



**STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
Habitat Division**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**JULY 21, 2023**

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

**From:** Mark Freese, Habitat Division Administrator

**Title:** **Designation of Wildlife Management Areas**

**Purpose:** The Commission will review Policy 65 – Designation of Wildlife Management Areas and may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading.

**Summary**

The Pole Canyon Conservation and Public Access Easements were executed in December 2022. Public access and recreation limitations and restrictions were included in the easements. In order to regulate and enforce public access on these easements the Commission must first designate this area as a Cooperative Wildlife Management Area.

**Brief Explanation of Proposed Guidance**

NRS 504.140 states, “The Department is authorized, subject to approval by the Commission, to enter into agreements with landowners, individually or in groups, to establish wildlife management areas and to enforce regulations necessary thereto for the purpose of providing greater areas for the public to hunt or fish on private lands and to protect the landowner or lessee from damage due to trespass or excessive hunting or fishing pressure.” Public access and recreation limitations and restrictions were included in the easements. In order to regulate and enforce public access on these easements the Commission must first designate this area as a Cooperative Wildlife Management Area.

**Recommendation**

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed Policy 65 changes, designating Pole Canyon as a Cooperative Wildlife Management Area.

**STATE OF NEVADA  
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

**Commission Policy Number 65**

**Number: P-65  
Title: Designation of Wildlife  
Management Areas  
Reference: NRS 504.140 and 504.143  
Effective Date: March 28, 1980  
Amended Date: July 29, 2000 November  
3, 2017 and March 26, 2022**

**PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for the designation of cooperative wildlife management areas and state-owned or controlled wildlife management areas and to list same.

**POLICY**

**Cooperative Wildlife Management Areas**

Any area shall be so designated when the Department, subject to the approval by the Commission, enters into an agreement to establish areas and to enforce regulations thereby providing a greater opportunity for the public to hunt, fish, camp, boat or participate in other compatible recreational activity on private lands and to protect the landowner or lessee from damage due to trespass or excessive pressure. The following areas have been designated:

1. Fort Churchill Cooling Pond Cooperative Wildlife Management Area.
- 1.2. Pole Canyon Cooperative Wildlife Management Area

**Wildlife Management Areas**

Any areas shall be designated when the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners (the Commission) acquires lands and waters to effectuate a coordinated and balanced program resulting in the maximum revival of fish and wildlife and in the maximum recreational advantages to the people of the State. The following areas have been so designated and are identified by NDOW administrative region:

**Western Region**

1. Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area.
2. Scripps Wildlife Management Area.
3. Fernley Wildlife Management Area.
4. Humboldt Wildlife Management Area.
5. Alkali Lake Wildlife Management Area.
6. Carson Lake and Pasture

Eastern Region

1. Franklin Lake Wildlife Management Area.
2. Bruneau River Wildlife Management Area.
3. Steptoe Valley Wildlife Management Area.
4. Argenta Wildlife Management Area.

Southern Region

1. Overton Wildlife Management Area.
2. Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area.
3. Key Pittman Wildlife Management Area.

The lands and waters designated as wildlife management areas under the provisions of this policy are subject to any Commission regulations established pursuant to Chapter 504 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

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

BY ORDER OF THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION, MARCH 26, 2022.

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Tiffany East, Chairwoman  
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners