

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting DRAFT Minutes

Meeting Location

Tonopah Convention Center
301 Brougner Ave.
Tonopah, NV 89049

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, August 19, 2022.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88371066341?pwd=bkhWRFNTVVpwWTBCd0U0bGVwUmltZz09>

Passcode: 523363

If you wish to Make public comment, please use this link for Saturday August 20, 2022.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906696012?pwd=ZGhIUjVaOXdpdVVHRVRRRzVFT3U0Zz09>

Passcode: 285238

Meeting materials are available at: <https://www.ndow.org/events/august-2022-commission-meeting/>

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:

Chairman Tommy Caviglia

Commissioner Ron Pierini

Commissioner Alana Wise

Commissioner Tom Barnes

Secretary Tony Wasley

Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

Vice Chair Shane Rogers

Commissioner David McNinch

Commissioner Tiffany East

Commissioner Casey Kiel

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance:

Deputy Director Jack Robb

Executive Assistant Missy Stanford

Management Analyst Kailey Musso

Game Warden Brady Phillips

Biologist Tom Donham

Deputy Director Bonnie Long

Administrative Assistant Meghan Beyer

Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne

Game Warden Brian Bowles

Biologist Matt Flores

Biologist Michael West
Program Officer Alejandra Medina
Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kim Munoz
Fisheries Division Administrator Chris Crookshanks
Habitat Biologist Tracy Kipke

Conservation Educator Bobby Jones

Public in Attendance:

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW
Steve Robinson, Washoe CABMW
Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW
Gene Green, Carson CABMW
John Terras, Nye CABMW
Fred Voltz, self
Rex Flowers, self
Carl Erquiaga, self
Jaina Moan, self

Matt Melarkey, Washoe CABMW
Chrissie Pope, Nye CABMW
Coby Rowe, Washoe CABMW
Paul Howell, Douglas CABMW
Sam Jeffrey, Nye CABMW
Jana Wright, self
Stephanie Meyers, self
Mike Ryan, self
Keyton Granguth, self

Friday, August 19, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88371066341?pwd=bkhWRFNTVVpwWTBCd0U0bGVwUmltZz09>

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 8:00am, Commissioner Pierini led the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Missy Stanford called the roll of the Commission. Chairwoman East made note of the CABMW members in attendance.

2. Election of Officers – For Possible Action

In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that his Chair supported the nomination of Tommy Caviglia for Chair.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO ELECT TOMMY CAVIGLIA AS CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOTION PASSED 7-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES ABSENT.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO ELECT SHANE ROGERS AS THE VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CAVIGLIA. MOTION PASSED 7-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES ABSENT.

3. Approval of Agenda – Chairperson – 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 EAST MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PAST 7-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES ABSENT.

4.* Approval of Minutes – Chairperson – For Possible Action

Commission minutes may be approved from the June 23, 24 and 25, 2022 meetings.

Commissioner East noted changes to the meeting June 23, 24, and 25, 2022 meeting minutes.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 23, 24, AND 25, 2022 MEETING MINUTES WITH THE NOTED CHANGES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST MOTION PASSED 7-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES ABSENT.

5. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairperson – 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 stated that he would like to thank past Chairwoman East for her dedicated service, support, and leadership to the Commission. He gave some meeting logistics in regard to the field tour and upon the return to the venue he and Deputy Director Robb will not be back to finish the meeting. He announced that Cory Lytle was named for the Outstanding Citizen Wildlife Contributor of the Year Award at the recent WAFWA conference.

6. 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.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that he wanted to discuss the new volunteer hours tracking implemented by NDOW as a result of a federal audit. He has heard from concerns from several NGO's about the additional burden of the changes even though NDOW is the beneficiary of the NGO's work and getting the volunteer hours. He wondered if NDOW could make the process simpler for tracking volunteer hours.

Friday, August 19, 2022 – Tour will begin at the close of Agenda Item #6

A presentation on energy development in Nevada will be made prior to a field tour. The Commission will tour two energy sites in the Tonopah area; Tonopah Solar and the Esmeralda Solar Complex, with informational discussion on energy development and project specifics. 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. The meeting will reconvene at the Tonopah Convention Center at the close of the field tour.

Wildlife Staff Specialist Jasmine Kleiber provided a presentation on Wildlife and Energy planning. *[A copy of the presentation can be found on the NDOW website.]*

The field tour began at 8:48am, the meeting reconvened at 1:15pm.

7. Reports – Informational

A. **Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) 2022 Annual Conference – Secretary Wasley and Commissioner McNinch**

Reports from the 2022 conference will be provided.

Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne and Commissioner McNinch gave a report on the recent WAFWA conference.

B. **Department Activity Report – Secretary Wasley and Division Administrators**

A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife activities.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

As Director Wasley enters the last month of his AFWA presidency, he continues to work on many important issues including sage-grouse, horses, and diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. He also provided a virtual introduction at a Fish Passage Partners Workshop laying the groundwork for increased collaboration and the importance of building an understanding and relationship with nontraditional partners, as well as sharing information between state, federal, tribal and NGO partners.

The Director's Office and Fiscal Services Section are working diligently to finalize the next biennial budget for submission to the Governor's Finance Office by September 1st along with our budgetary Bill Draft Requests (BDRs).

Also due on September 1st is the Department's Language Access Plan, as required by *Senate Bill 318 of the 2021 Legislative Session*. Department staff have been working meticulously on the plan to incorporate the many provisions of the bill. The Plan is currently on the Department's website to acquire public input until Monday, August 22.

The Department recently closed an audit with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with minimal findings. The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Manager stated that NDOW performed extremely well through the audit process, and the fact that less than one percent of NDOW's \$84 M in expenditures were questioned, was exemplary.

