

LANDER COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE

February 2, 2015
Lander County Fire Hall
15 East Second Street
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

MINUTES

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:40. Chairman Matheus led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Members present were: Ed Taylor, Phil Gray, Gary Sweeney, Scott Torgerson, James Matheus, and Jeremy Lutz.
- III. Scott Torgerson moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.
- IV. Gary Sweeney moved to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.
- V. CORRESPONDENCE
 - A. Chairman Matheus presented a letter that Rex Flowers wrote to Susanne asking the commissioners to deny the Elko hunt in Unit 051 due to lack of an Elk Management Plan.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Update on Turkey Trapping and Release: Jeremy Lutz informed us that they had requested turkeys from Utah, but not getting any due to the drought conditions. They will augment when they can get some turkeys. They are trying to have folks from the Great Basin National Park to trap some of their turkeys and give them to us.
 - B. Update on Bighorn Sheep Relocation: They caught 16 bighorn sheep, released that same day at Massacre Rim with great conditions. Five sheep have been lost due to mortality (lions, etc..).
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Big Game Season Dates:
 1. Gary Sweeney motioned to accept all the season dates on the Pronghorn. The motion was seconded and carried.
 2. Scott Torgerson to have only a depredation hunt in Area 051 until there is an Elko Management Plan established with actual herd numbers. The motion was seconded and carried.
 3. Scott Torgerson motioned to cut back the Antlerless Elk hunts season dates to December 15th in areas 062-064 and 066-068 late hunts. The motion was seconded and carried 4 to 1. The following is a list of reasons for moving the end of the season date back:

- The hunting of Elk runs from August through January (5 months) which is a hardship not only on the elk but also deer and other animals. It causes pressure in the field.
 - The current plan is unrealistic for what is on the range and needs to be looked at and redesigned.
 - The five months of hunting is hard on the habitat.
4. Scott Torgerson motioned to accept all the other Elk season dates. The motion was seconded and carried.
 5. Gary Sweeney motioned to accept all the Sheep & Goat season dates. The motion was seconded and carried.
 6. Phil Gray motioned to accept all the Mule Deer season dates. The motion was seconded and carried.
 7. James Matheus motioned to accept the Antlerless Elk Landowner Depredation Hunt. The motion was seconded and carried.
 8. James Matheus motioned to accept the season dates on the Mountain Lion, Black Bear, Heritage Tags, Dream Tags, Silver State Partnership tags. The motion was seconded and carried.
- B. Discussion on the Antelope and Elk waiting periods. James Matheus presented a draft of a plan for an Elk application to reduce the waiting period. He suggested we talk to fellow hunters and get feedback about the draft before submitting the plan.
- C. Update from Biologist Jeremy Lutz.
1. Finished the antelope survey recently. Counted 1,773 antelope in Area 14 & 15, which is the highest count we have had. There were 300 harvested out of those areas this past season.
 2. Recently took 800 horses from the area around Cortez.
 3. Discussed guzzler projects. Still trying to get the guzzlers on public land versus private.
 4. This next week they will be reseeding everything on the Sheep Creek face.
- D. Future Agenda Items:
1. Matt Jeffers & Ken Gray from Elko want to be on the agenda to discuss the Elk & Sheep.
 2. Raven Situation
 3. Waiting Periods on Antelope & Elk.
- E. Next meeting will be March 16th at 7 pm
- F. Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.