

Trapping Regulation Committee Members:

Chairman David McNinch
Commissioners: Jeremy Drew, Jack Robb,
Karen Layne
Public member: John Sullivan

Staff to the Committee: Rob Buonamici

(775) 688-1540
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**NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
TRAPPING REGULATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Nevada Department of Wildlife
60 Youth Center Road
Elko Nevada 89801**

Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 3:00 p.m.

Final Agenda

NOTE: Items may be taken out of order; items may be combined for consideration by the public body; and Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Individuals with a disability who are in need of special services should contact the Department at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 775-688-1549. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department via telecommunication device (TDD) (775) 688-1550.

TIME LIMITS: Public Comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item, and are limited to (3) minutes per person. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items or attend and make comment during the meeting and are asked complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Committee will consider, Committee members may choose not respond to public comments in order to avoid deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

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

NOTE: Public comment allowed on each action item and at the end of the meeting for items not on the agenda.

Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 3:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order – Chairman McNinch**

- 2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman McNinch - For Possible Action**
The Committee will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Committee may remove items from the agenda, combine items for consideration or take items out of order.
- 3. Member Items/Announcements Chairman McNinch – Informational**
Committee members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Committee. Any item requiring Committee action will be scheduled on a future Committee agenda.
- 4.* Approval of Minutes – Chairman McNinch - For Possible Action**
The Committee may take action to approve Committee minutes from the January 31, 2014 meeting.
- 5.* Overview of Recent Legislative Bills and Wildlife Commission Actions Pertinent to Trapping in Nevada – DAG Newton/Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici – Informational**
The Committee will be provided with a brief overview of recent Legislative bills, including Senate Bills 213 (2013) and 226 (2011), as well as recent Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission actions pertinent to trapping in Nevada.
- 6. Definition and/or Interpretation of the Terms “close proximity” and “populated and heavily used areas” as Used in Senate Bill 213 – DAG Newton/Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action**
DAG Newton will provide guidance on defining and/or interpreting the terms “close proximity” and “populated or heavily used areas” as used in Senate Bill 213. The Committee may take action to define and/or interpret “close proximity” and “populated or heavily used areas” as they relate to Wildlife Management Areas exclusive of 26, 28, 19, 02, and 29 or portions thereof.
- 7. * Possible Recommendation to Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Regarding Visitation Frequency for Certain Traps, Snares or Similar Devices Placed in Close Proximity to a Populated or Heavily Used Area – Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action**
The Committee may take action to recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners the frequency at which a person who takes or causes to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or similar devices which do not, or are not designed to cause immediate death to the mammals must visit a trap, snare or similar device exclusive of Wildlife Management Areas 26, 28, 19, 02 and 29 or portions thereof. In providing a recommendation the Committee will consider requiring a trap, snare or similar device to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area.

8. Future Committee Meetings and Potential Agenda Items – Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action

The Committee will discuss the date, time and location of the next Committee meeting. The Committee will also review and may take action to set potential agenda items for that meeting.

9. Public Comment Period

Persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Committee at this time; any item requiring Committee action may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda. In addition to this Public Comment Period, Public Comment limited to three minutes per speaker on each agenda action item, but not on reports or informational items.

• *Support material provided including updates, and posted to the NDOW website (www.ndow.org). Support material for this meeting may be requested from the Joanne Trendler, at (775) 688-1549; and will be available at the meeting. Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex, or disability. In accordance with NRS 241.020, this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted at the meeting location, and at the following Department of Wildlife offices: 1100 Valley Road, Reno, NV, 89512; 380 W. "B" Street, Fallon, NV, 89406; 815 E. Fourth Street, Winnemucca, NV 89445; 60 Youth Center, Elko, NV, 89801; 1218 N. Alpha Street, Ely, NV 89301; 744 S. Racetrack Road, Henderson, NV 89015; and 4747 W. Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV, 89108.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868. Individuals with a disability who are in need of special services should contact Joanne Trendler at the Department at least 24 hours prior to (775) 688-1676.

Senate Bill No. 213—Senators Parks, Manendo, Spearman,
Segerblom; and Woodhouse (by request)

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Carlton, Ohrenschall;
Martin, Munford and Pierce

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to trapping; requiring the registration of each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals; providing that any information in the possession of the Department of Wildlife concerning the registration of a trap, snare or similar device is confidential; requiring the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations prescribing the frequency of required visits for a trap, snare or similar device; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides that any person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away personal goods or property of another person with a value of less than \$650 or who knowingly buys, receives, possesses or withholds such property is guilty of a misdemeanor. (NRS 205.240, 205.275) **Section 1.6** of this bill provides that a person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away traps, snares or similar devices with an aggregate value of less than \$650 or who knowingly buys, receives, possesses or withholds stolen traps, snares or similar devices with an aggregate value of less than \$650 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Existing law requires a person who takes fur-bearing mammals by any legal method or unprotected mammals by trapping to obtain a trapping license. (NRS 503.454) Existing law also provides that each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals may bear a number registered with the Department of Wildlife or may be permanently marked with the name and address of the owner or trapper using it. If a trap is registered, the registration is permanent and the registrant must pay a one-time fee of \$10 at the time the first trap, snare or similar device is registered. (NRS 503.452) **Section 3** of this bill amends those provisions by: (1) requiring each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals to be registered with the Department; and (2) requiring each registered trap, snare or similar device to bear a number which is assigned by the Department and is affixed to the trap, snare or similar device in the manner specified by regulations adopted by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

Under existing law, every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by any legal method is required to obtain a trapping license. Existing law also makes it unlawful to move or disturb a lawfully-set trap. (NRS 503.454) **Section 4** of this bill: (1) requires every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by trap, snare or similar device to obtain a trapping license; and (2) clarifies that the prohibition against moving or disturbing a lawfully-set trap also includes any lawfully-set snare or similar device.

Existing law requires each person who sets or places a trap, snare or similar device to visit those devices at least once every 96 hours and requires the removal of trapped mammals from the devices. (NRS 503.570) **Section 5** of this bill requires the Commission to adopt regulations prescribing the frequency at which a



person who sets or places a trap, snare or similar device is required to visit the trap, snare or similar device, which must be at least once every 96 hours.

EXPLANATION - Matter in *bolded italics* is new, matter between brackets ~~{omitted material}~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 501 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 1.3 and 1.6 of this act.

Sec. 1.3. *“Trap” means a device that is designed, built or made to close upon or hold fast any portion of an animal.*

Sec. 1.6. 1. *Any person who intentionally steals, takes and carries away one or more traps, snares or similar devices owned by another person with an aggregate value of less than \$650 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.*

2. Any person who buys, receives, possesses or withholds one or more traps, snares or similar devices owned by another person with an aggregate value of less than \$650:

(a) Knowing that the traps, snares or similar devices are stolen property; or

(b) Under such circumstances as should have caused a reasonable person to know that the traps, snares or similar devices are stolen property,

↪ is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. NRS 501.001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.001 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 501.003 to 501.097, inclusive, and *section 1.3 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

Sec. 3. NRS 503.452 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.452 *1. Each trap, snare or similar device used in the taking of wild mammals ~~{may}~~ must be registered with the Department before it is used. Each registered trap, snare or similar device must bear a number ~~{registered with}~~ which is assigned by the Department ~~{or be permanently marked with the name and address of the owner or trapper using it. If a trap is registered, the}~~ and is affixed to or marked on the trap, snare or similar device in the manner specified by regulations adopted by the Commission. The registration of a trap, snare or similar device is ~~{permanent.}~~ valid until the trap, snare or similar device is sold or ownership of the trap, snare or similar device is otherwise transferred.*



2. A registration fee of \$10 for each registrant is payable only once ~~by~~ by each person who registers a trap, snare or similar device. The fee must be paid at the time the first trap, snare or similar device is registered.

3. It is unlawful:

(a) For a person to whom a trap, snare or similar device is registered to allow another person to possess or use the trap, snare or similar device without providing to that person written authorization to possess or use the trap, snare or similar device.

(b) For a person to possess or use a trap, snare or similar device registered to another person without obtaining the written authorization required pursuant to paragraph (a). If a person obtains written authorization to possess or use a trap, snare or similar device pursuant to paragraph (a), the person shall ensure that the written authorization, together with his or her trapping license, is in his or her possession during any period in which he or she uses the trap, snare or similar device to take fur-bearing mammals.

4. A person to whom a trap, snare or similar device is registered pursuant to this section shall report any theft of the trap, snare or similar device to the Department as soon as it is practical to do so after the person discovers the theft.

5. Any information in the possession of the Department concerning the registration of a trap, snare or similar device is confidential and the Department shall not disclose that information unless required to do so by law or court order.

Sec. 4. NRS 503.454 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.454 1. Every person who takes fur-bearing mammals by ~~any legal method~~ trap, snare or similar device or unprotected mammals by trapping or sells raw furs for profit shall procure a trapping license.

2. It is unlawful to remove or disturb the trap, snare or similar device of any holder of a trapping license while the trap, snare or similar device is being legally used by the holder on public land or on land where the holder has permission to trap.

Sec. 5. NRS 503.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.570 1. A person taking or causing to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or ~~any other~~ similar devices which do not, or are not designed to, cause immediate death to the mammals, shall, if the traps, snares or similar devices are placed or set to take mammals, visit or cause to be visited ~~at least once each 96 hours~~ each trap, snare or ~~other~~ similar device at a frequency specified in regulations adopted by the Commission pursuant to



subsection 3 during all of the time the trap, snare or *similar* device is placed, set or used to take wild mammals, and remove therefrom any mammals caught therein.

2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to employees of the State Department of Agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture when acting in their official capacities.

3. *The Commission shall adopt regulations setting forth the frequency at which a person who takes or causes to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or similar devices which do not, or are not designed to, cause immediate death to the mammals must visit a trap, snare or similar device. The regulations must require the person to visit a trap, snare or similar device at least once each 96 hours. In adopting the regulations, the Commission shall consider requiring a trap, snare or similar device placed in close proximity to a populated or heavily used area by persons to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area.*

Sec. 5.5. NRS 205.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

205.240 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 205.220, 205.226, 205.228 and 475.105, and *section 1.6 of this act*, a person commits petit larceny if the person:

(a) Intentionally steals, takes and carries away, leads away or drives away:

(1) Personal goods or property, with a value of less than \$650, owned by another person;

(2) Bedding, furniture or other property, with a value of less than \$650, which the person, as a lodger, is to use in or with his or her lodging and which is owned by another person; or

(3) Real property, with a value of less than \$650, that the person has converted into personal property by severing it from real property owned by another person.

(b) Intentionally steals, takes and carries away, leads away, drives away or entices away one or more domesticated animals or domesticated birds, with an aggregate value of less than \$650, owned by another person.

2. Unless a greater penalty is provided pursuant to NRS 205.267, a person who commits petit larceny is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to any other penalty, the court shall order the person to pay restitution.

Sec. 5.6. NRS 205.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:

205.275 1. ~~{A}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 1.6 of this act*, a person commits an offense involving stolen property if the person, for his or her own gain or to prevent the owner from



again possessing the owner's property, buys, receives, possesses or withholds property:

(a) Knowing that it is stolen property; or

(b) Under such circumstances as should have caused a reasonable person to know that it is stolen property.

2. A person who commits an offense involving stolen property in violation of subsection 1:

(a) If the value of the property is less than \$650, is guilty of a misdemeanor;

(b) If the value of the property is \$650 or more but less than \$3,500, is guilty of a category C felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130; or

(c) If the value of the property is \$3,500 or more or if the property is a firearm, is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 10 years, and by a fine of not more than \$10,000.

3. In addition to any other penalty, the court shall order the person to pay restitution.

4. A person may be prosecuted and convicted pursuant to this section whether or not the principal is or has been prosecuted or convicted.

5. Possession by any person of three or more items of the same or a similar class or type of personal property on which a permanently affixed manufacturer's serial number or manufacturer's identification number has been removed, altered or defaced, is prima facie evidence that the person has violated this section.

6. For the purposes of this section, the value of the property involved shall be deemed to be the highest value attributable to the property by any reasonable standard.

7. As used in this section, "stolen property" means property that has been taken from its owner by larceny, robbery, burglary, embezzlement, theft or any other offense that is a crime against property, whether or not the person who committed the taking is or has been prosecuted or convicted for the offense.

Sec. 6. 1. This section, sections 1 to 2, inclusive, 4, 5.5 and 5.6 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 3 and 5 of this act become effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act and on July 31, 2013, for all other purposes.



Senate Bill No. 226—Senators Leslie and Parks

Joint Sponsors: Assemblywomen Pierce; and Carlton

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to trapping; requiring the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations governing the trapping of fur-bearing mammals in certain counties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, the Board of Wildlife Commissioners is required to adopt certain regulations establishing seasons for trapping fur-bearing mammals and the manner and means of taking wildlife. Those regulations must be established after first considering the recommendations of the Department, the county advisory boards to manage wildlife and others who wish to present their views at an open meeting. (NRS 501.181)

Section 2 of this bill specifically requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations governing the trapping of fur-bearing mammals in a residential area of a county whose population is 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties). **Section 3** of this bill requires those regulations to be adopted on or before December 31, 2012.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~{omitted material}~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 2. NRS 501.181 is hereby amended to read as follows:
501.181 The Commission shall:

1. Establish broad policies for:
 - (a) The protection, propagation, restoration, transplanting, introduction and management of wildlife in this State.
 - (b) The promotion of the safety of persons using or property used in the operation of vessels on the waters of this State.
 - (c) The promotion of uniformity of laws relating to policy matters.
2. Guide the Department in its administration and enforcement of the provisions of this title and of chapter 488 of NRS by the establishment of such policies.
3. Establish policies for areas of interest including:
 - (a) The management of big and small game mammals, upland and migratory game birds, fur-bearing mammals, game fish, and protected and unprotected mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians.



- (b) The control of wildlife depredations.
- (c) The acquisition of lands, water rights and easements and other property for the management, propagation, protection and restoration of wildlife.
- (d) The entry, access to, and occupancy and use of such property, including leases of grazing rights, sales of agricultural products and requests by the Director to the State Land Registrar for the sale of timber if the sale does not interfere with the use of the property on which the timber is located for wildlife management or for hunting or fishing thereon.
- (e) The control of nonresident hunters.
- (f) The introduction, transplanting or exporting of wildlife.
- (g) Cooperation with federal, state and local agencies on wildlife and boating programs.
- (h) The revocation of licenses issued pursuant to this title to any person who is convicted of a violation of any provision of this title or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

4. Establish regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this title and of chapter 488 of NRS, including:

(a) Seasons for hunting game mammals and game birds, for hunting or trapping fur-bearing mammals and for fishing, the daily and possession limits, the manner and means of taking wildlife, including, but not limited to, the sex, size or other physical differentiation for each species, and, when necessary for management purposes, the emergency closing or extending of a season, reducing or increasing of the bag or possession limits on a species, or the closing of any area to hunting, fishing or trapping. The regulations must be established after first considering the recommendations of the Department, the county advisory boards to manage wildlife and others who wish to present their views at an open meeting. Any regulations relating to the closure of a season must be based upon scientific data concerning the management of wildlife. The data upon which the regulations are based must be collected or developed by the Department.

(b) The manner of using, attaching, filling out, punching, inspecting, validating or reporting tags.

(c) The delineation of game management units embracing contiguous territory located in more than one county, irrespective of county boundary lines.

(d) The number of licenses issued for big game and, if necessary, other game species.

5. Adopt regulations requiring the Department to make public, before official delivery, its proposed responses to any requests by



federal agencies for its comment on drafts of statements concerning the environmental effect of proposed actions or regulations affecting public lands.

6. Adopt regulations:

(a) Governing the provisions of the permit required by NRS 502.390 and for the issuance, renewal and revocation of such a permit.

(b) Establishing the method for determining the amount of an assessment, and the time and manner of payment, necessary for the collection of the assessment required by NRS 502.390.

7. Designate those portions of wildlife management areas for big game mammals that are of special concern for the regulation of the importation, possession and propagation of alternative livestock pursuant to NRS 576.129.

8. *Adopt regulations governing the trapping of fur-bearing mammals in a residential area of a county whose population is 100,000 or more.*

Sec. 3. The Board of Wildlife Commissioners shall, on or before December 31, 2012, adopt any regulations required by the amendatory provisions of this act.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective:

1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations required by the amendatory provisions of this act; and
2. On January 1, 2013, for all other purposes.



Attendance Register

NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
TRAPPING REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 3:00 p.m.

