

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRI-COUNTY WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP.

The group has not met so there was no report. Chairman Burnside feels there are some issues arising that could affect the Carson Front and this group could play a valuable role in addressing those issues.

2. UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) ON THE BI-STATE SAGE GROUSE.

Bob Pohlman reminded them of the upcoming meetings relating to this issue.

3. UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ONLY) ON THE REINTRODUCTION OF LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT INTO LAKE TAHOE.

Vice Chairman Cook continues to communicate with Stephanie Byers on the status of the University of Washington report that has been expected for some time. Once the report is released, Ms. Byers has indicated she will be happy to present it to the DCABMW.

4. The following items, 4a through 4m, are items that will be heard before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the next meeting, February 6 & 7, 2014 at the Nevada Lake Mead Water Safety Center, 115 Boulder Beach Road, Boulder City, Nevada. The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife may take the following action, or a variation thereof, on each item: support the item, not support the item or not take a position on the item. Public Comment will be allowed on each item.

4a–4m. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON:

4a. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO NOMINATE NEW MEMBERS TO SERVE ON CENTRAL NEVADA ELK PLAN (CNEP) COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT TEAM (COT). The Commission will consider and may vote to approve nominees to serve on the CNEP COT, which include: Lorinda Wichman (Nominee for County Commissioner Representative), Paul Young (Nominee for Statewide Agriculture Group Representative), and Joe Clifford (Nominee for Local Ranching Representative).

Member Turnipseed pointed out that Ms. Wichman is a Nye County Commissioner.

No public comment.

The consensus of the Board was to take no action on this item.

4b. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON THE REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BLACK BEAR SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT ENTITLED “A THREE-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF BLACK BEAR HARVEST THROUGH REGULATED

HUNTING IN NEVADA.” The Commission will consider, amend as appropriate, and may vote to approve a report submitted by the Black Bear Subcommittee entitled "A Three-Year Comprehensive Review of Black Bear Harvest through Regulated Hunting in Nevada." On approval, the Commission may forward this report on to the Nevada Legislature to fulfill the request included within 2013 Senate Bill 82.

Vice Chairman Cook felt all the recommendations to the Commission were good and the report was very good. He felt it was a positive report.

Member Turnipseed agreed.

While they are recommending no changes, Chairman Burnside pointed out the suggestion that they make a shotgun a legal weapon for bears.

Member Emery talked about the effort to take away the Carson Front for hunting and to break areas up in order to relieve some of the pressure.

Vice Chairman Cook said there was some discussion about hunting in public areas but the Tahoe Rim Trail was not called out specifically.

Chairman Burnside stated they are recommending the map stay the same. As a potential mitigation measure for the future, they are recommending splitting out the areas if they find that too many bears are being taken from any one area.

NDOW biologist Carl Lackey summarized the season results and said 18 bears were taken with 6 of those being female. The average age of the bears stayed the same and several tagged bears were killed. Some of the bears taken were conflict bears. Basically the hunt was status quo. Regarding conflicts, Mr. Lackey stated it was the 2nd busiest year on record. There were over 700 complaints. 130 bears were handled with 100+ being in conflict situations. 18 were hit by cars.

Mr. Lackey stated an educational bear safety DVD has been commissioned and paid for by Washoe County. NDOW is hoping to distribute the DVD in other counties and for television public service announcements.

Member Emery would like to see the tag quotas increased, an increase in harvest objective, and a Governor's tag for bear. Mr. Lackey said the success rate is still below 30%. He said the CAB could make those suggestions at the Commission meeting.

Chairman Burnside thought the money from the Governor's tag could be used to help manage the bears. He asked for the typical age range for when the female is the most productive. Mr. Lackey responded the prime ages are 5-15 years old. Chairman Burnside questioned if the current winter conditions are affecting their hibernating patterns and Mr. Lackey said they are hibernating but will come out once the green up starts.

