



Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 12, 2015
Location: Nevada Department of Wildlife – Conference Room at NDOW offices
4747 Vegas Drive.
Las Vegas, NV 89108

Time: 5:30 pm

Board Members Present: Paul Dixon, Chair J. Michael Reese, Vice Chair
John Hiatt 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: May 6, 2015

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1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman Paul Dixon.
- Roll call of Board Members was performed by Stacy Matthews. A quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2015 CCABMW Meeting (*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*)

- Chairman Paul Dixon asked the Board and attendees for any comments or corrections.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on March 17, 2015 as written. Motion passed 4-0.

4. Approval of Agenda for May 12, 2015– (*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*)

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic and asked for comments on the proposed Agenda.
- Hearing no comments from the Board, Chairman Paul Dixon opened the floor to public comment.
- Jana noted that the location for the June Wildlife Commission Meeting had the wrong location. The meeting will take place in Eureka rather than Tonopah as stated on the agenda.

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda for the May 12, 2015 Board Meeting as written with the change to the June Commission Meeting location. The motion passed unanimously. 4-0

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 noted the following:
 - Las Vegas Woods and Waters will have a Silhouette Shoot this Saturday from 8am - noon at the Clark County Shooting Park.
 - Saturday evening the Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn will have their Banquet at the South Point.
- Ryan Werner added that the Henderson Ducks Unlimited will hold a Banquet June 6 at the Silverton Casino.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that the quotas will be discussed on Saturday by the Commission and there will be video conferencing available at the CSC Systems Computing Services Building at Swenson and Harmon. More information is available on the NDOW website. He also noted that the Heritage Projects will be a topic of discussion at the June Commission Meeting. All of the proposed projects are listed on the NDOW site.
- Robert Gaudet added that the Mule Deer Foundation will have their banquet on July 25th.

6. **Recap of February and March 2015 Commission Meeting Actions (*Informational*)** – A recap of actions taken by the Wildlife Commission will be compared to Clark Recommendations.

- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Vice Chairman Reese to discuss the actions at the March Commission Meeting.
- Vice Chairman Reese noted that much of the time was spent reviewing Legislative BDR's. The biggest discussion was on the Coyote Calling Contest. A petition was presented followed by several hours of testimony. The vote came down to a 7-1 vote against closing the Contest.

7. **Action Items:**

Discuss & make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners May 15th & 16th, 2015, 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. The final Commission agenda & support at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Commission/Agenda/

A. **Commission Regulation 15 – 12, 2015 Big Game Quotas for the 2015 – 2016 Season (*For Possible Action*)** The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and black bears for the 2015 – 2016 seasons.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item stating that the quotas would be reviewed by species. He also noted that he had received input from the Lincoln County CAB and would read that in as appropriate for each species.

ANTELOPE

- Brian Patterson asked Doug Nielson, NDOW, when the draw will take place this year. Mid-week after Memorial Day.
- Chairman Paul Dixon gave a brief summary of the process for setting quotas.
- Pat Cummings, NDOW, added that the model used to set quotas consists of Excel spreadsheets with life history tables. The observed proportion of young on survey to adult females is major driver. Other factors influence quotas. A demand-success function also takes into consideration the weapon class.
- Vice Chairman Reese highlighted the reduced quotas in Unit 011 and 015. Backup material mentions predation. He would like to see if the Predator Plan addresses problems in the Sheldons in Unit 011. He also noted the increases in quotas of units 161-162.
- Pat Cummings offered that it is his understanding that the herd in 161-162 is not doing well and a portion of that herd is on agricultural land.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve proposed quotas for hunts 2151, 2171, 2161, 2181, 2251, and 2261. Motion passed 4-0.

