

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY
ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE**

**155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406
January 26, 2022**

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 26, 2022.

PRESENT:

Member Peggy A. Hughes, Chair
Member Jim Curran
Member Timothy Gubler
Member Jason Sibley
Member Gary Cordes
Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board

ABSENT:

N/A

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

Public Comment:

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Verification of the Posting of the Agenda:

It was verified by Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 20th day of January, 2022, between the hours of 9:30 and 11:30 AM at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Agenda as submitted or revised:

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Member Gary Cordes seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on:

A- November 3, 2021.

The Minutes of the meeting held on November 3, 2021 are presented for the board's consideration and approval.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on

November 3, 2021 as submitted. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Consideration and possible action re: Review of Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to review.

Appointments:

A- Discussion, questions, and answers related to the Carson Lake Pasture with Jake Ward and Issac Metcalf, Nevada Department of Wildlife.

The members of the Churchill County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife have previously requested that they be allowed to have discussion, questions, and answers related to the Carson Lake Pasture with Jake Ward and Issac Metcalf, Nevada Department of Wildlife.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: None; Informational Only

Member Curran said what is the status of the management plan.

Jake Ward, Technician for Carson Lake Wildlife Management Area, said in mid-November we did our Webinar for our Management Plan and, through that, we were able to collect comments from the public for anything they want to see implemented in the Management Plan. They are in the process of the initial first draft. We are starting to finish up the habitat section and then everybody will come together and then we take public comments and implement that from that point of view and then it will be submitted to the public for the read and then we go back and revise it before we send it to the Commission. Member Curran said are you on the writing committee? Jake Ward said I am not but I have been doing some of the reviewing to see if there is anything I think should be added. Member Curran said what is the timeframe for the first draft to come out? Jake Ward said I have heard different things and I don't want to make any false promises but I heard that maybe around the end of August. Member Curran said, so it probably will not be in time for the next waterfowl season. Jake Ward said, in terms of the NAC regulations, I am not too sure on that. Member Curran said the Legislature won't meet until next February in 2023, so there won't be any NRS changes. Did you receive a lot of public comments? Jake Ward said yes, I received a submitted document. There were 2 different waves that came in. A whole bunch of comments came in on the last day and it ended up being multiple pages from a wide variety of users. We really appreciated that and we like to see that.

Member Sibley said are you guys planning on continuing the feed? Jake Ward said we tried to have it removed but it did not make it through legislation in this last session, so moving forward, it is my understanding that it will be removed. Right now, it is written in NRS that it has to be in, unless something else changes and they change the management plan. Member Sibley said on being able to hunt predators and big game out there, is that being looked at? Jake Ward said yes, it is. Jason Salisbury said I think they want to do that with shotgun slug only, similar to all of the other management areas. With hunting quail, it is going to be plug gun, steel shot, or non-toxic. Maybe with the muzzleloaders, the archery, no rifles, basically, is what they are proposing. With

mine, I am not going to separate as a separate antelope hunt or anything. I thought there was a lot of benefit with the rifles and people being able to harvest coyotes out there at different times of the year versus having to use a shotgun all the time. I didn't really see, for myself, the safety concerns of having an August 22 to September 5 antelope season when there are not many other users out there. It might coincide maybe with the youth waterfowl hunt. I can't remember the dates on that but it is hard for me to not have use of a rifle in such a short season. Even if we did say that park is closed to antelope hunters, there could be 3 antelope hunters out there too.

Member Sibley said what about trapping? Jason Salisbury said I asked on that too if we could just keep it how it has always been, as far as allowing that but I know, in other management areas like Mason and that, we have had wildlife services come in but a lot of times I don't think people are getting access to trap coyotes or bobcats because management has concerns that if somebody is walking a dog, it is going to get a dog trapped, so I addressed that to NDOW saying what I have seen in the past, in other management areas, especially when you have cow management and TCID out there and wildlife services comes in and we can address wildlife services, it has the Navy and that and flying and all that. Member Sibley said is wildlife services somebody NDOW pays to come take care of that? Jason Salisbury said, yes, if we had to do it like if there was a particular need for the antelope or the livestock, then we hire wildlife services and then we would basically be aerial gunning in that area. Member Curran said you are not on that committee too, are you? Jason Salisbury said, basically, I had one game guy, which is Russell, and I send all my comments to him. With guzzlers, small game antelope management, and all the concerns that you guys have, I have, as far as being a hunter and trapper and just allowing things to continue like what it was.

Member Curran said I did submit several comments as an individual. Because of the deadlines, I strongly feel that the County Advisory Board needs to comment, even though it was almost past the comment period but because of the Open Meeting Law, unless we had a conference call, we could not have done it by the deadline. I think the department needs to realize the importance of Carson Lake to the economy of the county. I know the County Commissioners, because I have spoken with one of them privately although he is not a wildlife person and doesn't know what is going on, except what he has read in the paper, but I think they would eventually like to get more involved and possibly just through this county board. That is what we are here for. This new management area is completely different than every other management area in the state. This gives wildlife resource the weapons and has been open and been part of Churchill County for 75 years. The Greenhead Hunting Club is the second oldest sportsman's group in the state. Carson City Horseman's might be older. It goes back into the 20s and 30s. Nearly every other management area that was acquired were primary ranches that were not used by the public and were not used with certain activities and restrictions, so they were all added to the management area list without any controversy. I am not saying there is no controversy out here, because I think the department probably will work with the Advisory Board and with the sportsmen, but it is important that they do realize that the boiler plate regulations in existence for most other management areas just don't fit in this situation. Even the rifle restrictions and boat restrictions that are protecting waterfowl nesting, this is a huge area. It is not like Basque Pond in Mason Valley. We have to stay keen on what they are proposing and if the first draft is not going to come out until late summer, it sounds like we are going to have plenty of time to comment before they hit the Commission with the proposals. When the Legislature meets, the state could

introduce some statutes to do with a fee. Generally, regulations can't be codified until about 6 months after they meet, so this could be at least a 2-year process or so. I hope, because of all that time that we, as sportsmen and other interested people, have the opportunity to be listened to. One of my recommendations is, because this is such a different management area, that an advisory board made up of the different user groups and the county should be considered as an advisory board to the department. I just know that the department would be reluctant to consider something like that. There have been 2 advisory boards managing Carson Lake now for years. One took care of the livestock grazing and what have you and then I was on the water committee for a good many years. Our recommendation was just advisory, they could take or leave it, which they usually did, but at least it makes the public a little more active.

Member Sibley said, with the pasture permit, is it only hunters that have to pay that? Member Curran said yes. Member Sibley said is there a reasoning behind that? Member Curran said when Marcia DeBraga, who was the Assembly woman from Churchill County, when the Truckee River Operating Agreement was first introduced and was being negotiated by Harry Reid, she and the Legislature actually got a bill, a state law, that if the state took it over, because that was part of the Western Nevada Water Settlement, if the state took it over they would have to charge the same fee that TCID was charging up to then and the money would be used for improvements of fences and things. This is where the state is handicapped right now until that statute expires, which I don't think it has in expiration date, but their hands are tied, they have to charge. Member Sibley said I am curious about why it is only hunters. It is not a use permit; it is just a hunting permit and none of the other management areas charge that. Member Curran said TCID didn't charge any other use permit. It was just waterfowl hunters. It specifically talks about that and I think she was trying to put a kink in the chain. TCID and the livestock people did not want the state to take control of it. She put this in here representing the cattlemen to stop that from occurring. It took about 12-15 years to get that on the books. I think her motive was pretty obvious since the de Braga's were running most of the cows out there.