When one door closes another opens...The Department was recently notified that the Executive Branch Audit Committee had selected NDOW for an audit to be conducted by the Governor's Finance Office, Division of Internal Audits (DIA). The DIA indicated that they will first conduct a fiscal review, then a programmatic review, while simultaneously conducting a review of our Biennial Report on Internal Controls and our Self-Assessment.

The Governor's Office requested state agencies work together on grant proposals for submission to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as part of the America the Beautiful Challenge Grant. The Department of Wildlife led an effort on a proposal for a One Health Plan for the State of Nevada. The Department would also be a partner in two other proposals submitted by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The Department, along with the Governor's Office, met with the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Laura Daniels-Davis, to discuss sage-grouse and the forthcoming planning effort as it pertains to mineral withdrawals and focal areas.

Department staff attended the WAFWA Summer Meeting in Oklahoma City. A report on that conference will be given later on the agenda, but we wanted to be sure to recognize Lincoln County's Cory Lytle for

winning the Outstanding Citizen Wildlife Contributor Award. This award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions in the realm of fish and wildlife management, protection, and/or enhancement and has done so largely on their own initiative through dedication of their time, talents, and treasure.

GAME DIVISION

Bighorn Management: Between June 26th and 28th, the Department conducted helicopter captures for bighorn sheep in the Muddy Mountains. This was the first capture effort as part of a collaboration with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) to establish a nursery herd of their own to use for reintroductions and augmentations in Utah. Thirty-two sheep were captured (28 ewes, 4 rams) and thirty-one sheep were transported to Utah (one ewe was euthanized due to capture-related injuries). Body condition of most animals were in the good-to-fair range, and the helicopter crew reported seeing large groups of sheep and many lambs. The sheep were transported to Utah following capture and held in trailers at the release site until their *M. ovi* results came back. Samples were flown to WADDL in Washington to get 24-hour turnaround. All sheep were PCR and ELISA negative, so they were released into their 1,800-acre enclosure at Skyrider Wilderness Ranch in Tabiona, UT. The test results indicate that the sheep in the Muddy Mountains remain isolated from *M. ovi*, and they can serve as a source herd for future translocations within and outside Nevada. Up to 100 total desert bighorn sheep have been requested by UDWR and approved by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners over the next several years.

Elk Management: Game division staff distributed an elk planning letter to Local Elk Plan Coordination and Oversight Teams, as well as various stakeholders, informing them of changes to COT Meeting requirements, as well as proposed statewide elk plan revisions. Game Division is assimilating an internal team to begin revisions to the Statewide Elk Species Mgt Plan. When complete, we will bring revisions to the commission for initial feedback, followed by an opportunity for public input. Game staff specialist Cody McKee has been invited as a speaker and panelist for an elk management symposium in Bozeman, Montana. A coalition comprising various stakeholders requested an overview of Nevada's programs for addressing elk on private land. Nevada's elk incentive is widely viewed as the model program for encouraging tolerance of elk on private property.

Waterfowl and Upland Game: Pacific Flyway meetings are being held during the week of August 22nd. This is the Regulatory meeting and new frameworks will be set to establish waterfowl regulations for the 2022-2023 season.

Staff have assembled the upland game harvest data from the 2021-2022 season and will develop harvest estimates for all species for the first time since 2017. Preliminary results suggest that harvest, and days spent in the field hunting upland game, have decreased substantially since the last time these estimates were calculated.

Wildlife Health: Wildlife health is currently preparing for CWD sampling during hunting seasons. This includes piloting a hunter self-sampling program. Emails will be sent out to hunters asking them if they would like to participate in the program.

Wildlife health assisted the Nevada Department of Agriculture in the depopulation of a domestic mixed poultry flock with HPAI. This was the first HPAI case in the state. HPAI was also detected in a Great Horned owl in western Nevada. Additional HPAI surveillance is ongoing.

Workshops and Symposiums: Game staff specialist Schroeder attended the North American Congress for Conservation Biology in Reno in late July and presented a talk on migration corridors and policy in Nevada during a session titled 'Wildlife 'Wins' in Nevada, From Projects to Policy in the Silver State'.

Several staff and regional biologists are planning to attend the 29th Biennial Pronghorn Workshop in Deadwood, South Dakota in late August of 2022.

HABITAT DIVISION

Tech Review: 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 legislative reporting period beginning January 1, 2021, 62 energy project review applications were submitted for the following energy development projects in Nevada: eight (8) transmission lines, one (1) wind project, one (1) geothermal project, 43 solar facilities, and nine (9) “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, and program staff continue to dedicate significant resources to assessing impacts to Nevada’s wildlife and habitat that may result from these projects, and offer recommendations on how to avoid, minimize, or mitigate for those impacts.

Water Development: At the end of July, the southern region water development crew conducted aerial surveys to monitor water levels at critical desert bighorn sheep guzzlers. Three days of flights inspected guzzlers in several mountain ranges, including the Bare Mountains, Specter Range, McCullough Mountains, Muddy Mountains, Delamar Mountains, and throughout the Desert National Wildlife Refuge. In general, recent monsoonal activity has helped bolster and maintain water levels in many mountain ranges. There are a few guzzlers where water levels are relatively low and will be re-checked in early to mid-August to determine if supplemental water is needed.

At the end of July and early August, the northern water development crew conducted aerial inspection surveys across western and northwestern Nevada. Several hundred guzzlers were inspected, and maintenance needs were recorded so crews can continue to prioritize maintenance work.

Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team: In July, the SETT met with a smaller subset (i.e., Pete Coates and Environmental Incentives) of the Science Workgroup at the SEP’s office to discuss the necessary model approaches and mechanics to develop a model that can analyze and mitigate for debit projects that are anticipated to cause lek extirpation and/or have population level consequences. Both short-term and long-term solutions were discussed; however, the discussion mainly focused a long-term solution.