BIGHORN SHEEP

- Chairman Paul Dixon noted that the Lincoln CAB had concerns with the quotas set for Unit 241. The quotas for the A and B portions of 241 are 2 and 3. Chairman Paul Dixon asked Pat Cummings if the herd in the Delamars can sustain 5 sheep taken.
- Pat Cummings replied that he has no direct knowledge of the status of that herd. Cooper Munsen is the biologist for that area and can answer any questions. He has not been part of an aerial survey in years. All wildernesses are a challenge for anyone drawing a tag for sure. Hunter success of 50% is reasonable.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that by splitting the Unit it reduces hunter congestion and spreads out the hunters.
- John Hiatt asked Pat Cummings what is the situation with herds and the drought?
- Pat Cummings responded that we are still in a drought, but we are sitting better than last year. Last fall, winter, and spring produced enough precipitation for growth and water recharged better than last year in general.
- Brian Patterson noted that quotas are increasing by 10% overall. On Nelson Ewe hunt Unit 268 went from 20 to 40, primarily because we are not going to capture and release to Utah any sheep this year. By not relocating Ewes, the herd can tolerate the increase. He also noted the 20 ewes to be taken from Unit 253 is new this year.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked Pat Cummings if the increased quotas are because there is no capture and release or is it because the herds are too large or in trouble?
- Pat Cummings replied that Units 268 and 267 have the largest herd of Desert Bighorn, estimated to be around 1000 animals. Lamb ratio of 60 is adequate to sustain a herd. By taking 50 to 75 to the state of Utah, we might be producing more sheep. Thus the quota recommendation of 40 Ewes. There are 6 water developments in the Muddys. But Muddy Peak does not collect water easily. Water in two of the guzzlers will be completely depleted before the monsoon season. The sheep will then have to go south to the lake to get water.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept quotas as written for Hunts 3151, 3181 3251, 8151, 8181, 8251, 9151, and 7151. Motion passed unanimously.
- Brian Patterson asked about the expectation of continuing the ewe hunts?
- Pat Cummings responded that the ewe hunts are a tool to reduce herd density. If Density is very high, from a management perspective, that is very undesirable. It can set the stage for disease. Ewe hunts are a means for trying to manage this problem. We don't want to manage populations of big horn at maximum levels. We are going to wait a few years to see what pathogens we are dealing with and what to do with sick herds.

ELK

- John Hiatt shared that he had recently been hiking in the Monitor Range and observed how dry it is and how many Elk he saw. He is worried about number of Elk, and if we don't get summer rains, they are going to trash the range. Are the quotas too conservative? We need to keep herd in balance with range resources.
- Chairman Paul Dixon pointed out the Depredation Hunts are to reduce the impacts on landowners. As to Units 101-103, that is the Ruby Mountains. There are not supposed to be any Elk in the Rubies. The plan is to eradicate Elk in the Rubies and in the Diamond Valley (Units 144-145).
- A motion was made and seconded to accept proposed quotas for Hunts 4102 and 4107 as written. Motion passed unanimously.
- For Muzzleloader hunt 4156, the Lincoln CAB recommended keeping last year's quota of 18 for Units 221-223, recommended doubling the quota for Units 241 and 241 to 2, and for Archery Hunt 4161, use the 2014 quota of 25 instead of the proposed 20 and again making the quota 2 for units 241 and 242.
- Brian Patterson voiced his favoring the Lincoln CAB recommendations.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept proposed quotas for Hunts 4151, 4181, 4156, and 4161 as written with the same exceptions recommended by the Lincoln County Cab.
- John Hiatt raised a concern involving the quota for Hunt 4151 in Units 161-164 Early. He feels the quota should be the same as it was last year due to the drought conditions.
- The Second and initial Motion were rescinded and a new motion was made.
- The new motion is to accept all quotas for Hunt 4151 except Units 161-164, 171-173 Early and Late recommend match last year's numbers due to drought conditions in the range, accept Hunt 4481 as proposed, accept proposed quotas for Hunt 4156 but recommend quotas for Units 221-223 increase to 18, and Units 241 and 242 increased to 2, accept proposed quotas for Hunt 4161 but recommend quotas for Units 221-223 increase to 25, and Units 241 and 242 increased to 2, and Unit 231 increase to 25.
- Motion seconded. Passed unanimously.
- After brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to accept Hunt 4161 as written, for Hunt 4181, increase the quotas in Units 241-242 early 241-242 late from 5 to 8, and accept Hunt 4181 Wilderness only as written.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Paul Dixon reviewed the overall trend for antlerless Elk and DELK hunts. Most hunts show a significant increase in tags.
- Brian Patterson questioned the reduction in tags in Hunt 4111 Units 061 and 071. Chairman Paul Dixon noted that the quotas for the DELK Archery hunt 4411 in Unit 071 increased from 89 to 225 more than making up for the reduction in Hunt 4111.
- Daryl Sneed suggested that the high quotas in Hunts 4481 and 4176 for units 071-077, 079 are so large that the success rate will be very low with so many hunters in the field.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that the herds in Area 7 are so large they are impacting agriculture.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept Hunts 4481, 4176, 4476, 4111, and 4411 as written.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Paul Dixon reviewed the Non-resident Hunts.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept Hunts 4251, 4256, 4261, and 4281 as written.
- Motion passed unanimously.

