

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Final Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location

June 23, 2022

Lander County Courthouse
Commission Chambers
50 State Route 305
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

Meeting Location

June 24 and 25, 2022

Nannini Administration Building
540 Court Street
Elko, NV 89801

The meeting will be broadcast live at the NDOW Commission YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFHgHLM0MZA2Hx7og8pFcQ>

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Friday, June 24, 2022.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88692149103?pwd=N2JidDFMS1NqWVFoUDdhMIRzS1RiZz09>

Passcode: 999836

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link Saturday, June 25, 2022.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81935290261?pwd=YWFsQWVVRbFhzb1Q2T0V3TnlRVXVmQT09>

Passcode: 537614

Meeting materials are available at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/

Public comment will be taken on each action item following Commission discussion and before any action is taken. **Persons attending virtually wishing to comment are invited to raise their virtual hands in the virtual meeting forum during the appropriate time; each person offering public comment during this period will be limited to not more than 3 minutes.** The Chair 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 prior to the meeting at wildlifecommission@ndow.org or attend and make comment during the meeting. Public comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format. All persons present are asked to sign-in, whether speaking or not.

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 which antagonize or incite others are examples of public comment that may be reasonably limited.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners present for the meeting:

Chairwoman Tiffany East
Commissioner Jon AlMBERG
Commissioner Alana Wise
Commissioner Tom Barnes

Vice Chair Tommy Caviglia
Commissioner Ron Pierini
Commissioner Shane Rogers
Commissioner Casey Kiel

Commissioner David McNinch
Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

Secretary Tony Wasley

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance:

Deputy Director Jack Robb
Executive Assistant Missy Stanford
Management Analyst Megan Manfredi
Game Division Administrator Mike Scott
Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis
Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Zahradka
Game Warden Brady Phillips
Biologist Scott Roberts
Biologist Tom Donham
Management Analyst Kailey Musso
Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kim Munoz
Fisheries Division Administrator Chris Crookshanks

Deputy Director Bonnie Long
Administrative Assistant Meghan Beyer
Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne
Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa
Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese
Conservation Educator Julie Bless
Game Warden Jake Creamer
Biologist Caleb McAdoo
Administrative Assistant Chrissie Rose
Biologist Brittny Trimble

Public in Attendance:

Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW
Worth Nelson, Lander CABMW
Jim Cooney, Elko CABMW
Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW
Larry Teske, Lander CABMW
Maureen Hullinger, self
Lori Price, self
Kathleen Ancho, self
Sonja Almborg, self
Jana Wright, self

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW
Michael Jurad, Humboldt CABMW
Matt Melarkey, Washoe CABMW
Joe Crawford, Lyon CABMW
David Flanders, Petitioner
Brett Jefferson, self
Paula Tomera, self
Jay Allison, Elko Band Council
Fred Voltz, self
Rex Flowers, self

Thursday, June 23, 2022 – 3:00pm

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairwoman East

Chairwoman East called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. Commissioner McNinch led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrative Assistant Meghan Beyer called the roll of the Commission. CABMW members in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Agenda – Chairwoman East – 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.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER BARNES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 6-0, VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA, COMMISSIONERS PIERINI AND ALMBERG ABSENT.

3. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairwoman East – 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.

No member items.

4. Argenta Wildlife Management Area Purchase – Biologist Caleb McAdoo - Informational

The Commission will tour the newly acquired Argenta Wildlife Management Area, formerly known as the Licking Ranch.

Biologist Caleb McAdoo provided a presentation to the Commission on the newly acquired Argenta Wildlife Management Area. *[A copy of the presentation can be found on the NDOW website.]*

5. Public Comment Period

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.

Kathleen Ancho, self, *[did not speak into the mic and was mostly inaudible.]*

Paula Tomera, self, stated she was happy to hear that the Department planned on maintaining the ranch as an active cattle ranch and putting up hay and stuff. She stated that when it was first bought in the late 80's there was hardly trees on the landscape and over a period of years, we have put those trees up and boy, it was a beautiful place to live and work on. She stated that efforts are appreciated.

Thursday, June 23, 2022 – Tour will begin at the close of Agenda Item #5

The Commission will tour the newly acquired Argenta Wildlife Management Area. An informational presentation will be made, but no action will be taken by the Commission. The public is invited to participate but will be required to provide their own transportation. The group will depart from the meeting location.

Friday, June 24, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88692149103?pwd=N2JidDFMS1NqWVFoUDdhMIRzS1RiZz09>

6. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairwoman East

Chairwoman East called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Vice Chair Caviglia led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Missy Stanford called the roll of the Commission. CABMW members in attendance introduced themselves.

7. Approval of Agenda – Chairwoman East – 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.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

- 8.* Approval of Minutes – Chairwoman East – For Possible Action**
Commission minutes may be approved from the May 6 and 7, 2022 meeting.

No changes noted.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 6 AND 7, 2022 MEETING AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

- 9. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairwoman East – 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.

Chairwoman East thanked the Department for an outstanding tour and dinner at the Argenta Wildlife Management Area the previous evening.

- 10. 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.

No CABMW member items.

11. Reports – Informational

- A. Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley and Division Administrators**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife activities.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Department recently lost our Human Resources Personnel Technician, Vicky Martinez. Vicky was the Department's longest tenured employee with 34 years. She will be greatly missed.

Deputy Director Bonnie Long and other Department staff participated in the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration - Advanced Grant Management Course to ensure proper spending of federal grants.

On May 19th, the Leadership Team celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Department with staff across the state where we gathered to celebrate employee appreciation and acknowledge their dedicated service. The Department seized the opportunity to plan for the future of NDOW upon the passage of Recovering America's Wildlife Act as it will be the single largest increase in financial resources in the State's history.

Governor Sisolak created a subcabinet consisting of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Nevada Indian Commission to pursue new grant opportunities through the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act and America the Beautiful challenge grant administered through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

As Director Wasley continues to wind down his AFWA presidency term, among other items, he has been working on the passage of Recovering America's Wildlife Act, the Clean Water Act, the issue of Lead in hunting and fishing equipment, and multiple efforts assessing current challenges and resources affecting Boards and Commissions.

The Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) recently passed on the House Floor and is well on its way to a Senate Floor vote in the coming months. One notable change made to the House version of RAWA is that funding would start in FY23 rather than FY22.

GAME DIVISION

Mule Deer Enhancement Program: The Mule Deer Enhancement Program continues to move forward with numerous MDEP Teams across the state already having held meetings and field trips this spring to identify and begin development of project proposals for 2022. Several teams are also making significant progress towards getting projects approved by the MDEP Oversight Committee in 2021 underway and on the ground.

Sage-grouse Work: Game Division staff continue to compile sage-grouse lek count data from across the state and implement the quality control, quality assurance process. Once this is accomplished, these data are appended to a statewide spreadsheet to update the Nevada Sage-grouse Lek Database. Currently, there are just over 1,500 lek observations (counts) that have been gathered for inclusion into the database.

Staff also continue to work with Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency personnel to complete the 2020 Greater Sage-grouse Range-wide Conservation Assessment. The final draft of this work has been completed, but there were significant revisions and comments provided by various state and federal agency personnel requiring significant time to address.

Encouragingly, Wildlife Services and the USGS have several evolving collaborations aimed at increasing the impact and efficiency of raven removal for the protection of sage grouse and other sensitive species.

Twelve raven-based manuscripts will be presented at the upcoming national Wildlife Society meeting in Spokane Washington, the majority of which are related to NDOW/USGS collaborative raven research.

Mountain Lion Investigations: NDOW continues to make advances with the USFWS to deploy GPS collars on mountain lions on the Sheldon NWR.

On a related note, data gathered from GPS marked mountain lions in the Delamar and Clover mountains in southeastern Nevada indicate the overall diet of those animals includes 33 percent feral horse, with over 250 confirmed horse kills visited.

As part of the Department's Predator Management Plan Project 46, "Investigating Potential Limiting Factors Impacting Mule Deer in Northwest Nevada", the University of Montana is currently collecting trail camera photos and expect to have over two million images to process from this previous year.

Muddy Mountain Bighorn Capture: Staff continue to work closely with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to conduct early summer Muddy Mountain desert bighorn capture for Utah's newly established nursery site for use as translocation stock in Utah.

