



# Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## MEETING MINUTES

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Date: July 27, 2013

Location: Overton Community Center  
320 North Moapa Valley Blvd.  
Overton, NV 89040

Time: 9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Paul Dixon, Chair                      Michael J. Reese, Vice Chair  
John Sullivan    Brian Patterson

The agenda for this meeting was posted in the following locations;

- Nevada Department of Wildlife, 4747 West Vegas Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89107;
- Clark County Government Center, 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89108;
- City of Henderson, City Hall, 240 Water Street, Henderson, Nevada, 89015;
- Boulder City, City Hall, 401 California Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada, 89005;
- Laughlin Town Manager's Office; 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada, 89028;
- Moapa Valley Community Center, 320 North Moapa Valley Road, Overton, Nevada, 89040;
- Mesquite City Hall, 10 East Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite, Nevada, 89027.

Date: July 22, 2013

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### 1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 9:45 am by Chairman Paul Dixon in the Overton Fire Station, as the custodian for the Overton Community Center was unavailable to open the Center.
- Roll call of Board Members was performed by Chairman Paul Dixon. A quorum was present.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

- Chairman Paul Dixon requested all stand and asked Vice Chair Reese to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2013 CCABMW Meeting - Action

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 18, 2013 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Approval of Agenda for July 27, 2013 – Action

- Chairman Paul Dixon noted that informational item #9, SB213 is an Informational Item, and will be reviewed and discussed, but no recommendations or action will be taken. Also, Action Items # 10.A.5 (Migratory Bird Seasons), #10.A.6 (Trap Visitation), and #10.A.7 (Trap Registration) will need to be taken out of sequence as the first three action items to accommodate attendees with time

constraints and keen interest in those topics. It was also noted that a restroom break would be included at an appropriate time.

- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Meeting Agenda as written with the clarification that Item #9 is informational, the addition of a restroom break, and allowing the action items listed by Chairman Paul Dixon to be taken out of sequence. Motion passed unanimously.

**Unless otherwise stated, items may be taken out of the order presented on the agenda, and two or more items may be combined for consideration. The Board may also remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.**

**5. CAB Member Items/Announcements/Correspondence: (Informational):** Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CCABMW) members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the CCABMW. Any item requiring CCABMW action will be scheduled on a future CCABMW agenda. CCABMW board members may discuss any correspondence sent or received. (CCABMW board members must provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record).

- Vice Chair Reese announced on August 15, 2013, NDOW Director, Tony Wasley will be at Arizona Charlie's to Present and answer questions. This free event is from 6pm to 9pm. Topics will include Mule Deer status, Big Game Forecast, and the impact of the Carpenter1 Fire.
- John Sullivan noted that as a result of the recent duck die-off at Floyd Lamb State Park, fishing has been suspended while NDOW investigates.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that the annual Waterfowl Report is available. Duck numbers are up nationally.
- Russell Woolstenhulme, NDOW Waterfowl Specialist, added clarification to the numbers Chairman Paul Dixon quoted stating that the USFWS conducted the surveys and produced the Report, but experienced problems with equipment and some survey routes were not completed. Thus, species listed as declining in the Report may in fact be stable or increasing.
- Chairman Paul Dixon reviewed the process for requesting hunt and population statistics, similar to Kensen Lee's request for Turkey statistics. Formal requests must go through Tony Wasley, NDOW Director.

**6. Carpenter 1 Fire Impact Update (Informational) –** Chairman Dixon will lead a discussion about the Carpenter 1 fire impact.

- Chairman Paul Dixon opened discussion on this topic.
- Steve Kimble, NDOW Supervisor, Game Division, stated that no one from NDOW has been into the fire area yet. Reports are promising indication that there is little need for habitat repair. Immediate focus will probably be on erosion control and reseeding on steeper areas to control erosion.

**7. Disease Event Update – Southern California Desert Bighorn Sheep – Dr. Peregrine Wolff (Informational) –** A wild sheep disease report will be provided.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and asked if anyone from NDOW was able to speak to this at this meeting.
- Steve Kimble, NDOW, noted that there is a coordination meeting with US and California agencies every Tuesday where this is one of the key topics. There have been recent surveys that have not found new dead sheep. The affected herd is about 40 miles from the Nevada state line

and there is a real possibility that the herd could cross into Nevada. The joint team is keeping a close eye on the herd.

- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that he will have this item added to the Agenda for the September CCABMW meeting.

**8. Wild Horse Update – Chief of Habitat Alan Jenne- (Informational)** – A report will be provided on the status of the wild horse issues pending in Nevada.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic, but since the people who can provide information were not present, no further discussion was needed. This item will be added to the September meeting Agenda.

