

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location

Churchill Administrative Complex
Commissioner Chambers
155 N Taylor St, Suite 145
Fallon, NV 89406

The meeting will be broadcast live at the NDOW Commission YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFHgHLM0MZa2Hx7og8pFcQ>

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Friday, August 11, 2023:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83465711368?pwd=K2x1YUNZcTNRK1pzTVJYZG12QkdQdz09>

Passcode: 535049

If you wish to Make public comment, please use this link for Saturday August 12, 2023:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87629930754?pwd=cmYrUVo2amo5aG13T0g1dIM5VUI4QT09>

Passcode: 535049

Meeting materials are available at: <https://www.ndow.org/events/august-2023-commission-meeting-2/>

Public comment will be taken on each action item following Commission discussion and before any action is taken. **Persons attending virtually wishing to comment are invited to raise their virtual hands in the virtual meeting forum during the appropriate time; each person offering public comment during this period will be limited to not more than 3 minutes.** The Chair may allow persons representing groups to speak for six minutes. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers. Persons are invited to submit written comments on items prior to the meeting at wildlifecommission@ndow.org or attend and make comment during the meeting. Public comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. To ensure the public has notice of all matters the Commission will consider, Commissioners may choose not to respond to public comments to avoid the appearance of deliberation on topics not listed for action on the agenda. Minutes of the meeting will be produced in summary format. All persons present are asked to sign-in, whether speaking or not.

In accordance with NRS 501.105 and Commission Policy 1, Adoption of Commission Policies, Resolutions, and Record Keeping: *"The Commission will have a minimum of two readings not on consecutive days of the revised or proposed policy in public meetings before the Commission takes action to adopt, amend, or repeal, or disapprove the policy. Exception: If the policy is declared an emergency the Commission may read, amend, and adopt the policy in two readings on 2 consecutive days."*

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners present for the 2-day meeting

Vice Chairman Shane Rogers
Commissioner Eddie Booth
Commissioner Mario Walther
Commissioner Thomas Barnes
Senior Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett

Commissioner Casey Kiel
Commissioner Paul Young
Commissioner David McNinch
Commissioner Alana Wise
Secretary Alan Jenne

Nevada Department of Wildlife personnel in attendance:

Deputy Director Mike Scott
Administrative Assistant III Cameron Tull
Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese
Data and Technology Services Administrator Kim Munoz
Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa
Wildlife Diversity Division Administrator Jennifer Newmark
Law Enforcement Administrator Kristy Knight
Conservation Education Administrator Chris Vasey
Wildlife Staff Specialist Jessica Brooks
Wildlife Diversity Biologist 4 David Catalano
Habitat Biologist 3 Brittany Allen
Wildlife Area Supervisor 2 Isaac Metcalf
Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme

Deputy Director Jordan Goshert
Management Analyst III Kailey Musso
Habitat Biologist 4 Caleb McAadoo
Wildlife Staff Specialist Matt Maples
IT Professional 4 Eric Dugger
Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Zahradka
Wildlife Staff Specialist Lee Davis
Administrative Assistant 4 Harmony Sibley
Fisheries Biologist 4 Travis Hawks
Wildlife Staff Specialist Justin Small
Wildlife Area Tech 1 Jacob Ward
Wildlife Diversity Biologist 3 Jenni Jeffres

Public in attendance:

Rob Boehmer, Carson CABMW
Dave Talaga, Calrk CABMW
Jim Cooney, Elko CABMW
Jim Wilson, Carson CABMW
Jason Sibley, Carson CABMW
Tom Glass, Western Lands Group
Andy Weissner, Western Lands Group
Mike Ryan, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited
Justin French, private citizen
Linda Linton, Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife
Jim Puryear, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno
Marlee Jenkins, Conservation Districts Program
Cary Jellison, private citizen
Dave Gowan, private citizen
Kris Coston, Nevada Muley Fanatic Foundation
Erich Dutchover, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Curtis Moore, Natural Resources Director Elko County
Carl Erquiaga, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Nicholas Maus, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

Coby Rowe, Washoe CABMW
Joe Crim, Pershing CABMW
Ted McElvain, Lander CABMW
Jim Curran, Churchill CABMW
Craig Burnside, Douglas CABMW
Melissa Sherburne, Western land Group
Wyatt Anthony, Winecup Gamble Ranch
Don Klebenow, private citizen
Elena Larson, private citizen
Zach Lambert, Gordon Darby
Liz Munn, The Nature Conservancy
Aaron Swift, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Josh Vitori, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno
Jana Wright, private citizen
Larry Summers, private citizen
Luisa Demorest, private citizen
Stephanie Myers, private citizen
Josh Maderis, private citizen
Ryan Browne, private citizen

Friday, August 11, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Vice Chair Rogers INFORMATIONAL

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. The roll was called and all members were present except Chairman Caviglia and Commissioner Kiel were absent.

2. Public Comment Period

INFORMATIONAL

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

Linda Linton, representing the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife, voiced her opposition to the Winecup Gamble land exchange. She suggested effects on wildlife, access to the public, and access to sportsmen should be considered.

Justin French, a private citizen, stated he is in attendance to listen to the Winecup Gamble presentation. He voiced his concern for the effects on elk hunting in the area due to the land exchange.

Don Klebenow, a private citizen, voiced his concerns with Western Lands Group and the way they are trying to get the land exchange passed through congress.

Jim Puryear representing Nevada Bighorns Unlimited Reno, stated he didn't see the benefit to the public in the proposed land exchange.

Carl Erquiaga, representing Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, voiced his opposition to the Winecup Gamble land exchange. He is worried public access will be restricted.

Eric Dutchover, representing Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, stated there are too many unknowns to support the land exchange.

Curtis Moore, Natural Resources Director Elko County, expressed the importance of public access to the citizens of Elko County and stated they will be looking for guarantees to allow public access.

Josh Vittori, a private citizen, voiced his concern with the land valuation proposed.