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus: Reports continue to come in of dead rabbits in northern and western Nevada with positive RHDV2 diagnoses in several of those areas. It appears that RHDV2 continues to spread locally and may be widespread across the state. It has reportedly impacted one pygmy rabbit population in Elko County.

Eastern Region Activities: Lathrop Capurro scholarship interns Seth Wilson and Emma Glover began work in May and June, respectively. To date, the students have already participated in constructing Beaver Dam Analogs, radio collar mortality retrievals and investigations, and a large Elko Office organization and cleanup effort. Both have proven to be hardworking and enthusiastic, and the Eastern Region Game Division is looking forward to a productive summer.

Eastern region biologists have been busy conducting Ruffed grouse drum surveys in several mountain ranges of northeastern Nevada. Preliminary results of the drum counts are very encouraging with a higher-than-average number of detections occurring on several routes.

Game Division participated in an “all hands-on deck” Elko Office cleanup effort which included new carpeting, shop organization and cleanup and quite a bit of landscape work.

Biologists are spending time conducting lamb surveys and disease surveillance in several mountain ranges throughout the Eastern Region.

The effort to identify the cause of continuing spring mortalities of elk in Management Area 6 is ongoing.

Specially designed transmitters with the ability to send body temperature data and nearly real time mortality signals are being used to increase biologists’ ability to respond to not only mortalities, but also to elk exhibiting high body temps which seem to be related to this phenomenon. A few marked cow elk have been showing elevated temps this spring, but there have been no mortalities of collared animals yet this spring.

Southern Region Activities: Desert bighorn lamb surveys were conducted by following radio marked ewes in the Monte Cristo and San Antonio Ranges in central Nevada. In the Monte Cristo Range, a total of 13 ewes was observed with zero lambs. In the San Antonio Range, a total of 6 ewes was observed accompanied by five lambs. In addition to the central Nevada surveys, lamb surveys were conducted in the North Hikos where 20 ewes, 13 lambs and four young rams were observed.

A collared ewe mortality was investigated in the Volcanic Hills which turned out to be a mountain lion predation.

Southern region staff spent three days backpacking in the Arc Dome Wilderness retrieving five deer collars that were originally part of the Toiyabe Bench Mule Deer collaring and habitat use project.

A coordinated effort was made by the Department of Wildlife and the Department of Defense to retrieve and inspect collar mortalities of three bighorn sheep on the Nevada Test and Training Range.

NDOW staff is coordinating with the new Quail Forever chapter out of Las Vegas to deploy cameras on springs and small game water developments in Kane Springs Valley, the Mormon Mountains, Bullfrog Hills, and Magruder Mountain. The objectives of the effort are to assess quail and chukar densities and recruitment rates during ongoing drought conditions.

Other upland game related work in the Southern Region has consisted of Ruffed Grouse drum counts, turkey presence/absence surveys and habitat evaluations, and small game water development inspections.

Southern Region Game personnel received a report from a private landowner in Ursine about two mountain lions frequenting their property. The landowners had ring footage of the two lions and the

situation was determined to be a public safety issue by the Department and Wildlife Services was contacted to handle the situation.

Additionally, NDOW staff assisted law enforcement on two different lion call outs in the Las Vegas Valley. The first was an adult lion near Jones and Flamingo. Upon arrival, the lion was laying under a tree. While assessing the situation and attempting to find a reasonable area to dart the lion from, the animal fled, and no additional reports have been received. The second was a report of a female lion with two kittens from the North Las Vegas police department near the Aliante Casino. Upon arrival, the lion could not be relocated.

Southern Region Game Division staff assisted the Habitat Division with conducting aerial water hauls in four mountain ranges (Bare Mountains, Muddy Mountains, McCullough Mountains, and Meadow Valleys). Within the four mountain ranges, water was hauled to six guzzlers (Mr. Shameless, 5-ram, Flipper, Keli, Charles, and Poppy). Three of the six guzzlers were identified as critically low during the April maintenance flights (Keli, Charles, and Mr. Shameless), while the other three units, which are known to receive heavy use, were only at 50 percent capacity. Four of the six water developments were filled to 100 percent capacity and the remaining two were filled to between 60 percent and 70 percent due to inclement weather.

Spring surveys were performed on Lone Mountain, Unit 212. Drought conditions, along with feral equids and cattle, have degraded the vegetation and therefore have allowed for greater erosion. Water development checks have been ongoing in the Hikos, Hamlin Valley and Spring Valley. One unit was found to be dry, however water levels in the remaining units that have been checked have ranged from 70 percent - 95 percent capacity. Staff participated in multiple Desert National Wildlife Refuge sheep health working group meetings as part of the Refuge sheep management plan to discuss upcoming capture efforts.

Western Region Activities: Three seasonal employees are currently working in the Western Region in the Game Division. 2 Lathrop / Capurro interns will be assisting biologists across the region throughout the summer and one 6-month seasonal technician was hired to work out of the Winnemucca office to assist with game division activities in Humboldt, Pershing, and Washoe counties. This position will likely be utilized to conduct field investigations locating and tracking collared wildlife and responding to mortalities.

Complaints of Black bears continue to increase into the summer months with most of the issues revolving around garbage and anthropogenic attractants along the urban interface in the Carson Valley and Truckee Meadows.

Western Region Game Division personnel have been assisting other divisions with ongoing projects including Marlette Lake trout spawning, Free Fishing Day, guzzler builds and maintenance, and LE investigations. The current interdepartmental work sharing being accomplished in the Western Region is greatly increasing productivity and efficiency.

Migratory Birds: The Migratory Bird Staff Specialist attended National Dove Task Force Meetings in Ft. Collins the week of June 6. The Task Force is working on new Integrated Population Modeling (IPM) for nationwide mourning dove populations. The U.S. has approximately 194 million mourning doves and sees roughly 750,000 mourning dove hunters annually making it one of the most hunted species in the country.

HPAI: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) continues to increase across the Pacific Flyway. Multiple confirmed cases have been reported in Utah, Idaho, and California. With a recent case detected in Arizona. Four of the five adjacent states to Nevada now have positive cases. NDOW is still hopeful

that we will not be impacted in the coming months but are developing information to distribute to entities that handle wild or domestic birds.

HABITAT DIVISION

Technical Review Program - The program continues on-going administration of the Energy Planning and Conservation Fund and the Fund for the Recovery of Costs (AB 307). During the last 18 months, 58 AB 307 applications were submitted for the following energy development projects in Nevada: six (6) transmission lines, one (1) wind project, 42 solar facilities, and nine (8) "other" types of projects such as energy storage facilities. This is the largest number of energy development applications the program has received in a reporting period since the program was created. Recently the "Esmeralda Complex" was submitted for seven (7) solar projects outside of Tonopah, NV. that will all be analyzed under one single EIS. Project planning and coordination has begun for the complex, with two NDOW staff dedicated to participating in this project from both the Habitat and Diversity divisions.

Wildlife Management Areas: Many WMAs across the state will be operating under extremely low water conditions this year due to ongoing drought conditions. Many areas like Fernley, Alkali Lake and Humboldt WMA's will be dry going into the fall hunting season with Mason Valley WMA expecting to be holding water in 25 percent of its ponds. Truckee Carson Irrigation District (TCID) Board of Directors has reduced water allocations to 70 percent this year for the Carson Lake WMA. TCID Water deliveries are expected to end in September once Lahontan Reservoir reaches minimum pool, NDOW expects to have the Big Water and Rice units huntable going into the waterfowl season.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team: The SETT is preparing for the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council meeting that will be held in Elko at NDOW's regional office on June 23. There will be field tour on June 22 of nearby credit projects, following that evening with a group meal at the Star Motel. Main items to discuss will be including sage-grouse demographic data into the HQT process, a presentation by Dr. Coates, Semi Annual Report, potential funding allocation from America the Beautiful Act and SEC Bill Draft Request.

Water Development Program: Similar to the previous two years, the southern region crew has initiated emergency water hauls in several mountain ranges. Annual maintenance flights completed in April indicated that water hauls would be necessary as several critical bighorn sheep guzzlers were at or below 50 percent capacity as of early April. As of June 7th, a total of 29,800 gallons of water were delivered to six guzzlers in the Meadow Valley Range, McCullough Mountains, Bare Mountains, Muddy Mountains, and small game units in the Bullfrog Hills. Additional emergency water hauls are scheduled for the Pahrnagat Range in the next week. Water levels in guzzlers across southern Nevada are not as dire as 2020; however, early monitoring indicates significant water use at several sites in the past week, so additional water hauls in select areas across southern Nevada are very likely throughout the upcoming summer.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION DIVISION

Classroom Programming: We officially finished the statewide pilot of the Wildlife Badges K-12 Classroom program. The pilot consists of three badges that teachers can take their students through to earn. The pilot badges are Flora, Adventure, and Reptiles. We kept the pilot group small and had around 200 students' complete badges from 13 classrooms. Several classrooms completed more than one badge and two completed all three badges. We look forward to continuing to grow this program by getting more classrooms and students involved and expanding on how many badges classrooms can earn.

Events: Conservation Educators were present throughout the state at various locations for Free Fishing Day which was held on June 11th, 2022. Staffed events were held at Veterans' memorial Park in Boulder City, Sparks Marina in Sparks, Carlin Chinese Garden in Carlin, and Comins Lake in Ely.

Outreach: In June staff officially started reaching out to various groups, entities, and agencies to request their help in collaboratively building “The Nevada Wildlife Discovery Trail”, which be an interactive digital tool on our website designed to highlight locations throughout the state that will help connect people to the best places we have to learn, discover, and view Nevada’s wildlife. The first phase of this build will consist of 50 locations and will be hosted on the website, in the future staff would like to continue to add locations and focus on resources that aren’t web-based.

Conservation Education staff sent various emails to promote the big game application period, big game draw, second draw, and bonus point period. They also sent text messages and posted various social media content on these topics. With help from promotions, the Department set a record for the number of tag applications they received in year when tag application numbers are down across the country.

Media Highlights: Staff has done interviews on various topics including drought, various urban wildlife, boating, Free Fishing Day and more. Public Information Officers continue monthly segments with KOLO 8 News on different topics to educate the community on living with wildlife.

According to the service staff uses to track mentions in the news, the Department has reached an audience of 29,272 on TV, 131,373,188 on radio, and 3,379,950 in online and print news this month. Staff has distributed multiple press releases in the last month on topics including two different updates on the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act, big game quotas, boating safety, and a release announcing the Kirch Award Recipient.

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY

New Staff: The Wildlife Diversity Division is excited to welcome two new biologists to our team. Cheyenne Acevedo is our new Winnemucca biologist. She comes to the Division from the Game Division where she was the 9-month seasonal in Elko. She recently completed her master’s degree at the University of Nevada Reno focused on sage grouse in northwestern Nevada, so she is very familiar with all the incredible resources in this area.

Dane Horowski is our new Las Vegas biologist. Dane comes to NDOW from Point Reyes National Seashore where he focused on Tule Elk management. However, his experience with various species is extensive, even working as a seasonal for NDOW working on mountain beavers in the Sierras.

Both Cheyenne and Dane bring an incredible knowledge base, experience, and creativity to their positions and we are thrilled they have joined our Wildlife Diversity team.

Valley of Fire Bio-Blitz: The Second Annual Valley of Fire Bio-Blitz occurred this past April and included members of NDOW’s Con Ed and Diversity divisions as well as at least nine NDOW Volunteers. Despite the ongoing drought and increased gas prices, an estimated 125 people visited our wildlife information kiosk and 73 people participated in wildlife and plant surveys. “Animal Meet and Greets” and other wildlife presentations drew over 240 attendees, with the most popular presentations showcasing some of our most misunderstood wildlife species inhabiting Valley of Fire: venomous and non-venomous reptiles. Surveys resulted in over 250 observations of 93 different species of plants, invertebrates, mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Nearly a quarter of the vertebrates observed during this blitz are highlighted in our current Wildlife Action Plan.

Tonopah Mine Claim Marker Pull: Two Wildlife Diversity biologists pulled mine claim markers for three days in the San Antonio Mountains just north of Tonopah. Across approximately 6,000 acres, 146 claim markers were knocked down rendering them safer for wildlife. A total of 159 wildlife carcasses were recovered. 58 percent were various species of songbirds, 28 percent were lizards and 14 percent were small mammals. Notable species recovered included numerous desert horned lizards and two individual bats that could not be identified to species due to decomposition. Many thousands more claim markers

remain a hazard to wildlife in the San Antonio Mountains and elsewhere in the greater Tonopah area. Additional claim pulls are planned to build on this work. NDOW Diversity staff are also exploring other options to scale up efforts through volunteer events and/or paid interns/staff if additional funding becomes available.

Spring Wings Bird Festival: The 2022 Spring Wings Festival in the Lahontan Valley was well attended this year with 170 participants visiting five water bodies during the festival. It was a self-guided program this year with the public having the opportunity to visit any of the water bodies and birding areas including Carson Lake and Pastures. Various agency staff and volunteers greeted the public at the gate and provided information and bird related items. Volunteers assisted with locating and identifying birds using spotting scopes for visitors. The drought along with limited water at Carson Lake resulted in only one small unit holding water. Regardless of the low water conditions, shorebird numbers and diversity of species at Carson Lake were overall higher as compared to Stillwater NWR this spring.

FISHERIES DIVISION

With warmer temperatures upon us, Fisheries Division personnel and summertime seasonal Conservation Aide employees are conducting field work and survey activities throughout the state. Several newly hired fisheries biologists recently attended a week-long course pertaining to the use of Rotenone that will undoubtedly assist in the restoration and recovery of native fishes throughout the state.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program: AIS inspection stations are fully staffed for the summertime boating season. The Elko roadside AIS inspection station was recently moved to Lone Mountain Station which will be more conducive for boats exiting and entering Mountain City Highway. Heavy boat traffic and long wait times are the norm at the only remaining two-lane ramp at Hemenway Harbor at Lake Mead. In response, a noticeable increase in boating traffic has been realized at Lake Mohave. Routine quagga and zebra mussel sampling was completed at many Nevada waters with all results coming back negative.

Fish Hatcheries: The busy spring stocking season has been challenging with several job vacancies in our hatchery system. A huge thank you goes out to regional fisheries biologists throughout the state that have lent a hand at hatchery facilities and assisted in hauling fish. Catfish stocking in the urban ponds in Clark County will continue throughout the summer months. Annual warmwater fish stocking was also recently completed throughout northern Nevada.

Warmwater fish stocking was completed at many northern Nevada lakes and reservoirs in mid-May. Warmwater gamefish (Wipers, Bluegill, and Channel Catfish) are imported and stocked annually from out of state sources to augment existing populations and create new fishing opportunities throughout the Western and Eastern Regions. A huge thank you goes out to the Heritage Committee for approving this vital project to benefit Nevada's anglers.

Native Aquatic Species Program: A field tour of Locke's Ranch was attended by a diverse groups of NDOW employees across the Fisheries, Habitat, Wildlife Diversity, and Law Enforcement divisions as well as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel in late-May. Small mammal, bat, and amphibian surveys were completed, and future habitat management strategies were discussed. A total of 118 Railroad Valley Toads were captured, of which 104 were implanted with PIT tags, and 24 tagged toads were subsequently recaptured during the three-night survey. This represents what will be ongoing mark / recapture efforts to aid in understanding the seasonal distribution of the species which was recently petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Eastern Region Fisheries: Despite less than favorable wintertime precipitation, fishing at many eastern Nevada lakes and reservoirs has been fantastic throughout the spring and early summer. Results from disease sampling of Yellow Perch from the Wildhorse Reservoir came back positive for *Aeromonas septicemia*, a common bacterial disease in wild fish that becomes exacerbated with environmental

stressors such as large concentrations of fish in low water conditions. An additional fish salvage effort was completed at Cave Lake in preparation for its dam replacement. More than 300 fish consisting of Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout were transferred to Comins Lake. In cooperation with Habitat and Game Division personnel, several beaver dam analogs and post-assisted log structures were installed along Illipah Creek in White Pine County to capture sediment and reconnect the stream to its natural floodplain.

Southern Region Fisheries: Due to continued drops in lake level at Lake Mead, many sanctioned bass tournaments are now rescheduling their events to occur at Lake Mohave. Current lake elevation is roughly 1,047 feet which represents a drop of more than 30 feet since January 1. Staff are currently in the process of enrolling a landowner in Beatty under the Fish and Wildlife Service's Safe Harbor Program for Pahrump Poolfish. This program gives private landowners incentives for conserving listed species on their private lands. To compensate for some unforeseen delays, our Southern Region catfish vendor recently stocked a load of fish averaging 8-12 lb. in out Clark County urban ponds.

Western Region Fisheries: The annual Third Creek project at Incline Village was a roaring success. More than 40,000 Incline-strain Rainbow Trout eggs were collected, fertilized, and delivered to our Mason Valley Hatchery. A gill and frame net survey was completed at Rye Patch Reservoir in late-May. Although Walleye, Channel Catfish, and Wiper numbers were extremely encouraging, the reservoir currently sits at just 4.7 percent of capacity due to ongoing drought conditions. The Department's Marlette Lake Project is currently underway. This annual project is crucial in providing fertilized eggs to be hatched, reared, and stocked throughout the state. The Department is currently working with other state agencies and contractors to find a workable solution to maintain this vital fishery when the dam is scheduled for replacement next year.

DATA AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

2022 Big Game Applications and Main Draw: The Data and Technology Services Licensing & Hunt staff completed another year of record-breaking main draw application period.

Despite trending below the daily average in the number of applications during the seven weeks, we ended with a bang and had 93,055 applications submitted on the last two days. This helped push us to a five percent increase in the total number of applications.

2022 Main Draw Highlights:

- Total # of applications = 408,337 up from 393,897 in 2021
- Average app per customer = 4.84 up from 4.32 in 2021
- Total customers = 84,434
- Applications set to be alternates = 139,749
- New customers = 3,473
- Reactivated customers that didn't apply in 2021 = 8,803

Also, this year we released the draw results a full week earlier on May 20th. The overall call volume to the call center was down 10 percent over the prior year.

None of this would have been possible without the marketing efforts of ConEd's staff: Ashley Sanchez and Eric Cachinero or our dedicated DATS staff covering the 12 hours days for seven days a week for the seven weeks.

Second Draw: The second draw opened on June 6th with a total of 307 early archery mule deer tags and 127 junior mule deer tags. New for this year was offering the ability to buy bonus points for any species and we had over 2,700 bonus point only applications. The draw is scheduled to be conducted on June 22nd with results released June 24th.

Geographic Information System: The Geographic Information System staff updated a timeseries map of the distribution of bighorn sheep in North America from 1850 to 2020. They also have been working on finalizing all the maps needed for the updated State Wildlife Action Plan.

Information Technology: Finally, the Information Technology was busy in the Eastern Region with the replacement of aging equipment, the upgrade of the wireless network and installation of a new video conferencing system. They also installed new firewalls at the Gallagher Hatchery.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Wildlife Investigations: Game Wardens investigated the unlawful possession of migratory taxidermy birds (red tail hawk and owl) without a permit.

Southern Region game wardens investigated a local golf course for depredation permit violations, investigated possession of a prohibited species (snapping turtles), and assisted an investigator with Alberta Fish and Wildlife with an investigation, the subject has ties with Las Vegas.

In the Western Region a game warden investigated a possible mountain lion killing a dog at Topaz Lake.

Public Safety: Eastern Region game wardens assisted Elko County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue in attempts to locate a missing 19-year-old out of California man whose truck was found unoccupied on Highway 93 south of Wells, NV.

Southern Region Game Wardens assisted NPS with a dead body found in a barrel at Lake Mead. The barrel was exposed due to the dropping water levels and appeared to be several years old.

Eastern Region Game Wardens assisted Nevada Highway Patrol on a traffic stop. The NHP trooper had obtained a warrant after the stop and a subsequent search of the car produced 17 lbs. of methamphetamine.

Boating Safety Patrol: An Eastern Region game warden responded to Kirch Wildlife Management Area to assist stranded boaters (due to inclement weather). With assistance from some Sunnyside residents, the game warden was able to locate and get them safely off the water.

Game wardens in the Western Region investigated a fatal boat accident on Topaz Lake. A 14-year-old was operating an approximate 10' boat with three others on board (2 adults and a 4-year-old) when it capsized. One of the adults died. Only the 14-year-old and 4-year-old were wearing PFD's. Weather (wind) may have played a factor.

Game wardens worked a Search and Rescue on Lake Mead, towing to safety a 20ft vessel with six persons aboard in 40mph winds.

Southern Region game wardens investigated a vessel fire on a houseboat out of Calville Bay.

Nevada game wardens assisted Arizona Game and Fish with an Operating Under the Influence Checkpoint at Katherine's Landing, Lake Mohave.

Game wardens investigated a vessel explosion out of Rotary Park in Laughlin, NV on the Colorado River, three subjects were transported for burns.

- B. Litigation Report – Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Burkett reviewed the litigation report. He highlighted that the Commission's decision to uphold the suspension of Russ Collard for three years is going to be appealed to the district court. He explained that that lawsuit will be filed in Clark County and is called a "petition for judicial review" where the district court will decide whether your decision was arbitrary and capricious and Attorney General's office plans to defend the decision. He explained that the trial that was defended for defamation claims in February that resulted in a defense verdict has one remaining issue over whether the Department provided public records in response to a request from the plaintiff in that case, that issue has been fully briefed before the court and there will be oral argument in three weeks. He stated that he has hope that that case will be fully disposed and plan to file motions for attorney's fees. [A copy of the report can be found on the NDOW website.]

Chairwoman East asked about the status of the *United States et al vs Truckee Carson Irrigation* case.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Burkett explained that it has preceded his tenure as a DAG, but he will investigate it. He stated that the only reason that that case remains on that report is because that case has not been disposed of.

C. Mule Deer Enhancement Program Oversight Committee Report – Committee Chairman Casey Kiel and Game Division Administrator Mike Scott

A report will be provided on the Mule Deer Enhancement Program.

Committee Chairman Kiel provided a report on the June 22, 2022 Mule Deer Enhancement Oversight Committee.

Game Division Administrator Mike Scott stated that the Committee is going to ask the subcommittees to prepare a one-page, five-year plan. He explained that it would provide the Department an outline of where they want to go in the next five years, and it would allow the Department to seek compliance with NEPA and seek funding and partnerships.

12.* Biennial Upland Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 – 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 2022 and 2023.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa clarified that this is an amendment to the 2021-2022 biennial upland game release plan. He explained the one amendment is to request the addition of a sharp-tail grouse translocation project from Colorado. He explained that there has been some recent discussion with the Colorado Department of parks and wildlife, and there will be an opportunity to collect birds from there. He provided a brief presentation on the status of the existing sharp-tail grouse population in the Bull Run mountains. [A copy of the presentation can be found on the NDOW website.]

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BIENNIAL UPLAND GAME RELEASE PLAN. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALMBERG. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

13.* Finance Committee – Committee Chairman Shane Rogers– For Possible Action

A. Finance Committee Report – Committee Chairman Shane Rogers

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

Committee Chairman Rogers provided a report on the May 24, 2022 Finance Committee meeting.

B. Fiscal Year 2023 County Advisory Board Budget Requests – Committee Chairman Shane Rogers

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 2023.

Committee Chairman Rogers explained that the Committee moved to approve \$18,404 recommended for the CABMW recommended budgets.

Chairwoman East stated that a lot of the CABMWs do not have a lot of the support from their communities to pay for secretarial services or things like that to help with minutes or action reports, she asked if that was included in the requested items.

Committee member Paul Dixon explained that a third of the Clark County budget request was for administrative support. He explained that there is not any reason that any CABMWs wouldn't be able to request as part of their budget to have administrative staff.

Chairwoman East asked that she noticed that Lander did not have a reported cash balance.

Commissioner Rogers explained that their balance wasn't reported by their county clerk office.

Chairwoman East asked if that Committee talked about support for hybrid meetings to get more engagement.

Committee Chairman Rogers answered that it was discussed, and the Committee will attempt to have hybrid meetings in the future.

Commissioner Kiel asked what happens to the balance between the Governor's recommended budget and what the Committee approves.

Secretary Wasley answered that the money that funds the CABMWs and Commission is all agency money and so the laws pertaining to diversion money would require that to remain in control of the agency, so it is not going back to the general fund of the state, it would be staying within the department.