The SETT is preparing for the upcoming SEC meeting that will be held in Carson City or Reno (TBD) on September 1, 2022. Main topics will be continuing the discussion on updated the Habitat Quantification Tool, updating the Strategic Action Plan and a general update related to credit and debit projects. Additionally, Pete Coates will discuss USGS’s science updates on Ravens and impacts to sage-grouse. APHIS will also be present to talk about increase Raven take permits and applications. FWS will also be invited to talk about the EIS procedures necessary to increase Raven take permits.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION DIVISION

Classroom Programming: A fall newsletter will be going out to teachers to encourage them to sign-in and register for our fall classroom program offerings that include:

- Know Your Nevada – 4th grade state symbol in-classroom program
- Nevada Knockout – K-12 virtual program
- Wildlife Badges – K-12 virtual program
- Pilot for Bird Trunk (Middle School) – Middle school Community Science birding program in partnership with local Audubon chapters
- Pilot for Unpacking Urban Wildlife (High School) – High School Urban Wildlife program highlighting living with wildlife and projects for highschoolers to develop digital media skills
- National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) – K-12 in-school PE program

Events: The Nevada Department of Wildlife received five national awards on Wednesday, July 27th during the annual Association for Conservation Information (ACI) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. ACI is a non-profit organization of natural resources communicators and educators. The organization is made up of professionals representing state, federal and Canadian wildlife conservation and parks and natural resource agencies as well as private conservation organizations. Only a handful of states out of a large number attending went home with awards.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife received:

- 1st place for Regulations Publications (Big Game Seasons and Applications)
- 2nd place for Education (Know Your Nevada Program)
- 2nd place for Communications Campaign - Educational (Boat Safe Nevada)
- 2nd place for Best Use of Humor (Lifejacket social media post)
- 3rd place for Website (ndow.org).

Herpetology Bioblitz in the Eastern Region was successful and volunteer coordinators from Eastern Region and Southern Region were there to assist with the 25 volunteers that attended. 700 volunteer hours were collected during the event.

Southern Region staff hosted the Nevada Office of Minority Health (NOMHE) at our Pepper Lane office to exchange ideas on how to best engage and serve underserved populations when it comes to conservation education programming. Soon after NDOW staff put ideas into action when NOHME invited staff to attend a Back to School Health and Resource Fair at Helen Cannon Junior High School hosted by Fountain of Hope AME Church to share information about Nevada's wildlife and upcoming events, about 400 people attended the event.

Outreach: The Department is partnering with Tonopah, Humboldt, Mason Valley, Perdiz, Washoe and Carson City for the FY23 Shooting Range Development Program. The complexity of the objectives covers a wide range which includes clay pigeon throwers, pit toilets, ADA rifle lanes, ADA parking, utility installation, and ensuring ranges meet minimum safety standards. This has been a very successful program over the years and great partnerships have been made with local cities, towns, and after this year, all 17 Nevada counties.

There has been an increase in bear activity in several urban Reno areas. Urban Wildlife Coordinator, Law Enforcement, and Game have increased education and outreach efforts in those communities to help with mitigation. This has involved posts on NextDoor and outreach to HOA's and developed communities to communicate how individuals can help alleviate bear conflicts.

First 'Trail of the Month' Instagram Reel has gone up. So far, decent viewership (~7,000 views). These reels are short videos to highlight different trails around the state and what wildlife and wildlife signs people can expect to see in these areas. This is a ramp up for content for the Wildlife Discovery Trail.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife's Language Access Plan (LAP) was finalized this month. It is NDOW's plan on how the Department will serve the public to make sure that language is not a barrier to any of the services the Department provides.

Media Highlights: In July, our Public Information Officers' partnered with other agencies on various educational press releases, including a press release with the Nevada Department of Agriculture informing the public of avian bird flu and what to do if you think you've found a sick bird, a press release by the Tahoe Basin Interagency Comms group on summer bear activity in Lake Tahoe, and a press release with Nevada Division of State Lands on the acquisition of land in the Tahoe Basin that NDOW Biologists will be surveying to learn about the biodiversity and habitat restoration needs.

Our Public Information Officers' have done interviews and set up news stories on various topics including fishing, impacts of drought conditions, boating safety, urban wildlife, and more. A sheep capture coordinated by NDOW and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to support Utah's herds and alleviate stress on Nevada's wildlife has been heavily covered by the media since June. This topic reached national news article by MSN alone reached an audience of 40 million people and the project continued to get coverage into July.

Last month, the Department was mentioned 144 times by different news outlets.

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY

Columbia Spotted Frog Surveys: The annual Columbia spotted frog surveys were conducted July 11-15, 2022 in Indian Valley in central NV. This year, 100 percent of our data was collected electronically just one year after the initial roll out of our survey 123 app! NDOW and partners completed 40 surveys at 15 sentinel sites. Unfortunately, the effects of drought were very noticeable this year. Five sites were completely dry, with no frogs observed. One site had water, but no frogs were observed. Most concerning was the water level at Farrington Pond which was approximately 3 feet below the dam. This has long been an important site for frogs but this year, only a single frog was captured. Staff conducted surveys in surrounding areas, and we did observe a few frogs in some scattered ponds. We are concerned the on-going drought is having a significant impact on the species and staff will be working with partners to develop some management actions to counteract the drought at least partially such as deepening existing ponds, removing overgrown vegetation, and potentially building other water sources if necessary. In total, we had 1415 captures which is down from our more typical 1800-1900 captures per year. This year we had: 781 recaptures, 271 new marked frogs, 358 juvenile captures, and five frog observations but not captured

