

## **Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB)**

### Minutes

The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board (CAB) met in the Eureka County Administrative Facility (Annex) on March 20, 2017 at 2:30 p.m.

Members Present: Jim Evans and Lester porter

Members Absent: Raymond Hodson

Others Present: Clint Garret- Biologist NV Department of Wildlife NDOW and Jessica Santoyo- CAB Secretary

#### **Call to order**

Chairman Evans called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. a quorum was determined to be present.

#### **Public Comment**

Lester Porter stated that the Coyote Hunt went very well and that they had 75 teams sign up this year. The raffle raised \$7,555.00, which will be used for Eureka County Wildlife projects and for next years' event.

Mr. Evans stated that Heath Korrell with the NV Department of Wildlife (NDOW) Fisheries Biologist provided a written update on the White Pine County Fisheries. Mr. Evans recommended that the board members read over the update outside of the meeting, have Mr. Korrell be in attendance during their May meeting, and ask him questions about the update during that meeting.

#### **Board Business**

*Review and approval of minutes-*

Mr. Evans moved to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2017 meeting. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

*Correspondence and Member Reports-*

None.

#### **Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Projects-**

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

Clint Garrett stated that he received the signed Categorical Exclusions (CX) from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the Judd Canyon removal of the JJC guzzler and the rebuild of the Table guzzler. Since the CX's are now signed, NDOW has gained maintenance responsibility for those guzzlers.

Mr. Evans stated that there is an old small game guzzler located in Horse Canyon that could use some help from NDOW. The wildlife in that area probably can't access the guzzler due to all of the brush encroachment around the guzzler, it would be a good for NDPW to get out there and see what can be done.

### **Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting Agenda**

#### **Action Item #6**

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges  
Request for Up to 20 Wild-trapped Greater Sage Grouse Per Year for Up to Three Years for**

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#### **Translocation to the Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge in California – Game Division**

**Administrator Brian F. Wakeling** – The Department received a request from the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges and the California Department of Wildlife to capture and translocate up to 20 greater sage-grouse per year for up to three years for translocation to the Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge. The Department is proceeding to fulfill the request and seeks the support of the Commission. The Commission may vote to support the Department's actions.

Mr. Porter moved to support the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges Request for Up to 20 Wild-trapped Greater Sage Grouse per Year for Up to Three Years for Translocation to the Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge in California. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item #7**

##### **Legislative Committee Report – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Drew –**

A report will be presented on the committee's recent meetings. The Commission may review bills of interest, consider legislative committee recommendations and may take official positions on those bills. The Commission may also choose to develop platforms on bills by supporting or opposing general concepts contained within bills rather than specific language. The Commission will consider and may approve a spokesperson(s) who will relay Commission positions and platforms to the Legislature. (Support materials are as of the Legislative Committee meeting held on Feb. 22, 2017. These materials may be updated at the Commission meeting based on the outcome of the March 15, 2017, committee meeting. Bill and BDR language may be viewed online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/79th2017>)

No Recommendation.

#### **Action Item #8**

**Wildlife Damage Management Committee Report and Fiscal Year 2018 Draft Predation Management Plan – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Johnston and Wildlife Staff Biologist Pat Jackson** – The Commission will hear a report from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee chairman regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Predator Management Plan, and the Commission may take action to provide recommendations for modification of the draft for the May Commission meeting.

Mr. Evans stated that they covered this item during their last meeting and they didn't make any changes to the Eureka County Coyote project. The project is still funded for this year which is a good thing.

Mr. Evans moved to continue to support the Wildlife Damage Management Committee Report and the Fiscal Year 2018 Draft Predation Management Plan. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item #9A**

**Nevada Lands Act – Commissioners Drew and Johnston** – At the February Commission meeting the Commission designated Commissioners Drew and Johnston to draft a letter on the development of new federal legislation related to SJR 1. The Commission may take action to approve the draft letter to send.

Mr. Evans stated there was a lot of controversy regarding the NV Lands Act and the Commission rejected the initiative.

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Mr. Porter stated that he only read a little bit into the whole thing but he was concerned with the two proposed phases. Especially with the section that said that the state would sell phase one in order to pay for phase two. The whole deal cut into a lot of Northern Eureka County.

Mr. Porter moved to support the letter that was drafted by Commissioners Drew and Johnston against the Nevada Lands Act. Mr. Evans seconded, motioned carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item #9B**

**Washoe County Lands Bill – Commissioners Drew and McNinch** – At the November Commission meeting the Commission designated Commissioner Drew to work with NDOW to draft a letter stating the Commission’s concerns on the proposed Washoe County Lands Bill.

Mr. Evans stated that the Commission took a similar stance on the Washoe County Lands Bill as they did with the NV Lands Act and were against that initiative as well.

Mr. Porter moved to support the letter that was drafted by Commissioner Drew expressing the Commissions concern with the proposed Washoe County Lands Bill. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item #17**

**Second Reading, Commission Policy 26A, Transparency – Division Administrator Brian F.**

**Wakeling** – The Commission will conduct a second reading of Commission Policy 26A, Transparency, and may take action to suspend, amend or repeal. At the Feb. 11, 2017, meeting the Commission voted to suspend Policy 26A until such a time the Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy Committee can revise and renumber the policy to be consistent with Nevada Revised Statutes and all wildlife data.

