



**Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife  
Government Center  
500 S. Grand Central Parkway (Pueblo Room)  
Las Vegas, NV 89155  
September 20, 2022 (5:30 PM)  
Meeting Minutes**

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**NOTE:**

- Items on the agenda may be taken out of order.
- The CCABMW members may combine two (2) or more agenda items for consideration.
- The CCABMW may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.
- No action may be taken on any matter not listed on the posted agenda.
- Please turn off or mute all cell phones and other electronic devices.
- Please take all private conversations outside the room.
- With a forty-eight (48) hour advance request, a sign language interpreter or other reasonable efforts to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities, may be made available by calling (702) 455-3530, TDD at (702) 385-7486, or Relay Nevada toll-free at (800) 326-6868, TD/TDD
- Supporting material provided to CCABMW members for this meeting may be requested from Secretary Darlene Kretunski at (702) 455-1402 and is/will be available on the County's website at [www.clarkcountynv.gov](http://www.clarkcountynv.gov).
- If you do not wish to attend the meeting in person but desire to provide written general public comment or public comment on an individual agenda item, please submit your comments prior to 2:30 p.m. September 20, 2022, to [Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNv.gov](mailto:Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNv.gov). Please make sure to include your name, address, the agenda item number on which you are providing comment, and your comment. All comments will be compiled into a document and shared with members of the public body, meeting attendees and on the public body's website.

**Board Members:** Paul Dixon (Chair)  
Dan Gilbert (Vice Chair)  
Brian Patterson  
John Hiatt  
Dave Talaga  
Therese Campbell  
Jacob Thompson

**Secretary:** Darlene Kretunski (702) 455-1402, [Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNV.gov](mailto:Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNV.gov)  
Department of Environment and Sustainability, Division of Air Quality  
4701 W. Russell Rd, Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89118

**County Liaison:** Marci Henson (702) 455-1608, [Mhenson@ClarkCountyNV.gov](mailto:Mhenson@ClarkCountyNV.gov)  
Department of Environment and Sustainability, Division of Air Quality  
4701 W. Russell Rd, Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89118

**I. Call to Order-Roll call of Board Members for determination of quorum:**

If no quorum is present, meeting cannot begin and will be canceled.

- Chair Paul Dixon called the meeting to order.
- Secretary Darlene Kretunski took the roll call: Chair Paul Dixon, John Hiatt, Jacob Thompson, Dan Gilbert, Brian Patterson.
- Board members Therese Campbell and Dave Talaga arrived late.
- **A quorum was reached.**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

- Chair Paul Dixon introduced this item.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked board member Dan Gilbert to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Public Comment-** This is a period devoted to comments by the general public about items on this agenda. No discussion, action, or vote may be taken on this agenda item. You will be afforded the opportunity to speak on individual Public Hearing Items at the time they are presented. If you wish to speak to the CCABMW about items within its jurisdiction but not appearing on this agenda, you must wait until the “Comments by the General Public” period listed at the end of this agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. Please clearly state your name, address and please spell your last name for the record. If any member of the CCABMW wishes to extend the length of the presentation, this will be done by the Chair or the CCABMW by majority vote.

- Chair Paul Dixon introduced this topic
- Public Comments: (None)
- **Chair Paul Dixon advised at this time this item is hereby closed.**

**IV. Nominations for Vice-Chair (*For possible action*)** The CCABMW will nominate and select a new CCABMW Vice-Chair.

- Chair Paul Dixon introduced this topic,
- Chair Paul Dixon made nomination of board member Dan Gilbert for Vice Chair.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked if there were any other nominations at this time, and there were no other nominations at this time by the CAB members.
- Board member Jacob Thompson seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 6-0.**
- **Chair Paul Dixon asked Vice Chair Dan Gilbert to going forward to please lead the remainder of the meeting since he is at the meeting location and Chair Paul Dixon was attending the meeting from his home\***

**V. Approval of the Minutes for August 16, 2022 CCABMW Meeting (*For possible action*).**

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Public Comment: (None)
- Board Comment: (None)
- Board member John Hiatt advised a motion for approval of the Minutes for August 16, 2022 CCABMW Meeting.
- Board member Jacob Thompson seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 6-0.**

**VI. Approval of the Agenda September 20, 2022. Agenda items maybe Held, Combined, or Deleted. (*For possible action*).**

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Public Comment: (None)
- Board Comment: (None)
- Chair Paul Dixon advised a motion to approve the Agenda for September 20, 2022 as presented.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 7-0.**
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised to Secretary Darlene Kretunski that board member Therese Campbell has now arrived at the meeting.

**VII. CABMW Member Items/Announcements/Correspondence: (*Informational*) CCABMW members may present emergent items.** No action may be taken by the CCABMW. Any item requiring CCABMW action will be scheduled on a future CCABMW agenda. CCABMW board members may discuss any correspondence sent or received. (CCABMW board members must provide hard copies of their correspondence for the written record).

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised at this time he will go around to each board member to see if they have anything for discussion or have received or sent any correspondence.
- Board member Jacob Thompson (No)
- Board member John Hiatt (No)
- Board member Therese Campbell (No)

- Chair Paul Dixon: (No)
- Board member Brian Patterson: (No)
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated whether it be informational, questions, or starting process about the population of Shiras Moose in Nevada, which have been classified as game species for the state of Nevada. He stated in order to sustain this population, a harvest matrix would be needed. He stated neighboring states have these harvest matrix's in place. He asked the question to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* if he knew of the next process or step to have the ability to get on the books for NDOW and he stated it can possible be action item for our next meeting.
- Public Comment: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated in the last few years NDOW has been collaring moose and in northeastern Nevada there is tracking of moose for recruitments of all demographic data to assist with obtaining a firmer grasp of the population matrix due to the spread of the moose in around four different areas which these areas are not even hunt units. He stated grasping recruitment and showing how many moose are residents versus the transit winter month's moose. He stated also documentation when doing elk in some surveys in which Bull Moose and calves were classified. He stated it is classified as game species and once the amount has been reached to obtain harvest and have made sure there is sustainable population in the state of Nevada then the next steps will be instigated.
- Vice Chair Dan asked the question to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* is there was funding allocated for this or do we need to worry that there is not enough proper funding in order to do the research.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* advised that *(Cody McKee, NDOW's Elk Staff Specialist)* obtained funding through the Heritage Program and now NDOW was able to collar moose last year and yes there is mechanisms in place for funding.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked the question again to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* He stated what *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* spoke about was more in reference of the population and movement and giving potential to do a write up on harvest matrix.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated that unfortunately until a harvest occurs this is difficult to have harvest matrix information and asked Vice Chair Dan Gilbert for clarification what he was requesting publication from the data and asked if this is what Vice Chair Dan Gilbert is asking.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated an example to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* that when the bear hunt was started, there was a population estimates to give many reasons of valid and institute that it was reasonable to do a bear hunt with no impact on existing population. He stated in time these estimates were not valid due to the statistics and harvest along with other factors. He stated he feels Vice Chair Dan Gilbert is asking for the same scenario in what would be useful process to establish the same format in order to do a moose hunt, asking for the next steps or requesting that the CAB instead take the next steps to place this item on the next agenda for discussion about moose population therefore giving a recommendation and asked *(Joe Bennett, Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* for his thoughts on this suggestion given.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated that the comparison between the bear and moose aspects are totally different,

due to the study on the bears was more rigorous with sample sizes among other things therefore he stated his recommendation is to move forward with Chair Paul Dixon's recommendation in having the CAB set this on next agenda and have a discussion and finalize a recommendation and NDOW will provide whatever data they have at that time and see how the Commission feels about it.

- Chair Paul Dixon stated he will set this on the next agenda for the CAB next meeting on November 1, 2022 with (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) presenting a presentation on what NDOW data is about the moose at this time and the CAB will make their recommendation based off of NDOW's presentation.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he will attempt to track down requested data but advised that most of the collaring for the moose was done recently with the timespan not even being a year for the data.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated there is the historical siting as well as the fact that moose in this state can be collared this could not be the case twenty years ago.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he appreciated Chair Dixon's comment and will attempt to track down as much data as he can for the presentation.
- Board member John Hiatt asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if there is evidence of a disease called "**Winter Tick Infestation**" and asked if he was aware of what that was exactly.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he is not familiar with this terminology.
- Board member John Hiatt advised this problematic for moose and other horses in which ticks are on these animals in winter or late fall and some single animals will have possibly 100,000 ticks on their bodies bleeding the animal dry. In the areas in which "Winter Tick Infestation" is present, the moose population are not doing well and are dying out, in locations in Canada and crossing the northeast.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he had not heard of this being a problem here in Nevada and if it was a problem it would have been documented and a full evaluation would have taken place.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised he feels that the situation that board member John Hiatt spoke on aspirated with mild winters has caused issues. He stated two things: 1) understanding the population and if there is the ability to sustain a harvest, 2) Applying framework to have the ability to have a harvest. He then reiterated his previous question to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) of how to get the harvest matrix write up on regulations required prior to acting upon it and he is under the assumption that such write up would be in a timeframe of three to four years down the line.
- Public Comments (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated this has come up in a vast amount of regional meetings as well as with the Game Division but the bottom line is with any species if there is low harvest then it will affect the population trajectory and NDOW will do a lot of things such as attempting to see how matrix is going and especially this year with low level harvest and matrix and seeing how things take place and going forward making it difficult to state the matrix harvest this year can be limited and there will be no effect shown.
- Public Comments: (None)