Name/Please Print Legibly	Affiliation	Telephone	E-Mail
Michael D. Gowen	NV Trappers Association	775-934-2557	dgtools4u@citlink.net
Randall Stoerber	331 Fairgrove Dr 87915	775-761-2209	nvgoldx@yahoo.com
Joel Blakelee	4905 Jack Rabbit Rd	775-242-1308	colsonerada@gmail.com
Kenneth Stott		775-472-0857	
Schylar Rullman		775-770-0487	SchylarRullman6@gmail.com
Alex Stone	Trappers 720 Spring Valley Pkwy	775-388-4990	
Brent Beckingham	623 Holiday Dr, Springcreek, NV	775-401-0502	BrentB30@hotmail.com
GRANT GERBER	ELKO COUNTY COMMISSIONER	738-9258	ggerberlaw@gmail.com
Sam Henning	NV Trappers	775-591-0411	N
Chad Bowen	NVTA	775-742-8299	chadbowenonline.com
Larry Grogan	Trapper	775-219-8629	Lgrogan21@yahoo.com

Name/Please Print Legibly

Affiliation

Telephone

E-Mail

Name/Please Print Legibly	Affiliation	Telephone	E-Mail
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FREDFISHER	Citizen - Trapper	775-289-3385 ELY	
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RICH SANDOZ	SELF	775-753-9588	N/A
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Tom Bernas	Chairman Elko CAS Rancher	775 744 4348	
Mike Riordan	Rancher	775 744 4302	
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Name/Please Print Legibly	Affiliation	Telephone	E-Mail
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Ron Towell	Nevada Cattlemen Assoc	385-7665	✓ rtbolls@frontier.com
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DAVE STEWART	PERSONAL	775-738-4694	✓ pdstewart1969@gmail.com
Bill HARMON	SINCE 1962	775-388-1780	
	TRAPPER		

Name/Please Print Legibly

Affiliation

Telephone

E-Mail

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Jim Cooney	TRAPPER	775-397-2504	✓ jcooney4@gmail.com
Josh Maderis	Trapper	775-340-1849	✓ joshuamaderis873@hotmail.com
Trevor Walch	Predator Control Corporation	775-401-1518	✓ trevorwalch@predatorcontrol.pro
Mike Barkdull	Trapper	775-225-8046	✓ m_barkdull@yahoo.com
John Christensen	Trapper	775-340-0713	✓ NVarcher@frontiernet.net
Everett Wisener	Elko Co. Cab	775-934-2269	✓ everettwisener@frontiernet.net
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DRAFT MINUTES
NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
TRAPPING REGULATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Nevada Department of Wildlife
60 Youth Center Road
Elko Nevada 89801

Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Chairman David McNinch
Commissioner Jeremy Drew
Commissioner Jack Robb
Commissioner Layne
John Sullivan, Clark County

Commissioners Present

Department Personnel Present

Rob Buonamici, Chief Game Warden
Kristy Knight, Staff Game Warden
Don Klebenow, Staff Game Warden
Fred Esparza, Game Warden
Norv Dallin, NDOW
Joanne Trendler, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Michael D. Gowan – NV Houndsman Association	Matt Murphy, Trapper
Randall Stoeber	Fred Fisher, Citizen-Trapper
Joel Blakeslee – NV Trappers Association	Solomon Tah, Trapper
Kenneth Stout	Joe Bennett, Self
Schyler Rullman	Fred Voltz, Recreationist
Alex Stone, Trapper	Kris Torrise, NV Trapper
Brent Buckingham	Chad Black, Trapper
Grant Gerber, Elko County Commission	Rick Jimenez, Trapper
Sam Henriod, NV Trappers	Shania Jimenez, Trapper
Chad Bowen, NV Trappers	Kevin Smith, Trapper
Larry Grogan, Trapper	Rich Sandoz, Self
Dr. Don Molde, Self	Matt Tourreuil, NV Trapper
Jason A. James, Self	Robert Loveridge, Trapper
Justin James, Self	Dale Stitzel
Marcus Auge, Self	Chris Christensen, Trapper
Storm Sherwood, Self	Pete Paris, Rancher
Cord Matyc, Self	Tom Barnes, Chairman Elko CABMW/Rancher
Mikie Smith, Self	Mike Riordan, Rancher
Mitch Goicoechea, Self	Mitch Moiola, Trapper/Rancher
Ryan Jimenez, Trapper	Rocky Roa, Trapper Rancher
Clifford Tilley, Trapper	Henry Krenka, NV Outfitters Guide Association
Jerry Smith, trapper	Ron Ricks, Trapper
Dustin Osborn, trapper	Caleb McAdoo, Personal

Justin Ables, Trapper
Ron Torell, NV Cattlemen's Association
Mitch Buzzetti, NOGA/Self/Elko CABMW
Walt Gardner, Self
Ira Wines, Ellison Ranching Co.
Dave Stewart, Personal
Bill Harmon, Trapper
Bo Harmon, Trapper

Ben French, Elko CABMW
Jim Cooney, Trapper
Josh Maderis, Trapper
Trevor Walch, Predator control Corporation
Mike Barkdell, Trapper
John Christensen, Trapper
Everett Wisener, Elko CABMW

Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Chairman McNinch

Meeting called to order at 3:31p.m.

Chairman McNinch stated the committee understands the subject matter of this committee is both emotional and very important to everyone involved. He requested all attendees maintain a high level of respect. He said he received a request to speak at the beginning of the meeting. He said a public comment period is being provided prior to the approval of the agenda. He asked if a comment relates to an agenda item specifically that it be held until that agenda item is heard. He also said due to the attendance he may not allow conversation due to the size of the crowd.

Public Comment

Grant Gerber, Elko County Commissioner said his family has been established and deeply involved with the community since the 1800's. He said for the decisions made he felt that a historical perspective would be very important to share. He said he has one of the few books left of Peter Steen Ogden, Snake Country Journals. He said that the book tells of the authors trapping journey with 30 other trappers from Oregon, through Nevada, on up to Utah and Idaho. He said he was in the Elko and Lander County areas for about 4 months. He said in all of that they did not kill any big game and we shooting their horses to survive. He said that based on the facts in this book and the accounts of his ancestors there was very little wildlife in these areas. He said in 1910 the Forest Service estimated less than 30 deer in the Ruby Mountain range. He said he started a hunting camp at their ranch in the 1950's. His father hadn't seen a deer in that area prior to the 1930's. He said one of the things of concern in that area is fire and the reduction of wildlife. He specifically mentioned predator control as a threat to sage grouse. He said they are also a threat to many other species. He referred to trappers as the front line of defense to the protection from wildlife and the protection of agriculture. He said that without agriculture Elko County would return to a desolate and barren state as it was when Peter Steen Ogden did in 1828. He said he trapped when he was young and said that it is critical that trapping be allowed and encouraged. He said some of the current restrictions are making it less and less possible for trappers to get out and trap. It's less and less economic. He said he encourages the committee to reduce not increase the regulations.

2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman McNinch - For Possible Action

The Committee will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Committee may remove items from the agenda, combine items for consideration or take items out of order.

COMMISSIONER DREW MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ITEM AS WRITTEN.
COMMISSIONER ROBB SECONDED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Member Items/Announcements Chairman McNinch – Informational

Committee members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Committee. Any item requiring Committee action will be scheduled on a future Committee agenda.

No discussion.

4.* Approval of Minutes – Chairman McNinch - For Possible Action

The Committee may take action to approve Committee minutes from the January 31, 2014 meeting.

Agenda item postponed until next meeting. Commissioner Layne did not have the opportunity to review the minutes.

5.* Overview of Recent Legislative Bills and Wildlife Commission Actions Pertinent to Trapping in Nevada – DAG Newton/Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici – Informational

The Committee will be provided with a brief overview of recent Legislative bills, including Senate Bills 213 (2013) and 226 (2011), as well as recent Nevada Board of Wildlife Commission actions pertinent to trapping in Nevada.

Mr. David Newton, Deputy Attorney General (DAG) said SB226 was passed two sessions ago. He said the pertinent part is section 2, number 8 the committee was given the authority to adopt regulations governing the trapping of fur bearing animals in a residential area of a county of 100,000 or more. He said in the last legislation, SB213 changes were made focusing in on why they are meeting that day. Section 5 of SB213 amended NRS 503.570. In section 3 it stated that the Commission shall adopt regulations setting forth the frequency of which a person who takes or causes to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares, or similar devices which do not or are not designed to cause immediate death to the mammals must visit the trap snare, or similar device. The regulations must require that the person visit the trap, snare or similar device once every 96 hours. In adopting the regulations the commission shall consider requiring a trap, snare, or similar device placed in close proximity to a populated or heavily used area by persons to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare, or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area. He clarified those are the two pertinent sections pertaining to why the committee was meeting that day.

Chairman McNinch said in SB226 and its process the Commission reviewed other areas of trapping. He said the two primary ones that were being brought forth were statutory, which was trap visitation and trap registration. He said at the last legislative session the legislature wanted that reviewed which created SB213. SB213 required the Commission to conduct that review and have the current discussions.

Rob Buonamici, Chief Game Warden said as a result of SB226 a regulation was created that addresses trapping within a half mile of a residence in a congested area. He said currently on the books is NAC 504.340 and that addresses areas closed to hunting and fishing, from Great Basin National Park, a thousand feet from trails on the Sierra front, and trails and campgrounds in Southern Nevada.

Chairman McNinch offered the audience a chance to ask questions to assist in clarification.

Public Comment

Fred Fisher, trapper said he is confused as to whether the Commission is directed to come up with a regulation or to consider a regulation.

Chairman McNinch said the Commission is being directed to consider the regulation.

DAG Newton said the statute requires the Commission to set forth regulations on frequency. He said what doesn't have to be acted upon is moving from the 96 hours. He said you have to come up with some sort of regulation setting the visitation frequency.

Chairman McNinch clarified as far as his understanding that at one point there wasn't a set time anymore because the bill said that the Commission had to set times. He said since the Commission was getting close to a trapping season they passed a regulation to set the visitation at 96 hours as it had been until they were able to get into the committee meetings to have the discussions for consideration. He said the frequencies have to be established in consideration of populated and heavily used areas.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said regulation 503.152 that establishes the 96 hours. He said what is being addressed now is what populated and heavily used areas consist of and do those areas warrant 96 hours or less for a trap check.

Mr. Fisher asked if that was only in the areas that are established as populated and heavily used areas?

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said it could be all other areas as well.

Mr. Fisher clarified that the Commission can change those regulations anytime they like but the bill itself is only requiring consideration of the populated and heavily used areas.

DAG Newton said the senate bill says that the Commission has to consider changes in the heavily used and populated areas. He said it does not stop the Commission from considering other changes.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said the regulations must require a person to visit a trap, snare, or similar device at least once every 96 hours. He said that is one element they want. He continued to say the bill reads that “the Commission shall consider a trap, snare, or similar device placed in close proximity to a populated or heavily used area by persons to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare, or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area.”

Chairman McNinch said the committee is to go through the consideration aspect.

Rich Sandoz asked Chairman McNinch for an introduction of the board.

Chairman McNinch introduced each committee member and the area they are from. He clarified that any action that the committee takes is simply a recommendation to the full Commission. He said the committee does not have the authority to put NAC’s in place.

Mr. Fisher asked if a recommendation was made, would the public have another formal meeting to express comments with the full Commission.

Chairman McNinch said yes.

6. Definition and/or Interpretation of the Terms “close proximity” and “populated and heavily used areas” as Used in Senate Bill 213 – DAG Newton/Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action

DAG Newton will provide guidance on defining and/or interpreting the terms “close proximity” and “populated or heavily used areas” as used in Senate Bill 213. The Committee may take action to define and/or interpret “close proximity” and “populated or heavily used areas” as they relate to Wildlife Management Areas exclusive of 26, 28, 19, 02, and 29 or portions thereof.

Chairman McNinch added clarification that the committee has met in Las Vegas numerous times but only once regarding the bill currently in question. He said there has been no formal action taken by the committee in terms of handling close proximity to populated or heavily used areas. He said what has come out of it is trying to develop some maps that clarify where trapping is currently closed, where there are already some restrictions, and general maps of areas so that a discussion can be had on the definition of populated and heavily used areas. He said all will help the determination on whether a reduced frequency is necessary.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said the maps are pretty self explanatory. He said one is just a statewide map, three are of the different administrative regions. He said the shaded red areas are closed to trapping, shaded purple areas are where there are certain trapping restrictions dependent on the area. He clarified the statewide map is broken down into the wildlife management units. He said that is something the trappers are familiar with and that is already established in regulations.

He said it is a good foundation for determining which areas may be considered as populated or more restricted areas.

Chairman McNinch said the support material there is a map of the Southern and Western regions. He said in those two regions, areas 26, 28, 19, 2, 29 and those are relative to the areas around Reno and Las Vegas. He said those are not part of the discussion today and will be handled at separate meetings. He said the areas up for discussion are basically everything outside of that.

John Sullivan said that he wanted to clarify on the statewide map, Lake Mead National Recreation Area isn't colored in red, but there is no trapping or hunting in that area. He said it's an area of a couple hundred square miles.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said in NAC 504.340 it delineates what areas are closed. The entire Lake Mead National Recreation Area is not closed to trapping, there are portions within that area are closed. He said they tried to reflect that with the map.

John Sullivan said he believes that by state law it isn't closed for trapping, but by federal law it is closed to trapping.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said the state law mirrors the federal law.

John Sullivan said that is good and he wasn't aware that anyone could trap in that area.

Chairman McNinch opened for public comment.

Public Comment

Tom Barnes, Elko County CABMW said as far as the county commission is concerned they have always supported the trapping regulations as is. He said speaking on behalf of his self said that he has a 17 year old son who has recently started trapping along with his mentor. He said instead of playing video games he built a trapping shed instead. He read parts of a statement from his son and his son's mentor, "We do not believe that the current requirement of checking your traps every 96 hours should be reduced. If the 96 hour check is reduced it becomes close to impossible to making a viable economic endeavor. Reducing the requirement would make it physically impossible for those who have other jobs to trap, thus taking out 90% of the present day trapper. If it is reduced to a 24 hour requirement it would basically put the trappers on top of each other and too close to the local communities. He said this would also discourage young people from getting involved in the tradition of trapping. A person in high school would no longer be able to trap if the 96 hour requirement was reduced. Without trapping there would be an increase in predation on game animals, nesting game birds, and live stock. Trapping is a legal endeavor and historically important profession. It is one of the original green renewable resources. Reducing the 96 hour requirement would basically be destroying the trapping tradition in the state of Nevada, a tradition that is based on common sense and sound scientific principal."

Trevor Walsh, Predator Control Corporation said he would reiterate the comments he made in Las Vegas regarding the 96 hour trap check. He said the last 15 years he has been reading the Journal of Wildlife Management and there has been five studies that stood out to him encompassing the following four species; gray wolf, Canadian lynx, wolverine, and coyote. He said in each of these studies the animals were equipped with real time GPS Iridium collars gave dead signals to the researchers because the collars displayed the same coordinates over a long period of time. He said in each of these instances the researcher hiked out to the animals location and spooked the apparently still live animal. He said in each case the animal was healthy and didn't turn up dead later in the study. He said the collars gave researchers the dead signal from 144-240 hours which is far longer than the 96 hour trap check in the state of Nevada. He said that we have science proving that these animals electively choose to be immobile for longer period of time than the trap check time we have in Nevada. He said so utilizing a 96 hour trap check there isn't any science to justify shortening it. He said here in rural Nevada the 96 hour trap check is conservative. He said there is no reason to shorten it.

Mitch Buzzetti, NOGA said he wanted to thank the committee members for holding a meeting up in Eastern Nevada. He said he wanted to say that he is a 5th generation Nevadan, some of his relatives came by the railroad in 1911 and some by wagon train in mid 1800's. He said his family has sweated blood and tears in both the northern and southern portions of the county. He said through all the years his family has been sportsmen and trappers, sometimes using it for their own livelihood. He said they have trapped beavers in the dam and catching coyote that were eating their sheep. He said trapping is a way of life in rural Nevada. He said obviously there is a lot of emotion around this issue especially near the bigger cities. He said in rural Nevada it is very important that they keep their heritage and right to keep the 96 hour check the way it is. If the 96 hour check is shortened he said they will lose the opportunity to trap for future generations.

Walt Gardner introduced his son Shane and then explained that his family had moved to Ruby Valley in 1869. He said since that time they have been trapping. He said during the depression his grandfather trapped for a living. He said at that time there was no limit on when you had to check your traps. He said that if they had gone to 96 hours at that time, he would have gone on government assistance or had to have let his family starve. He said that his son wants to trap. He said if the current regulations are changed you are taking away his dream, his heritage, and his right to make a living.