Mr. Porter moved to continue to support the revised Commission Policy 26A, Transparency. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Comment Item #18**

**Commission General Regulation 466, Partnership in Wildlife (PIW) Drawing, Changes to Nonresident Restricted Deer Tag, and Changes to Big Game Return Card Questionnaire Deadline, LCB File No. R140-16 – Management Analyst III Maureen Hullinger** –The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation defines the term “main drawing;” revises the order in which the Silver State Tag drawing, PIW drawing and main drawings for tags are conducted; authorizes an applicant for a nonresident restricted deer tag to apply for a nonresident deer tag in the Partnership in Wildlife Drawing and the Silver State tag drawing in the same year; and revises the big game return card questionnaire deadline from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Mr. Evans stated looking at the quota, how significant is it because it will be based upon a quota and there will only be so many tags allocated for non-residents.

Mr. Porter stated is there a certain number of Silver State tags for the non-resident or resident.

Mr. Garrett stated that there isn’t a specific number of tags, it’s just an allocation of one tag per species.

Ms. Santoyo read what was stated by Tom Donham the Eastern Region Supervising Game Biologist for NDOW during the November 11, 2016 meeting where the Eligibility for Commission

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General Regulation 466 was discussed. Ms. Santoyo read the following comments, “Mr. Donham stated reading over the action item, the wording on this makes him think that nonresidents in the general draw are eligible for the silver state tag draw. The action item states that “Under current regulations those individuals who participate in restricted non-resident guided deer hunt drawings are not eligible for the main drawing and in turn are not eligible to participate in the PIW or Silver State tag draws”. Mr. Donham looked up the Silver State tag regulations and currently Silver State tags are open to both resident and non-residents. Basically, the non-resident guided deer hunt individuals are not eligible for the PIW or the Silver State tag draws”.

Mr. Porter stated it will basically knock down a residents odds in the drawing.

No recommendation. The Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board will provide comment at a later date when more information is made available.

#### **Action Item #19**

**Commission Regulation 17 - 05, Amendment #1, Big Game Seasons 2017 – 2018, Nonresident Desert (Nelson) Bighorn Ewe Hunts – Brian F. Wakeling** – The Commission will consider Amendment #1 of the 2017 - 2018 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Dates, to specifically address nonresident Desert (Nelson) Bighorn ewe hunts that were inadvertently omitted at the February Commission meeting.

Mr. Porter moved to support Commission Regulation 17 – 05, Amendment #1 Big Game Season 2017 – 2018 Nonresident Desert (Nelson) Bighorn Ewe Hunts. Mr. Evans seconded, motion carried unanimously.

#### **Action Item #20**

**Commission Regulation 17 - 12, Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds; Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands – 2017- 2018 Season – Russell Woolstenhulme** – The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for migratory game birds for 2017 - 2018 seasons and adopt regulations that comply with the proposed regulations framework for the 2017- 2018 hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission will also consider rules regulating public hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands.

Mr. Evans stated last year the board discussed Eureka County’s zone designation and it has really messed them up. Basically, what happened is that Eureka County was moved from the Northeast Zone to Northwest Zone and bumped Eureka County out of their late season. They are aware that the earlier hunt window established primarily for Elko county is more so suited for the northern portion of Elko County, i.e. Owyhee River/Snake River watersheds, where icing conditions are sustained earlier as compared to Ruby Marsh. Though the northern portions of the northeast management zone are influenced by climatic conditions that promote earlier peak occupancy the hunter days associated with these more so remote areas more than likely does not compare to use sustained at Ruby Marsh (Clover Valley/Franklin Lake basins), and the Upper and Lower Humboldt river basins. It is not the intent to raise controversy relative to optimal hunting windows but they feel that the zone designation needs to be revised in addition to establishing season dates that are more so conducive, again, for optimal hunting opportunity throughout the northeast quadrant. They are requesting and or suggesting that the northeastern waterfowl management zone include Elko, Eureka and White Pine counties with the following hunting seasons for ducks and geese; Oct. 7 to Oct. 30 and Nov. 3 to Jan. 21.

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Minutes

*Mr. Evans moved to support Commission Regulation 17 – 02, Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds along with the following recommendation from the Eureka County Wildlife Advisory Board: Mr. Evans recommended that the northeastern waterfowl management zone include Elko, Eureka and White Pine counties with the following hunting seasons for ducks and geese; Oct. 7 to Oct. 30 and Nov. 3 to Jan. 21. Mr. Porter seconded, motion carried unanimously.*

\*\*\*Please see attached support documentation from Chairman Jim Evans\*\*\*

**Next Meeting**

Items suggested for the agenda include: ongoing agenda items. The board should get any other desired agenda items to the secretary for the next meeting. **The next meeting date is scheduled for May 4, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Porter. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary  
Jessica Santoyo

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman  
Jim Evans