

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Agenda

Meeting location:

Pitchfork Ranch at Walker River State Park
211 E. Walker Road
Yerington, NV 89447

All parties in attendance at the Commission meeting must obey CDC guidance on social distancing and/or wear cloth face coverings. Do not plan to attend if you have a fever, are coughing (even from allergies), have shortness of breath, have loss of smell/taste, have been exposed to COVID-19, or if you have recently traveled from a “known area of community spread” or from out of state within fourteen (14) days. As of June 1, 2020, gatherings are limited to no more than 50 persons per the Governor’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 021. We encourage the public to submit written comments unless in-person attendance is necessary.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, support material will not be provided at the meeting. Meeting materials are available at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/

At all times during the meeting, you must minimize touching any surfaces and to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer when leaving. We also encourage respiratory etiquette and remind you to cover any coughs or sneezes.

This is an outdoor meeting and we encourage all attendees to bring their own chair as chairs will not be provided.

Public comment will be taken on every action item after discussion but before action on each item and is limited to three minutes per person. The chairman, in his discretion, may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items or attend and make comment during the meeting and are asked to complete a speaker card and present it to the Recording Secretary. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments in order to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda.

Forum restrictions and orderly business: The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks that antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

Please provide the Board of Wildlife Commissioners (“Commission”) with the complete electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations to include as exhibits with the minutes. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format.

NOTE: County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Members and public comment allowed on each action item and regulation workshop items and at the end of the meeting.

Friday, June 26, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.

- 1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Introduction and Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Brad Johnston**

- 2. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Brad Johnston – For Possible Action**
The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.
 - 3.* Approval of Minutes – Chairman Brad Johnston – For Possible Action**
Commission minutes may be approved from the May 1, 2020 meeting.
 - 4. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Brad Johnston – Informational**
Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Wasley may also be discussed.
 - 5. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational**
CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.
 - 6. Wayne E. Kirch 2019 Award Presentation – Chairman Brad Johnston**
Chairman Johnston will present the 2019 Wayne E. Kirch Award that acknowledges a deserving individual, nonprofit organization, outdoor sports club or business who have achieved significant results toward the conservation, management or enhancement of wildlife in the State of Nevada during the last calendar year.
- 7. Commission General Regulations – Workshop / Public Comment Allowed**
- A.* Commission General Regulation 490, Party Bonus Points and First Come First Serve, LCB File No. 103-19 – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz and Management Analyst Kailey Taylor – For Possible Action**
The Commission will hold a second workshop to consider a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would allow children under 12 to purchase a bonus point if they turn 12 before the first day of the last season for that species. The regulation also addresses bonus points for sportsmen who apply as a party. Lastly, the regulation would allow a first-come-first-serve opportunity for returned tags that miss the 14-day deadline.
 - B.* Commission General Regulation 491, Notification of Draw Results – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kimberly Munoz – For Possible Action**
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) NAC 502.4208 relating to providing notification of draw results to clients who have opted out of having their results made public.
 - C.* Commission General Regulation 492, Thermal Imaging Optics – Chief Game Warden Mike Maynard – For Possible Action**
The Commission will hold a workshop to consider a regulation to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 and NAC 503.1485 relating to wildlife; prohibiting the use of certain night-vision equipment and devices for locating, hunting and taking game mammals and game birds; revising the definition of “trail camera or similar device”; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

8.* Mandatory Indoctrination / Seminar for Bighorn Ram Tag Holders – Game Division Administrator Mike Scott – For Possible Action

Game Division Administrator Mike Scott will provide a presentation on mandatory indoctrination/seminar for bighorn ram tag holders. The Commission may take action to require bighorn ram tag holders to complete an indoctrination class/seminar.

9. Wildlife Heritage Committee – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Paul Valentine

A. Wildlife Heritage Committee Report – Chairman Paul Valentine – Informational

The Commission will hear a report on the Committee's recent meeting.

B.* Commission Regulation 20-04 Amendment #1, Heritage Tag Vendor Proposals – Chairman Paul Valentine – For Possible Action

The Commission will review the Wildlife Heritage Committee's recommendations regarding Heritage Tag Vendor proposals for Fiscal Year 2021 and may take action on the proposals.

C.* Heritage Project Extension Requests – Chairman Paul Valentine – For Possible Action

The Commission will review Committee recommendations and may approve extension requests from projects approved in previous fiscal years. *Note: Support material for this agenda item will be provided one to two weeks in advance of the Commission meeting.

D.* Heritage Funding Reallocation – Chairman Paul Valentine – For Possible Action

The Commission will review Committee recommendations and may approve reallocation of any unused Heritage funds from previously approved projects to other previously approved projects from the same fiscal year. *Note: Support material for this agenda item will be provided one to two weeks in advance of the Commission meeting.