Randall Stoeber said he is a geologist as a professional where he spends his time looking for gold mines. He said he is also a trapper. He said that he once read a statement that would stick with him for a lifetime, "Rushing to enact solutions before defining the problem is just plain foolish." He asked the committee, "What do you think you are going to accomplish by changing the trapping laws? What do you think will happen to our wildlife if you succeed in changing these laws? What impact will it have on the livestock, mining, and other industries? He said there are no problems with the laws as they currently exist and changing them now would be devastating to Nevada. Changing the laws now would be devastating for our wildlife; coyotes are notorious for taking down mule deer at all times of the year. He said that the mule deer herds are dwindling already and trapping minimizes predation. He said the ground nesting bird populations would plummet due to an increase in predators. He said the red fox population is increasing exponentially and our sage

grouse and other game bird populations would dwindle down to a trace if trapping laws change. The red fox is a very efficient predator and keys in on birds much better than a coyote. He submitted a study to the committee regarding the comparison of the red fox and coyote. He said that he traps in Utah on a couple sage grouse projects for the Utah Division of Natural Resources. He is being asked to target the red fox. He said that in the winter the foxes hunt the windblown ridges where the sage grouse seem to congregate. He said he catches over 100 red foxes a year in those areas. He said that several studies have been conducted in these areas because the sage grouse population was dwindling due to the non-native fox population explosion across the state. He submitted a copy of a report that he put together for the Utah Division of Natural Resources as well as a statement of how he did by the Utah Division of Natural Resources for the record. He said he mentioned a couple examples due to time. He said that if the committee votes to change the current trapping laws it would be a disaster for all the wildlife of Nevada. He said it would also have a terrible effect on several industries in the state. He said the livestock industry would be severely crippled due to coyotes preying on calves, sheep, poultry, etc. He said a rancher in Pine Valley told him that one winter several years ago that the coyotes were so thick that they were coming up to the feed wagon while feeding cows. He said the rancher was actually throwing pitch forks at them to deter their efforts in killing the newborn calves. He also said that they lost several calves that year due to coyotes. He said that he traps quite a few coyotes for them that year. He asked about beaver problems. He said ranchers need water to irrigate their hayfields and beavers dam them up. He said trapping these rodents is the best solution. He said he could go on about how raccoons, skunks, and other pests that terrorize ranchers but he said he had made his point. He said that the mining industry would take a giant blow due to the fact of the possibly endangered sage grouse. He said that if the red fox population and other predator populations aren't controlled the mines would find it difficult if not impossible to expand their existing mines. He said it would be virtually impossible to do any exploration outside of the mine corridors. He said trapping is the most efficient way to keep the predator population in balance. He said if those laws are changed and trappers cannot effectively trap these industries along with many others would be severely stifled. He said in conclusion he would like to state for the record that rushing to enact solutions before defining the problem is just plain foolish. He said there are no problems with the existing laws. He said changing the existing laws would have a negative effect on wildlife. He said changing the existing laws will stifle industries as well as local economies. He said changing laws would be foolish as there are no problems with the laws as they currently exist. He said changing them now would be devastating for the great state of Nevada.

Jason James said he wanted to add that he agrees with all the guys that previously spoke. He said changing the 96 hour trap check would really make a mess of things. He said that he has 6 kids in junior high and high school that trap with him each year. He said his youngest son's friends that bring in all the time. He said when he gets off the bus there is 30 minutes of daylight, which gives him enough time to check four or five traps. He said if it gets changed to anything shorter these kids will be back to playing the video games. He said there is a national movement to get the kids out 60 minutes a day. He said it is a better way to get them out in the outdoors and stop restricting their kids from growing their knowledge and seeing things could actually benefit them physically, mentally, and emotionally. He said his personal thing is there is nothing better than seeing the kids set their first trap and make their first catch. He said we need to keep these kids going. He said that the proximity laws are restricting the youth more than they are the older people. He said that most

of these kids are within a mile or two of their houses. He said that at his house in Spring Creek the coyotes are in his backyard almost nightly. He said that he is aware that trappers need to watch their traps and he lets his mentees know that because they are close to a population they have to be more cautious of where they set their traps. He said the facts behind all of this need to be looked out. He said that last year he had three different coyotes go through his backyard with cats in their mouths. He said that the laws need to be left alone for the benefit of the whole state. He said in the long run the trappers will be the ones protecting the ones that are fighting it so hard right now. He said everyone complains until it's in their backyard, but then they ask for help. He said some of the youth are saying that these people against trapping have "slapped them in the face" so they wonder why should they help them. He said let's stop that now, keep teaching these kids, and get them out in the field.

Fred Voltz, recreationist said if you can't kill it, torture it, or otherwise exploit it what good is an animal? He said that is one of the core values clung to by more than 1000 state residents that brutally trap the wildlife out 2.8 million residents. He said populated and heavily used areas include a multitude of public recreation facilities and other places where people congregate beyond businesses, residences, and incorporated cities. He said such areas should be completely excluded from trapping activities. He said the trapping exclusion and restricted areas designated on the latest maps of unknown authorship dated March 2014 fail to ensure adequate public safety. He said trapper convenience and maximum opportunity to kill our wildlife by a small fringe group of state residents have guided the content of these maps. He said they are a front to the legislative intent of SB213 because they broadly exclude multiple frequently used recreation areas. He said apparently no consideration or credence was given to the Trail Safe map given to the committee 6 months ago. He said the trapping fraternities strident voices have refused to submit any maps. He said their defiant stance endangers far too many humans who deserve a reasonable expectation of safety when visiting the states recreational areas. He said unlike the incomplete map on today's agenda Trail Safe's map comprehensively analyzed each wildlife management area carefully considering recommendations for inclusions and exclusions of wildlife management units based on resident human populations as well as recreational use. He said 2/3 of the states land area was ultimately included to accurately close proximity and populated or heavily used areas. Today's proposed NDOW eastern region map is particularly deficient in covering areas with large concentrations of recreationalist. He said 18 wildlife management areas in the east region could safely support a trapping season. He said the rest need to be placed off limits to trappers in the interest of public safety. Wildlife and human public should not be under continued assault of rogue trappers. He said the committee needs the Trail Safe map as a guide for implementing the legislative intent of SB213, public safety.

Ron Terrell, Nevada Cattlemen's Association thanked the committee for coming to the rural communities and said he was speaking on behalf of the industry. He said that there is a membership throughout the state and he would like his comments to be applied to the other areas of the state as well. He said the Nevada Cattlemen's Association feels that there needs to be looser restrictions on trapping rather than tighter restrictions. He said recognizing the fact that the well intended rule change would be to accommodate the urban communities and the problems associated with their pets, rule changes like this although well intended usually have consequences that reach into other industries later on. He gave an example of if you change the rule to more frequent trap

checks, that eventually become the precedence so that the changes get applied statewide into the rural communities. He said it is for those reasons that the Nevada Cattlemen's Association supports the current trapping regulations.

Fred Fisher said that he would like to say ditto of all the previous speakers excluding Mr. Voltz. He said for the record he is against this proposal anywhere in Nevada. He said he thinks it's a bad law. He said when you get bad laws, no matter what they say it sets precedence and it gets worse. He said he is trying to stay positive but he knows what the real agenda is, a large group wants all trapping outlawed. He said this has been going on for as long as he can remember. He said as someone said it doesn't seem to have any justification and we don't know why we are doing it. He said we know about a lot of negatives. He said trappers are the least known and understood outdoor group in the state of Nevada. But in a lot of national poles they come in first place on general public when it comes to the knowledge of wildlife, habitat, etc. He said trappers are out 12 months out of the year because a lot of them also hunt and fish. He said they see wildlife through all it's different seasons. He said he wish that a professional study was done that showed the value of what trappers do for all citizens of Nevada. He said he enjoys this work and can't explain how much trapping means to trappers. He said this goes very deep like our right to access public land or the second amendment. He pointed out Mr Gardner's example of passing the tradition on to his son. He said trappers spend tens of thousands of dollars in the economy buying gas and supplies each year. He said that animal damage control has been reduced significantly. He said that people have forgotten that predator management works. He said it has resulted in good populations of fawns, birds, etc and the trappers are doing it at no expense to the public. He said they enjoy what they are doing and he would just like to see them get recognized for the beneficial things. He said that he enjoys it so much and knows how the sportsman feel when they take family and friends out for the first time. He said if he had his way he would take more people out trapping. He said it's really hard and a tremendous amount of work but there are countless lessons. He said it is probably the thing he enjoys doing the most even with arthritis problems and still wants to continue doing it so he is concerned about his access to it. He said he would conclude by saying he knows what the real agenda is and if there is a foot in the door it will be a matter of time because it will become precedence. He said he hopes that Nevada has smarter people than surrounding states and can see all the benefits in trapping.

Joe Bennet said it was brought up earlier by someone who opposes trapping that trappers are a threat to public safety. He said that couldn't be further from the truth. He said he would argue that without trapping there is a threat to public safety. He said he has very little public safety, if any; wildlife calls in Elko, Winnemucca, Ely, Austin, Caliente Etc. He said most of the public safety calls are in Reno, Las Vegas, and Carson City because people don't trap here. He said if you increase the map you will increase the public safety wildlife calls tremendously. He said to think that there is a public safety issue with people trapping is ridiculous. He said he wanted to also point out the importance of these trappers to the rural economies. He said that these people work hard and make money, support their family with that money. He said they also have an importance to endangered species. He said NDOW just released a study that 82.5% of their nests were being lost to predators, 40% to ravens, 20% to coyotes, and 20% to badgers. He said that trappers catch a lot of coyotes and badgers which helps a lot. He said as far as diseases, down in the mountains west of Las Vegas plague is a big problem. He said catching the gray fox down there is a big help. He said

as it was mentioned earlier SB213 says you shall consider it doesn't mean you have to change it. He said that it also says to provide a thorough review and he said he felt the committee was doing that. He also urged the committee not to fix anything that's not broke. He said most of the animals aren't in traps for 96 hours. He said once a trap is set, its 10-12 hours before an animal is even exposed to a trap. He said that these maps look great; there are only a few little spots of closure. He said they are just like cancer, the next map will be larger. He said these folks don't just want small closure they want the whole state colored in red. He said he urges the committee to leave the rules alone. He thanked all those who came out to support trapping. He said he also wanted to thank those opposing trapping.

Michael Gowan, Nevada Houndsmen Association said he is a hunter and trapper. He said the political arena in Nevada seems to be two worlds, Reno & Las Vegas, and then he also said that there is urban and rural. He pointed out that the vast majority of Nevada is rural. He said there is an urban setting that brings in a lot of emotion because of the situations they encounter. He said undeniably this is an attempt to destroy trapping in Nevada all together by animal rights groups. He said they see the same faces at the legislature that want to stop hound hunting, proliferate the horse population and now it's trapping. He said it's a lot bigger picture than just visitation. He said trapping is a way of life in rural Nevada that has been handed down through family generations as a skill or a career. He said he personally derives a lot of his income from trapping. He said Nevada is known as one of the most free states, but a lot of that has changed over the last ten years. He said the lifestyle in Nevada is really special. He said changing trap time to 24 hour check will effectively eliminate trapping as it isn't feasible for most hunters to check their traps every 24 hours. He said the logistics don't add up. He said that most trappers are part time trappers and wouldn't be able to cover all the miles. He said a 24 hour check would concentrate the trappers in and around urban areas. He said it will compound the problem. He said that the part time trappers still want to enjoy the outdoors and it will concentrate 30 people in a ten mile area right outside a city. He said it will add extra pressure to all the localized animals. He asked how that is better or is going to solve the problem of a dog getting caught in a trap. Public conflict will increase. He said education is the key to success on all of this. He suggested showing people how to let their dog out of a trap and what to look for. He suggested having a trapper education course to show how to set a trap, the proper traps to set, etc. He said without trapping in Nevada there are few tools to manage predators and problem animals. He said this would shift responsibility to government agencies that are paid by taxpayers. He asked why the taxpayer should pay to do what the public pays to do now. He said it's also an industry that stimulates the economy. He said fur trade is an international trade and it's a renewable resource. He said there is proven science that tracks the bobcat population that says that we have a viable breeding population and they are not threatened by trapping. He said you don't have to look far to see the examples in other states. He gave examples of Oregon, Washington, and California that have lots of employees that are paid to control these animals in the exact way that residents used to do. He said the residents paid for that privilege. He said the other thing he mentioned is a possible disease outbreak. What are the options to control those animals if there is a disease outbreak? He specifically mentioned rabies and asked how it would be controlled if you had to check your traps every 24 hours. He said that the people of rural Nevada need to be able to protect their own safety and livelihood. He said that there are a lot of laws in place for trapping already. He suggested some of it could be an enforcement issue. He said that's not an aim at one agency, but there are multiple agencies that have the right to enforce trapping regulations.

He said it is very difficult in Nevada because in the entire state there are only 35 game wardens. He said with that number it makes it virtually impossible to enforce the law. He suggested that be another angle to look at. He said the fact that there are only three clinics that address this in Nevada is a gross misrepresentation of rural Nevada. He said in his opinion there should be one meeting in every county of this state since most people also work and can't get to the meetings. He pointed out that ranchers, who are in calving season, would have a tough time breaking away. He said he doesn't feel this is a fair deal and that those in the rural areas will be affected the most by any changes. He said that if it isn't broke don't fix it. He said there is misrepresentation in everything but that is no reason to punish an entire group of people over the acts of a few.

Commissioner Robb explained this is the first meeting in Elko and the committee will be keeping a timer and will be allowing people to talk a little longer.

Chad Bowman, Nevada Trappers Association said he would like to say that he agrees with the current laws and said that a 24 hour trap check would drive a lot of trappers closer to town. He said that when he was at the last legislative session it seemed to be the emphasis of those opposed to trapping were those that had had an animal caught in a trap.

Joel Blakeslee, Nevada Trappers Association thanked the committee for having a meeting in Elko and pointed out that many of the attendees drove up from Ely and other rural areas. He said that he is proud to represent to represent an articulate and intelligent group of people. He said there have been a lot of good things said by all the others. He said the thing he wants to say that the Nevada Trappers Association's stance is the same in the east as it is for any other portion of the state. He said their map is white without any changes. He said he still hasn't heard any reasons to change anything but have heard a lot of reasons not to change anything. He said compressing time compresses distance. He said the law doesn't mandate the committee to do anything but you can make recommendations. He said one thing that hasn't been considered is if there is an equation and we need to shorten things closer to town why don't we consider lengthening things elsewhere. He said that the committee can make a recommendation for that.

Solomon Tate said his family came to the US in the 1800's and were sheepman. He said him and his family have been killing coyotes for a long time. He said that people who trap know that you can't trap a coyote in 24 hours because it takes time for the scent to leave. He said that the laws need to be left where they are at. He said his father was a government trapper in Arizona and kept extensive journals. He said there are larger numbers of coyotes where agriculture and people are. He said if these laws are passed we won't be able to manage coyotes as well. He said trapping is in my blood and asked that he not be put out of business as trapping is the way he has paid for things such as his well and property. He said until there are studies that show a 24 hour check is going to be beneficial he doesn't think anything should be done. He said he moved from Utah to Nevada so that he could trap because their laws made it difficult. He asked that he not be pushed out of the state.

