

Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board

Minutes

June 13, 2013

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility on June 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Jim Evans, Raymond Hodson, Lester Porter, Chris Torres, and Dale Hornickel

Others Present: Jake Tibbitts-Eureka County Natural Resources Manager, Jessica Contreras- Eureka County Natural Resources Assistant/Secretary, Nevada Department of Wildlife- John Elliott, Eastern Region Supervisory Fisheries Biologist.

Call to order

Chairman Jim Evans called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was determined to be present.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Board Business

The minutes of the May 2, 2013 and May 24, 2013 meetings were unanimously approved on a motion made by Chris Torres and seconded by Raymond Hodson. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence and Member Reports-

None

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects-

Update on pinyon-juniper thinning project, wildlife guzzlers installation, and other potential projects and consider further efforts to move forward for successful implementation of projects.

Jake Tibbitts stated Summitt forestry began their work today on Baumann's Ranch. Quicksilver will begin working on Monday, June 17th. Summitt Forestry has already cut down about 240 acres. They started with Baumann's Ranch because it was supposed to be surveyed but it hasn't been surveyed yet. There wasn't too much in the first 240 acres everything they saw they were cutting and they were also getting all of the little ones. They will have one of their guys come out with a Global Positioning System (GPS) and Mr. Tibbitts will load the shape file on their GPS. This way foreman will do all of the flagging. Mr. Tibbitts is trying to stay ahead of them because they are going to Cottonwood Ranch next. When Quicksilver starts on Monday they will start their work on Vanini creek and they will cut fence to fence. The 40's on Henderson Creek have also been surveyed.

Fish Creek Ranch Fishery-

Discuss development alternatives for recreational fishery at Fish Creek Ranch.

Mr. Evans stated he spoke with the fish creek ranch land owner and they are not committed with moving forward with the fishery. They also discussed spring production, water yield, and they indicated that they have been monitoring it. They are at least 6,000 gallons per minute. The mining project will use up 500 gallons per minute.

John Elliott stated in the early 80's, the tui chub was fairly close to being listed because of the endangered species act. He cautions them to go slow and be careful. The Fish and Wildlife Department may not have a say in it anymore because the tui chub is not candidate species anymore but they are still a protected species under the state of Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). Since, the State Engineer made the changes that the Wise's proposed they have to go in every five years and survey the tui chubs. If the Fish and Wildlife Department thinks there is a threat to the fish they will throw them back on the candidate list.

Mr. Evans asked if a private land owner wants to develop a fishery that is not open to the public. What kind of program does he have to employ to stock it. Can he stock it on his own.

Mr. Elliott answered he can stock it on his own but most of the places where they can get fish is outside of the state and they would have to get a permit to bring the fish in and that permit goes through them. If they buy fish within the state they would not have to do anything with them because the laws are not current. It then falls back on the owner because they still have to survey the tui chub population no matter what based on the State Engineers Proclamation and if they see a drop in the tui chub it would be a problem. As for Cold Creek, he would like to hold off on it right now. They have all of the water going through the system and refreshing everything. If they are irrigating, then they are taking the fresh water away and they will have a stale pond at the other end and there would be a trout die off.

Mr. Evans asked is the department going to be stocking any of the streams.

Mr. Elliott stated they do not stock most of the streams because they have wild populations in them and their hatcheries are being taxed right now. If they see areas that are being hit hard, then they will stock those. As for the fisheries, they are going to do an emergency limit lift on Wild Horse for the trout because the tribe is taking the water down to 20,000 acre feet by the end of June. In 2007, when the trout died off they were at 31,000 acre feet by August.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda and Support Material

Mr. Evans stated to prioritize time and discussion; he will take the agenda items out of order.

Action Item 16:

Commission Regulation (CR) 12-06 Amendment #2 – Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations changes for Sage-grouse, Blue Grouse (Dusky and Sooty), and Wild Turkey – 2013-14 Season – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa

The Commission will consider recommendations and make possible changes to the existing CR 12-06 to modify regulations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for sage-grouse, blue grouse (Dusky and Sooty), and wild turkey for the 2013-14 season.

After brief discussion, Dale Hornickel moved to accept the sage grouse state recommendation seasons and quotas as written. Mr. Torres seconded, motion passed unanimously.