Surveys at Locke's Ranch: Earlier this summer, in conjunction with the Fisheries and Habitat Divisions, staff held a week of surveys and meetings at Locke's Ranch in Railroad Valley. This originally started out as targeted surveys for pale kangaroo mouse, but evolved into multiple species surveys and an interagency coordination meeting including other activities such as:

- training opportunities for a joint BLM/NDOW small mammal crew based out of Elko,
- a spring emergence bat survey in which bats were tested for White Nose Syndrome,
- Railroad Valley toad surveys that resulted in more than 50 toads captured and PIT tagged during two nights of surveys,
- Tui chub surveys, and finally,
- an NDOW-Fisheries/Diversity/Habitat and US Fish and Wildlife Service onsite coordination meeting for Railroad Valley Spring fish management.

Additionally, BLM staff conducted Proper Function and Condition wetland assessment of the area. All activities were quite successful and there were many opportunities for staff to reestablish and strengthen their professional relationships with various partners.

Western Pond Turtles: Wildlife Diversity biologists conducted a western pond turtle survey in the Carson and Truckee Rivers in late June, capturing a total of 39 turtles with hoop nets. Blood samples were taken for genetic analysis, and GPS transmitters were attached to the carapace of 20 individuals to obtain approximately two years of movement and habitat data throughout the species' range in Nevada. A robust population of pond turtles occurs along a 20+ mile stretch of the Carson River; however, a much smaller population exists in the Truckee watershed. Four of the 39 individuals were recaptures from previous years, including two females from McCarran Ranch on the Truckee River that were first handled by NDOW biologists in 2017 and 2019.

State Wildlife Action Plan: Finally, the Department is finalizing the 2022 State Wildlife Action Plan and is on track to submit the revised plan to the US Fish and Wildlife Service in early September. As previously

reported, this plan identifies 365 species of conservation priority, including 65 terrestrial invertebrates that are new to the plan this year. Habitats are classified into 19 key habitats based on vegetation communities among other characteristics. In addition, other habitats, including alpine and tundra, playas and ephemeral pools, and dunes, badlands, cliffs, and canyons were also identified as important to species of greatest conservation need.

The state wildlife action plan discusses threats to both species and their habitats and describes actions to address these stressors. Common threats include Some of these threats include:

- Drought and disease
- Wildfire or lack of fire
- Anthropogenic development and use (mining, energy development, recreation, agriculture, etc.)
- Native and non-native invasive species, including aquatic species
- Feral horse and burro populations in excess of recommended Appropriate Management Levels (AML)
- Climate change and desertification
- Lack of protection or appropriate management of critical habitat
- Groundwater withdrawals, surface water diversion, and other developments on water sources

In addition, some species have a critical lack of knowledge in terms of their distribution, life history needs, or habitat requirements that hampers conservation and management.

The plan addresses these stressors through a variety of conservation actions including conducting critical inventory and survey work where appropriate, monitoring sensitive or indicator species for population health, and importantly, restoring and conserving critical habitat that benefits all wildlife.

In addition to management of wildlife and habitat, the SWAP also recognizes the critical need to connect our citizens with nature and their wildlife resources. Increasing the relevancy of the work the Department conducts across divisions will enhance our ability to improve conservation outcomes. Providing engaging K-12 education programs aligned with science curriculum, building, or expanding interpretive centers and educational programming in all regions, developing and enhancing existing urban wildlife programs, and investing in wildlife viewing and nature tourism trails and sites are all recognized opportunities for the Department to connect with our citizens. Building volunteer events and citizen science projects are also opportunities for communities to engage with active conservation and contribute to the conservation work of the Department.

Revising the state wildlife plan was very much an “all hands-on deck” project, with every division providing critical capacity and contributions. In addition to our internal team, there was a large, very active team from several state and federal agencies, tribes, and non-governmental organizations. The Department also conducted two large public surveys to gather input on priority management actions and developing conservation outcomes. This collaborative process has resulted in a very robust conservation plan that will address and improve the conservation outcomes of all wildlife and their habitats. I look forward to sharing with you the final formatted and completed plan in early September.

FISHERIES DIVISION

Fisheries Division personnel and summertime seasonal Conservation Aide employees have been conducting field work and survey activities throughout the state. Efforts are underway to complete field activities before summertime seasonals go back to school and the fall weather is upon us.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program: AIS inspection stations have been fully staffed for the busy summertime boating season. A noticeable reduction in recreational boating activity has been noted

throughout the state due to limited access points and increased fuel costs. The Alamo roadside AIS inspection station was recently moved to a state-owned parcel of land near the intersection of Highway 93 and State Route 318 north of Ash Springs which will be more conducive for boats entering and exiting the roadway.

Fish Hatcheries: For the first time in over a year, our fish hatchery system is nearly at full staff after experiencing several challenges with recruiting for job vacancies. This comes at an opportune time in preparation for the busy fall stocking season ahead. A cooling tower refurbishment at Mason Valley Hatchery and pump/motor replacement at Gallagher Hatchery were recently approved for funding through AB84. Both repairs are long overdue and greatly needed.

Native Aquatic Species Program: Annual Columbia Spotted Frogs surveys were completed in early July for the Indian Valley–Toiyabe sub-population with participation from multiple NDOW divisions. This was the second year of conducting the survey efforts on a fully digital format using tablets and the Survey123 app and serves as a useful template for a planned conversion of the entire Fisheries Division to digital data collection. Electronic data collection has proved to be a tremendous time saver which eliminates transcription errors. Frog numbers were slightly down this year due to low water/dry habitat (especially Farrington Pond). Staff also assisted with annual surveys of Railroad Valley native fish populations as well as Pahrump Poolfish population monitoring efforts at Shoshone ponds in Spring Valley in White Pine County.