**9. SB213 Trapping Regulation – CCABMW Board Member John Sullivan (Informational)** – Review, discuss SB213.

- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Board Member John Sullivan to provide an update.
- John Sullivan noted that SB213 initially had four provisions addressing trapping in Nevada. Of those four, only two were voted into law, trap registration and visitation. The law gave the Wildlife Commission the authority to define Regulations addressing these two topics.

**10. Action Items:**

**A. Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners August 2nd and 3rd, 2013 Agenda and additional items brought forth to the Clark CCABMW from the public for discussion.** CCABMW agenda & support materials are available upon request to Stacy Matthews (702) 455-2705 or [smatthews@co.clark.nv.us](mailto:smatthews@co.clark.nv.us). The final Commission agenda & support materials should be available on June 17, 2013 at [http://www.ndow.org/Commission/Schedule\\_and\\_Agenda/](http://www.ndow.org/Commission/Schedule_and_Agenda/)

- 1. Commission Policy #23 Predation Management – Commissioner McBeath - (For Possible Action)** In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will conduct a first reading, review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners recommendations that they adopt or modify Commission Policy #23.
  - This item was not discussed due to time constraints.
- 2. Review and Update the Draft Fiscal Year 2014 Predator Management Plan – Commissioner McBeath and Staff Specialist Pete Bradley - (For Possible Action)** The Clark CABMW Board will review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners recommendations that they adopt or modify the FY2014 Predator Management Plan.
  - This item was not discussed due to time constraints.
- 3. Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 - Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox – (For Possible Action)** Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners recommendations that they adopt or modify the biennial big game release plan for the fiscal years 2014 and 2015.
  - This item was not discussed due to time constraints.
- 4. Proposed Trail Camera Regulation – Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici - (For Possible Action)** The Douglas CABMW requested the development of a regulation to limit trail camera usage. The Commission will accept public input pertaining to usage of trail

cameras and a proposed regulation. Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners suggested language for the proposed regulation.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and stated that in his opinion, the biggest objection is the sale of photographs by guides to prospective clients. Further, in reality, the majority of trail cameras in the Sheep Range, for example, are owned and used by wildlife photography enthusiasts simply for the photographs and no interest in hunting.
- Jana Wright stated her opposition to the use of trail cameras.
- Chairman Paul Dixon agreed with Jana that particularly during hunting season and especially in "trophy" areas, hunting cameras should be banned. He also speculated that the behavior of animals is probably being altered by strobes flashing continually at night.
- Commissioner Karen Layne asked for clarification on the need for regulations on the use to trail cameras during hunting season, and possibly regulations requiring any camera to have infrared lighting rather than a strobe flash.
- Chairman Paul Dixon replied yes to both.
- John Sullivan noted that the younger generation is in love with technology and enjoy capturing images of animals they would never see otherwise. Also, the fact that some of the guzzler projects have been moved to more inaccessible locations has made the water projects very successful, but having people hike into these projects to install cameras and retrieve images can have a negative impact on the wildlife the project was intended to benefit. He is basically asking the Commission to identify the problem or problems associated with trail cameras, and propose regulations that address those problems.
- A motion made and seconded to recommend continuing the discussion of the pros and cons of trail camera use by hunters and non-hunters alike. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Commission Regulation 14 - 01 Migratory Waterfowl (Ducks, Geese and Swans) and Migratory Webless Bird (Coots, Gallinules and Snipe) Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations, Public Hunting on Overton Wildlife Management Area and Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area Hunter Reservation System - 2013-14 Season - Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme, Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Zahradka - (*For Possible Action*)** The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for migratory waterfowl (ducks, geese and swans) and migratory webless game birds (coots, gallinules and snipe) for the 2013-14 season and adopt regulations that comply with the proposed regulations framework for the 2013 - 2014 late and early hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission may also adopt changes to rules regulating public hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands and may take action to change the current method of awarding duck hunt reservations at the Overton Wildlife Management Area and Key-Pittman Wildlife Management Area. Public comment allowed during the workshop. Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners that they adopt or modify Commission Regulation 14 - 01 Migratory Waterfowl (Ducks, Geese and Swans) and Migratory Webless Bird (Coots, Gallinules and Snipe) Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations, Public Hunting on Overton Wildlife Management Area and Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area Hunter Reservation System - 2013-14 Seasons.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced NDOW Staff Wildlife Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme to lead the discussion on this item.
- Russell Woolstenhulme noted that in previous years there were separate regulations for Lincoln and Clark counties (both in the South Zone). This year, Clark and Lincoln

counties have the same season with the exception of all of Moapa Valley to the confluence of the Muddy and Virgin Rivers. This exclusion will have separate regulations similar to regulations for the Overton WMA in past years. For most waterfowl species, the Moapa/Overton season will be November 2nd through January 26th. Clark and Lincoln Counties will have that season as well as a season from October 12th through October 30th. He also noted that for all waterfowl species, the bag limits have changes to allow possession to equal three times the daily limit. He additionally noted specific regulation changes as a result of the Pacific Flyway Regulations.