- **Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that this item is hereby closed.**
- **FYI- “Study: Warmer Summers Worsen Tick Infestations for US Moose” By John Fleisher November 22, 2021:** Winter tick infestation is common with moose across the northern U.S. –usually survivable for adults but less so for calves, and miserable either way, and the climate change may make it worse, scientists reported Monday. Data collected over 19 years at Michigan’s Isle Royale National Park shows moose have more ticks during winters following particularly warm summers, according to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*. That’s presumably because higher temperatures quicken the development of tick eggs, boosting the number surviving to hatch, said author Sara Hoy, a research assistant professor of animal ecology at Michigan Technological University. “We usually think about winter having a big impact on moose, but growing evidence suggest summer might be even more important,” Hoy said. In addition to the partial loss of their bristly winter coats, tick infestation makes moose anemic and less able to reproduce, she said. “It’s a leading cause of recent population declines in the Northeast, where summer temperatures have been surging more than in the Upper Midwest. The findings underscore the varied ways global warming can affect wildlife, said co-author John Vucetich, a professor of population ecology at Michigan Tech. Much research on that topic has involved predator and prey relationships, he said. Vucetich, Hoy and colleague Rolf Peterson have led the world’s longest-running predator-prey study in a closed ecosystem. It features moose and wolves on Isle Royale, a Lake Superior Island park. “But parasites are at least as important as predation,” Vucetich said. “To be a parasite is an easy way to make a living in natural world.” Previous studies have predicted wildlife migrating to different areas because of climate change will encounter parasites to which they haven’t developed immunity. Warmer temperatures are expected to help parasites develop faster and survive longer. The Michigan Tech team estimated year-to-year levels of tick infestation for hundreds of Isle Royale moose using photographs showing hair loss between 2001 and 2019. The researchers developed models with those figures, plus temperature and snowfall data and other information, to draw conclusions about climate change’s role. Winter tick life cycles begin in June as each female lays several thousand eggs in soil. They hatch a few months later. Larvae crawl up forest and meadow plants and wait for hosts- preferably members of the deer family, which includes moose-to brush by so they can latch on. Deer do better than moose at grooming themselves to get rid of the pests, perhaps because of evolutionary differences, the paper said. The ticks feed on their hosts ‘blood through winter, then detach and reproduce. Males die, as do females if they fall onto snow-covered ground. If the ground is dry, females survive and lay eggs to start the next generation. Previous studies of how climate change might affect tick-moose interaction have focused on milder winters, which give ticks more time to find hosts while boosting their prospects for successful egg laying by reducing snow cover. “But this new paper says, “Not so fast-these subtle changes during summers can be exacerbating some of these effects and you need to pay attention to that as well,” said Michelle Carstensen, wildlife health program supervisor with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Carstensen, who did not participate in the study, said its enlightening, but she noted that Isle Royale has unique characteristics. Its only moose predators are wolves, which nearly died out before officials began restoring the population in 2018 with mainland substitutes. Isle Royale has n deer, so its moose aren’t exposed to brainworm, a deadly parasite that deer carry. Hunting

isn't allowed there. That helps explain why Isle Royale's moose numbers have risen to around 1,800 in recent years, despite the ticks. Mainland moose aren't as sheltered. Few remain in northwestern Minnesota, where thousands roamed a few decades ago. In the state's northeast, the population is down from more than 8,000 in the mid-2000s to 3,000-4,000 today. Climate change may be eroding their ability to cope with disease and parasites, Carstensen said, although ticks have played only a minor role in the decline. But ticks are ramping in New England, which has by far the highest moose population in the Lower 48 states. They caused about half the calf deaths between 2014 and 2020 in Maine and New Hampshire, said Pete Pekins, a retired University of New Hampshire wildlife biologist. "It's like the worst Halloween nightmare of vampires you could imagine," he said, because of environmental differences between regions, the Isle Royale study's conclusions should be applied cautiously elsewhere, said Perkins, who didn't participate. But they illustrate global warming's influence on parasites and other perils for popular wildlife, including moose. "Maybe this where we can reach people and make them understand climate change is real," he said. "Winter ticks are winning the arms race and your iconic species is losing." **(End of Article)**

- **FYI- "Winter ticks wiped out nearly 90% of the moose calves scientists tracked in part of Maine last year" (Maine Public, By Kevin Miller, Published 5/18/2022):** Maine is home to the largest moose population in the lower 48 states. But in one of the moosiest corners of the state, nearly 90% of the calves tracked by biologists last winter didn't survive their first year. And the culprit? A tiny critter that is thriving in parts of Maine as the climate warms. "You look at one data sheet after another of what we found in the woods on these moose and it's the same profile every time" it is winter tick, said Lee Kantar, the lead moose biologist with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Winter ticks, which are sometimes called moose ticks, have been pestering Maine moose for about a century and likely longer. But their numbers have exploded in parts of Maine, New Hampshire, Minnesota and southern Canada. It's not uncommon for biologists or hunter to find moose infested with 40,000 75,000 or even 90,000 ticks. Some infested moose rub themselves virtually bald trying to scrape off the irritating ticks, creating the phenomenon known as "ghost moose." Many adult cows can survive such a massive tick load. Calves are another story, however. Of the 70 moose calves that DIF& W collared in a remote wildlife management district spanning parts of Piscataquis and Somerset counties last winter, 60 of them had died by the beginning of May. That's 86% - a record high mortality rate since DIF&W began the tracking survey. "That's how detrimental these ticks are," Kantar said. "And it is pretty incredible". The surge has been apparently driven by a combination of a warming climate and—at least in parts of Maine and New Hampshire-moose populations that are so dense that it's easy for larval ticks to find a host. "Those populations up there are really high density," said Alexej Siren, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Vermont, said of the prime moose habitat that extends from northern New Hampshire across north-central Maine to parts of Piscataquis counties. "It's on a very different scale than other areas of New England as far as other moose habitat that's out there." Unlike deer and dog ticks, winter ticks literally hunt in packs. Larvae gather in interlocking clumps on vegetation, and when one tick snags a passing victim, hundreds or thousands tag along for the ride. A solid coating of snow or a sustained cold snap kill those larvae and stop the hunt which scientists call "questing". But snow has been arriving later in the fall across northern New England. "The winters have shortened

and the falls are longer, which means longer time for those ticks to quest and actively seek their host, which means (moose) have accumulated much more on them, said Siren, who has worked closely with Kantar and his counterparts in New Hampshire. “Core moose habitat in New Hampshire is the White Mountains and north, and winter ticks are still the largest factor influencing that population,” said Henry Jones, the lead moose biologist with New Hampshire’s Fish & Game Department. Areas of southern New Hampshire and Maine have fewer ticks because development limits moose populations. But in the vast commercial forests up north, massive clearcutting decades ago combined with regular harvesting since has created prime moose habitat. While ticks won’t cause a moose to disappear from the woods of Maine or New Hampshire—more frequent climate-related heat waves and habitat loss likely pose a bigger threat—Jones said climate change is giving the parasites a stronger toehold in some areas. “So essentially you had this species, moose that came in and found all of this food, no predator,” Jones said. “Their population exploded. Now it is coming back down. Winter ticks are acting as a predator in the system, and they are enhanced by shifting climate, by the warming climate.” Maine IF&W is also studying whether reducing adult moose densities in the same area where the calves were collared can improve the overall health of the population by lowering winter tick numbers. They are doing this by dividing the 2,000-square-mile wildlife management district that stretches from the Quebec border to Baxter State Park’s western boundary. More hunting is allowed in one half, while it’s status quo in the other. The explosion in winter ticks is taking a toll on moose—and sometimes a fatal one. And research suggests that winter ticks are also leading to fewer moose cows carrying pregnancies to full term in Maine and other parts of northern New England. Such was the case in late-April when Kantar headed out of DIF&W Greenville office to investigate the death of a moose that has been on his agency’s radar screen for nearly a decade. In the winter of 2014, biologist captured a young moose in the woods outside of Rockwood, fitted her with a radio collar and released her back into the wild. Moose Number 59— as identified on her ear tag—roamed a patch of forest near Moosehead Lake for eight years until, in late-April, an antler hunter stumbled upon her fresh carcass and dialed the phone number on her tag. Moments after bushwhacking to her final resting place near the border of Piscataquis and Somerset counties, Kantar starts reconstructing Moose 59’s final chapter. He points to her bony hips, patches of missing hair—and a prime suspect in her death. “There’s winter ticks all over her,” Kantar said, “So, you can see how big they are”. The moose has been dead about four days, yet her carcass is literally crawling with big, brown ticks. Before collapsing, she might have been covered with 50,000 to 90,000 winter ticks. And scores of the parasites are still attached, grotesquely engorged to the size of large raisins. Kantar and his team did field necropsies on most of the 60 calves that have died this past winter as part of a years-long research study in Wildlife Management District 4, which spans more than 2,000 square miles of remote, commercial forests north of the Golden Road. As a nearly 10-year-old cow, Moose 59 isn’t technically part of that current study. But she was in the first class of cows collared by DIF&W in 2014 and provided years of data before her radio collar eventually gave out. Kantar wanted to close the book on her—and to see whether she was carrying a calf at the time of her death. She was, and Kantar gently removed the unborn calf from the cow’s carcass and laid it on the leaf litter. It was tiny—just 12 pounds and about two feet long. Kantar explained that mom was probably 2 to 3 weeks from birthing, so even if she survived, the severely



malnourished calf wouldn't have. "I don't like to see this," he said. "I'll tell you that much." Field necropsies are laborious and messy when your subjects can measure eight feet from hooves to antler tips and weigh half a ton. Kantar came armed with garden loppers a hatchet and sharp knives. Inside this pregnant cow, he found bone marrow almost devoid of fat and internal organs that are a sickly white. "She's completely pale. This is, to me, when her organs are this coloration, that's a sign of anemia, meaning she has been fed on by ticks," Kantar said. "And she's got so much blood loss that it's showing up everywhere. Each adult female winter tick can move one milliliter of blood from its host, which adds up to gallons of blood when you're talking tens of thousands of ticks. Replacing that much blood may be impossible for some moose-particularly a pregnant cow-while subsisting on fat reserves and little else during winter. Making matters worse, Kantar discovered Moose 59's lungs were riddled with two other types of parasites. He has little doubt about the cause of death. "I wouldn't be normally very quick to say that it is tick-induced. But between the tick and the lung, it's pretty bad," Kantar said. "That's pretty bad." His work complete, Kantar packed up his gear and leaves the moose-now collar-free and numberless for the first time in 8 years-to rest in the woods she once roamed. **(End of Article)**

- **FYI- "Fungi May Kill Winter Ticks-and Help Moose Survive" 1/17/2022 by Rachel Sargent Mirus The Outside Story:** Winter Ticks (*Dermacentor albipictus*) Winter ticks are a one-host parasite, meaning all three active stages-larvae, nymphs, and adults-feed on a single host animal. This species prefers to feast on ungulates and is often called the "moose tick" because –unlike deer-moose are unable to remove the ticks through grooming, leaving them particularly vulnerable to large tick loads. Average tick counts on a single moose can Hoover around 47,000, with high counts toping 96,000. That many ticks can drain the blood of a calf in two to three weeks. From 2017 to 2019, researchers with the Vermont Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Vermont noted a 91 percent mortality of moose calves in Vermont and from 2014 through 2016, researchers from the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of New Hampshire saw 70 percent mortality in northern New Hampshire and western Maine due to winter ticks. Such alarming mortality rates have raised concern among wildlife management officials about the health of the New England moose population. Due to the ticks' life history, however, finding a management strategy for winter ticks has been challenging. Winter tick's larvae quest-or seek hosts-from late summer through fall. After attaching to a host, the ticks feed, molt and mate on the same animal through the winter. When adult female ticks are maximally engorged-generally between March and May-they drop to the ground. Over the course of summer and early fall, the females lay eggs and die, then the larvae emerge and hang out at soil level and –again-begin questing. Because of their one-host nature and the timing of their life cycle, the winter tick population depends on plentiful hosts and a window of time in the fall to find one. Limited hosts, cold fall temperatures, and early snows will inhibit ticks – but these are all conditions that are impacted to manage in favor of moose. Enter Cheryl Sullivan, an entomologist with the Entomology Research Laboratory at UVM. She is spearheading a project investigating entomopathogenic fungi as potential allies against the winter tick. These fungi consume arthropods like insects, spiders – and, yes, ticks. Entomopathogenic fungi are found naturally in soils worldwide and infect hosts through aerial spores. When a spore lands on a tick, it germinates, puncturing the tick's outer shell, then

spreads its hyphae-the threads that comprise the fungi's mycelium network-through the tick's body. Like something out of a horro movie, the growing fungus tears apart its host's internatl organs and produces toxins, eventually killing the host. Fruiting bodies sprout from the host, releasing more spores. Sullivan and the team at UVM tested fungal strains of *Metarhizium anisopliae* and *M. brunneum* against winter ticks. Some strains are already available commercially to control insects and mites in residential settings, and some were isolated from forest soils in northern Vermont. While commercial strains were most effective, Sullivan found that in laboratory experiments a local strain killed 89 percent of tick larvae within three weeks. The UVM researchers are specifically interested in exposing ticks to fungal spores at the larval stage, before they've found a host. This is the phase when the winter tick is most vulnerable: the larvae are living in the fungi's natural home (soil and leaf litter), and both need similarly damp conditions to thrive. Deliberately exposing ticks to specific fungal pathogens in their environment is a more sustainable alternative to chemical pesticides, although it's not without challenges. As Sullivan explains, "Entomospathogenic fungi require specific environmental conditions, including temperature and humidity, ample spore contact with a host, and applications timed appropriately to a susceptible life stage for their use to be effective. "Spreading fungal spores everywhere moose live is impractical, so moose conservationists would need to target places Sullivan describes as "localized areas of optimal habitat where moose are known to congregate and be prone to winter tick recruitment." **(End of Article)**

**VIII. Recap of the August 19, 2022 & August 20, 2022 Commission meeting in Tonopah, NV by Chair Paul Dixon: (Informational).**

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated that the Chair would like to address what the topics of discussion were at the Commission meeting at this time.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised he had intentions of attending the Commission meeting in Tonopah but found out that the entire meeting was focused on the policies and the first day of the meeting would be discussion on reports with a field trip therefore he decided not to attend in person but via phone instead.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised it was difficult to hear via phone but stated the issue was resolved the next day (Saturday) therefore he was able to give commentary on all of the policies.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated that all recommendations by the CAB was echoed by the Commission and there was very little comment given on each policy because the others agreed with the policies which showed the will of the Commission.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated he had brought forward two opportunities in CAB announcements: 1) Looking at Overton the WMA Fishing Opportunities this was brought forth by a member of the public and he stated he documented it with the Department and the Commission. 2) He stated there was a lengthy decision about the new volunteer program requirements and besides the CAB there are others who are worried about the difficulties that the new requirements of the program will cause and how NDOW will be documenting the program. He stated other CAB's in Nevada had the same concerns about these requirements. He stated that (Jack Robb, NDOW, Deputy Director) stated that he felt trapped because NDOW has new contract with new vendors due to Kalkomey selling off their tag division therefore having to write new contracts for new vendors and stated it will be one year before the volunteer requirements issue will be resolved. He stated it will be done electronically which has

been a suggestion given by many people when giving recommendations on how to make this process better. He was asked to inform the public for their patience and apologies for any inconvenience and it will be fixed as quickly and as reasonable as possible.

- Board member Brian Patterson asked the question to Chair Paul Dixon if he had just stated that Kalkomey will no longer be the vendor for NDOW's tag application.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated to board member Brian Patterson that Kalkomey has sold their licensing division to another vendor.
- Board member Brian Patterson asked Chair Paul Dixon if he was stating just the licensing or the tag application or both.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated it is both and that they will handle other things for NDOW but Kalkomey has been divided into two parts for two different companies therefore all contracts at this time will be rewritten. Chair Paul Dixon asked (Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW) if he had any additional information on this.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated that Chair Paul Dixon was indeed correct and within the next year or two he anticipates this change.
- Board member Brian Patterson asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if this would go for public bid for that vendor.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it is in the requisition process and he is not certain where specifically they are at on this at this time.
- Board member Brian Patterson asked the question to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if public bids come in place are they not held to certain contract obligations.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated there will simply be transition timeframe where there will be no issues and he has been advised of this for certain. He stated he has been told over and over that it will not be on March 15, 2023 and he understood that this change will be a couple of years.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that everything was going good in the last couple of years with the redesign and this happens.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated his suggestion about the concern with the volunteer requirements are to get a small group together and write up how we would like this process to be done electronically therefore having the ability to renegotiation of the contract with the new company and we would have some structure in the method that the volunteer program is put into giving it two aspects: 1) user friendly 2) valuable to the department and wildlife at the same time.
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked the board if any of them have had a positive online application experiences in other states with their vendors in which one that is universally or widely thought of to be friendly.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated *Arizona and Wyoming Utah, Montana, Maine* are all states that are good.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated in the states that he has used, Nevada is user friendly, he stated Arizona is confusing unless you know what you are familiar with it and know what you are doing it can be complicated, is in his opinion Utah and Idaho are both good and the eastern states are more in person buying over the counter and do not have the innovation as we have. He stated it is tough job and he hates that everything was switched up.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised that the Commission meeting was short and completed by 1 pm on Saturday the last day and got through all the policies with very little discussion which helped make things go very quickly. He stated himself and others were back in

Vegas by 5 pm.

- Board member John Hiatt stated that software for tag applications which problematic and computer IT programmers he feels design these programs for other programmers and it is not looked upon as users just want simplicity and all the bells and whistles does not make it useful to all the users and the programmers are the ones that write all the programs but he felt the users should be the people involved in this design because they are the individuals who will be using. He stated websites and applications now are too complicated then they need to be and the simply information that needs to be there is just not available. He stated NDOW's new website is just not a improvement over the previous website.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised to board member John Hiatt that he is in agreeance with him on his comments.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated as the President of a NGO, he would be happy to assist in implementing a plan for the volunteer resources and stated he is also in agreeance with board member John Hiatt's comments about NDOW's website and felt it is horrible and not user friendly at all. He stated if these issues could be managed in the near future that would be great.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated if the development of the website for the volunteer program could be done therefore the numbers entered would be in the manner that NDOW would like as well as the federal government, he feels it would generate more money than the application would cost. He stated if it were user friendly then individuals would be able to volunteer more on this application, going to look at guzzlers, fishing projects, and other projects if it were user friendly based the application would be a great income generator for NDOW and he doesn't know why it has not been done.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked the question to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) who would be the person to contact at NDOW or KalKomey to streamline to assist with this issue to have ability to receive more volunteer hour representation.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated this is handled through NDOW's Conservation Education Department.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) to give contact name again and spell it.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated Contact: (*Chris Vasey, Division Administrator Conservation Education, Western Region*).
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) that they receive matching Pittman and Robertson funding for the volunteers.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated every volunteer hours are matched \$36 dollars 3 to 1 and the mileage is matched at 52 cents or 53 cents per mile.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated when going out on a turning project and indicate hours worked, mileage, and travel time and if you have that in order to get to the location maybe to look a guzzler that has not received adequate rain or last chance rain and the volunteer has to go in and help dig.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated it does not turn out notifications for the guzzlers that NDOW want volunteers to look at, individuals must sign up for that and track their mileage and hours and this would indeed generate huge profits.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated there always should be a doc amount range to not have the same things that happen in the past recently with guzzlers going dry and have a better disability of this and not be surprised of it.

- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated NDOW will not be surprised with the expected rain and between hunters and individual report levels of the rain, and advised if any hunters get out or the public please do not hesitate to let NDOW know.
- **Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised this item is hereby closed.**

**IX. Mule Deer Enhancement Subcommittee for Clark County status by Erin Wood, Biologist, NDOW: (Informational).**

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated he would give the update, he advised that NDOW is doing big horn sheep aerial survey flights therefore Erin Woods would not be able to be at tonight's meeting. He stated there are four projects that were submitted to the Oversight Committee and will be heard at tomorrow night's Oversight Committee Meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 therefore there will be no new updates until after that meeting tomorrow on the four projects submitted. He stated he will have updates for the CAB at the CAB's next meeting on November 1, 2022.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* He stated as being a member of the Mule Deer Enhancement Committee he asked the question of when the next Mule Deer Committee meeting would be held.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated there is not a date set yet for the next meeting for the Mule Deer Enhancement Committee that will be set after they have the meeting tomorrow Wednesday, September 21, 2022 for the Mule Deer Oversight Committee and see once approval is granted for the four projects to know what the next steps will be and what the possible button mechanisms will be and move forward from that.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked the question to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* if *(Erin Wood, Biologist, NDOW, Southern Region)* if she would be the one giving out this information.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated yes, she will be the one giving out the updates. He stated to give himself and Erin Wood a few weeks due to fly overs until the end of October.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated overall on the subject matter of the sheep surveys what does recruitment seem like, he asked this question to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He stated NDOW flew the entirety of the Desert Natural Wildlife Refuge except the sheep range and sent out letters in Unit 282 and Unit 286 Las Vegas Range due to uncertainty of not having enough mature rams to sustain harvests based off tag allocations and the contractions are as expected with the sample sizes which were low in Area 282 and Area 286. He stated to the contrary NDOW in the Spotted Ranch and Pinewater Ranch, there was great samples and recruitment and the forage conditions which have improved with this month forest perception and the difference can be seen on the landscape as well as every place where NDOW has flown except in west Spector range and stated they even flew the Spectors and viewed over 100 sheep with the ok land recruitment and has been relevantly dry comparatively speaking. He stated with the bears they have disease concerns therefore land recruitment was not great. He stated the adult level contractions are not bad it is as expected from what he has seen thus far. He stated with the bears there has been a large amount of time doing classification. He stated the two areas 282 and 286 are doing as expected.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked the question to *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region)* that the disease level seems to be just departmentalize to simply the

bears.

- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he would not state that it is simply the bears based off recruitment but recruitment is a key factor, there are instances of 20 and below and in a lot of instances you do not have drought conditions impounding it and if NDOW has too tag a disease then it is affecting the populations. He stated there are many areas where land recruitment was in 40 and 50 which is improvement where it has been low in previous years. He stated it could be resistant and resilient and some shedders have aged out of the population and this doesn't indicate with land recruitment that high once passing four months of age that it normally takes a hit, this is no indication that disease is circulating based off this metric.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated four and five months they are dropping in February.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated January or February, mostly southern populations and advised if aerial survey is done now and they have made it up to this point then there is a high level of range recruitment with the assumption that conditions are reasonable.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if he feels there was simply a proportional large recruitment falling off due to delay of rain.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He advised that drought definitely had a impact but he has seen many units where recruitment numbers are 40 to 50 and he stated it would be expected for the drought conditions to have more impact on the younger ages but maybe they had the ability to hold off long enough and have a reprieve.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if after they have been winged these younger ones are more subspectable to disease.
- Public Comments (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it is actually the opposite 0-4 months has the most deaths and after when they are winged the immune system will become much stronger because they are not nursing any longer.
- **Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that this item is hereby closed.**

**X. Discussion NDOW's Urban Wildlife Conflict Program (*Informational*).** We will have a 15-20 minute discussion with NDOW about their "*Urban Wildlife Conflict Program*" in southern Nevada.

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She advised that she works out of the Las Vegas, Southern Region office and there is one individual who is the Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, in the Western Region which would be in Reno. She stated these are the two centers, with a major focus on urban related education.
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She advised that the majority of the focus on the Urban Education is done at the Las Vegas location. She stated the objective is to encourage the public to understand and educate themselves about wildlife therefore they have the tools to handle and reduce the vast amount of nuisance issues that arise with varies species that are categorized as common nuisance species in the Urban area.
- **Presentation Slide 1: (Conservation Education: Urban Wildlife branch):** Goal: To educate the community on living with wildlife through one-on-one interactions during urban wildlife calls and through proactive outreach. Provide community members with the tools necessary to **achieve solutions** and **empower them** to contribute to the overall reduction in human-wildlife conflicts for the future.

- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated the education is used for a variety of reasons, when she is speaking on a phone conversation from a caller that has contacted her, she will use these stats from the education program to assist with their questions, and she does a large amount of public programs for students and the public on topics relating to Urban Wildlife (coyotes, rattlesnakes, baby birds and waterfowl) are some of the species that the public might be afraid of them or just have no desire to have them in their space such as their yard or on their property.
- **Presentation Slide 2: (Public & in-school Programming)** In-person and virtual programming includes: Living with Wildlife (general); Living with coyotes; Living with Rattlesnakes; Baby Birds & Waterfowl; Backyard Wildlife; Urban Wildlife High School program; Question Section: asking what kind of scat is that? *FYI-Scat-Scientists call these dropping “scat” all mammals leave scat behind.* Fact Section: Native Turtle- Western Pond Turtle, found in Truckee & Carson riverways, One even found by Rancho San Rafael, Live in marshes, streams, rivers, ponds and lakes.
- **Presentation Slide 3: (Community Engagement)**:HOA meetings, Community programs, Table events, Urban Pond Walks, Articles for newsletters; High Wildlife Activity Signs
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated for individuals living in a area where there are coyote issues, she spends time allotted speaking to the HOA of these communities and the residents that reach out to her in golf course areas who have recently seen a spike in the sightings of coyote activities She will schedule programs with the residents and HOA to discuss as a community solutions to continue to enhance the value of their neighborhoods without the nuisance issues of these species.
- **Presentation Slide 3: (Other Public Outreach)**: Interviews with media, Nevada WILD Podcast, Social Media “What’s in your backyard”-weekly post featuring different Nevada wildlife; Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor; Public Service Announcements
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern)*: She stated this is to reach the audiences that use social media more.
- **Presentation Slide 4: (Publications)**: for Living with Waterfowl; Help I found A Baby Bird, Living with Coyotes, Living with Bobcats, Living with Mountain Lions, Attention Hikers You Are In Mountain Lion Country.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated publications work well with HOAs and other communities that are dealing with a particular issue with a certain species, this is a great method to spread information through literature.
- **Presentation Slide 5: (WEBSITE) Living With Wildlife- Nevada Wildlife (ndow.org)** Blogs with information on living with: Mammals (Bats, Bears, Coyotes, Foxes, Mountain Lions, Mule Deer, Rabbits, rodents & small mammals, Raccoons, Skunks) Birds:Raptors: eagles, hawks, falcons, owls; Waterfowl, Woodpeckers, Songbirds; Reptiles: Desert Tortoise, Rattlesnake, Gopher snake, Gila Monster Living With Coyotes Section: Coyotes are a common sight throughout Nevada, even our biggest cities have coyotes living inside our neighborhoods. We provide some pretty awesome resources for coyotes in the form of food, water and shelter! If you think about your backyard... Are there rodents or places for rodents to hide? Do you feed birds? Are rabbits a common occurrence in your yard? Do you have pet food or water dishes? All of these can attract coyotes into the area. So, how can we live with coyotes in the area? How do I keep a coyote away from my yard? I’m worried about my pets. What should I do? What should I do if I see a coyote in the neighborhood? I am worried about my safety, will a coyoto attack me? Will the