E.* Fiscal Year 2021 Heritage Project Proposals – Chairman Paul Valentine – For Possible Action

The Commission will hear recommendations from the Committee and may take action to approve \$1,268,276.61 in fiscal year 2021 Heritage funding plus additional funds from the Heritage account balance above 5 million for projects submitted for FY 2021 (NRS 501.3575) . The preliminary funding recommendations from the Committee are listed below and may be approved by the Commission.

- Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Capture, Transplant and Monitoring – Project # 21-01 (\$68,900)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Population Monitoring and Harvest Validation – Project # 21-02 (\$61,000)
- Marlette Lake Broodstock Facilities/Passage Improvement Project, Phase 2 – Project # 21-03 (\$100,000)
- Wildfire Related Restoration and Seed Purchase – Project #21-04 (\$100,000)
- Desert Creek Conservation Easement – Project # 21-05 (\$100,000)
- Middle Rock Creek Habitat Improvement – Project # 21-06 (\$125,000)
- Continued Monitoring of Moose Expansion in Nevada – Project # 21-07 (\$20,000)
- Snake Range Aspen Habitat Restoration – Project # 21-08 (\$30,000)
- Toano Mountain Restoration – Project #21-09 (\$66,000)
- Egan and Johnson Basin Restoration – Project #21-10 (\$75,000)
- Area 10 Mule Deer Migration Corridor Habitat Enhancement – Project # 21-11 (\$50,000)

- Toiyabe PMU (Bates, Hickison, and Wolf Ranches) Pinyon Juniper Thinning – Project # 21-12 (\$75,000)
- SE Schell Habitat Enhancement – Project # 21-13 (\$75,000)
- Enhancement of Crucial Habitat for Antelope and Mule Deer in Washoe County, Nevada – Project # 21-14 (\$100,000)
- A New Population Model for Antelope to Improve Accuracy, Identify Limiting Factors, and Improve Management Decisions – Project # 21-15 (\$37,500)
- Investigating Potential Limiting Factors Impacting Mule Deer in Northwest Nevada – Project # 21-16 (\$65,000)
- East Walker River Fish Habitat Enhancement – Project # 21-17 (\$11,191)
- The Interaction Between Restoration, Foraging Ecology, and Mating Behavior in Greater Sage-grouse – Project # 21-18 (\$65,855)
- Survey and Maintenance of Existing Big Game Water Developments – Project # 21-19 (\$36,000)
- Diet Quality and Composition of Mule Deer in the Toiyabe Mountains Following Removal of Pinyon-Juniper – Project # 21-20 (\$32,000)
- Cave Valley Collaboration – Project # 21-21 (\$50,000)
- **Dissemination of Results from Delineation of Lambing Habitat, Population demographics, Resource Selection, and Movement Patterns of Desert Bighorn Sheep – Project # 21-22 (\$46,000)

**Not discussed by Heritage committee

10.* Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Zahradka and Division Administrator Alan Jenne - For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$50,100 for projects submitted for FY 2021 funding from the Duck Stamp account. The specific Duck Stamp projects that may be approved are listed below:

- Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Conservation Support (\$10,000)
- Eastern WMA Complex Weed Control (\$10,000)
- Key Pittman WMA Wildlife Food Plots (\$2,600)
- Ducks Unlimited Wetland Enhancement Support at Mason Valley WMA (\$5,000)
- Mason Valley WMA Habitat Improvements (\$10,000)
- Mason Valley WMA Water Control Structure Replacement (\$12,500)

11. Public Comment Period

Persons wishing to speak are requested to complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Saturday, June 27, 2020 – 8:30 a.m.

12. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairman Brad Johnston

13. Approval of Agenda – Chairman Brad Johnston – For Possible Action

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

14. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Brad Johnston – Informational

Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Wasley may also be discussed.

15. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items – Informational

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

16.* Commission Regulation 20-12, 2020 - 2021 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits – Wildlife Staff Specialists Shawn Espinosa and Russell Woolstenhulme – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider and may vote to amend regulations for upland game birds and mammals as well as furbearers for the 2020 season. This regulation will also include fall wild turkey seasons for 2020 and spring wild turkey seasons for 2021.