MULE DEER

- Chairman Paul Dixon noted that the quota is less this year than last year.
- Vice Chairman Reese pointed out that the CAB recommended each year that the number of Junior Tags equal the number of applicants. Not all applicants will get a tag due to too many requests for a particular Unit.

- Daryl Sneed questioned why the quotas for Units 071-079, 091 were reduced so significantly.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept all quotas for Hunt 1107 as written with the exception of Units 071-079, 091 where we recommend following the Elko County Cab recommendations.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Paul Dixon reviewed Hunts 1101 and 1181.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept Hunts 1101 and 1181 as written.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Paul Dixon read the recommendations from the Lincoln County CAB to reduce the Unit 221-223 Mid quota from 160 to 140 for Hunt 1331, for Hunt 1371 increase the quota for Units 221-223 to 25, and for Hunt 1341 Units 221-223 increase the quota from 50 to 65 and reduce the quota in Unit 231 from 55 to 45.
- Vice Chairman Reese recommended increasing the quota for Hunt 1331 Units 221-223 Late from 25 to 30.
- Brian Patterson noted that the quota for Hunt 1331 Units 151-156 Early jumped significantly from 140 to 350. Is that a typo?
- Pat Cummings stated that the herd in that area is in trouble.
- Daryl Sneed pointed out that quotas for Hunt 1331 Units 071-079, 091 Early and Late dropped significantly. He recommends the Elko County proposal from CAB should be looked at. Follow Elko County recommendation for all three weapon classes.
- Brian Patterson noted the drop in quotas for Hunt 1371 Units 114 and 115. There are plenty of bucks up there. The numbers should be the same as last year.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept quotas as written for Hunts 1331, 1371, and 1341 with the following changes: for Hunt 1331 Units 071- 079, 091 Early and Late support Elko CAB recommendation, Units 221 223 Mid recommend 140 and Late 30, for Hunt 1371 071-079,091 support Elko CAB recommendation, for Units 114, 115 same as last year and Units 221-223 increase 20 to 25, for Hunt 1341 Units 071-079, 091 early and late support Elko County CAB recommendation, Units 221-223 increase the quota to 65, and Unit 231 decrease to 45 from 55.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Vice Chairman Reese reviewed the Nonresident Hunts 1331, 1371, and 1341.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept quotas as written for Nonresident Hunts 1331, 1371, and 1341 with the following changes: for Hunt 1331 Units 071- 079, 091 Early and Late support Elko CAB recommendation, for Hunt 1371 071-079,091 support Elko CAB recommendation, for Hunt 1341 Units 071-079, 091 early and late support Elko County CAB recommendation.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- **BLACK BEAR**
- Chairman Paul Dixon reviewed the combined Hunts and Harvest Objectives noting that the numbers are the same as 2014.
- Vice Chairman Reese shared that he was told by a Guide he knows that a bear was sighted crossing the Highway 93 in Lincoln County.
- Pat Cummings noted that the Black Bear state population is exceeding 600. The trend is that the population is increasing even in drought conditions. But, it is increasing at a decreasing rate and that can be attributed to habitat. A drop in productivity has not been detected yet. There are still 2-3 cubs born at a time.
- John Hiatt asked Pat if the biologists have seen a decrease in weights. Pat replied that he didn't know.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept quotas as written for Hunts 6151 and 6251.
- Motion passed unanimously.

