

Committee Members: Commissioner Kiel (Chair),  
Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Rogers, Commissioner  
Almberg, Jim Rackley, Jeremy Drew, Charlie Clements,  
Josh Vittori, Cory Lytle

Staff to the Committee: Mike Scott  
Alan Jenne  
Cody Schroeder

**Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners  
Mule Deer Enhancement Program Oversight Committee**

**Wednesday, December 16, 2020 / 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting held via [www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us)**

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order – Chairman Kiel**

Meeting called to order 6:00 PM.

**In attendance:**

Commissioner Kiel, Chair  
Commissioner Barnes  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Almberg  
Jim Rackley, Nevada Muleys Association  
Jeremy Drew, Resource Specialist  
Charlie Clements, Rangeland Scientist  
Josh Vittori, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited  
Cory Lytle, Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited  
Mike Scott, Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Jack Robb, Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Tony Wasley, Nevada Department of Wildlife

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Commissioner Barnes motioned to approve the agenda.**

**Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**3. \* Member Announcements and Correspondence – Chairman Kiel – Informational**

**4. \*Mule Deer Enhancement Program Presentation – Game Administrator – Mike Scott**

Game Administrator Mike Scott provided a slide show presentation outlining the concept of Mule Deer Enhancement Program and introducing the 14 teams and areas of focus (Attachment A). The Mule Deer Limiting Factor Ranking and Mule Deer Needs Assessment worksheets were presented and discussed.

Committee Member Drew discussed looking at suggestions from previous plans and requested this information be made available to the 14 teams.

Chairman Kiel requested access to any of the Agency's mule deer plans of previous years and to make that information available to the 14 teams.

Commissioner Barnes expressed a desire to be notified of the meeting schedule of the 14 teams.

**5. Public Comment Period**

All pieces of public comment received via email were read out to the Committee (Attachment B).

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 P.M.



# NDOW Mule Deer Enhancement Program



# Concept of MDEP

- Create an Oversight Committee that will provide input to the Wildlife Commission and NDOW with various mule deer habitat and management challenges
- Create Mule Deer teams representing various areas and hunt unit groups around the state. These teams include both Game and Habitat biologists from NDOW
- NDOW biologists will provide each team with current and historic information related to mule deer herds
- The Mule Deer teams will discuss various mule deer limiting factors and make recommendations about how to address them



# The Mule Deer Enhancement Program is consistent with:

- The Management Plan for Mule Deer
- Sagebrush Conservation Initiative
- Secretarial Order 3362
- Nevada Wildlife Action Plan
- Changes to Categorical Exclusions
- Relevancy Road Map
- Great American Outdoors Act
- NDOW's Mission Statement

# Oversight Committee

- Wildlife Commissioner Casey Kiel (Chairman)
- Wildlife Commissioner Jon Almberg
- Wildlife Commissioner Tom Barnes
- Wildlife Commissioner Shane Rogers
- Charlie Clements – USDA Rangeland Scientist
- Jeremy Drew – Resource Specialist & Former Wildlife Commission Chairman
- Cory Lytle – Meadow Valley Wildlife Unlimited
- Jim Rackley – Nevada Muleys
- Josh Vittori – Former President of Nevada Bighorns Unlimited
- BLM – Ex-officio - TBA
- USFS – Ex-officio - TBA

# NDOW Staff to the Oversight Committee

- Cody Schroeder – Game Division Staff Mule Deer Biologist
- Alan Jenne – Habitat Division Administrator
- Mike Scott – Game Division Administrator

# 14 Mule Deer Teams

- Washoe County – Areas 1, 2, & Unit 033
- Humboldt / Pershing Counties – Areas 3, 4, & 5
- Lander County – Area 15
- Elko County - Area 6 including 065
- Elko County - Areas 7, 8, & 9
- Elko County - Area 10
- Eureka County – Area 13 & 14
- White Pine County – Areas 11 & 12
- White Pine County – Area 13
- Lincoln County – Areas 22, 23, 24, & 27
- Clark County – Area 26, Unit 244, Unit 272
- Nye/Esmeralda Counties–Areas 16, 17, 21, & 25
- Mineral/Churchill/Nye Counties – Areas 18 & 20
- Douglas/Carson/Storey Counties–Areas 19 & 29

# Initial Teams Meetings in 2021

Game biologists are preparing presentations that will include:

- Herd History & Current Status
- Maps
- Population Metrics
- Population Estimates
- Survey Data
- Harvest Data
- Past and Present Challenges including:
  - Fire/Habitat conversion
  - Predator loss
  - Feral horses
  - Climate
  - Development
- Past and Current Conservation/Habitat Actions
  - Fire rehabilitation
  - Fence modification
  - Water development
  - Predator projects
- Research / Collaring Efforts
  - Migration corridors
  - Habitat selection / seasonal ranges
  - Predator projects



# Field Trips

Field trips to get Mule Deer Team members out to look at past, current, or future projects will be encouraged as soon as it can be done safely and within the guidelines that have to be followed.

# Mule Deer Limiting Factor Ranking Sheet

County: Lincoln		Mule Deer Unit Group			
Potential Limiting Factor	Rate (0 - 5)	221-223	231	241-243, 245	271
Wildland Fire					
Invasive or Noxious Weeds					
Pinyon-Juniper Invasion					
Shrub senescence					
Improper grazing - Wild horses					
Improper grazing - Livestock					
Climate/Weather					
Limited Water Distribution					
Inadequate Migration Corridor					
Human Impacts – Direct					
- Collisions with vehicles					
- Shed antler hunting					
- Off-road racing					
- Other:					
<i>Human Impacts - Direct - Mean</i>					
Human Impacts –Indirect					
- Fences					
- Powerlines					
- Development					
- Other:					
<i>Human Impacts - Indirect - Mean</i>					
Mining					
Predation					
Disease					
Human-caused mortality (hunting & poaching)					
Conflicts with Laws/Policies/Regulations**					

\*\*NEPA, Wilderness, ESA, Wild Horse and Burro Act, BLM Fire Plan/Policy, lawsuits, NDOW policies, etc.

**Mule Deer Needs Assessment - Lincoln**

5 = Highest Priority

0 = Lowest Priority

Potential Limiting Factors	Management Action	Strategy	Mule Deer Unit Group			
			221-223	231	241-243, 245	271
Wildfire and Invasives	Planting	Native Seed				
		Shrub Plantings				
		Strategic Non-Native Seeding				
	Herbicide	Chemical Fallow				
		Targeted Application				
		Biological Control				
	Fuels Management	Grazing Management				
		Mechanical Thinning/Removal				
		Green Strip				
		Chemical Fallow				
		Mechanical Removal				
		Fencing				
		Prescribed Fire				
Conifer Invasion	Removal	Mechanical - Masticator				
		Mechanical - chaining				
		Hand Thinning				
		Lop and Scatter				
		Pile and Burn				
		Prescribed Fire				
	Restoration - Protection	Overseeding				
		Fencing				
		Grazing Management				
		Herbicide - Spot Treatment				
Lack of Diversity	Habitat Improvement	Mechanical Removal/Thinning				
		Overseeding				
		Shrub Plantings				
		Fencing				
		Grazing Management				
		Easement / Acquisition				
		Water Development				
		Spring Protection				

Potential Limiting Factors	Management Action	Strategy	Mule Deer Unit Group			
			221-223	231	241-243, 245	271
Lack of Connectivity	Protection	Easement / Acquisition				
		Transportation Passage				
		Migration Corridor				
		Fence Modificaitons				
		Land Use Planning				
		Dept. of Transportation Action				
		- Wildlife Crossing				
		- Add road signs				
		Private Lands Action				
Predation	Project	Coyote Removal				
		Mountain Lion Removal				
		Trail Camera Grid				
		Predator Research				
		Deer Collaring Study				
Wildlife Health & Disease	Prescription	Disease Testing				
		Age Structure Study				
		Limit Harrassment				
		Adjust Tag Numbers				
Data Gaps	Big Game	Big Game Collaring				
		Trapping & Transplant				
		Modify Survey & Inventory				
		Increased Law Enforcement				
		Add / Remove Late Hunt				

# Funding Sources

The Mule Deer Enhancement Program will rely on existing sources of funding for implementation of projects approved by the Oversight Committee.

- Heritage Fund
- NGO Partners
- Federal Land Management Agencies
- Predator Fund
- Federal Grants
- Habitat Conservation Fee



Cassandra Grieve &lt;ndowgame@gmail.com&gt;

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**Public Comment**

1 message

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**Christopher Jasmine** <Chris.Jasmine@nevadagoldmines.com>  
To: "ndowgame@gmail.com" <ndowgame@gmail.com>

Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 6:34 PM

In Nevada there are many threats to our sagebrush habitat and the sage obligate species that depend upon them. As you are all aware, solutions to these threats are diverse and complex. Through a local approach like this program, Nevada Gold Mines believes that many of the solutions can be identified, implemented, and ultimately succeed in enhancing habitat, while still embracing the multiple use principles of our public lands. Nevada Gold Mines looks forward to engaging in this process and being a part of this unique approach that will ultimately benefit the communities in which we operate our mines and ranches. We appreciate the Commission taking the initiative to develop these teams and appreciate the opportunity to be involved in the process.

*Chris Jasmine*[www.nevadagoldmines.com](http://www.nevadagoldmines.com)**Chris M. Jasmine**

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Cassandra Grieve <ndowgame@gmail.com>

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## Sub committee meetings

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**Mike Reese** <mikereese224@gmail.com>  
To: ndowgame@gmail.com

Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 6:34 PM

Mike Reese here,  
How often can the sub committee s meet via conference call and are we held to open meetings since none of us are appointed by an elected official.

Mike



Cassandra Grieve &lt;ndowgame@gmail.com&gt;

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**Fwd: Consider Delaying the Start Up of Sub Committee Meetings**

1 message

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**Robert Boehmer** <robboehmer@sbcglobal.net>  
To: ndowgame@gmail.com

Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 6:37 PM

Rob Boehmer, CSA, CMEPP, CRPA  
2459 E. Nye Lane  
Carson City, Nevada, 89706  
(775) 722-9746  
[robboehmer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:robboehmer@sbcglobal.net)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Robert Boehmer <[robboehmer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:robboehmer@sbcglobal.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: Consider Delaying the Start Up of Sub Committee Meetings  
**Date:** December 16, 2020 at 6:34:24 PM PST  
**To:** [ndowgam@gmail.com](mailto:ndowgam@gmail.com)

Greetings, Mule Deer Enhancement Oversight Committee Members,

I want to first take the opportunity to thank and commend the Commission and Department Staff and Leadership for what many feel could really provide some great collaboration with the goal of improving Mule Deer Management and habitat management now and in the future. This is an exciting collaborative initiative and I am confident it will improve Mule Deer Management.

After some discussion with multiple individuals selected for the various Sub-Committee Teams, I wonder if slightly delaying the kick-off of the Sub-Committee/local Team meetings to maybe the end of January/ 1st part of February 2021 timeframe might allow the folks from NDOW, participating CAB members, and members of the public that will be serving on these Teams together enough time to gather data, create presentations, and not be in conflict with the Holidays etc. It would be great to ensure Department Staff Biologists and other sub-committee members have enough time to offer valuable counsel back to the Committee. Again just some thoughts that have come out of discussions leading up to this point.

Rob Boehmer, CSA, CMEPP, CRPA  
Carson City CABMW Chair  
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