Cary Jellison, a private citizen, stated he doesn't see the benefit to the public regarding the land exchange.

3. Election of Officers

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

In accordance with Commission Policy #1, the Commission will elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER CAVIGLIA AS CHAIRPERSON. COMMISSIONER BARNES SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONERS KIEL AND CAVIGLIA WERE ABSENT.

No CABMW comment.

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MOVED TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER ROGERS AS VICE CHAIRPERSON. COMMISSIONER BARNES SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONER KIEL AND CHAIRMAN CAVIGLIA WERE ABSENT.

4. Approval of Agenda – Chairperson **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda for August 11, 2023. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

Secretary Alan Jenne asked the Commission for consideration to move the Wayne E. Kirch presentation up to after agenda item seven. He also asked to have agenda item #11, the Winecup Gamble Ranch presentation to be at the call of the chair.

Wyatt Anthony, a representative of Winecup Gamble Ranch, stated he was present and available as needed.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

COMMISSIONER MCNINCH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE NOTED CHANGES PRESENTED BY SECRETARY JENNE. COMMISSIONER WALTHER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONER KIEL AND CHAIRMAN CAVIGLIA WERE ABSENT.

5.* Approval of Minutes – Chairperson **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Commission minutes may be approved from the June 23 and 24, 2023 meeting.

Commissioner McNinch pointed out corrections needed on pages six and nine of the minutes.

Vice Chair Rogers pointed out a correction on page 20 of the minutes.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

COMMISSIONER WALTHER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH THE SUGGESTED CHANGES. COMMISSIONER BARNES SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0. COMMISSIONER KIEL AND CHAIRMAN CAVIGLIA WERE ABSENT.

6. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – **INFORMATIONAL**
Chairperson

Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Jenne may also be discussed.

Secretary Jenne recognized Wildlife Staff Specialist Mike Cox and Game Biologist Ed Partee for 30 years with the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Commissioner Booth commended Game Biologist Ed Partee on the job he's done

over the past 30 years including the work he put in around Winnemucca.

Habitat Biologist Caleb McAdoo recognized Secretary Jenne for his 30 years of service to the State of Nevada.

Deputy Director Mike Scott congratulated Secretary Jenne on his 30 years of service.

Vice Chair Rogers updated the Commission on recent correspondence the Department received. He mentioned an appeal regarding Mr. Paul Baird.

Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Craig Burkett stated that Mr. Baird's request was denied because the extenuating circumstance was not met.

Vice Chair Rogers brought up a letter that was received from Mr. Van Diepen.

DAG Burkett explained that only a license or a permit can be appealed, therefore Mr. Van Diepen's tag denial is not eligible for appeal. DAG Burkett stated that Mr. Van Diepen will be allowed to speak to the Commission if he chooses.

Vice Chair Rogers mentioned a letter from Paul Dixon regarding the use of blood tracking hounds in Nevada, and an email from Sonia Villanueva regarding a bear hounding ban.

Secretary Jenne stated the remaining correspondence was agenda item centric and can be addressed with the appropriate agenda item.

7. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) INFORMATIONAL
Member Items

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

Jim Cooney, representing Elko CABMW, voiced his opposition to the Winecup Gamble land exchange. He stated the land exchange will be the sole focus of the next Elko CABMW meeting.

Coby Rowe, representing Washoe CABMW, voiced his opposition to the Winecup Gamble land exchange. He stated there was public comment at the last Washoe CABMW meeting that was also in opposition to the land exchange.

Dave Talaga, representing Clark CABMW, stated he hopes the presentation regarding the Winecup Gamble land exchange will clear up a lot of the questions Clark CABMW has.

8. Wayne E. Kirch 2023 Award Presentation – Secretary Jenne INFORMATIONAL

Secretary Jenne will present the 2023 Wayne E. Kirch award that acknowledges a deserving individual, nonprofit organization, outdoor sports club, or business who have achieved significant results toward the conservation, management, or enhancement of wildlife in the State of Nevada during the last calendar year.

Secretary Jenne introduced the Wayne E. Kirch award.

Vice Chair Rogers presented the 2022 Wayne E. Kirch award to Elena Larson with

the Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation.

Elena Larson accepted the award and thanked her coworkers and restoration crew for their support.

Secretary Jenne stated that much of the work Ms. Larson has done is visible on the East side of Reno, NV.

9. **Winecup Gamble Land Exchange – Wyatt Anthony and Melissa Sherburne – Western Land Group, Inc.** **INFORMATIONAL**
A presentation will be provided on the proposed Winecup Gamble land exchange.

Wyatt Anthony, representing Winecup Gamble Ranch, presented on the Winecup Gamble land exchange. Melissa Sherburne and Andy Weissner representing Western Lands Group, also presented on the Winecup Gamble land exchange and were available virtually to help answer any questions. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/11-Winecup-Gamble-Land-Exchange.pdf>

Vice Chair Rogers thanked the presenters for the information they provided.

Commissioner Walther asked Mr. Anthony to confirm what is being contemplated is a lands bill, not an administrative exchange.

Mr. Anthony confirmed the land exchange would be completed legislatively.

Commissioner Walther asked if there has been discussion regarding a Conservation Easement of the entirety of the private holding.

Mr. Anthony confirmed there have been conversations, but the ranch prefers to put a Conservation Easement over key areas of environmental concern.

Commissioner Walther asked if the intent of the ranch is to continue as a livestock operation.

Mr. Anthony confirmed that is the intent.

Commissioner Walther asked if the Winecup Gamble Ranch is open to larger discussions regarding Conservation Easements on the land.

Mr. Anthony confirmed they are open to discussing easements on any and all of their land.

Commissioner Walther asked what the estimated cost projections are for the land exchange.

Mr. Anthony asked to clarify if Commissioner Walther's question was specific to the Winecup Gamble Ranch or to the Department.

Commissioner Walther confirmed the question was directed at the costs to all landholders involved.

Mr. Anthony stated the cost will be around one million dollars and two to three years of work.

He mentioned the outcome will be land that is much easier to manage post exchange.

Commissioner Barnes mentioned the land exchange benefits the private landowner at a three to one ratio. He stated in previous land exchanges the public normally receives the acreage benefit. However, he understands that this will be a lands bill, not a land exchange.

Mr. Anthony introduced Tom Glass to answer Commissioner Barnes' question.

Tom Glass, representing Western Lands Group, stated the exchange will be done on fair market value, not on acre per acre value. He stated the appraisals will be prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). He made a case for the three-to-one exchange ratio by explaining that wetlands are worth more per acre than dry desert.

Commissioner Barnes asked how this affects the Department's ability to manage Elk herds in the area that will become private land, and asked how this will effect neighboring ranches.

Mr. Anthony stated the Winecup Gamble Ranch will attempt to set up a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department to manage wildlife on the newly private land.

Commissioner Walther asked if the land exchange will include the transfer of water rights to the public.

Mr. Anthony stated BLM does not want to acquire any water rights. He stated the Winecup Gamble Ranch would maintain any water and mineral rights they already have.

Commissioner Walther asked if Western Lands and the Winecup Gamble Ranch have heard feedback from the Department and if the Winecup Gamble Ranch presentation integrated any feedback from the Department.

Mr. Anthony stated they are waiting for significant feedback from the Department and BLM.

Commissioner Walther asked to clarify if the proposal includes feedback from any department.

Mr. Anthony confirmed it does not.

Melissa Sherburne stated they have only received informal feedback.

Commissioner Young asked if Winecup Gamble Ranch has considered limiting renewable energy development.

Mr. Anthony confirmed they would consider especially in critical migration corridors.

Commissioner Walther asked what this means for wildlife management from the Department's perspective.

Secretary Jenne explained that the Department is in the process of assessing how wildlife management will work post exchange.

Commissioner McNinch presented his thoughts regarding the valuation of the land. He mentioned that land that looks empty can be pristine wildlife habitat. Commissioner McNinch raised concern about the variables involved. He stated things that most people don't value might be very valuable to wildlife. He mentioned that the process is moving very fast and mentioned there are only two Commission meetings between now and Winecup Gamble

Ranch's next timeline milestone.

Commissioner Wise mentioned she wants more information from everyone involved in order to start answering more questions.

Commissioner Barnes asked if there will be any public access available.

Mr. Anthony stated that public access could be made available via Memorandum of Understanding with the Department.

Vice Chair Rogers felt the Commission is behind on this topic. He stated the Commissioners need to learn more and asked what the timeline is going forward.

Mr. Anthony explained they anticipate introducing legislation in 2024.

Commissioner Walther asked if they have talked to legislators.

Mr. Anthony stated they have not held conversations with legislators regarding this project.

Vice Chair Rogers recessed the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Vice Chair Rogers called the meeting back to order at 11:36 a.m.

Commissioner Kiel was present at 11:36 a.m.

10. Reports

INFORMATIONAL

- A. Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) 2023 Annual Conference – Secretary Jenne and Commissioner Rogers**
Reports from the 2023 conference will be provided.

Secretary Jenne stated that the Department attended the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico from July 9th to July 14th. He explained that staff in attendance are given the opportunity to exchange information and unify stances on overarching items regarding wildlife conservation. He mentioned that attendees saw Volume II of the Sagebrush Conservation Strategy and watched the Sagebrush Executive Oversight Committee develop a Wild Horse and Burro Resolution which was passed by WAFWA and will move to the American Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies for a potential supporting resolution.

Vice Chair Rogers described a meeting he attended at WAFWA that included various Commissioners around the Western States and was very educational. He also heard a lot of discussion on mule deer herds and habitat.

Commissioner McNinch stated that he heard a lot of discussion on land access at the conference. He mentioned discussions were had regarding technological advances in weaponry and the impact those advances have on hunting. Commissioner McNinch stated he was given the opportunity to provide input into an informational guide regarding Wildlife Conservation. He mentioned a committee on diversity, equity, and inclusion and stated it presented several areas of growth and opportunity. Commissioner McNinch stated the meetings were full of collaboration, coordination, and networking.

B. Department Activity Report – Secretary Jenne and Division Administrators

A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife recent activities.

DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

Secretary Jenne and Deputy Director Scott attended WAFWA in Sante Fe, New Mexico with many other Department staff and Commissioners. A more detailed report on WAFWA will be given.

Discussions regarding the flooding at Mason Valley are wrapping up as water has been receding. Access for employees has been a top priority and we are thankful to our Engineering staff for their hard work. Hatchery and Wildlife Management Area (WMA) staff have been returning to their homes and resuming work as normal.

The Director’s Office held regional quarterly meetings in the Southern Region and Eastern Region to engage with staff in those regions and to discuss opportunities for improved efficiency.

The Director’s Office has been busy planning for the Mule Deer Enhancement Summit to take place August 17th through 19th in Winnemucca, Nevada.

We are very proud to announce that the Department’s Strategic Plan won first place in the category of One-time Publication from the Association for Conservation Information. We would like to thank all Department staff for their engagement and efforts in helping to develop this plan.

GAME DIVISON

Mule Deer and Antelope Program: Game Division staff met with representatives from Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Nevada Department of Transportation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and NDOW Habitat Division to discuss a path forward to accomplish our goal of completing the Nevada Connectivity Plan that is part of the Sagebrush Habitat Conservation plan by December 2023. NDOT has agreed to contract some portions of this plan, as it relates to assembly bill A.B.112 that directs the NDOT and NDOW to prioritize future wildlife crossings or other safety features related to wildlife vehicle collisions.

Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Program: From June 19 – 25, 2023, the Game Division, with close coordination from the Department of Defense, captured a total of 42 desert bighorn in the Southern Region, 7 animals from Unit 181 and 6 young California bighorn rams from the Sheep Creek Range of which 5 were translocated to Unit 012. These efforts focused primarily on Test and Remove on the Nevada Test and Training Range, monitoring herd recovery from recent disease events, and helping understand bighorn movement within metapopulation areas that includes California. We graciously received donations to help fund these projects from Elko Bighorns Unlimited, Nevada Record Book Foundation, NBU-Midas, NBU-Fallon, and NBU-Reno.

Elk and Moose Program: Early summer is Seasonal Elk Mortality Season (SEMS) occurring in Unit 067 and the southern portion of Unit 062 in Management Area 6. Staff continue to monitor real-time readings from rumen implants logging internal body temperature of elk in the SEMS study area. On July 5th, a cow elk near Big Cottonwood Canyon in Unit 067 began exhibiting elevated body temperature consistent with previous

cases of SEMS. On July 6th, Travis Allen (Area 6 Game Biologist), Peter Lacono (SEMS Technician), and Seth Wilson (Lathrop Intern), with support from Bill Cook in NDOW Air Ops, were able to successfully immobilize and release this cow and collect biological samples critical to understanding the cause of SEMS. On July 15th, this cow perished, and subsequent investigation confirmed clinical symptoms consistent with SEMS. Further laboratory results are pending.

Waterfowl and Furbearer Program: Mallard and Mourning Dove banding has begun for the season. These data are provided as input to Pacific Flyway population models that are used in species management and season setting processes.

Upland Game Program: Staff have been coordinating with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to obtain a source stock of ruffed grouse for translocation to portion of Elko and Humboldt County.

Staff and biologists are preparing to conduct summer rabbit route surveys and chukar surveys in preparation for the annual forecast.

In conjunction with Habitat Division personnel, staff reviewed and provided comment on two separate batches of land use issues provided by the BLM State Office relative to the Greater Sage-grouse Resource Management Plan Amendment.

Commissioner McNinch asked if Seasonal Elk Mortality Season (SEMS) is transmissible.

Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa stated there is too little data to know for sure.

HABITAT DIVISION

Wildlife Management Areas: River flows and flooding has subsided at the Carson Lake, Mason Valley, and Argenta WMAs. Flows along the Carson River peaked at nearly 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) in late-May with high flows running into mid-July. Much of the Carson Lake WMA remains submerged with water levels about 9 inches higher than experienced in 2017. Water levels are expected to remain high into next year delaying our ability to assess damage, but we expect similar repairs will be necessary to roads, levees and water delivery infrastructure similar to the 2017 flood. The area remains open to foot traffic only and we anticipate perimeter parking and walk-in hunting will persist into the waterfowl hunting season.

Flows along the Walker River peaked on June 8th at 3,900 cfs and remained high through mid-July. On June 13th the Department evacuated non-essential employees and families at both the WMA and Hatchery locations after all access routes were compromised. Employees and affected families remained off-site until July 18th when WMA and engineering staff were able to repair South Lux Lane and provide access to the residences. The WMA received extensive damage and has been closed to the public, with limited access expected in early August. NDOW has been working with the Division of Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assess damages on the property and collect repair costs.

Flows along the Humboldt River peaked on June 1st at 3,100 cfs, which is the highest flows and longest period at flood stage documented at the Argenta WMA. Major flood damage occurred on all access roads and water delivery structures. The Lander County Road Department spent over two weeks fixing all the major access roads, including building and constructing roads back to their former condition using county backhoes, road graders, tractors, brush mowers and skid steers. NDOW is greatly appreciative of Lander Counties

work and will continue to foster this relationship. Thousands of migrating birds are still using the WMA on their annual migration.

Water Development Program: The northern water development crew finished their annual volunteer build season and completed five big game projects, including new builds near Toulon, Bell Canyon at Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon, Sheep Peaks, and Butte Valley south of Wells. The crew and volunteers also rebuilt two small game guzzlers in the Trinity Range and on Dry Valley Rim. The northern crew recently finished up annual inspection flights in the eastern portion of the State and completed inspections on over 300 units. A few units were damaged by heavy snow-loading, but given last winter's record snowfall, most project's fared well. The crew will continue building projects through the summer with three additional projects expected to be completed by this fall.

The southern region crew continues to be busy with projects. The crew has completed seven big game projects, including new construction and rebuilds. Additionally, the crew finished four small game builds and one natural spring fencing project. All big game units were inspected earlier this year by helicopter and crews and volunteers are keeping an eye on water levels. So far, despite several weeks of excessively hot temperatures and little monsoon activity, water levels are sufficient, and no water hauls are forecasted at this time.

Wildfire Update: As of July 31, 2023, 214 fires have consumed 578 acres. We are grateful for a cool and moist spring and early summer and for fire suppression personal keeping fires contained. We will continue to monitor fire activity and remain prepared to provide rehabilitation support as needed.

Vice Chair Rogers stated he was glad to hear that water levels are sustaining through the summer in the southern region.

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY DIVISION

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Statewide Surveys: Yellow-billed cuckoo surveys are ongoing in appropriate habitat within the state. Surveys in the south are being focused on a five-mile stretch of the Virgin River, expanding on where cuckoos have been observed in years prior. The survey effort consists of three visits by surveyors using broadcast calls to increase detection. In addition to this, six automated recording devices are being deployed in the area to increase the likelihood of detections, and to test out this new type of detection method. Cuckoos are a cryptic species with a low detection level, and a low density on the landscape. It is our hope that through using recording device we can more efficiently and accurately identify where these species are located and the habitats they are using. So far surveys in the Virgin River have yielded six detections during the two broadcast surveys. Twelve automated recording devices have also been deployed within cottonwood galleries along the Truckee River in western Nevada. The Truckee River has not been surveyed for cuckoos in the past, and Diversity biologists are hopeful that cuckoos could be found within another new watershed in the northern part of the state. Finally, surveys were conducted on the Lahontan Delta and on the third survey two distinct audible detections followed by visual observations were received indicating a possible breeding pair.

Bald Eagles in the Carson Range: After 3 years without successful nesting, the Marlette Lake bald eagle territory is active again in 2023, with one juvenile recently fledged from the nest. The territory has been active since at least 1996 and will be a focal point during an upcoming dam repair project at Marlette Lake. Wildlife Diversity biologists will be working with the USFWS and project proponents to prepare an Eagle Conservation Plan and ensure that disturbance to the nesting eagle pair is minimized as much as possible during project implementation in 2024-25.

Columbia Spotted Frog Annual Survey: NDOW recently completed the annual monitoring of Columbia spotted frog populations in the Toiyabe range. This year NDOW completed 45 passes at a total of 12 Sentinel Sites. We had 39 total participants from 6 different agencies including a strong showing by NDOT, 3 volunteer teenagers, and many agency interns/seasonals. Frog numbers were higher than the previous two years. Lack of precipitation and the desiccation of historic breeding sites continues to be an issue present for this species. This year frog populations looked good, except for lack of juvenile frogs at some sites, however this may have been a result of late in the spawning season. There were pretty big movements of frogs, with some sites recording frogs over 1.5 miles from sites occupied last year. This is presumably due to all the available water this year from a higher-than-average winter precipitation year.

Reptile Road Cruising: Road cruising surveys, used to document reptile activity throughout the state, have been underway since early spring in the Mojave Desert portion of the state. Surveys are conducted by both NDOW biologists and qualified volunteers. So far, NDOW and volunteers have surveyed 12 nights along the eight established routes in southern Nevada, which have consisted of 29 passes. An additional 12 nights were surveyed opportunistically by volunteers on roads not included in long term monitoring. This effort has resulted in 60 observations of 12 different species. Survey routes in most of the northern portion of the state were delayed due to excessive moisture and cold temperatures. In the Western region four surveys were conducted during May and June that resulted in eight observations of four different species. The most interesting reptile observed was a Long-nosed snake with striking red, black and white markings.

Vice Chair Rogers asked how many mating pairs of mating bald eagles are in the Marlette Lake area.

Wildlife Diversity Biologist 3 Jenni Jeffres stated only one pair exists in the area.

FISHERIES DIVISION

With flows from record runoff finally subsiding, biologists and summertime seasonals are busy with survey and monitoring efforts at Nevada's many lakes, reservoirs, springs, streams, and rivers. We are pleased to announce a few personnel changes at Gallagher Hatchery in Ruby Valley. We welcome Jefferson Nagy, and Kamryn Maloney as new technicians while Jeff McDonald recently promoted to the Assistant Manager position. The Fisheries, Habitat, and Wildlife Diversity Divisions recently welcomed Hope Harper as our new Administrative Assistant II at Reno Headquarters. Hope is a recent graduate of UNR and brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to Reno Headquarters.

Fish Hatcheries: Our Mason Valley Hatchery was only just recently reconnected with the rest of the world after extensive flooding of the Walker River. It wasn't until late-July when personnel and families could finally return to the station, and we could begin distributing our spring allotment of hatchery trout. While the hatchery was stranded, a Department helicopter was utilized in early-July to deliver fish food to a bunch of very hungry fish. Many thanks go out to Game and Habitat Division personnel that helped make this happen.

Native Aquatic Species & Sportfish Program: A number Fisheries personnel assisted with Frog Camp in early-July which is an extensive monitoring effort for Columbia Spotted Frogs in the Toiyabe sub-basin each year. The annual Nevada Fisheries Trophy Book was recently completed and distributed throughout the agency. Many thanks to the Conservation Education Division, our Sportfish Staff and Administrative Assistants for a much-improved product this year!

Eastern Region Fisheries: As another testament to the magnitude of the past winter and spring, Liberty Lake in the Ruby Mountains finally became ice free in mid-July. Surveys of the upper Bruneau River tributaries found native Redband Trout that persisted during the prior drought while lower numbers were documented on the mainstem of the river. A survey of Deep Creek in the Quinn Canyon Range found a robust population of Bonneville Cutthroat Trout. This out-of-basin population originated from a transplant in 1999 and had not been surveyed since. Fisheries personnel participated in Range Camp at Timber Creek in White Pine County which has proven to be extremely beneficial in teaching conservation practices to high school students throughout the state.

Southern Region Fisheries: An extensive amount of time and effort has been spent restructuring commercial possession permits of aquatic species in the Southern Region. Moving forward, existing permits for Tilapia will include several provisions related to distribution and record keeping while no permits will be issued for Red Claw Crayfish. Both species are highly invasive and injurious to native populations when inadvertently or illegally introduced into natural habitats. Annual trawl surveys to monitor shad production in Lake Mead were completed in May and June. Survey results from annual trawl surveys at Lake Mead in June showed above average shad production which should result in satisfactory body condition for Striped Bass throughout the year.

Western Region Fisheries: With favorable water conditions not seen in years, fish augmentations and introductions have been completed to take advantage of available habitat. Little Washoe Lake received an augmentation of Largemouth Bass while Bluegill sourced from a private pond in Humboldt County were moved to Jiggs Reservoir and Comins Lake in the Eastern Region. At the request of golf course staff, a volunteer project was conducted to capture Largemouth Bass from ponds Redhawk golf course ponds which were subsequently transferred to Battle Born Pond (Kiley Ranch). Many Nevada NDOW personnel participated in the annual YY Brook Trout project at Abel Creek in Humboldt County in late-July. This ongoing project in Nevada involves regular stocking of YY Brook Trout coupled with removal of sexually viable fish which will eventually skew the sex ratio of the species to all male fish. If successful, this will lead to eventual extirpation of Brook Trout in the stream and promote the recolonization and expansion of the stream's native LCT population that currently exists only in its headwaters. With increased water, algae blooms have recently been reported at Washoe Lake, Lahontan Reservoir, Bilk Creek Reservoir, and Knott Creek Reservoir. When appropriate, recreational advisories were posted. The new Western Region electrofishing raft made its maiden voyage on the Truckee River in July and has quickly proved to be a valuable and efficient tool for sampling of out river aquatic populations.

