

MEETING MINUTES

NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

Embassy Suites

1000 Woodward Place NE

Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A P P E A R A N C E S

Game Commissioner Thomas Salopek

Chairman Paul Kienzle

Vice Chairman Bill Montoya

Game Commissioner Robert Espinoza

Game Commissioner Ralph Ramos

Game Commissioner Bob Ricklefs

Game Commissioner Elizabeth Ryan

A B S E N T

None

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Call the meeting to order. Director, Roll call.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTOYA: Here.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Present.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle, I believe we have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Let's do the Pledge of Allegiance please.

(Pledge of Allegiance ends.)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can I get a motion to approve the Agenda please?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: So moved.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MAMBERS: "Aye".

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The "Aye's" have it. Introduction of guests. So we typically go around the room and introduce ourselves before we get started. Colonel you want to start?.

GUEST SPEAKER: Sure. Good morning Commissioners. I'm Robert Griego. I'm Colonel of Field Operations for the Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning Commissioners and everybody, I'm Mike (indiscernible) fisheries of Game and Fish down in (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm (indiscernible) elected as Assistant (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning everyone, I'm Dan Williams. I'm the Assistant Chief of Information.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, I'm Martin (indiscernible) Information and Education Division of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, David (indiscernible) Director of New Mexico Youth Conservation Foundation.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Greg (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Adam Clark from (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Adam (indiscernible) farmer to New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Sherry Barrett; I'm the Mexico Wolf Recovery Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Offices.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Glen Harpo with the Pueblo (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good morning, I'm Bill Birdman. I'm the News Editor here at the (indiscernible) Sign Post

GUEST SPEAKKER: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, this is Stewart Lyle, Chief of Wildlife New Mexico Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Chairman, Commissioners, Bill (indiscernible) I'm the (indiscernible) of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning. Jose Varela Lopez, President of the New Mexico Cattlemen's Association.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, Laura Riley, I'm the Deputy Commissioner of the New Mexico State Land Office.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) Reed with the Albuquerque Journal.

GUST SPEAKER: Good Morning, Edith (indiscernible), Deputy General Counsel Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) with the Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning. I'm Herb Anderson representing Safari Club International as their Regional Representative.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning. Keri Romero, New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Chairman, Commissioners, Greg Sanchez, the Assistant Chief of Education and Information and (indiscernible) Division in Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, Tom Ardist [phonetic].

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, my name is Drew Stadley, Assistant Director of New Mexico Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Chairman and Commissioners, I'm Lance Cherry, I'm the Chief of Information and Education Division.

GUEST SPEAKER: Hi, I'm Lisa Ferret. I'm with Hunters of Wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER: Charles (indiscernible), I'm a native New Mexican and a citizen who has (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm Christina (indiscernible) .

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning. My name is Irene Gorges, I'm a wildlife advocate.

GUEST SPEAKER: Jim Clukerd [phonetic] wildlife advocate, El Rancho, New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: Marianne O'Meara, Goldfish in Conservation.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Goldfish in Wisconsin (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Don Buckley, Albuquerque.

GUEST SPEAKER: Judy Tregger, Albuquerque.

GUEST SPEAKER: Linda Starr, Albuquerque and I'm a member of a local chapter, (indiscernible) of the wilderness.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) from Albuquerque. For (indiscernible) and I am representing also (indiscernible) wildlife advocate.

GUEST SPEAKER: Judy Romero from Albuquerque. I'm here because I'm so appalled as to the idea of trophy being in New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Kelly McCarthy of (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Kerry Eknot [phonetic], Albuquerque resident.

GUEST SPEAKER: Francis (indiscernible) Albuquerque and concerned with the Game Boards.

GUEST SPEAKER: Dean (indiscernible), Los Cruses New Mexico and approximately 17 year advocate for the Mexican Gray Wolf.

GUEST SPEAKER: Peter Rosarrios [phonetic] Los Cruses because there's no interactive and action down there.

GUEST SPEAKER: Jason O'Morreles, sportsman (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, I'm Phil (indiscernible) with New Mezxico Wildlife Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, John Crenshaw, Santa Fe (indiscernible) New Mexico Wildlife Federation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) Jackson, Albuquerque citizen and concerned in wildlife also.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) I've spent years working for wildlife and environment and I'm not finished. Thank you. (Indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Debra (indiscernible), Albuquerque resident and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) I'm with the defenders of wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER: Elisabeth DiCherry, Valencia County and wildlife conservation (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Evelyn Beemis [phonetic] Santa Fe (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Mike (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) Nixby with the Southwestern Environmental Center in Los Cruces.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) organizer of the Southwestern Environmental (indiscernible) and Mexican Gray Wolf.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Larry (indiscernible), sports citizen.

GUEST SPEAKER: Hi, (indiscernible), Wildlife advocates.

GUEST SPEAKER: Dave Parson with animal wildlife (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, my name is Loni (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, my name is (indiscernible) Foster, I'm the Executive Director and the Attorney for the Independent (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Brad Lagoria [phonetic] South Valley resident.

GUEST SPEAKER: Matthew (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Bill (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Paddy Lawrence, Albuquerque.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commission and Commissioners, I'm Brent, I'm Field Manager for the New York (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Nancy Halpins [phonetic] Albuquerque, New Mexico for world wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER: John Howard, Coordinating Minister of the United Presbyterian Church (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Rosemary Rhode with For Animal Stock Work and also abolish the Game Department and Commission.org.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Mike Vander [phonetic] I'm here to dispose this whole hearing required because you won't allow public comments. Since you won't allow public comments I'm leaving.

GUEST SPEAKER: Hi, I'm (indiscernible) from Albuquerque. (Indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: George (indiscernible) Albuquerque, citizens for wolves and wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pamela Jones, Los Alamos, New Mexico, I'm a member of Defendants of World Wildlife and Sierra.

GUEST SPEAKER: Tom Bennerd, citizen.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) wildlife advocate.

GUEST SPEAKER: Jane (indiscernible), First Generation New Mexico and wildlife advocate.

GUEST SPEAKER: Gene Banker, (indiscernible), concerned citizen for the wolf.

GUEST SPEAKER: Tom Baker, (indiscernible), defender of the wolf.

GUEST SPEAKER: Kathy (indiscernible) and I'm one person who is not happy with the (indiscernible) at all.

GUEST SPEAKER: Michael Roninson, I represent the thousands of members and supporters for the Center for Biological Diversity and I (indiscernible) in Silver City.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ruth Connelly, wildlife advocate and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Michael (indiscernible) New Mexico Representative for New Mexico Wildlife and we have (indiscernible) in New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, I'm (indiscernible) and I'm an advocate for the Wolf Reintroduction Program.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, my name is (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Blake, I'm a (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) Potts, campaign crowd number of the Sierra Club.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Tom O'Gorman [phonetic], also a proud member of the Sierra Club.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm Karen (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, my name is (indiscernible) of New Mexico. I'm very concerned about the Gray Wolf number and (indiscernible) and Gray Wolf and also their (indiscernible), please represent all of them today. Thank you.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm (indiscernible) Albuquerque retired educator of wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Hi, Marl Allerton with New Mexico Wolves and life.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, my name is Bob Osborn, I'm a Private Land (indiscernible) Manager with Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, Steve Polland wildlife advocate for the (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, I'm a wildlife advocate and a citizen of Albuquerque and of New Mexico. And I don't think you ought to be like Oregon and Montana and Yellowstone State Park with what you're saving now. I lived in Montana through four (indiscernible) and I won't (indiscernible). I moved here over twenty years and now , (indiscernible) I visited Yellowstone several years ago and after the wolves were introduced and (indiscernible) and it's like amazing Yellowstone, wonderful transition to the (indiscernible) I want you to go for a good count of our state which I love and then also I am so strong about this and I (indiscernible) amazing wolves that are part of the park (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) I'm a representative (indiscernible) here in Albuquerque and advocate for wild life.

GUEST SPEAKER: Maggie Boston, (indiscernible) and I love wildlife; I love the entire shifting of seeing bear, of seeing cougar and lots of (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: Sarah Rhodes, New Mexico voters and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) Albuquerque for wolf recovery.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, (indiscernible) Albuquerque wildlife advocate and a parent.

GUEST SPEAKER: State Representative (indiscernible) Stineborn here to support the Mexican Gray Wolf.

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm Judy Collen, I'm the (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible), I'm from Hula Rosa, I'm here in a not professional capacity today just as a citizen and advocate. (Indiscernible) today and I'm here as an advocate for (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) wildlife share for the Rio Grande (indiscernible) and Bear Club. (indiscernible) from hunting where we hunt at schools and our yard and it was not scary (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Ann (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Margo Wilson from (indiscernible). I'm an advocate for wildlife and (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible) here to see that the Commission does the right and moral thing on behalf of the wolves.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm Kurt Patton, I'm Assistant Chief of Fisheries for (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commission, I'm Eric Ries, for (indiscernible) for the Department of Game and Fish.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, I'm here to (indiscernible) State Wildlife Conservation Act and (indiscernible) the Endangered Species Act.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, Bob (indiscernible) from Albuquerque.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning everyone, Michael Perry (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm Susan (indiscernible) with the associated press.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning, I'm (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Good Morning Commissioners, my name is (indiscernible) I'm a wildlife (indiscernible) advocate for (indiscernible) in New Mexico.

GUEST SPEAKER: L.B. Ford, Administrative Commission.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think we got just about everybody. Anyone wish to introduce themselves that did not? Okay. Thank you, I appreciate you taking the time to do that. Moving on to Agenda Item No.6: Approval of Minutes, August 27, 2015 Meeting Santa Fe, New Mexico. Can I get a motion to approve the minutes?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: So moved Mr. Chairman.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Before we jump into number seven I thought we'd take a minute to recognize Doctor Tom Arvist. Tom, come on up. And my longer serving Commissioners will help say nice things about Tom in addition to what I'm going to say. Hold onto that, it weighs a ton so I don't want it to fall on your toe and break it. Thank you for your long service and I appreciate you being a mentor to me, it means a lot. So thank you and we miss you.

TOM ARVIST: Serving on New Mexico Game and Fish Commission which is dedicated in conserving and protecting New Mexico Wildlife, is an honor of a lifetime. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Tom, that is, or was 21 years right?

TOM ARVIST: 21 years.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're a brave man.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, if I may? Doctor Arvist, the Department is grateful for the service that you provided to us and under your leadership you were a huge advocate for shooting sports and especially for the youth in the State of New Mexico. Doctor Arvist was also one of the founders of our sights at (indiscernible) or Habitat Restoration Program that occurred across the State of New Mexico. So the Department, our staff are indebted to your leadership and thank you very much for everything you've done.

TOM ARVIST: Thank you very much.

[Applause]

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CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: On to new business, Agenda Item NO. 7: Action to be Taken on the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Appeal of the Denial of Application to Release Mexican Gray Wolves. This is an appeal so there will be no public comment on this Item. The way we're going to proceed today, we'll do it similar to what we did the last time. I'll give the Fish and Wildlife Service the opportunity to make remarks. The Department can make some short remarks and then you'll get the last word. I would say keep your presentations brief because we did get substantial argumentative information from you at our last meeting and then I thank both sides for providing information last week to round out the record. All of that information is helpful. With that, Miss Barrett are you leading the charge today?

MISS BARRETT: I am.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay, thank you.

MISS BARRETT: Do you want me up here?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You can sit at the table. Whatever is most convenient for you.

MISS BARRETT: Thank you for your consideration of our appeal this morning. The Fish and Wildlife Service continues to wish to work with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish on the Recovery of the Mexican Wolf. As we've said in our last presentation and of the substantial amount of information that we have provided to you last week to supplement the record. There's a great import right now, importance to the release of Mexican Wolves into the wild population to improve the genetic health of the wild population. That's our main goal right now. The population at this time is continuing to grow substantially, adequately on its own. We've had about a 20% growth over the last few years and we do expect to continue to have a 10% growth per annual count that we have each year. So the growth is not our goal at this point

for release of Mexican Wolves but rather the increase of the genetic health of the wild population. The Mexican Wolf is a very recoverable species. A lot of our species, most of our species on the endangered list are there because of habitat loss or invasion of exotic species. Both of those two issues are extremely difficult to correct as most of your biologists in your department would probably attest to as well. It's very difficult to eradicate exotic species. It's very difficult to restore a stream system for example for the recovery of native fish or other aquatic species. But in the case of the Mexican Wolf, it was eradicated from the wild as a result of intolerance of humans and it was also, that's its greatest impediment right now to its recovery of social intolerance. But those are things that we can work together to overcome and I would look forward to working with the department into the future to figure out the best ways to recover the Mexican Wolf into its native habitat, especially that which must include New Mexico and to get the Mexican Wolf eventually recovered, de-listed from the Endangered Species Act which would then again put it back into the management of the State of New Mexico. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Mr. Sair [phonetic] and I, we did receive your proposed findings of fact to conclusions of law which were, I will say comprehensive. So you don't necessarily need to go over all of that, if you've got some highlights that would be helpful.

MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, I won't say much. I'll just take two minutes and remind the Commission, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners that the decision that the record made was not a value judgement as to whether the Department and the City of New Mexico is tolerant over intolerant of wolves. The decision made by Director Sandoval was one consistent with the Commission's Rules. The Commission's Rules clearly spell out the Director cannot approve a release permit without first making a determination that the published release will not conflict

with current conservation management. Being well aware of the services intentions to implement that as I noted in the proposed finds and fact in conclusions of law, a forest level project right, a project that completes release of many wolves across multiple landscapes. The Director is well aware of that because the service has made that known. What we don't know and what the service hasn't provided to the Director is information about how many wolves and where those wolves will be released. Without that information the Director simply cannot make a determination that these releases will not conflict with current conservation management. So again I reiterate, this is not a value judgement. This is a judgement, a decision made by the Director based on the Rules as they currently exist and we request that the Commission uphold their decision. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Miss Barrett, anything further?

MISSBARRETT: No, thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners, the record closed last Friday if you recall so this isn't really question and answer period. This is, if you've got comments to make in advance of taking a vote, your welcome to make comments but as far as asking questions to the parties at this time point in time, the record has been closed.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Mr. Chairman I would like to make a few comments.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, Commissioner Ryan.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I understand that appeals don't come in front of the Commission very often. This is my first year of serving on the Commission so this is certainly my first appeal and it's important to me to view, apply the rules that are in front of, that directs the Commission

on how to review appeals. This is a very different situation than, for instance where the latter edge approached us for a permit to hold the wolves where we made a direct judgement on whether to do that or not. This is an appeal from the Director's decision and we're informed by, let's see, I'm in a state to it, it's in the New Mexico Administrative code, chapter 35, part 7, section 22c, tells us that we can only set aside a decision of the Director if the Commission determines that the decision of the Director was arbitrary or capricious or if the decision of the Director was not based on law or regulation. And the third is whether the appellant provides additional data or proves significant evidence that contradicts the data of the department. Here these appealed on two grounds, one; that the Director's decision was arbitrary capricious and that it wasn't based on law or regulation. So in reviewing the case all precedent that has been submitted by the department and the service, it states that the burden is on the challenging party of an agency decision to make a showing. So here that would be the servant, the burden would be on the service to make the showing that the Director was arbitrary capricious in her decision making. The case also defines what arbitrary and capricious is. Those aren't normal terms used, those are more legal jargon so I wanted to look at what that means. And a decision is arbitrary capricious when there is no rational connection between the facts found and choices made or necessary aspects of consideration, irrelevant factors are omitted. Where there is room for two opinions, the action is not arbitrary and capricious if exercised honestly and upon due consideration, even if another conclusion could have been reached based on the evidence, that doesn't mean that the decision was necessarily arbitrary and capricious. The question is whether did the service provide the Commission sufficient information to carry its burden that the Director was arbitrary capricious and interpreting duplicable law in applying her broad discretion given to her by statute. So, the question of whether she based her decision on law or regulation,

the Department sites two regulations. They are Mexico Administrative Code Section 1935.7.19. Section A3 and Subsection C. A3 is the question of what's the release provided for in a state or federal species management plan? And the second is, it states that the Director cannot approve a permit that conflicts with a current conservation management. So, you know, the question before us is whether the 1982 Recovery Plan is a sub-section A3 recovery plan that she could rely on or did not rely on. 16th Statute under the Endangered Species Act 16 U.S. C Section 1533 subsection (f)(1) provides that recovery plan include a description of sights specific management actions as may be necessary to achieve the plan's goal. For conservation and survival of the species it must have measurable criteria which when met would result in a determination that this species should be removed from the list with estimates of the time required and the cost to carry out those measures needed to achieve this plan's goal and to achieve intermediate steps toward that goal. The service just recently revised the 10(j) Rule. It was last revised in 1998 and they revised it again, it came out January 16, 2015. And it states that in there, the service states that it intends to revise the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan so that it provides a recovery goal and objective recovery criteria stating that because we don't have a recovery plan at this time to guide us on where Mexican Wolves are needed to reach full recovery, therefore de-listing. We are limiting the revised MWEPA to area south of I-40 in Arizona and New Mexico. Suggesting that when we have a recovery plan, it could be north of I-40 as well or the question is, will expanding the recovery zone, is it expanding of the recovery zone just three times the original zone in the 1998 10(j) Rule is about specific enough. As for the Secretary of Interior, the Secretary has determined that the release of Mexican Wolves in New Mexico will further the conservation of the species per the new 10(j) Rule. But that alone isn't enough for the Commissions consideration. We have to look at whether there's measurable

criteria and a time line, look at a cost measure analysis and also assessment of potential conflicts which are lacking at this time in the 10j Rule and of in a larger recovery plan that is coming in 2017. The question evolves then to whether the 10j Rule gives enough specificity and as I just outlined the service and its part of a larger effort that remains still undefined at this time.

Whether or not the current 1982 Recovery Plan is a good or bad plan is not the issue. The Commission is here to decide today it's only whether the Director could have made a reasonable and rational, if she could have reasonably and rationally come to her interpretation and conclusion in denying the permit. The other adapter states that she is unable to determine that the proposed release is conflicted with current conservation management based on the abundance of missing information, lack of specificity regarding the much larger recovery effort for which these proposed releases are a part of. The updated 1982 Plan is what the Commission, is not what the Commission is here to analyze today. Whether that's a good plan, not a good plan but whether she reasonably irrationally, was she reasonable and rational in her concern of the uncertainty under the current 1982 Plan and how she can make ongoing conservation management decisions regarding other protected and impacted species such as elk, deer, antelope, etc. The fact that the Director did not specifically list conservation management efforts in her denial of the permits does not mean defective, that her decision was arbitrary capricious. I'm not persuaded by that argument because precisely why the service has not provided yet the sufficient information to answer these questions, I don't have a problem with her not being able to do a conflict analysis because there's nothing to compare in contrast with at this time. The service argues as stated in the revised 10j Rule that without substantial management action to improve the genetic composition of the population, that inbreeding will accumulate and hetero-zygosity will be lost much faster. In other words the service urges the Commission to overrule the Director's denial of

the permit because the Mexican Wolf cannot be recovered unless the genetic issues are addressed. And I understand that position but that's not what, how we review an appeal in itself. And I think the service has, may have a very sound concern but as stated at the beginning, the Commission has to determine whether the Director had any reasonable or rational basis to make her decision. The revised recovery plan in process, that's ongoing and reveal itself in 2017, we'll reveal those specific objections on its own and I don't believe the Commission is here today to determine whether that reasoning is sound or not. Regarding the last issue regarding the third permit application on whether the wolf pups born in New Mexico are domestic animals. The argument set forth by the service seems very non-sensible to me that I don't see how anyone could convince me that a wild wolf pup born in New Mexico would somehow be a domestic animal under the definition. And so in applying the context of the regulations and their language of the permit, the only reasonable interpretation is that the release of wolf pups would also require a permit from our state agency. So I've said a lot today about how the Commission is supposed to view this question and what we're limited at looking at. We're not here to make a value based decision. We're here to look at whether the Director's decision was reasonable or rational, not even whether it was substantially right or wrong but whether she reasonably and rationally made her decision. Therefore, I believe the Director has a reasonable and rational basis for coming to her decision based on the A3 and sub-section c Regulations. She has been given discretion by law and regulations to exercise this power. For that matter, with this broad discretionary power, she could exercise that discretion tomorrow and chose to grant a permit and that's what she's been given the power to do under the statutes and regulations. And I believe here she was rational in exercising that authority, so based on that term and I'd like to make a motion to affirm the Director's denial of the permit.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I want to make one comment before we move on to voting on that motion. I asked for and the service to provide and I appreciate it, the life history for M1130 and the life history of that animal does concern me and that was a problem animal that was ultimately put down. And that animal, you know independent of any plans or it may or may not exist, that is something that has bothered me since that issue came to my attention. So I also would say that would provide another basis for the decision that was made. So the motion on the table is to affirm the Director's denial of the permit request. Is that correct?

FEMNALE SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: It's been seconded, any further discussion or comments? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right, the Aye's have it. Let me also ask, the Chair will also entertain a motion, will also entertain a motion issue findings of fact in conclusions of law. I'd ask the Commission to give Chair discretion, put those together and issue those in written form within 30 days of today.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: So moved Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any discussions? All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Come to order or please leave the room.

[background noise]

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Colonel, how do you feel about Agenda Item No. 8?

COLONEL GRIEGO: About as ready as you are.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right, I'm ready.

[Background noise]

COLONEL GREIGO: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I'm here for Agenda Item No. 8: License Revocation. The Department will present a list of individuals that have met the established criteria for the initiation of the suspension process for hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. We've provided you a list with 124 obligates that Human Services has reported as being out of compliance for the Parental Responsibility Act. You have that list in front of you. And at that point I will take any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You asked for questions?

COLONEL GRIEGO: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos (indiscernible)e.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The hit below this (indiscernible) continue in here are (indiscernible). It's really unbelievable.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: I don't have any questions, any comments.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This is an action Item. Can I get a motion on this please?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Mr. Chairman, I move to authorize the Department to administer these suspensions on behalf of the Commission, including the issuance and service of the notice of contemplated action to each individual listed (indiscernible) Parental Responsibility Act.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Mr. Harper, are you going to, do you want step up to? The guy runs the (indiscernible) point like he's been here before.

GLEN HARPER: Several times. Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, my name is Glen Harper and I'm here with the Pueblo Santa Ana. Thank you for allowing the Pueblo to be here again to present to you an update on the Pueblo's Pronghorn Restoration Program. I'll be brief. I'm just going to go over a quick (indiscernible) so if you have any questions please let me know. In September of 2007 the Pueblo received a grant for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore (indiscernible) up on their land and basically since then they've initiated habitat improvement. On November of 2007, the Pueblo Santa Ana received unanimous support from New Mexico Game Commission to transfer 60 Pronghorn Antelope in the State of New Mexico to Santa Ana. In October of 2008, the Pueblo and the Department of Game and Fish completed the transfer agreement and then in February of 2009 and again in March of 2010, the Pueblo worked alongside with the Department of Game and Fish, captured and transferred 60 Prong Horn on the Santa Ana. In August 2013, the Pueblo requested 40 additional Pronghorn from the New Mexico Game Commission and at that time the Commission wasn't prepared to make a decision and they asked us to come back at the following Commission Meeting, that was September of 2013 and at that time the Commission expressed concerns about (indiscernible) Pronghorn mortality on adjacent Pueblo Lands and requested that Santa Ana showed demonstrated progress with the adjacent Pueblo's to try to protect these animals when they

dispersed off of Pueblo. And so, they also requested that we come back with an update the Commission on the status of this request. So in November of 2014, the Pueblo returned to the Commission to provide an update. Basically, we worked with the neighboring Pueblo's and the Pronghorn would be protected on foreign neighborhood Pueblos. The Commission was also concerned that there was no agreement in place and requested that Santa Ana worked to develop some sort of agreement with the Department on the transfer. And the Commission also expressed concerns related to public reception on transferring New Mexico animals to travel lands. So I'm here today basically just to provide you with an update on where we're at. The update is that Santa Ana worked with the department staff of Game and Fish to develop a draft MOA for the transfer of Pronghorns from the State of New Mexico to Santa Ana. And then Santa Ana consulted to address that public perception concern, Santa Ana consulted and received support from the New Mexico Wildlife Federation which is (indiscernible) representing New Mexico Sports, commemorating Sports Woman for their transfer, they were in support of it. So at this time, I know that the Agenda briefings didn't include the motion, the Pueblo of Santa Ana respectfully requesting that the Commission consider the motion on this and that's about it.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Stewart, where we at on MOA?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, we have reviewed and worked with as Glen stated MOA, the MOA is again contingent upon the Commission granting approval of transfer of Pronghorn, we've looked at it. It's a standard MOA we would have with basically on transfers, same with Arizona, etc, like we did I trades of wildlife where we no longer have authority over.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And then, I know, I don't think it was me but I know a Commissioner had asked about hunting on the Pueblo at some point in time if we ever get self-sustaining population and all of that. Tell me where we're at on that.

GLEN HARPER: Right now what the Pueblo isn't hunting them, the idea, you know the goal is not necessarily to hunt them but just to have them. For the tribe it's important just to have their presence. If we get up to our goal of 100 animals that are growing, then we'd like to start hunting Pronghorn on the Pueblo. As far as the Council approving hunts for non-tribal members, our wildlife code basically says that it's only Santa Ana tribal members that can hunt on the Pueblo. That doesn't mean it couldn't happen but we're not even at a point yet for looking at this, we want to make sure the population is there, you know in the next three or four years where we can start hunting. But I've thought about that a bit also. You know there are other alternatives where, because there's enough demand within the Pueblo, I mean we're not going to have a lot of Pronghorn hunts and there's enough demand within the Pueblo to gather those materials, just skins and heads for their regalement. But I don't see there would be opportunities really for non-tribal members to hunt there but there could be trades maybe with elk or something like that whereas we have a decent elk population, you know there could be something worked out in the future like that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: If it ever happened it would be something like escorted you know, guided or something else is the way I conceive it. You just wouldn't turn somebody loose and say have at it.

GLEN HARPER: Right. And you know that's something that we present to the Council but since we're not even at a point where we're thinking about hunting them, we're just trying to build up the population and really haven't discussed that with them.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: On the MOA, is that signed off on by the Commission or by the Department?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, it would be signed off by the Department once we were given guidance from the Commission if we were going to go through with the transfer. But again, it would need to, that's why a formal approval would be needed from the Commission on the transfer of those.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any questions or comments?

COMMISSIONER: I've got a question.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Sir.

COMMISSIONER: Glen on the west Pueblo, is it fixed where the antelope cannot come on to New Mexico property? You know can they, you know like a ranch to ranch antelope going to fences, is that set up where you have camped or can they?

GLEN HARPER: We don't have high fences. We have modified fences adjacent to one of the Pueblo's that isn't protecting them to keep them off of that Pueblo. (indiscernible) antelope on Santa Domingo, they can record on BLM on the east side of I-25, around San Felipe and Anzio. Even if you, it's surprising when (indiscernible) anything under twelve inches on the bottom of a wall keeps an animal from moving but they can get under much smaller spaces than that. So they aren't confine exactly to the Pueblo.

COMMISSIONER: When I've (indiscernible) quite a bit and it's moving, I mean if you could get a herd established there it just seems like it's a great area, people would get to see them, habitat seems there but you just don't see a lot of them which is kind of weird.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do you have forty antelopes somewhere that we can translocate?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman at this time the land owner that we've been working with over our transfers has not allowed us and is not going to allow us to capture this winter,. So we in fact, the Department don't even have a source for this winter. Typically, for securing a source, it's going to take at least three months or four months to get the necessary clearances through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and also tribal consultation because of the gran disturbance activities that occur on the trap. But the land owner in the last week or two has denied us to capture on that property this winter.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Sir?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Stewart, why would that be? Why you've trapped there two or three years?

STEWART LYKLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs, we as part of the original agreement with that land owner was to remove up to 500 Pronghorn over a course of three years. We've accomplished that goal and we moved those 500 Pronghorn over that course of that time period. We tried to renegotiate that contract. They felt at this time they weren't willing to do more. They did feel that there will be time in the near future where they will allow trapping and translocation again but at this time they want a population to kind of come back from the removal of 500.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: If you do find a service for antelope, how does Santa Ana Pueblo put in your priorities of where you would like to put antelope?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs, there are many unoccupied or low density Pronghorn places throughout the United States, excuse me, throughout the State, specifically on BLM or U.S. Forest Service Land where we are trying specifically, restoration activities where we've gone in and either done a lot of fence modifications or we've gone in and done a lot of habitat where we're trying, habitat modification to restore Pronghorn in those areas. We feel there's still a lot of places in New Mexico where we'd like to see restoration happen of those populations to bring them back to maybe not historic levels but levels probably at ten to fifteen years ago.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: What about priority from Santa Ana?

SEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ricklefs, as the Department's perspective, yes, that would be our top priorities is to restore to BLM Forest Service where we would still retain management authority and hunting over those Pronghorn issues.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: I guess my comment is that I think this is great that the Pueblo wants to receive some more antelope. It just seems like you just have one hurdle and that's making a land owner to be able to be on the other side of it and ready to transplant. So my comment would be that your motion may be altered to instead of specifically in the winter of 2015 or 2016 but you know, when an agreement with a landowner is available on the next capture season. But it doesn't appear that it will happen right now just for that hurdle.

GLEN HARPER: Yeah, Commissioner Ryan, that's 2015, 2016 nor the next Pronghorn capture then, it was put on there just because we noted that the difficulty in setting up traps. It takes a long time. But depredation calls come in, this is probably been a pretty good year for antelope/prong recruitment. The winter as dry as it's been this fall, you know we could be getting where the state could be getting some depredation calls pretty quick. So, I know the State has to be responsive to those depredation calls so these things can pop up I would assume typically.

STEWART LYKLE: Mr. Chairman, they can pop up again. The thing I do want to caution is in order for us to get a trap and the clearance for the trap, the soonest we can get a new trap location really would be the following winter just because of all of our state ship up there.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: To follow up on that, what Commissioner Ryan said then, I would probably strike in the winter of 2015, 2016 and just say at a future Pronghorn capture then. That gives the flexibility to the Department to do what it needs to do and I'd further amend this motion, I would like the opportunity on behalf of the Commission to sign off on whatever agreement is proposed. So in addition to the Department, those are two changes I would make.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Harper I do have a question. I know we had a long discussion on your fencing and your location, has there been any efforts since that? I know you didn't have anything in place at the time of the last discussion. Have you done anything you know, since you have had some time to try to you know, upgrade the fencing or location for that pasture where you're going to be releasing them to control you know, all the other things that we discussed at that time?

GLEN HARPER: Since that time, that was...

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: A couple years ago.

GLEN HARPER: We put in about six miles of fencing to keep them off one of the neighboring Pueblo's, I won't mention the name just because that's not important but that is an area where they went through and we put hog wire fencing there and it's right at the ground level to keep them from going over there and not to move back basically. But we had three populations; you know we call them populations here, isolated by Pueblo people basically. And so we would take these forty animals and actually put some in each of the populations. We have one of only seventy in an area that they've set up and they had, there's three does, we had three prongs but we only have one buck and so next year things are going to get pretty interesting genetically, (Indiscernible). So we had put up fencing to answer your question, to keep those animals from straying but their still going on to other neighboring Pueblo's where we haven't set up that sort of fencing.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: And I do appreciate your efforts on that. The other thing I would like to see is for you to put in, I know some effort towards conversations to start imbedding for future goals as far as outside tribal members hunting on you know, your tribal land as well. At least there's some kind of an incentive for you know, New Mexico residents.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: I have a few questions Glen. I'm kind of building Commissioner Ramos comment. In the MOA I would like to see some specific numbers. I like

black and white, you know if we reach, you mentioned a goal of 100 animals, you know if there's a possibility, I know it's up to the Council can be determined even at this point or even there but you know put a specific goal, say when we reach a 100 animals within next season there's a possibility of hunting for tribal members and then maybe after we reached 125 or whatever the number might be, we could work with the Commission and Department to open that hunting to non-tribal members. I have a question for Stewart. Is it a possibility to use that, you know based on the habitat that's available, as a source (indiscernible)? You know that would be an incentive for me to use, if we reach an X number then within that MOA then that we could use, pull up whatever number?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, in terms of the source herd from large captures like we do with these, it probably isn't conducive to our big large scale captures, just the topography and the landscape at Santa Ana. I've had the privilege of going out there with Glen and looking at it quite a bit through the Pronghorn habitat. I wouldn't see it as being necessarily a source herd population for our big captures now.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Well then you know then I would again to put that in there just so we'd know it and we're all on the same page five years from now, ten years from now, whatever it happens to be because I know and I appreciate what you're doing here. You're working hard. You're spending a lot of money out there, kind of time and effort to develop a Pronghorn Herd where for specific reasons and for future goals and I think every sportsman, every New Mexican can appreciate that whether we just want to go out and look at them. You mentioned in your letter that I received, you know the viewing them along the I-25 corridor is going to be a benefit to everybody. So we appreciate that and I'm supportive of that. A couple of other questions is, you mentioned cost in your letter. I think I remember a cost of \$5,000 and

\$2,000 if memory serves me correctly. Question for Stewart and I'm sure you guys have talked about that, is that going to be very close to what it's going to cost?

STEWART LYKLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, yes. That \$5,000 is roughly what our helicopter time cost is. That's what's in the MOA is to cover the helicopter operations for the entirety of the capturing that would be.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: So the Department wouldn't have a whole lot of cost out of pocket since we have that cap?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, we would have personnel costs so our time and our personnel. All tracking equipment has been purchased to date. Santa Ana actually helped along with Mexico for some of our current trapping equipment during the original capture that was set forth.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: One other question, your original forty, how well are they doing now?

GLEN HARPER: Chairman, Espinoza, I mean Commissioner Espinoza, I'm sorry. It was sixteen and you know we had about a third of the animals dispersed off the Santa Ana. So we have been in the forty to forty-five Pronghorn range right now. And this year we had, we confirmed sixteen prongs which is a great thing. We'll know as soon as they gather back up. Their probably gathering up as we speak and we'll know what the survival was on those prongs but we confirmed sixteen this summer. So we've kind of been challenged by precept, this is the first real decent year of precept but we've had prongs every year since but you know you get turn over in the population.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Do you have somebody specifically assigned to the Pronghorn?

GLEN HARPER: We have a Wild Program Manager and a Range Program Manager, they both work on monitoring antelope and then we have our technicians out there monitoring our conservation, enforcement division monitors antelope as well. We only had three collared antelope from the original (indiscernible). The idea is if we get more antelope we'll collar more antelope and continue monitoring after their released.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: The only other thing, and I would reinforce the Chairman, that I would vote to approve this but I would like to see the final draft of the final MOA before we officially go forward with this. Thank you again.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Harper I was one of your big critics on losing antelope onto the adjacent areas and I think in talking with Mr. Redman and what he's related to me is that has pretty well taken place and you got a finger of all of that that looks like it's going to work well. In this MOA, do you have anything where maybe our people could assist you in the (indiscernible) and effort should some of those actions come up and if you don't, is there kind of verbal agreement that you got with our law enforcement people to assist you maybe in some of the poaching problems that might take place in the future or is that something that you don't particularly want or need any help with?

GLEN HARPER: Vice Chairman Montoya, our conservation enforcement division is tasked with the enforcement of Public Wildlife Conservation Code. My understanding in the past when we didn't have the Conservation Enforcement Division in place, that New Mexico, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Officers, because it was tribal land said there was no jurisdiction there so the Department basically said we can't be there. Now as far as do we need to

work together? I'm sure we (indiscernible-coughing). We don't have a lot of boundaries on public land. We have some on the south end where the State would have authority. But I think it would be great to work together but as far as actually taking a State Commission Game and Fish Officer and arresting on Pueblo Lands, I think we've got that pretty well covered with our Conservation Enforcement Division.

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Very good. Well it looks like we're rolling towards some alleviation of the problems that I was worried about and if you've got possibly forty-five antelope on there now you've got a good start. I would hope that that group also has had a good year and those fifteen prongs that you've had out of those females that you've got will survive hopefully. I hope the predators aren't there to eliminate some of them. But anyway, I'm more comfortable than I was a couple of years ago with the program.

GLEN HARPER: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, one last comment. Glen I want to thank you and again, I appreciate your efforts and at the last meeting I'm the one that brought up you know, get working with the Department, drafting an MOA or an MOU and it looks like you've done. And thank you for your efforts because this has gone a long way I think to alleviate some of the concerns for the Commission.

GLEN HARPER: Thank you. Hopefully next time the project history of this won't be much longer.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any further questions or comments? So let's do this, I got public comment. Joel or Garrett or both?

JOEL: I think just me. Thank you, Joel (indiscernible) New Mexico Wildlife Federation. I had an opportunity to go out and visit the Santa Ana grounds and sort of see their program up close and personal. It's really impressive and I would encourage all of you or any of you to go out there and try and see it for yourself because it's pretty amazing. As Glen mentioned, we support this idea for several different reasons. Reasons one of them is that if you think about where that Pueblo sits geographically, its right in the middle of the biggest traffic corridor in New Mexico. So we're getting more wildlife out there so that the public can view, I think you mentioned that would be great for everybody. But number two, Santa Ana is reaching out to the State of New Mexico and has in the past and is showing real leadership in wildlife management. In a crucial area, that's between the Amos and the San Diaz, it's a huge migration corridor and so for the Department to get into a good working relationship with Santa Ana that could pave the way for more worker relationships with some of the other Pueblo's in that area, all of which is to the good. And then last, while we would love to see you know, say for instance, Santa Ana get to the point where they could offer a tag to non-pueblo residents, I would turn it around and say, why doesn't the Game Commission take a look at the A+ Program and see about maybe reducing that 70% that go to land owners right now, 30% into the draw, and if you could crank that up to 35% or even better, 50%, we could have some hunting opportunity fo New Mexico resident antelope hunters. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Garrett? Any further questions or comments from the Commissioners? So, Mr. Harper is doing some surgery on us as we speak here. So, why don't you put in there I move that the Commission, why don't you say through the Chairman and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish enter into an MOA with Santa Ana for the transfer forth, you know so and so forth.

COMMISSIONER: I'd move that the Commission approve, Chairman of the Commission.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Sir. So that's the first motion. Can I get a motion to that affect?

COMMISSIONER: So moved.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Did everyone understand that? I'll need to get a copy of this written down somehow for our records.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman for clarification, could we get verbalized for the minutes?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Who wants to read that?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Commission through the Chairman of the Commission and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish enter into a MOA with Santa Ana for the transfer of forty Pronghorn antelope from the State of New Mexico to Santa Ana. I further move to...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Let's do one at a time. So let's do that one first.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Oh okay, two motions, I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Two motions. So that's a motion. Can I get a second?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right, that's the first part and then this needs to say at a future Pronghorn capture event. Does that work for you Mr. Lyle?

STEWART LYLE: Mr. Chairman, yes that works.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay. Okay, who wants to make this....

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

MALE SPEAKER: Can I get some clarity on this? Who makes the decision on if it's going to happen?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well I can say then at the discretion of New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

MALE SPEAKER: Okay, so should I put that in thee?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yeah, I mean that's probably the best thing to put it at the end of the event, just a comma. At a future, at the discretion of NMDGM. So who wants to read that one for me?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: I can read that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioner Ricklefs.

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: I further more move to approve the MNDGM to assist with planning and capture of forty Pronghorn antelope for transfer to Santa Ana a a future Pronghorn capture event at the discretion of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

COMMISSIONER ESPINIOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Thank you Mr. Harper for your patience.

GLEN HARPER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Agenda Item No. 10: State Land Easement. Mike Perry? Hello?

MIKE PERRY: Good Morning Commissioners, Madam Director. My name is Michael Perry and today I'm going to talk to you about the State Land Lease, Item No. 10. Over the course of the last three to four weeks, since the last Game Commission Meeting, the Department's Administration had several conversations with the state Land Office in regards to the current, the upcoming easement. Those conversations have yielded several interesting conversations and the Department has talked to the State Land Office about a three-year lease as the Commission recommended and several one-year leases. At this time, as I understand it, there have been several offers made by the Department to the State Land Office for the one-year lease. One of which was \$300,000, one \$400,000, one \$500,000 and I believe the last one was a \$600,000 offer for a one-year easement. As I understand it, each offer was turned down by the State Land Office with a counter of \$1,000,000. The Department also tried to enter into a three-year lease as requested by the Commission with a graduated payment over a three-year term. The first year was of \$600,000, the second year payment of \$650,000, and the third year, payment of \$700,000. The Department also requested camping and better sportsman access as requested by earlier by the Commission. The counter from the State Land Office as I understand was a million dollars

with an agreement to review the current access process and investigative process of which both agencies handle it. And the State Land also agreed to increase camping in certain areas as long as the Department continued to perform law enforcement measures and camp site maintenance. So those are the conversations as I understand it since the last Game Commission Meeting was held and visited with in Santa Fe. At this time we will take questions and suggestion guidance from the Department or from the Commission.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Give me just one second please. Commissioner Dunn, I see you're here. Do you want to speak if you chose to speak, do you want to speak now or would you like to speak later? I give you that option.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Chairman Kienzle, Commission and Director Sandoval, before I begin and I have passed out a copy of my statement to you all. Before I begin I would like to make it clear, the duties of the Land Commissioner. The State Land Officer responsible for administering nine million acres of service and thirteen million acres of subsurface estate for the beneficiaries of the State Land Trust which includes schools, universities, hospitals and other important public institutions. The Land Office seeks to optimize revenues while protecting the health of the land for future generations. By leasing State Trust Land for a wide array of uses the Land Office generates hundreds of millions of dollars each year to support those beneficiaries while saving the average household about \$800 in taxes. The Land Commissioners Trustee of the assets held in benefit for the children and institutions of New Mexico. It is my duty to ensure that the Trust receives just compensation for value of access of hunting on State Trust Lands. I work for the Trust Beneficiaries. I do not work to please hunters, anglers, ranchers or producers,

minors, the Game Department or any other users of the State Trust Lands for that matter. I make decisions based on what is fair and what is best for the Trust. Now to address the issue at hand, I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Commission and all who are present today. I want to express that I have thoroughly read the minutes and actually have a copy of the August Meeting and am fully aware of the concerns that were discussed, greater access, camping, dusk to dawn limits and signage to name a few. However, I do believe we're in a position to negotiate those items prior to November 1, 2015. Today I'm here to discuss the 2016-2017 lease. Agreement would include five additional camping areas that would be patrolled police, cleaned and restored by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. The access points is currently structured in current hunting lands would stay the same. The fee however would not stay as is. I believe a fair access fee is an increase of \$800,000. This money would go directly to public education. So you might ask yourselves, what could we do with \$800,000 and what do we do for New Mexico Schools? \$800,000 is more than the total operating budget for 2013 for 11 different chartered schools including Los Rosana [phonetic] Leadership Academy, Roots and Wings Community School Questa, the Ralph J Bunch Academy, Red River School, Valley and Charter School and Walatowa Charter High School. \$800,000 is more than 50% of the total operating budgets in 2013 for 49 different school districts for charter schools including the Karoan [phonetic] School District, the Des Moines School District, the House School District, The Mosquero School District and the Roy School District. In 2013 New Mexico appropriated \$500,000 to Early Childhood Education and \$500,000 to New Mexico Cyber Academy. \$800,000 would have paid for, more than fully funded these two separate appropriations. For the fiscal year 16, \$800,000 would have nearly paid for the entire Advanced Placement Program which is approximately the \$875, 000. Some of the New Mexico's most efficient teachers are level two licensed at a \$40,000

annual salary. \$800,000 would pay for twenty additional teachers. \$800,000 is also enough money to provide for every licensed teacher in the entire state to have a \$40.00 Holiday Bonus. The fiscal year 15 to 16 appropriation of \$350,000 after school summer program could have been increased by 130% had the legislature had an additional \$800,000. For fiscal 15, the operation budget of \$800,000 would nearly double, would nearly have covered the full appropriation for all of that falling valuable programs, Teacher Mentorship Program, Teacher Support Schools and Low Income Students, Parent advocacy Program, Grads (indiscernible) Prevention Program, for a total of \$822,000. The current fee of \$200,000 is not appropriate and I believe with an appraisal of such hunting access opportunities would be much higher than the figures that we have discussed today. My own hunting access brings in \$0.75 per acre. If only three million acres of State Trust Land were easily assessable, the value would be in excess of \$2,000,000. Therefore, I find it unfair to charge \$0.75 for my private land and only \$0.02 per acre for State Trust Lands. At the end of the day one might argue that from a political standpoint it would have been much easier to leave the current fee of \$200,000 alone. It may have been wiser not to have inflamed the hunting community by asking to raise the rate, politically speaking. You would hope that your elected officials are acting in the best interest of their duties without regards to their next political move. My duty is not to hunters, ranchers, oil and gas producers, miners and environmentalist committee or special interest groups. It is to the beneficiaries of the Trust and I will continue my duty to the Trust during my term. In closing, I would hope that you would ask elected officials to do what they believe is right and bow to the loudest or most vocal opponents but to take all considerations and make a fair decision on their own judgement. I believe the access fee of \$1,000,000 for next year is fair. Thank you for your time.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you Commissioner. Any questions or comments from...

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Dunn, Commissioner, I do appreciate you being here today and in front of the board. I do also appreciate that you it very clear with this letter where you stand with your duties as Land Commissioner. And as part of being a Commissioner on the Game and Fish also know that we have our role to play as well to manage and control wildlife hunting, you know in New Mexico. And that brings a huge concern of mine and I think one of the biggest concerns right now is land lock, Safe Trust Lands that the public does not have any access to. And I know that we would love to continue working with this. I know the \$1,000,000 is a lot higher than what we were looking at from the very beginning. Obviously the three hundred, four hundred, six hundred whatever we offered trying to work with you on that. But with that being said, I would love to see some public access and I would love to see leasers to step up to the plate to allow some kind of access to that land lock areas because if we can't, as the public can't reach these places to hunt, to me we shouldn't be paying for that either. And to me I know that we do have the control and the management where we could stop hunting period completely for the leaser as well as the public on those land locked properties. That's one of my biggest concerns right now because it seems like the leasers are the only ones that are benefiting from hunting on that land anyway. So, you know, I think we really need to look at that and hopefully we can massage that and work together. And when I talk about public access to those land locked areas, I would hope that we have some drivable access to that country and to me I think with the increase that we're going, I'd really like to see something that we can work on that. On the other hand, I know that currently in place the Game and Fish does have incentives for leasers to allow people to go in there and that could be a discussion that we could also continue having. I believe, I'm a principle in the public schools, I do greatly appreciate all the efforts also and the funding and I know these are hard times for everyone and I can see your

perspective, you know where you're coming with the fees and I appreciate you utilizing those fees appropriately and funding them where they need to be. And I know that twenty teachers is a lot of teachers, I mean that's a lot instruction powers that goes on there. I would like to see some focus also being that this \$800,000 does come from hunters, anglers, I would like to see some type of conversations and I know we're currently having conversations with the Department of Education where we can possibly imbed hunter education into elective courses which would benefit rural as well as inner city students as well. O know I'm currently working with Craig Sanchez to come up with a curriculum guide that follows the feds expectations as far as syllabus and assessments following a year course exam to make it right. You know I just again, back to that Latin walk issue, I would like to hear your perspective on that.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you Commissioner Ramos. You know I'm a big believer in private property issues and you know, we would be willing to work, I think the access would need to be paid for, for cross private lands. I mean that's how you're going to get it. I don't believe that we should take our grazing leases and say we're not going to renew them if you don't allow access to the Game Department for hunting. I don't, I think you're getting into a taking of private property rights which I'm a big opponent of. And so, you know we would be willing to work with you. I don't see how we're going to get that done in the next sixty days but I'm willing to open, you'll find I'm fair and reasonable. A little hard-headed as you can see but you know, I'm willing to work to try to get further access. You know we've made it a real point not to look at any type of trades or anything else or do anything that would limit access. So I think that's my main concern, is not to limit any further access. Whatever we can do to gain access we'll work with you on.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Dunn, thank you so much for being here today and coming to address this personally so we can just talk through some of these issues and ask you questions. Personally, speaking for myself I agree that the fee should be increased and I think you have valid points regarding where that money will go. I think one, it seems like it seems to be inhibiting moving the process further down the road because it seems like the Department agrees with you as well on that point. But it seems to be where we're getting stuck is whether that would, if we could agree to a number even maybe as high as a million but have that assured for a certain period of time. I understand that the concern is if we we're to agree to a million this year, well is two million going to be requested next year and are we going to do all that all over again and is it going to move to three million the following year? So I was wondering, I would like to hear from you your thoughts on doing a lease that is more than a year but for you know, to give on the amount of consideration paid but in return a link then, an assurance of kind of for the Departments budget where we're going to be from year to year.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you Commissioner Ryan. You know on one of the proposals we did offer was two million for three years and that would lock in the rate for that. For this first year you know, I think the beginning point is a million, I don't think the issue has been taken on because people have been afraid politically to take this issue on. So I think the rate is low. So I might consider, if you start with the first year at a million, raising it the next two. And I really don't think I should permit past my term and so, I mean if we can up two million on the third year I would be willing to do a three year commitment like that. But you know, one of things that concerns me a little and I talked to the LFC before we left, but the Department has about fifty-three million dollars as of August 1st and I understand that that's, there's some account for improvement money there and there's a Game Protection twenty-five million, habitat two point

eight million, one point three in the Big Game Depredation, four point two in Big Game Enhancement and so, I guess from my standpoint there, it looks like there should be able to negotiate a deal with not having to increase hunting fees.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER: Commissioner Dunn, to get accurate, I want to echo the sentiment. I appreciate you coming personally to address this. It helps us all to get a better perspective. I'm kind of the same way. You know I'd like the tree year but I'm concerned at you know, whatever the atmosphere might be next year for whatever reason, you know we could end up with whatever number. And I would really encourage the Department and yourself to get together and see what we can structure for the next three years. That would help me feel better about this. One question I have and I really appreciate your letter, you know saying, stating that, that enlightened me you know what programs it could fund. Is there any way that you can help direct those funds more to education that would benefit sportsmen? You know I know, that's something that you don't, that would be the education department. It's a question, I didn't think so but I thought I'd ask.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm getting notes, let's see what they say.

COMMISSIONER: You're still passing notes huh?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Yeah, they do want to keep me on track. As far as the three-year deal, you know I agree with that. You know we are, if we could, what my original thought was is we get it appraised and we can agree at an appraisal value on what the hunt is worth. But in leu

of that, I think and appraisal would be more than the two million dollars that I would like to get in the third year. So I wouldn't mind, we're open to talk about raising the fee. The problem I have is that when I go to, and it's no reflection on Director Sandoval, but she has no negotiating (indiscernible). It's strictly with you all. And so if I make a deal with her it still has to come here to be discussed. If you would empower her to make the decision or to negotiate, great but it's hard to come to a three-year deal when we got to come back here every month and work with it. I understand that's the way it's structured but I'm just telling you that's why the negotiations are somewhat hard.

COMMISSIONER: Question on that, Mr. Chairman, then could we through the Chairman and the Director, this Commission authorize that negotiating power?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well, as a practical matter, you know our only lever if you will over the Department is the Director. I mean we hire the Director. We don't typically reach below the level of the Director. So she has the full authority to negotiate a lease agreement so to speak but it does come in front of us for final approval. She doesn't do that negotiation in a vacuum. So I'll visit with her you know to give some general guidance or act as a sounding board or whatever. And I don't visit with other Commissioners and say, what can we agree to because we typically handle those kind of matters in a public forum like this. But again, I don't operate in a vacuum either. I have a sense of what's possible and doable if you will. So, you know I'd like to get a commitment from your office to meet with the Director directly. If you need me there as well I'll make myself available too. But you know some of the finer points necessarily need to go through the Director as basically the expert and your office has experts on numbers, facts and figures as well. So I'm happy to be involved in the process. Ultimately as you pointed out, it does come in front of the Commission. In focusing more directly on the process, since I don't,

you and I don't typically interact on hey, I want to see the lease look like this or look like that or, you know you and I have not formally negotiated on any of those terms. So and consequently, you know I don't get paid to do this job. I have to rely on the tools that I've got as a Commissioner and that tool is the Director. So I would like to get a commitment from your office to work more directly with the Director between now and our next meeting so I can get better communication up to me as to what's going on. And I understand your concern that operating or trying to negotiate with someone who may or may not have the power to do it may seem fruitless, but that's not the system we've got. I mean the only person that I've got to rely on at the end of the day is the Director. So, again I'm happy to sit down in a meeting in Santa Fe at a time that's convenient for everyone but there's got to be some spade work before that you know to make that kind of meeting meaningful. So can I get a commitment from your office to sit down and specifically you, I mean you're at the end of the day the one that will make those high level decisions at your office. I mean can I get a commitment from you to meet with the Director?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: You know as you said, I'm the final decision maker and you're the final decision maker. So if the Director wants to visit with my deputy I'd be happy to do that but I'm not going to sit down unless she has authority to make the decision. She can go through my deputy and we'll just work it that way.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: And I'll give you, I mean it's not, I'm the elected official and I've got full authority to make the decision. You guys are the appointed ones, you have the full authority, she does not. So, (indiscernible) in negotiation.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I understand what you're saying. That's an impediment to getting it done efficiently but I understand what you're saying.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Sir?

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Commissioner I'm glad you came to visit with us and it's good to have this dialog back and forth where we can sit here face to face and discuss some of these concerns. One of my concerns however is that we have fifty-sixty officers in the field continuously and they patrol State Land like they do any other land. Violations on State Lands such as wood cutting or being allocated time or some of the concerns also are that there's a big segment of State Lands that's not accessible because of locked gates and so forth. Does your organization have any kind of law enforcement effort or something where these concerns come to pass and we can call them to handle it or how does this work? I know there are people who do a lot of that and I think that's one of the considerations that you go into this lease that we're looking at, is that we're doing a lot of law enforcement work on State Lands like every other land. And the consideration therefore, time spent, etc., etc., I don't think has been ever discussed and I would like our people and certainly your people to look at what the value of that effort is on State Lands also. Does your organization have any law enforcement authority on State Lands other than maybe the (indiscernible) leases etc.?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Montoya, we do not have police of power but we do have thirteen field offices throughout the state and those field people respond to those questions. You know and along those lines you know I have been in the ranching community and I do have hunting. And we were on a ranch since 99 in Roswell. The only time I saw the Game Department

on the ranch was Mr. Perry here came out one night when I was (indiscernible) a big pile of wood and they came to see what I was up to. So you know I think there's some question, I know that we're dropping our outfitting guide licenses this year because we don't think it's being enforced and the guides aren't carrying them. So it isn't being consideration but I think when you look at it we have the land that your wildlife is on. So I think it's a two-way street in a lot of areas.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Okay, so in other words that enforcement portion of it is not done by you all?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: No.

COMMISSIONER MONTOYA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Mr. Ricklefs, anything?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: No Sir.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: No.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: any other questions? Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Dunn, so my follow-up question to what you were saying about who you would be willing to negotiate with. If you're willing to sit down with the final decision maker the Commission, how would that practically speaking work? Would we sit here in public meeting and just negotiate back and forth with you right now? I mean because that's the only way the Commission as a whole can meet is under the Open Meetings Act and

have a Commission Meeting to negotiate that directly with you. It seems to me that's the alternative that you're putting forward if the decision makers are going to have a valuable conversation and a dialog back and forth.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Ryan my proposal is that Director Sandoval and Deputy Director Laura Riley sit down and negotiate face to face and Laura can come back to me just as easily as the Director can come back to you. That's the way I would like to handle it.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Commissioner Dunn, where do you stand on that land locked? I mean what do you see as part of the negotiation that could be done differently to provide some public access? What are some, I mean brainstorming out there, what are some possibilities?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Ramos, I think you're going to have to go directly to the property owners on areas where you want to access and negotiate the fee to cross those lands. I think that's....

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: So, and again, and I may be sticking my neck out but again, I know we have, we control and we manage the wildlife and the hunting on you know, throughout New Mexico. We could do, put a clause where nobody gets to hunt the land locked hunting. Is that what would be best for the leaser as well as the public?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Your asking me a hypothetical question which for, Commissioner Ramos that I don't have an answer to. I think on those land locked pieces the person owning the private could still hunt the private around there, those areas.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: But not on...

COMMISSIONER DUNN: State Trust Land.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Currently they can hunt the State Land and that's due because we pay that fee that allows them to hunt there. But if we didn't want to allow anybody to hunt on land locked State Trust Land, we have the authority to, I mean being if the Commission was to approve that and I need to see that for the leaser's. I mean I have an agricultural background as well and some valued interest but on the other hand, you know that's the fence that I've got to ride, is the sportsmen as well as the agriculture and all the other components that come along with that as well. But I would like to really drive some conversation and some brainstorming and again, like I mentioned earlier, I'd like to see some private property leasers to step up to the plate because we do have some incentive programs out there, you know that could allow that public access. And again, I understand the private end of it as well.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Ramos, the leasers do not pay us for hunting access.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Correct. And that's....

COMMISSIONER DUNN: In areas where there is State Trust Lands, the leaser does not get any of the permits or anything else that goes with that. You know and I believe the rules are you know, with the deer hunt, the leaser gets to have hunting on their private land but they do not have hunting on State Trust Lands.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: That is correct, Yes Sir.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: So you're already at that point. The leaser does not have.....

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: But if the leaser and their party draw in that unit, specifically let's say Unit 24, Silver City, all around the mining district okay? A lot of these ranchers are drawing on the public draw in that unit, therefore they are allowed to hunt on that land locked State Land. And again, as a Commission, I would really like to see some public drivable access in there and if that doesn't happen, I mean we could just stop and ban hunting completely in that land locked areas in Unit 24 specifically the mining district for the families, for the leaser, for anybody, the public as well. And I would hate to see it go that way but hopefully we can massage that into negotiation as a priority somewhere in there.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Ramos, if that's your discretion and that's what you think you should do is stopping all hunting in Unit 24, then that's up to the Commission.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Dunn what concerns me is that various Commissioners have raised concern and would like, and points of negotiation that they would like to just be open for discussion with your office. But you really shut every single one of them down and I think we need to be honest about where, how deep your heels are dug in on your position and whether you're willing to negotiate at all with the Director if she comes to your office. And I think that's the concern and the elephant in the room that we should just address out in the open. I mean if your flat, not going to settle for anything less than two million at the end of the tree years and you're not willing to discuss access or other issues then you know, our Director's actions are really moved to try to move forward.

COMMISSIONER DUNN: Commissioner Ryan thank you for the comment. To date we have not heard a proposal on access.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Okay. So you would consider it and discuss it? There would be a dialog, could be dialog on it?

COMMISSIONER DUNN: I mean the thing, Commissioner Ryan the thing your saying is, you know we want to have a discussion on access but I'm not going to go in and take private property rights away. I do not have that authority. So I mean if Game and Fish has this great idea on how to get access across private lands, we're willing to talk about it but to date, I have not heard one pliable argument on how you do that.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? Thank you. We are going to take public comment on this but there will be no questions for Commissioner Dunn. Thank you Commissioner. Number 10, Garret?

GARRET VENEKLASEN: Good Morning Commissioners, Garrett VeneKlasen New Mexico Wildlife Federation. We just want to commend you Commissioner Ramos for your comments. I think their very valid ones. And we also to want to commend the entire Commission for digging it's heels in on behalf of New Mexican Sportsmen. We see some hypocrisy here....

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: How far do you want me to dig my heels in?

GARRET VENEKLAUSEN: We want to see you dig your heels in ...

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I can dig them all the way in.

COMMISSIONER: Down to your knees.

GARRET VENEKLAUSEN: We'll we support it and we some hypocrisy here. If the Commissioner is truly acting the best interest of the beneficiaries why aren't we seeing a five-fold increase in oil and gas leases and grazing fees? We're being singled out here we feel and we'd really like to see you all play hard ball here and I really like your approach Commissioner Ramos. If this is what it's going to take, we support you all. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'll let you answer my question some other time. John Crenshaw?

JOHN CRENSHAW: Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, John Crenshaw, President of New Mexico Wildlife Federation. We would hope that the new clear option doesn't become necessary but I think that we've stated in letters to the Department and the Commission Chairman and to Commissioner Dunn that we would support shutting it all down if it absolutely has to be done. Obviously no one wants to do that. That would be something nobody would want to see. But anyway, in the meantime, what I would want to address, a couple things. One Garret mentioned new sources of revenue and just looking around Colorado average for an AUM raising the (indiscernible) cap appears \$11.88, has been since 14 and \$3.15 compared to \$3.99 here in New Mexico and that grazing fee will here go to \$4.80 October 1, but that's still well under half of what Colorado charges in a lot of their grazing land is pretty comparable to ours. I believe that the last number I saw is that Texas charges a 25% royalty on oil and gas while ours is 18.5 I believe and I imagine the (indiscernible) in petroleum is worth about the same on both sides of the border. But the main thing I wanted to bring up today is, the appraisals and what I heard today kind of gave me some reassurance. But there's been a lot of concern from our membership and from me myself, that this move toward appraisals might be a first effort toward offering the lease to some entity, private probably, other

than the Game and Fish Department and State Game Commission which we would very, very strongly oppose that kind of privatization.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I suspect Game and Fish is the tip of the spear here. I think some of those other industries are going to have their day as well. Elizabeth DiCherry?

ELISABETH DICHERRY: Good Morning Commissioners, my name's Elisabeth DiCherry I am a licensed angler. My husband is licensed hunter. I'm also a land owner in three counties in New Mexico, Taos County Torrance County and Valencia County. I'm actually going to tell you that I support what Commissioner Dunn just said. I'm a Registered Nurse and I do believe that we need to increase the lease fee. I also believe that we need the access issue worked out but I think we need to have it worked out for non-hunters in addition to hunters and anglers and that is a tricky question because I know why I don't give access to my property. Unfortunately, some people are not very polite and some people mess things up and can cause the private property owner lots of problems. So I hope we can work that out. Finally, I do believe that and this is why I agree with what he is saying, protecting the health of the land, raising revenue, that is what the Public Trust Lands are all about. And my concern is that in the first draft from the State Land Office, the words killing contest, calling contest came up as something as something that might provide more access. I do want to mention that killing contests are not in the best interest of the Trust or our State and we do not want to give anyone a free pass. We do not want to give promoters a free pass. We do not want to give contestants a free pass. And I hope the Commissioners will consider negotiating fairly with the Land Office. I can't believe I'm saying that but that's what I'm saying. And I hope that you will not create another loophole. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Larry Dwyer?

LARRY DWYER: Hi, my names Larry Dwyer and I'm a hunter. I would just like to say that when you're talking about a million dollars or two million dollars and what that can do for our public schools and all that, I support that. But I also know that a million dollars or two million dollars for the Game and Fish could hire a more conservation officers, could do a lot and I would just like you to keep that in mind. The idea that the Department could absorb that big of a hit I think is not realistic. That the cost is going to be passed onto sportsmen and if that's the case I think you should consider what a few extra bucks in sportsman pocket could do for generating economic activity in a very poor state like New Mexico. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So how much do you want me to dig my heels in, let me ask you?

LARRY DWYER: Well I think you want to be, I sincerely think that two hundred thousand dollars is way low but I think on the other end of the spectrum, I think there;s middle ground but it seems like your negotiating with somebody that doesn't want to seek middle ground. Your negotiating with somebody that does not, that has his heels dug in and I would just like to see the, I'm really proud of how you spoke for sportsmen at the last meeting up in Santa Fe and access and hunt, camping opportunities and I would just like you to keep us in mind, that utilize public land including, and I know it's not the same as BLM or Forest Service but use State Land for hunting.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. I appreciate your comments. Keri Romero?

KERI ROMERO: Thank you Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, Keri Romero, New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides. So at the last meeting we became aware that the State Land Office intended to discontinue the Outfitter and Guide Permitting Process. That was just verified

by Commissioner Dunn in his comments. This is concerning to our organization due to the fact that currently, in order to operate hunts on public lands, you must be, additionally be a licensed outfitter by the Department of Game and Fish. So what this is, this discontinuing of the permit process is going to do is hypothetically anyone could operate hunts on State Trust Lands and that would be including people who are operating under a land owner agent agreement on private land in checkerboard areas. So I agree with him to the extent that he said that policing the Outfitting and Guide Permitting Process is difficult and kind of unsuccessful. But having it go away completely, you know it's just going to add to the unfortunately, large and growing rogue industry where people are opting to be not licensed at all.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So what are you going to do?

KERI ROMERO: I'll leave that up to you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Every road seems to lead back to us. Okay, this is not an action item. We will pick it up again in November and I'm sure as things develop. Will we make a version of these available before our November 19 meeting?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, yes we will.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: To the extent we have one, we will make it available.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Question.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes Sir?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Do we have to have agreement in place by November 1st?

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek that is the best case scenario for us because we go to publication and we begin the entire betting of the next year's application cycle in November. Actually, we started it already. So we do all the leg work behind what's happening, It has already started. So, yes we do need to have that wrapped up by November at the latest.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay. Can I get a motion to take a short recess? No?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Mr. Chairman, no go ahead Madam Director.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Just a point of personal privilege, we have an individual here, a special guest for the Lesser Prairie Chicken Presentation, Bill Van Pelt. He has flown in and he is leaving this afternoon so I would respectfully request that we amend the Agenda when we come back from break so that the Agenda Item No. 13 can go for at the next when we come back from break.

COMMISSIONER: Do we need a motion? I'll make the motion.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So moved. Second.

COMMISSIONER: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We'll move 13 up.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're not the guy that flew in and is flying back are you?

MALE SPEAKER: No.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Okay.

COMMISSIONER: We we're hoping that you had said it.....

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: If you had said it we're Cal Baca I might have put it at the end. We did move up Agenda Item No. 13: Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Conservation Plan.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman, before we actually get started I would like to make a couple of introductions. First of all many thanks to Bill Van Pelt, he is sitting there in front of the computer. He is the WAFWA, which is the Western Association Fish and Wildlife Agency's Grassland Coordinator. He actually oversees multiple programs, one of which is the Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Plan. So I'm very excited that Bill is here. Thank you so much for making the trip. He's actually headed north I think to the WAFWA Office. For those of you who don't know, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish is a member of the WAFWA Association. There's twenty-three members, both in Canada and the Western United States. We also sit on the Lesser Prairie Chicken Imitative Council. Recently, I have taken over the Chairmanship of that Council. So it's been my great pleasure to work very closely with Bill and also with Cal. I think you all know Cal. He is now the Program Manager for the Lesser Prairie Chicken Program that is being run by WAFWA. I'm very excited to have Bill here. We finished up our first full year and I thought it would be an opportunity to explain to you Commission and to our constituents what we've accomplished in the first year under the range wide plan. This was an initiative that all five of us States came together, worked very hard on

and continue to work very hard on out there on the ground. So, with that I'll turn it over to Bill. Thank you.

BILL VAN PELT: Thank you Director Sandoval and Commission for allowing us the opportunity to present to you a program that we're really excited about because it takes us back to the roots of wildlife management and having the states manage the species at the local level and having the resources necessary to do that. So, Lesser Prairie Chicken Range Wide Plan, this Plan was initiated in development in 2013. And what was unique about this Plan from the very beginning was the approach that the five states took in developing that Plan. The first direction that was given to the Interstate Working Group which is the technical working group for the Lesser Prairie Chicken and they were charged with development of this Plan. And the first direction that was given to them by the five state Directors was eliminate the state boundaries and build this Plan using the science and biological needs of the birds. Let us worry about the politics later. And let me tell you, that was something very refreshing to hear because as you'll see as I explain how the Plan, the success of that Plan dates back to that direction and you truly have a Range Wide Plan for species where the survey methodology is done the same way. The conservation is done the same way and is measured and can be followed in those ways. What the Plan does though is it ensures the long-term existence of the Lesser Prairie Chicken through voluntary conservation. You know entities can still go out and get permits necessary if the bird became listed. This was a voluntary program that was developed. It provides a pathway for de-listing the bird timely if it was listed, but it also was developed in such a way that would prevent the listing as well. If it was listed, it provided take exemptions. There's two ways by which take exemptions were provided through the Plan. One, the Plan was considered as a part of the listing package, proposed listing package under the 4D Rule of the Act. And through that Rule it stated

that if those who implement those actions within the Plan, conservation measures, they would be provided the take exemptions, incidental take exemptions because the bird still benefits from those conservation actions. The other element was we developed a range wide CCAA for the oil and gas side of things and those entities that enrolled underneath the CCAA Group provided those take exemptions under Section 10 of the Act. First and foremost though was that this Plan retains State Management authority for the Lesser Prairie Chicken. This has been a State Trust Species for some states within the range as far back as the 1860's and we thought it was important to be able to manage for this species at the local level. And finally, the implementation of this Plan requires no federal or state dollars whatsoever. The resources are generated through the mitigation component of the Range Wide Plan and it creates a non-wasting endowment. So in the future we are going to be here as well conserving the Lesser Prairie Chickens, This the only Plan that was endorsed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The reason for that was the robustness of the conservation actions that were identified. But it also had all the parameters necessary for the conservation of the species, population objectives and habitat objectives. So how the Plan is designed using those two objectives is the Lesser Prairie Chicken is a game bird that the populations fluctuate depending upon precipitation primarily. And so we decided that we needed a ten year moving average for this species for recovery and so we convened a science team and looked at past survey efforts and came up with a ten year moving average of 67,000 birds range wide. But because of the direction that was given to us, you know we built this population objection around the four eco types or ecosystems used by the Lesser Prairie Chicken. And we can have population objectives specific for those eco regents. But also on the flip-side, that also allows us for specific management actions within those eco regions as well. So if for example, in the short grass area we're at the population objective right now, we can implement actions that

are for maintenance of that population whereas in their areas the populations are lower and we can implement other management actions to increase those population objectives there. So that gives us the adaptive ability throughout the reach of the species. What's important about this is that the total area needed for this population objective is approximately 25 percent of the total area that is currently occupied by the lesser prairie chicken plus a 10 mile buffer. We call it the estimated occupied range plus 10, and that's approximately 40 million acres. So ultimately, what this means is that there is room for sustainable Lesser Prairie Chicken population but also development on the landscape. You don't need a chicken on every acre to conserve it. Key to the implementation of this plan is the resources necessary to implement it. This is a mitigation program and a mitigation program is designed to avoid impacts to the species, minimize those impacts to the species and ultimately, if you can't do those 2, you pay for conservation elsewhere. We have 2 components of the range-wide plan, the industry side and the landowner side. Now I will talk about the industry side first because this is what funds the conservation side and working with the landowners. This is a continuous enrollment process. A company can enroll at any time in the range-wide plan. Initially the CCAA, the majority of the gas companies enrolled underneath it, and then once the species became listed on May 14th, 2014, the only option that was available then was the range-wide plan in the 4D rule component. We have approximately 180 companies enrolled right now across all industry types: oil and gas, pipeline, electric transmission/distribution, and communication. The enrollment is based upon the area that these companies work in and this site depicts, in the gray there, those areas that have been enrolled by these companies. It is approximately 11 million acres that these companies are working on, of which 6.4 million acres are oil and gas. And so what these companies have agreed to do is implement these conservation measures across these 11 million acres to benefit

the chicken. Enrollment, though, there's a fee associated with it, and it's an enrollment fee based upon acres for oil and gas and then a flat fee for the other industries, and then there are impact fees based upon the new impacts that are going on in the landscape and those that have to be mitigated for. To date, we have collected 47.5 million dollars in impact enrollment fees going into the second year which is ahead of projections. So, what we do with these fees is, we work with landowners then to offset those impacts that they have done on the landscape, those that could not be avoided, those that could not be minimized. We work with landowners to offset those. And this program is unique in the sense that we have taken in the quality of the habitat, not just the acreage involved. And we have what we call a (indiscernible) formula where we look at the total vegetative ground cover, the types of vegetation, tree cover and we score it and we create a unit value for that. And we can take those unit values and offset those impacts. To date, as you can see from this graph, we are well above all offsets for the impacts. We have to do it at a 2-to-1 ratio and in many cases we are well above the 2-to-1 ratio of offsetting. But if you want to look at the impacted acres, or acres for acres, we are well above offsetting that as well with this conservation effort. How we focus our conservation is through the lesser prairie chicken crucial habitat assessment tool, or the CHAT which was developed through the Western Governors' Association. And what we did was, we took that tool and modified it to directly correlate with what we need for lesser prairie chicken on the landscape. And so, CHAT category 1 is what we call our focal areas, or the red in this slide here. Those are the areas we are focusing conservation population centers so to speak for the chickens. The yellow are connectivity zones where we can connect those areas for population movement and genetic exchange. And then CHAT categories 3 and 4 are components of chicken habitat but not of high enough quality. And what's exciting to see about this program after the first year is, within the range-wide plan, we

have habitat objectives of maintaining in the CHAT categories 1 and 2, 70 percent of the habitat for chickens, and 30 percent for other activities, already impacted activities and so forth. To date, we are at, the companies that have enrolled in this program, have maintained that objective for us with the implementation of over 1,450 projects, and the black spots on the screen there show where those projects are going in on the landscape. And so, for example, there in southwest Kansas there, you can see where the activities are going around our highest priority areas. And then when you look, though, there are some activities within our CHAT categories 1 and 2, and we did an analysis on those projects and found that those projects that are still going on in CHAT categories 1 and 2, they are selecting the poorer quality habitats within there. So they are going to areas that have tilled crops, for example, and putting the impact there because it is not a new, they only have to pay for the new impact. So they are minimizing impacts to chickens even within the CHAT categories 1 and 2 using this tool. The numbers for the conservation side of things is astounding to me in the sense that we did one announcement for applications for the lesser prairie chicken conservation program. We received 65 applications encompassing over 400,000 acres and we selected 10 of those applicants for 10 year terms. The area covered by those 10 contracts was 96,000 acres, so about a fourth of those applications that came in we funded. And over the next 10 years, those landowners will be paid out 14 million dollars from the non-wasting endowment that was established for this. We have also moved on and purchases 1,600 acres, approximately 1,600 acres, and put a permanent easement in Texas and have turned that management over to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Where's that located at?

BILL VAN PELT: You know where the Yoakum Dunes . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Not really.

BILL VAN PELT: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Tell me more.

BILL VAN PELT: It's in the panhandle area, not too far from the New Mexico border, mid-central New Mexico I guess you'd say.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, it would be east of Clovis, a little bit north and east of Clovis.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: How'd you choose that spot?

BILL VAN PELT: The range-wide plan identifies areas that we would like to focus our conservation efforts. Yoakum Dunes area was an area that we identified as what we call a stronghold area and the landowner had been coming to our public meetings and learning and came forward and offered it as an option to buy.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Those are the best kinds.