- department come and remove/relocate the coyotes in my neighborhood?
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that the website is a “work in progress” and that some do not have favorable opinions of the website. She stated additional information added to the website recently was the (Living With Wildlife-Nevada Wildlife) (ndow.org) in which you can find specific helpful hints and information pertaining to certain species listed and how to handle the wildlife conflict from these species, this information was not listed on the website in the past with the frequent asked Q&A of how to eliminate or reduce these conflicts.
  - **Presentation Slide 6: (Urban Wildlife Call Data)**: This program is less than 5 years old and has grown a lot reaching people per year asking questions from finding a injured baby bird and what to do, or coyote activity and they are afraid to walk their dogs or calling to receive a response on how to deal with conflicts. This slide included photos sent by individuals with issues as well as photos provided by community members that have reached out to her and staff to resolving a issue. Data Section: 2021 staff addressed 5,541 urban wildlife calls which do not include all calls from the community, this amount is just addressing direct calls received to the office, **(Here is a Breakdown of the 5,541 calls)**
    - **Injured: Birds** (1066) Mammal (380) Reptile (3) Amphibian (3)
    - **Sighting:** Bird (213) Mammal (943) Reptile (75) Amphibian (1) (#1 calls received)
    - **Nuisance:** Bird (198) Mammal (715) Amphibian (12)
    - **Information Request:** Bird (212) Mammal (186) Reptile (47) Amphibian (5)
    - **Abandoned/Baby:** Bird (349) Mammal (66) Reptile (5)
    - **Dead:** Bird (154) Mammal (170) Reptile (6) Amphibian (1)
    - **Perceived Threat to Human/Pet:** Bird (32) Mammal (232) Reptile (43)
    - **Perceived Threat to Wildlife:** Bird (59) Reptile (12) Mammal (4)
    - **Property Damage:** Mammal (69) Bird (5)
    - **Other:** Combo: Bird (19) Mammal (25) Reptile (7)
    - **Pet Attack:** Mammal (49) Bird (5)
    - **LiveStock Attack:** Mammal (45) Bird (1)
    - **DiveBombing:** Bird (8)
    - **Feeding Wildlife** Bird (11) Mammal (3)
    - **Sick:** Bird (4) Mammal (7)
    - **Human Attack:** Mammal (3)
    - Out of those 5,541 calls: Mammals calls were 52% and Birds calls were 43%
    - Out of those 5,541 calls: in Clark County there were 41% calls and in Washoe County 37% calls
    - Out of those 5,541 calls this means the makeup is: Amphibian 11,0% Other 65,1% and Invertebrate 6,0% and Fish 4,0%.
    - *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated the number one call is for baby birds, and stated that under category for Nuisance, this is generally male bobcats, coyotes, foxes and a large amount are male.
    - Chair Paul Dixon asked *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* that on the bottom of the chart under Human Attack (3), he wanted her to specify type of attack and details.
    - *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated this category Human Attack, these are from Divebombing birds (Mockingbirds, Cooper Fox) these birds are known for Divebombing and Cooper Fox birds have talons and are much more aggressive and these talons can hurt people. She stated there have been incidents where individuals have contacted the



office and two of the calls were in Las Vegas Office Southern Region about Cooper Fox they had sharp talons and landed on people's shoulder not causing injury but causing panic and call her office for questions about safety and methods used to prevent these birds from Divebombing. Some methods for prevention from engagement from humans include usage of umbrella, or large hat, having an attack happen can be very scary.

- **Presentation Slide 7: (2021 Calls & Seasonal Trends):** 2021 Call Volume by Month (Count: 5541) April – October busiest season, baby birds, young wildlife, aggressive birds
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She stated this is the mating season for coyote cubs and spring nesting season leading to conflict and questions to be high amount in these months.
- **Presentation Slide 8: (2021 –Southern Region): 2021 Mammal Species (Count: 780) Breakdown:** Bobcat 61, 8%; Bat 56 7%; Rabbit 66, 8%; Fox 28, 4%; Bighorn Sheep 24, 3%; Rodent 24, 3%; Other 73, 9% (*this includes under other: 29, 4% with Skunk/Ringtail/Raccoon, 20, 2% and Horse/Burro, 10, 1% and Mule Deer 9, 1%, and Badger, 5, 1%*); Mountain Lion 107 14%; Coyote 341; 44%;
- **Presentation Slide 8: (2021-Southern Region) 2021 Bird Species (Count: 1410)** Songbird, 367, 26%; Raven/Crow, 17 1%; Quail, 37 3%; Poorwill/nighthawk, 42 3%; Other, 42, 3%; Hummingbird, 87, 6%; Pigeon/Dove, 146, 10%; Raptors, 334, 24% Waterfowl, 338, 24%
- Board member Dave Talaga asked if (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*) if you could go over the totals again for these counts.
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*) she went over the chart again for board member Dave Talaga.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*) just how close are the coyotes, bobcats and mountain lions to the major areas.
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She stated that coyotes are everywhere in Las Vegas and that they have even sightings on the Las Vegas Strip. She stated the coyotes use the Las Vegas Wash to golf courses as their own personal highways to get around. She stated in regards to the mountain lions they are on the westside of town with the higher elevation and stated the bobcats are on the southeast side of the area by Sloan Mountain, but generally for the mountain lions and bobcats they stay on the outskirts of town closer to mountain areas in which they have a preference.
- **Presentation Slide 9: (When I Respond in The Field):** Injured birds of prey, site visits to (help neighbors identify attractants in their yards, run through of effective hazing); Removal of dead/sick animals for testing, Habitat Improvement, and Discourage feeding wildlife; Rattlesnake living in yard/house
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She stated the primary portion of her job duties is education and to educate others to come up with solutions and empower themselves to work together with their community or individually to learn how to use methods to rid these nuisance species that they are not comfortable allowing to be in their spaces. Using these methods to make the humans seem like predators in order to keep these species away thus allowing them not to be comfortable and to make these areas uninhabitable for them. She advised that instances of responding in the field consist of pick up of injured birds of prey, and she discussed a rehabber who lives in town and her staff and herself helps with the birds of prey pick up in order to take these birds to the rehabber to take care of these animals. She stated that her team and

herself also go where people have concerns such as peoples homes and sites to see potential resources might be and potential solutions to assist such as trimming large amount of vegetation that might be used for certain habitat and to empower them to live with the wildlife daily in a manner that does not give disruption to the individuals daily life.

- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated another message that is conveyed to the public is to discourage feeding wildlife whether it be waterfowls or birds in urban pond and to encourage birds to migrate and encourage the natural living space for the birds. She stated with issues with rattlesnakes she and staff will relocate the rattlesnakes to desirable habitats to the next territory thus removing the threat.
- **FYI- CONTACT INFORMATION (Lauren MacLeod) Office (702) 668-3551 and cell (702) 468-3299 email [lauren.macleod@ndow.org](mailto:lauren.macleod@ndow.org)**
- Board member John Hiatt asked *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* if the website/phone answering system have message option information on what to do for baby birds suggesting for people to simply leave the birds alone so that you and your staff do not have to answer these calls, is this solution made clear to the individuals calling.
- *(Lauren, MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated on the website this is made clear with a blog page to frequently asked questions, **(FYI: Presentation Slide 4: Publications- Help I found A Baby Bird) this literature goes into details to assist with this issue.** She advised that the automated messaging does not have this option to give details of what to do if they found a injured or non injured baby bird but states that she feels that speaking to someone over the phone instead of a automated message helps to alleviate the stress of the what and why's that people need to hear. She stated she has a preference of answering these calls to not have the public view one of dismissal of her office to their calls.
- Board member John Hiatt stated to *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* that large amount of calls that herself and her office receive come during non business hours and asked the question does the automated messaging direct individuals to the website to view the answer to these questions.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated at this time no it does not direct individuals to the website and stated to board member John Hiatt that he has made a great suggestion. She advised she contacts all phone messages back daily first thing in the morning to answer and resolve their conflicts.
- *Public Comment: (Mark Transue): He asked (Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* the question of how many human attacks by mammals did she mention this.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated this was listed in 2021 and all three were by birds of prey with divebombing but no human attacks with lions, there have been sightings of lions but no direct human attacks from them and no coyoto attacks.
- *Public Comments: (Lt. Game Warden Chris Walther, NDOW, Southern Region)* advised to member of the public *(Mark Transue)* in regards to his question of humans that were attacked by mammal, that there have been four coyote attacks in the last year and half and these attacks did not go through Urban Wildlife, and one of the four attacks was very bad. These attacks happen when the Urban Wildlife Response System was new at this point, these were not registered with this department and this does not include any bear attacks that occurred up North and

this happen in the last year and half as well.

- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated any direct law enforcement 911 calls these things go directly specifically to law enforcement and herself and her staff receive the non- emergency calls thus her statistics stated have no reflection on the law enforcement side. She and her staff are on education and conflict issues and solutions part of the spectrum.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked the question to *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* if rabies was reported in the Human attacks by Mammal.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Game Warden Chris Walter, NDOW, Southern Region)*: He advised to board member Dave Talaga that he does not believe that there has been any rabies panels that have returned positive for rabies. He stated there was a instance where human was attacked by coyote in which blood was drawn and coyotes in the area where tested in the lab but there was a fox attack in Mt. Charleston that was rabies postive and this occurred three to four years ago. He stated that measures are taken to make sure that they are testing to the best of their ability but there is no guarantee that they will capture the exact animal onsite.
- Board member Brian Patterson asked *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* that if 5541 calls were received by her office he stated that he guessed that 911 calls for non emergency issues where triple that of her offices count.
- *(Lauren, MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that a large amount of these types of calls non- emergency are forwarded to her office from divisions such as Animal Control in which they felt that education on the matter will most likely be the best solution. These calls are either emailed or forwarded to her office.
- Board member Brian Patterson asked a follow up question about NDOW'S website for her office *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* that has not been user friendly when he attempted to use it, and stated when he had to maneuver through the website to obtain a hunting license it was a task therefore his question is does Kalkamey have stats on the amount of times people have visited her website out of the year and feels that this information would be very helpful and to find pertinent information and find the page to find it, he is certain that a large amount of this information is never seen due to inability to find it due to web design and what good is this information if people cannot find it, it is worthless.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that their website developers are able to track any clicks back to specific websites for NDOW and stated she directs individuals to the specific page which consist of four different publications pages that lhas QR Code linking directly to the blog relating to that specific topic thus leading to the conflict pages from the blog directly.
- Board member John Hiatt asked *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* if she had any publication or blog on feral cats and interaction with wildlife which is primarily negative for the wildlife in general.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that she has never done a educational program on the subject matter of the feral cat specifically but advised this would come up as a subtopic within coyote nuisances or if there is congregation of feral cats within a community this is dinner bell for coyote issues as they are congregation of prey for the coyotes. This is discussed under attraction and what is bringing the coyotes to the valley and

there are other subjects that have some coalition to the feral cats in the valley.

- Chair Paul Dixon stated to *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* he asked her two questions about the brochures and any literature: **1) Is this available at all schools in Nevada or is this given upon request of the schools. 2) If someone had a youth group and wanted to obtain literature and brochures would individuals have to contact you directly.**
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that if requested she will distribute the information with both online PDF versions as well as printable version. She stated she does not send to all schools in the district specifically with request due to not wanting this information to just be placed and not used. She stated she talks with members of the community and organizations that she suggested that they have this information in order to spread the knowledge to their community. She stated recently she spoke at Desert Shores HOA to the board members and she is going to be emailing literature needed on how to live with waterfowl. She asked that anyone who would like this information please contact her and she also states this too individuals who contact her by phone as well.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)* he stated organizations like Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts receive merit badges for dealing with wildlife and asked does she interact with these youth groups and do lectures for these organizations.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that she has a couple of programs; outdoor programs as representative of NDOW with the Boy Scout and Girl Scouts but not specifically about “Living with Wildlife” badge and would be very interested in something like that.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated there is a Boy Scout Leader in his neighborhood that he gives rocks and mineral too for his troop and he was asking about something of this nature, he stated he will have a discussion and contact her thereafter.
- *(Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated that would be wonderful and thanked Chair Paul Dixon.
- Board member Brian Patterson advised he had issue with waterfowl that were Nesting Mallard Ducks in his backyard two years ago with the issue of them being federally protected birds he could not pick up and do removal of these birds to relocate them, he stated he will not elaborate on his actions to the situation but asked *(Lauren MacLeod Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region)*: She stated this is a common issue with individuals who have a pool or water nearby in their neighborhood whether it be pond on golf course next to them or behind their backyard. She stated Mallards will get comfortable rather quickly and remember there are resources available, and too board member Brian Patterson that he is correct that Mallards as well as their eggs are protected. She advised the number one thing is remember prevention rather than reacting to the situation and if you notice a pair of ducks hanging out in your yard assume that these pair are mating and you see these eggs are about to be present and they are building the nest first to have for the eggs. Individuals should make observation to see if there are any signs of a nest being built but note: individuals are allowed to remove the nest being built BUT as soon as there is a egg in the nest it is now federally protected. This turns into a long- term issue as you have to wait until the egg has hatched and wait for the ducks to get older and then you can attempt to help them leave the area. There is a tendency to return to the same area to mate and nest in the future beware of this and start preventative measures to stop this from occurring. Start looking

- around spring season to start preventative measures.
- Board member Brian Patterson advised that the Nesting Mallard Ducks came back for eight to nine years and he enjoyed the ducks but his wife not so much.
- Public Comments: (*Mark Transue*): He asked board member Brian Patterson the question of how were the eggs.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated he had at first over a dozen of these eggs and stated after they hatched and the ducks were using his pool and it was the green color and he had to drain his pool and as the ducks got older he then removed them and relocated them to a golf course pond instead.
- (*Lauren MacLeod, Urban Wildlife Education Coordinator, NDOW, Southern Region*): She advised to board member Brian Patterson that the website has publication solely on how to live with waterfowl that might be useful to him.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated they come back every year.
- **Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised this item is hereby closed.**

**XI. General Business/Action Items: Discuss and make recommendations regarding the following Action Items from the Board of Wildlife Commissioners September 22nd/ September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 meeting agenda, as well as additional items brought forth to the CCABMW from the public for discussion.** CCABMW agenda and support materials are available upon request to Secretary: Darlene Kretunski (702)455-1402 or email: [Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNV.gov](mailto:Darlene.Kretunski@ClarkCountyNV.gov). The final Commission agenda and support at [http://www.ndow.org/Public\\_Meetings/Commission/Agenda/](http://www.ndow.org/Public_Meetings/Commission/Agenda/).

- a. Commission Regulation 21-15 Amendment #1, Fishing Season and Regulations for January 1, 2022- December 31, 2023 (For possible action).** The CCABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about Commission Regulation 21-15 Amendment #1, Fishing Seasons and Regulations for January 1, 2022-December 31, 2023.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
  - Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that the first amendment is the changing of fishing hours at Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge to open 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset. It was previously 2 hours before sunrise and 2 hours after sunset. This is to ensure fishing hours are consistent with Refuge hours of operation. He stated the same with Sportsman’s Park Pond, there is modification in season is open year round, and open to the public during the hours that the park is open with a limit of 3 game fish.
  - Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) does he know why they want to make the amendment to hours from 2 hours to 1 hour before and after sunset.
  - Board member John Hiatt stated to Vice Chair Dan Gilbert that it states that reason: to ensure fishing hours are consistent with Refuge hours of operation
  - Vice Chair Dan Gilbert thanked board member John Hiatt.
  - Board member John Hiatt stated they want to change fishing limits to make sure that the stocked fish are not fished out within the first 20 minutes of opening.
  - Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated anyone who has spent time there knows that about 10 anglers could have it fished out quickly.
  - Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) that obviously was a real problem for them.

- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it had been a problem for a few years.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated that the Ruby Marsh is huge and getting off the marsh is a big task and moving from two hours makes sense but he does not understand why they just did not push the park hours back two hours to stay in sequence with accordance of the law and just adjust the park hours and the gate is locked as well and he feels this is a attempt to get people into trouble. He reiterated there could be reasonable accommodations for this but he does not see why they cannot adjust the park hours verses the fishing laws he stated it seems counterintuitive.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated he is in agreeance with the recommendation given by (*Ron Stoker*)and feels anytime there is a reduction done to fisherman and hunter's access this is bad and agree to push park hours back if this is really the issue but unfortunately he feels the real issue is the limitation of access as we have seen a lot of regulations that want to limit the amount of access that have come forth this year and he feels this will continue if not stopped.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that the comments made by the public (*Ron Stoker, Brian Buris*) were great comments and ask the question of why; is there transit activity going in and out that this is attempting to limit thus looking for rationale behind this change.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he is unsure if he could add any more additional content to the Refuge side of this.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) not a problem and apologize if it seems as all comments are directed at him because he represents NDOW.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he will always be truthful and advise that he does not know a answer if he does not know.
- Board member Dave Talaga advised he thinks this is a big issue.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that he agrees and he was unaware of this and hasn't spent time waterfowling in the marshes and would not like to see such a situation like this.
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked how the hours are set and do we know by whom.
- Board member John Hiatt stated this is federal.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He asked is the regulation for fishing specifically or is this about waterfowl access independently.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated he felt the purpose was attempting to get fishing hours to be insync with the hours of operation at the Refuge, this is what he believes.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he felt the issue being discussed is two separate things.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated he is not certain if this is two separate things, it is a cause and affect and a cause may change the effect and change the hours of fishing. He stated this will continue to the Commission and they will act as they feel and stated as a board our recommendations may be able to broaden the access with the sportsmen and conservation in being able to have as much access as they are willing.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated this is all I was just wondering which one or are we discussing two separate things.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised Vice Chair Dan Gilbert I think your question is if this is a National Wildlife Refuge that is run by the state therefore if something is on a national level, he is not certain what is done by the state level and by having the fishing hours where they are therefore running into potential issues of having individuals locked in as it was pointed out earlier. He stated he is uncertain how the CAB changes federal operation hours of a Refuge.

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated although fishing regulations of a Refuge seem to be our preview and he is not certain if there is lack of ability to make recommendations on this as well.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated he would like to speak one more time to clarified things.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert went out to the public for further comments.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated he is in belief that the Refuge is split by having both some state and some federal land therefore there is separation of where allowance is to hunt and not hunt with both county and boundary lines intact. He stated he thinks one can still hunt state land on this section without being on federal property therefore he advised he is opposed to any regulations that reduce hunting or fishing and this is just his understanding of this area.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked the public (*Brian Buris*) when bringing up hunting and fishing regulations does he feel the change with come with the hunting and fishing hours to match them up when it comes up again and stated that the CAB did not do this when they discussed waterfowl previously.
- Public Comments; (*Brian Buris*): He stated he is discussing specifically about fishing and stated any time there is reduction on either side in regards to hunting or fishing therefore if there is reduction in one then there will be reduction in the other and the hunting hours are set nationally therefore the 30 minutes before Sunset and 30 minutes after Sunrise that is separate issue, the issue is having the ability to get into the area and simply fish and one cannot hunt in the areas that are off the federal Refuge due to being past the boundary line and past the county borderline but one still would have access to fish on these areas without violation due to not being on the federal management area.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised that he thought all hunting was 30 minutes before Sunrise and 30 minutes after Sunset not a hour. He stated the fact that there is 1 hour and we are still set up for hunting leaves the question... (interruption)
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated to Chair Paul Dixon that he was not talking about the hunting aspect just the fishing aspect. He stated the hunting portion will be set no matter what with 30 minutes due to being regulation across the state and one can get in this area 1 hour early to access the area but this is just the fishing hour reduction from 2 hours previously now to 1 hour which eliminates 1 hour a day on areas that one could have previously had the ability to fish but under this they do not have the ability to fish now in those areas.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised that he wanted to clarify to everyone that the discussion was on reduction of fishing hours which could have in future a impact on hunting but we are not discussing hunting aspects in this discussion.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated exactly.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated in federal Refuge such as this they are allowed to make up their own set of rules and he is not sure how the process is done but cannot understand how NDOW is attempting to make rules on National Refuge when the National Refuge make their own rules and enforce these set rules with their own ordinance and the Ruby Valley and Ruby Marshes is not heavy traffic area therefore this will not affect tons of people so why implement rules on this area and it makes no sense for NDOW to implement this rule and they are attempting to line up with the Ruby Marshes and he does not feel this is necessary.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked the questions if all fishing access points through the Refuge operating points, does one have to access your fishing locations going through the operations access to the Ruby Marshes.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated he was not certain about boat launches but there might be one boat launch outside of the federal area, but all the access would be

walking access whether it has boat access or not, this would not matter it would all have walking access. He stated it would be as if one went to a high elevation lake to fish on a high-level access lake where one would not have access by vehicle but you would have the ability to hike in.