Rich Santos said that he wanted to show why a longer trap check is necessary. He said he traps, fishes, backpacks, photography, anything that will keep him out doors. He said he journals all of his hunting and trapping. He said that is from his previous work as a game warden so that if any

litigation came up he had records. He said that what he provided is 2012 and 2013 bobcat season. He said he is a small time trapper that runs only one line at a time. He said some trappers run 3-4 lines at a time. He showed the first line and explained that some lines he does a 24 hour check on while others are pushed out to 96 hours depending on weather and other factors. He presented the spreadsheet which broke down all the costs he incurred including \$0.50 per mile on his truck. He explained that line one was 210 miles round trip, he made 11 checks, and incurred \$1155 in costs just on the vehicle. He said that if he had checked the traps every 48 hours it would have cost \$2205 and a 24 hour check would have cost \$4410. He said that the time he spent on that line is 6 hours each trap check. He said he used \$10.10 as minimum wage which means he would have been paid \$666.60 for all 11 trap checks. He said if it was a 24 hour check he would have been paid \$2545. He said that comes out of what he makes on trapping. He explained that doesn't include any of the cost of the traps. He said he trapped 6 cats on that line, and the averaged cost of the cats was \$765. He had a badger, red fox and two coyotes. So the total income for that line that year was \$4475. He said this year prices are down, so that would have made it \$3342. He said he doesn't know the cat prices when he is out there. He said he can't invest a 72 hour check because it would cost him a lot of money. He said he knows that the people hear that all the time but he is trying to put some figures to it. He said that he just did a look at fuel waste and under the current law he used 154 gallons of fuel, if he had done a 24 hour check he would have used 434 more gallons of fuel. He said he then broke down each of his lines in the same way. He said that he came up with average figures and the whole season. He said with the current law his profit would have been \$8438.40, under a 48 hour check he would have had a loss of \$3706 and with a 24 hour check it would have been more than a \$6000 loss. He said he also differentiated between the 2013 and 2014 fur prices. He said the second page is a chart of the profit/loss. He explained the chart and how it is set up and what the profits and losses were. He also made notes that the ultimate goal is to eliminate trapping. He also didn't show time spent in the fur shed, prepping the traps, the cost of the traps, stolen traps, additional vehicles, etc. He then presented some percentages on the increase of cost. He explained that a 24 hour check would eliminate any kind of a profit. He said that he also has a wife and kid and wouldn't be able to do a 24 hour check.

Pete Parrish, Nevada Wool Grower said he would like to ditto what Ron Terrell said because that is exactly what he would have said and the Wool Growers will not be attending any other meetings within the state. He said on a personal note he said the military is one of the biggest supporters of the wool industry. He said that coyote trapping has been a huge asset to the wool industry. He said that the government has been cut back and then if you take back these private trappers, every coyote the trappers take is huge part of maintaining viable numbers to keep the sheep industry going. He said that he encourages no change to the 96 hours. He said that some of the close proximity stuff scares him because he wants to know what close proximity is and who decides what it is. He said that if you get into close proximity it could be close proximity to his home. He said 96 hours with the government would be hard because they only work 8 hours a day and have to take weekends off. He said that would cripple the government agency on predator control. He said the Nevada and American Sheep industry is highly depending on trapping.

Mike Smith said he wanted to start off with interpretation of the law as far as close proximity. He said he is certain that everyone saw the program last night which showed a fox trapped on a major trail head. He said if you are on a major trailhead someone will see it and it would be a major

safety concern. He said he thinks that is what the news anchor was trying to get at. He said it could be other things they are trying to get at which is why most of the trappers are here. He said most people haven't been able to see a coyote chase down a deer; he said he has had the opportunity to see that. He said he shot the coyote and the deer collapsed from fright. He said the other part of this is one single coyote taking down a deer. He also spoke of a bobcat taking down a sage hen which is a controversial issue and how it will impact ranching, mining, and job loss in Nevada. He said by reducing the number to anything less than 96 hours it will adversely affect the trappers especially the children. He said that there is an individual here whose father actually brought Mr. Smith into trapping. He said there are many generations in here that has this activity in the winter time to keep them focused on responsibility, ethics, time lines, and the laws. He said he thinks that education is what needs to be started first before changing laws. He suggested coming up with an education program that would allow any trapper to go through and understand placements of traps will be to the benefit of the trappers. He said like the example of the red fox on the news it would benefit trappers eliminate or greatly reduce things like that.

Henry Krenka, Nevada Outfitters and Guides Association said the guides would like to recommend no changes to be made. He said on behalf of himself that if you cut down the hours you are just bringing the trappers closer to the public which will just increase the problems. He said that trapping is a good tool for predator control and without that we will lose a lot more wildlife.

Dustin Osborne said he is a third generation Nevadan living in Elko County. He said that someone said earlier that this is a Northeastern Nevada thing, and that he wanted to point out that it's really not, it's statewide. He said that if the check times are changed it would push him out of trapping completely. He said he works 48 hour shifts to protect the people of Elko County. He said that if a restriction were put on trap times he wouldn't be able to trap at all. He said that he has to work 48 hours at a time so even a 48 hour trap check time would put him out of trapping and not allow him the opportunity to pass it to his son. He asked that people's work schedules be considered when a recommendation is made. He said that 24 hour and 48 hour checks would be too hard to trap with so the check time should be left at 96 hours. He said that his dog got twice this year and no injury or break was sustained. He said that if you get a dog caught in a trap they can be let loose without any injury.

Chad Black said that he grew up in Southern Utah, has lived in Nevada 14 years and has been trapping his whole life. He said he worked in the logging industry working on the Ponsigant?? (5:08:20) and North Rim of the Grand Canyon. He said there is the best mule deer population and he had the opportunity to trap and run hounds in those areas. He said he was able to see the effect the predators had on these animals. He said he doesn't think that anyone has touched on the effect that predators have on big game. He said the state of Utah has recognized it and he has a brother that is doing private predator control for the state. He said they are recognizing they need predator control because they are taking down trophy animals. He said the best way to control that is to trap, that is a fact. He said there have been all kinds of studies through the ADC and government agencies. He said by eliminating trapping in Nevada it's going to affect the economy. He asked the committee to have an open mind and clear thoughts and to make sure and represent the whole state not just the certain areas that are bringing it forward. He said it is an important part of the rural way of life. He said 96 hours is working, let's keep it that way.

Chairman McNinch offered the opportunity for a few people to speak a second time.

Randall Stoeber said he heard the term brutal and barbaric and it made his skin crawl. He said unfortunately people that live in the cities do not understand trapping. He said they tend to put human qualities into animals, which is incorrect. He said the animals don't know what a trap is and they think it is something in nature that is keeping them confined. He said the traps that are used are not meant to break bones or maim animals they are made to hold them there. He said that people tend to think that it hurts the animal, but the animal equates it to something in nature and curl up and go to sleep instead of fighting the trap. He said if you want to talk about brutal or barbaric these people have never been outside the cities to enjoy wildlife. He said winter is a stressful time for all animals and that is why they trap in the winter to control predators. He said you can see some atrocities that are barbaric and brutal, deer or antelope hung up on a fence dieing a slow death or when people smack animals with their cars. He said those are the fortunate ones. He said just off the highway it is awful to see a mule deer with a broken back struggling to get off the road. He said each one of us get into cars each day and make the choice to possibly maim or kill an animal but you never hear about those. He said and nothing is being done about that. He said he thinks it's unfair that trappers are called barbaric when people make the choice to drive and cripple and maim animals. He said he wished he had pictures to show the suffering animals. He said the lucky ones get killed. He said he turned in his statement and he urged everyone to get a copy of it.

Rich Santos said that when they first came out with the \$3 predator control fee for every tag application he said he wasn't thrilled about it. He said there are hundreds of thousands of dollars that go to predator control projects. He said he is paying those fees for competition of what he is doing. He said the trappers that are catching animals also have to pay that \$3 fee. He isn't suggesting changing that he is just pointing out that trappers are a resource that NDOW uses as well.

Mike Smith said in regard to interpretation that if you go to agenda item number 7 where it talks about close proximity to a populated or heavily used area you are aware that in law enforcement prosecution and those who are trying to follow the law, one of the most difficult things about it is trying to interpret the law. He asked what is close proximity to a mine, ranch, home, cabin etc. He said it makes it difficult for everyone to understand what that means. He said not only is it important to understand what they are trying to mandate but also what their next action is. He said that we need to be careful on what they allow because eventually it could become a larger area.

5:17:41?? (verbatim) Fred Fisher said he wanted to talk about the map that was presented at the beginning. He said it started him thinking when he saw the Great Basin Park in red and started thinking that as we went through this he had been hearing two things and wanted someone that was in the know could answer it or at least have the committee look into it. He had been told contrary to what he remembered that when they were doing wilderness areas and the law, that the original legislation that was proposed by the alternative by the agencies were to allow hunting and trapping to go on, you just couldn't take in wheeled vehicles. He had been told recently that there are newbies that are starting to reinterpret this that you can't trap in a wilderness area. He said

someone else said that you can't trap in a wilderness area if you are selling it. He said he is hearing different things. He said his point is that if you were to look at the wilderness areas you have in the state of Nevada and the proposed wilderness areas, those should be looked to since they are right around the corner and it just takes one majority to write those in like they did in Ely. He said they have killed us down there as far as access in many ways. He said he'd like to hear something back about that. He said it would make that map a whole lot redder if that is the case. He said he didn't know if law enforcement knows anything about that.

Chairman McNinch said that is a good consideration and we'll see if it's a consideration we can squeeze in.

Fred Fisher said ok if that's the case that would be read.

Mitch Goicoechea said he has a ranch and he can give another story like the others have said. He said I think we are missing the big point. He said the people that are pursuing these new laws do not want trapping. He said he thinks that the education thing is a good idea. He said that the problems they are encountering in the populated areas are only provided by trapping. He said one gentleman was here and was so against it had a wool shirt on. He said it proves a point that a lot of these people don't understand what they are fighting. He said a little more information and education on what controls things and what doesn't. He said people are going to push themselves right over a cliff that they don't even know they are against.

Chairman McNinch brought the discussion back to the committee. He said he said he wanted to throw out a comment about the development of the maps. He said one of the challenges that the committee has had is how to consider where a populated or heavily used area might be and where trapping is already restricted or prohibited. He said the maps that are seen are an attempt from the department to help the committee understand as it stands right now. He said to put things on a map that do exist and to give the committee a scale of what we are dealing with. He said there are no proposed areas for any kind of limitations that is why we are here. He said he didn't want everyone to feel like they had missed the boat on this one. He said you are just seeing things progress along. He said it's informational and is for the use of framing discussions. He said that is why no action was taken in Clark County because the discussion needed to be framed. He said now we will go through the process of what close proximity, populated, and heavily used means and how it pertains to frequency.

Commissioner Robb said he was born in Tonopah and is a multi-generational Nevadan like many of the attendees. He said he has lived in Tonopah and Reno and understands both the rural and city communities. He said when it comes to rural Nevada he doesn't really see anything as close proximity to anything. He said he gets a lot of emails that states that we shouldn't keep anything more than a 24 hour trap check for trapper convenience. He said that he heard a lot of trappers talk about convenience and being put out of business if it is changed to every 24 hours. He said he hears both sides but what he is thinking about is the close proximity. He said aside from being a wildlife commissioner he said his job is to try to balance the wildlife resources in Nevada and have laws that affect the wildlife resource but still keep the balance. He said he thinks that anything in the rural areas short of the 96 hours could upset our wildlife balance. He said there are sage grouse

issues, red fox moving in, and multiple other issues occurring. He said when it comes to close proximity there isn't anything outside of Reno and Las Vegas that he would consider urbanized. He said his biggest concern is the balance of the wildlife resource because that is what we are charged to do as Commissioners. He said that if the 96 hours was changed the mountain just outside this window would get pounded and there wouldn't be a predator left on it. He said there are sage grouse about 80 miles from Elko that is being protected by wildlife services that NDOW, other people, and the \$3 predator fee that was mentioned are paying for. He said private trappers are also protecting the sage grouse and we could lose some of the protection on that vital resource. He said he isn't looking at hunter convenience; he is looking at what the best thing for wildlife and the distribution of activities that have an effect on our wildlife. He said for that reason I believe the 96 hours works in these areas. He has also heard that if the time is shorter than 96 hours in the more congested areas that a door will be opened that we may not want to open. He said he has produced a map in the past that many people have seen. He said just like he believes in the 96 hours for the rural areas he said that in some areas there is a user group conflict issue. He said in Mt Charleston and Reno there are some setbacks that were done because of user group conflicts. He said there are routinely user group conflicts in the urbanized areas. He said a lot of those conflicts they do see are illegal. He said there was a dog caught with an illegally placed snare in a park in Reno. He said there was a skunk trapped illegally. He said a lot of the things we see that hit the press are illegal activities. He said when those incidents are found to be illegal activities; those individuals are sited according to the law. He said with that said he still feels like there is a user group conflict in these high use areas. He said the sportsmen have to understand that not everyone agrees with what we do. He said sometimes the sportsmen need to be more discrete. He said sometimes we will need to not look at where we can catch an animal but where we should catch an animal whether it's hunting or trapping. He said some of the regulations that have been put into place are trying to regulate some common sense back into people. He said he will support 96 hours statewide, but he has proposed maps for some of the user group conflict areas. He said the committee, commission, and trappers association haven't come up with a map. He said that Trail Safe and he are the only ones who have come up with a map. He said if anyone has questions in regards to his opinions they are welcome to ask him in person or on public record.

John Sullivan said he wanted to thank everyone for coming out. He said that he takes notes when people talk and then tries to consolidate what everyone says. He said these are things he heard; changing the 96 hour law will concentrate trappers closer to town, more pet conflicts, logistically impossible due to trap lines and the remote areas they are in, disease, predator control for wildlife and livestock, cultural issue between urban and rural lifestyle, public safety issue, etc. He said there have been some unique things heard at this meeting that he hasn't heard at the other meetings. He said it sounds like it comes down to a different lifestyle, rural vs. urban, and how important trapping is to this lifestyle. He said those are very important concerns that he is taking to heart. He said Commissioner Robb said he is focused on the words close proximity while I am more focused on the words shall consider. He said when coming up with maps and getting the close proximity stuff worked on he said when that is done you are putting the cart before the horse. He said that the problem needs to be defined first, and then where that problem occurs that is when the maps come out. He said it confuses him when the maps come out prior to that definition. He said Mr. Robb described it well as a user group conflict. He wanted to know the definition of the user group conflicts, is it pets? He said that if it is just a pet issue, is restricting trapping the only way to deal

with that? He said that education of the public and trappers hasn't been attempted. He said for him that is the first logical step. He said he heard from the animal rights group saying it's a humane issue, public safety issue, and non-target species issue. He asked if the issue was pets, humane, public safety, non target, or all of them? He said that there can't be an effective solution to the problem until the problem is identified.

Commissioner Layne said she wanted to thank everyone for coming. She said she knows many of the attendees because they attend Commission meetings, but said she had also seen many of them at previous legislative hearings. She said that as the public member on the commission said that she is frustrated that this commission has been given this mission by the legislature. She said that we have been dealing with this since 2001. She said at some point they need to recognize that the committee will have to make some kind of movement. She said what she wants to see is that a compromise can be reached. She said what she always hears is 96 hours. She said that she understands in many ways it's an economic issue. She said she is an academic person and likes to hear about academic studies. She said anecdotal information gives you a bit of information in one space of time. She said if you can give me information other than animals curling up in traps it would help. She said that some of that information has been given to them by veterinarians and some universities. She said she is trying to look at this issue with an open mind but she also requests that you recognize that she represents a different group of people who don't see it in the same form that you do. She said somehow or another compromise needs to be reached. She said whether its based on the issue of congested areas that we have to be willing to understand the other issue that are coming out there. She said that you represent a segment of the population, but there are other issues that she is trying to address. She said she wished that when looking at the issue today she had hoped they would talk about whether there are congested areas. She said what she is feeling is that you don't feel there are any congested areas here and that trapping should be allowed anywhere in the Elko and Cold Creek areas. She said that there are concerns about non-target animals and that is certainly a concern to those who look at these issues.

Chairman McNinch said this discussion item is about close proximity to populated and heavily used areas. He also said he dislikes doing that because then he needs to open it up to everyone and he feels that the committee needs a chance to work through some things. He said he understands minds are full and he isn't trying to be disrespectful. He said if an opportunity knocks he said he'll try to get people back up to the podium. Chairman McNinch said that defining what the terms mean is part of the discussion. He said it is falling to the committee to work our way through it. He said they have confirmed with the DAG that it is the committee's responsibility to work through.

Commissioner Drew said he appreciates the meeting being set up in Elko as there is a value in seeing what the folks in this part of the state are saying is much different from Reno or Las Vegas. He said as important as the meeting being held here is the drive that we took to get here. He said it showed how big the state is, the cultural differences, and the differences in populated and heavily used areas. He said in his opinion he thinks urban areas around Reno/Sparks/Carson City area and Las Vegas is vastly different than what was seen on the drive to Elko. He said in his mind he doesn't have an issue with keeping things the way they are in the areas under consideration today. He said in his opinion he doesn't see a need for change.

