

# Washoe County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

## **AGENDA**

**Monday ~ March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 ~ 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](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/](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 January 21<sup>st</sup>, 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: March 7th & 8th in Las Vegas, Nevada.
6. **COMMITTEE, MEMBER AND LIAISON UPDATES** [Non-action items] – 1) Correspondence (including sportsmen's concerns) and Announcements; 2) Overview of the January 2024 meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners; and 3) WCABMW discussion of action items for NBWC
7. **Joe Bennett, Game Division Supervisor Southern Nevada.** **INFORMATIONAL**  
**Introduction to the Washoe CAB in his new role.**
8. **CONSENT ITEMS – FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - 8a. **Elk Statewide Management Plan Update.** **INFORMATIONAL**  
**Wildlife Staff Specialist Cody McKee**  
A presentation on progress and timelines related to the elk plan revision will be provided.
  - 8b. **Presentation on Emergency Bighorn Sheep Capture and** **INFORMATIONAL**  
**Water Hauling in Southern Nevada - Habitat Administrator Mark Freese and Staff**  
**Specialist Joe Bennett**  
A presentation on FY2025 drought management of water developments and bighorn sheep, emergency bighorn sheep captures, and water hauling plans will be provided.

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## **8c. Gemini Solar Project Activities**

**INFORMATIONAL**

### **Southern Region Biologist Dane Horowski**

A presentation will be provided on the biodiversity survey activities occurring at the Gemini Solar Project for small mammals, and how these activities can be used to inform future solar projects across the state.

## **9. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

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

## **10. Petition – Mr Joe Krathwohl**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **Biodiversity Administrator Jasmine Kleiber**

Mr. Krathwohl is petitioning the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to modify existing regulations pertaining to allowable fees charged for conservation education programs, presented by falconry licensees, and to regulations pertaining to the application requirement for possessing a golden eagle in this State.

## **11. Heritage Meeting Report and Emergency Bighorn**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **Sheep Capture and Water Hauling in Southern Nevada, Heritage Account Principal Proposal – Committee Chairman Tom Barnes, Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa and Habitat Division Administrator Mark Freese**

The Commission will hear a report from the Heritage Committee and consider the emergency bighorn sheep capture and water hauling in Southern Nevada heritage account principal proposal. The Department is seeking Heritage Account Principal Project funding in the amount of \$500,000 to assist with emergency bighorn sheep captures and water hauling in Southern Nevada.

## **12. Biennial Big Game Release Plan for Fiscal Years**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **2024 and 2025, Amendment # 3 – Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa**

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.

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### **13. Legislative Committee Report – Committee Chairman Paul Young**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

A report will be provided on the recent Legislative Committee meeting.

### **14. Discussion on Coyote Calling Contest Regulations – Chief Game Warden Kristy Knight**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Nevada Department of Wildlife will present an outline of potential regulatory provisions for coyote calling contests. These may include, but are not limited to, licensing requirements for participation in the contests, licensing for hunting all species (both unprotected and protected), and the establishment of coyote calling contest seasons. The Commission will offer guidance to the Nevada Department of Wildlife on how to proceed.

### **15. Draft Fiscal Year 2026 Predation Management Plan Staff Specialist Joe Bennett**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The draft FY 2026 Predation Management Plan will be presented to the Commission for additional review. Comments or revisions from the State Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC), the Wildlife Damage Management Committee (WDMC), County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and any other interested entity will be compiled and shared with the Commission for consideration. The Commission may provide changes or additional direction at this time.

### **16. Commission General Regulation - Adoption/Public**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Comment. Allowed Commission General Regulation 524 – Bonus Points Associated with Junior Hunt Applications – Data and Technology Services Division Administrator Matt Maples**

The Commission will hold an adoption to consider a temporary regulation amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would simplify the issuance, use and administrative management of bonus points associated with junior hunt applications.

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## **17. Commission Regulations – Public Comment Allowed FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **A.\* Commission Regulation 25-07 Amendment #1 – 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Big Game Seasons – Game Division Administrator Shawn Espinosa**

The Commission will consider and may take action to approve amended season dates for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 hunting season dates for a minor number of mule deer and antelope seasons that were portrayed incorrectly within the original Commission Regulation 25-07.

### **B.\* Commission Regulation 25-11, Public Comment Allowed FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

#### **Migratory Game Bird Seasons, Bag Limits, and Special Regulations for Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Birds; Public Hunting Limited on Wildlife Management Areas and Designated State Lands – 2025–2026 Season –Wildlife Staff Specialist Russell Woolstenhulme**

The Commission will consider recommendations for seasons, bag limits, and special regulations for migratory game birds for the 2025–2026 season and adopt regulations consistent with proposed regulations framework for the 2025–2026 hunting seasons on certain migratory game birds established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Commission Regulation will become final pending adoption of federal frameworks. The Commission will also consider rules regulating public hunting on Wildlife Management Areas and designated state lands.

## **18. Future Meeting Agenda Items – Informational only- Public Comment Allowed**

Members may propose future topics for discussion.

## **19. 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.***

## **20. 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**