DATA AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DIVISION

Licensing: The Licensing staff issued 2023 Dream Tag to the winners in the beginning of July. The Dream Tag program made \$555,744.25 this year.

The First Come First Serve program opened on July 24th and in just the first week we have sent 119 tags into the program, which is roughly 10% less than this time last year.

The Hunt staff had a successful Overton Dove draw with results being released July 28, this season opens September 1. Swan permits application will open on August 21st.

Our Special Licenses and Permits staff have been working to finalize the form and process for the new Golden Eagle permit that is opening this month.

Geographic Information System: We still have not been able to hire any Geographic Information System staff and are very grateful for all the help from the Habitat Division staff for assisting with the on-going needs and records requests.

Information Technology: Finally, the Information Technology staff are still working with Spectrum to finalize the telecommunication installation for the new Fallon office. They also have been working with State I.T. around reoccurring issues with our phone service at the Elko office. They are started the annual computer replacement cycle and will be busy for the next several months deploying new desktops to staff.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Events: Conservation Education staff hosted the annual Association for Conservation Information (ACI) Conference in Stateline, Nevada from July 24-27. ACI is made up of communicators, marketing professionals, and educators, from state and federal wildlife agencies, as well as private conservation organizations. The conference received high marks by all the over 130 attendees.

During the ACI Awards Night, Nevada earned four national awards for first place for website (ndow.org), first place for book or report (Nevada's Strategic Plan), second place for communications campaign - educational (Boat Safe Nevada) and second place for regulations publications (Nevada Small Game Hunting Seasons & Regulations). The awards ended on a high note as boating education coordinator Aaron Meier was awarded the Spirit of ACI award for his contributions to the association. Meier becomes only the second person to win this award twice since its inception in 1986.

The western region staff educators participated in the Chukar Chaser annual youth clay shooting competition in Winnemucca NV. This event was organized by wildlife commissioner Eddy Booth. 50 kids participated and western region educators spoke about department programs and the youth license fund.

The western region participated in the Mason T Ortiz camp. The camp had 80 campers participate in the 3-day overnight camp. NDOW educators ran multiple stations including, shotguns, 22 rifles, fishing skulls and hides, wildlife tracks and wildlife identification and a new Know Your Nevada reptile's station.

Outreach: Small Game Hunting Guide Regulations have recently been completed and will be on shelves soon. The Big Game Status publication that shows the 2022 recap of the big game stats was also completed and handed out. Additionally, the 2022 Trophy Fish book publication was completed as well as the external Wildside newsletter.

NDOW Conservation Education staff participated in multiple national social media campaigns on the agency's social media platforms. These included Latino Conservation Week aimed at supporting the Latino community getting outdoors and participating in activities to protect our natural resources, and also the Monarch Blitz, which encourages people to share monarch and milkweed observations to help biologists learn more about these species.

Conservation Education staff also kicked off a brand-new "MythBusters Monday" social media campaign which features posts every other week clearing up common misconceptions surrounding Nevada's wildlife.

Media Highlights: Over the last month, NDOW was mentioned 83 times by TV, print, online and radio news, reaching an audience of more than 6,881,000. Examples of topics

highlighted over the past month include sagebrush habitat loss and the impacts, an abundance of toads in the North Valleys due to the water we've had this year, snake safety, what to do if you find young wildlife, bear awareness for Lake Tahoe visitors, wildlife crossings and boating safety.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Personnel Updates: Two new game wardens started on July 3. One started the academy July 24th and the other is a lateral and has started field training. Once field training is successfully completed for each new warden, one will be stationed in Eureka and the other in Las Vegas.

Lt. Jason Jackson transferred from the Western Region to the Eastern Region. The Western Region Lt. position is now open, and we are working on filling that position.

Water Operations: Operation Dry Water is a 3-day saturation patrol the first weekend in July to identify and arrest intoxicated operators of motorboats. Over this weekend, game Wardens contacted 328 vessels with 913 persons on board, issued 87 citations, issued 234 warnings, tested 22 operators for operating under the influence, and arrested 1 for operating under the influence.

Water investigations included a boat accident investigation with 2 kayakers missing on the Carson River, which led to one body recovery and still searching for the second missing kayaker, a fatal personal watercraft accident on Tahoe, a fatal boat accident on Lake Mead, and a swamping boat accident on Tahoe. Additionally, they responded to a personal watercraft operator that went missing after taking off his life jacket to swim on South Fork Reservoir. They helped with the body recovery.

The subject that killed an endangered Razorback sucker at Lake Mohave plead guilty to the violation. He was given 12 demerits and a fine. It should be noted that the individual reportedly consumed the fish and stated that it was terrible.

Land Operations: A warden responded to a rollover UTV crash at Harrison Pass. Extrication of the victim was required. The warden helped with medical. A Game warden assisted with a motorcycle accident.

Game wardens responded to numerous urban wildlife and dead animal calls, including, a homeowner who shot a bear that he said was in his garage. The bear was not killed and fled from the shooter. A bear biologist and game warden found the bear and tranquilized it. The bear had to be euthanized. This incident remains under investigation.

Outreach: Game Wardens assisted with the antelope, black bear, and bighorn workshops and taught vessel operations for new hires and State and County law enforcement personnel.

Commissioner McNinch commended Law Enforcement Division Administrator Kristy Knight for the work the Law Enforcement Division is doing.

Commissioner Kiel asked what the majority of citations were during Operation Dry Water.

Law Enforcement Division Administrator Kristy Knight stated she didn't have that information on hand.

Secretary Jenne reiterated the importance of wearing a life jacket.

Vice Chair Rogers recessed at 12:36 p.m.

Vice Chair Rogers reconvened at 1:47 p.m.

- C.* Litigation Report – Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett**
A report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation.

Deputy Attorney General Craig Burkett presented the litigation report. He explained that an affirmative claim the Department brought will be included on the next litigation report regarding a dispute with White Pine County and the new Blue Diamond property.

