

Minutes of the Mineral County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife Meeting-Draft Minutes

September 19, 2022

EOC Building, 205 South "A" St, Hawthorne, NV-Training Room

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman,
Members Present: Billie Williams Jr
Wayne Larson,
Johnny Peterson,
Billie Williams Jr,
Darren Hamrey
Marlene Bunch – Adm Assist.

Absent: None

Public Present: None

Meeting Called to order by Chairman Glenn Bunch at 6:00 PM

- 1.* **Commission Regulation 21-15 Amendment #1, Fishing Seasons and Regulations for January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023** – The board will review and may make recommendations to the Commission relative amending fishing seasons, bag, and possession limits for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 21, 2023.

Chairman Bunch reviewed the recommendations from NDOW for the Board's consideration. After review, the board did not have any further items to review.

Chairman Bunch presented the following comments received from Kris Urquhart, NDOW Fisheries Biologist

"Rough creek was a bright spot on an otherwise dismal season for stream fishing around much of western Nevada.

We electrofished several sections of the stream (as well as Bodie creek) and found Rough creek to have a good population of wild rainbow trout. Bodie creek was hit or miss with most fish being found right up near the California state line, a lot of the Nevada sections were completely dry.

We also used hook and line methods to evaluate catch rates and collect fish for mercury analysis, it's been over a decade since we've done that, and it was time to get some updated information (we don't have the mercury results yet, but I'd be happy to share them with you when we do). Catch rates, size of fish, and body condition index ratings for wild rainbow trout in Rough creek were high, 3.67 fish per hour, fish were 8-12 inches and very fat. This really good considering the size of the stream.

We also noted a decrease in flow over the past couple years due to drought.

Hatchery reared fish don't do as well as wild fish in many situations, and we did not find any of the fish we've planted in the past couple years.

Stocking additional fish into a stream under these conditions is unnecessary, and probably just not a good idea, so we're not going to plant additional fish on top the existing fish this season. We'll continue to evaluate it and if it looks like we need to add some fish in the future we will, however they are doing pretty well all by themselves!"

The Board discussed the report from Kris Urquhart and was pleased to get the update. With no further issues discussed:

The Board concurred with the Dept Recommendations

2*. Review of Department of Wildlife Meeting Agenda for September 23-24, 2022

The Board did not have any further recommendations for other items on the September 23-24, 2022 agenda.

A general discussion of the wildlife in Mineral County and possible enhancements to help the deer herd with guzzlers was made by member Darren Hamrey. He further stated that he had some things that he's been working on with Jasen Salsbury,

Member Billie Williams informed the board that he's been thinking of turning in his resignation from the Board. He stated that NDOW does not seem to be interested in our area. He said he would get with Chairman Bunch further on this issue.

6. Public Comment: No further information was submitted for discussion.

It was moved by Johnney Petersons, seconded by Wayne Larson to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 PM. Motion carried.