B. 10 min break

C. Commission General Regulation 456 LCB File No. T004-15 (Temporary LCB File) – Elk Arbitration Panel: Proposed Changes to NAC 502.42283 (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about a temporary regulation concerning amending NAC 502.42283 by which the Commission may facilitate decisions by appointing or serving as the arbitration panel should arbitration of elk incentive tag awards become necessary.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept 456 LCB File No. T004-15 as written.
- Motion passed unanimously.

D. Draft Process for Use by the Commission in Arbitration as Described in NAC 502.42283 (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and make

recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about a proposed process for arbitration as described in proposed amendment to NAC 502.42283 arbitration panel that will outline the responsibilities of the Department and landowner applicant when contesting issues associated with awards of special incentive elk tags, the establishment of a subcommittee to hear the contest, timelines associated with contest and decision, and recommendations to the Commission as decision-making arbitration panel. The Commission may provide the Department with direction on further revisions or approve the draft process pending adoption of temporary regulation CGR 456 re: NAC 502.42283.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item.
- Jana Wright stated that she feels the Committee should be made of Wildlife Commissioners only, not CAB Members. Let the Commissioners take the heat and take the vote.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend adoption of the Draft Process with the exception that the Commission Chairman limit the members of the arbitration panel to Wildlife Commissioners only to avoid conflicts of interest with local county participants.
- Motion passed unanimously.

E. 2015 Legislative Session Update and Bill Positions (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and possibly make a recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners and the Department of Wildlife about 2015 Legislative Session Bills that impact sportsmen and sportswomen of Southern Nevada.

- Vice Chairman Reese discussed some of the Bills that were of interest to NDOW. Several died in Committee and were never brought to the Floor of the Senate or the Assembly.
 - The deadline is Friday for getting out of committee and go to hearing, otherwise, the bill will die.
 - Five bills NDOW was watching died. SJR1 was heard today and the vote went down party line and was approved.
 - SB 163 hearing scheduled for Thursday of this week or Friday. Go on website
 - AB 136 no update. Carrying a handgun while archery hunting.
 - SJR11 passed Senate and Assembly. Will come up again in the next Legislative Session, and if passed will be put on the Ballot.
 - SB 417 – NDOW opposed, prohibits the use of telemetry data to hunt and kill game birds or animals. Don't know status.
 - SB398 – Sale of transfer of ivory, died.
 - SB221 – Provisions of fence rollers in communities. HOA not allowing rollers off fences to keep coyotes out. Status unknown.
 - AB 408 – Public Lands – Died
 - AB 361 – Captive Wild Animals – dead
 - AB261 – authorizes local government feral cat colonies died. Purpose enabling legislation to allow municipalities to enact feral cat programs.

- AB 217 – HOV Hearing this week
- SB4 Trapping on private property – Clerks desk being held hostage. Hope it dies.
- AB 338 – Shed / added to SB4
- A motion was made and seconded to table Action Item E. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Commission General Regulation 457 LCB File No. T003-15 (Temporary LCB File) – Awards, Issuance, and Use of Tags – Proposed Changes to NAC 502.42279 (For Possible Action) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about a temporary regulation amending license issuance and use clarification for elk incentive tags. Elk incentive tags were designed to be issued in association with "bull" hunts and seasons. Subsequent to initial NRS and NAC adoption, "spike" hunts have been developed, and "antlered" tags do not clearly denote the appropriate quota or season for which the incentive tags are intended. The amended formula will account for the harvest of "spike" elk, but identify seasons for incentive tag use.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item.
- Vice Chairman Reese added that the landowner and biologist observe how many Elk are on property. Agree with formula to base incentive tag. Arbitration goes back to commission. Commissions finding is final.
- A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of CRG 457 LCB File No. T003-15.
- Motion passed unanimously.