After brief discussion, Mr. Hornickel moved to accept the blue grouse state recommendation season dates and bag limits as written. Lester Porter seconded, motion passed with one nay.

After brief discussion, Mr. Torres moved to accept the wild turkey state recommendation seasons and bag limits as written. Mr. Porter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item 17:

Commission Regulation (CR) 13 - 07 Amendment #1, 2014 Heritage Tag Vendors Commissioner Wallace

The Heritage Committee chairman will provide the committee's vendor recommendations to the Commission for possible action regarding the 2014

After brief discussion, Mr. Porter moved to go with the list as written. Mr. Hornickel seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item 6:

Duck Stamp Request-Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka-

The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Duck Stamp funds. The total cost for the proposed FY14 Duck Stamp Projects is \$142,950.

Mr. Torres moved to approve the proposed FY14 Duck Stamp Project. Mr. Hodson seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item 7:

Upland Game Stamp Request- Wildlife Staff Specialists Mark Farman and Mike Zahradka-

The Commission will review and may take action to approve projects submitted for funding from Upland Game stamp funds. The total cost of the projects for the proposed FY14 Upland Game Bird Stamp projects is \$271,050.

Mr. Hodson moved to approve the proposed FY14 Upland Game Bird Stamp project. Mr. Porter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item 8B:

Finance Committee-Committee Chair Gil Yanuck and Deputy Director Patrick Cates.

FY2014 County Advisory Board Budget Requests-Deputy Director Patrick Cates

The Commission may approve budgets for County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife for FY2014.

The CABMW submitted their FY2014 budget last week.

No action taken.

Action Item 9B:

Wildlife Heritage Committee-Commissioner Wallace and Deputy Director Patrick Cates

Fiscal Year 2013 and Fiscal Year 2012 Heritage Project Extensions

Pursuant to NAC 501.340, the Commission may approve requests for extension of 2013 Heritage projects.

No Recommendation.

Action Item 9D:

Fiscal Year 2014 Heritage Proposals

The Commission will hear the recommendations from the Heritage Committee and may take action to approve the project applications for 2014.

No Recommendation.

Action Item 10:

White Pine County Elk incentive and Damage Arbitration Panel-Chief of Game Larry Gilbertson

The Commission will consider input provided by the White Pine County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife and may take action to select three appointments to the White Pine County Elk Incentive and Damage Arbitration Panel to serve for the next two years (NAC 502.42283 and NAC 504.430)

No Recommendation.

Action Item 18:

Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa

The Commission will review and may take action to approve the Department's proposed biennial upland game release plan for fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

After brief discussion, Mr. Hornickel moved to support as written. Mr. Porter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Action Item 19B:

**Wildlife Damage Management Committee – Commissioner McBeath and Chief of Game Larry Gilbertson, and Large Carnivore Staff Specialist Pete Bradley
First Reading of Revised Commission Policy #25, Wildlife Damage Management -
Commissioner McBeath**

In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will conduct a first reading of Commission Policy #25, Wildlife Damage Management.

No Recommendation.

Action Item 20

Bear Awareness-Chairman Robb

The Commission will discuss and consider drafting a letter soliciting the involvement of additional entities to assist with bear awareness education.

No Recommendation.

Reports-Informational:

21B- Trail Camera Usage-Chief Game Warden Rob Buonamici

The Douglas CABMW is requesting the development of a regulation to limit trail camera usage before and during hunting seasons to preserve and maintain ethical hunting

After brief discussion, Mr. Torres recommended there should be regulations but that they should take the time to develop them right. Mr. Porter seconded, motion passed unanimously.

21E- Wild Horse Update-Deputy Director Rich Haskins

A report will be provided on the status of wild horse issues pending in Nevada.

Mr. Tibbitts stated the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) is suing the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and they are taking the suit. They are representing all of the counties in the state. The suit is regarding appropriate levels along with the other uses. NACO is making progress and moving forward.

Mr. Torres asked is there any more money for gathers.

Mr. Tibbitts answered there is no money for gathers they are only doing emergency gathers. The biggest issue is that they don't have room to store them.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for July 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Mr. Torres asked the board if the letter of recommendation for Chad Bliss was mailed out.

Mr. Evans answered it was mailed out last week.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Hodson. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2013.

Respectfully submitted: _____, Secretary
Jessica Contreras

Approved: _____, Chairman
Jim Evans