Eastern Region Fisheries: The Wildcat Fire in the Mary's River Basin of northern Elko County burned portions of Wildcat Creek, T Creek, and Draw Creek in July, all home to populations of LCT. Post-fire surveys will be conducted to evaluate the damage to riparian habitat and assess fish populations. Fisheries staff will coordinate with NDOW's Habitat Division, BLM, Forest Service, and permittees on restoration activities. Fisheries staff is completing an entire basin-wide survey of the Rock Creek sub-basin in western Elko County. The survey was made possible by cooperation from Nevada Gold Mines – Humboldt River Ranch and the 25 Ranch along with NDOW employees from other divisions. Although not yet completed, initial results indicate dramatic decreases to LCT distribution and population as miles of dry stream channel are being documented. The survey effort will provide a better understanding of LCT abundance and guide future recovery efforts in the sub-basin. Staff completed Bull Trout surveys in the Jarbidge River watershed and initial results show a decrease in Bull Trout numbers and distribution. The 2022 field season is showing the impacts of the prolonged drought on native trout fisheries and the sport fisheries at local reservoirs all of which are at low water levels. Despite these conditions, a new water record Wiper and Channel Catfish (28 lb. 3 oz.) were recently caught at Wildhorse Reservoir.

Southern Region Fisheries: Lake Mead elevation on August 1 was 1,040 feet which represents a drop of nearly 30 vertical feet since January 1. Annual survey and monitoring efforts for native aquatic species in the Southern Region are ongoing at Pahrangat Valley, Crystal Spring, Railroad Valley, Shoshone Ponds, Oasis Valley, and Lakes Mead and Mohave. In addition, stream surveys and site visits were made to streams in Nye and Esmeralda Counties to assess trout populations. Many of these streams have not been visited by NDOW personnel in a number of decades. Substantial thunderstorm activity during the last weekend of July resulted in localized flash flooding in southern Nevada. Three of four residences at Lake Mead Hatchery sustained minor flood damage.

Western Region Fisheries: Personnel from multiple NDOW divisions assisted Fisheries Division personnel in a fish salvage project at Wall Canyon Creek in northern Washoe County. More than 80 Wall Canyon Suckers were moved to upper reaches of the stream above the project area in preparation for an eradication project that is planned for September to conserve this unique species of sucker. A large project consisting of personnel from multiple divisions and regions within NDOW as well as FWS staff took place at Abel Creek in the Santa Rosas (Humboldt County) in late June. This project is the continuation of an ongoing effort to remove non-native Brook Trout from the system to benefit the native

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout that exist within the drainage. This year's effort included the removal of over 1,000 Brook Trout over two days and the subsequent stocking of "YY" Brook Trout (all male). This is a pilot research project in Nevada in which, if successful, regular stocking of YY Brook Trout will eventually skew the sex ratio of the species in the stream to all male fish and lead to eventual extirpation of Brook Trout. This is the first time this technique has been used in Nevada and, pending the outcome of the project, could have huge management implications across the range for native species like LCT. An agreement was made between the Center for Biological Diversity and Ormat Corp. in early-August to cease construction activities at a geothermal facility in Dixie Valley until the US Fish and Wildlife Service can complete formal consultation and issue a Biological Opinion concerning the Dixie Valley Toad. Meanwhile, the Dixie Valley Technical Working Group (TWG), consisting of BLM, FWS, NDOW, NAS Fallon, USGS, and Ormat personnel, are working to finalize the Aquatic Resource Monitoring and Mitigation Plan for the Dixie Valley Toad. A blue-green algae bloom is ongoing at Bilk Creek Reservoir and has resulted in a substantial fish kill. Preliminary investigations showed extremely low dissolved oxygen levels with multiple species affected including Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Rainbow Trout.

DATA AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DIVISION

Licensing: The Licensing staff implemented a new License Agent in Eureka last week. They have been busy returning over 350 tags since July 1st of which 183 have gone First Come First Serve. Our regional offices are in full swing of the boating season and in the past month have issued over 1,046 watercraft titles and 1,627 watercraft registrations.

The Hunt staff had a successful Overton Dove draw with results being released on July 28, this season opens September 1.

Lastly, they are preparing for the move of the swan permits to a draw with the application period opening August 22nd.

Geographic Information System: The Geographic Information System staff has released a new brand Urban Wildlife Log application, as well as updates to the Harvest Check-in and Vegetation Health Assessment forms. They completed map updates to Slope analysis and 16 different data requests. Also, they are working on story maps for the various Wildlife Management Areas and are excited about starting a new project that will utilize a drone.

Information Technology: Finally, the Information Technology staff installed a new network monitoring system and new servers for the Valley Road office. They assisted our GIS team in implementing a new help desk ticketing system and are preparing for Windows 11 operating system updates.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Wildlife Patrol and Enforcement: A Southern Region game warden coordinated investigation of a Tip 411 report with Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD). Individual was cited by AZGFD at the completion of the investigation.

A game warden in the Investigations Unit assisted in and conducted multiple investigations which had a nexus with neighboring states.

Multiple Human Wildlife conflict cases were investigated by game wardens including a wildlife attack by a deer on a lady walking her dogs, the deer was a doe with fawns and struck out at the lady and cut her leg with a hoof. Another incident involved an individual bitten by a coyote; the animal was found and subsequently tested for rabies. In addition, several snake calls were responded to by game wardens statewide.

A game warden also investigated the sale of snakes in Goldfield, Nevada. One Rosy Boa was seized, and the owner cited for possession of protected species.