G. Fiscal Year 2016 Draft Predation Management Plan (Third Draft) (For Possible Action) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about an updated third draft of the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Predator Management Plan. The Commission may take action to modify or approve the plan.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this item noting that at the last CCABMW meeting this item was tabled due to lack of backup documentation. He further voiced his belief that the Plan should be tailored each year to the needs of the State as a balance between education, habitat, and lethal removal. This year's plan appears to be about 80% lethal removals. There are also projects to do genetic testing to determine the origin of the red fox and predator education.
- Vice Chairman Reese stated he opposes funding Project 25 the same as last year. He also feels that the funding for the Coyote Den Density study, Project 22-16, could be better spent on other projects.
- Brian Patterson voiced his agreement with Vice Chairman Reese that the funds could be used elsewhere.
- John Hiatt stated his feeling that we need the study. Coyotes will eat what is easiest to eat. They may not be preying on deer. We don't know that.
- Vice Chairman Reese asked given that this is the fifth year of the coyote diet study, what are we going to learn in year 5 that we didn't learn in years 1-4? When you harvest a coyote and do the necropsies study, all you're going to learn is what he had for dinner last night, not what he's been eating for the last month or year.
- John Hiatt countered that coyotes are complex. Their eating habits change. Coyotes that have lived in an area for a while may eat differently than ones who are new to the area.
- Chairman Paul Dixon offered his understanding of the process and goal of the project. They are studying different areas with Coyotes to do statistically significant studies. We are not short funding any of the areas in Predation Management Plan. Sometimes we learn something new, and maybe we don't. The Wood Duck Study in Fallon has been incredibly useful. We are learning so much from that study. Look at five areas of state; he would be surprised if we are seeing the same thing in every area.
- Vice Chairman Reese pointed out that basing predator management on the sampling of 30 coyotes when there are probably 100,000 in the state is bad.

- Vikki Werner noted that there are more predators than just coyotes. Ravens prey on Sage Grouse, but sportsmen can't do anything about the Ravens since they are federally protected. She further feels that the sportsmen should have a say in what the \$3 Predator Fee is used for. She feels that to study the same animals over and over is a waste of money. There are more animals out there to study.
- Chairman Paul Dixon stated that while the total funding for the coyote study is approximately \$5M, only 25% of that, or \$125K, came from the Predator Fees, the rest came from Pittman-Robertson funds.
- Vice Chairman Reese responded that it was still sportsmen's dollars.
- Ryan Werner stated that he had seen them plant turkeys in an area that became a predator issue with coyotes coming in on turkey calls. Also, when trout are stocked into Lake Meade and the trout go back up into the coves, he has seen Coyotes eating trout out of the lake. Predator Management Fee not dedicated to just predator Management. It can go to education, habitat, and guzzlers. So many other places these funds can go rather than studying what coyotes are eating.
- Stephanie Meyers reported that in the Spring Mountains, coyotes are accused of carrying horrible diseases, but really it's the mice and chipmunks that the coyotes eat that generally carry the plague, etc. She feels the study is good, and while 81% of the funding is going to lethal predator removal, more money needs to go to education and research. Predation is a natural part of the eco-system.
- Julius Fortuna stated that he feels there is sufficient money going to education, etc., but over the past years the \$3 Predator Fee amounted to over \$500k. For each of the projects, there is listed an objective, but where is the deliverable? What are the harvest goals? Sportsmen need sound deliverables before investing any more in PNR.
- John Hiatt noted that the world is not so simple that deliverable has a better fawn to doe ratio. He referenced Mule Deer studies done by NDOW over the last 4 years noting that mule deer numbers fluctuate with precipitation regardless of coyote presence. Killing coyotes does not automatically make deer numbers go up. There are many factors that affect the deer population. He feels these studies are important so we can learn about all of the animals in Nevada.
- Vice Chairman Reese stated he fears that the results of the study will give the wrong information. If you are studying the effect of coyotes on the deer population and you are in an area where deer are scarce, then most likely, the coyotes are not eating deer, so when you analyze the harvested coyote and don't find deer, you will claim that the coyotes are not eating deer. He feels it would be a skewed deliverable.
- Julius Fortuna referenced Project 14 from previous years. It showed an improvement in the buck-doe ratio by removing coyotes and mountain lions. But then it stopped. Why? It was working. It had a deliverable that sportsmen could appreciate. When are the sportsmen going to get a deliverable out of the research?
- Brian Patterson stated he thinks it's silly to keep funding something we are getting similar results year after year. He is in favor of research projects. Certain projects warrant the funds, others don't. He thinks Julius makes a good point; there should be deliverables in every project. Sportsmen are paying for this; they should hold the State accountable!
- Chairman Paul Dixon offered that Julius brought up a good point with Area 14 removal of coyotes and Lion Mountains. John Hiatt had a good point that the habitat and precipitation have the biggest impact on mule deer populations. He noted that the Bobcat population lags two years behind changes in the rabbit population. When the rabbits are plentiful, the Bobcat population increases, and vice versa. But when asked, nobody from NDOW would stand up and state that there was any correlation between predator removal and increases in mule deer population, nor could or would they quantify the results we had observed.

- Brian Patterson observed that most sportsmen believe that the \$3 fee they pay goes toward having someone go out on a helicopter and shoot predators. They are not getting what they think the fee covers.
- Julius Fortuna added that the gains in Area 14 were not significantly different than the gains in Area 15, but to the Sportsman, they were. Removal of predators increased the buck-doe ratio in 14 and it was a real result from the fee they had paid.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Predator Management Plan as written with the exception that the funds for Project 22-16 should be reallocated to the Mule Deer Game Enhancement Project 22.
- John Hiatt stated that he supports all provisions of the motion except the reallocation of funds for Project 22-16.
- Motion passed 3-1 (John Hiatt opposes)

H. Urban Pond issues (Fishing Line and Garbage Issues) (*For Possible Action*) The Clark CABMW board will review, discuss and possibly make a recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners and the Department of Wildlife about urban pond issues in Southern Nevada.

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. This topic came at the suggestion of Commissioner Layne who had asked Annoula Wyldrich to provide detailed information to the Board on this local matter. Chairman Paul Dixon introduces Annoula.
- Annoula stated that she represents a fairly large group of residents that are concerned with what is happening at Sunset Park. She has compiled a list of problems on behalf of residents who are reporting problems in the park. She is contacted directly by residents or takes referrals from Human Society. There is a growing problem of injured water fowl. It is the result of reckless anglers. We have seen hooks in bills and body, fishing lines that have constricted their wings and legs, lost appendages, broken wings. We see a great array of distressed and injured birds. This is upsetting to people taking their kids to the lake. Calls to US Fish and Wildlife or NDOW, they can't get anyone to come out. So it is up to the group to treat the birds or take them to one of the two Vets in town for treatment. She feels that the agency that is stocking the ponds should require anglers to adhere to a code of conduct. Since some of the birds are members of a protected species, harming them is a federal offense. She further stated that she walks the park several times a week and finds discarded fishing line strewn about even though there are receptacles for used line. She added that on occasion residents have had heated interactions with anglers and in one case the angler threatened her harm.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked if there is signage at the park requiring anglers to properly dispose of used fishing line.
- Annoula replied yes. The residents have on more than one occasion performed a park cleanup. Annoula also tried suggesting use of biodegradable fishing line.
- Vice Chairman Reese asked about veterinarians.
- Annoula replied that there are two vets that are approved by US Fish and Wildlife to treat protected species.
- Brian Patterson interjected that not all birds in the pond are protected species.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked if anglers need to be caught in the act for Park Police to be able to act. Annoula answered yes.
- Brian Patterson added that Park Police get calls, but Park Maintenance people handle most of the calls. but it's not a Park Police issue, nor is it a Park Maintenance issue, nor is it a US Fish and Wildlife issue, nor is it a NDOW issue. The fishing line receptacles are a result of an Eagle Scout Project. Those are being repainted and new stickers and signage are being added. Short of education, there's not much else you can do. While you're fishing, the line could break in the lake and you may be unable to recoup line, or the bird may think your lure looks

like food and goes after it. Annoula gets calls from Animal Control, NDOW, and the Human Society.

