAHC has this information, then the committee would evaluate the waiting period for Antelope and possibly change it from 5 years to 3 or even to a no waiting period if harvested.

Chairman Robb asked if anyone had any more comments on this and if not, wanted to proceed to the topic list. The following section descriptions (i.e., A.1.2) relate to line items on the TAAHC Topic List.

A.1.2: Chairman Robb informed the committee that he feels this topic should be considered. He suggested transferring the bonus points to another as a "one time gift," by being able to do this could recruit more hunters. This would also increase the revenue for the department. Committee ranked as 2.

A.1.3 – Committee ranked as 3.

A.1.4 – Committee ranked as 3.

A.1.5 – Chairman Robb said he would like to discuss this for the youth deer hunt with the committee. Don Sefton informed the committee that this could be done and with a preferential points system for the youth hunt, more youths would be more likely to draw a tag. Chad Bliss asked how many youth's go unsuccessful now in drawing a tag. Don Sefton reported that the unsuccessful youths are in the 100's. Don stated that he could run a report on the statistics regarding the youth hunt. After further discussion, the committee agreed on a ranking of 3.

A.1.6 – Rex Flowers said that this topic would fall under A.1.7. The committee did not rank this topic item.

A.1.7 – Rex Flower stated that if a person returns their tag, that they should not retain all of their bonus points. He thinks that there needs to be some sort of penalty such as giving up half of their bonus points. Committee ranked as 1.

A.1.8 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.1.9 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.1.10 – Chad Bliss asked about bonus point preferential for youths. He suggested that once a youth completes the hunter safety course, that they would earn a bonus point for the youth hunt. This would help the youth in drawing a tag the first year they apply. Chairman Robb informed the committee to remember that every time a rule is changed, a group of hunters will miss out while others will benefit. The committee asked Don Sefton if he could do an analysis on how many first time youth applicants there are and how many 2<sup>nd</sup> year applicants. The committee agreed to rank this as 1 and be placed as Ref# A.1.10 under the topic of Bonus Points.

A.1.11 - Chad Bliss addressed the loss of bonus points after 2 consecutive years without applying. He suggested that instead of punishing a hunter for not applying for 2 consecutive years, we should reward them for applying for 5 consecutive years by giving them an additional bonus point, such as Arizona does and call it a "Loyalty point". The committee agreed to rank this as a 3.

A.2.2 – Maureen Hullinger informed the committee that the last time tag and license fees increased was in 2003. Prior to that, was 13 years ago. Maureen Hullinger informed the committee currently the fees are set for deer in NRS. There is a fee for residents and a fee for nonresidents which is a tiered structure. To change the fee, this would require language change in the NRS and you could not exceed the highest amount for that species. Maureen also asked the committee to address the nonresident cow elk fee of \$500 to be lowered. Chairman Robb would like to see the "Trophy hunts" have fee increase. This was ranked by the Committee as 1.

A.2.3 - Don Sefton informed the committee that currently Wildlife Administrative Services does not have a \$3 fee or using the internet. There is a \$2 fee for residents and a \$3.50 fee for nonresidents when applying or purchasing a license over the internet. Bob Haughian informed the committee that currently there are 2 bills in the Legislature regarding internet fees. The first bill is to eliminate all convenience fees which did not pass. The second bill that is still alive, states that state agency's will charge a \$2 convenience fee for every credit card transaction for \$50 or more. Committee ranked as 3.

A.3.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.3.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.3.4 - Committee ranked as 2.

A.3.5 - Chairman Robb reported that this topic was brought up by the Humboldt County Advisory Board and would like the TAAHC to consider this. Bob Haughian informed the committee that NDOW's Law Enforcement should be involved in the discussion on this topic with any concerns they may have. Chad Bliss felt that an 8 year old was too young and thought that the age limit should be raised. Maureen Hullinger pointed out that this topic would take NRS change in regards to the minimum age and the issuance of the tag and the non-transferable of the tag. Committee ranked as 3.

A.3.6 - Committee ranked as 2.

A.3.7 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.3.8 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.4.1 Mixed Party application – Maureen Hullinger asked the committee to keep this topic in mind for a resident and nonresident cow elk hunt. But before the committee could proceed on this, the fee would need to be in place. She also suggested that NDOW Game Division to be in on the discussion on this topic. Committee ranked as 2.

A.6.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.6.3 - Don Sefton is to provide further information on this topic. Committee ranked as 2.

A.8.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.8.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.8.4 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.9.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.9.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

A.10.2 - Committee ranked as 1.

T.2.2 - Chairman Robb asked Don Sefton if he could furnish the numbers of hunters that drew multiple tags in the 2013 Main draw. Committee ranked as 2.

T.5.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.5.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.5.4 - Michael McBeath asked why in NRS is there an incentive program of deer, like there is for the elk, but NDOW does not have this implemented. Maureen Hullinger said she is aware of the NRS but does not know and she would have to do research on this as to the how and why it came about. The committee agreed to put this under T.5.4 with a ranking of 2.

T.6.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.8.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.8.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.9.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.10.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.10.3 - Committee ranked as 3.

T.12.2 - Committee ranked as 3.

M.1.1 - Committee ranked as 3. This topic is a matter for NDOW Law Enforcement.

M.2 - Committee ranked as 3. This topic is a matter for the Predator Committee.

**6. Online Survey Process - Bob Haughian, Chief of Operations – Informational**

The online customer survey process used during the 2012 and 2013 big game tag application process will be explained.

Bob Haughian reported to the committee that last year online survey, there were 5,066 who responded to the survey and this year around 7,500.

**7. Survey Questions for TAAHC Use – Chairman Robb – For Possible Action**

The Committee will review suggested survey questions received from County Advisory Boards and may take action to use such questions in a survey to obtain feedback from Nevada's big game hunters.

Chairman Robb suggested that the TAAHC review the questions that were submitted by the County Advisory Board members and or bring in questions of their own if they had any for the next TAAHC meeting.

**8. Public Comment Period - Persons wishing to speak may do so at this time. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Committee at this time; any item requiring Committee action may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda.**

Chad Bliss wanted to comment on the NRS that refers to the issuance of Special Incentive deer tags. He would like to find out the history as to this NRS. What the landowner would have to do to participate in this program.

Maureen Hullinger stated that she would find out about how this NRS came to be.

**9. Future Committee Meetings – Chairman Robb – Informational**

The Committee will reconfirm the date and location of the next TAAHC meeting.

Next TAAHC will be scheduled for June 21, 2013 in Ely, at 8:00 am at the Bristlecone Convention Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.