Boating Safety Patrol and Enforcement: Southern Region game wardens responded to several boating incidents including a vessel fire on Lake Mead, rescuing two swimmers off a capsized sailboat, a sunken vessel incident on Lake Mead, and responding to a near drowning on Lake Mohave.

Game Wardens in the Western Region are investigating a possible fatal boat accident on Tahoe. A subject fell overboard while trying to connect his boat to a buoy. It is unknown if there was a medical mishap that caused him to fall in, the investigation is ongoing. Game wardens on Tahoe also assisted with a search and recovery of a subject that got separated from his personal watercraft (PWC) and was in the water for hours. His personal floatation device (PFD) saved his life, he was only mildly hypothermic upon recovery.

Eastern Region game wardens coordinated with Elko County on a drowning incident/recovery at Southfork Reservoir where the individual fell from a kayak. PFD was on board, but not worn.

C.* Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett presented the August NDOW litigation report. *[A copy of the report can be found on the NDOW website.]*

Commissioner McNinch commended DAG Burkett for his presentation at the WAFWA conference.

D.* Public Works Contracts – Deputy Director Jack Robb

A report will be provided on public works contracts awarded by the Department in the previous year.

Deputy Director Bonnie Long gave a brief overview of the Department public works projects awarded the previous year.

Commissioner East stated that she thinks it would be helpful to know where the projects are taking place.

E. The Draw Process – Kalkomey Representative and Data and Technology Services Administrator Kim Munoz

The Department’s vendor that accepts hunt applications and conducts the random draw for hunting tags will provide an overview of this year’s application and hunt statistics, conducting the random draw.

Kalkomey Zack Lambert gave a presentation on the 2022 big game draw. *[A copy of the presentation can be found on the NDOW website.]*

F. Habitat Conservation Framework – Habitat Division Administrator Alan Jenne

A report and presentation will be provided on the kickoff of the Habitat Conservation Framework created by Executive Order 2021-18.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER EAST MOVED TO STRIKE AGENDA ITEM 7F FROM THE AGENDA. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 7-0, COMMISSIONER BARNES ABSENT.

8. 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.

Rex Flowers, self, stated that sportsmen and women to need to be held to a high standard ethically and morally so that they are socially acceptable. He explained that he could not believe the social media posts he saw. He congratulated hunters on their successful harvests, but he was appalled by some of the posts showing excessive amounts of trophy racks, blood, tongues hanging out, or decapitated animals. He stated that he would hope that NDOW held their employees to the same standard or higher than the public, and believed the Commission should regulate the general public's postings and hoped to have some of the posts he saw get deleted.

Fred Voltz, self, voiced his dissatisfaction with the audio on the Zoom meeting, he believes that the meeting should have been paused in order to figure out the issues rather than continuing with the meeting.

Saturday, August 20, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906696012?pwd=ZGhIUjVaOXdpdVVHRVRRRzVFT3U0Zz09>

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

Chairman Caviglia called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Commissioner Rogers led the Pledge of Allegiance. Executive Assistant Missy Stanford called the roll of the Commission. Chairman Caviglia noted the CABMW members in attendance.

10. Approval of Agenda – Chairperson – 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.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

11. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairperson – 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.

Commissioner East stated that she asked Missy to send out an email to the CABMW's regarding destinations and tourism in the state.

Commissioner Barnes thanked Commissioner East for the time she served as Chair on the commission.

Jack Robb thanked Nye CABMW Chairwoman Chrissie Pope for hosting the Commission at the Convention Center and the work she's done to assist. He thanked Jasmine Kleiber, Tracy Kipke, and Michael West for their knowledge and assistance with the field trip previous day.

12. 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.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, explained that he had correspondence regarding the Overton Wildlife Management Area. He explained that he was asked if during open fishing season can the Center Pond and Honeybee Pond be open to non-motorized boats like some of the other WMAs. He stated that NDOW just bought property with a small pond and there were questions asking if that pond could be used as an urban pond for the local community.

13. Tag Transfer/Deferral Request – Deputy Director Jack Robb – For Possible Action

The Commission will review a request for a Heritage Tag Transfer pursuant to NRS 502.104.

Chairman Caviglia recused himself from this agenda item.

Deputy Director Robb explained that the Department warned the Commission in June that they may need to consider allowing a gentleman to defer his Heritage tag due to extenuating circumstances. The circumstances have changed, and the gentlemen now qualifies for a transfer based on a terminal illness. There is no longer anything for the Commission to take action on since those regulations are already in place, but the Department did want to provide an update.

Vice Chair Rogers asked if there has been cases like this in the past.

Deputy Director Robb answered that there has been at least two cases in the last two years.

No public comment.

The Commission did not take action on the item.

14. Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policy (APRP) Committee – Committee Chairman David McNinch

A.* Commission Policy 3 – Appeals – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 3, Appeals, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Kailey Musso explained that Commission Policy 3 was updated to add clarifying statements and is ready to be considered for adoption.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 3, APPEALS, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PIERINI. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

B.* Commission Policy 4 – Petition Process and Adoption of Regulations – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 4, Petition Process and Adoption of Regulations, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 4 was updated for clarity and is ready to be considered for adoption.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 4, PETITION PROCESS AND ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISE. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

C.* Commission Policy 21 – Game and Furbearer Management Plans – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 21, Game and Furbearer Plans, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 21 was updated to reflect grammatical changes and management practices as well as clarify that plans will be reviewed on a 10-year scheduled or as needed and the policy is ready to be considered for adoption.

Matt Melarkey, Washoe CABMW, explained that his CABMW preferred that the language would state "... no more than a 10-year schedule".