- D.* Nevada Revised Statutes 338 Public Works Contracts – Deputy Director Jordan Goshert**
A report will be provided on public works contracts awarded by the Department in the previous fiscal year.

Deputy Director Jordan Goshert stated 15 new public works contracts were awarded from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

- E. The 2023 Draw Overview – Gordon Darby Representative Zack Lambert and Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Kim Munoz** The Department's vendor that accepts hunt applications and conducts the random draw for hunting tags will provide an overview of this year's application and hunt statistics, conducting the random draw.

Zack Lambert, representing Gordon Darby, presented on the 2023 Big Game Draw. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/FINAL-Nevada-Wildlife-Commission-Report-2023.pdf>

Commissioner Wise asked if the spike in 11-15-year-old new customers is normal.

Zack Lambert confirmed that data is not out of the ordinary. He explained that age group contains juniors aging into being able to buy a hunting license.

Commissioner Booth asked if the Department's free fishing licenses contributed to the spike in new 11-15-year-old customers.

Zack Lambert stated that the free license program started after the data presented was collected.

Commissioner McNinch asked if the 11-15-year-old age group is putting in for youth tags or entering the general draw.

Zack Lambert stated most of the youth put in for other big game species, but most of those are bonus point only applications.

Commissioner Kiel asked how far the reactivation data goes back.

Zack Lambert stated the data goes back to 2018, but most of those are one-year lapses.

Vice Chair Rogers asked if the trends seen in Nevada are consistent with trends in other states.

Zack Lambert stated that applications are up all over the West, but that decisions the Commission has made and marketing from the Department have driven applications up.

Secretary Jenne stated that Nevada is the only state that has more applications now than during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner McNinch was impressed with the large increase in applications.

Vice Chair Rogers commended Zack Lambert and Gordon Darby on the efficiency of the draw results.

11. **Habitat Division Program Overview – Habitat INFORMATIONAL
Division Administrator Mark Freese and Habitat Division Staff Jasmine Kleiber, Matt Maples, Lee Davis, Mike Zahradka, and Justin Small**
A presentation will be provided on the Habitat Division Programs.

Secretary Jenne stated that over the next seven Commission meetings each division will present on their recent programs.

Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese, Staff Specialist Lee Davis, Staff Specialist Mike Zahradka, Staff Specialist Matt Maples, and Staff Specialist Justin Small presented the Habitat Division Overview. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/9-Habitat-Division-Overview.pdf>

Commissioner Kiel asked how the Department prioritizes programs.

Habitat Division Administrator Freese explained that priorities change day by day and high priority items are handled effectively with a group effort.

Commissioner Barnes praised the Habitat Division for the excellent work they are doing.

Vice Chair Rogers echoed Commissioner Barnes' comments.

12. **Embracing Partnerships to Benefit Nevada's Wildlife – INFORMATIONAL
Habitat Biologist Brittany Trimble**
A presentation will be provided on the Habitat Division Restoration and Rehabilitation Program.

Habitat Biologist Brittany Trimble presented the Embracing Partnerships to Restore Wildlife Habitat program. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Agenda-item-10-CommissionMtg_Aug11_2023_Partnerships.pdf

Secretary Jenne stated that every division has come together to help on this program. He stated the Department will continue to work with partners to complete restoration and rehabilitation projects.

**13. AB70 \$3 Predatory Fee – Data and Technology INFORMATIONAL
Services Division Administrator Kim Munoz**

The Department's will present the strategy for implementing the change in the Agency Management System (AMS) to allow tag applicants to choose where they want their \$3 fee applied: wildlife management or lethal removal of predators.

Data and Technology Services (DATS) Division Administrator Kim Munoz gave an update on *Assembly Bill 70 from the 2023 Legislative Session*. She stated the Department has come up with a solution which can be completed within the time constraints, that is not overly complicated, and will not incur any extra fees. Applicants will be asked where they want the \$3 predator fee to be placed, then given two options. The first option will be to lethal removal of predatory wildlife, and the second option will be to an annual program for wildlife habitat and research.

Vice Chair Rogers asked to clarify if this change will be implemented by January 2024.

DATS Division Administrator Munoz stated that it will be implemented by January 2024.

Secretary Jenne added the Department is attempting to be very succinct with the wording and plans to solely use language from the bill.

14. Public Comment Period INFORMATIONAL

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

Larry Summers, a private citizen, voiced his opposition to the Winecup Gamble land exchange.

Vice Chair Rogers reminded the Commission of the CABMW workshop that will take place immediately following the end of the Commission meeting. He acknowledged new Commissioner Paul Young and welcomed him to the Commission.

Commissioner Young thanked Vice Chair Rogers.

Secretary Jenne reminded the Commission about the field trip that will occur tomorrow morning after the meeting commences.

Meeting recessed at 3:41 p.m.

County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Workshop INFORMATIONAL

There will be a CABMW Workshop at the close of the Commission Meeting Friday

afternoon to review Open Meeting Law, Commission attendance, action reports, budgetary questions, and any other CABMW matters.

Saturday, August 12, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.

15. **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call of Commission Members and County Advisory Board Members to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) – Chairperson** **INFORMATIONAL**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The roll was called, and all members were present except Chairman Caviglia and Commissioner Wise were absent.

Commissioner Wise was present at 8:02 a.m.

16. **Public Comment Period** **INFORMATIONAL**

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

17. **Approval of Agenda – Chairperson** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Commission will review the agenda and may take action to approve the agenda for August 12, 2023. The Commission may remove items from the agenda, continue items for consideration or take items out of order.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

COMMISSIONER KIEL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER BARNES SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0. CHAIRMAN CAVIGLIA WAS ABSENT.

18. **Nevada Department of Wildlife Project Updates** **INFORMATIONAL**

The Commission has requested that the Department provide regular project updates for ongoing projects and programs as appropriate based on geography and timing of meetings. These updates are intended to provide additional detail in addition to the summaries provided as part of the regular Department Activity Report and are intended to educate the Commission and public as to the Department's ongoing duties and responsibilities.

