

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSION**

**NOTICE OF WORKSHOP TO SOLICIT COMMENTS ON PROPOSED  
REGULATIONS**

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is proposing the adoption of regulations pertaining to Chapter 488, 502, 503, and 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code. A workshop will be held during the Board of Wildlife Commissioners Meeting at the Clark County Government Center 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89155, on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 8:00 am. The purpose of the workshop is to solicit written comments from interested persons on the following general topics that may be addressed in the proposed regulations:

**Commission General Regulation, 509 Licensing & Vessel Refund, LCB File No. R037-23**

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 and 488 to allow the Department authority to provide refunds on licenses and vessel products.

**Commission General Regulation 511, Wildlife Management Area Regulations**

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 504 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This Regulation would update Wildlife Management Area (WMA) designations and restrictions.

**Commission General Regulation 512, Fishing Regulation Updates**

The Commission will hold a workshop to consider amending Chapter 488 and 503 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). This regulation would change vessel motor restrictions, amend tackle restrictions, and reclassify protected species classifications.

**The regulation language is subject to change following the discussions and deliberations of the Commission.**

Public comment will be taken on each action item following Commission discussion and before any action is taken. The content of written comments should be consistent with the three (3) minute public comment period allowed during normally conducted meetings.

If a comment is excessively lengthy, the Commission reserves the right to review only that portion that is consistent with this policy. Persons are invited to submit written comments to [wildlifecommission@ndow.org](mailto:wildlifecommission@ndow.org) or may address their comments, data, views, or arguments, in written form, to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, Nevada 89511 attention Director's Office. Written submissions must be received by the Nevada Department of Wildlife 5 weekdays before the meeting.

This Notice of Workshop and support material will be on file at the State Library, 100 Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada for inspection by members of the public during business hours. Persons wishing to request a copy of this notice and the mentioned

regulations may contact Cameron Tull at [cameron.tull@ndow.org](mailto:cameron.tull@ndow.org).

These regulations will also be available at the following websites:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Notice/A/>

<https://notice.nv.gov/>

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/register/>

<https://nvboardofwildlife.org/>

A copy of all materials relating to the proposed regulations may be obtained by contacting the Director's Office at the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, Nevada 89511, (775) 688-1597 or [cameron.tull@ndow.org](mailto:cameron.tull@ndow.org). A reasonable fee may be charged for copies if it is deemed necessary.

08/31/2023

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS**

**NAC 504.135 Restrictions on use of firearms and ammunition. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150, 504.140, 504.143)**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, the discharging of a rifle or pistol is prohibited on the following wildlife management areas:

- (a) Overton in Clark County.
- (b) Key Pittman in Lincoln County.
- (c) Wayne E. Kirch in Nye County.
- (d) Scripps in Washoe County.
- (e) Mason Valley in Lyon County.
- (f) Argenta in Lander County.*

2. Deer may be hunted on the Mason Valley, ~~and~~ Wayne E. Kirch *and Argenta* Wildlife Management Areas only by persons using:

- (a) Shotguns and rifled shotgun slugs or shotgun rounds with sabots that contain a single expanding projectile; or
- (b) Bows and arrows.

Ê A shotgun that is used to hunt deer pursuant to this subsection may be equipped with a smoothbore barrel or a barrel that is partially or fully rifled.

3. The use of shotguns capable of holding more than three shells is prohibited on all wildlife management areas owned or managed by this State unless the shotgun is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so that the total capacity of the shotgun does not exceed three shells. *The use of a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells is permissible on all wildlife management areas owned or managed by this State during the Snow and Ross' Geese season during such time as all other waterfowl seasons are closed.*

4. The use or possession of shells for a shotgun containing shot that is toxic or larger than standard-size T is prohibited on the following wildlife management areas:

- (a) Overton in Clark County.
- (b) Key Pittman in Lincoln County.
- (c) Wayne E. Kirch in Nye County.
- (d) Scripps in Washoe County.
- (e) Mason Valley in Lyon County.
- (f) Fernley in Lyon County.
- (g) Alkali Lake in Lyon County.
- (h) Humboldt in Churchill and Pershing Counties.
- (i) Steptoe Valley in White Pine County.
- (j) Franklin Lake in Elko County.
- (k) Carson Lake in Churchill County*
- (l) Argenta in Lander County*

5. The use or possession of shotgun rounds with sabots that contain other than rifled slugs or a single expanding projectile is prohibited on all wildlife management areas owned or managed by this State.

6. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to persons authorized by the Department to use rifles and pistols for the control of predatory animals and rodents.

7. For the purposes of this section, all shot shall be deemed toxic unless it has been approved as nontoxic by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to 50 C.F.R. § 20.134.

[Bd. of Fish & Game Comm'rs, No. 9 § 23.01-9, eff. 12-29-66; A 10-1-73; 9-1-78; 9-1-80] — (NAC A by Bd. of Wildlife Comm'rs, 1-2-86; 8-22-86, eff. 9-15-86; 10-16-87; 9-13-91; R054-02, 11-19-2002, eff. 3-1-2003; R185-05, 2-23-2006; R107-14, 12-22-2014)

**NAC 504.140 Campfires and bonfires prohibited; exceptions. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 504.140, 504.143)**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, campfires and bonfires are prohibited in wildlife management areas.

2. Campfires are permitted in the:

(a) Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area within the Dave Deacon Campground.

(b) Humboldt Wildlife Management Area in those sites designated for camping.

(c) Fernley Wildlife Management Area.

(d) Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area in those sites designated for camping.

(e) Overton Wildlife Management Area within the rest and trails area.

(f) Bruneau Wildlife Management Area.

*(g) Steptoe Valley Wildlife Management Area in those sites designated for camping.*

[Bd. of Fish & Game Comm'rs, No. 9 § 23.01-11, eff. 12-29-66; A 9-1-78] — (NAC A by Bd. of Wildlife Comm'rs, 11-5-81; 4-27-84, eff. 5-25-84; 8-22-86, eff. 9-15-86; R030-00, 4-3-2000; R054-02, 11-19-2002, eff. 3-1-2003)

**NAC 504.145 Restrictions on camping; building prohibited; restrictions on operation of certain devices. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 504.140, 504.143)**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, camping is prohibited in wildlife management areas.

2. Camping is permitted in the:

(a) Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area in those sites designated for camping.

(b) Wayne E. Kirch Wildlife Management Area within the Dave Deacon Campground.

(c) Humboldt Wildlife Management Area in those sites designated for camping.

(d) Fernley Wildlife Management Area.

(e) Overton Wildlife Management Area within the rest and trails area.

(f) Bruneau Wildlife Management Area, except that camping is not permitted in any building or other structure located within that wildlife management area.

*(g) Steptoe Valley Wildlife Management area in those sites designated for camping.*

3. Camping facilities, including, without limitation, house trailers, must not be stored, parked or maintained in a wildlife management area for more than 8 days, or left in a wildlife management area for occasional occupancy by a person or group of persons associated with the facility.

4. The erection, fabrication or maintenance of a permanent dwelling or building in a wildlife management area is prohibited.

5. A person camping in a site, campground or area within a wildlife management area designated for camping pursuant to subsection 2 shall not operate a television, radio or any other device, including, without limitation, a generator, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. if the device produces sound that is audible beyond the campsite in which it is operated.

[Bd. of Fish & Game Comm'rs Gen. Reg. No. 9 part § 23.01-15, eff. 12-29-66; A 4-1-73; 9-1-78; A by Bd. of Wildlife Comm'rs, 9-1-80] — (NAC A 4-27-84, eff. 5-25-84; 8-22-86, eff. 9-15-86; R030-00, 4-3-2000; R054-02, 11-19-2002, eff. 3-1-2003)

**NAC 504.160 Construction and use of hunting blinds; use of decoys. ([NRS 501.105](#), [501.181](#), [504.140](#), [504.143](#))**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, a person may construct a hunting blind on any wildlife management area if the Department has no obligation to protect a privately constructed blind or to arbitrate the use or priority of use of such a blind. A blind to be constructed must:

(a) Be temporary and portable;

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), be constructed of lumber, screen, fabric, synthetic material or native vegetation; and

(c) In the Kirch, Steptoe Valley and Mason Valley Wildlife Management Areas, be constructed of native vegetation, removable fabric, or a synthetic material that is of a temporary nature.

*(d) In the Argenta Wildlife Management Area, turkey tag holders are limited to use of one portable blind on the WMA.*

2. A group of persons may construct a blind only after the supervisor of the wildlife management area has approved the plans for the blind.

3. Sunken blinds, and barrels and boxes used as sunken blinds, must be covered when not in use to prevent the entrapment of animals.

