



**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**  
**Data and Technology Services Division**  
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**MEMORANDUM****DECEMBER 27, 2022**

**To:** Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

**From:** Management Analyst Megan Manfredi Data and Technology Services Division, Game Division Administrator Mike Scott

**Title:** **Commission General Regulation 502, Junior and Turkey Hunt Programs**

**Purpose:** The Commission consider and may take action to approve amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) chapter 502 that would remove the Turkey harvest return card deadline from NAC to be included in the annual Commission Regulation. Allow for junior turkey bonus point holders to roll over their accumulated points into the adult category once they are no longer eligible to participate in the junior turkey hunt program. Limit the amount of successfully awarded tags through the junior hunt programs to three (3).

**Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation**

To keep consistency, the Department is proposing changes to the business rules regarding the turkey harvest return card and bonus point programs. The proposed changes would align with the business rules established for the big game species by allowing an applicant who failed to submit their turkey harvest return card by the established deadline to pay the \$50 associated fee and complete the survey during the following year's turkey application period in order to lift the applied suspension and successfully submit an application. The changes would also allow for juniors participating in the junior turkey hunt program to roll their accumulated bonus points into the adult category once they are no longer eligible for participation as a junior turkey hunter.

Additionally, the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee has proposed a limitation to participation in the junior hunt programs that would make an applicant ineligible for future participation in the junior hunt programs after three (3) successfully awarded junior tags. This limitation is specific to the species being applied for.

**Recommendation**

The Department recommends that the Commission review, amend if needed, and adopt the proposed regulation.

**REVISED PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

**LCB File No. R051-21**

August 4, 2022

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~(omitted material)~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 501.105 and 501.181; §§ 2 and 4-6, NRS 501.105, 501.181 and 502.160; §3, NRS 501.105, 501.119, 501.181 and 502.160.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to eligibility to apply for a junior hunt; revising provisions relating to the submission of a questionnaire issued as part of a tag to hunt wild turkey; revising provisions relating to the awarding of bonus points for certain applicants for a tag to hunt wild turkey; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt regulations necessary to preserve, protect, manage and restore wildlife and its habitat and to carry out the provisions governing wildlife, including, without limitation, the manner and means of taking wildlife. (NRS 501.105, 501.181) Existing regulations prescribe requirements governing the eligibility of a person to apply to engage in a junior hunt. (NAC 502.063, 502.333) **Section 2** of this regulation revises provisions relating to the length of time during which an applicant may apply for a junior hunt by providing that a person who is otherwise eligible to apply for a junior hunt may apply for a junior hunt for not more than 5 years or the length of time required for the person to successfully obtain three tags for a junior hunt, whichever is sooner. **Section 6** of this regulation makes a conforming change relating to the transfer of unused bonus points for persons who become ineligible to apply for a junior hunt.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Wildlife to obtain necessary data from hunters, trappers and anglers relative to their activities and success through the use of reports or questionnaires. If a report or questionnaire is not returned within the period specified by regulation of the Commission, existing law authorizes the Commission to deny the person the right to acquire certain licenses for a period of 1 year and levy an administrative fine against the person. (NRS 501.119) **Section 3** of this regulation revises requirements relating to a questionnaire issued as part of a tag to hunt wild turkey by requiring that such a questionnaire be received by the Department not later than the deadline established in an annual regulation of the Commission. **Section 4** of this regulation revises provisions relating to the awarding of bonus points to certain applicants for a tag to hunt wild turkey by replacing a requirement that such applicants must be awarded bonus points for the hunt number of the species for which an applicant applied with a requirement that the applicant be awarded a bonus point for the category

of the species for which he or she applied. **Sections 1 and 5** of this regulation make conforming changes relating to the manner in which bonus points may be awarded by the Department for a tag to hunt wild turkey.

**Section 1.** NAC 502.105 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.105 “Type of hunt” means a hunt authorized by a regulation of the Commission, for which tags are awarded pursuant to application, that differs from another hunt in one or more of the following ways:

1. The species to be hunted for any species other than a species that is included in a category of a species pursuant to subsection 2;
2. The category of the species, subspecies and gender to be hunted as described in ~~subsection 1 of~~ NAC 502.4188;
3. The weapons to be used;
4. The residency of applicants; and
5. The method of drawing applications for the award of tags.

**Sec. 2.** NAC 502.333 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.333 A person who is otherwise eligible to apply for a junior hunt may apply for a junior hunt for not more than 5 years ~~or~~ *or the length of time required for the person to successfully obtain three tags for a junior hunt, whichever is sooner.*

**Sec. 3.** NAC 502.407 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.407 1. Unless otherwise provided by an annual regulation of the Commission, the properly completed questionnaire issued as part of a turkey tag must be received by the Department not later than ~~11 p.m. on:~~

~~—(a) May 31, or the next business day if May 31 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the season for the spring hunt for turkey; or~~

~~—(b) November 30, or the next business day if November 30 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the season for the fall hunt for turkey.}~~ *the deadline established in an annual regulation of the Commission.*

2. ~~{A}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a* person who fails to return the questionnaire or the information required by the questionnaire ~~{within}~~ *on or before* the ~~{period specified}~~ *deadline* or who submits incomplete or false information on the questionnaire is ineligible for all turkey tags for 1 year.

3. A person who is ineligible for a tag pursuant to subsection 2 may have those privileges reinstated if the person:

(a) Pays to the Department an administrative fine of \$50; and

(b) Submits to the Department the properly completed questionnaire issued as part of the turkey tag or the information required by the questionnaire.