Commissioner McNinch explained that the Committee recognized that these would need to be looked at as necessary and he believed that the concern has been captured in this language. He explained that these will be reviewed at least every ten years or as needed.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 21, GAME AND FURBEARER MANAGEMENT PLANS, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

D.* Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapon Classes and Hunter Groups, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 24 was reviewed by the APRP Committee after it was reviewed by the TAAHCCCommittee. She explained that the Committee made various changes to sections 2 and 3 regarding the junior mule deer hunts. She stated that the Department only had one change on page four, as well as one consideration regarding party tags. She explained that the Department wants to address the definition of "spike elk", so it would say "In accordance with NAC 502.104, spike only elk hunts are intended to target young bulls" and we are addressing this change because we are in the middle of updating our NACs, and hopefully the NRS during the next legislative session, to address the definition of spike elk to make it clearer. We would like to fix that in this policy now, so we do not have to come back again after it is updated in NAC and NRS. She stated that the next request on the policy was on page 5, under the resident and nonresident tag allocation, we would like to add a new heading to say "Party hunt quota minimum" and then it would read "for deer, antlerless elk and horns shorter than ears antelope hunts, the minimum tag quota will be two to allow applicants who wish to apply as a party of two applicants to apply and have a chance of drawing those tags."

Biologist Joe Bennett spoke to the quotas related to the Departments requested changes.

Commissioner Barnes asked about the junior hunt tags indicated on page 6.

Biologist Bennett answered that the changes on page 6 came from the TAAHC Committee and through public comment.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that his CABMW had a long discussion about the junior hunt changes, and they are very much in support of adding the additional weapon classes of archery and muzzleloader. He asked if there were statistics because based on the number of junior tags this year issued from the Kalkomey presentation given, it appears that it is unlikely that any youth could ever get more than three tags. He explained that his CABMW agreed with everything except for page 6, 3C. which we thought should be deleted because they thought that it's unlikely that youth would draw more than three tags and if they did, it was because their parent were willing to hunt in those areas.

Matt Melarkey, Washoe CABMW, stated that his CABMW had took issue with the First Come First Served language and the discussion centered around the issue of resident tags being sold to nonresidents. They would like to see that amended to strike to both residents and nonresidents out of that and add a new sentence at the end saying, "returned resident tags should not be eligible to be purchased by nonresidents per NRS 502.015". He explained that we should take in consideration the rampant abuse in the first come first serve program that was seen last year. He stated that the last thing was under mule deer and under item #4 for alternate and nonstandard hunt units the demand will be based on the number of first-choice applicants for each weapon type from the previous year, we believes that that should be "years" to grammatically match number two.

Rex Flowers, self, stated in these times when our deer herds keep declining in population and our number of new hunters entering the program increases, there needs to be a happy balance and if kids are allowed to apply for five years and then take them out at three years it will allow another child the opportunity for that tag. He stated that originally when the program was set up, the youths were only getting three tags anyway and so it was in the early 2000s that that was changed to allow the youth to have those opportunities to draw five tags. We still allow them to apply for five years but it does not hurt for them to share what little wealth is left as far as tag numbers go. He agreed that in the First Come First Serve program, resident tags should go to residents and nonresident tags to go to nonresidents. He believed that if the Commission is going to leave it as it is now, then there should be a sentence in there that the overage of the percentage of tags issued through the current year to the nonresidents will be deducted from the ten percent that they would be allowed last year. He explained that in other words, there were an extra 7 tags last year and it raised them to getting around 13 percent of the total tags that were available rather than ten so that would mean that they should only get seven percent of the total tags because they got an extra three last year and that would be a fair compromise if the NAC cannot be changed.

Management Analyst Musso asked that the requested changes be enacted for next year as it would mess up this current year's process.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO BRING COMMISSION POLICY 24 BACK TO A SECOND READING WITH MODIFICATION PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE SPIKE ELK DEFINITION, PARTY HUNT QUOTA MINIMUM SECTION, AND THAT THE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE SECTION BE MODIFIED OR REVISED TO REFLECT THAT RETURN RESIDENT TAGS BE DRAWN BY RESIDENTS AND RETURNED NONRESIDENT TAGS RETURNED TAGS CAN ONLY BE PICKED UP BY NONRESIDENTS, AND THE DEPARTMENT WOULD MAKE THE ADDITIONAL NECESSARY EDITS. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Break

E.* Commission Policy 22 – Introduction, Transplanting, and Exportation of Wildlife – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 22, Introduction, Transplanting, and Exportation of Wildlife, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 22 was updated to reflect grammatical changes and management practices to include removing unnecessary definitions. She explained that the Commission also decided to update the policy to require the Department determine if predator control is necessary before transplants and the policy is ready to be considered for adoption.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 22, INTRODUCTION, TRANSPLANTING, AND EXPORTATION OF WILDLIFE, WITH NOTED CHANGES. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

F.* Commission Policy 25 – Wildlife Damage Management – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 25, Wildlife Damage Management, and may make necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained the Commission Policy 25 was simplified and removed repetitive language and attempted to address Commission concerns. She explained that she missed the request to look at this policy in conjunction with Commission Policy 23. She explained that Commission Policy 23 has not yet been heard by the APRP Committee, but it should be at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Wise wanted to confirm her reading, she stated that numbers 1, 2 and 3 start with a subject where numbers 4, 5, and 6 turn into a check point list. She stated that she did not know if that was intentional. She addressed the changes to number 8, addressing the “and/or” being removed and “or others as needed”, there are other portions of the policy where those changes had not been made. Lastly, she noted that the species in 8b do not match c.

