

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

Date & Time: Monday November 2, 2020 at 6:04 PM

Location : EOC Building 205 South 'A' St, Hawthorne, Nv - Training Room

Present: Glenn Bunch, Chairman,

Members Present: Billie Williams Jr., Wayne Larson, Darren Hamrey, Johnny Peterson

Marlene Bunch – Adm Assist.

Absent: None

Public Present: None

The meeting was brought to order by Glenn Bunch, Chairman at 6:06 PM

- 1\* Commission Regulation 21-01, 2021-2022 Raptor Capture Quotas.** The Board will make recommendations to the Commission for consideration to approve the 2021-2022 season dates, species quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry.

Glenn Bunch read to the board the following information as supplied by the Dept as follows:

## **and 2022 SEASONS AND PERMIT QUOTAS FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY**

**LIMIT:** A person is allowed a single raptor per permit, with a maximum number of two permits issued to any one person per calendar year. NRS 503.583, NAC 503.300.

**SPECIES LIMITS:** Not more than one of any species.

**Exception:** Under the authority of the second capture permit, a person may take another raptor of the same species to replace a bird, captured in the same year, which died or was lost. NAC 503.228

**TAKE RESTRICTION:** One Eyas must be left in every nest from which raptors are captured.

An eyas may not be removed from its nest prior to 10 days of age. Nests may not be entered when young are 28 days or more of age. NAC 503.305

**HOURS:** Raptors may be taken any time of the day or night during the open season

**AREA:** Statewide for all authorized species except Northern Goshawks. The take of Northern Goshawk is closed in Elko County north of I-80.

**SEASON:** All seasons are open during the following specified period or until a species quota is met.

2021 season - Eyas season: March 1 through August 31, 2021

Passage season: January 1 through December 31, 2021

2022 season - Eyas season: March 1 through August 31, 2022

Passage season: January 1 through December 31, 2022.

### **Deadline for Acceptance of Application/Drawing**

Applications for permits to take raptors for falconry will become available the first weekday of December.

The deadline for the receipt of permit applications is 5:00 p.m. on the second Monday of January. Applications must be mailed through a postal service to the address listed on the application.

A drawing will be conducted by the Department if there is an over-subscription of applications for any raptor species for which a permit quota has been established. After the drawing, any quota remaining will be available by application. Applications after the drawing will be processed in the order of receipt until the quota is filled or the close of the season.

Resident applicants will apply for a species in accordance with the instructions on the application. Nonresident applicants may only apply for **one** (1) species per application.

The number of applications for residents is unlimited, however there is a quota for the number of birds that can be taken. Once the Department records that a species quota has been filled, permittees will be notified of the species closure.

Recommendation:

FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY Species	2021 and 2022 SEASONS AND PERMIT QUOTAS		
	Permit Quotas		Species Quotas
	Resident		Nonresident
Goshawk (Eyas – March 1- August 31;)	10	3	10
Goshawk (Passage January 1- December 31)	Unlimited		15
Cooper’s Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Prairie Falcon	Unlimited	3	15
Merlin	Unlimited	3	50
American Kestrel	Unlimited	3	50
Red-tailed Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Ferruginous Hawk	5	1	5
Great Horned Owl	Unlimited	3	50

Glenn Bunch stated that in the past Joel Elder was interested in the raptors.

Further discussion of raptors.

*Johnny Peterson moved to accept the recommendation as supplied by the Dept. Seconded by Billie Williams Motion Carried.*

2\* **Commission Regulation 21-02, 2021-2022 Noncommercial Collection Seasons and Bag Limits for Live, Unprotected Reptiles and Amphibians.** The Board will make recommendation to the Commission as they will consider and may take action to approve 2021-2022 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians.

Chairman Bunch read the following information to the Board for consideration.

Chairman Bunch stated from past meetings that the kids don’t know that the horny toads are protected. But at that time, it was discussed that the kids probably will not hurt the amount of horny toads in the wild and they will be okay and not do anything about that.

Chairman Bunch read the following from the Dept recommendations.

The Commission will consider adopting the 2021-2022 season and limits for noncommercial hobby collecting of live, unprotected reptiles and amphibians. The Department is proposing no changes in the two-year regulation from the prior two-year period. The Department is recommending the field collection season to remain from January 1 – December 31 of each year and recommends the same bag and possession limits for each species as the years prior. Species not specifically listed within the attached table are recommended to remain closed to collection. Please note

that the Department updated species and subspecies names to reflect current taxonomy based on new genetic analyses.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission VOTE TO ADOPT THE 2021-2022 SEASON AND LIMITS FOR NONCOMMERCIAL HOBBY COLLECTING OF LIVE, UNPROTECTED REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS AS PRESENTED.

Lizards	2 of each per year	2 of each: no more than
Snakes		24 snakes total
Lizards	5 of each per year	5 of each
Lizards: Nevada Side-blotched	5 of each per year	5 Total
Amphibians	4 of each per year	4 of each
Non-native Amphibians & Reptiles	Unlimited	Unlimited

Discussion of the kids going out and capturing lizard

Chairman Bunch stated that one of the things they do watch in the area there was where the trapping was done. They have stopped all harvesting of reptiles.

*It was moved by Billie Williams, seconded by Wayne Larson to approve the recommendation as proved. Motion carried.*

3\*. **Commission Regulation 20-04 Amendment #2, 2021 Heritage Tag Seasons and Quota.** The Board will make recommendation to the Commission as they reexamine the 2021 Heritage Tag seasons as approved in January of 2020 and may consider adopting a regulation amendment to change one or more season dates.

Chairman Bunch reviewed with the board the distribution of the tags as provided by the Heritage Committee. He also informed the Board of the amount of money that is raised by providing the tags to the groups that receive the tags.

The following information was read and discussed by the Board.

**Hunting Hours:** Big game mammals and wild turkeys may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset as listed on government sunrise-sunset tables. **Take Limit:** One animal allowed per tag. **Legal Weapon:** Any legal firearm or bow as described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144 may be used throughout the big game season. Additionally, any legal weapon or shotgun or bow as described in NAC 503.187 may be used throughout the wild turkey season

<b>Mule Deer</b>	Any muledeer	Any hunt unit with an antlered mule deer season.	August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021
<b>Pronghorn Antelope</b>	Any pronghorn antelope	Any hunt unit with a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.	1 August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021

<b>Rocky Mountain Elk</b>	Any elk with at least one antler	Any hunt unit with an antlered elk season except for unit 091.	August 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021
<b>1 Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 1</b>	Any ram	Any hunt unit with a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep open season except the unit where the Nelson Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 1 was filled in the prior year if the tag quota in the prior year for that unit is less than ten (10).	Date of purchase through December 31, 2021, except for units 252, 280, 281, 282 which will be established by the Commission for the resident Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt
<b>Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 2</b>	Any ram	Any hunt unit with a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep open season except the unit where the Nelson Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 2 was filled in the prior year if the tag quota in the prior year for that unit is less than ten (10).	Date of purchase through December 31, 2021, except for hunt units 252, 280, 281, 282 which will be established by the resident Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep any ram hunt
<b>California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 1</b>	Any ram	Any hunt unit with a California bighorn sheep open season except the unit where the California Bighorn Sheep Heritage Tag No. 1 was filled in the prior year if the tag quota in the prior year for that unit is less than seven (7) and unit 041	Date of purchase through December 31, 2021

The board discussed the various groups that received the tags and the funding that was received from it. All being very favorable.

***It was moved by Darren Hamrey, seconded by Johnny Peterson to approved the information as approved by the Dept.***

**4. The Board May Review remaining items of the November 6, 2020 Commission Agenda.**

Chairman Bunch brought up the report of the game recommendations to the board. What we had sent in a request for a muzzleloader season for Antelope for 202-204 & 205 – 208. What we got was 205-208. Did not list 202-204. He stated that he had called the Dept this afternoon as to why 202-204 was not in the list. He spoke with Cooper Munsen from NDOW and they had spoke with Jason Salisbury, Dept Biologist and Jason stated that he didn't think there was not enough animals to have another season. Bunch stated that his response was "What if they go dry, it's hunter opportunity." The response from the Dept was that Jason didn't think it was a good idea. Bunch told the dept that we think there are, and we would look at it.

Bunch stated that he is going to bring it up at the meeting this Friday. He further reported that he had told Munson that he had been finding them from the Elbow, Baldwin Canyon, and the Bodie Hills-

Johnny Peterson stated and up by Mt. Hicks.

Johnny Peterson stated that he spoke with a hunter (name withheld) here just recently and he saw a heard of 25 or 30 animals. He shot one as he wanted the meat, and on the way out, he ran in another large herd with bigger horns.

Chairman Bunch stated he is going to bring it up at the meeting that we want 202-204 added to the list.

Johnny Peterson stated "Please do"

Chairman Bunch stated that he doesn't care if they just give us a couple tags, it's hunter opportunity and the antelope are there.

Darren Hamrey asked can we request a survey done of the area or aerial survey?

Johnny Peterson questioned the season given for the area.

Chairman Bunch replied that is was from September 25 to Oct 4. That is what pretty much the rest of the state is and this would fall right in.

***The consensus of the board is that chairman Bunch should bring it up to the Commission on Friday at the state meeting to add area 202-204 to the list of Muzzleloader antelope hunt.***

**Chairman Bunch reported of the simplification committee.** The non-game environmentalist has recommended that the snowshoe rabbit be moved from open to closed as there is only one mountain range in Washoe county that has the rabbits.

Chairman Bunch advised the board the he has shot them in years past in the Wassuks and the Bodie hills. And they are a very large Rabbit.. They are here.

Johnny Peterson stated he has seen them on TV Hill.

Wayne said they used to hunt them in Elko in the Gold Creek Ranger Station.

Chairman Bunch stated- so tentatively they have been changed from open to closed.

## 8. **Public Comment:**

Chairman Bunch reported they are putting together a mule deer enhancement committee. While speaking with Cooper Munson, NDOW this evening, he mentioned the committee and asked if anyone in Mineral County wanted to be on the Committee. Glenn stated that he wants to be on it as he wants to know what they are coming up with and what their ideas are. He stated he feels that what the problem is, but can't get anyone to fix it. He further stated that he's been on some surveys in Mineral County and he feels his problem is habitat. If we had some fires out here and take out the Pinyon Juniper would help. Bunch stated that Cooper advised him that they have been doing the Juniper removal in Mineral County. Bunch reported to him that it's been under the auspice of Sage Grouse habitat removal and the areas they are removing there hasn't been any Sage Grouse in those areas. It's on the back side of Lucky Boy and China Camp. In all his years of hunting, he's never seen a Sage Grouse in those areas. Where he's seen them was in the Baldwin Canyon area.

Johnny Peterson stated that he was going to the river one time and where the cattleguard is right there he has seen 2 of them. But that's the only time.

It was also pointed out that they have been at the race track area of Aurora.

Wayne Larson stated the last time he and his dad went over there, there's a ridge and some guys come along with their dogs. They stated that there were no birds over here. They were from Carson City. It was still early in the morning and we took the side hill. He stated they only went about 200 yards and filled their limit of birds.

Bunch asked the board if any of them wanted to be considered for the committee.

Darren Hamrey asked what would they have to do.

Bunch responded that what they are wanting to do is get a committee together to work on increasing the amount of deer in the area. He stated that he wants to be on it as he has the information from the past survey.

Darren Hamrey asked to have his name put in to be on the committee.

The past survey was discussed and Bunch explained how the last one worked.

Bunch acknowledged that he would put Darren Hamrey's name in for consideration for the Mule Deer Enhancement Committee as well.

**Chairman Bunch has one last thing to bring up in public comment.**

**Bunch stated that he had heard from other sources that a bull elk has been seen at the North end of Walker Lake.**

Johnny Peterson reported that a truck driver (name withheld) and one other has pictures of it on the north end of the lake. It went across there with all that smoke was from the fires. They drive back and forth every day as they live in Fallon and work at the base.

Chairman Bunch showed that board the picture that had been forwarded to him. He had told them to send him the picture, when he heard there was one on the north end of the lake. He wants to see it.

Johnny Peterson stated that he has seen the same picture.

Chairman Bunch stated that it's time for the Dept to start getting a plan ready for Mineral County. He's been told that there is a herd in Northern Churchill and it's a matter of time till they get here. Mineral County wants elk here and we've been asking the Dept to transplant some Elk here. This is just one elk, we would like to see more.

Johnny Peterson stated that we haven't seen a moose yet.

Darren Hamrey said they have seen them (moose) outside of Gerlack

***With no further business, it was moved by Wayne Larson, seconded by Johnny Peterson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.***

A recording of the meeting may be made available to those requesting a copy by contacting Marlene Bunch, Administrative Assistant at 775-945-0441