

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (WAB)
Monday, May 2, 2023 ● 5:30 PM
Community Center Bonanza Room
851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701

Board Members

Chair – Corbett Fleming	Vice Chair – Tim Wilson
Member – Daniel Thompson	Member – Robert Boehmer
Member – Kirk Stewart	

Staff

Danielle Howard, Public Meetings Clerk

NOTE: A recording of these proceedings, the board’s agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are on file in the Clerk-Recorder’s Office, and available for review during regular business hours.

Audio recordings and approved minutes of the Board’s meetings are available on www.carson.org/minutes.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

(5:33:04) – Chairperson Fleming called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Attendee Name	Status	Arrived
Corbett Fleming, Chair	Present	
Tim Wilson, Vice Chair	Present	
Daniel Thompson	Absent	
Robert Boehmer	Present	
Kirk Stewart	Present	

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(5:33:21) – Led by Member Boehmer.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:33:43) – Chairperson Fleming entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 6, 2023

(5:34:01) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item and entertained a motion.

(3:34:07) – Member Boehmer moved to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

5. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE AND ACTIVITY REPORT ON THE CARSON CITY URBAN WILDLIFE COMMITTEE.

(5:34:30) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer informed the Members about how the Carson City Urban Wildlife Committee was working with a Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) staff member for Northern Nevada to consider what campaigns, if any, the Committee could “piggyback on” in dedicating a week or a month to urban wildlife in Carson City. He stated that Mayor Lori Bagwell supported dedicating a period of time to urban wildlife and was willing to present a resolution to the Carson City Board of Supervisors (BOS) to dedicate a timeframe to urban wildlife awareness. Member Boehmer added that the owner of Greenhouse Garden Center, Dave Ruf, wished to participate in educating people about what methods they could use in their yards and homesteads to deter urban wildlife that may cause damage. He mentioned having taken youth from Grange, Future Farmers of America (FFA), 4-H, and a Boys Scouts of America troop to visit the Scripps State Wildlife Management Area, and the group identified approximately 39 different species of waterfowl as well as some songbirds. He noted that, because of how wet the area has been, migratory birds have appeared that are not normally seen often in the area. Member Boehmer indicated that the Committee organized the “Learn to Shoot” course since prior to the COVID-19 pandemic at Pitchfork Ranch, and the course was done in conjunction with a hunter education class.

6. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR ON MARCH 10 AND 11, 2023 NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING.

(5:39:34) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Vice Chairperson Wilson reported on the March 10 and 11, 2023 Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners’ meeting.

7. REPORTS – INFORMATIONAL

(6:04:37) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item and entertained Member input on each of the reports. No Member input was forthcoming.

7-A. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a report will be provided on Nevada Department of Wildlife activities. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-B. LITIGATION REPORT - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a Deputy Attorney General will present a litigation report on the Nevada Department of Wildlife litigation. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment on the litigation.*

7-C. EDIBLE PORTIONS REPORT - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a report will be provided on Nevada’s requirements for edible portions of harvested black bears and mountain lions. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-D. GORDON DARBY PRESENTATION - *At its March 10, 2023 meeting, At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a representative of the Department's new contracted licensing vendor will provide an overview of the company and their plans on supporting the Department for the remainder of the contract. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-E. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a report will be presented on the committee's recent meetings. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners may review bills of interest and any associated amendments, consider Legislative Committee recommendations and may take official positions on those bills. The Commission may also choose to develop platforms on bills by supporting or opposing general concepts. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-F WILDLIFE HERITAGE COMMITTEE - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a report will be provided on the recent Wildlife Heritage Committee meeting. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-G WILDLIFE HERITAGE GRANTS MANUAL - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review recommendations made by the Heritage Committee to cap principal balance projects at 50% of the available balance per year. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-H MULE DEER PRESENTATION - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a presentation will be provided for the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-I FISCAL YEAR 2024 PREDATION MANAGEMENT PLAN - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review the final draft of the Fiscal Year 2024 Draft Predation Management Plan with the Department. The Commission may take action to modify or endorse the plan. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-J REGULATION SIMPLIFICATION REPORT - *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, a report will be provided on the submission of proposed regulations or sections of regulations that were simplified, clarified, or removed per Governor Lombardo's Executive Order 2023-003 directive. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

7-H HABITAT STATUS AND TREND - *At its May 6, 2023 meeting, a presentation will be provided on the status and trend of Nevada's wildlife habitats. The CCCABMW may desire to offer public comment.*

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

The items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and may be acted upon by the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife with one action and without extensive hearing. A member of the advisory board may request an item be pulled for separate discussion and action, but the advisory board

chair retains discretion in deciding whether to pull an item from the consent agenda. (For additional information on the items to be considered within this action item, please visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife website at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Com/Agenda/ under agenda and corresponding support material).

(6:06:01) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item, and he wished to pull items 8-D and 8-E from the Consent Agenda.

(6:06:52) – Member Boehmer moved to accept Consent Agenda items 8-A through 8-C. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

8-A. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ELK DAMAGE PAYMENT EXCEEDING \$10,000. *Per NAC 504.421, at its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners is required to approve an elk damage payment above \$10,000. An elk damage assessment on the Granite Peak Ranch in White Pine County, totaling \$28,346, was completed by Department personnel and submitted for reimbursement by Bruce Hubbard, agent for the property.*

8-B. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMMISSION POLICY 23 – PREDATION MANAGEMENT – FOURTH READING. *At its May 5, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will review Commission Policy 23 and may make any necessary changes and may decide to repeal, revise, or adopt the policy.*

8-C. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS REGARDING COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 506, POSSESSION OF GOLDEN PAGE 4 EAGLES UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. *At its May 6, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold an adoption hearing to consider amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503 to allow for possession of a golden eagle under certain circumstances.*

8-D. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 23-05, AMENDMENT #1, 2023 BLACK BEAR QUOTAS AND HARVEST LIMITS. *At its May 6, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider adopting the 2023 hunting season quotas and harvest limits for black bear.*

(6:08:43) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. NDOW Biologist Becca Carniello introduced herself and referenced the agenda materials. She and NDOW Biologist Jon Ewanyk also responded to clarifying questions.

(6:11:10) – Member Boehmer brought to the Members' attention that he had received three inquiries about why NDOW has a restriction on female bears during the Bear Hunt. He also referenced the

management plan that was implemented by NDOW, which Member Boehmer indicated was proven to be a viable plan. In response to Member Boehmer's question, Ms. Carniello and Mr. Ewanyk were not aware of any biological significance that would concern NDOW as a reason for the limited number of female bears that are permitted to be harvested, and harvesting all female bears would have no impact on the bear population. Additionally, Nevada's harvest was approximately two percent of the bear population annually, while other states were harvesting 10 percent to 15 percent of the bear population without having implemented any bylaws. Member Boehmer believed that the Members needed to determine a recommendation to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to consider eliminating the restriction on female bears as it pertains to closing the seasons because he did not believe the limit was "adding to" the NDOW's management plan. In response to Member Boehmer's question, Ms. Carniello confirmed that it would be unlikely for female bears to be supporting cubs during the closed seasons, and Member Boehmer noted that there was still a restriction of female bears with cubs present. Member Boehmer also proposed supporting the quotas as presented, and discussion ensued.

(6:30:09) – Member Boehmer moved to support agenda item 8-D regarding the proposed harvest limit and quotas with the removal of the female [bear] harvest limit while still maintaining the law stating that a female bear may not be hunted when cubs are present. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

(6:31:17) – Chairperson Fleming entertained public comments. Gene Green introduced himself and agreed with eliminating the female bear harvest limit because the limit did not affect the bear population.

8-E. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS REGARDING COMMISSION REGULATION 23-14, BIG GAME QUOTAS FOR THE 2023-2024 SEASON. *At its May 6, 2023 meeting, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will consider and may take action to approve regulations for the numbers of tags to be issued for mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats for the 2023 - 2024 season.*

(6:31:53) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Mr. Ewanyk referenced the agenda materials as well as a brief description of the surveys and quota recommendations regarding big game from NDOW Biologist Carl Lackey. Mr. Ewanyk also responded to clarifying questions.

(6:37:45) – Based on Mr. Ewanyk's indication that the four-point harvest of mule deer had decreased to 27 percent from 47 percent three years prior for Unit Group 192, Member Boehmer commented that he was "normally a huge proponent of asking for an increase in tags in (Unit Group 192) because we always use this formula that really doesn't take into consideration really what's going on there," and Mr. Lackey had always indicated that a quota increase would not change "the biology" or the management plan up to this point. Because of the significant change in four-point mule deer, Member Boehmer wished to follow Mr. Lackey's recommendation.

(6:50:54) – Member Boehmer suggested supporting all Mr. Lackey’s recommendations for Unit Group 192 except for the tag increase for mule deer for the late season. Member Stewart and Vice Chairperson Wilson believed that the tags from the previous year for archery should be kept the same for 2023.

(7:13:19) – Member Boehmer moved to support all the recommendations as written for agenda item 8-E except for what was noted for Unit Groups 192, 194, 196, and 195 for mule deer. The motion was seconded by Member Stewart and carried 4-0-0.

******* END OF CONSENT AGENDA *******

9. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENT(S) TO THE MAY 5 AND 6, 2023 MEETING AND THE JUNE 23 AND 24, 2023 MEETING.

(7:13:53) – Chairperson Fleming introduced the item. Member Boehmer volunteered to attend the May 5, 2023 meeting, and Member Wilson noted that he could participate remotely for the May 5 and 6, 2023 meeting. Mr. Green volunteered to attend the May 5 and 6, 2023 meeting and the June 23 and 24, 2023 meeting. Chairperson Fleming was also able to attend the June 23 and 24, 2023 meeting.

10. FOR INFORMATION ONLY: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(7:16:29) – Chairperson Fleming entertained suggestions for future agenda items; however, none were forthcoming.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

(7:16:36) – Chairperson Fleming entertained public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

12. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: ADJOURNMENT

(7:16:44) – Chairperson Fleming adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

The minutes of the May 2, 2023 meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife are approved on this 20th day of June 2023.