- Mike Zahradka, NDOW Staff Wildlife Specialist, addressed the proposed changes to the Overton-Key Pittman Reservation System. The changes were influenced by the work being done on the Overton Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). He answered several questions from attendees regarding mail-in applications and stand-by procedures. There was also discussion around allowing/prohibiting substitution of hunters for duck blind reservations. A compromise was proposed to allow a hunter to be substituted if they have not been part of the reservation system (not on any reservation application).
- Jana Wright asked if records are kept as to the number of reservation no-shows.
- Mike Zahradka answered yes.
- A second compromise was proposed allowing the reservation application to include alternate hunter(s) to fill openings in the group.
- A motion made and seconded to recommend approval of the proposed seasons and bag limits with the following exceptions: bag limit for mallard hens should be 2 daily and 6 in possession, canvasback bag limit should be 2 daily and 6 in possession, scaup bag limit should be 3 daily and 9 in possession, common moorhens bag limit should be 25 daily and 75 in possession, season dates for scaup will be November 2nd through January 26th for all of the South Zone; and recommend approval of the proposed mail-in hunter reservation system with the additional provision that a hunter who was not part of the mail-in reservation system or part of the stand-by system, can be substituted in place of an absent hunter on a successful reservation. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Commission General Regulation (CGR) 427, LCB File Number R018-13, Trap Visitation - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici – Workshop/Informational – Public Comment Allowed (*For Possible Action*)** The Commission will discuss and consider CGR 427, LCB File Number R018-13, trap visitation, a regulation relating to trapping which defines visitation of trap, “visit or cause to be visited; specifying the minimum period during which a person must visit or cause to be visited certain traps, snares or similar devices, and designates that each trap snare or other lawful device be visited at least once each 96 hours. Public comment allowed during the workshop. Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners recommendations that they adopt or modify (CGR) 427, LCB File Number R018-13, Trap Visitation.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and asked Mike Zahradka, NDOW, to brief the attendees on the position Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici has taken on this issue thus far.
- Mike Zahradka, NDOW, noted that a regulation proposal addressing this issue is under development and should be available for public comment soon.
- Vice Chair Reese clarified the meaning of "cause to be visited" and why that phrase is in the law. It refers to having a flag of some sort, for example, that is raised when an animal

is in the trap. The trapper can observe the status of the trap (i.e., look for the flag, etc.) from a distance and approach the trap if a trapped animal is indicated.

- John Sullivan stated that he has read the early proposal wording from Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici on this and for several reasons cautioned against rushing a new regulation. He stressed that more time was needed to fully discuss and define new visitation rules.
- Mike Zahradka responded that the intent is to bring clarity to the visitation regulation. In his mind, NDOW will be accepting of whatever the Commission decides.
- Commissioner Karen Layne pointed out for the attendees that Board Member John Sullivan holds an office in the Nevada Trappers Association and was concerned he was only representing that fraction of the public. She also noted that her perception of the Legislative Committee's discussion around placement and visitation of traps became a rural vs. urban discussion and in her opinion, the Committee did the right thing in asking the Wildlife Commission to establish regulations that could be enforced.
- Chairman Paul Dixon responded to Commissioner Karen Layne's statements regarding John Sullivan by stating that, as Board Chairman, he has given very specific instructions to all Board Members that they clearly identify any comments they make that are their own or as a representative of any organization to which they belong. But, when speaking as a Board Member, they are representing and stating opinions they have heard/acquired from members of the general public. The bulk of that input will likely come from those they most frequently associate with, but the input is still viewed as coming from members of the general public.
- John Sullivan confirmed Chairman Paul Dixon's statements and affirmed that his comments were not based on his position with the Nevada Trappers Association. He did agree with Commissioner Karen Layne's belief that the Committee was correct in having the Commission establish Regulations. He further cautioned that there needs to be more discussion regarding enforcement issues. He believes the wording is confusing and any action on setting regulations should be postponed until all issues can be discussed.
- Mike Zahradka highlighted the issue a Game Warden faces enforcing the 96 hour visitation rule when there are only 30 Wardens state-wide.
- Jana Wright voiced her support of the proposed regulation with the understanding that the Trapping Committee will review and possibly change aspects of the proposal. She personally is in favor of a 24 hour visitation requirement.
- John Sullivan reiterated his point that the proposed regulation is confusing, in that it does not specify how close the trapper must be to a trap to constitute visitation.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the 96 hour requirement, but recommend no action on the visitation portion of the proposal. Following Board discussion, this motion was rescinded.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend keeping the existing regulation until a new unambiguous, and enforceable regulation can be defined. The motion passed  
YEA: 3, NAY: 1.