Commissioner McNinch stated that it has been a long time since he's recalled having anyone from Esmerelda County present and with Lander County do know for sure that there is not \$6,000 sitting in the county treasurer for them already.

Committee Chairman Rogers stated that the committee heard from the CABMW but not the County on their budget, so he is unaware but he does not believe there is money just sitting there.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that one of the things to notice is that the seven CABMWs that are requesting money because it's the same seven CABMWs that have been participating. He stated that CABMWs can get administrative support and help to run a virtual meeting. He believes there needs to be a way to educate the county commissions, so they know what their options are in order to have meetings. He explained that having hybrid meetings has allowed higher participation. He would like to help CABMWs figure out how to have meetings now that there are many options out there.

Joe Crawford, Lyon CABMW, agreed with Mr. Dixon's comment on having hybrid meetings, he explained that its very helpful and he thinks that COVID has impacted a lot of the CABMW participation but having

the virtual meeting is a great tool for the Commission. He stated that he hopes all future commission meetings can be hybrid.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2023 CABMW BUDGET REQUESTS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Break 10:20am – 10:35am

14.* Wildlife Heritage Committee – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – Informational

A. Wildlife Heritage Committee Report – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – Informational

A report will be provided on the recent Wildlife Heritage Committee meeting.

Committee Chairman Barnes provided a report on the June 24, 2022 Wildlife Heritage Committee meeting.

B. Heritage Project Extension Requests – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – For Possible Action

The Commission will review recommendations and may approve extension request from projects approved in previous fiscal years.

Committee Chairman Barnes stated that the Committee looked at the extensions, he explained that these are projects that have already been approved with money already allocated to them, and that they are just projects that were unable to get completed for whatever reasons in previous fiscal years. He explained that the Committee recommended approving these extension requests as presented.

Commissioner Rogers asked if these projects will be completed in fiscal year 2022 or 2023.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Mark Freese answered that anticipated completion will be in fiscal year 2023.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HERITAGE PROJECT EXTENSION REQUESTS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

C. Heritage Funding Reallocation – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – 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.

Committee Chairman Barnes explained that the Committee recommended that the remaining money from 2021 be reallocated to project 21-06 and the remaining funds from fiscal year 2022 go to project 22-02.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Freese explained that in FY 21, there was \$22,452.53 remaining from completed projects, and the Committee recommended reallocating that money to project 21-06, Middle Rock Creek Habitat Improvement Project, this project could use extra funding for remote sensing, brush planting work, the committee felt that was a valuable use of those funds. For FY 2022, there was \$507.85 remaining and the committee decided to reallocate that money to project H 22-02 Wildlife Related Restoration Seed purchase.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HERITAGE FUNDING REALLOCATION AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALMBERG. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

D. Fiscal Year 2023 Heritage Project Proposals – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – For Possible Action

The Commission will hear recommendations from the Committee and may take action to approve up to \$1,513,377.69 for projects submitted for FY 2023 funding from the committee are listed below and may be approved by the Commission.

- Wildfire-Related Restoration and Seed Purchase (\$150,000)
- Butler Basin Meadow and Spring Habitat Improvement Project (\$150,000)
- 2022-2023 Bighorn Sheep Test and Remove and Monitoring (\$148,500)
- Pole Canyon Conservation Easement (\$100,000)
- 2022-2023 Murdock Mountain Mule Deer Winter Habitat Enhancement Project (\$100,000)
- Schell Egan Land Acquisition (\$250,000)
- Nevada Spring Protection Project (\$50,000)
- Warmwater Sportfish Stocking for Large Reservoir Drought Recovery and Urban Fishing Opportunity (\$125,168)
- Morey Bench Mule Deer Crucial Winter Habitat Enhancement (\$40,000)
- Bullwhack Habitat Restoration (\$75,000)
- Corta Fire Habitat Improvement (\$40,000)
- Flint Spring Habitat Restoration (\$40,000)
- Toner Spring Habitat Restoration (\$75,000)

Proposals Submitted by Others

- Survey and Maintenance of existing big game guzzlers (\$40,000)
- Duck Creek Aspen Restoration (\$50,000)
- The interaction between restoration, foraging ecology, and mating behavior in Greater Sage-Grouse (year 3) (\$38,370)
- White Pine County Mastication and Brush Treatments (\$41,339.69)

Committee Chairman Barnes stated the Committee rereviewed the recommended projects and requests the Commission's approval.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 HERITAGE PROJECT PROPOSALS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

E. Heritage Account Principal Project Proposal – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes – For Possible Action

The Commission will hear the Schell – Egan Acquisition Heritage Account Principal Project Proposal from the Department. The Department is asking for additional funds from the Heritage Account Principal balance to acquire 5,390 acres of wildlife habitat scattered throughout the Schell and Egan Ranges near Ely, NV.

Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne explained that the 2019 Legislature provided the ability to reach into the Heritage principal balance about \$5m, there currently is just shy of \$11m in that account. He stated that this project is like the annual heritage proposal 23-06 Schell-Eagan Acquisition.

Commissioner Alberg stated that this was a great opportunity.

Vice Chair Caviglia stated that he was all for this project.

Commissioner Rogers asked if the State holds title on these lands.

Habitat Division Administrator Jenne answered that the Nevada Division of State Lands holds the titles to all state lands. He added that this \$1m and the \$250k approved in the previous project will be matched to another \$4.5m coming from the Wildlife Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) grant.

Chairwoman East asked Administrator Jenne to explain the State's property tax for public lands.

Habitat Division Administrator Jenne explained that NDOW is the only state agency that pays property taxes on the properties they hold.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, stated that the Douglas CABMW voted unanimously to support this project but questioned the statement where there were no ongoing costs associated with the acquisition and realizing the camping sites along Success Loop but last night, he had discussions with staff and they assured him that they have worked out an agreement with State Parks, so he is satisfied, and he is looking forward to the acquisition.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that his CABMW also voted unanimously to support this. We had a couple points of clarification one of them was when Alan talked about the Blue Diamond Corporation – when you get out a map and look at, we didn't know that blue diamond corporation owned Blue Diamond Oil and Blue Diamond Estates and we were doing things and Alan clarified all of that in the Committee meeting this morning. The other part came down to the maintenance of this and Alan said that long term we have allotment rights on Steptoe and that will take care of the long-term maintenance of this property. He was satisfied with the answers he received.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE HERITAGE ACCOUNT PRINCIPAL PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR THE SCHELL-EAGAN LAND ACQUISITION AS PRESENTED. SECONDED COMMISSIONER PIERINI. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

15.* Duck Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis – For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$102,000 for projects submitted for FY 2023 funding from the Duck Stamp Account.

- Western Complex WMAs Habitat Improvements (\$15,000)
- Western Complex WMA Water Control Repair (\$15,000)
- Carson Lake and Pasture Infrastructure Improvements (\$25,000)
- Licking Ranch WMA Improvement Project (\$12,000)
- Fall Flights Wetland Conservation Support (\$35,000)

Chairwoman East asked if the proposed budget for the Licking Ranch [Argenta WMA] was enough.

Habitat Division Administrator Jenne explained that this is not the only budget that the Department has. We have other funds through the Wildlife Management Area grant as well as the Habitat Conservation Fee and other sources.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he noticed that there was a comment made regarding the increase from \$10,000 to \$35,000 that is sent to the Fall Flights Wetland Conservation. He explained that Nevada has benefited from them as they have been very generous and will continue. The bang we get for this money is off the chart and our return on that is substantial.

Secretary Wasley stated that when the agency provided their first \$10,000 contribution to what was then State's Contributions to Canada and remembering being a field biologist and questioning why, then forwarding 20 years and having had the opportunity to see the benefits of it. He took a couple of minutes to talk about the Fall Flights program where states in the lower 48 provide funding to conserve wetlands north of the border.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE DUCK STAMP REQUEST OF \$102,000 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

16.* Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis – For Possible Action

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$327,200 for projects submitted for FY 2023 funding from the Upland Game Bird Stamp Account. The specific Upland Game Bird Stamp projects that may be approved at listed below:

- Corta Fire Habitat Improvement (\$17,250)
- Corners for Quail (\$25,000)
- Key Pittman Wildlife Food Plots (\$7,500)
- Greater Sage-grouse Statewide Monitoring (\$29,370)
- Upland Game Translocation and Monitoring (\$13,400)
- Licking Ranch WMA Improvement Project (\$30,000)
- Overton WMA Food Plots (\$10,000)
- Big Lake PJ Removal-Cleanup (\$5,000)
- Rangeland Restoration for Greater Sage-grouse (\$20,000)
- Western Complex WMAs Water Control Structure Repairs (\$15,000)
- Western Complex WMAs Habitat Improvements (\$10,000)
- Effects of Mineral Development on Greater Sage-grouse (\$47,500)
- Bi-State Sage-grouse Monitoring (\$25,000)
- Soil Herbicide Monitoring (\$12,180)
- Butler Basin Meadow and Spring Habitat Improvement Project (\$40,000)

Habitat Division Administrator Jenne made note that the amount in the agenda item should be \$307,200 rather than \$327,200.

Vice Chair Caviglia stated he had housekeeping items to the information in the support material.

Habitat Administrator Jenne thanked him and said they would go back and make those corrections. He stated that he wanted to address Vice Chair Caviglia's comments about the numbers in the support material, he explained that the information conflicted because the timing of when the document was released.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that there was a concern raised at his meeting regarding the monitoring project and the way it is done during the nesting period. He asked what precautions were being taken to ensure curious ravens do not get honed into the leks.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Espinosa in response to Mr. Dixon's concerns explained that the project that is being submitted here is for monitoring from a statewide perspective and that involves a lot of high-level infrared imaging from a fixed wing aircraft, so it is noninvasive. He explained that the issue last year was that there were issues with the contractor, they were shut down due to some FAA regulations and permitting that we really did not anticipate and there were some equipment issues. He explained that a portion of the project would be to hire lek technicians that monitor from a vehicle so there is not much of a raven nexus there.

CHAIRWOMAN EAST MOVED TO APPROVE THE UPLAND BIRD GAME STAMP REQUEST OF \$307,200 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

17. Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates – Secretary Wasley – Informational

The Commission has requested that the Department provide regular project updates for ongoing projects and programs as appropriate based on geography and timing of meetings. These updates are intended to provide additional detail in addition to the summaries provided as part of the regular Department Activity Report and are intended to educate the Commission and public as to the Department's ongoing duties and responsibilities.

Secretary Wasley shared the status of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA). He explained that it passed a floor vote of 231-190. He explained that RAWA is a funding mechanism for the implementation of State Wildlife Action Plans. Currently, we are waiting for a floor vote in the Senate. He stated that the White House has indicated strong support and that they are willing to sign this legislation once its approved by both houses.

Commissioner McNinch asked what the Commission can do at this year's legislative session to support RAWA.

Secretary Wasley answered that all support is welcome.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he believes the Commission needs to have this discussion and understand where they want to go and how can we help the agency with that match.

18. Public Comment Period

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 at the close of the final agenda item.

Jana Wright, self, stated that the minutes from the previous meeting were not on the website and she would like an opportunity to review those to understand what she heard correctly during the meeting.

Meeting recessed; meeting will reconvene at 9:00am on Saturday June 25, 2022.

Saturday, June 25, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81935290261?pwd=YWFsQWVVRbFhzb1Q2T0V3TnIRVXVmQT09>

19. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairwoman East

Chairwoman East called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Commissioner Almberg led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Missy Stanford called the roll of the Commission. Chairwoman East asked the CABMW members in attendance to introduce themselves.

20. Approval of Agenda – Chairwoman East – 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.

Chairwoman East moved agenda item #25 up under agenda item #21.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE NOTED CHANGE TO MOVE AGENDA ITEM #25 UP. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

21. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairwoman East – 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.

Secretary Wasley acknowledged Maureen Hullinger and her retirement from the Department. Secretary Wasley presented a plaque and a gift to departing Commissioner Almberg. Commissioners stated their thanks and commendation to Commissioner Almberg.

25.* Wayne E. Kirch 2022 Award Presentation – Chairwoman East – Informational

Chairwoman East will present the 2022 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.

Chairwoman East presented the Wayne E. Kirch award posthumously to Mr. Ron Lurie. Paul Dixon and Brett Jefferson accepted the award on Mr. Lurie's behalf. Paul Dixon stated that he planned to donate the award to the Nevada Department of Wildlife's Southern Region office where some of Mr. Lurie's memorabilia is currently.

22. 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.

Michael Jurad, Humboldt CABMW, stated that he would like to receive Commission support material in hard copy in the mail. He stated that its easier for him, his CABMW and others who may not have access to computers and printers.

23. Commission General Regulations – For Possible Action/Adoption - Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission General Regulation 501, NAC 502.385, Tag Transfer – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider adopting Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502.385 that would allow the transfer of a game tag to a non-profit organization and determine the status of the tag if the Department is notified of the tag holder's death. This regulation was created after the passage of Assembly Bill 89 of the 81st Legislative Session.

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi provided a brief description of the regulation, explaining that a tag could be transferred to a qualified non-profit organization and given the ability to “facilitate that tag being awarded to a person with a life-threatening medical condition or a youth 16 years or younger whose household income is at the designated level signifying poverty.” The bill also allows for the transfer of a Big Game tag to a designated beneficiary should the original tag holder become deceased, treating “both the original tag holder and the recipient of the tag transfer as if both the individuals were successfully awarded the tag in respect to bonus point cost and applicable waiting periods.”

Deputy Director Jack Robb referenced Assembly Bill 89, explaining that it included a provision that allowed for the deferral of a tag in a catastrophic or life-changing event “after drawing a tag, before getting into the field.” The timeframe allowing for deferral was between the hours of 5pm the day before (last possible minute that tag could be returned) hunting season begins, to the minute the season opens the following day. He explained that this hasn't worked well, that there have been situations where individuals have had these life-changing events occur, but due to it occurring outside of the small timeframe designated, they were unable to help these individuals. He provided a current example, a Heritage Auction Tag holder, who paid \$175,000, was in an accident and sustained injuries that would prevent him from utilizing his tag. His tag starts July 1st. He reminded the Commission that during the legislative process, the Department had wanted the language to allow for a wider window for granting a referral in these types of cases. Currently the Department does not have the authority to do that.

Deputy Director Robb continued by stating that the discussion had in Yerington was focused on a small group who were “gaming the system.” He stated that the Departments purpose is to make sure that people are not able to do this and that in “excluding the people that may game the system, we've really taken away an opportunity for people that really deserve that opportunity, to earn that opportunity through bonus points and applications and draws. The hope is that the Commission will consider expanding that period beyond the last day before the hunt and make it, uh, pretty much from the day they draw the tag to the hunt.” He stated that the Department would present each instance of deferral that occurs to the Commission.

Management Analyst Manfredi provided the suggested change in language in section two, new subsection four. She explained that the words “after the last day that the holder is entitled to return the tag pursuant to NAC 502.422, but” would be removed and that “pursuant to NAC 502.422” would be added into language earlier in the section.

Vice Chair Caviglia recused himself due to being familiar with the individual with the Heritage Tag mentioned earlier by Deputy Director Robb.

Commissioner Almberg voiced support for the original intent, even before legislation when it was part of the mentor program.

Commissioner Kiel also voiced support for Commissioner AlMBERG's comments and asked whether the change to the regulation today would rectify the situation with the Heritage Tag holder or would it need to go back to LCB.

Deputy Director Robb responded stating that it would need to go back and get approved by LCB once the Commission acted upon the change. He mentioned that because this catastrophic event happened before the first day the season began that the situation could be rectified.

Commissioner Wise voiced support for this change and then asked a question about a catastrophic event happening after the first day of the season but before the planned hunt, and if there is any accommodation for that.

Management Analyst Manfredi responded that as it is written the tag holder would forfeit the tag due to the fact that NDOW would not be able to determine whether or not "it was utilized" and the tag would have needed to be returned before the first day of the hunting season.

Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett stated that after discussing this issue with Director Wasley and Deputy Director Robb, both of which were in agreement, he recommended to them that the Department should come back to the Commission and request that it "specifically recognize the authority for this individual to defer the tag, that way it's transparent, it's clear" and that the Commission has the authority to do this. He continued stating that changing the regulation today would not fully rectify the situation and that the Commission would need to put it on the agenda as an item and approve it, which he would recommend.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 501, NAC 502.385, TAG TRANSFER AS PRESENTED WITH THE NOTED CHANGES IN SECTION TWO, SUBSECTION FOUR. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALMBERG. MOTION PASSED 8-0. VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA ABSTAINED.

B.* Commission General Regulation 505, NAC 502.4215, First Come First Served Prevention of Unfair Advantages – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider adopting NAC 502.4215 that would allow for the suspension of a person from the First Come First Served program for attempting to create an unfair advantage to obtain a big game tag.

Management Analyst Manfredi provided a brief explanation of CGR 505.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW explained that Douglas County CAB voted to approve this regulation "only if the penalty for first time violators were increased." He went on to say that the current penalty was "just a slap" and that there needed to be "more of a deterrent." He added that first time violators should "be ineligible for the draw for two or three years."

Michael Jurad, Humboldt County CABMW, asked how the department would know if someone was trying to create an unfair advantage and referenced an acquaintance that was able to create a program that did just that.

Management Analyst Manfredi responded that she could not divulge specifics, however, she did point out that Kalkomey, NDOW's licensing vendor, did have ways through software that provides protection

and prevents an array of possible activities someone might use to create an unfair advantage and provided a few examples.

Chairwoman East asked whether there were penalties.

Management Analyst Manfredi explained the penalty for adding and dropping something from the cart, that there was a “seven-day cool down”, essentially a freeze on the account, once someone adds a tag to their cart. She noted to only grab what you want to grab.

Commissioner Rogers inquired about the penalty if it is determined that someone was trying game the system.

Management Analyst Manfredi explained that the penalty would be a suspension for the rest of the year and if it is done repeatedly, it will be suspension for life.

Commissioner Rogers agreed that penalties are a “key piece” to this process and reiterated the penalties that Management Analyst Manfredi just discussed.

Management Analyst Manfredi clarified that this was only for the FCFS program, that they could still participate in other draws.

Chairwoman East asked Mr. Burnside if his CAB had any suggested penalties for this.

Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW, answered that he didn’t realize it was only for the FCFS program, that the violator should be suspended from all draws.

Commissioner McNinch asked if there was any notification on the webpage to those purchasing tags that they could be subject to these penalties.

Management Analyst Manfredi explained that it was most likely possible to have the Kalkomey provide this information, however she would have to verify with the company before committing to that or speaking on their behalf.

Commissioner McNinch encouraged doing a few things like this on the front end as a clear warning.

Vice Chair Caviglia suggested Kalkomey utilize a pop-up for that specific purpose.

Chairwoman East clarified that language in the regulation referred solely to the FCFS program and remarked that the term “electronic system could be misconstrued.”

Management Analyst Manfredi replied that it applied only to the FCFS program.

Commissioner Pierini asked if attorneys take a look at this language or if it’s just those in the office that do that.

Management Analyst Manfredi replied that the LCB employees draft the language but if they have questions, they ask the department to explain what the intention is with the language or regulation.

Commissioner Pierini clarified that he wanted to make sure we are reaching out to those parties that would provide input in these situations.

DAG Burkett explained the process that happens when writing regulations, the communication that goes on between parties, and what his role is in it. He did point out that the language is not always clear, and that the Department sometimes interprets a regulation to provide authority to administer certain penalties even though it may not be expressly written, which is the case with the regulation being discussed.

Deputy Director Robb explained why it was important to get a regulation approved today that provides this type of language, that this was the last meeting to get something on the books for this year and that the process will be monitored and discussed every year as NDOW faces new challenges to the system.

Chairwoman East agreed with Deputy Director Robb that this regulation “gives the Department some teeth” and that as things change and challenges arise, they can be addressed on a continual basis.

Commissioner Rogers added that the conversation would continue and that providing something right now is important and that he was in agreement with Commissioner McNinch to provide some kind of notice to applicants that there are certain penalties they could be subject to.

Commissioner McNinch explained that he was good with approving the regulation as long as the Commission would revisit it next year to improve it if necessary.

Commissioner AlMBERG agreed with everything said.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 505, NAC 502.4215, FIRST COME FIRST SERVED – PREVENTION OF UNFAIR ADVANTAGES AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

C.* Commission General Regulation 507, LCB File No. R045-22 - Petition Process – Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will consider adopting changes recommended by the APRP Committee to NAC 501.195. This regulation was approved by the Committee at their March meeting and heard for a workshop by the Commission in May. CGR 507 will now be considered by the Commission for possible adoption.

Management Analyst Manfredi provided a brief description of CGR 507.

Paul Dixon, CLARK CABMW, pointed out that his CAB interpreted section one B to discourage the petitioner based on the current language and wanted clarification that the petitioner isn’t required to understand the legal basis, that it implied it was the “duty of the petitioner.” His CAB doesn’t “believe they will have that capability.”

Jim Cooney, Elko CABMW, suggested that in section four where it states, “within 30 days after a petition is submitted” to add “or the next scheduled meeting.”

Commissioner McNinch addressed both comments. He stated that they don’t expect the petitioner to know all the nuances of the law, but that language encourages the petitioner to “look into the legal authority” and utilize the resources available like the Department who can help direct them where to go rather than doing the work for the petitioner. He then addressed the Elko CAB’s comment explaining that many petitioners have often wanted to wait until the Commission meeting was closer to their city, which could be a few meetings, which is why they didn’t put the 30 days language in the regulation.

Management Analyst Manfredi agreed with what Commissioner McNinch said and explained that the Department, as a courtesy to the petitioner, will work with them.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 507, NAC 501.195, PETITION PROCESS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

24. Commission Regulations – For Possible Action/Adoption – Public Comment Allowed

A.* Commission Regulation 22-12, 2022-2023 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits – Wildlife Staff Specialists Shawn Espinosa and Russell Woolstenhulme – For Possible Action

The Commission will establish and may vote to amend regulations for upland game birds and mammals as well as furbearers for the 2022-2023 season. This regulation may also include modifications to the fall wild turkey seasons for 2022 and spring wild turkey seasons for 2023.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Shawn Espinosa recommended approving sections of this regulation rather than as a whole and Chairwoman East agreed.

Staff Specialist Espinosa provided a description of youth seasons recommendations.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTION TITLED YOUTH SEASONS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PIERINI. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa provided a description of sage-grouse recommendations.

Commissioner Kiel asked why the sage-grouse possession limit was lowered from four to two.

Staff Specialist Espinosa responded that it is a “mitigation measure” that will prevent over harvest in certain areas. The Department is currently taking a conservative approach.

Michael Jurad, Humboldt CABMW, asked what the estimated population is in hunt area in 034.

Staff Specialist Espinosa responded that it was roughly 200-250 and added that horses and drought have “taken a toll.”

COMMISSIONER BARNES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTION TITLED SAGE-GROUSE AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KIEL. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa provided recommendations for Dusky, Sooty, and Ruffed grouse, Snowcock, Chukar and Hungarian Partridge, California Quail, Gambel’s Quail, Mountain Quail, Pheasant, White-tailed rabbits, and Cottontail rabbits. He noted that all pygmy rabbit seasons would be closed.

Commissioner Pierini commented that he appreciated the Department’s hard work and that he liked what was recommended.

Larry Teske, Lander CABMW, commented on the lower base populations for Chukar and stated that his game board recommended shortening the Chukar season.

Staff Specialist Espinosa acknowledged Mr. Teske's concerns and provided an explanation of why the Department decided not to shorten the season.

Commissioner Pierini commented that he was glad to see that upland game and waterfowl dates are occurring at the same time to limit congestion and increase safety.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTIONS TITLED DUSKY, SOOTY, AND RUFFED GROUSE, SNOWCOCK, CHUKAR AND HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE, CALIFORNIA QUAIL, GAMBEL'S QUAIL, MOUNTAIN QUAIL, PHEASANT, WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBITS AND COTTONTAIL RABBITS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PIERINI. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa directed attention to page seven in the Wild Turkey portion of CR 22-12, noting that the last sentence in the third section should read "The release date will be on or before the First Friday in March. He then provided recommendations for the Wild Turkey section.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTION TITLED JUNIOR WILD TURKEY WITH THE NOTED CHANGES TO SPRING TURKEY APPLICATION PROCEDURES ON PAGE SEVEN AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALMBERG. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa read recommendations for the 2022-2023 Wild Turkey Spring and Fall hunts.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTIONS TITLED WILD TURKEY 2023-2024 SPRING – LIMITED ENTRY – HUNTS 0131 & 0132 AND WILD TURKEY 2023-2024 SPRING – LIMITED ENTRY – HUNTS 0135 & 0137 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa read recommendations for Falconry season

No public comment.

CHAIRWOMAN EAST MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTIONS TITLED FALCONRY SEASON AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Staff Specialist Espinosa read recommendations for furbearing animals.

Commissioner McNinch asked "other than a single exception for taxidermy sealing if it was one bobcat per person per year.

Game Division Administrator Mike Scott answered "yes, one bobcat per person per year."

Commissioner Kiel asked to clarify that it had to be a resident and required a trapping license to obtain a pelt and Staff Specialist Espinosa answered in the affirmative.

Secretary Wasley explained that the regulation language intended to address a concern by taxidermists and tanneries pertaining to violating state or federal law considering that bobcats are a CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) species and more heavily regulated.

Paul Dixon Clark County CABMW, asked why Ely was not one of the offices where pelts could be sealed and questioned whether the bobcat season was middle of the road

Michael Jurad, Humboldt County CABMW asked for the bobcat season to open December 1st through the last day of February in Humboldt County if not the whole state.

Joel Blakeslee, Nevada Trapper's Association supports the Department's recommendations. He noted that the price for bobcats appears to be cut in half due to the Ukraine/Russia war, an area where they are typically purchased from, and that there would probably be less trappers out this season.

Chairwoman East asked Staff Specialist Espinosa his thoughts on Humboldt's request.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Russel Woolstenhulme explained that county lines were somewhat blurred when placing traps out on the range which creates a problem between trappers and law enforcement. He appreciated Mr. Jurad's request but declined to support it currently. He also offered that it would be better option in the future to implement something like that throughout the state rather than a county.

Chairwoman East asked about Paul Dixon's question regarding Ely as a sealing office.

Administrator Scott explained that it had to do with being able to account for seals and that the Department wanted to start off with just the three main offices.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-12 UPLAND GAME AND FURBEARER SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SECTIONS TITLED FURBEARING ANIMALS AND BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

B.* Commission Regulation 22-05, Amendment #1, 2023 Heritage Tag Vendors – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes and Management Analyst Megan Manfredi – For Possible Action

The Commission will review the Wildlife Heritage Committee's recommendations regarding Heritage Tag Vendor Proposals for 2023 and may take action on the proposals.

Management Analyst Megan Manfredi introduced CR 22-05 Amendment #1.

Commissioner Barnes reiterated that he supported all recommendations.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSION REGULATION 22-05 AMENDMENT #1 2023 HERITAGE TAG VENDORS AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BARNES. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

26. Petition – Mr. David Flanders – Use of Air Rifles - For Possible Action

Mr. Flanders has submitted a petition to allow Air Rifles to hunt. The Commission may take action to deny or accept the petition and initiate rulemaking.

Chairwoman East asked Mr. Flanders how his request for petition came about.

Mr. Flanders explained that he lost his hunting privileges years ago being a dumb kid and that he would like to get back into it as he has always loved hunting. He stated that he understands that Nevada requires a lot of energy from any rifle to hunt big game and there is now the technology to do that with these guns, so he wanted to bring it in front of the Commission.

No public comment.

Commissioner McNinch explained to Mr. Flanders that he needed to be brought up to speed on this. He asked Mr. Flanders to explain air guns and some of the information in the packet that he provided to try to get a better understanding.

Mr. Flanders explained that any rifle in Nevada must produce a 1000-foot pounds of energy at 100 yards and so that's a tall order for any air gun. He explained that there is now .72 caliber air rifle with 4500 PSI that we charge it through a scuba tank, and it can produce 1500-foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. He stated that air guns can now carry the energy downrange.

Commissioner Kiel asked if the Department had any background on what the threshold was developed on.

Mr. Flanders stated that he spoke with Deputy Director Robb regarding how the energy standards came about. He stated that Deputy Director Robb advised him that there were issues with arrows not having enough draw weight to properly penetrate the animal for a humane kill.

Vice Chair Caviglia asked if the petitioner if he was asking to add air guns to an any legal weapon hunt for any species in Nevada.

Mr. Flanders responded yes, and that there is air gun hunting allowed in Nevada for small game.

Vice Chair Caviglia asked Mr. Flanders where he got his numbers and stated his concerns with the gun and believes there will be an enforcement issue.

Mr. Flanders stated that to his knowledge that there is only one air rifle in production that can achieve these numbers so the hunter's application would determine the burden of proof of what weapon they would use to do the hunting. it would have to be this model of air gun.

Secretary Wasley stated that he wanted to address this at three levels. First, the petition process itself. He explained that the Department only assists the petitioner in a general sense. Second, there have been national concerns regarding the fact that these weapons do not contribute to the federal excise tax. Third, he explained that Nevada has relatively rigorous standards required for the weapons that are allowed to be used for hunting.

Game Warden Captain Jake Kreamer thanked Mr. Flanders for bringing the petition forward and offered conversation on it outside of the meeting if he would like. Captain Kreamer produced extensive information regarding the state and federal definitions of a rifle and a firearm. He explained scope, energy, and velocity limitations. He explained that from a department standpoint, it would take changing NRS and NAC as well as Commission policy to accommodate a weapon class of this type.

Chairwoman East asked if the Commission were to include this type of gun as a weapon class how would it pertain to those who have lost their hunting privileges.

Captain Kreamer answered that this weapon would be allowable if someone has a felony on their record as its not defined as a firearm.

Vice Chair Caviglia asked if someone with a felony can hunt archery.

Captain Kreamer answered yes. He offered to sit down with Mr. Flanders if he wanted to have further discussions.

Commissioner McNinch stated he was intrigued and would like to learn more about ballistics. He stated that this weapon not contributing to the federal excise tax bothers him. He explained that he would not move forward with the petition but appreciated the conversation it opened.

Commissioner Wise thanked that petitioner for bringing this forward. She stated that this opened her mind and eyes to all the possibilities and what we are doing or allowing with air rifles and where technology is going. She stated that for her it brings to light some questions about small game being allowed to be hunted by air rifles already and that brings her back to whether we need to actually have a discussion about evaluating the NRS and dealing with the things that are already happening and the advancing technologies that are going to be coming out and look forward to where these things are going and whether or not we need to have these discussions moving forward.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he had his reservations and he agreed with Commissioner Wise. He stated that he has more questions now than he had before the meeting and at this point, he is not ready to move forward with this yet.

Commissioner AlMBERG stated that he was not ready to move forward with this petition. He stated that maybe minimum energy needs to be discussed.

Commissioner Rogers echoed the comments of the other Commissioners and after listening to what some of the numbers really means, he was not comfortable moving forward with the petition.

Chairwoman East stated that she agreed with the Commissioners. She explained that she was surprised at the number of states that do allow air rifle hunting and the species it was allowed for. She encouraged Mr. Flanders to have discussions with Captain Kreamer and others to look at this in the future.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO DENY THE PETITION. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR CAVIGLIA. MOTION PASSED 9-0.

27. Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Wasley and Chairwoman East – For Possible Action

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 19 and 20, 2022. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, time, and meeting location at this time. The chairwoman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

Chairwoman East thanked the Commission for allowing her to lead the commission for the last couple of years. She explained at the next Commission meeting a new Chair will be elected and so she wanted to take the time now to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve at their chair.

- The next Commission meeting is August 19th & 20th in Tonopah
- Elect new Chair & Vice Chair
- WAFWA Annual Conference Report
- CABMW Workshop
- Public Works Contracts Report
- CGR 502 – Junior Hunt regulation
- APRP Meeting & report
- Application Hunt Draw Report

28. Public Comment Period

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.

No public comment.

Meeting adjourned 11:53am.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at <https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/>. Support material for this meeting may be requested from the Recording Secretary at (775) 688-1599 or 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 <https://www.ndow.org/events/june-2022-commission-meeting/>.

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