Chairman McNinch said that he heard a lot of the same things that John Sullivan did. He said he respected the heritage aspect as his family has been in Nevada a long time. He said his grandfather drilled wells. He said he can appreciate the conflict with work schedules and appreciate the economics. He said he certainly agrees with the social aspect that it is healthy for the kids to get outdoors regardless of what they are doing. He said what he struggles with is times have changed and people aren't in the same position they were in the 1800's in order to survive. He said people's perceptions have changed. He said it is showing up in Nevada just like it has in other states like Oregon and Washington. He said they have gone through a lot of this. He said it's just the way things are developing in this day and age. He said one of the questions he has is when these bills, SB226 and SB213, why were you not successful at killing the bill and why were the proponents of the bill not successful in getting it through. He said the legislature is expecting this conversation to occur and we all have our own thoughts on why it's here. He said he doesn't know whether we know if the legislature was expecting change or a conversation. He said the bottom line is the bill exists because an agenda was not pushed one way or the other. He said he has been very careful over the years and will be very careful today to talk compromise. He said compromise is a win or lose situation for everyone. He said he doesn't like people to have to give things up but if that's the way things go naturally then he is ok with that. He said it's not his first approach. He said as a conservation representative on the commission he has heard the conversation about predators and their effect on big game species. He said they play an important role, maybe not with livestock, big game, and sage grouse, but they do play a role in the environment. He said they have been around a long time and haven't eaten everything out of house and home. He said what has changed is our desire to get involved. He said he sees that as a user conflict. He said there have been reduced visitation times in every state around us and he wonders how things are going there and if they are successful. He said he doesn't hear from other states commissioners the same conflicts that we are experiencing. As a committee he needs to have a conversation as populated and heavily used areas. He said he got the list from Trail Safe. He said it lists many places, trails, parks, etc. He said what he struggles with is the discussion of seasons of use hasn't been talked about much. He said he understands there is a lot of use in these areas, but he isn't sure how much it conflicts with trapping season. He said he isn't sure where the rest of the committee stands with that. He said the use of the Ruby's in the summer is very different from its use in the winter. He said from a stand point of numbers he wants to know who that weighs in.

Commissioner Robb said he wanted to comment on Chairman McNinch thoughts on where the other states stand. He said that through his profession he has traveled between Seattle and San Diego. He said he has noticed in these other states you drive 5 miles you have another town or city. He said the distribution of people in these other states helps with the distribution of trappers. He said he has driven from Alamo to Reno and passed six cars. He said there are not a lot of people and the distribution is different than other states so it is hard to compare it to other states. He said when it comes to the map and season of use, he said he had gone through Trail Safe's map and there were a few things that really stuck out. He mentioned Lunar Crater, off Highway 6, he said he has been there a lot in November and the only people he runs into are sheep hunters. He said he was there in May and ran into a person, which is a rare occasion outside of sheep season. He said the Berlin Ichthyosaurus Park and he said there are a lot of people there in the summer. In November he goes out there to cut Christmas trees and he has never run into another person during that time. They are highly used, but during furbearing season they are not. He said yes you have

the numbers of use but you need to take those with a grain of salt due to the slower months. He said if someone breaks down out there in November or December, you better hope a trapper comes along to help them.

Commissioner Layne asked to respond to Commissioner Robb's comments. She said it may differ in terms of looking at the entire state. In Southern Nevada she said there has been a very warm winter and people have been active all year round. There hasn't been a big difference in people's activities, and provided the Mt Charleston area as her example. She wanted to make sure the committee recognizes that there is a difference throughout the state in terms of weather.

Commissioner Robb said he agrees one hundred percent and said that was why he felt comfortable trying to put out a map. He said there are areas out there that definitely get year round use.

John Sullivan said that on the issue of other states he said he appreciated Commissioner Robb's comments on the distribution of towns and the vastness of the state. He said if there are different trapping laws in this state it is because we are different than any other state. He said every state is unique and that's why there is a Nevada Wildlife Commission. He said Nevada has more public land than any other state in the US, somewhere around 86-87%. He said this vastness makes us a unique situation. He said it's also not true that Nevada is the only state with 96 hour visitation. He said in Montana and Alaska there is no visitation requirement, it is up to the trapper. He said there are many regulations in Nevada that are tighter than many other states, he provided many examples. He said they are appropriate laws for what we have here. He said he wanted to comment on the word compromise. He said compromise means both sides give up something. He said as far as this debate it concerned compromise is not applicable. He said one side in this situation as everything to lose and the other has nothing to lose.

Commissioner McNinch said at some point we are going to have to decide if we are taking any action. He said if the committee does it would behoove us to be very clear on the record what the intent was.

Commissioner Layne asked if Commissioner McNinch wanted to address the entire eastern region map.

Commissioner McNinch said no, what he is suggesting is there are maps that help us frame our thoughts. He said that the areas up for discussion are everything outside of 26, 2, 28, 29 and 19. He said it isn't relative to eastern Nevada it's for the entire state outside of those areas. He said he isn't sure that no action is an option in terms of what the Committee recommends back to the Commission. He asked DAG Newton if we don't take action what it means.

DAG Newton asked Chairman McNinch at what point?

Commissioner McNinch said if we don't take action to recognize that we had the discussion on close proximity and populated or heavily used areas.

DAG Newton said he is assuming that at some point the committee is going to make a motion that encapsulates either three different approaches based on the three different meetings the committee has had or a hybrid thereof. He said that motion will discuss that you have taken into account what is or isn't heavily populated. He said there has been plenty of comment in today's meeting depending on which way you go with the motion to support that the map you are looking at today contains no heavily used areas. He said at some point you are going to need a motion that incorporates the fact that you have had those discussions because that is what the bill requires you to do. He said that consideration does not have to result in any kind of proclamation. He said 'he apologizes for not having a more clear answer, but he said that with the way the meeting was structured in three different meetings he said there are several ways a recommendation could go.

Commissioner Layne asked if there was a legal firearms discharge area around Elko.

6:03:25 ??? said there isn't a county ordinance other than the fact that you can't discharge a firearm at night. Clark County is probably what you are referring to where you can't discharge a firearm within a 1,000 feet of a residence. There is no similar ordinance in Elko County.

Chairman McNinch asked Mike who can't answer that.

6:03:45 ??? said they are trying to figure out exactly what you are asking.

Commissioner Layne said that if you look at some of the areas in Southern Nevada you have what are called illegal firearms discharge area. She said that you cannot discharge a firearm in that area; it is usually the incorporated area of a city. She said there are large portions in Clark County of unincorporated areas that fit into that because they are urbanized or contiguous to an urbanized area.

6:03:35 ??? said in the city of Elko there is an ordinance that prohibits the discharge of a firearm. He said there are also some county ordinances such as Spring Creek prohibits the discharge of a firearm. He said there is an ordinance that prohibits the discharge of a firearm after a certain time at night.

Commissioner Layne said her question would be that in those areas if you have a defined legal firearms discharge area you could have an area where you might consider less than 96 hours visitation. She said that she recalls one gentleman talking about trapping with his sons and that they trap within a mile to two miles of their house. She said she was trying to understand there is trapping in those areas, but maybe they wouldn't need 96 hours for visitation in that illegal firearms discharge area. She said going to be the area of the highest concentration where you would be less likely to set traps.

Commissioner McNinch said it makes sense to him. He said he is less concerned about the heavily used areas outside of what Joel has dealt with the Trappers Association over the last few years. He said there is no doubt there are areas that get a lot of use, but the seasonality of it seems to resolve most of the issues. He said the part that doesn't resolve for him is the populated areas. He said he knows that Elko doesn't have 100,000 people but he doesn't know where that line is drawing. He

asked if you have people in a town does that make it populated. He said it is an issue in Southern Nevada and in Reno. He said he can make a strong case for Carson City as well. Carson City may have a population similar to Elko. He said using some of the comments that were made here as a point of reference, if there is a reduction in hours for visitation that it will concentrate trapping close to town. He said if you do the opposite and restrict things closer to town it may not have as big of an impact, but you push that activity further out. He said that is the thought process he is falling into.

Commissioner Layne said what we all want to do is to try to find a resolution. She said it may not be today or tomorrow, but we want to know five years down the road that there is a resolution. She said whatever is developed today should be flexible enough to accommodate the Elko of tomorrow. She said Elko of five years from now may be much larger and may end up having some of the same issues as the more congested areas. She said that this doesn't need to be set up for today or tomorrow; she doesn't want to revisit this issue once there is some resolution. She is hoping to develop something that will last at least 5 to 10 years.

Commissioner Robb said because he knows many people that live here, he doesn't think that trapping is a concern in Spring Creek. He said if they have a concern it is the concern of a cat or dog being taken away by a coyote. He said it is a different culture up here that is more accepting of the benefits of trapping. He said in Las Vegas we hear about a concern for companion animals being caught in traps, here we haven't heard anything about that. He said a lot of times in these neighborhoods they don't want their companion animal caught but they do want them protected.

John Sullivan said we aren't hearing about user group conflicts in or close to town. He said the non-trappers that came forward and spoke came forward in full support of trappers. He said they were begging the committee to not restrict trapping because they need it for their own industries. He said in this area you are seeing a much different representation than the other areas. He said he thinks there is clearly a populated area and the population here doesn't feel it is necessary to change the 96 hour visitation.

Chairman McNinch said he would like to take a five minute break and he would open up for public comment.

Public Comment

Randall Stroeber said he is hearing the word compromise. He said an excellent explanation of compromise is both parties giving something up while coming to a mutual agreement. He said what are the anti people giving up? He said if they are asking for a compromise and want a 24 hour check on a populated area then compromise and give one day longer for the outlying areas. He said that would be a compromise. He said let's take White's Creek and Thomas Creek and allow trapping every other year and in the off year say absolutely no dogs allowed. He said that would be a compromise. He said trappers are constantly giving ground. It isn't a compromise when one of the parties is constantly losing ground. He said he is willing to do that if they are giving up something too.

Jason James said that pets have been mentioned a hundred times. He said the leash laws said that Elko County and other counties have leash laws. He said we are talking about balance here. He said his dog runs free, but if he gets caught I get him out of the trap and he isn't hurt. He said himself and Mr. Stroeber said every year they do an outdoor expo and put their own hands in traps to see how they work. He said there isn't any blood at the end of the day. Education is a big thing and the public needs to be educated. He said he comes from Colorado and Colorado went to all cage traps and the visitation was slammed down. He said Colorado is turning into one of the biggest nightmares in history. He said in the area he grew up in all the predators are overpopulated because they went in and changed all the trapping regulations. He said Colorado is currently entertaining the idea of allowing foothold traps again. He said they want to shut the trappers from certain areas, but those same areas aren't closed to hikers during deer season. He asked why they couldn't put up signs saying that it's trapping season to educate the public. He said everyone is in here talking about proximity and population but homeowners association and such already have their own ordinances where you can't trap, so why are we wasting the states money debating things that have already been done. He said this fight has been going on for years and there are already laws and regulations in place. He said those are just a few things that came to my mind.

Joe Bennet said he is still having a hard time trying to figure out why there is a need for shorter trap checks closer to town. He said if we are going to catch a dog we are going to catch it with a one hour or a hundred hour check. He said he was in California when they banned traps. He said they compromised and went to padded jaw traps thinking that they would be able to trap for forever with those. He said they don't have trapping there anymore, so he wouldn't compromise at all. He said he just can't figure out what the difference is for a shorter check close to town. He said if humanness is the issue then 24, 48, or 96 would still be considered inhumane. He said if it's a shorter check you are going to catch dogs regardless. He said he feels like they are out to ban trapping all together. He said they look at how other states did it and then just like the surrounding states we eventually lose trapping all together. He said respectfully, Commissioner Layne, to regulate into the future about Elko growing. He said Nevada's town, historically, have actually shrunk. He said we should have longer trap checks if you want to regulate that way. He said if the gold mines closed, Elko would be smaller. He said you can't legislate into the future predicting a problem that may or may not happen.

Michael Gowan said that listening to the comments he finds that there are different backgrounds on the committee, which is good and healthy. He said it also reinforces the fact that we do live in two different worlds, urban and rural. He said talking about the no shooting zones said that all that is in place and works really well in our county. He said last year in the city of Elko, there was a lion that had to be trapped and killed. He said the same thing happened in Spring Creek. He said he has observed the ADC plane shooting coyotes from his back window. He said he was glad to see it. He said that is an accepted thing. He said in regards to non-target animals, may be an issue at some point but that can all be corrected by educating the trapper. He said education is the key to solving most of the problems. He said its really hard to compromise when you observe the results of compromise. He said look at the state of California. He said since he also represents the Hound Hunters Association he is going to use the hound as an example since he thinks the same people pushing this agenda are also pushing the agenda to remove hound hunting. He said a couple years ago there was a compromise made to remove hound hunting from the Lake Tahoe Basin to appease

residents and the animal rights groups that were trying to end bear hunting with dogs. He said immediately following in the legislature we were faced with those trying to end the bear hunt all together by the same groups. He said you give a little they take it all. He this is fear in this room, fear that you are taking their freedom and their rights. He said compromise is a double edged sword. He said that when he runs hounds he realizes there is a chance that his dog could be caught in a trap. He said he accepts that but he also trains his dog to avoid traps, it's called aversion training. He said he uses it with rattle snakes. He said it's the same thing with a trap. He said they are intelligent enough to learn, you have to give the animals enough credit. He said he wanted to point out that no one in this room hates predators, or wants to see them all wiped off the face of the earth. He said it's a resource that we utilize and use it responsibly to our advantage. He said it's not to eliminate entire populations or to see an animal suffer. He said any responsible trapper works hard to not make that excessive.

Dr. Don Molde said that he was under the impression since grade school or high school civics that compromise is a fundamental principle on which democracy is based. He said with respect to his side of the aisle he said that they have no power. He referred to the committee and said that they have all the votes because they are the management agency. He said if there was to be any compromise it would have to come from the committee because we don't have the power. He said they are willing to talk compromise but they would need some kind of offer because they have nothing to offer. He said he wanted to remind everyone that compromise is not a dirty word; it's what the country was founded on. He said he had a dog that was caught three times in one day in three different traps. He said he let him out each time and he was uninjured. He said however, if he had left him there for four days he would have had a dog that looked much different. He said the problem that he has with the motion that is about to be made, to leave everything the same at 96 hours, is that it shows no regard for the wildlife welfare itself. He said all of this is based on trapper convenience and has nothing to do with the welfare of the animals. He said the motion if made will be made without any reference to NDOW's data of non-target animals. He said they are jaw dropping numbers reported by the trappers themselves. He said the interesting thing is they are only the tip of the iceberg. He said he is guessing it was reported by only 20% of the trappers in the field at that time. He said with a bit of imagination you could extrapolate much larger numbers than that when considering all of the trappers. He said he wants to remind the committee that there were almost 200 dogs and over 100 domestic cats. He said he has a hunch that if an animal is lost during trapping season that it was caught in a trap not caught by a coyote. He said the number that caught his eye was the amount of mountain lions caught accidentally, approximately 177, by the small amount of trappers that filled out this self-report. He said because of that number he asked the department for the lion carcass check in spreadsheet. He said as you know all lion carcasses must be checked in and inspected by a biologist and other staff look them over. He said while they aren't specifically looking for trapping injuries they do find them and make note of them. He said based upon his review of lion data from 2008 to the middle of last year, it looks like the lions that are killed by sportsmen and brought to the department have a trapping injury rate somewhere between one out of seven or one out of eight. He said he is talking missing toes and pads, other foot injuries or chipped or missing teeth. He said he received the data for the lions all the way back to 2000 the day before and only had a chance to skim over them. He said he is seeing the same kind of evidence and will present it later on. He said and while we may shrug our shoulders and say any of those injuries could be caused by a fight, he said to look at the data from California. He

said the guy that does a lot of the live captures and necropsies on lions that are killed by cars or killed for public safety is astonished by the injury reports Dr. Molde has sent to him. He said he goes on in length about this matter to show that the motion does not include consideration in a public forum as to how you would regard this information. He points out again that this is information provided by NDOW. He said to make a motion as you appear to be getting ready to do without a wink and a nod. He said that is astonishing to him. He said this has everything to do with visitation. He said every non-target animal or dog deserves to be let out of that trap sooner rather than later. He said for experienced trappers to say that it doesn't matter to the animal whether it is four days or one day is utter non-sense. He said the longer the animal sits in the trap, the more likely it is to die. He said 17 of the lions were dead in the trap. He said there is no way a big mammal is going to die sitting in a trap for four days, clearly the trappers didn't show up for a while or other things happened to them. He said that is his big heartburn with the impending possible motion which is grossly insufficient based on the evidence.