7. **Commission General Regulation (CGR) 429, LCB File Number R017-13, Trap Registration - Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici – Workshop/Informational – Public Comment Allowed. (For Possible Action)** The Commission will discuss and consider CGR 429, LCB File Number R017-13, trap registration, a regulation revising provisions governing the registration of a trap, snare or similar device; setting forth the requirements for affixing a

registration number to the trap, snare or similar device; and the issuance of trap registration numbers and establishes the manner of marking traps, snares, or other lawful devices. Public comment allowed during the workshop. Review, discuss and recommend to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners recommendations that they adopt or modify (CGR) 429, LCB File Number R017-13, Trap Registration.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and read into record written comments by Board Member Ryan Anderson who was unable to attend this meeting. In summation, Ryan Anderson opposes trap registration because, in his opinion, "it puts an unnecessary burden on trappers, restricts trade/sale of traps among trappers, and has been proven to be ineffective in the past as it relates to the enforcement of trapping violations". He further states that he believes that the legislators were misled by anti-trappers falsely citing a perceived "trapped dog/child epidemic" that would be addressed by this "atrocious legislation".
- John Sullivan noted that the law exists, via SB213, requiring trap registration. It is up to the Wildlife Commission to define how traps will be registered and affixed with identification numbers, etc. He further noted that many traps in use today already have numbers stamped or engraved on the trap itself. He would prefer a metal tag attached to the trap.
- Chairman Paul Dixon clarified from the proposed regulation that identification can be by either numbers stamped/engraved on the trap or by attached metal tag no more than six inches from the trap, but if both are present, the metal tag takes precedent.
- Mike Zahradka was asked for input from an enforcement view. He responded that any trap should have only one number, either via stamped or metal tag. Any trap without a legible identification number is subject to impounding.
- Commissioner Karen Layne asked if the issue being debated involves the requirement that "any other registration number must be stricken, obliterated, or removed..."
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that there is general agreement on having only one number on a trap. His objection is with requiring the number to be within six inches of the trap or snare.
- John Sullivan asked if a single "x" over one of the previously stamped/engraved number would suffice for obliterating the old number.
- Mike Zahradka differed to the ruling of the Commission.
- There was additional discussion regarding those who had registered their traps in the past, and whether or not records of those registration numbers still exist and whether or not those old registration numbers could still be used by the registered trapper.
- Jana Wright spoke in favor of allowing those who had previously registered their traps to continue to use their same registration number under the new system.
- A motion made and seconded to recommend approval of the proposed regulation as written with the exception that the wording requiring the tag to be affixed within six inches of the trap be removed allowing attachment anywhere on the chain, cable, or wire. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. CAB Discussion and Feedback of the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC's) Top Five Items for Possible Implementation. (For Possible Action) –** TAAHC Chairman Jack Robb, has requested that the CCABMW board review, discuss and make recommendations on the five topics which the TAAHC has ranked as #1.

[http://www.ndow.org/Public\\_Meetings/Committees/Tag\\_Allocation\\_and\\_Application\\_Hunt/](http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Committees/Tag_Allocation_and_Application_Hunt/)  
at the "Topic List" link

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced the five proposed items.
- Vice Chair Reese, citing recent developments between the state of Colorado and the Outdoor Channel, recommended Nevada make one deer tag and possibly an elk tag available to a media outlet as advertising hunting in Nevada. He proposed this as an additional topic.
- Motion was made and seconded to recommend acceptance of the proposed Topic List. The motion passed unanimously.
- A second motion was made and seconded to recommend allocating a deer tag and possibly an elk tag for advertising use to a media outlet. The motion passed unanimously.

**11. Public Comment:** Members of the public who wish to address the Board may speak on matters within the jurisdiction of the Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. No action may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Any item requiring Board action not on this agenda may be scheduled on a future agenda. Public comments on posted agenda items will be allowed at the time the agenda item is considered before the Board takes any action on the item. Comments will be limited to three minutes. **NOTE: Please complete the Public Comment Interest - Card and submit to Chairman Dixon.**

- No public comment requests.

**12. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Fallon, Nevada. (For Possible Action)**

- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit recommendations from this meeting to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

**13. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2013 at the Department of Forestry to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013 in Las Vegas, Nevada.**

**14. Adjournment**

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm.