

**STATE OF NEVADA  
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

**Commission Policy Number 27**

**Number:** P-27

**Title:** Protection of Nevada Wildlife Resources

**Reference:** NRS 501.100, 501.105, and 501.181.

**Effective Date:** April 16, 2011

**Amended:** November 3, 2017, August 20, 2022

**Reviewed Date:** 2022

**PURPOSE**

It is the duty of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (the Commission) and the Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) to establish policies and adopt regulations necessary to the preservation, protection, management, and restoration of wildlife and its habitat.

**POLICY**

1. Wildlife, including wild animals, wild birds, and fish within the State of Nevada are held in the public trust by the State of Nevada and shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. (NRS 501.100, #1 "Wildlife in this state not domesticated and in its natural habitat is part of the natural resources belonging to the people of the State of Nevada.")
2. Nevada's law and policy includes providing Nevada citizens (and others permitted by law) accessibility to wildlife for their shared recreations.
3. The Department in conjunction with the Commission has the authority, power and duty to administer and carry out the State of Nevada's wildlife policy consistent with state law.
4. Wildlife management under this policy includes, but is not limited to; maintaining healthy populations, balancing predator and prey relationships, providing hunting and recreational opportunities for game species, and addressing conflicts between wildlife, people, and businesses.
5. The federal government retains public trust and management authority for specific types of wildlife, such as certain migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act. The federal government retains regulatory authority over feral horses and burros pursuant to the Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, as amended.
6. Native and introduced wildlife species generally benefit from the diligent protection, management and research provided by the Department. State management responsibility, through collaboration among other states and the federal government, generally provides local communities with a greater voice while considering the biological implications for the species management.
7. To the extent practicable, the Commission will work with the Department to obtain and maintain state management authority of those species that reside within Nevada. Further, the Commission and Department will collaborate with the federal government to ensure that the social and biological concerns unique to Nevada are considered as part of any wildlife management activity for those species under federal management authority.
8. The Commission and Department will work collaboratively with private, local, state and federal

partners to obtain and maintain state management authority of those species that reside within Nevada.

9. The Commission recognizes wolf sightings will continue in Nevada. Like other predators, the Commission supports management of wolves if they are determined to be negatively impacting other wildlife species, and may oppose a population of wolves.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed or superseded by the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

BY ORDER OF THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION,  
AUGUST 20, 2022.



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Chairman Tommy Caviglia  
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners