A regular meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2008 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chair Gil Yanuck

Wes Clyde John Valley Doug Martin

STAFF: Darlene Rubin, Recording Secretary

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-055) Chair Yanuck called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Vice Chair Stan Zuber was absent.
- 2. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES August 11, 2008 (1-060) A motion was made by Wes Clyde to approve the Minutes of August 11, 2008. John Valley seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- 3. MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA None
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS None
- **5. DISCLOSURES** Chair Yanuck reported meeting with Carson City Fly Fishing Club at the board at their board of directors meeting, to thank them for their contribution to the Joint Commissioners meeting.
- 6. REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE AUGUST 15 AND 16, 2008 WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING (1-077) Chair Yanuck reported the meeting began with the election of a new chair, Ron Lurie, and vice chair, Gerald Lent. One of the topics discussed at that meeting was the protection of wolves and it was decided to make them a protected species so there would be no hunting for the animals. However, it was agreed to change that status at a later date, if it was determined there were enough wolves or if the wolves were causing a problem, without the necessity for legislation. Another item discussed was the waterfowl hunting season. It was decided that everyone would start on the same date except the Overton Wildlife Management Area which would be two weeks later, because they expected the release of water earlier than originally anticipated.

There had also been considerable discussion concerning the sheep release in the Cortez Mountains. A number of ranchers had shown up to talk against it, commenting they wished they had more contact with the department's local area biologist before the decision was made. The director took it seriously and as a result had many conversations with the area biologist in Elko County and in Ely. He had sent a message to the wildlife area biologist in all the zones that they should take a greater interest in the local advisory

board meetings and try to meet with more of the public. As a result, the biologists did meet with a large number of the ranchers and they put it on the agenda of the local advisory board. However, not one rancher showed up at any of the meetings. Accordingly, the local advisory board believed it was the right recommendation to make. Then, at the commission meeting, all the ranchers showed up. The end result was that nothing had been done formally to set up the release. There would be further meetings with the ranchers to hear more of their concerns. Veterinarians had also attended and talked about proven evidence that there was a domestic wild sheep disease problem. One rancher brought out the fact that he was going to run 1,000 head of goats on his property. One veterinarian said later that goats were probably going to be a larger disease problem than the sheep. He added that they needed a lot of discussion about what the ranchers wanted to do and why they were against the sheep release. Despite little historical data about sheep in that area, they saw that it had potential as an area they could inhabit and agreed that if there was a predator problem they would take steps to correct it.

- 7. ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE CONSENT AGENDA (1-171) John Valley moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Wes Clyde, and carried unanimously.
 - 7-A. ACTION REGARDING 2009 COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE COMMISSION SECRETARY KEN MAYER.
- 8. DISCUSSION REGARDING INFORMATIONAL REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SEPTEMBER 5 AND 6, 2008 JOINT MEETING OF THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS AND THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION (1-191)
 - 8-A. AGENCY OVERVIEWS CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
- 8-B. TAHOE BEAR MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE (1-266) Doug Martin expressed interest in the bear management issue. Mr. Yanuck said the first nuisance ordinance had been circulated to the Board of Supervisors and he was waiting to hear from Larry Warner to see of it would be agendized. The intent was that if the Board of Supervisors was interested in such an ordinance then he planned to have some public hearings scheduled.
- 8-C. INTERSTATE MULE DEER MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE (1-208) Mr. Martin commented that the primary big game unit would be affected by the interstate mule deer management and that was of particular interest to sportsmen of Carson City. "Observationally and intuitively, a large segment of the mule deer herd they claimed was "interstate" I think is more vertical." The mule deer seen in Genoa in winter were wintering on top of the ridge. Mr. Martin believed particular attention was needed. Chair Yanuck said he could ask those questions of Mike Cox when he next came to the meeting. He said that was the reason for the split season, to be able to take advantage of the herd that came in from California. If that was not the case, perhaps he could provide some substantiation. Mr. Martin made a point that fire fuel reduction in the Tahoe area and the eastern slope was only good for that herd. He had noticed a lot of opening in the canopy which was increasing browse species and, in fact, he was seeing more mule deer than every before. He believed that it was a regional herd and in better shape than in the past, but the herd south of Kingsbury Grade was migratory.

- 8-D. ALIEN SPECIES ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE.
- 8-E. SAGE GROUSE MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE.
- 8-F. LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) ON SHARED JURISDICTION CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE.
- 8-G. EMERGING ISSUES/LESSONS LEARNED, I.E., LAKE DAVIS NORTHERN PIKE ERADICATION, ALEUTIAN GOOSE RECOVERY PROGRAM, ETC. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE.
- 8-H. NEVADA HUNTER SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND EFFECT ON CALIFORNIA HUNTERS CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE.
- 8-I. DEPARTMENT BUDGET ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICER III DAVE PRATHER
- 8-J. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES REPORT DIRECTOR KEN MAYER
- 8-K. PREMATURE RELEASE OF 2008 DRAW RESULTS DIRECTOR KEN MAYER
- 8-L. LITIGATION REPORT DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL NHU NGUYEN
- 8-M. CLARK COUNTY SHOOTING PARK COMMISSIONER LURIE
- 8-N. WILDLIFE HERITAGE PROJECTS BUDGET ANALYST II GABE PINCOLINI
- 8-O. OXBOW NATURE STUDY AREA UPDATE STAFF CONSERVATION EDUCATOR KIM TOULOUSE
- 8-P. GOOSE CREEK DEPREDATION HUNT SUPERVISING GAME BIOLOGIST LARRY GILBERTSON (1-655) Mr. Valley reported that his son had been contacted about that hunt. He thought it was a great idea, however, his 17-year-old son had no idea where the hunt was taking place--he received information in the mail with little detail. Had the information included a website where more information could have been obtained, he would have likely taken advantage of the opportunity.
- 9. REPORT ON NEVADA SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION TEAM GIL YANUCK (1-302) Mr. Yanuck reported on a meeting last week of the Governor's Sage Grouse Team, primarily about information compiled from projects completed in the last few years and provided to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), to help them make a decision whether the endangered species designation was necessary. It was hoped they would return with a finding that it was not required at this time. It could be a species that needed to be watched and information on conditions constantly updated. It was well known,

Mr. Yanuck said, that problems could arise from the ranchers and the agricultural sector if it became an endangered species, because the allotment certain times of the year would not be available to the ranchers. The issue could hurt the state economically, but it would be necessary to wait until December when USFWS would have a meeting with the judge to let him know the their progress to date. The final announcement would come out next year. There was a frustration in these programs, Mr. Yanuck said, because while it was possible to obtain money for a project, there was no money for the monitoring. Another problem was that often it was 20 years or more in the future before the results of the rejuvenation and re-habitation would be known.

Mr. Martin raised a question about the monitoring and what was being done with the information obtained. There was never any feedback about what had been observed. Mr. Yanuck noted that in the past it had been very helpful to deal with people with a biology background so that when one talked about the different types of forbes, brush, and so on, they could identify it. They could also discuss why certain conditions existed in an area. The information that was gathered needed to get to the area biologist, because it was they who fed it back to the department where the information was tabulated. Member Clyde asked how much of the information was passed on. Mr, Yanuck said that each of the area biologists knew they had a responsibility to pass on the information to the upland game or big game bureau from reports that hunters made. He recalled that when they had researched the old records to see where sage grouse had been reported in the 1940s and 1950s, it had been amazing to see how many stacks of records they pulled out of their files that had come from biologists' reports. Those reports were not as conclusive because there were not as many wardens in those days and they could not cover too much area, nevertheless when Mr. Yanuck had looked to verify some of the leks in the Pine Nut Range there were reports going back 40 and 50 years. In short, Mr. Yanuck believed that a good portion of the data did get back to Shawn Espinosa. Mr. Martin noted that the grouse count was at least three times more compared to last year's.

The attitude that the Governor's Team took was that with limited funds and limited availability of volunteers and organizations to support the effort, it was important to focus on keeping the good areas good--the large sage grouse populations in Elko County and that general area--that became the primary focus. After the tremendous fires, 60 to 70 percent of the leks in the area were lost. Those areas had to be re-seeded and rehabbed, but it was unknown if they would ever return or how long it would take. The focus, again, was on wherever they knew there were sage grouse and there was an opportunity to improve the habitat--remove pinion juniper, fence off some more of the springs to prevent the horses from trampling, re-direct roads away from away from the area during the critical time. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had been very cooperative with the volunteer effort. When the BLM had funds to do certain projects they tried to incorporate the sage grouse--136 different projects were submitted for Mono County and into Nevada.

Mr. Martin noted that "you do have a group of people, some of whom were trained and educated not to report mis-information who go to the same area to hunt year after year...and that was a really good source of information." Mr. Yanuck agreed, stating that what was needed was the means for the information to be collected and reach some destination, and added that he would take the matter up with Mr. Espinosa personally. In general discussion the suggestion arose that a pamphlet be created to inform the hunters what to look for, or if there was an interest in participating in collecting information, and the data could be easily emailed to the appropriate recipient.

- 10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON CITY ADVISORY BOARD TO MANAGE WILDLIFE BUDGET (1-713) Chair Yanuck reported receiving a call from Washoe County asking if our budget had been augmented. Mr. Yanuck said he had assumed that when the new fiscal year began they would have augmented it with whatever had been approved at the meeting. Somehow Washoe had not received an augmentation and it had been too late to reach anyone at the Department of Finance to see if we had received it. Because there had been money left over, the expenses as submitted had been paid. He would follow up to check on the status.
- 11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE BARBECUE RECEPTION SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008 IN RECOGNITION OF THE JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS AND THE CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION (1-740) Mr. Yanuck reported on the upcoming cookout. A turnout of 88 people was expected, a great many from California. Mr. Martin offered to contribute to the fund, if needed, however Mr. Yanuck said he had exceeded the \$2,000 goal. In fact, he was wondering how to refund to contributors anything in excess of what was spent. Chair Yanuck said the evening would be a good opportunity to ask attendees some of the questions raised during this meeting. Name tags would be issued so it would be easy to identify the appropriate party to answer specific questions.
- 12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMMITMENTS TO UPCOMING WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETINGS (1-818) ChairYanuck advised he would be at the upcoming meetings.
- 13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO SCHEDULE NEXT CCABMW MEETING. The next meeting of the Wildlife Commission is scheduled for November 14 and 15, 2008 in Las Vegas. The next meeting of the Carson City Advisory Board to Management Wildlife is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 10, 2008 (1-821) The Advisory Board was scheduled to meet on November 10, 2008; there would be no meeting in October.
- **14. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF** (1-830) None.
- 15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-836) Mr. Martin wanted to know if they could find out anything about having a public access along the Carson River at the Tarreton Bridge Crossing, off of Snyder. Chair Yanuck said that Vern Krahn, Parks and Recreation, was present when the topic of a canoe circuit came up, and improving the public access point on Deer Run Road. Mr. Yanuck suggested contacting Mr. Krahn to see if there were any plans for doing that. Mr. Martin said he and others had floated the area and hunted ducks, and it would be nice to have access. He believed the Bentley people were trying to get an conservation easement through there. Mr. Yanuck suggested the two people to contact would be Vern Krahn and Juan Guzman, Open Space Program, and invite them to the November meeting.

Mr. Clyde asked about the "pond," and Mr. Yanuck pointed out an article in the *Nevada Appeal* this date where the Mayor had a discussion about wanting to redirect some funding and one of the projects mentioned was the pond at Fuji Park, a direct contrast to his earlier statement of not wanting to put any money into it. Mr. Yanuck said he would follow up on that.

16. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT - (1-977) Wes Clyde made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Doug Martin and the motion caried unanimously.
Chair Yanuck adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.
The Minutes of the Carson City Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife for the meeting of September 3, 2008 ARE SO APPROVED November 10, 2008.
GIL YANUCK, Chair
GIL TANUCK, Chan