Member Emery asked if the bear numbers have remained the same. Mr. Lackey stated the population is 500-700 bears and the results from the Program MARK estimate will be available in the next few weeks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees supports having a shotgun as a legal weapon for bear and he related a story about a bear charging him.

Mr. Lackey stated support for having a shotgun be a legal weapon for bear.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to recommend Commission acceptance of “A Three-Year Comprehensive Review of Black Bear Harvest through Regulated Hunting in Nevada;” carried unanimously.

4c. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 455, T-14 – TRAPPING QUESTIONNAIRE DEADLINE AND TRAPPING LICENSE VALID DATES (INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP). The Commission will hear a temporary regulation relating to trapping questionnaires and trapping license valid periods. The regulation will add language to specify the valid period of a trapping license as July 1 – June 30. The regulation amendment will also update the trapping questionnaire deadline language, changing the deadline from April 30 to May 31, making it consistent with other Department questionnaire language. The amendment includes having the Department be responsible for prohibiting the purchase of a subsequent trapping license, instead of the Commission, when a trapper fails to return a questionnaire. This amendment will allow the Department to administer the trapping questionnaire processes effectively in regard to the trapping seasons as established by the Commission.

The regulation is intended to give trappers ample time to return their questionnaires but also provide an efficient license denial procedure if they fail to return their questionnaire.

Mr Lackey stated this is a housekeeping item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees can support this if Joel Blakeslee likes it.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 455, T-14, Trapping Questionnaire Deadline and Trapping License Valid Dates; carried unanimously.

4d. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-04, 2015 BIG GAME APPLICATION DEADLINE INFORMATION. The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2015 big game application deadline information.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations into the record and the Board reviewed them.

Member Turnipseed asked what the objective was and if it was achieved for the spike elk hunt. Mr. Lackey thought the hunt was initiated to help thin out the herd.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the 2015 big game application deadline information; carried unanimously.

4e. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-05, 2015 BIG GAME TAG APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY. The Commission will consider adopting language regarding the 2015 big game tag application eligibility.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations into the record and the Board reviewed them.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support; carried unanimously.

4f. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-06, SILVER STATE TAG AND PARTNERSHIP IN WILDLIFE 2015 SEASON AND QUOTAS. The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2015 Silver State Tag and Partnership in Wildlife hunt species, seasons and quotas.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations into the record and the Board reviewed them.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to approve; carried unanimously.

4g. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-07, DREAM TAG 2015 SEASONS. The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2015 Dream Tag seasons.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations into the record and the Board reviewed them.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to approve; carried unanimously.

4h. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-08, 2016 HERITAGE TAG SEASONS AND QUOTAS. The Commission will consider the adoption of the 2016 Heritage Tag hunt species, seasons and quotas.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations into the record and the Board reviewed them.

Vice Chairman Cook commented on the high rate of interest they are earning on this money.

No public comment.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to support; carried unanimously.

4i. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-09, BIG GAME SEASONS. The Commission will consider adoption of 2015 – 2016 and 2016 – 2017 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and

mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics and legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas.

Member Emery asked about the size of the elk herd in the Santa Rosas and Mr. Lackey answered that it is about 140. The recommendation is to put bull tags in there and open the cow season but have the quota be 0 so the hunt is in place. Mr. Lackey advised that there are no changes recommended for the areas around Douglas County.

Member Emery does not like the late season archery hunt in the Carson Front because it is too late.

Chairman Burnside read the recommendations for 041/042-antelope rifle buck hunt. In the Virginia Range (195), the documentation states there is an adequate number of mature desert bighorns rams and he asked Mr. Lackey to expand on that. Mr. Lackey explained the sheep were put in there in 2012 and now they are seeing reproduction and recruitment. The population model is 80. A survey is about to be done but it looks like they are doing good despite the horses and the range conditions. He feels they may start losing rams to attrition if they are not hunted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With all the tags being given out, Jerad Lees thinks the elk seasons are too short and there are too many cow hunts in front of bull hunts. He talked about his frustrating hunt in 075 during October. All the animals were pushed to the Mary's River Ranch. He would like the seasons longer and the bull hunts put in front of the cow hunts.