~~{4. A person who seeks to have privileges reinstated pursuant to the provisions of subsection 3 must perform the actions specified in that subsection not later than 11 p.m. on:~~

~~—(a) June 30, or the next business day if June 30 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the spring hunt for turkey; or~~

~~—(b) December 31, or the next business day if December 31 falls on a weekend or state holiday, following the close of the fall hunt for turkey.}~~

**Sec. 4.** NAC 502.4187 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4187 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.417 to 502.4225, inclusive, an applicant to obtain a tag for a season who is unsuccessful, or an applicant for a bonus point who does not wish to obtain a tag and is applying for the sole purpose of earning a bonus point, must be awarded a bonus point for ~~+~~

~~—(a) The hunt number of the species for which the applicant applied if he or she applied for a:~~

~~—(1) Tag to hunt wild turkey; or~~

~~—(2) Bonus point for a tag described in subparagraph (1); or~~

~~—(b) The~~ *the* category of the species for which he or she applied if he or she applied for a tag to hunt deer, elk, mountain goat, antelope, black bear, moose , *wild turkey* or bighorn sheep, or for a bonus point for such a tag.

↪ Regardless of the number of applications to obtain a tag or bonus point for a season submitted by a person, the Department shall not award the person more than one bonus point per season per hunting license for each species or category of a species for which the person applied.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the bonus points awarded to a person for a species or category of species accumulate until the person loses his or her bonus points pursuant to this subsection. A person loses all of his or her bonus points for a species or category of a species:

(a) If the person is successful in drawing a tag for a season for that species or category of a species; or

(b) If the person does not apply for a tag or a bonus point for a season for 2 consecutive calendar years during which that type of hunt for a season is open.

3. Upon written request, the Department shall reinstate each bonus point a person lost pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 if:

(a) During the entirety of the respective 2 consecutive calendar years, the person was mobilized, deployed, training or stationed outside of the United States as an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as verified by a copy of his or her orders or other proof satisfactory to the Department; and

(b) The request is submitted to the Department not later than 1 year after the date the person returns to the United States.

4. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.4189, a person may not use any bonus points awarded to the person for being unsuccessful in a junior hunt to apply for a drawing for a tag for any other type of hunt after the person is no longer eligible to participate in a junior hunt.

5. If an applicant requests and receives a refund for the value of his or her hunting license, the Department shall not award the applicant a bonus point for any species or category of species applied for during the period that the applicant possessed the hunting license.

6. The Department shall not award bonus points for depredation hunts or management hunts.

7. As used in this section, “management hunt” means a hunt established to seek the harvest of additional wildlife within a population.

**Sec. 5.** NAC 502.4188 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4188 ~~1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, any~~ **Any** bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program must be awarded in one of the following categories of species, subspecies and gender:

~~1(a)~~ **1.** Antlered mule deer;

~~1(b)~~ **2.** Antlerless mule deer;

~~1(c)~~ **3.** Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;

~~1(d)~~ **4.** Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;

~~1(e)~~ **5.** Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;

~~1(f)~~ **6.** Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;

~~1(g)~~ **7.** Spike Rocky Mountain elk;

~~8.~~ 8. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are longer than their ears;

~~9.~~ 9. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are shorter than their ears;

~~10.~~ 10. Rams, from one of the following subspecies:

~~(1)~~ (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;

~~(2)~~ (b) California bighorn sheep; or

~~(3)~~ (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

~~11.~~ 11. Ewes, from one of the following subspecies:

~~(1)~~ (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;

~~(2)~~ (b) California bighorn sheep; or

~~(3)~~ (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

~~12.~~ 12. Mountain goats;

~~(m)~~ 13. Black bears; ~~or~~

~~(n)~~ 14. Moose ~~;~~

~~2. Bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program for wild;~~

*or*

15. Wild turkey . ~~hunts must be awarded by hunt number.~~

Sec. 6. NAC 502.4189 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.4189 1. Each applicant in a drawing for a tag for a season receives a number of additional draw numbers that is equal to the number of bonus points that he or she has accumulated squared, as expressed in the following equation:

$$n=b^2$$

where “n” is the number of additional draw numbers and “b” is the number of bonus points. The number of additional draw numbers determines the number of draw numbers for the species or category of the species for which the application was submitted. The applicant’s lowest randomly assigned draw number is the number used for the drawing.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, bonus points accumulated by a person for a species or category of species cannot be transferred to any other person or any other species or category of species.

3. Any bonus points accumulated by an applicant automatically transfer with the applicant if the applicant changes his or her state of residence. Bonus points transferred pursuant to this subsection apply to the same species or category of species to which they applied before the transfer.

4. The number of bonus points applicable to applications submitted by a group pursuant to NAC 502.4185 for tags is the quotient of the total number of points held by the members of the group divided by the number of members in the group, rounded to the nearest whole number.

5. If a person ~~has applied for a junior hunt for deer for 5 years or~~ becomes ineligible to *apply for a junior hunt for deer pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to* participate in a junior hunt for deer because of his or her age, each unused bonus point accumulated by that person for a junior hunt for deer automatically transfers to the category for antlered mule deer. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a bonus point accumulated by the person for a junior hunt for deer in a year in which the person also accumulated a bonus point in the category for antlered mule deer.

6. *If a person becomes ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for wild turkey pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to participate in a junior hunt for wild turkey because of*



*his or her age, each unused bonus point accumulated by that person for a junior hunt for wild turkey automatically transfers to the category for wild turkey.*