Joel Blakeslee said he can think of 5 maybe 6 Western states that have more lenient trap laws than Nevada does. He said the idea that Nevada has the most lenient laws is debunked. He said he would like suggest that heavily used areas have already been dealt with; he said trapping around trails, Reno, & Las Vegas. He said as far as other states and their trap visitation, he said a lot of other states that have a shorter trap check are 95% private. He said it becomes a function of the landowner and trapper. He said you talk about the species you are trapping as well. He said that trapping raccoons in the Iowa no more resembles trapping bobcats in Nevada than an ant resembles an elephant. He said the 96 hour rule does not say you have to wait for the 96 hours. He said he keeps hearing threats that everyone goes to the extreme. He said that the animals don't stay in the trap for 96 hours. He said there is a whole lot of room between these two areas. He said one thing he wanted to discuss is the dogs and cats. He said there were approximately 504 dogs and cats taken by predators in Washoe County. He said that was reported by Wildlife Service and that 146 of them died. He said put it into perspective, you have this many being killed by predators and this many caught in traps. He said regulations are something that need to be considered. He said to look at what has happened since 226 went into effect. He said there have been 6 school lockdowns and one in Reno because of predatory animals. He said he doesn't know if those two things are related, but thank you coyotes and bobcats. He said he doesn't see the general public being against this. He said in the populated places he sees 12 of us and 12 of them; it's a different story in Elko. He said it's not like everyone in Vegas & Reno shows up to these meetings. He said Soccer moms care about soccer, they don't care about trapping. He said the last thing he wanted to talk about is compromise. He asked Commissioner Layne if she would be willing to trade a day for a day.

Chairman McNinch and Commissioner Layne both said they are assuming that is a rhetorical question.

Mr. Blakeslee said no, "I'm asking you a direct question." Would you be willing to add one day to the rural areas for shortening the trap check close to town?

DAG Newton said the statute doesn't allow you to consider anything over 96 hours.

Chairman McNinch said that's why he thought it was a rhetorical question.

Mr. Blakeslee asked DAG Newton if they could make a recommendation to the statute.

DAG Newton said it would have to go back to Carson City.

Mr. Blakeslee said in Montana they don't have a trap check, only a recommended trap check of 48 hours.

DAG Newton said that would be contradictory to the statute. He said the statute specifically says there is a ceiling of 96 hours. If they made a recommendation of 96 plus one, an attorney would tell them they are in danger of contravening a statute.

Mr. Blakeslee said that he agrees, but he is saying it could be a recommendation.

DAG Newton said the statute sets a 96 hour ceiling.

Mr. Blakeslee said he is asking for a recommendation, not a regulation. He asked Commissioner Layne if she would be willing to make that recommendation.

Commissioner Layne said no.

Mr. Blakeslee said now you can understand why he wouldn't be willing to talk about making it shorter.

Chad Black said there is a lot of discussion on the animals in the trap. He said there were comments earlier that times and technology are changing. He said the trapping industry has been making changes to the traps with the animal in mind. He gave some examples of laminated jaws, #9 wire welded on to the jaws, swiveling. He said the trappers are buying them because they work. He said that these changes cause very little to no damage to the animal. He asked the committee to consider that the trapping industry is adapting and the technology is getting better.

Chairman McNinch brought the discussion back to the committee. He said during the break David Newton, Deputy Attorney General (DAG) told him that unless there is a desire to take action on interpreting or defining close proximity and populated & heavily used areas outside of the excluded that they can address anything they need to in agenda item seven. He said that agenda item seven encompasses agenda item 6. He said that he isn't sure that anything needs to be done under agenda item 6; it can be taken care of under agenda item seven.

John Sullivan said he wanted to address the data presented by Dr. Molde. He said he appreciates the research and his analytical thinking. He said it brings back a lot of information with a lot of facts and figures. He said Dr. Molde mentioned the term "grossly inaccurate" and "accuracy." He said he was wondering if he ever talked to the biologist about the accuracy of that study.

Dr. Molde said the biologist went to the warehouse and retrieved the information out of boxes. He said the trappers self report, depending on how you read the law looks like it is required. He said

obviously compliance has been nil. He said biologist then compiled the data into two sheets of raw data. He said he added up the numbers from there. He said he assumed that each mark in each box represented one trapper. He said it is possible that each trapper caught multiple animals but to give trappers the benefit of the doubt he counted each as one trapper. He said he then compared that number to the number of trappers in the field as reported by NDOW and that is how he came up with 20%. He said that is how he got those numbers; all he got from NDOW was two pieces of paper, each year, different animals and check marks by them. He said he has not spoken with the biologist since.

John Sullivan asked if he had met with him.

Dr. Molde said no.

John Sullivan said you haven't talked to him.

Dr. Molde said no, I have talked to him many times but not about that.

John Sullivan said what he is getting at is that he had talked to the biologist and the biologist had also used the term "grossly inaccurate." He interprets the numbers to the high side. He told me it is a voluntary reporting system; he gets about 20% of the trappers to respond. The biologist encourages every trapper to respond because what he suspects is happening is that only the 20% that trap vigorously are reporting. He state he is one of those. He said even as a kid he filled out that report. He said these numbers are grossly inaccurate because he has to extrapolate for the 80% that don't report. He suspects that 80% are the ones who trap very little. John Sullivan said the biologist then has to take the reported numbers and multiply them by a scale of 5, so he will tell you these numbers are off by a scale of 80-90%. He said he appreciates the research but he encourages Dr. Molde to talk to the biologist in the future to find out a few more details. He said he'd also like to report that it's a voluntary report. He said he has been in business for many years and marketing is very important to his business. He said any business that had a voluntary survey that 20% of their customers responded to would be ecstatic at a response that high. He said the fact 20% of the trappers take the time to fill out this form and use their money to put postage on it is miraculous. John Sullivan said as Dr. Molde has gone to some of these meetings and criticized the report, he will end up hurting it because many people have said they will no longer turn it in. He said the biologists need this report to do a good job of managing wildlife in this state. He said everyone in the room including Dr. Molde has a keen interest in wildlife management. He said if you criticize the data, it's going to hurt the report and wildlife management.

Dr. Molde said last things first. He said he is guessing John Sullivan didn't hear him earlier because he said his complaint was the data which is voluntarily being given by trappers is not being used against them, the problem is it is not even being considered. He said it has not been considered by anybody except the discussion that is occurring. He said his contention is it probably should be so that the committee can get around to talking compromises on trapping practices and how things are done. He said this information to anyone who doesn't shoot or trap animals is jaw dropping. He said people cannot believe these numbers. The 4100 or so rabbits that he tallied were individual check marks by the trappers, those are dead rabbits not extrapolated numbers.

John Sullivan said that Dr. Molde had said they were extrapolated numbers and John Sullivan said they are not.

Dr. Molde said no. He is saying you have to consider those are actual numbers reported by trappers.

John Sullivan said that isn't what the biologist told me and pointed out that Dr. Molde hadn't talked to him.

Dr. Molde said let's have the biologist come to the next meeting before the committee makes a big judgment of all of rural Nevada where most of the animals and birds are located. He said as he pointed out earlier to make a decision to put the whole state to anything other than 96 hour visitation without considering the impact of this on wildlife and domestic animals is crazy. He said that is his point. If John Sullivan doesn't believe the numbers as Russell Woolstenhulme, staff biologist gave them to him then he suggested Mr. Woolstenhulme attend the next meeting.

John Sullivan said he thought Dr. Molde had been given the form but never discussed it with the staff biologist.

Dr. Molde said actually he gave the form to Commissioner Layne and suggested Mr. Sullivan to discuss with Commissioner Layne. He said he provided two sheets that the biologist gave to him to Commissioner Layne. He said he would call the biologist up Monday and ask him if he really meant to put the marks in the box. He said those are real numbers. He said the extrapolation is to take those numbers and multiply it by some factor because only 20% or less of the trappers contributed to it.

John Sullivan said let's ask the biologist one question, whether he thinks the numbers are high or low.

Dr. Molde said he thinks it's low.

John Sullivan asked if he minded asking that question of the biologist.

Commissioner McNinch said that there can be further discussion of this later.

Commissioner Layne said she understands Commissioner McNinch desire to move forward to agenda item 7. She said she doesn't think it is the appropriate time. She said she thinks at some point that she does think that the committee will need to define these issues in other areas of the state. She said they have to define those terms.

Commissioner McNinch said he is less concerned about the heavily used areas. He said it's not like there is Mt. Charleston where the year round use is fairly elevated even during trapping season. He said he doesn't necessarily feel comfortable that he isn't comfortable with the populated aspect of it. He wasn't sure how the rest of the committee felt. He does think that the fact that the non-target data hasn't been placed on the agenda is his concern. He said there really isn't a specific reason he

hadn't included it. He said based on the conversations that are occurring here he said he probably needs to include it. He said it has to do with the trap check times and visitation in general. The committee needs to determine what value it has, but we don't have the biologist here to talk about it. One of the questions that were clarified was whether the report is required and it sounds like it is voluntary.

Kristy Knight said that it is mandatory per regulation 503.160 that they shall and must turn it in and if not they can get a suspension of license.

Commissioner McNinch said that is a whole other discussion point. He said there is a lot to walk through and there is a big learning curve for some of us. He thinks there are some unanswered questions that he would like to understand. He agrees with the trappers that animals don't get caught in traps the second you walk away. He said it might happen on occasion. He said for trappers that are following the law, the animals aren't staying in there for a period of 24 hours. They might be staying in there that might be unacceptable at some point but he understands what the trappers are saying. He said he does understand the angst that a little bit is taken away every time. He said he has said it on the record before it is a real concern with legitimate roots. He said that it can be read right on many websites and it is a legitimate concern. He said he will also say that there are a lot of interests that don't share those thoughts. He said most people in this room see wildlife life as utilitarian purposes. It is very clear that many in this room clearly represent that, but there are many people in this state that see animals as individuals or members of their families. He said not like a dog owner relationship but as a sibling or son or daughter. He said those feelings do exist. He said the question was asked if someone wanted to see their dog carried off by a coyote. He said there are a number of people that would say they would rather see their dog get carried off by a coyote than watch a coyote sit in a trap for four days. He said that doesn't make sense to some people but it exists and it's real. He said you don't have to take that step and understand it, but you have to realize it exists. Maybe no one will be able to make sense of either side since they are polar opposites. He said we are all going through the process of trying to understand. He said unless Commissioner Layne has a motion she would like to make relevant to agenda item six, he said there is still the opportunity to have further conversation in agenda item seven.

7. * Possible Recommendation to Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Regarding Visitation Frequency for Certain Traps, Snares or Similar Devices Placed in Close Proximity to a Populated or Heavily Used Area – Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action

The Committee may take action to recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners the frequency at which a person who takes or causes to be taken wild mammals by means of traps, snares or similar devices which do not, or are not designed to cause immediate death to the mammals must visit a trap, snare or similar device exclusive of Wildlife Management Areas 26, 28, 19, 02 and 29 or portions thereof. In providing a recommendation the Committee will consider requiring a trap, snare or similar device to be visited more frequently than a trap, snare or similar device which is not placed in close proximity to such an area.

Commissioner McNinch asked the committee members if that changes the discussion for them.

Commissioner Layne said she is frustrated by the strategy that she has heard several times tonight. She said it's very clear in the statute that the maximum time for visitation is 96 hours. She said then all of the sudden we get this strategy of more time in the rural areas. She said she is trying to wrap her head around this whole issue but she has a real problem with 96 hour visitation. She said she has a bigger problem with a strategy that tries to subvert the discussion when we all know that 96 hours is the maximum time. She said she wants everyone to understand that the maximum is 96 hours and that it is fruitless to talk about any time beyond that. She said it doesn't get us anywhere in this discussion.

John Sullivan said he thinks the reason that suggestion came up is because the word compromise came up. He said people were asking if compromise is both sides giving up something, then what is the other side giving up. He said if the topic is compromise then we can move compromise in other ways. He said for every acre that is changed to less than 96 hours then there are millions of acres closed currently to trapping. He said the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (NBWC) could open up those areas. He said in the Southern portion of the state the Desert Wildlife Refuge is prime predator bighorn sheep territory that trappers would love to go into. He said this state has that as a non-trapping area. He said if it was lifted and the commission went to the federal refuges he thinks that they could open up some of those areas. He said there are huge prime areas closed off to hunting, fishing, and particularly trapping. He said if we are talking compromise it doesn't have to be 96 hours, it could be an acre for acre trade.

Commissioner Layne said her understanding is in this agenda item the discussion is about visitation frequency.

Commissioner McNinch said yes that is what we are discussing. He said that heavily populated and close proximity have been discussed. He said now the conversation is how that relates visitation frequency excluding the specific areas mentioned. He said the term compromise came out and if we are going to go down that path, this is not the right format for it. He said collaboration is more of a win-win. Compromise means that there are wins and losses on both sides. He said it is a really painful process and it takes time and a different format to do it in. He said if that is the direction we are heading then maybe we save ourselves an 11pm meeting and head in that direction. He said the committee then has to decide what they are going to do. He thinks there is room for those discussions, but need to determine if they are serious or rhetorical discussions. He said more important there is a discussion that needs to be had on non-target data, understanding that it is a requirement, why we are falling short, and what it means. He wants to understand why the numbers are so high and if it is a function of the 96 hours. He said if we are catching 500 golden eagles that is a problem, but maybe catching 500 rabbits isn't. He said there is some information that should be received from the department regarding the data and allow the biologist to explain the numbers. He said if they are useless then maybe the fact that we are asking for it is a problem and we are just creating unnecessary rules. He said if it is useful then we need to figure out the best way to use that data. He still isn't comfortable without a broader discussion on the populated areas. He said he'll admit that there are vast differences between, Clark County, Reno, Elko, and Austin, but he wants

to understand those differences. He said he needs to understand why a populated area like Elko or Austin is different from the populated areas of Reno and Las Vegas.

Commissioner Layne said since she originally requested the non-target data she said her understanding of it was that it was taken directly from the reports by trappers and those were actual numbers with no estimation involved. She said she made the presentation in the member comments at that meeting and that Russell Woolstenhulme happened to be there and had expanded a little further on that. She said she does agree the non-target data is important. Her suggestion would be to look at peer review studies of what the animals go through hour by hour when there is constriction on their limbs. She said there is apparently a lot of research in that area and need to familiarize the committee with that information instead of going off of anecdotal information.

Trevor Walsh said the International Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (IIFWA) in conjunction with the Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies from 1998-2005 went through best management practices where they evaluated hundreds of different restraint devices and trapped thousands of different animals. He said every single one of them was sent for lab processing and there are mountains of data from all that was done through IIFWA for determining exactly what you are referencing as far as constriction, leg snares, foot hold traps, and all kinds of modifications. He said there is a tremendous amount of data with those agencies for the information you are referencing.

Walt Gardner said he thinks it is interesting and humorous to him when listening to the discussion of non-target data. He said when he was running hounds he was also trapping bobcats. He said to condition his dogs to the traps he took his dogs into the areas where he had his traps set. He said out of honesty he reported that on a non-target species and to him it looks it skewed because it was intentional.

Commissioner McNinch said it is important to understand those dynamics since we haven't had that conversation.

Randall Stroeber said he was going to finish what Mr. Gardner was talking about. He said in his case he runs hounds too. His hounds have been caught in everyone else's traps because he doesn't catch bobcats. He is sure most of those people if they caught a dog in their trap will report. He said three dogs caught in a trap will seem to add up. He wanted to comment regarding non-target is the fact he catches fox, skunk, coyotes, raccoons and badgers. His main focus is on fox and coyotes. He said when he does catch a raccoon or badger he does put them on the non-target list because he wasn't actually trapping that species at that time. He said he still utilizes those non-target animals even though it wasn't his target at that time. He said there are a lot of non-target checks on here but most of those are still utilized. He said there are a lot of trappers that are still happy to get a badger and get \$40 or \$50 for gas. He wanted to let everyone know that they are a bonus but are checked off as non-target.

Jason James said he agrees with Mr. Stroeber. He said sometimes when you set a trap there are several species in the area and you are thankful for it especially if you are teaching kids. He said many species have the same scents that attract them but they are marked as non-target even though

they are still utilized. He said the offset jaws you can catch non-target animals completely unharmed. He said Nevada went to those specifically for the birds of prey. It can't get out of it but it can easily be released without any harm. He traps mostly beavers but if you get a beaver and a muskrat in the same pond, he marks the muskrat as a non-target then other people take it to mean that he didn't want to trap it but he did anyways. He said rabbits in certain areas need to be trapped. He said the blacktail jack rabbit has no season and is considered as unprotected but they are still used. He said most of the trappers try to utilize everything they have. Trappers aren't out there to slaughter everything. He said being out there is the main focus. They are trying to stop getting restricted. He said we hear compromise but we don't see any compromise from the other side. He said that is why people are getting offended.