Andrew Howells said I am just curious, if there is no management plan in place with this upcoming season, is it just as it was before where you just pay a pasture permit and hunt as it was or is this a gray area and then what about summer use? They are talking about other types of hunting or trapping. Jake Ward said, as of now, it will stay as this hunting season is until it is otherwise stated. This season it is a \$60 per year permit for hunting and \$15 for a day permit. If you wanted to go hunt on youth day then you would have to pay \$60 for the season permit because of how it is written after the season opener. Member Curran said, for years, TCID had a juvenile permit too and that kinda of just faded away. You had to show your student body card if you were in high school. That was not in any NAC. Jake Ward said that was brought to my attention because I did run into a group folks who were in high school and they said are you guys going to be doing the youth permit and I told them that we have to do what is written in the NRS and so I don't know if they were doing that for a big deal for the kids but, legally, that is what I was told we had to do, the season permit until the first or the second Monday after the opener. Member Gubler said I have hunted there many times with my boy and they have always just made me not pay for him but I don't know if that is normal. Jake Ward said the way it is written says if you are 16 or under you have to be with a permitholder and 16 and over have to have their own permit. Some people thought it was per vehicle but it is per hunter. With the regulations, we are trying to keep it as well as it has been.

Member Curran said I don't know for what year, like the white goose hunt. Is it going to take next year's permit or last year's permit? I don't know what the expiration on the permits are. They have to have dates on them. I think your waterfowl stamp has one. Do you have to get a new federal waterfowl stamp to hunt? Member Sibley said I think you are supposed to but I don't think anybody is enforcing it. Member Curran said it has to be through the waterfowl season somehow. With the time structure you are talking about, I think this board will eventually get a little bit more involved in the comment period. I know they will have some more public hearings somewhere along the line. It might be next fall. I know one Commissioner wanted me to report back if anything dramatic was going to happen to where they would want to get involved.

Member Sibley said who is in charge of the decisions for water? Jake Ward said we have a board of people that get together and this year there was a group of us. We had some Zoom meetings to do with the water and had an open discussion of what we thought would be best given it was a short water year. Member Curran said even Stillwater has a meeting where they ask for input on what they feel the water management should be. That is the type of stuff that I hope the department listens to with the public involvement. There is some much expertise with some of these people, like Don Snodgrass, Norm, and some of these others, with 30 or more years' experience running water. Maybe they will start listening.

Member Sibley said, as far as the flood several years ago, is everything fixed now. I know they were talking about doing some makeshift dams or something trying to fix some of the structures still. Jake Ward said I understand it was fixed. Some of the roads and dikes are still in rough shape from where they were ripped open and patched back up. As far as the exterior roads that are open right now, I have been trying to grade those as much as I can. They are going to require a lot of work in the coming years. The internal dikes have been repaired. I can move water pretty consistently. We don't have a pump system like Stillwater Point Reservoir where they can send water up into another place. We are looking into replacing some of the structures. We were out there measuring the other day to try and put in some new stuff. Member Sibley said the projects that you guys got the grant from, are those all completed now? Jake Ward said I am not too sure. Member Sibley said, with the fencing down the burrow pit, you are still now allowed to drive down that? Jake Ward said you can't drive on the internal gates that are closed. Those are standing. I closed all the internal gates and so you can't go driving down the dikes during the waterfowl season. They were open during the summer but we closed them to keep people out of the mud. It was foot access only. Member Curran said that is probably a good move but there are bird watchers that use the towers and walk down the dikes. I was a little shocked during that Zoom public comment period where that fishery biologist talked about trying to create a Largemouth Bass fishery at Carson Lake and I just about dropped the phone. There is no potential to have one out there. It is just carp and catfish. It is not like Stillwater; it is frozen and may have mercury.

Jake Ward said Isaac has been working with Ducks Unlimited (DU) on other water deliveries so we can have more consistent water deliveries. We are going down the main A Spill and there are some days where the water fluctuates a lot and it is not very consistent. It will go dry for a couple of days and I learned that through water deliveries. The users upstream are using the water and it is not getting down to us, so he is working on another route with DU that there is

only one other user on that system. That is looking like with NEPA and everything, it is going to take another year or so to get through that but that should help.