- Chair Paul Dixon advised he was getting clarification for himself because he has never fished the Ruby Marshes.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked the question if this opinion was predominant opinion amongst fisherman and fisherwomen, or people who fish in the Refuge.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated to board member Dave Talaga the proper terminology to include all persons who fish “anglers”.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated he has never heard anyone bring this up as a issue and stated he does not understand how NDOW has the ability to implement this.
- Board member John Hiatt advised anytime there is conflict between two agencies with one having rule 1 and the other having rule 2 for the same issue then people tend to question why the rule states that they cannot be here because the other agencies rule states that I can therefore it would really be much easier if there were consistent regulations with the two agencies having the same activities at the same location.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated he agrees with board member John Hiatt and does not believe that the commonalities and regulations should go to the more limiting factor and feels by opening up regulations 1 hour on the federal this would be as helpful as limited.
- Board member John Hiatt stated someone has to come out to this location and unlock the gate or do something this cost money and they do not have a large amount of employees already.
- Board member Jacob Thompson stated he was wondering about the money aspects of this which is relevant but ask the question also, is there a gate that would be locked at a certain point leaving people stuck inside who thought they were obeying the rules under normal fishing hours but the park closed hour earlier.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated from his experience there is no gate.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked the question of the operational hours for the individuals who would be assigned to service the gate.
- Board member John Hiatt stated that he doubted that individuals would be there to open the gates hour before sunrise and hour after sunset daily.
- Public Comments: (*Ron Stoker*): He stated that he does not even know if there is even anyone to service the gate before sunrise.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated that his experience is that he has not seen the gate locked often at all.
- Public Comments: (*Nick Gulli*): He stated is the issue about fishing or is it a enforcement issue over lack of enforcement.
- Public Comment: (*Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he has reached out to the fishing biologist and he is not sure if this has something to do with species or ecosystem issues or stopping people from going out and doing recreational things there may be a underline issue here instead and we do not have the experts here to advise us on why the fishing hours have been changed. He stated he has sent out text messages to find out the answer but as of now he is still waiting to hear back on the reasoning. He stated he does not feel the reduction is for the basis for reduction in individual’s active time at all.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert feels he is not in favor of limiting any sportsmens access to achieve conservation and he would like to achieve clarity on what this means and he is in agreeance on the bag limitations for the sportsmen in Tonopah but does not agree with limiting hours and would like the federal government expand the hours rather than



minimize them.

- Board John Hiatt advised that the CAB is Wildlife Advisory Board and has no authority to change the operational hours of the Federal Wildlife Refuge
- Board member Dave Talaga advised they can leave it as is.
- Board member John Hiatt advised that from an enforcement standpoint it is easier to have the same rules on both sides.
- Board member Dave Talaga stated if it is limiting anglers.
- Board member John Hiatt stated that there is generally no fishing before sunrise and sunset.
- Board member Dave Talaga stated there is no reasoning presented to advise why this is being done other than to align park hours. He stated there is no cost data, no operational data, and it seems hours and the hours have been this way for long period.
- Board member Jacob Thompson is in favor and would like the hours to be extended as well.
- Board member Brian Patterson advised that there are not many anglers who would be fishing during these hours at sunrise or sunset.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated that a slow erosion is still a slow erosion regardless and this is what he feels about this regulation.
- Board member John Hiatt advised a motion to approve Commission Regulation 21-15 Amendment #1 Fishing Season and Regulations for January 1, 2022 –December 31, 2023 as presented.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 5-2 (the dissenting opinion is don't support reduce operations at Ruby Lake).**

**b. Commission General Regulation 502, NAC 502 Junior Hunt and Turkey Program, LCB File No. R051-21 (For possible action)** The CCABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about amending Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 502 that would limit the number of successfully awarded tags in the junior hunt program, remove hard close dates for submitting a turkey harvest return card and allow for junior turkey bonus points to roll over into the adult category once a junior is no longer able to participate in the Junior Hunt Turkey program.

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- ***FYI- This regulation would allow a applicant who failed to submit their turkey harvest return card by the established deadline to pay the \$50 associated fee and complete the survey during the following year's turkey application period in order to lift the applied suspension and successfully submit the application. The changes would also allow for juniors participating in the junior turkey hunt program to roll their accumulated bonus points into the adult category once they are no longer eligible for participation as a junior turkey hunter. Additionally, the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee has proposed a limitation to participation in the junior hunt programs that would make an applicant ineligible for future participation in the junior hunt programs after three (3) successfully awarded junior tags. This limitation is specific to the species being applied for.***
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated he is in favor of this and does not see reasoning to have more than 3 tags with the three
- Board member Jacob Thompson wanted to know the success rate.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated it is relevantly high success rate in the 80s.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated

this depends on the WMAs but statewide it is high success rate.

- Board member Jacob Thompson asked what about statewide numbers.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He advised he does not have the state numbers at this time but could retrieve that information for our next meeting.
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked if he had a ballpark figure at this time he could give.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it is normally between 60 and 70 with some areas such as Overton will be slightly higher and recalls Overton having continued success every season.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised in our last discussion on this issue at our last Commission meeting there was great support on this coming out of the Tag Committee to state once one has three successes as a youth then one is done. He stated this surprised him and out of the nine Commissioners eight were in support of this concept. He stated this falls in line with discussion on other big game sports animals at the Tonopah meeting.
- Public Comments: (*Brian Buris*): He stated this again goes to limiting opportunities so the chances of a youth drawing over three tags in a ten unit. He stated he felt that more than once is ridiculous and placing a regulation that does not need to be, thus the opportunities are being reduced at this point. He feels that fishing is 24 hours 7 days a week and there has been added regulation for reduction of time in certain areas and stated for him this is not simply about hunter opportunity but about reducing again chances and opportunities and he thinks that if youth are lucky enough to draw four tags then they should have the ability to hunt four times. He feels eventually there will be no youth who want to hunt and carry on the tradition that we have so much enjoyed.
- Public Comments: (*Ross Stoker*): He stated he agrees with public comments from (Brian Buris) that this reduces opportunities and we are cutting a lot and not giving a lot and the expectations are not realistic and his child has had his tag for over four years and has not drawn a tag yet, and feels why continue to make laws that do not make any sense.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that he appreciates the public's comments on not limiting access or opportunities and does not want to see it condensed either but feels any law that makes fairness with the playing field rather letting someone betting the odds and receiving free junior tags when someone else is on the sideline wishing for the opportunity and feels this is not considered limiting opportunity this is just creating fairness.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised a motion for Commission General Regulation 502, NAC 502 Junior Hunt and Turkey Program, LCB File No. R051-21 as presented.
- Board member Jacob Thompson seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 7-0.**

**c. Commission General Regulation 508 NAC 502 Antler points and Spike Elk Defined, LCB File No. R090-22 (For possible action)** The CCABMW Board will review, discuss and make recommendations to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners about changes that would clarify the definitions of "antler points" and "spike elk" for certain big game mammals and reduce the likelihood of inadvertent infractions.

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised the language change and removal of some language in order to create clarity.
- *FYI: Sec. 2. NAC 502.104 is hereby amended to read as follows: (502.104) "Spike elk" means any antlered elk having not more than three antler points on either antler.*
- *FYI: Sec. 3 NAC 502.1045 is hereby amended to read as follows: (502.1045) "Spike elk*

*only” means in a designation of elk that may be taken during an open season, only antlered elk having not more than three antler points on either antler.*

- *FYI: The revised definitions will provide clarity to any hunter with a valid tag for pursuing certain big game mammals. This regulation change provides the public and law enforcement clear language needed to determine antler points on certain big game mammals and access qualifying antler points during spike elk only hunts.*
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked if this issue was pertaining to eyeguard or something else.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised its pertaining to elk, when you have the two eyeguards therefore when you have a spike you generally do not get eyeguards until you have atleast a four point or better. He stated he has seen spikes that go straight up that were three points and do not come out over the eyes.
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked could he have possible violations and concerns.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated in past there have been issues with defining what is above the ear, difficulties through a scope from 100 yards or more, and how many yards are needed when shooting to get accurate description of above the ear, also a large amount of discrepancies with view points, is it above the ear, is it browtime and he stated he spoke to Captain today prior to tonight’s meeting who stated in order to simply remove the entire ear language out of the regulation and three points meaning if there was a spike elk that had four points on one and two points on the other having that amount on one antler then this could be harvested as a spike elk. He stated the purpose is to simply for the hunter as well as easy to interpret for the Game Wardens who are in the field where there may be some questions.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised if one has a six by six that is broke off on one side then is this considered a spike.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated this is a negative and it must have atleast three antlers on one side. He stated if it has three antlers on one side that is good but if it has three on one side and four on the other no clear method to do this and explained again if it were four antlers on one side and three on the next then no.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* If one had six antlers on one side and none on the other is this ok.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated if one has six antlers on one side and none on the other and they shoot this as a spike then they will receive a ticket.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised that is what he wanted to hear, that is the answer he wanted to hear.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated if one has two on one side and four on the other the two is considered the spike, and advised we must come to common ground in order to simplify this.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated the four antlers on one side and two on the other don’t count. He stated it must be three or less on both sides or this is not considered to be a spike.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated only one point has to have three or less.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated this is not the way the regulation is reading on this.
- Public Comments: *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated the interpretation that he received prior to tonight’s meeting and he has not read anything on paper yet on this and stated he will take a look at the regulation and see what it is saying.
- Public Comments: *(Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region):* He stated to *(Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region)* that it states either antler Chris.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated it says no more than three on either antler.

