



**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
Game Division**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste. 120 · Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1500 Fax (775) 688-1987

MEMORANDUM

MAY 25, 2023

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Shawn Espinosa, Game Division Administrator

Title: **Commission Regulation 22-12 Amendment #1, Small Game Season Changes for the 2023-2024 season**

Purpose: The Commission will consider and adopt changes to seasons, bag limits and special regulations for upland game birds, rabbits, wild turkey and furbearers.

Summary

The Department's Game Division has prepared recommendations for Commission Regulation CR22-12 Amendment #1. This amendment modifies Greater sage-grouse open and closed hunt units, adds hunt units for wild turkey and modifies quotas for wild turkey. This amendment also proposes changes to bobcat pelt sealing dates.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

Greater Sage-grouse

Even though sage-grouse (and other upland game species) were faced with severe to extreme drought conditions during most of 2022, they still managed to be more productive than in recent years. Sage-grouse also display high survival rates during the winter months as long as sagebrush is available to them. 2023 spring lek surveys found an increase in attendance in several areas of the state and we are recommending re-opening some hunt units based on these results. Alternatively, there were a few areas where attendance was poor compared to previous years and we are recommending closing those hunt units. The proposed changes are summarized as follows:

- Re-open hunt unit 075 in Elko County
- Re-open hunt unit 101-102 in Elko County
- Re-open hunt units 172 and 173 in Nye and Lander County
- Close hunt units 161 and 162 in Nye, Eureka and Lander County

- Re-open hunt unit 015 in Washoe County

Wild Turkey

Most wild turkey populations are maintaining themselves at sustainable levels throughout the state. There are some instances where a slight decline has been noted and we are recommending quota changes for the spring 2024 season accordingly. However, there are some instances where splitting up hunt unit groups will create additional opportunity and there are a couple of instances where we feel we can take advantage of other state's (Utah) efforts to establish turkeys and feel comfortable with developing a new hunt for the Lyon County portion of hunt unit 202, which would include the Walker River Recreation Area. Translocations into this portion of the East Walker River have been very successful. The proposed changes for the 2024 spring turkey season are summarized below:

- Decreasing junior tag quota for Mason Valley WMA from 3 to 2.
- Removing hunt unit 103 from the junior tag hunt unit group that includes 102 and 065.
- Reducing the junior tag quota for Lincoln County from 5 to 4.
- Developing a hunt for unit 091 of Elko County with a proposed quota of 2.
- Developing a hunt for units 103 and 108 of Elko and White Pine County with a proposed quota of 4.
- Separating the Lincoln County hunt into two hunt areas including hunt unit 231 of Lincoln County with a proposed quota of 4 and hunt units 241 and 242 with a proposed quota of 10.
- Reducing the tag quota for the Mason Valley WMA from 3 to 2 for each hunt period and eliminating the non-resident tag.
- Reducing the tag quota for Moapa Valley from 4 to 3 for each hunt period.

Bobcat Pelt Sealing Dates

A few modifications were necessary for available bobcat pelt sealing dates during the winter months of early 2024. These changes are as follows:

- Change the January sealing date in Ely from the 18th to the 17th and conduct the sealing at 2018 Pioche Highway in Ely (this will eventually be a portion of the Steptoe Valley WMA and facilities there are more accommodating for pelt sealing than the Ely NDOW office).
- Eliminate the Eureka pelt sealing date as this is no longer a manned station.
- Alter the time frame for the January 17th and February 28th Las Vegas pelt sealing dates from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. to noon.
- Alter the February 7th pelt sealing date in Tonopah from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. to noon.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation as presented.

STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Section 501.181, 503.090, 503.140 and 503.245 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of game birds, small game, and furbearing mammals.

CR 22-12 Amendment #1

2023-2024

SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS, RABBITS, WILD TURKEY, FURBEARERS, AMERICAN CROW, MOURNING AND WHITE-WINGED DOVE, AND FALCONRY SEASONS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRDS AND RABBITS.

THIS AMENDMENT MODIFIES GREATER SAGE-GROUSE OPEN AND CLOSED HUNT UNITS, ADDS HUNT UNITS FOR WILD TURKEY AND MODIFIES QUOTAS AND PROPOSES CHANGES TO BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *blue italics* is new; matter in red brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

UPLAND GAME (Units referenced are Game Management Units)

SAGE-GROUSE	
OPEN AREAS:	Hunt Units 062, 064, 067, [071, 072, 073 and 074] <i>071-075</i> , and <i>101-102</i> in Elko County
SEASON DATES:	September 23 – October 1, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 2.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to nonresidents.

SAGE-GROUSE	
OPEN AREAS:	<p>Hunt Units, or those portions of Hunt Units, 161 and 162 in Eureka 172 and 173 in Lander and Nye County</p> <p>Hunt Units, or those portions of Hunt Units, 012, 013 and 015 in Washoe County</p> <p>Hunt Unit, or that portion of Hunt Unit 012 in Humboldt County</p> <p>Hunt Units 031 and 051 in Humboldt County</p>
SEASON DATES:	September 23 – 24, 2023
LIMITS:	Daily bag limit 2. Possession limit 2.
SHOOTING HOURS:	Sunrise to sunset daily.
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	Closed to nonresidents.

WILD TURKEY

2024 SPRING TURKEY APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT HUNTS:

Unless his or her privilege is limited or revoked pursuant to law, an eligible person may apply once for a type of hunt for Wild Turkey during a draw period.

Only one person may apply on an application.

Except for those Wild Turkey hunts requiring the landowner to sign the application, Wild Turkey applications must be submitted online through www.ndowlicensing.com. Hand delivered applications will not be accepted. Applications will be accepted until 11:00:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday in February. Applications for bonus points only will be accepted until 11:00:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday in February. The release date will be on or before the first Friday in March.

Except as specified for the Junior Wild Turkey Hunts and Landowner Hunts, any remaining tags will be available on a first come, first serve basis through www.ndowlicensing.com. Remaining tags will be sold until seven (7) weekdays prior to the close of the season.

Only one Wild Turkey tag can be awarded to an individual within a calendar year.

JUNIOR WILD TURKEY 2024 SPRING - HUNT 0138

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:	Bearded Wild Turkey	
LIMIT:	1 by tag only.	
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily	
SPECIAL REGULATIONS:	<p>Youth must be 12 prior to the opening of the hunt season indicated and not attain their 18th birthday until after the last day of the hunt season indicated, pursuant to NAC 502.063.</p> <p>Applications for these tags or bonus points will only be accepted during the draw application periods. Remaining tags will not be issued.</p> <p>Closed to nonresidents.</p>	
OPEN AREAS:	Season Dates	Quota
Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	3 2
Moapa Valley of Clark County*	Last Saturday in March through second Friday in April	3
Hunt Units 102, 103 & and 065 within Elko County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	3
Hunt Unit 115 within White Pine County**	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	1
Pershing County*	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	2
Unit 151 and 152 of Lander County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	2
Unit 154 of Lander County*	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	1
Lincoln County	Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May	5 4

** Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on private lands and permission should be obtained from a landowner before applying for this hunt.*

*** Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on Great Basin National Park lands. Hunting is not permitted within park boundaries.*

WILD TURKEY 2024 SPRING – LIMITED ENTRY – HUNTS 0131 & 0132			
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:	Bearded Wild Turkey		
LIMIT:	1 by tag only		
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily		
UNIT 091 of ELKO COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	2	-
UNIT 101 of ELKO COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	5	-
UNITS 102 & 065 of ELKO COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	10	1
UNITS 103 and 108 of ELKO and WHITE PINE COUNTY			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	4	-
UNITS 151 and 152 of LANDER COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – second Sunday in April	3	-
	Third Saturday in April – first Sunday in May	3	-
UNIT 154 of LANDER COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	4	-
UNIT 231 of LINCOLN COUNTY			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	Last Saturday in March – first Sunday in May	4	-
*Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on private lands and permission should be obtained from a landowner before applying for this hunt.			

WILD TURKEY 2024 SPRING – LIMITED ENTRY – HUNTS 0131 & 0132			
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:	Bearded Wild Turkey		
LIMIT:	1 by tag only		
SHOOTING HOURS:	One half hour before sunrise to sunset daily		
UNITS 241 and 242 of LINCOLN COUNTY			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	<i>Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May</i>	10	1
THAT PORTION OF HUNT UNIT 202 in LYON COUNTY			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	<i>Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May</i>	2	-
MASON VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA ONLY OF UNIT 203			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Periods:	March 30 – April 7, 2024	3 2	4
	April 13 – April 21, 2024	3 2	-
	April 27 – May 5, 2024	3 2	-
MOAPA VALLEY PORTION OF CLARK COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Periods:	March 23 – March 29, 2024	4 3	-
	March 30 – April 5, 2024	4 3	-
	April 6 – April 12, 2024	4 3	1
PERSHING COUNTY*			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	<i>Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May</i>	10	1
UNIT 115 OF WHITE PINE COUNTY**			
	Seasons	Tag Quota	
		Resident Hunt 0131	Nonresident Hunt 0132
Hunt Period:	<i>Last Saturday in March through first Sunday in May</i>	4	-
*Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on private lands and permission should be obtained from a landowner before applying for this hunt.			
**Applicants are advised that a significant portion of the turkey population occurs on Great Basin National Park lands. Hunting is not permitted within park boundaries.			

FURBEARING ANIMALS

BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES

Pelt sealing, other than a single exception for taxidermy sealings, will be done only on the dates and during the times specified. Sealing locations will be at Department offices unless otherwise noted.

BOBCAT PELT SEALING DATES FOR THE 2023-2024 SEASON			
City	Date	Time	Location
Carson City	January 16	10am – 2 p.m.	NDOW Warehouse Corner of south Carson at Colorado St.
Elko	January 16 February 20 February 28	9a.m. – 3 p.m.	NDOW Elko Office
Ely	January [18] 17 February 21	[8 a.m. – Noon] 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	[NDOW Ely Office] 2018 Pioche Highway Ely, NV 89301
Eureka	[January 17]	[12 p.m. – 4 p.m.]	[NDOW Eureka Office]
Fallon	January 23	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office
	Annually scheduled to coincide with the NTA Fur Sale.	7 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Nevada Trappers Association Fallon Fur Sale
	February 28	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	NDOW Fallon Office
Las Vegas	January 17	8 a.m. – [5 p.m.] Noon	NDOW Las Vegas Office
	February 20	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	
	February 28	[1 p.m. – 5 p.m.] 8:00 a.m. - Noon	
Panaca	February 20	8 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Nevada State Parks - NDOW Office, Panaca
	February 28		
Tonopah	February 7	8 a.m. 1:00 p.m. – 5 p.m.	NDOW Tonopah Office
	February 28	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	
Winnemucca	January 24	8 a.m. – Noon	NDOW Winnemucca Office

Taxidermy Pelt Sealing: From the opening day of the bobcat season (Second Saturday in November) until the first regularly scheduled bobcat sealing date in January, any person who wishes to have a single bobcat (1 per person per season) sealed for the purpose of tanning or taxidermy may personally present the lawfully taken pelt to any Nevada Department of Wildlife Regional office (Elko, Las Vegas, Reno) and request to have the Departments seal affixed to the pelt. All requirements of NAC 502.347 apply.