- Vice Chairman Reese asked if Annoula has been asked to not transport a Canadian Geese. No, they are happy she transports the birds.
- Ryan Werner offered that some of the sportsmen's groups could volunteer to do a park cleanup. Nevada Sportsmen Unlimited offered to do a cleanup with the guidance of NDOW.
- Julius Fortuna noted that Education can take care of conservation. But here are five agencies looking in different directions. No one is focused on the problem.
- Vikki Werner added that Education is not just for the Anglers. They should not touch federally protected birds. Educate everybody. Educate all agencies. They don't talk to each other. Police Departments should be able to cite someone for littering if they throw used line on the ground.
- Chairman Paul Dixon asked what action should be taken from this discussion. Is there something he should take the Wildlife Commission or NDOW? Maybe there needs to be a Fishing Safety Course.
- Vikki Werner stated that there are people who are fishing without a license. Some don't know that they need a license and nobody checks.
- Vice Chairman Reese suggested that some of the ambassadors could walk around the lake on weekends and remind anglers that there are receptacles for use line, etc.
- Chairman Paul Dixon added ambassadors could also remind anglers that they need a license.
- John Hiatt noted that people need to stop feeding the birds, and then the birds won't go after the fishing lures, etc.
- Pat Cummings shared that he had wanted the NDOW Game Warden Supervisor to attend, but he was unable. There currently is a serious shortage of Wardens and other priorities.
- Vice Chairman Reese noted that fines from any citations issued at an Urban Pond go to the School District.
- Ryan Werner suggested that the Board table this item until the next CCABMW meeting and allow Ryan and NSU to work with Annoula to see what improvements can be made.
- Chairman Paul Dixon agreed.
- A motion was made and seconded to table this item until the June Meeting. Motion passed 4-0

I. Follow on Discussion on Feral Cats (*Informational*) *what is the legality of the TVNR program practiced by at least 900-1000 folks in Clark County?*

- Chairman Paul Dixon introduced this topic. In particular, was the question of the legality of trapping and transporting trapped cats with respect to current trapping laws?
- Keith Williams answered that TNR (Trap Neuter Release) is legal, according to the Clark County District Attorney.
- Chairman Paul Dixon confirmed that cats are not considered a fur bearing animal. According to DA it is a legal activity that is allowed under the Clark County Ordinance.
- John Hiatt suggests changing the terminology from Trap Neuter Return to Capture, Neuter and Return. It's not trapping, its capture and release.
- Keith Williams noted that he and Commissioner Layne have a difference of opinion as to the number of free roaming cats in Clark County. CKL believes the number is significantly less, (100K with 30% sterilized) than Keith's estimate of 200K with 15% sterilized. But, it is important to note that the number of free roaming cats declining.
- Chairman Paul Dixon brought up the issue of people dumping cats and kittens.
- Keith noted that in 2008-2009 Lied Animal Shelter had people lined up out the door with boxes and baskets of kittens. This year, on a busy day, they'll have three litters of kittens brought in. Kitten production is significantly down from 2008.
- Vice Chairman Reese asked about Washoe County.
- Jana Wright interjected that on April 28th, Washoe County adopted an ordinance legalizing TNR and T&R along the lines of the Clark County Ordinance.

- Brian Patterson stated that feral cats are a danger to wildlife.
- Keith Williams responded that every year there is a colony that is told they may have no more cats.
- Brian Patterson further noted that the cost to euthanize a cat is \$15 more than the cost to neuter and vaccinate.
- Keith Williams shared that there is a group of residents that wish to capture a cat and take it to the shelter to be euthanized, and another group that supports TNR. Both are legal and the efforts of both of those groups work to accelerate the decline in the number of feral cats.
- Vice Chairman Reese asked how often cats are counted.
- Keith Williams answered that when a cat is TNR'd, its ear is clipped. He is notified when an ear clipped cat is brought into the shelter. He estimates that an ear clipped cat will be 17% as likely to go into a trap as a naive cat. Based on that and the known number of ear clipped cats the overall population estimate is 200K. If the ear clipped cat is 30% as likely, then the population is more like 100K.
- Keith does not believe that the feral cats are drawing the coyotes out of the hills, he believe the drought is forcing them into areas where there is available water and other food sources.

8. 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.

9. Authorize the Chairman to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Commission for its consideration at its May 15th and 16th meeting in Reno, Nevada. (For Possible Action)

- A motion was made and seconded to authorize that Chairman to prepare and submit recommendations to Wildlife Commission. Motioned passed 4-0

10. The next Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is scheduled for June 16th, 2015 at the Clark County Government Center to support the scheduled Wildlife Commission meeting on June 19th and 20st in Tonopah, Nevada.

11. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm.