

Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

AGENDA

Monday ~ June 24th, 2024 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Conference Room B
1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada

MEMBERS

Coby Rowe, Chair
Ryan Browne, Vice-Chair
Matt Melarkey
Steven Robinson
Jim Rhea

PURSUANT TO NRS 241.020, THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: Nevada Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada;. The Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife support materials may be obtained by contacting Washoe County Community Services Department at 775-328-3600 or by going to Washoe County Community Services Department Information Desk, Second Floor, Building A, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada.

This agenda has also been posted on the Washoe County web site at:

http://www.washoecounty.us/csd/all_boards_committees/nv_wildlife_commissioners/index.php

The NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) website at: http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/County_Advisory_Boards/Washoe/

This notice may also be found on the State of Nevada Public Notice website at: <https://notice.nv.gov>

Support material can be found at <https://www.ndow.org/events/may-2024-commission-meeting/>

Note: Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; combined with other items; removed from the agenda; moved to the agenda of another meeting; moved to or from the Consent section; or may be voted on in a block. Items voted on in a block are considered a single item for purposes of public comment on action items as provided below in the description of the parameters for "Public Comment" section, so that there will be only one period of public comment on the block vote; any public comment made during that period may pertain to any of the items being voted on in the block, but there will not be separate public comment periods for each item within the block. The Consent is a single agenda item and is considered as a block and will not be read aloud.

Time Limits – Public comments are welcomed during the Public Comment periods for all matters, whether listed on the agenda or not, and are limited to three (3) minutes per person. Additionally, public comment specific to the action item of three (3) minutes per person will be heard during individual action items on the agenda. Persons are invited to submit comments in writing on the agenda items and/or attend and make comment on that item at the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting. Persons may not allocate unused time to other speakers.

Forum Restrictions and Orderly Conduct of Business – The Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife conducts the business of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners on behalf of Washoe County and its citizens during its meetings. The presiding officer may order the removal of any person whose statement or other conduct disrupts the orderly, efficient or safe conduct of the meeting. Warnings against disruptive comments or behavior may or may not be given prior to removal. The viewpoint of a speaker will not be restricted, but reasonable restrictions may be imposed upon the time, place and manner of speech. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious statements and personal attacks which antagonize or incite others are examples of speech that may be reasonably limited.

Responses to Public Comments – The Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife can deliberate or take action only if a matter has been listed on an agenda properly posted prior to the meeting. During the Public Comment period, speakers may address matters listed or not listed on the published agenda. The Open Meeting Law does not expressly prohibit responses to public comments by the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife. However, responses from Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife to unlisted public comment topics could become deliberation on a matter without notice to the public. On the advice of legal counsel, and to ensure the public has notice of all matters the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife will consider, the Washoe County Advisory Committee to Manage Wildlife may choose not to respond to public comments except to correct factual inaccuracies, ask for Washoe County staff action or to ask that a matter be listed on a future Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife meeting agenda. The Washoe County Advisory Committee to Manage Wildlife may do this either during the Public Comment item or during the following item: **“WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MEMBERS AND/OR STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND SELECTION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS”** [Non-action item].”

This facility is accessible to the disabled. Persons with disabilities who require special accommodations or assistance (e.g., sign language, interpreters or assisted listening devices) at the meeting should notify Nevada Department of Wildlife at 775-688-1599, 48-hours before the meeting.

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1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** [Non-action item]
2. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** [Non-action item]
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** [Non-action item] – Comments heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (Board) agenda. The Board will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three (3) minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Board as a whole. Please sign the sign-in sheet.
4. **Approval of April 29th, 2024 minutes** [For possible action]
5. **BOARD MEMBER MEETING ASSIGNMENT** [Non-action item] – Discussion and determination of member(s) to attend the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners meetings on: June 28th & 29th in Lovelock Nevada.
6. **COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES** [Non-action items] – 1) Correspondence (including sportsmen’s concerns) and Announcements; 2) Overview of the May 3rd & 4th, 2024 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners; and 3) WCABMW discussion of action items for NBWC
7. **Washoe County project update - Washoe County Game Biologist John Ewanyk - INFORMATIONAL**
8. **CONSENT ITEMS – For Possible Action**
 - 8.a **New Commission Policy 12 – Fee for Habitat, Research and Management**

The Commission will review a new Commission Policy 12 for the first time and may take action to recommend revising the policy. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
 - 8.b **Heritage Project Extension Requests – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes**

The Commission will review recommendations and may approve extensions requests from projects approved in previous fiscal years. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
 - 8.c **Heritage Funding Reallocation – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes**

The Commission will review Committee recommendations and may approve reallocation of any unused Heritage funds from previously approved projects to other previously approved projects from the same fiscal year. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
 - 8.d **Commission General Regulation 500, Subdivision Map Review**

The Commission will need to re-adopt CGR 500 to amend Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 278 to provide for the Department review of tentative subdivision map(s) and inclusion of recommendations for methods to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife,

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mitigation measures, best management practices or design features, and provide for collection of associated fees to the Department. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

End of Consent Items

9. Consent Calendar items pulled for further discussion – For Possible Action

Consent item(s) removed from consent block will be heard.

10. Fiscal Year 2025 Heritage Project Proposals – Committee Chairman FOR POSSIBLE ACTION Tom Barnes

The Commission will hear recommendations from the Committee and may take action to approve up to \$1,840,130.76 for projects submitted for Fiscal Year 2025 from the annual year project funds. In addition, the Commission may take action to approve up to \$98,548.64 for projects submitted for Fiscal Year 2025 from the principal balance for a total of \$1,938,679.40. Funding requests are listed below and may be approved by the Commission. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

- Memory Ranch Conservation Easement (\$200,000)
- FY25 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Restoration and Management (\$110,600)
- FY25 Wildfire-related Restoration and Seed Purchase (\$150,000)
- FY25 Nevada Spring Protection Project (\$100,000)
- FY25 Nevada Water Development Maintenance (\$50,000)
- FY25 Clover Valley Wildlife Passage Improvement Project (\$50,000)
- FY25 Cave Lake Habitat Improvement and Erosion Control (\$98,538.40)
- FY25 Rosencrans Habitat Restoration (\$50,000)
- FY25 Currant Summit PJ Removal (\$75,000)
- FY25 Warmwater Fisheries Enhancement (\$133,000)
- FY25 Lake Tahoe Fish Management Structure Phase 2 (\$100,000)
- FY25 Shoshone Bench Habitat Restoration (\$50,000)
- FY25 Corta Fire Habitat Improvement Phase III (\$75,000)
- FY25 Sheep Creek Mountains Habitat Improvement Project (\$72,500)
- FY25 Mule Deer Enhancement Project (\$100,000)
- FY25 Toe Jam Mountain Habitat Improvement Project (\$50,000)
- FY25 Statewide Elk Trace Mineral Profile and Population Demographics (\$149,999)
- FY25 Granite Range Bitterbrush Planting (\$45,000)
- FY25 Supplemental Oxygen for Gallagher Hatchery (\$25,000)
- FY25 Black Bear Monitoring (\$50,000)
- Leafy Spurge Eradication (\$70,652)
- Evaluation and Improvement of Springbox Restoration in the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada (\$73,690)
- Mountain Lion Predation on Native and Feral Ungulates in Southeast Nevada (\$59,700)

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- 11. Biennial Small Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, FOR POSSIBLE ACTION Amendment #1 – Upland Game Staff Specialist Justin Small**

The Commission will review and may take action to approve an amendment to the Department's proposed biennial upland game release plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
- 12. Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, FOR POSSIBLE ACTION Amendment #1 – Wildlife Staff Specialists Mike Cox and Cody Schroeder**

The Commission will review and may take action to approve an amendment to the Department's Biennial Big Game Release Plan for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
- 13. Energy and Solar Projects Update – Biodiversity Division FOR POSSIBLE ACTION Administrator Jasmine Kleiber**

A presentation will be provided on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. The Commission will discuss possibly providing a letter of comment on this project, as well as an overview of renewable energy across Nevada. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.
- 14. Duck Stamp Request – Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$90,750 for projects submitted for Fiscal Year 2025 funding from the Duck Stamp Account. The specific Duck Stamp projects that may be approved are listed below. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

 - FY25 Argenta WMA Improvement Project (\$15,000)
 - FY25 Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Conservation Support (\$35,000)
 - Carson Lake WMA Noxious Weed Treatment (\$25,000)
 - FY25 Purchase Support for Airboat (\$13,750)
 - FY25 Full Lifecycle Conservation of International Migratory Waterfowl and Other Avian Species (\$2,000)
- 15. Upland Game Bird Stamp Request – Habitat Division Administrator FOR POSSIBLE ACTION Mark Freese**

The Commission will review and may take action to approve up to \$262,230 for projects submitted for Fiscal Year 2025 funding from the Upland Game Bird Stamp Account. The specific Upland Game Bird Stamp projects that may be approved are listed below. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

 - FY25 Gilbert Creek Habitat Restoration Project Phase II (\$15,000)
 - FY25 Argenta WMA Improvement Project (\$20,000)
 - FY25 Toe Jam Mountain Habitat Improvement Project (\$12,500)
 - FY25 Greater Sage-grouse Monitoring (\$46,330)
 - FY25 Mineral Development Effects on Greater Sage-grouse (\$60,000)
 - FY25 Upland Game Translocation and Monitoring (\$13,400)

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- FY25 Bi-State Sage-grouse Coordinator (\$10,000)
- FY25 Bi-State Sage-grouse Monitoring (\$30,000)
- FY25 Petersen Mountains Bitterbush Planting (\$15,000)
- FY25 Common Raven Modeling (\$40,000)

16. Commission Regulation 23-15 Amendment #1, Fishing Seasons and Regulations for January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2025 – Fisheries Division Western Region FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Supervising Biologist Travis Hawks

The Commission will consider amending CR 23-15 to designate Smith Creek Reservoir as a closed water in Lander County. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

17. Commission Regulation 23-15 Amendment #1, Fishing Seasons and Regulations for Commission Regulation 24-05, Amendment #1, 2025 Heritage Tag Vendors – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Tom Barnes and Management Analyst Megan Manfredi

The Commission will review the Wildlife Heritage Committee's recommendations regarding Heritage Tag Vendor Proposals for 2025 and may take action on the proposals. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

18. Commission Regulation 24-13, 2024-2025 & 2025-2026 Upland Game and Furbearer Seasons and Bag Limits – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Wildlife Staff Specialists Justin Small and Russell Woolstenhulme

The Commission will establish and may vote to adopt regulations for upland game birds and mammals, furbearers, and wild turkey for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 seasons. WCABMW may take action to make a recommendation to the Commission.

19. Future Meeting Agenda Items – Informational only- Public Comment Allowed

Members may propose future topics for discussion.

20. Public Comment [Non-action item] – *Comments heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (Board) agenda. The Board will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to three (3) minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the Board as a whole. Please sign the sign-in sheet.*

21. Adjournment [Non-action item]

IF THE MEETING GOES BEYOND 10:00 P.M., THE WASHOE COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE MAY POSTPONE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON REMAINING AGENDA ITEMS.