

Subcommittee Members: Mitch McVicars, Thomas Brunson, Martin Burdick, Chris Collis, Jani Ahlvers, Gracian Uhalde, Jr.

Department Representative: Kody Menghini
Maira Kolada

**Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners
Mule Deer Enhancement Oversight Committee
Mule Deer Enhancement Program Subcommittee
White Pine County; Management Area 11 and 12
Nevada Department of Wildlife
1218 North Alpha Street
Ely, Nevada 89301**

Monday, May 16, 2022 / 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT Minutes

1. Call to Order – Department Representative

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Jani Ahlvers, Subcommittee Member
Mitch McVicars, Subcommittee Member
Chris Collis, Subcommittee Member
Maira Kolada, Department Representative
Kody Menghini, Department Representative

In Absence:

Thomas Brunson, Subcommittee Member
Martin Burdick, Subcommittee Member
Gracian Uhalde, Subcommittee Member

2. Approval of Agenda – For Possible Action

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

Member Maira Kolada motioned to approve the agenda.

Member Chris Collis seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes (October 20, 2021) – Department Representative – For Possible Action

Member Mitch McVicars made a motion to approve the October 20, 2021 minutes.

Member Maira Kolada seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

4. Member Announcements and Correspondence – Informational

No announcement was presented.

5. Area 11 and 12 Project Proposals – For Possible Action

The Subcommittee discussed the project proposals approved by the Oversight Committee's December 15, 2021, meeting. Department Representative Menghini and Kolada gave an update on the previous year project proposal status and the Oversight Committee's ranking process. Menghini stated that the MDEP

has been a learning process for all involved. It has been revealed that the Oversight Committee was only interested in habitat projects that were NEPA-approved, which was why several of this Subcommittee's project proposals did not rank high. It was discussed that moving forward the Subcommittee needed to propose projects that were already NEPA-approved. Discussion occurred that the Subcommittee may want to use the annual field trips to look at areas without NEPA approval in order to start the process for NEPA for future years projects. Member Collis stated that looking at areas for future NEPA is a good way for non-NDOW members to give their input into the process and to expand into areas that NDOW currently is not working in. Department Representative Kolada reminded the Subcommittee that the Department had already been working on project funding for habitat projects when the MDEP was formed. The Subcommittee supported those projects but choose not to complete a project proposal since the Department was already pursuing funding. Those projects have since received funding for the current year.

Member Collis asked if the group needed to have a narrower focus on predator projects in order to get approval. Department Representative Menghini said that it would likely help to get predator projects approved. Ample discussion occurred about predator removal for the benefit of mule deer and when, where, how and what species or class of species should be targeted. Department Representative Menghini stated that Great Basin National Park will be conducting mountain lion research in the near future and that there may be opportunity for the Subcommittee to be involved, or at least learn, from the project.

6. Area 11 and 12 Mule Deer Herd Status – Department Representative – Informational

The Subcommittee discussed the herd status of the mule deer herds in Areas 11 and 12. Department Representative Menghini gave a brief overview on the current status of deer herds including fawn recruitment and population estimates. This led to further discussion about mule deer and potential projects. Member McVicars asked if collaring deer would have any benefit. Menghini stated that collaring deer would expand the Subcommittee's knowledge about movements, habitat selection, and survival rates. Collaring could provide insight into areas for habitat treatments and when and where to conduct predator removal based on survival rates and causes of mortality. It was also mentioned that collaring may help to determine body condition, pregnancy rates, and potentially causes of decreased fawn recruitment. Menghini provided season dates and quotas from 1980 to 2021 for Management Areas 11 and 12, as Member Gracian Uhalde had previously asked for this information.

7. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

8. Future Subcommittee Meetings – For possible Action

The Subcommittee discussed future meeting dates as listed:

June 24th Field Trip (time and location TBD)

July 7th at 6 pm Limiting Factors, Needs Assessment, and Project Proposals

July 21st at 6 pm Approval of Project Proposals

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.