Management Analyst Musso answered that the first three statements are about the Commission whereas 4, 5 and 6 are directed about the Department. She stated she could not address the species matching as Wildlife Staff Specialist Pat Jackson did the editing and he was unavailable. She said that she could make those match.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that it was unclear from the posted support material as to why all of this stuff that was removed was removed and it was hard to discuss the impacts of this policy when it was not clear where the removed pieces went. He asked that in the future if there are large scale changes like this that it's indicated where the language may have been moved to.

Management Analyst Musso stated that she can bring the Commission Policy 23 and Commission Policy 25 to the Committee and the Commission at the same time.

Commissioner Barnes stated that he would like to see both policies side by side to make sure all pertinent language is captured.

NO ACTION TAKEN. WILL BE BROUGHT TO A THIRD READING AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMMISSION POLICY 23.

G.* Commission Policy 26 – Managing Rocky Mountain Elk Population – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 26, Managing Rocky Mountain Elk Population, and may make necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 26 did not need any major changes and that one small change was made to reflect the change in Commission Policy 22. She explained that the policy is ready to be considered for adoption.

No public comment

COMMISSIONER EAST MOVED TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 26, MANAGING ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK POPULATION, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

H.* Commission Policy 27 – Protection of Wildlife – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 27, Protection of Wildlife, and may make necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that commission Policy 27 was updated to stay consistent with similar Commission Policies. She explained that there was disagreement on language for wolf populations and the Department brought the policy back as proposed for the Commission to come to an understanding.

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, stated that because wolves are federally protected and to avoid violating federal statutes, there should be wording addressing wolves in the policy.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 27, PROTECT OF WILDLIFE, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISE. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

I.* Commission Policy 28 – Transparency on Quota Setting – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 28, Transparency of Quota Setting, and may make necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 28 was previously Commission Policy 26A and was updated to reflect what the Department uses in the quota setting processes and how the Department will make that information available. She addressed comments made by CABMWs in their meeting minutes/action reports.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER EAST MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 28, TRANSPARENCY ON QUOTA SETTING, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCNINCH. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

J.* Commission Policy 29 – Elk Arbitration – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 29, Elk Arbitration, and may take necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso explained that it was determined that Commission Policy 29 did not need any changes and was ready for adoption.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 29, ELK ARBITRATION, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WISE. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

K.* Commission Policy 51 – Wayne E. Kirch Conservation Award – Second Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch – For Possible Action

The Commission will have a second reading of Commission Policy 51, Wayne E. Kirch Conservation Award, and may make necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Management Analyst Musso stated that Commission Policy 51 was updated to add #8. Policy is ready for adoption.

No public comment.

VICE CHAIR ROGERS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT COMMISSION POLICY 51, WAYNE E. KIRCH CONSERVATION AWARD, AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

L.* Commission Policy 60 – Water Application Guidelines – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 60, Water Application Guidelines, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 60 was updated with some clarifying changes and is ready for a second reading.

Commissioner Wise asked number if the language 2 and 3, should be “and/or habitat resources”.

DAG Burkett answered...(inaudible audio).

Paul Dixon, Clark CABMW, explained that the last paragraph indicated the endorsement of legislation to control drilling, but the policy is addressing water application guidelines. He explained that there was confusion of whether we would oppose applications and guideline or we would support legislation. He stated that he was trying to figure out what that last paragraph truly mean. He asked for clarification, is the Commission only going to endorse legislation that does this or will you have an active role in the application. He stated that it was not clear on the intent of that last paragraph.

Management Analyst Musso stated that we can make a change to say the Board will consider and review legislation to control the drilling. She explained that the Legislative Committee does review all legislation affecting wildlife and the Department always put water and firearm bills on the tracking list as well.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO MOVE COMMISSION POLICY 60, WATER APPLICATION GUIDELINES, TO A SECOND READING WITH THE NOTED CHANGES. SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR ROGERS. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

M.* Commission Policy 61 – Water Rights – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 61, Water Rights, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Management Analyst Musso explained that Commission Policy 61 had one change made to clarify protection and conservation of riparian areas, meadows, and wetlands.

Commissioner Barnes stated he was confused reading this policy as water rights are already given rights meanwhile, there is nothing about livestock. He stated that this policy needed additional discussions and more clarification.

No public comment.

NO MOTION TAKEN. WILL BE BROUGHT FORWARD FOR A SECOND READING.

N.* Commission Policy 66 – Management and Use of Wildlife Management Areas – First Reading – APRP Committee Chairman David McNinch

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 66, Management and Use of Wildlife Management Areas, and may make any necessary changes and may decide to move it to a second reading.

Management Analyst Musso explained that there were clarifying changes made to Commission Policy 66 as well as additional WMAs added.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO MOVE COMMISSION POLICY 66, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, TO A SECOND READING. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER EAST. MOTION PASSED 8-0.

15. Future Commission Meetings and Commission Committee Assignments – Secretary Wasley and Chairperson – For Possible Action

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 23 and 24, 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 chairperson 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.

- Deputy Director Robb will work with the new Chair on updating the Committee Assignments
- Next commission meeting will be 23 & 24 in Las Vegas.
- APRP Committee meeting and report
- CGR 502 – Junior Hunt regulation
- Fishing Regulations
- Taxonomical Changes
- AFWA Conference report
- Commission policies 24, 60, 61 and 66 will be brought forward to a second reading

No Public comment

16. 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 at 11:15am.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at <https://www.ndow.org/events/august-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/august-2022-commission-meeting/>.

Notice to the Public: Nevada Department of Wildlife receives Federal Aid in Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. The U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or disability. Individuals with hearing impairment may contact the Department at 775-688-1500 via a text telephone (TTY) telecommunications device by first calling the State of Nevada Relay Operator at 1-800-326-6868. Disabled individuals in need of special services should contact the Department prior to the meeting at (775) 688-1599 or wildlifecommission@ndow.org.