- Board member Dave Talaga stated he thinks that it should read no more than three antler points total.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated that would be four antler points total, but you cannot have more than three on one side.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated it could be three by three and still be classified as one spike.
- Board member Dave Talaga advised to correct him if stating it incorrectly, but it is three points total.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated no it is six points but when asked (*Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, Southern Region*) the question is a broken off six by six and he stated no, and advised he is just asking the question and he received the answer that he wanted.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He advised he would like to add additional content on this issue, he stated NDOW is attempting to target the younger age class bulls and stated when getting three points normally you are getting bulls that are normally a couple years old, and this is the objective from harvest standpoint. He stated once getting into the four or five year old or four and five point especially the five point there are some impressive mature bulls. The key is not reaching that point and to find the younger age class bulls and use that opportunity thus not taking away from the sportsmen who waited fifteen years for the opportunity for the mature bull.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it is very clear on the meaning.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked the question if it is either or both antlers.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated it says on either antler and no more than three on either antler.
- Public Comments: (*Nick Gulli*): He stated this means three by four is illegal.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated three on one side and less is fine but if you have a fourth point on either side then your in violation.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised that they worked on this regulation over the years back in Yearington (3-4 years ago) with people coming in to discuss it and felt this simplified what was on the books on this presently. He stated he is in agreeance of (*Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, Southern Region*) and again reiterated that this simplifies and makes more enforceable and it is not perfect and will be as close as they will come by stating no more than three points on either side.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated that he hunts in other states and they end their regulations and show pictures that are drawn to reflect what is legal versus illegal and he feels it is helpful in order to educate the general population.
- Chair Paul Dixon asked board member Brian Patterson for clarification we want hunt book to show graphic representation.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked board member Brian Patterson if he knew what Utah and Arizona definition of a spike is.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated he was not sure without viewing the regulations but tutuorially it is shown graphically in the regulations.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert stated to board member Brian Patterson that he seen what he was referring too in the regulations showing different variances of the spike.
- Board member Brian Patterson stated it is not stub that one cannot see down at the base that would count because it is wrong therefore this helps to help with the confusion. He stated if hunters shot one that has points down low getting two straight up and a little bit of fur on the bottom.
- Board member Jacob Thompson asked (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) if there was a low success rate.

- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated it is highly variable depending on the area and stated some of the 11 units had a decent success rate and advised most of the quotas in areas are low and NDOW has run stimulations and the effects on the numbers with the harvest and in attempt to find balance and bringing bull ratio down will not affect the quality.
- Board member Jacob Thompson read a definition of a spike bull by the state of Utah: (Date March 2021-2022): Spike bull means a bull elk having atleast one antler being if no branching above the ears, branch meaning a projection of the antler longer than one inch meaning measuring from base to tip.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert thanked board member Jacob Thompson for that information. He stated going through with adoption on this is there a higher success rate along the sprecturm.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated he feels it has nothing to do with success rates and the definition of no more than two points above the ears is difficult to decipher, asking the question of the start of the antler point start which started the cleanup language because antler point definition was mule deer specific and know it goes to the elk side as well.
- Public Comments: (*Lt. Chris Walther, Game Warden, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated there is the elimination of the one inch branch language because it cannot be determined from a scope of 150 yards or further and stated it needs to be simplified where the points are identifyable making it easier on the hunter and from law enforcement stand point it needs to be cleaned up for clarification and it is putting hunters in a bind where they have to self report because they screwed up.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated to (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) that with the massive amount of cow harvest over the past five to six years there were bull ratios in the 70s and 80s range in some of the herds to cows therefore by having a spike this removes younger bulls from the herd leading to better class of larger bulls and as they get larger they are not all busted up due to the bulls fighting because there are so many. There is need to remove the younger class bulls out of the system thus this is making it easier to do by setting up hunt and making it clear on the expectations to understand what the regulation would like them to shot.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated that Chair Paul Dixon brings up a great point and advised that a lot of elk population have committees and subplans and there are population objectives built in thus the population within the last 10-15 years did well hence having to get aggressive for the female harvest. NDOW had to increase the bull ratio and using methods in the toolbox that helps to not affect the trophy quality. He stated the younger age class bulls, the yearly bulls the survival rate are not as high as the mature bulls thus the likelihood of some surviving without the harvest factoring in which is not a clear picture to factor in when taking in with the fatality.
- Public Comments (*Brian Buris*): He stated the language of the law is not being represented, and a spike elk the meaning is the antler elk having no more than three antler points on either side therefore one could not get above a three point on either side, otherwise the regulation is violated. He stated if you have more than three points on either side this now becomes a illegal spike bull. He stated the spike bull also means that either side example a 4 by 1 and states that is a legal bull, but it is not in accordance of these standards, and if either side is over three then this means no longer a spike class elk. He stated he would agree if this is the way it is written and it would be difficult to defend yourself in court if one harvested a 6 by broken off and had to prove this is no longer a spike. He stated it could have been been one antler but it is broken off therefore there is no evidence that the antler on the other side existed or was more than a single spike and advised the way the language is written with three antler points on either side, this is a better classification of where we need to be with the language then having a 4 by 2. He stated the language is written correctly but is being interpreted incorrectly.

- Public Comments: (*Joe Tiberti*) He stated it sounds like a liberal interpretation and he is in agreeance on this and he understands this to be three by three on either side.
- Board member Dave Talaga asked the question for clarity if NDOW states less than three on either side you may have three on one side and three on the other side, any combination.
- Public Comments (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*) He stated that is correct as long as it is three on each side.
- Board member Dave Talaga stated it should technology state three on either side or both sides.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated to board member Dave Talaga that is states no more than three.
- Chair Paul Dixon stated to board member Dave Talaga it states no more than three on either side and by saying no more suggests that it is both sides.
- Board member Brian Patterson states to board member Dave Talaga that the language states either antler.
- Board member John Hiatt stated it is very clearly written.
- Board member Dave Talaga reiterated that NDOW agrees that it can be three on both sides.
- Public Comments: (*Joe Bennett Jr., Supervisor, NDOW, Southern Region*): He stated yes that is no more than three.
- Board member Dave Talaga advised he feels it would be great to have illustrations.
- Board member Brian Patterson advised the illustration portion will help.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised he will make a recommendation that NDOW will have in the hunt book graphs for the defintion of three by three points or less as it is done in other states and this recommendation will be placed in his action report to the Commission as well.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert asked Chair Paul Dixon is this a motion he has just made.
- Chair Paul Dixon advised a motion to accept Commission General Regulation 508 NAC 502 Antler points and Spike Elk defined LCB File No. R090-22 as presented with the recommendation that the hunt book have graphics of the definition of meaning of no more than three points on either side.
- Board member Brian Patterson seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 7-0.**

**XII. Comments by the General Public-** A period devoted to comments by the general public about, matter relevant to the CCABMW's jurisdiction will be held. No vote may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If any member of the CCABMW wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair or the CCABMW by majority vote.

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Public Comments: (*Robert Bobbitt*): He stated in regards to fishing hours state rights versus federal rights since the fishing and gaming belong to the state but become federal property therefore who has the dominant rule on this. He stated on the spike elk a spike is a spike one on each side or maybe two on one side and one on the other but not three and three. He advised a three by three to him details this is a two and a half year old and reiterated this is not a spike.
- **Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised that this item is hereby closed.**

**XIII. Authorize the Chair Paul Dixon to prepare and submit any recommendations from today's meeting to the Wildlife Commission for its consideration at its September 23, 2022 &**

**September 24, 2022 meeting in Las Vegas, NV (*For possible action*).**

- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert introduced this topic.
- Vice Chair Dan Gilbert advised a motion for Chair Paul Dixon to prepare and submit any recommendations in tonight's meeting to the Wildlife Commission on September 23, 2022 & September 24, 2022.
- Board member Jacob Thompson seconds the motion.
- **Motion passes 7-0.**

**XIV. The next CCABMW board meeting will be scheduled for November 1, 2022 in the Clark County Government Center (Pueblo Room) 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas. The meeting will be in support of the November 4, 2022 & November 5, 2022 Commission Meeting in Reno, NV**

**XV. Adjournment**

**POSTING: The agenda for this meeting was legally noticed and posted at the following locations:**

- Nevada Department of Wildlife: 3373 Pepper Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89120
- Clark County Government Center: 500 Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89108
- City of Henderson: Henderson City Clerk: 240 S. Water Street, Henderson, NV 89015
- Laughlin Regional Government Center: 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, NV 89028
- Moapa Valley Community Center: 320 North Moapa Valley Road, Overton, NV 89040
- Mesquite City Hall: 10 East Mesquite Boulevard, Mesquite, NV 89027
- Boulder City: Boulder City Hall, 401 California Avenue, Boulder City, NV 89005

**ONLINE:**

**[https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/government/departments/environment\\_and\\_sustainability/advisory\\_board\\_to\\_manage\\_wildlife.php](https://www.clarkcountynv.gov/government/departments/environment_and_sustainability/advisory_board_to_manage_wildlife.php)**