17.* Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa and Division Administrator Alan Jenne – For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$264,840 for projects submitted for FY 2021 funding from the Upland Game Bird Stamp account. The specific Upland Game Bird Stamp projects that may be approved are listed below:

- Bi-State Sage-grouse Coordinator (\$5,000)
- Dusky Grouse Ecology and Management in Nevada (\$22,003)
- Eastern Complex WMA Weed Control (\$10,000)
- Estimating Greater Sage-grouse Vital Rates within Nevada's Novel Habitats (\$21,250)
- Estimating the Effects of Large Ungulate Grazing on Greater Sage-grouse in Northwestern Nevada (\$18,397)
- Greater Sage-grouse Statewide Monitoring (\$47,640)
- Key Pittman WMA Wildlife Food Plots (\$3,900)
- Monitoring Greater Sage-grouse Response to the Martin Fire (\$12,750)
- Monitoring the Effects of Landscape Level Treatments on Greater Sage-grouse in the Desatoya Mountains (\$19,500)
- Soil Health Restoration on WMAs (\$10,000)
- Upland Game Translocation and Monitoring (\$12,400)
- Using Hunter and Population Survey Data to Investigate Drivers of Upland Game Bird Populations and Forecast Harvest in Nevada (\$24,600)
- Genette Creek Conservation Easement (\$30,000)
- Toiyabe PMU (Bakes, Hickison, and Wolf Ranch) pinyon Juniper Thinning (\$25,000)
- A Multi-scale Resilience-based Framework for Restoring and Conserving Great Basin Wet Meadows and Riparian Ecosystems (\$2,400)

18.* Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021, Amendment 1 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa – For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve the Department's proposed biennial upland game release plan for fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

19. Update on the Fallon Naval Range and Training Center and Nevada Test and Training Range – Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne – For Possible Action

The Department will provide an update regarding the legislative environmental impact statements status and timelines for Commission consideration of congressional correspondence relative to wildlife impacts.

20.* Commission General Regulation 485, Tag Transfer, Deference and Return Program, LCB File No. R022-19 - Management Analyst Kailey Taylor – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation relating to amending Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would provide direction for allowing the transfer, deference or return of tags under certain extenuating circumstances after the passage of Assembly Bill 404 of the 80th Legislative Session.

21.* Review and Consideration of Possible Changes to Waterfowl Hunt Zones for 2021 - 2025 – Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider recommendations and may choose to provide direction to the Department on possible changes to waterfowl hunting zones. The Pacific Flyway entertains changes to waterfowl hunting zones every five years, and potential changes must be noticed by July 1, 2020 to receive consideration. Any changes accepted by the Pacific Flyway will not take effect until the 2021 waterfowl seasons and would remain in effect until 2025.

22. Reports – Informational

A. Department Activity Report – Secretary Tony Wasley

Secretary Wasley will provide a report on recent Department activities.

B.* Litigation Report – Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

C. Conservation Partner Spotlight – Secretary Tony Wasley – Informational

An overview of a key conservation partner program will be shared with the Commission.

23. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee Report – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck – Informational

The Commission will hear a report on the committee's recent meeting.

B.* Fiscal Year 2021 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Committee Chairman Gil Yanuck – For Possible Action

The Commission may approve an estimated amount of \$36,526 to be added to the reported cash balance on hand for County Advisory Boards, as requested, to Manage Wildlife budgets for fiscal year 2021.

C.* Landowner Compensation Tag Committee Report – Eastern Region Supervising Game Biologist Tom Donham – For Possible Action

A report will be provided on the Committee's recent meeting held on January 24, 2020. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the protocol the Department will use in conducting counts for the Landowner Compensation Tag program.

- D.* **Wildlife Damage Management Committee Report and Fiscal Year 2021 Draft Predation Management Plan (Final Draft) – Commissioner and Committee Chairman Jon Almberg and Wildlife Staff Biologist Pat Jackson – For Possible Action**
The Commission will hear a report from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee chairman and the Commission will review the final draft of the Fiscal Year 2021 Predator Management Plan with the Department. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the plan.
- 24.* **Petition – Mr. John V. Zenz - Big Game Tag Drawing Changes – For Possible Action**
Mr. Zenz has submitted a petition to change the Big Game Tag Drawing to (1) give twenty-five percent of the overall tags to the max point holders; (2) reduce the number of choices to only three; and (3) allow only up to fifty percent of the tags in any unit to be issued to max point holders. The Commission may take action to deny or accept the petition and initiate rulemaking.
25. **License Appeal – Wade James Asher – For Possible Action**
Mr. Asher is appealing the suspension and revocation of his license for a period of five (5) years.
26. **Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Tony Wasley and Chairman Brad Johnston – For Possible Action**
The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 14 and 15, 2020, in Elko. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the time and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments as necessary at this meeting.
27. **Public Comment Period**
Persons wishing to speak are requested to complete a speaker's card and present it to the recording secretary. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

*Support material will be posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/. Additionally, support material for this meeting may be requested from the Recording Secretary Brandy Arroyo at wildlifecommission@ndow.org. In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/.

Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone (TTY) telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868. Disabled individuals in need of special services should contact the Department prior to the meeting at: wildlifecommission@ndow.org.