Member Emery thinks that will be a continuing problem because the deer hunters push the elk two ridges over and then the elk hunters push the elk two ridges further. The animals become difficult to find unless a person gets off the beaten path. In Unit 075, Areas 6, 7, 8, and 10, the number of tags is causing a problem.

Mr. Lackey explained that the shorter season is meant to distribute hunters.

Member Emery suggested having some hunts in January and early February for antlerless elk to get it out of the deer season.

Chairman Burnside discussed the timeframe of the shed collecting season and said it specifically excludes those times since it is a stressful time for the animals.

Member Turnipseed questioned whether the shed antler season was actually passed.

Member Emery said the cow elk hunt is a big deal right now. A lot of people are going cow hunting but not seeing a cow.

Mr. Lees feels the current strategy does not work since the success rate seems to be low. He finds this very frustrating.

Chairman Burnside read the proposed cow and bull hunts in 075. Since NDOW started holding all these separate seasons, he enjoys not having to deal with a big barrage of hunters.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Emery to support the big game seasons; carried unanimously.

4j. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-10, BIG GAME MOUNTAIN LION HARVEST LIMITS FOR 2015-2016. The Commission will consider the adoption of 2015 – 2016 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to approve; carried unanimously.

4k. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION REGULATION 15-11, 2015 BLACK BEAR SEASONS. The Commission will consider adoption of 2015 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

Mr. Lackey would like to see the CABs recommend the use of shotgun as a legal weapon for bear.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees would like to open Unit 203 for bears and include shotguns for bear.

Mr. Lackey explained that 203 is not open because shotguns are not legal for bear.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to support and allow shotguns for bear and open Unit 203; carried unanimously.

4I. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 455, TEMPORARY LCB FILE T-14 – TRAPPING QUESTIONNAIRE DEADLINE AND TRAPPING LICENSE VALID DATES. The Commission will hear a temporary regulation relating to trapping questionnaires and trapping license valid periods. The regulation will add language to specify the valid period of a trapping license as July 1 - June 30. The regulation amendment will also update the trapping questionnaire deadline language, changing the deadline from April 30 to May 31, making it consistent with other Department questionnaire language. The amendment includes having the Department be responsible for prohibiting the purchase of a subsequent trapping license, instead of the Commission, when a trapper fails to return a questionnaire. This amendment will allow the Department to administer the trapping questionnaire processes effectively in regard to the trapping seasons as established by the Commission.

The regulation is intended to give trappers ample time to return their questionnaires but also provide an efficient license denial procedure if they fail to return their questionnaire.

The discussion from item 4c was carried over to this item as they are duplicate items.

Mr Lackey stated this is a housekeeping item.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees can support this if Joel Blakeslee likes it.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to recommend approval of Commission General Regulation 455, T-14, Trapping Questionnaire Deadline and Trapping License Valid Dates; carried unanimously.

4m. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 454, TEMPORRY LCB FILE T-14 – FIREARM CARRY DURING ARCHERY HUNT. The Commission will hear a temporary regulation relating to the carry of a firearm in the field while hunting under archery regulations. The regulation will change NAC 503.144 to allow the carry of personal protection handguns while archery hunting. This regulation will be temporary and will require Legislative Commission approval to become permanent after the 2015 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

The regulation was heard by the Commission during the workshop at the November 2014 Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meeting. The Commission discussed different alternatives to handgun carry restrictions and the needs for archers to carry a handgun during archery only season. The language has been updated to reflect the changes requested by the Commission by allowing a person to carry any handgun that is not scoped and has a barrel length of 8” or more. The language change clarified the type of handgun to be carried in the field during archery only season.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees thinks this is better than what we have now but NAC should not tell him what type of firearm he can and cannot be in possession of.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed to approve; carried unanimously.