Fred Voltz said there is a sound scientific method that could be employed by the committee and commission to resolve the trap interval inspection issue. He said those committee and commission members and those who support wide spread trapping and the 96 hour visitation need to align their own personal bodies with their core values, in other words walk the talk. He said let's use the state's wilderness as a laboratory during both winter and summer conditions. He said place a significant sample size of these humans in each of the major trap types. He said remove all food and water, minimally cloth them, gag them so they can't cry out for help, monitor them with trail cameras to be sure no one disturbs the experiment, wrap their bodies in straight jackets, chain them to the ground on a short teather, and leave them unattended for 96 hours and leave them to the elements and any wildlife that chooses to attack them. He said no self defense would be possible by these individuals. He said to effectively take whatever measures are necessary to duplicate the conditions suffered by the states wildlife under the current trap laws. He asked if at that point the wildlife officials or trappers would still be willing to inflict such conditions on the states wildlife. He said Tracy Truman of live bobcat in a trap slinging fame before his pack of uncontrolled hounds tried to impart the fiction that traps are harmless at last Septembers public education forum on his Spring Mountain ranch. He said during the 6 hours of activity with children less than 5 years of age sitting less than 5 feet from Truman expressed disgust and revolution as Truman advocated a coyote for eventual sell. He said these innocent children were a barometer of the pure cunning and disgusting practices employed by trappers to exploit the public's wildlife. He said committee member John Sullivan was a part of integral part of the offered fictions that day and should be recusing himself from any votes on trapping matters given his Texas sized conflicts of interests. He said compassionate conservationists don't trap in this country. He said the few people who do trap should be held minimally responsible for the torture and terror they inflict on wildlife on the way to killing it. He said a statewide 24 hour trap inspection interval is long overdue in this state based on any metric one chooses to use and conforms to 33 other states in the country.

Dr. Molde said he came to this meeting because it sounds like we are going to get a spiffed up self report from the trappers since it is mandatory and their licensure depends on it. He said he is looking forward to getting more data to look at. He appreciates the comments from the trappers suggesting that they may have filled out the form inaccurately, listing non-target animals when they might have changed their classification. He said he would like to know how many animals and birds are killed accidentally. He said he is looking forward to what the future holds with that. He said he wanted to draw the straight line a little tighter than what the committee seems to understand on why non-target data is important. He said it's his point of view, Trail Safe's, and the people he

speaks with animals and birds that are caught in traps deserve to get out of traps as fast as possible. He said you cannot make a counter argument. He said we care about every single rabbit, bird, and eagle that get caught. He said even one is too many, let alone 500. He said one of the elements of a compromise down the road is if there were some revisions in trapping practices. He said he has guys that set three or four traps in one area, they catch a rabbit in one trap and then by defacto they have a baited trap; an eagle comes down in search of it and ends up getting caught in one of the other traps. He said the reason the non-target stuff is so important is because any animal that's not a target animal deserves to get out of the trap sooner rather than later because the risk of injury increases with the duration of time spent in the trap. He said those are the smallest words he can think of to describe our concerns.

Joel Blakeslee said we can talk about non-target data but he isn't sure it has to do with the price of tea in China. He said there are other numbers on there that Dr. Molde did not bring up like the fact some of the dogs on there were caught 15 miles away from any residence. He said let's look at why those dogs are running around out there, maybe chasing deer and killing wildlife and non-target species. He said he wanted to finish up with the main point he is trying to make, which is what are we trying to accomplish.

Rich Sandoz said on the non-target questionnaire he hasn't filled out the last couple years because when they tag the cats they ask the same questions. He thought he was filling out the report. He said he talked to the biologist this last time and the biologist said he needed to fill out the report. He expressed concern about duplicate information and the biologist told him that the information would be kept separately. He thought he was complying and he realizes he wasn't. He said the chart he provided lists his non-target animals on there, but the catch is he included the furs from the non-target on his total. He said there are times he targets specific animals but uses the furs from the non-target animals. He said even skins the skunks because you can sell the scent and hides. He said in regards to John recusing himself, he uses the logic of the guy in the wool jacket. He would say the same about Commissioner Layne because she has an interest opposite trapping while John Sullivan has an interest in trapping. He said that is why you have a diverse board.

Jerry Smith, trapper said he had a question for Commissioner Layne or Dr. Molde. He wanted to know if the non-target data was for one year or a span of years.

Dr. Molde said the data covers eight years out of 12. He said NDOW did not have any data for 2002-2004, 2007 and 2010-2011.

Jerry Smith asked for confirmation of the data is a cumulative total of all those years.

Dr. Molde said yes, cumulative.

Commissioner Layne said she believes when the information was originally provided the data was divided by year.

Dr. Molde said yes.

Commissioner Layne said it is actually available by year.

Jerry Smith said yes. The numbers quoted here are a cumulative amount. He said the 4000 rabbits were taken over 8 years. He thanked them for clearing that up. He said to him that did seem like a high number of rabbits trapped in one year. He has been trapping in Nevada since 1979. He doesn't know if anyone else has been thinking about this situation with the humane treatment of animals. He thanked Mr. Walsh for bringing up the best management practices and said that trappers are very committed to finding the best tools to provide the most humane treatment of the animal while it's restrained. Those who are against trapping look at traps as a cruel barbaric tool. He said we look at them as a restraining device. He said that through the use of swivels, laminated jaws, etc that technology has brought about is trying to provide the best outcome for the animals. He asked everyone to stick with him, he isn't trying to be an antagonist. He said if he was trying to limit the take of incidentals in Nevada that he would be totally against 24 hour check. He said then because every time he goes every 24 hours he has a new set trap that has the potential of taking an animal. He said if he has a three or four day check yes the animal has been in the trap for three or four days, depending on your view that may be a bad thing, but that trap is out of commission. He said he is proposing to you folks that it would actually increase the take of incidental animals by having a 24 hour check. He said number one, they will be cumulatively caught in open traps. He said he had an animal in it for three nights and now has an open trap for three nights and would have three animals. He said also every time he runs 200 miles to run his traps he would probably have an incidental kill on the highway, whether its kangaroo rats, mice, or rabbits. He said what we have heard is the individual animal is important, not the species. He said that is a classic preservationist point of view. He said the conservationist looks at it as, it's the species. He said the species is what we are trying to promote and manage. He said species management is the North American model for management which we are all participating in right now. He said that is why the committee is charged with hearing all these things and finding the best science we can do concerning trapping. He said the other thing about the incidental take, is if we are trying to limit the number of animals actually subjected to trapping, he suggests that a 24 hour check is going to increase that too. He said again you have an open trap that is closed on an animal for a maximum of 96 hours vs a trap that is checked and reset everyday which subjects more animals to the traps. He said he just can't get to the thinking of behind somebody wanting to do that. He understands the conflicts between dogs and trappers in congested areas. He said he can't figure out how a 24 hour check is going to alleviate or solve that problem. He said as one guy said if a trap is set and a dog is off his leash or out of voice command range there is going to be a conflict. He said the only thing he can see is all dogs off private property should be on a leash all the time. He said we see no compromise from anyone on the anti side to come that far with us either. He said he doesn't want to be bit by a dog or have his children jumped on by dogs or dogs injured or fighting because they are off of a leash. He said to think of what a beautiful world that would be if we could expect that in all the heavily populated areas. He said he would suggest that there is a lot more conflict with dog bites, dogs jumping on people, or dogs fighting, with much more serious injuries, than ever for dogs being caught in traps.

Commissioner McNinch brought the discussion back to the committee. He said the sense he is picking up from the committee is everyone is deep in thought on where to go. He doesn't want his comments to come out as trying to twist things one way or the other. He isn't sure if the committee

is ready to make some final decisions. He would feel more comfortable with more information. He said that creates some issues because that sends the committee away from here without giving an idea of where we are headed in terms of a final decision. He said he made the mistake with the bear committee to force the issue a bit and isn't sure it's the right thing to do. He wants to make sure it is done right when we walk into the legislature everyone feels comfortable with where we are as a committee. He wants to be able to tell the legislature a clear indication and description of where we stand on the issue. He doesn't think an explanation that the current way is working will be enough for the legislature. He said we will need to be prepared to answer their questions.

Commissioner Robb said he could articulate today why 96 hours work in a rural community. He could explain why it's justified between the great distances between our population basis and the unpopulated areas, maintaining the balance of our wildlife resources, and recognition of the endangered species like sage grouse, and the livestock industry and the value of predator take through trapping. He doesn't know if he could get three votes to move the board to a recommendation to the commission but that is where he is at. He said he doesn't know if two other people would be comfortable.

Commissioner Layne said her problem with Commissioner Robb's proposal is she said it's not rural Nevada the committee has to deal with. She said she doesn't want to set a precedent that is going to follow us to Reno or Las Vegas. She thinks that because that was done here then the expectation would be that is what is going to happen. She said while she understands what Commissioner Robb is saying she feels it will create a problem when dealing with the other areas. She doesn't think the committee should be dealing with all these areas on a piece meal.

Commissioner Robb said he has stated in previous meetings he doesn't feel comfortable making decisions about Las Vegas and where those maps should be anywhere but Las Vegas. He said he didn't feel comfortable talking about the maps in Reno without being in Reno. This is the most applicable place to talk about what happens in the rest of the state outside of the two metropolitan areas. He said one way or another committee is going to have to move the ball. He said whether he did it in Reno or Las Vegas his motion would be the same. He said if Commissioner Layne thinks there is a better place to hear that he can entertain it but his motion wouldn't change at that point. He said he isn't discounting there will be future meetings to discuss future things. He said right now as a trapping committee member he has approximately 40 hours listening to public testimony. He said there aren't too many things that he hasn't considered in his mind to be able to make a decision whether it's today, in Reno, or in Las Vegas. He said he is familiar with the state, surroundings, Trail Safe's lists, distribution of people and animals. He said that is what he is taking into consideration. He said he'd like to hear from a couple other committee members as to whether a decision should be made tonight or if it needs to be held off until another meeting. He said we need to start moving forward.

Commissioner Drew said he wouldn't be offended if Commissioner Robb made the motion. He said either way there are advantages and disadvantages regardless of how the committee proceeds. He said he got out of this meeting what he needed to get out of this meeting by hearing what those who showed up had to say. He said he appreciates the discussion. He said he doesn't talk much because he feels you learn a lot more by listening, not by talking, and he learned a lot this evening.

John Sullivan said he agrees with Commissioner Robb that the committee should move forward tonight with a vote on the rural areas. He said he wouldn't be comfortable making a decision about the rural areas in Reno or Las Vegas. He said that the committee owes it to these people that if a decision is put off then we owe it to these people to come back here. He said we are here now and he thinks that he has sat behind this desk and has heard enough to make an educated vote on this particular area. He said he would support Commissioner Robb going forward with a motion.

Commissioner McNinch said he has concerns with the non-target data. He said he wants to understand a little better because he doesn't know how that will affect his impression of the visitation frequency. He said he didn't have enough consideration of that coming in. He said based on the conversation tonight it's important to hear more about it. He said there are discrepancies in the value of the information and he needs to hear more about. He is also not comfortable with the aspect of populated. He isn't sure that the committee can articulate why one populated area is different than another at this point, he not talking about Elko to Reno or Las Vegas. He is referring in comparing Battle Mountain to Austin or Elko. They are more the same than not, but we can't articulate that. The thing that would prevent him from making a decision tonight is the seriousness of the conversation regarding compromise or collaboration. He said at first it was more of a jest, but as it went on it became serious. He doesn't feel comfortable moving forward until he understands better where people stand. He said he doesn't know if that is something people are comfortable putting on record or if it would be more back door discussions. He said if there is opportunity there he would sure hate to shut the door on that. He said he doesn't know what it would entail or what it would look like but there was some back and forth on it that was checking reactions.

Commissioner Robb said he is considering going forward. He said there is a Commission meeting in March, May and one in a rural community in June. He said no matter what if he makes a motion tonight or not, this still has to get through the NBWC. He said it would be heard one more time in a rural community.

Commissioner McNinch interrupted Commissioner Robb and said that staff can help the committee understand the process if there was anything that would move forward so we know what it would look like. He said if there is something that has to be moved forward, it has to be noticed 30 days prior to the June meeting, then 30 days for an LCB review, so that would put us into April with time frames. He asked Mr. Buonamici if that was correct.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said yes that is correct, the committee is looking at 75 days for the process.

Commissioner Robb asked June 22nd minus 75 days takes us to when?

Commissioner McNinch said early April.

Commissioner Robb asked if they could even have a workshop on something in May that hasn't come back from LCB to have final discussion in the June meeting.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said it would have to be back from LCB to have a discussion. He said we would need approximately 40 days because we would need to know how it is to be drafted.

Commissioner Robb asked when the May Commission meeting was.

Commissioner Layne said May 9th and 10th.

Commissioner McNinch said he brought it up because he has been cognizant of time frames, but this is a big deal and he wants to be real careful. He understands the importance of time frames and the need to get it off our plate. He said if there are opportunities he would hate to miss the opportunity for the time frame or cut it short.

Commissioner Robb said he doesn't think the committee will miss out on any conversation by taking action tonight. We do have a shot at it at the NBWC level. He said if the committee does take action on it tonight there is another shot at it at the workshop and the NBWC vote. He said there will be a couple other opportunities to review more information that may become pertinent at that point.

John Sullivan asked after the committee does it go through the CAB level.

Commissioner McNinch said ultimately whatever recommendation is made out of here it would go through CAB's at one point to get to the Commission.

Commissioner Drew said that it would likely all come as one package.

DAG Newton said in the current map system Tonopah is in the Southern area. He said it's not contained within the region that we are here tonight.

Commissioner Robb said for all intents and purposes we are looking at all hunt units outside of 26,28,19,02 and 29 and they are in 16, 17 and 25.

Commissioner McNinch said that was Commissioner Layne's concern. He said when the committee was trying to determine how to move forward one of the problems was they tried to address the whole state and it was painful. He said everyone's minds were all over the state. He said they made the decision to break it into three areas, Las Vegas, Reno/Carson City and the rural areas to help focus conversations.

Commissioner McNinch said that is something the committee is working through right now. He said with all due respect to Commissioner Robb he said he would defer himself to taking a formal position until later. At this time it's a decision that has to be made. He said if there is no action we will talk about future meetings and how the committee plans to move forward.

COMMISSIONER ROBB MADE A MOTION IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREAT DISTANCES BETWEEN POPULATION CENTERS AND VAST UNPOPULATED AREAS IN RECOGNITION OF MAINTAINING A BALANCE OF OUR WILDLIFE RESOURCES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEVADA IN RECOGNITION OF POSSIBLE ENDANGERED SPECIES AND THE PROTECTION OF PREDATOR, PREY, AND NON-GAME ANIMALS THAT WE MAINTAIN A 96 HOUR TRAP CHECK IN AREAS OUTSIDE OF AREAS 26, 28, 19, 02, & 29. JOHN SULLIVAN SECONDED THE MOTION. 3 TO 2 THE MOTION PASSES.

OPPOSED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH AND COMMISSIONER LAYNE.

Commissioner Layne said that based on her prior discussion regard this issue she will be voting against the motion. She said she is not supportive of 96 hours anywhere in the state. She said everyone keeps using 24 hours which was proposed by one organization. She said she can't be supportive of 96 hours anywhere in the state.

Commissioner McNinch said he won't be supportive of it tonight either. There was some discussion that he didn't anticipate. He said the light may be dim but it is different than when he walked in.

DAG Newton asked for clarification for the audience whether the plan is to take this to the Commission on its own or wait until a decision has been made for the other areas.

Chairman McNinch said they plan to bring it to the Commission at the next Commission meeting, but it would be best if they were brought as one package.

Commissioner Drew asked if a motion needed to be made in regards to that.

DAG Newton said no. He said he didn't want people to misunderstand when it wasn't listed on the next agenda people would understand why.

Commissioner Drew said that is the prudent way to move forward.

8. Future Committee Meetings and Potential Agenda Items – Chairman McNinch – For Possible Action

The Committee will discuss the date, time and location of the next Committee meeting. The Committee will also review and may take action to set potential agenda items for that meeting.

Chairman McNinch said there is a meeting in Reno tomorrow and all are welcome. He said there is not a date set up for addressing issues in Las Vegas so he thinks the committee needs to evaluate the time frame for that. He said the audience will need to stick with the committee as they are trying to balance four very busy committees. He said they are meeting frequently and the committee has a lot on their calendars. He said we still need to get to Las Vegas but need to be cautious of the budget. NDOW expressed concern regarding the resources.