Jason Salisbury said not all the management areas are equal as far as the rifle. There are several ones that they missed where you could use rifles like Steptoe, Bruno and the Alkali. There a few of them maybe because there is not a lot of use. That is probably why they didn't put them in the exemptions. Member Curran said, for 50 years, there has been rifle shoots out there, even during the waterfowl season. It was not against the law. It may have been against TCID. Member Sibley said does it have to be the shot type? Is that what they are running into as an issue, because it is not considered non-toxic? Member Curran said no, it is for public safety. I did propose muzzleloaders. If you look at the modern shotgun slug versus some of these muzzleloader ballistics, there is absolutely, if they won't agree to rifles, which they won't, at least from Mason Valley to here should allow muzzleloaders, it is just so obsolete it should go back to the landowners around Mason Valley Ranch, now it is all part of the management area.

Jake Ward said that first draft could come out earlier than late this summer, it just depends on how long it takes. There will probably be a 30-day comment period. There was a little bit of confusion at the last meeting when we spoke about whether this was for the first draft and this is what it was going to be with that webinar but it was just for public comments.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

B- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 504 - E-tag Regulation.

The Commission will review language amending NAC 502 that would allow the department to offer game tags in an electronic format, as well as the ability to utilize and validate tags in the filed on an electronic device.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said is the department recommending we allow the opportunity for an E-tag at this point? Jason Salisbury said I didn't have time to review some of these new things like the E-tag and that. I don't know if they want it because other states are doing it, so I don't know how it is going to work with any of it. Member Sibley said I am glad to see verbiage in here regarding people who are manipulating the first come first-serve system. That is nice to see because a lot of times people never even saw those tags because they were gone so fast. For that to happen, there has to be some weird stuff going on. The number of tags that were put into a cart, the person would look at the tags and then decide that is not what they want, is pretty high from what I understand. Member Curran said I was shocked with the number of the first come first-serve tags there were. It was such a high number. I should have copied that page. There were quite a few thousand. I know of a couple that had 6 Bighorn sheep tags. Member Sibley said all those just went back to the department as unusable. Jason Salisbury said yes, they are making more money. Member Sibley said you guys are making a killing. Jason Salisbury said, ghost

tags. Chairwoman Hughes said it is nice to see they are covering the people manipulating the system to get tags. Member Sibley said I guess there were a couple people caught doing that. Jason Salisbury said it seems like it would be hard for anybody to catch up on that though. Member Sibley said they are going to be looking at how fast it is gone. Nobody can click that fast and so, if you have repeat offenders, which that is another thing, I think the department should look at, but if you run into repeat offenders who can consistently put a tag in their cart and then return it again, that is not what that system is for and it delays it so others cannot buy that tag. Member Curran said it is against the regulation to do that. Member Sibley said there is not a regulation. Jason Salisbury said you can see with any system where one guy could be in charge of 20 hunters and he is sitting there managing for them. Jason Salisbury said if you are paying somebody to get yourself a first come first-serve tag or something, there is probably some of that already out there. Member Sibley said I do see you guys have what the punishment would be if you are caught doing this multiple times. They will just suspend this person from using the electronic system to apply for remaining tags in the future hunting seasons. It doesn't specify how long if you are caught doing this. Member Curran said I did see one guy indicating he was going to turn in a tag that he got over the counter so they were alerting everybody to be on the lookout because his tag was going to come back up again. Member Sibley said I saw that quite a bit because of people who bought a tag and didn't look at the unit and then they return it.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jim Curran made a motion to approve Commission General Regulation 504 - E-tag Regulation as submitted. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

C- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 495 - NAC 502 Simplification.