- 5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION ON WHETHER THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD SHOULD TAKE A POSITION ON BDR 616 WHICH PROPOSES TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM THAT WOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE POSITIVE IMPACT THAT SPORTSMEN AND SPORTSWOMEN HAVE, AND POTENTIAL FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR SAID EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.**

Vice Chairman Cook stated support for this program.

Chairman Burnside talked about the benefits and success of a similar Colorado education program.

Mr. Lackey asked about the funding for this program and was told it would be funded by a \$1 application or license fee.

Member Rittenhouse stated fees are concern for him. This would be a good program as long as the

money hits the ground. He asked if the fee would be mandatory on the license. He cited an article and contest in the Dixon paper on "What Makes a Hunter" and the winners were three girls. He is glad to see these young people have a broader understanding of the impact that sportsmen and sportswomen make. He asked if this program is similar to the Nimrod Society.

Chairman Burnside explained how the Nimrod Society is using the Colorado model to try to get other states to follow suit. The reason for its success is that it is funded and approved by the sportsmen, the funds raised can only be used for that purpose, and the funds are managed by a citizens' group. The fee for the program (BDR 616) should be mandatory and would be part of the license fee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerad Lees wants to have feral horse education added to this.

Member Rittenhouse feels this program is intended to highlight everything positive about hunting.

Jerad Lees can support this fee but he does not want it to be part of the application fee.

Public comment closed.

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to support the idea of the Commission taking on something like this to implement in the State of Nevada; carried unanimously.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO IDENTIFY AND PROVIDE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS ON THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S CARSON CITY DISTRICT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

If the plan gets done at all, Vice Chairman Cook feels Alternate C is the best because the others restrict too much property.

No public comment.

After a brief discussion, the Board determined this matter is not time sensitive and decided to table it in order to get more information and have a better discussion about it.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FOR THE RECORDING SECRETARY. The Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife will discuss the job performance of the Recording Secretary and may consider a change in salary.

The Board expressed their satisfaction with the recording secretary's performance and thanked her for all she does.

No public comment.

MOTION by Cook/Turnipseed, based on her performance and recognizing that the last time she was given a merit increase was March 2010, to move the hourly salary from \$24 to \$27.50 effective March 17, 2015; carried unanimously.

8. CORRESPONDENCE OR COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED.

Member Turnipseed said someone told him that there is a flaw in the draw regulations for party hunts as it relates to bonus points. He talked about a conversation he had about the possibility of moving NDOW back under the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Jerad Lees clarified how the party hunt process works.

Vice Chairman Cook talked about an email he received on the “Managing Pinyon Juniper Expansion and Sagebrush Ecosystems” meetings.

Chairman Burnside said he received emails from Doug Martin suggesting the DCABMW agendaize two issues (items 5 and 6 on this agenda).

9. DISCUSSION ON THE RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 14 & 15, 2014 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS. There will be no action taken.

There was no report.

10. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO ATTEND UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS AND TO REPRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THE DOUGLAS COUNTY WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD. ONE MEMBER WILL BE DESIGNATED AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD.

Member Rittenhouse will attend the Las Vegas meetings. Members Emery and Turnipseed will attend the Reno meeting in March.

11. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. DISCUSSION TO SCHEDULE THE NEXT WILDLIFE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING.

The next Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2015. This meeting will be held at the Douglas County Community Center, Carson Valley Medical Center Room, 1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville, Nevada.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

- Tri County Wildlife Working Group
- Bi-state sage grouse
- Reintroduction of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout
- BLM Carson City District Resource Management Plan

MOTION by Turnipseed/Cook to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the DCABMW, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The minutes of the February 2, 2015 meeting of the Douglas County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are so approved this 17th day of March 2015.

Craig Burnside, Chairman