Wildlife Area Supervisor Isaac Metcalf and Wildlife Area Tech Jacob Ward gave a presentation regarding the Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA). To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/18A-Aug-2023-Commission-Meeting-PP.pdf>

Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme gave a presentation regarding the Migratory Game Bird Banding Program and Botulism. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

<https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/18B-BANDING-PROGRAM-IN-NEVADA.pdf>

Commissioner McNinch didn't realize that birds affected with botulism could be rehabilitated.

Staff Specialist Woolstenhulme explained that rehabilitation is only possible up to a certain point.

Wildlife Diversity Biologist Jeffres gave a presentation regarding Lahontan Valley Shorebirds. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/18C-LVShorebirds_Commission2023-v.2.pdf

Vice Chair Rogers recessed for field trip at 9:00 a.m.

Field Trip – Tour of Fallon Area Projects

INFORMATIONAL

The Commission will tour various NDOW projects in the Fallon area. Informational presentations may be made at several sites, but no action will be taken by the Commission. The public is invited to participate but will be required to provide their own transportation. The meeting will be reconvened at the Commissioner Chambers at the close of the field trip for the remainder of the meeting.

Saturday, August 12, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Rogers reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

19. Member Items/Announcements and Correspondence – Chairperson

INFORMATIONAL

Commissioners may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. The Commission will review and may discuss correspondence sent or received by the Commission since the last regular meeting and may provide copies for the exhibit file (Commissioners may provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record). Correspondence sent or received by Secretary Jenne may also be discussed.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

20. County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW) Member Items

INFORMATIONAL

CABMW members may present emergent items. No action may be taken by the Commission. Any item requiring Commission action will be scheduled on a future Commission agenda.

There were no CABMW comments at this time.

**21. * Commission Policy 23 – Predation Management – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Third Reading – Administrative Procedures, Regulations and Policies
(APRP) Committee Chairman David McNinch and Deputy Director Mike Scott**

The Committee will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.

Secretary Jenne stated an overview of the changes made to Commission Policy 23 will not be given because it will be reintroduced at the November Commission meeting with more substantial edits.

Commissioner Wise asked to confirm that research was still an acceptable use of the \$3 predator fee funds.

Management Analyst Kailey Musso stated page two confirms that research is an acceptable use of the funds.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

DAG Burkett confirmed no motion was needed.

**22. * Commission Policy 24 – Hunting Opportunities FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups – First Reading
– Deputy Director Mike Scott**

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 24, Hunting Opportunities Among Various Weapons Classes and Hunter Groups, may make any necessary changes and may advance the policy to a second reading.

Deputy Director Scott explained the Department is looking for direction on how to apply Policy 24 to the demand success formula. He suggested taking that question to the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee (TAAHC).

Commissioner Wise asked if the direction given by the Commission needs to be written into Policy 24.

Deputy Director Scott stated that the TAAHC could add the direction given.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

DAG Burkett confirmed no motion was needed.

**23. * Commission Policy 65 – Designation of Wildlife FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Management Areas – First Reading - Director Alan Jenne and Habitat
Division Administrator Mark Freese**

The Commission will have a first reading of Commission Policy 65, Designation of Wildlife Management Areas, may make any necessary changes and may advance the

policy to a second reading.

Habitat Division Administrator Freese gave a presentation regarding the Pole Canyon Cooperative Wildlife Management Area. To access the PowerPoint Presentation please click on the link below.

https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/24-Policy-65-presentation_Pole-Canyon-Cooperative-Wildlife-Management-Area.pdf

Commission Kiel asked if access was allowed on the land in the past.

Habitat Biologist Caleb McAdoo gave some history on the area and confirmed that access has been granted in the past.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

COMMISSIONER BARNES MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MOVING POLICY 65 TO A SECOND READING. COMMISSIONER WISE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 8-0. CHAIRMAN CAVIGLIA WAS ABSENT.

**24. Future Commission Meetings and Commission FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
Committee Assignments – Secretary Jenne and Chairperson**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for September 22 and 23, 2023 in Las Vegas, NV. The Commission will review and discuss potential agenda items for that meeting. The Commission may change the date, time, and meeting location at this time. The chairman may designate and adjust committee assignments and add or dissolve committees, as necessary at this time. Any anticipated committee meetings that may occur prior to the next Commission meeting may be discussed.

Secretary Jenne stated the September meeting will focus on fishing regulations, Policy 24 and Policy 65 second readings, and another division overview.

Jim Cooney, representing Elko CABMW, requested an additional agenda item regarding the Winecup Gamble land exchange.

No public comment

Secretary Jenne confirmed that the Department will have an agenda item regarding the Winecup Gamble land exchange.

Commissioner McNinch asked if the Department can present their analysis of the Winecup Gamble land exchange proposal.

Secretary Jenne confirmed the Department will review the Department's correspondence with the Western Lands Group and the Winecup Gamble Ranch, as well as present a summary of the Department's view of the proposal.

Commissioner McNinch emphasized the short timeline in place for the land exchange.

Vice Chair Rogers suggested the addition of a discussion on committee assignments.

Deputy Director Scott suggested a Mule Deer Oversight Committee meeting in mid-September, then provide a report to the Commission.

Commissioner Kiel agreed.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

DAG Burkett confirmed no motion was needed.

25. Public Comment Period

INFORMATIONAL

Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action can be taken by the Commission at this time; any item requiring Commission action may be scheduled on a future Commission agenda. Persons making comment are asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

No CABMW comment

No public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

*Support material provided and posted to the NDOW website, and updates to support material will be posted at <https://www.ndow.org/events/august-2023-commission-meeting-2/>. Support material for this meeting may be requested from the Recording Secretary at (775) 688-1597 or wildlifecommission@ndow.org. In accordance with NRS 241.020 this agenda closes three days prior to the meeting date and has been posted on the NDOW website at <https://www.ndow.org/events/august-2023-commission-meeting-2/>.

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