Commissioner Robb said the next Commission meeting will be teleconferenced. He said knowing that we are stressing the budget he suggested a date in Las Vegas for early April whether it be teleconferenced or not.

Chairman McNinch said as the Chairman he would lean toward being in Vegas even if it was teleconferenced. He said it would be important to have that presence. He said he doesn't know if it would be necessary for everyone to be there but Commissioner Layne and John Sullivan would be there. He said they have been talking about Fridays. He said Saturdays haven't been super popular.

Commissioner Robb pointed out that some of them have regular paying jobs.

DAG Newton said he believes there was some discussion at the last meeting about not teleconferencing committee meetings because all the offices have to be manned in order to do that. He said before you set a date or plan you may want to check on which one actually causes more budgetary concerns.

Chairman McNinch asked if teleconferencing costs about \$200 to run per site.

Chief Game Warden Buonamici said there are certain employees that have to be there so it would depend on the day as well.

DAG Newton agreed and said it's not just a matter of the teleconferencing but also the staff to man it.

Chairman McNinch said there are advantages and disadvantages because there is a number of the public that wants to participate.

DAG Newton said he understands but wanted to point out the budgetary concern.

Commissioner Robb said we can hold the discussion for tomorrow but he is suggesting April 5th.

Commissioner Layne said that is a really bad weekend.

Chairman McNinch asked if she had a couple dates.

Commissioner Drew suggested having this discussion for tomorrow.

Chairman McNinch said if we could throw a couple dates out that we can all think about and make the decision tomorrow.

John Sullivan said he is ok regardless.

Chairman McNinch said there is a bear committee meeting on April 11th.

Commissioner Robb said as of April 12th you are pushing it, it won't get out of LCB because after there is a committee meeting language has to be prepared to even get to LCB.

Chairman McNinch said it sounds like we are talking about April 5th or earlier.

Commissioner Robb said there is a Commission meeting on the 21st & 22nd.

Chairman McNinch said that leaves us with the 28th and 29th.

Commissioner Layne said she literally can't do it that weekend because it is the biggest fundraiser of the year.

Chairman McNinch asked for clarification on which weekend.

Commissioner Layne said the 28th and 29th.

John Sullivan said that is a bad weekend for him as well.

Commissioner Layne said she would have to do it April 5th. She said the 29th would be impossible.

Chairman McNinch said April 5th is the date to look at. He then asked for suggestions on potential agenda items.

Commissioner Robb suggested non-target data.

Commissioner Layne wanted to see if there could be a video conference or phone call with the veterinarian that she believes is in California. She said she'll take a look at it and see what she could do. She said it would be worthwhile to have an agenda item even if the vet couldn't be there in person.

Chris Christensen said concerning non-target, he said for his money that the data he reviewed removes all non-protected and all usable species that trappers would utilize. He said if they are scoring a skunk as non-target but still utilizing the hide he said it shouldn't count as non-target. He said he is an all around trapper, doing it for 50 years and has never had a simple coyote season. He said he always gets badgers, foxes, cats, etc. He said if you remove all non-protected and actual furbearing animals from the list it would be valid data.

John Sullivan said are we discussing having the vet brought in as an expert witness.

Chairman McNinch said as a possible agenda item. He said he'll have a conversation with everyone to determine what we are after. He said unless John Sullivan wants to take action.

John Sullivan said he likes the non-target as an agenda item and have Russell Woolstenhulme, staff biologist there as well. As far as the veterinarian he isn't real comfortable with that. He said if there will be an expert witness they would need to have two or three and have some kind of peer

review. He knows nothing about this individual or his background so he is uncomfortable bringing this Californian in.

9. Public Comment Period

Persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Committee at this time; any item requiring Committee action may be scheduled on a future Committee agenda. In addition to this Public Comment Period, Public Comment limited to three minutes per speaker on each agenda action item, but not on reports or informational items.

Kelly Strain said that something that has bothered him is he keeps hearing about the sage hen but no one ever brings up the wild horses. He said they are ground nesting birds and wild horses stomp out the nests more than most of the predators we are worried about. He asked why the wild horses aren't being addressed. He said the other thing that hit him earlier is your perception of an area that's populated. He said in his opinion Elko is no different than Reno. He said for him to go to do something he 112 miles to get a gallon of milk. He said for him to run his trap line there isn't as much pressure. He said he isn't catching dogs and if he is he is calling someone to apologize because it is a neighbor.

Jerry Smith said that several folks brought up the thought or process of education. He said he wanted to expand on that. He said there is a perfect vehicle to do trap and public education. He said that is the NDOW website. He said there are three tabs on the website, hunting, fishing, and boating but he had to search a long time to find anything on trapping. He said when he did it was one small paragraph telling you to trap responsibly and know where you are going. He said he would hope that maybe with all the people in the room talking about it and the fact that there is a vehicle to do it right away by going on the website with a trapping link. He said on this it would have history, importance of furbearers, importance of ecology, importance of furbearer management, importance of habitat and all the data that's on the other things. He said more importantly it could be a resource for people that are truly concerned with public safety and walking their dogs in the outback of Nevada. He said that information would be a video like they have on Montana's website on how to release dogs from traps. He said he would invite you to consider a recommendation to the full Commission to explore the possibility of expanding the website. He said we have broached a pretty political topic with the bears, why not do it with trapping as well. He said he is assuming the reason there isn't more is because it is politically hot. He said he can envision it to cater to those people who are concerned about pets getting caught by recognizing particular hot spots during a certain time of year. He said it would help the trappers know as well, so they can avoid those areas. He said trappers don't want to catch dogs anymore than people want their dogs caught. He said he knows that the committee gets emails and things like the difference between 24 hour and 96 hour is simply trapper convenience. He said that gets him burned up because it's not convenience, its freedom. He said all of us working collectively over the years have decided that 96 hours is the humane maximum that an animal should remain in a trap. He said that doesn't mean any of the trappers in this room wait 96 hours before checking the traps. He said or that an animal is caught immediately. He said he knows people that run traps 24 hours, 48, 72, & 96. He said the deal is we have the freedom and the options to run our trap lines the best way that

we see fit whether it's due to humane treatment, vehicle access problem, etc. He said being limited to 24 hours takes all of that away. He said it's not convenience its freedom and the North American model of wildlife management. He said as a group it's been decided that 96 hours works and has been that way since 1980 when it used to be a week.

Dr. Molde said it is trappers convenience and nothing but in his point of view. He said there is no right to trap, it's a privilege. He said you have to get a license and follow the rules and requirements. He said there is a responsibility to follow the rules if you trap. He said the public has a say in this. He said the animals killed belong to everybody and when you come to these meeting you get the feeling this is a private trapping club. He said sometimes it feels like those who don't trap don't have a say and shouldn't show up. He said the public has spoken on this. He said while SB213 didn't come out in its original form it did come out. It's something that has forced the Commission to do something that the Commission has resisted since he started back in the late 1970's to take a look at the 96 hour rule which the non-hunting public does not like. He said that section owns the animals too it has every right to ask for an examination of this issue. He said if it deems the 96 hours as not proper then it can fight for something less than that. He said his side of the aisle doesn't have to make any apologies for being here.

Chairman McNinch adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

NOTE: The meeting has been recorded and is available upon request. The minutes are a summary of the meeting. At the Department of Wildlife Headquarters in Reno is a complete record of the meeting, recordings, support material, summary of minutes and exhibits received/referenced during the committee meeting. The record is available upon request.

BOBCAT RECORDS 2012/13

TRAP	DAYS	# TRAPS	SETS	DAYS OUT	M/F	CHECK DATE	NON-TARGET
SINCE LAST	RUN TOTAL			EG. 2 or 4			EG 1 FOX; 1 BADGER
173	173	48	47	29@4/19@3	3F	11/5	⊖
156	329	52	51	3	⊖	11/8	⊖
208	537	52	51	4	1F	11/12	1 COYOTE
204	739	51	50	4	⊖	11/16	⊖
148	887	37	36	4	⊖	11/20	1 COYOTE
124	1011	31	-	4	⊖	11/24	⊖
124	1135	31	-	4	⊖	11/28	1 RED FOX, 1 BADGER
52	1187	13	-	4	1M	12/2	⊖
36	1223	12	-	3	⊖	12/5	⊖
48	1271	12	12	4	1M	12/9	⊖
36	1307	4 Female 2 male		3	⊖	12/12	⊖

LINE DONE 12/12

* PULLED 6, LEFT 6 OUT. 15 NOW ON MED

LINE 1

TRAP	DAYS	# TRAPS	SETS	DAYS OUT	M/F	CHECK DATE	NON-TARGET
22	22	22	22	1	1F	12/12	⊖
164	186	41	41	4	1F	12/16	⊖
12	198	6		2	⊖	12/18	⊖
105	303	34	* set 8 more	3	⊖	12/19	⊖
144	447	48		3	⊖	12/22	1 COYOTE
192	639	48		4	1F	12/26	⊖
192	831	48	* PULLED 6 IN HANDS	4	⊖	12/30	⊖
168	999	42		4	⊖	1/3	⊖ PULLED ALL 1/3/13

LINE DONE 1/3

LINE 2

TRAP	DAYS	# TRAPS	SETS	DAYS OUT	M/F	CHECK DATE	NON-TARGET
51	51	17		3	⊖	1/31	Set 17 TRAPS out
86	137	35	35	3	2M, 1F	2/2	Set 2 more traps
140	277	35		4	⊖	2/6	PULLED 2 TRAPS BACK
132	409	33		4	⊖	2/10	1 JACK RABBIT - 1 TRAP
128	537	32		4	1M	2/14	PULLED LINE

STARTED

LINE 3

Line BOBCAT RECORDS 2012/13

TRAP DAYS		TRAPS	DAYS OUT	BOBCATS	CHECK DATE	NON-TARGET
SINCE LAST	RUN TOTAL	TRAPS OUT	EG. 2, 4	M/F	SET	EG. 1 Red Fox
68	68	17	4 <u>LINE 4</u>	0	11/23	1 COYOTE, SKUNK RELEASED
104	172	26	4	0	11/27	1 SKUNK, RACKRAT
92	264	23	4	2 m's	12/1	0
72	<u>336</u>	24	3	1 m	12/4	0 Pulled Line
<u>336</u>		TRAP DAYS FOR 3 TOMS		15 DAYS		Deer it RESULTS
Re-started						Creek Line 2/5
116	116	29	4	0	2/9	0 Mtn Lion in area
116	232		4	0	2/13	0 1 Mtn Lion SPRUNG TRAP
116	348		4	0	2/17	0 1 SPRUNG, DON'T KNOW WHAT
116	<u>464</u>		4	0	2/21	1 ROCK CHUCK BOBCAT AT IT
Pulled	2/21	464 TRAP DAYS FOR				
		STARTED LAST LINE 2/20				10 @ CR. 2/20
10	10	10	1	0	2/21	0
40	50		4	0	2/25	0
18	<u>68</u>	9	2	0	2/27	0
						<u>LINE 4</u>

① 11-1 Set
 12-12 DONE
 CATCHES 12-9, 12-2, 11-12, 11-5

42 DAYS 290 MILES ROUND TRIP 6 HRS / DAY + SKINNING

11 CHECKS (LEGAL)

Remile
 COSTS

210 MILES @ .50 / MILE \$105.00 / TRIP
 11 CHECKS = \$1155.00
 24 HRS CHECK 42 CHECKS = \$4410.00
 48 HRS CHECK 21 CHECKS = \$2205.00

* 4 wheel Drive
 VEHICLE
 * 2006
 CAR MILES
 # 449 miles

GAS USAGE
 15 MPG AVERAGE '02 TACOMA
 14 GALLONS / TRIP
 11 TRIPS = 154 GALLONS FUEL
 24 HRS 42 TRIPS = 588 GALLONS FUEL
 48 HRS 21 CHECKS = 294 GALLONS FUEL

Time 6 HRS \$60.00 / DAY
 11 DAYS = \$660.00
 WAGES \$10.10 OBAMA'S WANT MIN. WAGE
 24 HRS 42 DAYS = \$2545.20
 48 HRS 21 DAYS = \$1272.60

EXPENSES
 WAGES / MILEAGE COSTS ONLY
 11 DAYS - \$1821.60
 42 DAYS - \$6955.20
 21 DAYS - \$3477.60

CATCH - 6 CATS @ 765.00 AVERAGE - \$4590
 @ 2013 PRICES 1 BADGER \$15.00 - 15
 1 RAO FOX \$60.00 - 60
 2 COYOTES \$55.00 AVERAGE - 110
 \$4775.00

@ 2014 PRICES - 30% LOWER THIS YEAR
 FAMILY TIME GONE YEAR
 \$3342.50

* 2013 ARE MY ACTUAL AVERAGES. HAD 1 CAT \$1586.00 FALLON HICK

BOTTOM LINE #'S

13 PRICES	PROFIT IN 42 DAYS	+\$2953.40	OR +\$70.32 / DAY	CURRENT LAW
	LOSS	-\$2180.20	OR -\$51.91 / DAY	24 HR CHECK
		+\$1297.40	OR +\$30.89 / DAY	48 HR CK

214 PRICES	PROFIT IN 42 DAYS	+\$1520.90	OR +\$36.21 / DAY	CURRENT
	LOSS	-\$3612.70	OR -\$86.01 / DAY	24 HR CK.
		-\$135.18	OR -\$3.22 / DAY	48 HR CK.

FUEL WASTE LINE 1

CURRENT LAW	USED 154 GALLONS GASOLINE
24 HR CK	WOULD USE 434 MORE GALLONS OF FUEL
48 HR CK	" " 140 MORE GALLONS OF FUEL

- * COULD HAVE USED LESS THAN I DID HEAVILY.
- * COSTS SHOWN ARE ONLY FOR TRAP LINE #1
- * - TRAP LINE 1 - 210 MILES ROUND TRIP 6 HR AVERAGE DAY
- TRAP LINE 2 - 350 MILES ROUND TRIP 10 HR AVERAGE DAY
- " " 3 - 195 MILES ROUND TRIP 6 HR AVERAGE DAY
- " " 4 - 140 MILES ROUND TRIP 6 HR AVERAGE DAY
- " " 5 - 350 MILES ROUND TRIP 10 HR AVERAGE DAY
- " " 6 - 210 MILES ROUND TRIP 6 HR AVERAGE D
- * REALLY ALL NUMBERS X 6 LINES FOR SEASON.

NOV 30 DEC 31 JAN 31 FEB 28 120 DAY SEASON

13 PRICES	120 DAY SEASON	
	PROFIT	PER DAY +\$70.32 PROFIT \$8438.40
	LOSS	-51.91 LOSS \$6229
		-30.89 LOSS \$376

2014 PRICES	PROFIT	PER DAY +\$36.21	PROFIT \$4
	LOSS	-86.01	LOSS \$10
		-3.22	LOSS \$30.

120 DAY
ENTIRE SEASON

CURRENT LAW
24 HR CHECK
48 HR CHECK

PROFIT/LOSS
SHOWN
EG. \$10.00/HR
\$48438.40
\$6229.30
\$3706.80

ACTUAL WAGE
\$0.00
\$2484.60
\$17272.00
\$3696.00

ACTUAL
PROFIT/LOSS

\$5953.80 PROFIT
\$13501.30 LOSS
\$7403.40 LOSS

CURRENT LAW
24 HR CHECK
48 HR CHECK

\$4345.20
\$10,321.12
-\$386.40

\$2484.60
\$7272.00
\$3696.00

\$1860.60 PROFIT
\$17593.12 LOSS
\$4083.00 LOSS

2014
PRICES

* THE 24 HR CHECK
WOULD INCREASE THE GASOLINE
USED BY 19.3% (1106 GALLONS)
THE 48 HR CHECK
WOULD INCREASE GASOLINE
USED BY 49% (2882 GALLONS)

* VEHICLE COST @ \$50/mile
WOULD NOT COVER ACTUAL COSTS
* QUESTION N DOW WARDENS
TRUCK PER MILE COSTS,
THEY SHOULD HAVE THEM

* DON'T GET MINIMUM WAGE
AMOUNT MADE IS BASED ON
FUR SOLD.

* OBVIOUSLY WOULD ELIMINATE
TRAPPING WHERE I DO WITH 24 OR
48 HR CHECKS AND ADD A LOT
OF EXPENSE WITH 72 HR. CHECKS.

* EUM. MAKE TRAPPING IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL HERE.
* NOT SHOWN IS TIME TRAPPING FUR, EXPENSE OF
TRAPS & SUPPLIES, STOLEN TRAPS, STOLEN FUR, ATVs OR
SNOWMOBILES USED.

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