The Commission will consider adopting changes to NAC 502 recommended by the Regulation Simplification Committee. This regulation was considered during a workshop at the September and November 2020 and January 2021 meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said have they ever implemented any of the comments we have made on these 3 simplifications? Member Curran said it is nearly impossible to tell. They could go on and see the written Minutes if they wanted. Some of the comments we made to do with lions and trapping, I could not find any changes. Member Sibley said I am looking at the demerits on shed season and things like that. Jason Salisbury said the only thing I saw on lions was the seasons were separated into subgroups and subunits but the quota is the same. Come to find out that maybe they separated them because of some genetic tests that they did 5 years ago in different units. I am not sure what is going on there. Member Sibley said has the quota ever been met on those? Jason Salisbury said when it was broken out in units it was met for sure. As far as eastern, western and all that, it went to the statewide quota and that was not met. I can see in the future allotting tags in the subunits.

Member Curran said a lot of these simplifications are just housekeeping and restructuring sentences even though some of them have some ramifications.

Member Sibley said it looks like they added if the mountain lion is trapped and is alive the mountain lion must be released alive and unharmed or as directed by the department and must not be knowingly pursued or taken for at least 24 hours. That is new. How am I supposed to kill a mountain lion now? Member Curran said you could release it out of the trap without any tools. Member Sibley said and then I call somebody with dogs. Member Curran said you can 24 hours later.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none. The board took no action as it was discussed previously.

D- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 496 - NAC 503 Simplification.

The Commission will consider adopting changes to NAC 503 recommended by the Regulation Simplification Committee. This regulation was considered during a workshop at the November 2020 and January and March 2021 meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Curran said the same thing applies as the simplification items we just did. We did not have major recommendations on this. Maybe we had some wording changes.

Member Sibley said the regulation regarding a snare within 30 feet of exposed bait, that is new. Member Curran said that is new. It is not new from what we opposed this summer. It was a steel rifle trap and now it is including all trapping devices where you can't use side bait, you can't use a cage. Member Sibley said it says you can use a cage. Just not a snare body gripping trap or steel leghold traps. Chairwoman Hughes said where are you guys at? Member Sibley said I ended up on a page somewhere, I don't know. It is on page 45 listed in the thing.

Member Curran said I can't believe the Commission is going to allow this type of read, as far as NACs that are 100 and some pages presented at one time to the Commission. Member Sibley said they just lumped them altogether. Member Curran said I tried to change a few NACs one time and got literally reprimanded by the Commission. It was just like 15 pages of them to do a non-commercial permit. I was told to bring them one at a time.

Member Sibley said when I read this it says basically that the bucket traps I use for fox are no longer legal. Member Curran said not if you have side bait. Member Sibley said if I put a piece of meat in a bucket, that is side bait. Member Curran said unless you camouflage it so it is not visible. If you use a lure, you are fine. Member Sibley said I am going to oppose it.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to oppose NAC 503.157(A), (B) & (C) as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

E- Consideration and possible action re: Commission General Regulation 497 - NAC 504 Simplification.

The Commission will consider adopting changes to NAC 504 recommended by the Regulation Simplification Committee. This regulation was considered during a workshop at the January 2021 meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Curran said we have no additional comments other than what was submitted before by the Churchill County Wildlife Board. The board took no action as it was discussed previously.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

F- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 21-07, Amendment #2, Heritage Tag Bighorn Sheep Unit Closures 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to amend the bighorn sheep unit closures for the 2022 Heritage Tags.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 21-07 as presented. Member Tim Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

G- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-01, Big Game Application Deadlines 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to amend the bighorn sheep unit closures for the 2022 Heritage Tags.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-01 as

presented. Member Tim Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

H- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-02, Big Game Tag Eligibility and Tag Limits 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2022 big game tag application eligibility and tag limits and related information.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-02 as presented to remain residents only for Rocky Mountain Big Horn Sheep and mountain goats. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

I- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-03, Dream Tag Species, Seasons, and Quotas 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2022 dream tag species, seasons and quota.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year's Dream Tag seasons with the exception of excluding the Spike Elk and Depredation Elk hunts and seasons from the Rocky Mountain Elk category.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-03 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

J- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-04 Partnerships in Wildlife Tags Hunt Species, Seasons, and Quotas 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2022 Partnership in Wildlife Tags hunt species, seasons, and quota.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-04 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

K- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-05 - Heritage Tag Species, Seasons, and Quotas 2023.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2023 Heritage Tag species, seasons, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-05 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

L- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-06 - Silver State Species, Seasons, and Quotas 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting a regulation to set the 2022 Silver State tag species, seasons, and quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-06 as presented. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

M- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 21-03, Amendment #1 - Big Game Seasons 2022-2023.

The Commission will consider adopting proposed changes for the 2022-2023 hunting seasons and dates for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat, including limits, hunting hours, special hunt eligibility, animal sex, physical characteristics, hunt boundary restrictions, legal weapon requirements, and emergency depredation hunt structure and statewide quotas.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said, wow, they closed a lot; like the bait hooks in that 115 Depredation Hunt is

now closed but there is an antlered point limit hunt. Jason Salisbury said Horns Shorter Than Ears Any Legal Weapon Hunt 2181, all those units there for the horns shorter than ears, they are basically just closing the season on those hunts. There are still units that are open. Most of this is Humboldt County, with a little bit of White Pine and Pershing County. Member Curran said and the Baker Ranch, wow. Jason Salisbury said Antlered Any Legal Weapon Depredation Hunt 4102, after the first year I am sure it is just a bunch of big bulls that died, so now they are trying to restrict it to 5 points or less on a bull. Member Sibley said do they think that is really going to lower the demand for that tag? Jason Salisbury said it will probably lower the demand for people that are still trying to kill a really good bull on a depredation hunt, for sure.

Regarding Resident Elk - Antlerless Any Legal Weapon Hunt 4181, 4281, 4111 and 4211. I never really got an explanation on this. It seems like they are just trying to pressure the elk in the Independence Range and then separate those other units out for possible growth. That is the only thing I can think of in order to eliminate 062, 064, 066 – 068 and just allow for mainly antlerless harvest.

Regarding Resident Elk – Antlerless Any Legal Weapon Depredation Hunt 4107, it looks like they added a little bit with the 114 around the ranch. I don't know if they shrunk the boundary a little. Member Sibley said it looks like they grew it. It says 2 miles and before it was 1 mile.

Regarding Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3151, 132 North and 132 South were separated to have increased harvest or because they were dying before, so they were trying to pressure places and push people to go hunt the south. Before the biologist separated them because there was some harvest available in the north. He is not in that position and our staff took it upon themselves to combine them back together. There are more sheep in the north but I think they are easier to find than in the south because of the tree cover. I don't know if 164 was always included or not.

Regarding the Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Archery Hunt 3161, this year, 202 was added to the Mineral County Board but then at the same time they added 204. 204 has an October 15th rifle season so we took that off because the archery hunters were out there with the rifle hunters, so we just left it with the 202 archery hunt so there is no overlapping.

Regarding the Resident Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Management Ram - One Horn - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 3171. It is a new hunt, mostly southern units. I could have added all my units for possibly one tag and I might do it next year. I don't have a lot of sinusitis there but they say it would be a hard hunt because there is some but not like in southern Nevada. Member Gubler said is that one still alive? Jason Salisbury said yes. There is one on Fairview. In a whole week of survey, sometimes I see none and sometimes 1-2. Member Gubler said, about 2 years ago, I learned of that one on Sand Springs. Member Sibley said is this a common thing; one horn rams? Jason Salisbury said yes but mostly down south. If you look at the hunter checkouts, maybe 2 sheep got shot with one horn. It is just an opportunity to remove an animal that is not really worthy to someone that draws a Bighorn Sheep tag. Member Sibley said is this tag going to fall under its own category? Jason Salisbury said yes and there will not be any bonus points and it will be once in a lifetime. The regular ram will be drawn before this is drawn. You can go down to the Muddies sometimes and in a week, you might see 12-14 one-horned sheep. They are

pretty prevalent in some places.

Member Sibley said it looks like they closed some of the ewe hunts. Jason Salisbury said in 213, my Fairview strain is most likely down there, so the ram ratios are down and then it is the same for the 3281 nonresident hunt. The 066 California Bighorn Sheep hunt, I know there about 30 sheep in that unit. I guess there are not enough mature rams there, so they closed that. The Nonresident California Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 8151, they must just be closing that particular section of 132.

Regarding the Resident Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 9151, there about 30 sheep in that unit but it must not be enough for harvest, so it is closing the season there. They are opening 102 but I don't know if they are going to issue 2 tags, but the first person that is going to get the tag is going to be a military deferment from 11 years ago. They are trying to make contact with him. If they issue one tag, he will get it.

Regarding Resident Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Any Ram - Any Legal Weapon Hunt 9151, they added 121 because somebody saw one doe there.

Regarding Antlerless Mule Deer Any Legal Weapon Hunt 1181, the only thing I know about the Baker Ranch, that has been going on for a long time. They don't have any issues with deer and that is why they closed the season.

Member Sibley said I am really excited about this one-horn ram hunt. Jason Salisbury said it is in January, so nothing else is going on unless you want to hunt quail and one-horners. You can also trap if trapping is still allowed.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Gary Cordes made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 21-03 as presented and to add the one-horned unit 181-184 and 202-208 as units to be considered. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

N- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-09 - Black Bear Seasons 2022.

The Commission will consider adopting the 2022 hunting season dates, open management units, hunting hours, special regulations, animal sex, legal weapon requirements, hunt boundary restrictions, and dates and times for indoctrination courses for black bear.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-09 as presented. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous

vote.

O- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-08 - Mountain Lion Seasons and Harvest Limits 2022-2023.

The Commission will consider adopting the 2022-2023 mountain lion hunting season open units, harvest limits by unit group, hunting hours, and special regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Timothy Gubler made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-08 as presented. Member Jason Sibley seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

P- Consideration and possible action re: Commission Regulation 22-07 - Restricted Nonresident Guided Mule Deer Seasons and Quotas 2022-2023.

The Commission will consider adopting the 2022-2023 hunting seasons and quotas for restricted nonresident guided rule deer, including hunt boundary restrictions.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve Commission Regulation 22-07 as presented. Member Timothy Gubler seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Q- Consideration and possible action re: Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan.

The Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for initial review. Following this review, the draft plan will be updated and shared with the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC). All comments from the PARC, county advisory boards to manage wildlife, and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC) for their consideration at their March 2022 meeting. The commission will review and update at the March 2022 meeting from the Wildlife Damage Management Committee and may provide additional direction at that time.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Member Sibley said I have a question for NDOW. It looks like a lot of money is spent on predator management. Is there a reason we have not looked at a bounty or something like that? It seems like it would be cheaper. It is hundreds of thousands of dollars every year being spent on these predator management plans. Jason Salisbury said I know they have looked at it but I don't know how in depth as far as that. Utah still has one. I don't know what it costs for Wildlife Services to take a coyote, but it is high. I think around \$1,000 or so just for one. Member Sibley said some of these numbers are pretty high. Jason Salisbury said we are mandated by law as far as like the 80%. Of course, I don't think any of that was met last year. I think they gave the COVID excuse thing but we spent money on raven control and then there is a lot of these projects that kind of just kept going. Somethings get done on them and then some of them not a lot gets done, even though they are continuing projects. Member Sibley said this Project 38 Big Game Protection-Coyotes, they are spending \$100,000 a year. Jason Salisbury said there are different units and some of them have of that control done but I am not sure like if somebody wants farm protection in particular areas but I don't know where, it says that \$50,000 was spent in the Diamonds and this many coyotes were removed. I have never seen those reports. Member Sibley said the raven removal, for instance, said for the Greater sage grouse protection. They are killing the ravens, right? Jason Salisbury said one of the easiest ways is to put a lot of eggs out. Member Sibley said I mean it is \$175,000. Why don't they just make it legal to shoot a raven? Member Curran said the state even has to get a federal permit just to allow. Member Sibley said its \$175,000 for ravens and \$100,000 for coyotes and the Diamonds have their own plan for another \$100,000. It just seems counterintuitive and, at the same time, they are trying to shutdown coyote hunts. Member Curran said to allow the public to shoot ravens would take an international amendment between the United States and Mexico. Member Sibley said I have no problem with approving this but I would really like the department to consider and look at if it is physically more responsible to do a bounty on coyotes. These 2 projects alone are \$200,000 and that is such an astronomically high number. Member Curran said, in Utah, part of that bounty is paid for by the sheep and cattle assessment fee. Member Sibley said if you paid people \$25 apiece, the state would save so much money. It is such a crazy number. I have looked at that every year and wondered why that is. If you think about it, animal rights activists are not going to be happy no matter what we do, but you could put in a logical argument that if a hunter or a trapper takes a coyote, they are actually going to use the fur of the coyote if it is in season. Jason Salisbury said it has nothing to do with that. You have a lot of different predators that are getting taken off as far as we know with a hunt but people don't put the math together on how much more it costs for this to be done at their house and whatever. None of the math adds up, it is all you not being able to harvest an animal because we like that animal. They have a bill in Colorado right now to get rid of bobcat, lynx, and cougars. Member Curran said, in North Carolina, in order to increase the harvest of coyotes, they have 4 basic units and they went in there and collared and tagged 10 coyotes in each unit and anyone who shoots one of those gets a lifetime hunting and fishing license. There are a lot of coyote hunters there right now. There are innovative ways to increase harvest. I think there have been more coyote hunts in the state this year because of all the controversy with the animal rights people. Every club has had a coyote hunt. I know we will be redoing this Predator Management Plan again. Member Sibley said I would like to have this as a discussion again, at some point, and institute some sort of a bounty.

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Member Jason Sibley made a motion to approve the Draft Fiscal Year 2023 Predation Management Plan as presented with the possibility of adding a bounty at some point on coyotes. Member Jim Curran seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Informational Items:

A- Consideration and possible action re: Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 28 and 29, 2022, which is attached as Exhibit "A".

Should the board want to discuss Items listed on the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners' Agenda for January 28 and 29, 2022, which is attached as Exhibit "A", the board may do so.

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: None; Informational Only

There was no further discussion on items from the state's Agenda.

Consider Future Agenda Items:

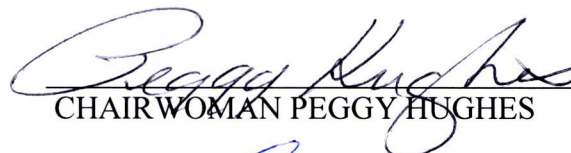
There were no future Agenda items suggested.

Public Comment:

Chairwoman Hughes asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

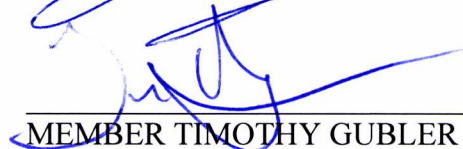
Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32.


CHAIRWOMAN PEGGY HUGHES


MEMBER CURRAN

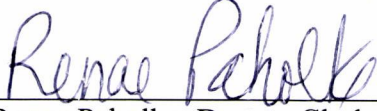

MEMBER JASON SIBLEY


MEMBER TIMOTHY GUBLER


MEMBER GARY CORDES

ATTEST:

Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer



Renae Paholke, Deputy Clerk