

New Mexico State Game Commission New Mexico  
Department of Game and Fish

August 12, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Meeting Called to Order** 09:04:32 a.m. (00:00:04)  
Called to order by Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call** 09:05:27 a.m. (00:01:00)

Present: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates (joining through Zoom), Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Agenda (Action Item)** 09:06:55 a.m. (00:02:28)

**Motion:** To move agenda item 5B out of the consent agenda item number 5 and following the other consent agenda items.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: General Public Comments** 09:08:34 a.m. (00:04:06)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Consent Agenda (Action Items A - C)** 09:26:16 a.m. (00:21:48)

A. Approval of Minutes of June 18, 2021, Commission Meeting.

B. Approval of License Revocations.

C. Approval of Capital Item Disposal List.

**Motion:** Move to approve the consent agenda A and C.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Lopez

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**Motion:** Move to increase revocation from 3 to 5 years for 11 individuals, listed in group 1, who were on the revocation list.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**Motion:** Move to open the current revocation rule, allow the Department to seek public input into the rule changes, to develop a process to evaluate each wildlife violation to allow for enhanced penalties that take into consideration the egregiousness of the wildlife violation.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**Motion:** Move to approve the Department's recommendations for the remaining individuals in

group 1.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Conflict of Interest Analysis (Action Item)** 09:49:18 a.m. (00:44:50)

Attorney General Valery Joe presented the findings from her research into potential conflicts of interest.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: 19.31.22.11 NMAC Applications for Landowner Certification of Non-Navigable Water (Action Items A-E)** 10:21:09 a.m. (01:06:05)

A. Chama III, LLC (Canones Creek Ranch)

**Motion:** Move to accept director's recommendation.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved: Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

**Motion:** Move to reject the application.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved: Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

B. River Bend LLC

**Motion:** Move to accept director's recommendation.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved: Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**Motion:** Move to reject the application.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

C. Rancho del Oso Pardo, Inc.

**Motion:** Move to reject director's recommendation.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**Motion:** Move to reject application.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

D. Fenn Farms Ranch

**Motion:** Move to reject director's recommendation.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

**Motion:** Move to reject application.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

E. Three Rivers Ltd. Cattle Company (Three Rivers Ranch)

**Motion:** Move to reject director's recommendation.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote – Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

**Motion:** Move to reject application.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Roll call vote - Approved Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Abstain: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

Commissioner Bates left the meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Directors Report (Discussion Item)** 11:32:26 p.m. (02:17:23)

- The Department has launched the Child Safe Program as an education requirement for our volunteers to provide child abuse awareness training.
- Hired 7 new recruits that recently started the academy in Hobbs.
- Completed the Willow Creek restoration project for stocking in 2022.
- Stocked largemouth bass and holding additional bass for future stocking across New Mexico.
- The Commission has completed the purchase of the Pipkin Ranch for prairie chicken habitat.
- In partnership with Ducks Unlimited, engineering plans have been completed for restoration work at the Bernardo Wildlife Management Area.
- Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham recently signed a proclamation designating September 25 as Hunting and Fishing Day in New Mexico.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Outdoor Recreation in New Mexico (Discussion Item)** 11:35:55 p.m. (02:20:52)

Axie Navas of the Economic Development Department, presented an update about the work they have been doing at the Outdoor Recreation Division and outdoor recreation in New Mexico.

Axie Navas contact, [www.nmoutside.com](http://www.nmoutside.com)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps (Discussion Item)** 12:00:38 p.m. (02:45:35)

Sarah Wood with the New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps presented an update about their organization, ongoing projects in New Mexico and an opportunity to collaborate on a cooperative procurement agreement to hire and train YCC youth.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Requests (Action Item)** 12:36:59 p.m. (03:16:52)

Administrative Services Division Chief Paul Varela presented the budget request for Fiscal Year 2023.

**Motion:** Move to approve the FY2023 budget request as presented by the Department.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Lopez

**Approved:** Approved - Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Migratory Bird Rule 19.31.6 NMAC Hearing (Action Item)** 01:54:45 p.m. (03:41:14)

Wildlife Management Division Chief Stewart Liley presented the proposed changes to the Migratory Game Bird Rule (19.31.6 NMAC) based on public comment, the latest information from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), recent survey information and management goals. Season selections and bag limits are determined in conjunction with the USFWS working through the Central and Pacific Flyway Councils.

**Motion:** Move to approve the Migratory Bird Rule as presented by the Department.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Subsequent Discussion of Upland Game Bird Rule 19.31.5 NMAC (Discussion Item)** 02:10:37 p.m. (00:00:58)

Wildlife Management Division Chief Stewart Liley presented the proposed changes to the Upland Game Rule (19.31.5 NMAC) based on public comment, survey information and management goals.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Initial Discussion of Furbearer Rule 19.32.2 NMAC (Discussion Item)** 02:18:08 p.m. (00:08:29)

Wildlife Management Division Chief Stewart Liley presented the proposed changes to the Furbearer Rule (19.32.2. NMAC) based on public comment, survey information and management goals.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Subsequent Discussion of the Fisheries Rule 19.31.4 NMAC (Discussion Item)** 02:26:30 p.m. (00:16:51)

Fisheries Management Division Chief Kirk Patten presented the Department's proposed changes to the Fisheries Rule 19.31.4 NMAC and Manner and Method Rule, as well as the need to amend part of the Commercial Use of Fish Rule to ensure consistent language with these rules.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Laguna Del Campo (Action Item)** 02:36:52 p.m. (00:27:13)

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Director Mike Sloane and Fisheries Management Division Chief Kirk Patten presented the transfer of Laguna Del Campo. At its June 2019 meeting, the Commission conditionally approved the transfer of Laguna del Campo and associated lands to Tierra Amarilla Land Grant. Since that meeting, the Department has met with representatives of the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant on multiple occasions. The Department updated the Commission on the transfer negotiations during its April 2021 meeting and has continued negotiations since that time.

**Motion:** Move to approve transfer via quitclaim deed from the Commission to the Tierra Amarilla Land Grant the following: 20.405 acres of land associated with Laguna del Campo, transfer the storage right in the Office of the State Engineer file #2181 in the amount of 96.7 acre feet and retain the surface water diversion right and further stipulate that Laguna del Campo remain open to the public and move to direct the Department to continue discussions with Tierra Amarilla Land Grant, likely to include mediation or other mutually acceptable alternative dispute resolution, for the transfer of a portion of the diversion right. I would authorize Chairwoman Salazar Hickey to sign any needed documents required for the transfer.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: Commissioner Reports (Discussion Item)** 02:56:04 p.m. (00:46:24)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 18: 2021 Online Special Hunt Auction (Discussion Item)** 03:18:53 PM (00:55:21)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 19: General Public Comments** 03:25:07 p.m. (01:01:31)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 20: Executive Session (Closed to the Public)** 03:29:02 p.m. (01:05:26)

**Motion:** The State Game Commission voted to adjourn into Executive Session closed to the public; pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, to discuss property acquisition or disposal.

**Motion by:** Chair Salazar Hickey

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**Return from Executive Session** 03:52:36 p.m. (01:07:5)

**Motion:** Move to approve the terms and conditions of the purchase agreement for the property consisting of 108.2 acres and appurtenant water rights consisting of 31.571 water right acres for irrigation and 9 acre feet/year for domestic use in Catron County, and to further authorize the Chair of the State Game Commission, Sharon Salazar Hickey, to execute and deliver any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase of said property. The approval and authorization granted herein shall be effective immediately.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**Agenda 12 repeated due to technical difficulties** 03:56:34 (01:11:55)

**Motion:** Move to approve the Migratory Bird Rule request as presented by the Department.

**Motion by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Seconded by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 21: Adjourn (Action Item)** 04:05:19 p.m. (01:20:40)

**Motion:** Move to adjourn.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Salazar-Henry

**Seconded by:** Vice-chairman Vesbach

**Approved:** Approved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairman Vesbach, Commissioner Lopez and Commissioner Salazar-Henry. Excused: Commissioner Bates.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION**

**August 12, 2021**

**New Mexico State Capitol**

**Room 322**

**490 Old Santa Fe Trail**

**Santa Fe, NM 87501**

**VIRTUAL MEETING LOCATION**

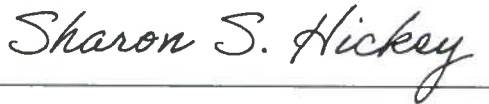
<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/webcast/>



**Michael B. Sloane**

10/1/2021

**Date**



**Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair**

**New Mexico State Game Commission**

10/01/2021

**Date**