4. The use of a sink box is prohibited.

5. A blind may not be locked or reserved for the use of a particular person or group of persons.

6. The Department may:

(a) Prohibit the construction of a hunting blind if it is detrimental to a wildlife management area or portion thereof.

(b) Designate a hunting blind on a wildlife management area as intended for the use of persons with physical disabilities pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 to 12213, inclusive, and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

7. A person may use decoys on a wildlife management area so long as the decoys are not left set up in the field between the hours of 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.

[Bd. of Fish & Game Comm'rs Gen. Reg. No. 9 §§ 23.01-17 and 23.01-19, eff. 12-29-66; A 4-1-73; 9-1-78; A by Bd. of Wildlife Comm'rs, 8-29-80] — (NAC A by R054-02, 11-19-2002, eff. 3-1-2003)

*NAC 504.320 Pole Canyon Cooperative Wildlife Management Area (NRS 501.105, 501.181)*

*Pole Canyon is a Wildlife Management Area established in cooperation with Ecotrust Forests III, LLC. The following activities are prohibited on this area:*

- 1. Overnight camping including the parking area;*
- 2. Motorized vehicles, electric or battery-assisted vehicles, or bicycles, and bicycles, except in the Franklin River Access parking area and only on the 1,340 feet of existing 2-track dirt road in the Horse Canyon (Horse Creek) Public Right of Way.*
- 3. Animal assisted access, except for horses and mules.*
- 4. Commercial guiding*
- 5. Predator Hunting*
- 6. Trapping*
- 7. Campfires*

~~Towing a person on water skis, a surfboard, an inflatable device or any similar device.~~

~~— 2. — Overnight camping.~~

~~— 3. — Entering land posted as off limits above the crossfence at the upper end of Crittenden Reservoir. Vehicles may be parked only in areas designated by the Department.~~

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS  
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT PURSUANT TO NRS233B**

**Commission General Regulation 511 - WMA Regulations**

**The purpose of this form is to provide a framework pursuant to NRS 233B.0608 to determine whether a small business impact statement is required for submittal of a proposed regulation before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Note: Small business is defined as a “business conducted for profit which employs fewer than 150 full-time or part-time employees” (NRS233B.0382).**

1. Describe the manner in which comment was solicited from affected small businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary:

**ANSWER:** Comment was not solicited from small businesses. This proposed regulation is centered around opening a portion of private lands to recreation that otherwise would not have been open to the public and thus no negative impact to small business would be anticipated. If anything small business may be bolstered by increased recreation and subsequent economic boost in the local economy.

2. Describe the manner in which the analysis was conducted:

**ANSWER:** Agency personnel concluded that there would be no small businesses impacted, this no need for an analysis to be conducted.

3. Describe the estimated economic effect of the proposed regulation on the small businesses which it is to regulate, including, without limitation:

- a.) Both adverse and beneficial effects:

**ANSWER:** No net impacts are anticipated due to this regulation which didn't already exist prior to this regulation. As mentioned above, small businesses could see a small benefit of the area not being open to the public and a slight bump in recreation use which bolsters local economies through the services which they provide such as sporting goods and gas stations.

- b.) Both direct and indirect effects:

**ANSWER:** No indirect or direct effects from the proposed regulation are anticipated.

4. Describe the methods that the agency considered to reduce the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and a statement regarding whether the agency actually used any of those methods:

**ANSWER:**

There will be no impact from the proposed regulation on small businesses, therefore no methods were considered or taken by the agency.



5. Describe the estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation:

**ANSWER:** Enforcement of this regulation largely falls within current operations with little to no increased operational cost for enforcement. Game Wardens patrolling the area on routine patrols would enforce the proposed regulations.

6. If the proposed regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used:

**ANSWER: The proposed regulation does not provide new or increased fees.**

7. If the proposed regulation includes provisions which duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity, an explanation of why such duplicative or more stringent provisions are necessary:

**ANSWER:** This regulation does not include provisions that duplicate or are more stringent than, federal, state or local standards.

8. The reasons for the conclusions of the agency regarding the impact of a regulation on small businesses:

**ANSWER:** Due to the nature of the regulation, we concluded that the changes are associated with a program administered by the Nevada Department of Wildlife and do not impact small businesses.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

  
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Alan Jenne, Director  
Nevada Department of Wildlife