BILL VAN PELT: What's important about these is, each of these 10-year contracts as well as even the fee title purchases have management plans specific to implementation of lesser prairie chicken conservation efforts. And the other component we are really focused on is actual restoration of the habitat. And, of the 96,000 acres, we have approximately 8,400 acres that are being restored to grassland conditions. It's either through mesquite removal or red cedar removal depending on the particular property.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So is that like painting a battleship, you just keep doing it and doing it because it is not one time and you're done?

BILL VAN PELT: For the restoration?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: For the restoration.

BILL VAN PELT: Yes. And that's why these are set up on 10-year contracts and then with their renewal process we go through what management is needed to maintain the conditions that we worked for through the life of the contract. And we also have a continuous enrollment for the landowners' side of things, and what we will do is a cut-off date, look at the applications at that side, and then look at, and what is important about this is, is this is a mitigation program, and look at where we need to have those offsets for the next year. And this isn't like the farm bill program where continuous enrollment and depending on the number of applications and the funding component of a program, we are really limited in the sense of having to offset the impact. The other element that's associated with renewing our plan and how do we track our progress. And one of the other elements that was done early on in the process was to agree upon range-wide survey methodology that's statistically valid, that's repeatable. And so in 2012, 2013, we worked at developing this and we have instituted that range-wide survey since that time. And, you know, the first year after we ran that survey, the population dropped 50 percent and that really was the eye-opener for this service and helped guide a lot of their decisions despite, you know, the Game and Fish agencies pointing out to them that this is the nature of the bird, you know, wide fluctuations in the population. And that played out the next 2 years later. The following year we had a 20 percent raise in the population and then this year we had a 25 percent raise in the population. Something that we had the last couple of years was rain. But you can't

also ignore the fact that you have, you know, 181 companies modifying their activities across 11 million acres of chicken habitat either. Can we quantify that? Can't really. But, you know, anecdotally, if they aren't drilling 24 hours a day, they are not flushing birds from nests, that has to have contributed to population somewhat. Again, though, the nature of the bird, you know the increases were not the same across the entire range. There were 3 of the 4 ecoregions that increased and then there was one, Shinnery Oak (phonetic), primarily found in New Mexico that stayed the same or even went down slightly. And with that, I'd be happy to respond to any questions that the Commission may have, or Cal or Stewart as well, specific to New Mexico.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do we have any wildlife management areas out that far, out east?

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, yes. We have many lesser prairie chicken areas that we specifically add, we have been enrolling them either in the CCAA's that were discussed earlier and we are also helping out with the range-wide plan with both the biologist and habitat (indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Do we have any of our own by the Commissioners?

MALE SPEAKER: Yes, they are all (indiscernible) lesser prairie chicken areas are (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good. Any other questions or comments?

MALE SPEAKER: Good job, good work.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you for coming out.

MALE SPEAKER: Pray for rain.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I just want to recognize Bill and Cal and Jim Pitman (phonetic) and Shawn (phonetic). They're not here right now, and there is a whole host of other biologists who are out there on the ground that are making this program work. I think the biggest key to this is an adaptive management program. We are not set in stone. There is not a cookie cutter answer and we are able to be very flexible in how we go about implementing the range by plan and those folks sitting in front of you have been great leaders to allow that to happen. We are not just stuck in one road. We are going down multiple roads at the same time. So, I am very excited that New Mexico is a part of that program and to be supportive of it. So if you all have any further questions or if we want to go see one of those areas pretty soon, I'd be happy to take you all out there. It's a really unique program and we actually have other member states across the nation who are looking at the range-wide plan as a template for how to move forward for species management. When you talk about adaptive management there are not political boundaries so this is an exciting thing for the State of New Mexico. So thank you, Bill and Cal. And thank you to the Commission for supporting, allowing us to support that process.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Very good. Thank you. You'll get your (indiscernible).

MALE SPEAKER: (Inaudible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Something about Oryx and pronghorn. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11. Oryx and pronghorn hunt date conflicts on White Sands Missile Range with Trinity Site Tours.** We've spilled a lot of ink on White Sands Missile Range in the last year. So tell me what's going on this month.

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. Today I am in front of you to present some initial amendments to the Oryx and pronghorn rules. This is information

today hopefully for action at the next meeting in November. What this is, is there is a conflict with the first Oryx hunt and pronghorn hunt on White Sand Missile Range. This conflict coincides with White Sand Missile Range's annual Trinity Site Visit. The Trinity Site is where they tested out the first nuclear weapon. They allow visitors to come on to White Sand Missile Range to explore that site once a year or twice a year, once in April and once in October. That brings almost 3,000 visitors to this site being visited. At the same time, there is scheduled pronghorn and Oryx hunts. So the White Sand Missile Range brought to our attention later that this is in conflict. Really it would be a huge disturbance to that hunt. We were able to move this year's hunt outside of it but we are looking for amendments to adjust the seasons for the next 3 years of the rule, the 4 year rule that you guys put into place last year. So with that, our proposal, and again we will come to a final look for action in the November meeting, but we would like to move all those hunts. It is 5 either-sex youth only pronghorn hunts, 40 once-in-a-lifetime Oryx hunts, 5 Iraqi-Afghanistan Vet hunts for Oryx, and 5 broken horn Oryx hunts one week later into the month of October for the second week in October to get outside of that Trinity Site visit. These all occur on Stallion Range, if you are familiar with White Sand Missile Range. I'll take any questions.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: Stewart, did you look at moving a week ahead instead of behind?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes. Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek, really the recommendations on hunt weekends came from White Sand Missile Range just because of military actions. This

best fits into their schedule. They originally that the other did and they miscon sidered the Trinity Site visit.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Stewart, what date was that? Which weekend?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Is there a big wall calendar?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, what you have there in front of you on the screen now is what dates we would propose moving from and to. This is just a snippet of the pronghorn but the Oryx I mentioned as well are the exact same dates.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So this is for safety and other . . .

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It's really the disturbance, they have to do the security clearance for 3,000 vehicles or 3,000 visitors and now to put our hunters on top of that, kind of the congestion there, we don't feel we could really, we wouldn't be able to get hunters into the field with the security.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So we'll hear this again?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We will try to go for final action in November.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. Any other questions? Sounds like government something-or-other, right?

MALE SPEAKER: That's exactly right.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Fiscal year 2015 Depredation and Nuisance Abatement Report.**

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, in front of you is this year's depredation and nuisance abatement report. This is an annual report we provide back to the Commission on our depredation call outs from the last year and our resolution rates, etc., on that. During fiscal year 15 which ran July 1, 2014 to June 20, 2015, we had a total of 537 complaints. That is down fairly significantly from fiscal year 14 when we had 732 complaints. Complaints resolved was 513 for a resolution rate of 96 percent. Our resolution rate the previous fiscal year was 94 percent so we are seeing approximately the same resolution rates, high resolution rates on those complaints. The top species on which we had complaints come in were raccoon, bear, elk, cougar and beaver. You will see the percentages by each species there. One thing to point out, compared to fiscal year 14, is a big difference in bear which was down by 63% in fiscal year 15 most likely due to habitat conditions on the landscape. If you will recall, coming into the spring/summer of 14 we were really dry, mass was not as high whereas coming into this year we had a lot of spring moisture that probably kept the bears in the mountains. We saw a drastic decline, a decline of 63 percent in bear complaints. One thing that you will see, last year raccoon was only at 7 percent of our total complaints. We had a significant increase in raccoon complaints throughout.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I have one in my attic right now. I'm trying to flush it out without losing my face.

GUEST SPEAKER: Elk, cougar, and beaver remain relatively the same as previous fiscal year. This is actually complaints by numbers so you can get an idea of how many complaints across the state that we had. Again, bears were significantly down, bear complaints were significantly down this last fiscal year. In 2014, we had 454 complaints filed on bears so it is down 70 percent at this time on bears.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: When you say “resolved”, is it resolved from our end or is it that the person out there complaining?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, it would be resolved on both sides of the party. But there are certain complaints where we just couldn’t resolve the complaints. We were working with the landowner or working with the complaintee on trying to find permanent resolution. Some of them are temporary resolutions where we can fix the complaint with one site visit, some are going to be like elk where it may be coming in continually onto hay meadows and we try scare tactics that may resolve it for that time period but it may be that it comes back and that’s still an open complaint that we are trying to figure out.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Also, does anyone who complains ever go away angry from this process? Because I get an e-mail every now and then that says that says, no, it is not broken into paragraphs, it’s about a page long and sometimes they are hacked off.

GUEST SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chairman, again I would like to point out we had 537 complaints in the last fiscal year. We do hear from a few individuals in there, there are probably a select 10, 15 individuals that we’re going to hear from because maybe the complaint is not completely resolved or they weren’t happy with what we consider the final resolution, especially when we make the determination that we don’t decide, for elk let’s say, that a high fence is warranted for that complaint. A lot of those will raise to the level of the Commission and that’s when you start to get the letters or even the Governor’s office where we have gone and done site visits through our field officers or even our depredation specialists and we have determined that we have resolved the complaint from our standpoint and there might be disagreements as well with that specific landowner.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, your people make their best efforts to resolve these. It's not hanging out on the phone saying, you know, we're not going to help you out.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. So again, I would like to point out that bears were considerably down, down 70% from fiscal year 14, where raccoons were significantly up. Raccoon complaints in fiscal year 14 were about 52, so we're up 270 percent in raccoon complaints. The rest of these are roughly the same including cougar, bear, and elk, really no significant change within the fiscal years. We also have some smaller complaints as you see here, with the different species where we don't receive as many complaints, probably densities or their lack of wanting to come into communities as well. We just don't get the complaints. You'll see we have a couple of, one complaint here and there, but we do our best to try to resolve each one of those complaints. With that, I'll take any questions.

MALE SPEAKER: I have to find out what the bighorn is.

GUEST SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chairman, what the bighorn was, it was a desert bighorn that was going into the Jornada Experimental Station and it was breaking their equipment. [Laughter]. It was head-butting a lot of their equipment in the Jornada and breaking panels, etc., on fairly expensive test sites.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Oh, my goodness.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Practicing for something? Depredation. Any other questions or comments? Thank you.

FEMALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think that was for 14. This was 12.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Oh, sorry, I apologize.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm not very good at this but I can (indiscernible).

FEMALE SPEAKER: [Laughter.] My apologies.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: That's OK. We've already taken care of 13. **AGENDA ITEM NO.**

14: Final Amendments to the Elk and Turkey Rule Regarding the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

MALE SPEAKER: Stewart is going to (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, this is for final action today.

You have seen this in front of you at two different meetings, one in Taos and at the most recent meeting in Santa Fe, on amending elk and turkey hunts on the Valles Caldera due to the new National Preserve that was created there. To date, I shouldn't say to date because we didn't look today, but as of Friday, we had 7 public comments received on the public record to the amendments we posted. Most of those comments were opposed to the recommendation by the Department and the National Park Service to eliminate the lottery, that the lottery that was administered by the Valles Caldera National Trust in terms of a raffle, and administered (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: They liked the lottery?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. The comments were more in support of the lottery. The National Park Service, however, is opposed to administering any lottery. They do not want to. They would like the Department to administer it through our draw like all the rest of the hunts that would occur in the draw, public draw hunts in the state for elk and for select.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. We can do that.

GUEST SPEAKER: We also had some comments specific to mobility impaired hunts and the Valles Caldera National Preserve now working with those mobility impaired hunters to allow kind of better access or more vehicular access into areas where elk are or just to take a look at that as we develop rules with the Preserve. So again, I've presented some of this before but I will go over it real quick. This Friday, that's October, October 1st is Thursday, sorry with my dates, but the Trust will transfer to the National Park System on October 1st. So this week it will go over to the Park Service. They have, if you are not aware, put a superintendent in place and that is Jorgé, so he will transition from the Trust to the new superintendent at the Valles Caldera National Preserve under the Park System. This year's elk hunts were going to be administered the same as we planned as in the Trust. The Park Service will carry out the end of that, or the Park Service will carry out this year's elk hunts just as they were put forth in the rules for this year. What we did was work with the National Park Service through several meetings including at our office. They came down through the Intermountain West region and meetings elsewhere to determine what we would do for the remaining 3 years of the 4-year rule cycle for elk and for turkey. A big thing on that was Park Service and our interest was consistency of those regulations, both on the preserve and off the preserve to kind of mirror our management strategies both on and off that preserve. What that did was our recommendation in front of you today, is kind of an increase of elk licenses on the preserve by 10 either-sex archery licenses. This is to mirror what the elk population we feel could sustain on a harvest and also to offer some more bow hunting opportunity on the new created preserve in the form of 2 different archery hunts. The season structures and season dates used to be very different on the preserve than it was off. These will now mirror the current structure that is off the preserve so we will

have the 2 bow hunts on the reserve that will last the full time instead of what was previously there. The current proposed mature bull licenses will stay the same. Again, the increase in archery and cow antlerless-only licenses will stay. One of the big things that we did do was consolidate hunts so there are 15 hunts currently on the preserve spread across different time periods, shorter hunt dates than we allow off the preserve. What we did was made consistency again and we proposed it be reduced down now to 10 hunts on the preserve for the 2016, 17, and 18 seasons. For the turkey hunt it was again the trust administered a raffle to gain access to gain access onto the preserve for hunting. It was a 3-day hunt, 3 different hunts I think it was, 3 days, that hunters can gain access. Like we do on many of our wildlife management areas, our proposal is to have a specific draw-only hunt on the preserve for that unique turkey hunting experience of 20 permits (indiscernible, cough) April 15th to April 30th each season.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This that you've developed, is it in conjunction with the Park Services?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. So, while it is in the transition phase, we work with the Intermountain West region of the Park Service staff at that level that will now supervise the new superintendent there. Now that the superintendent, he was part of the interim, the interim superintendent was part of the negotiations but the higher level was kind of (indiscernible) on the negotiations we made with them, will now start transitioning into Jorge who is the new superintendent for future rulemaking decisions and recommendations to the Commission.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Feel good about the dates, so we don't go back to like White Sand Missile Range?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, you're pretty solid on that?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, yes. Those dates will mirror what we basically do off the preserve right now in the surrounding (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any questions or comments? Joel or Garrett? Or both. No? OK. This is an action item. Can I get a motion, please.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt the proposed changes to 19.31.14 NMAC except for those sections previously adopted by the Commission as presented by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Thank you. Good work on that one, Stewart.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, we also have another motion more specific to the turkey rule.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Sorry. That was elk, right?

MALE SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ralph, you want to do turkey, too.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Sure. Mr. Chairman, I move to adopt the proposed changes to 19.31.16 NMAC except for those sections previously adopted by the Commission as presented

by the Department and allow the Department to make minor corrections to comply with filing this rule with State Records and Archives.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it. Thank you. Number 15, Update on Hunters Helping the Hungry Program.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, before I give this presentation, I would like to call a guest to the table, Ms. Julie Anderson who is with Roadrunner Food Bank.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Welcome.

JULIE ANDERSON: Thank you.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Anderson has been instrumental in trying to get this program up and off the ground and up and running for what was the desires to get this program going. What this is, this is a wild game donation program as initiated in response to House Memorial 78 that came through during the 2013 legislative session. In that, it requested that the Department, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Environment collaborate to allow wild game meat donations to New Mexico's needy and hungry. Again, like I say, it would be operated and administered by Roadrunner Food Bank. Roadrunner Food Bank is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the hungry people throughout New Mexico. They have a statewide distribution network that reaches nearly 40,000 hungry people weekly. To date, we are working on receiving monetary donations before we could get that program up and running.

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Basically what will happen is Roadrunner will be the, pay our processors in order for those donations to come in. Once they pay those processors, Roadrunners would distribute that food to the needy. We are looking for \$10,000.00 in donations before we can really get the program really up and running and start accepting donations. We have approximately 10 meat processors that will be participating during this hunting season if we get the donations in, with the potential of additional processors in the future depending on the success and donations coming into this program. All the processors have agreed to reduce fees for this program. The program, as of right now, is just looking at accepting deer and elk as donations. Additional species may become available in the future depending on the success of the early term of the program. For the processors that participate, they must be properly licensed and certified by the State of New Mexico Environment Department. Again, they must be enrolled in the Roadrunner Food Bank in order to accept those donations and they must agree to charge according to the program fee schedule. So the program fee schedule for processing will be for deer, for a small animal it will be \$75.00, for a medium \$100.00, a large deer will be \$125.00. For elk, a small elk will be a processing fee of \$125.00, a medium size elk will be \$225.00, and a large will be \$300.00. This is a negotiation the processors felt comfortable with in negotiation with Roadrunner, will cover the cost of the program and insure the delivery of that food (indiscernible).

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Could you repeat those real quick for me, Stewart?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza. For deer, for a small animal \$75.00, medium \$100.00, large \$125.00. For elk, small \$125.00, medium \$225.00, and large \$300.00.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Are there weights or anything associated with them or just up to the discretion of the processor?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza. That's going to be the discretion of the processor, similar to what you're going to get if you take your animal to a processor. They are going to, on intake, ascertain how much meat is going to be there, what the processing charges are going to be. It is going to be the discretion of the processors to look at the animal and determine what category fits it. The invoice will go directly from the processor to Roadrunner to pay the invoices and that's why it is imperative on the donations getting to Roadrunner for this program to get up and running. We don't want to start the program tomorrow and have 30 hunters come in to processors tomorrow without a lot of donation base or foundation money at Roadrunner where they can't pay those invoices directly to the processors and we're sitting in limbo. Hence, the reason for the \$10,000.00 startup fund basically to get this rolling. We think that start up fund might provide, depending on whether it's elk or deer, but roughly over 50 animals, both elk and deer to get it up and going. For hunters to participate, basically like I said, donations are currently limited to deer and elk, they'll locate a participating processor. Those will be posted on Roadrunner's and our website as well once we get the program up and running so hunters know where to go. There is a 1-page form and we will provide that to you, we did bring some pamphlets, that the hunter fills out that kind of certifies that the meat was cared for prior to donation to the processor. Then, like I stated, the list of participating processors, guidelines for donations, etc., will be published both on Roadrunner's website as well as the Department's website. And with that we would be willing to take any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Are we set to put something in our rules booklet?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, yes, for the next season we will put something specific to it in the booklet. I guess the one thing I'd like to stress, too, is the donation aspect of it and how imperative it is going to be for this program to be successful. We are going to need to have the donations. We just can't operate without that monetary value going in to Roadrunner specifically set aside for Hunters Helping the Hungry. So, any donations going into Roadrunner need to be earmarked for that so we can specifically put it towards this endeavor.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So what are Roadrunner's plans to advertise?

JULIE ANDERSON: Ok, just so you understand, too, we have a restricted fund set up so it only goes into that restricted fund. They can donate off of our website and we do have the website up. So, we've already gotten one donation. At this point, we will start, as soon as the program starts, we will get it on our Facebook which goes out to, I don't even know, 12 thousand people. To begin, we will also carry the pamphlets at our location. We have, there are a whole lot of volunteers that come in all the time. So we will start that process. We want to do some media around it, joint media with your Department and our Department when we get this going. Hopefully, next year, and I will be recording all the pounds so at the end of the season you will have specific poundage from the meat that has been rescued. It will be across the state. Processors are across the state. The food will go to feeding agencies only and it will be in 10-pound bags, frozen. So the relationship will be within the community so that the food, and we will try as best we can because we may pull from some other hunting areas, but it will stay within the communities to feed those that are less fortunate in that specific community. So we are the umbrella. I organize it, the invoices come to me. The processors call me, my agencies call. The agencies, I'm going on-and-on, the agencies are all food safety certified so from our

end of the process it is very good. And these are folks that are already picking up from large donors.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Your agency can distribute to other agencies, or how does that process work?

JULIE ANDERSON: We won't be taking any of the meat. Roadrunner cannot because it is considered a prepared food and it is not USDA stamped. So we cannot take it according to Feeding America rules. But our agencies who are partners can. So I work with those agencies and the other 4 food banks in the state. We have 5 total. They, in turn, will give to their partner feeding agencies, soup kitchens, New Day Ministries, St. Martin's, ABQ Rescue Missions – those are all folks that can be receiving this food because they know how to handle this type of food and it's frozen so it will go right in their freezers and they will feed from that. We are hoping to do a very nice opportunity once this is over at one of the feeding agencies with some rescued meats, so a good luncheon and again an opportunity for (indiscernible) for everybody. It is a very win-win program, and we are going to be capturing a category we don't get a lot of. In our 23 million pounds of rescued food last year, 5 percent may have accounted for meat.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: When is the best time to come back and report to us again on this?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, I would say probably next spring after this year's hunting season with the hope that we get enough donations to get the program up and running.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Someone more detail oriented than me, make note of that, come visit with us again.

MALE SPEAKER: What's the website.

JULIE ANDERSON: It's www.rrfb/hunters. And we have brochures that your Department may, I also have some brochures if anybody is interested in (indiscernible) and it talks about counties and I will leave them here for you. And any questions you have, please come by the food bank, come visit. Some of you may have already been there and you're always welcome. On our end, we're ready to go.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good. Is there a phone number?

JULIE ANDERSON: That I don't know. Let me see if we've got one in here.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: (indiscernible) call anymore?

MALE SPEAKER: I've got a question.

JULIE ANDERSON: Our main line is 247-2052. And again, if you need my specific information I didn't bring cards but you can get it through, I work with Bob Osborne (phonetic) and his group of people so you can get any information and any questions. We are working very closely on it to get it going.

MALE SPEAKER: Can I give you a card and then you can forward me your information?

JULIE ANDERSON: I sure will.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission and members of the public, there are some pamphlets on the back table specific to this program that are available.

JULIE ANDERSON: We will do everything we can to promote it. We are getting huge response already from a lot of folks who said we're hearing about this program. I just pulled in a Roswell processor, I have his form here. So we are all working together to make it happen and we are

very, very excited and we thank you very, very much for this opportunity. I know it's been in the works for a while, so thanks. We've got to get it going.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: I've got a quick question. Is there a way for someone that's drawn, you know how we do the e-mails, is there a way, I believe there is a bunch of hunters that would want to donate their meat but they just don't know. Is there a way that when somebody is drawn to get them that information?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Salopek. Again, we are waiting to get those base donations in. As soon as we get it, we will advertise on our website, on our Facebook, that the program is up and running, where those donation sites are located, and getting that to, like the Chairman suggested, putting it in the proclamation so people are aware of the program, have the awareness that it is up and operating and we do have a program in New Mexico for helping hungry through game donation.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: One more question. Is it all or nothing in the sense that I may want some of my game meat but not all of it?

JULIE ANDERSON: You can donate whatever. We still have the processor get the full fee for whatever size animal. So if you want to keep a certain part and donate the rest, it's fine.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, there's a way to do that.

JULIE ANDERSON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK.

JULIE ANDERSON: We also have forms on our website with an informational, waiting for processors on there also. So everybody can connect with everybody. And, like I said, once we get going, the joint effort for press releases and a lot of information will go out.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Being from Roswell, did I hear you say you just got a Roswell processor.

JULIE ANDERSON: Yes.

FEMALE SPEAKER: OK. Great. (indiscernible) for my community.

JULIE ANDERSON: Well, what's really great about this is our really fabulous partner down there, Harvest Ministries. He contacted them for me. So the relationship within the community, they know a lot of these processors. So it just builds more community effort and it's just really a good way to go. Mark's great.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: A couple questions. A couple of them, do you have a list of those processors around the state?

JULIE ANDERSON: We do.

MALE SPEAKER: You said you had forms that were available for other processors?

JULIE ANDERSON: Yes.

MALE SPEAKER: Could I obtain some of that from you?

JULIE ANDERSON: Sure.

MALE SPEAKER: Do you have one in Farmington, by the way?

JULIE ANDERSON: We have two, I believe, in Farmington.

MALE SPEAKER: Who is that, just because I know one that's bugging me forever.

JULIE ANDERSON: Let's see, we have MGS Custom Cutting, and we have San Juan Meats.

MALE SPEAKER: OK. Good.

JULIE ANDERSON: And they've already connected with our food bank, Echo, out there.

That's what I'm saying. Most of these people in small communities know each other. That's why this program is going to be very successful.

MALE SPEAKER: So, another question. When they process it, are they going to actually process it, or are they going to grind the meat up?

JULIE ANDERSON: Yes, it's going to be all ground. We are not going to get into any cuts or anything.

MALE SPEAKER: So walk me through it real quick. The processor will contact somebody, one of your partner organizations, they will actually go pick it up from the processor.

JULIE ANDERSON: Once we get the processors in place, then they will be partnered with one of our partner agencies, and then I connect them. I am the connector. And they will connect with each other and talk and then the processor, when the hunter comes in, will call me to make sure we have money, so we give pre-approval so we have money. Then the processor will go ahead, grind the meat, call the agency and they will come and pick it up.

MALE SPEAKER: Last comment. I need your information for your donations. And actually that brings up one concern, \$10,000.00, you I could see this, I've been promoting this for a long time, but I can see this growing exponentially to the point, are you going to have some control to the point that you don't want to run out of money or the ability to pay the processor. I could see people coming in and all of a sudden you've got more animals out there to process than you have the ability to pay for. So are you going to have something to monitor that to where we don't run into that.

JULIE ANDERSON: I will have access to the restricted funds so I will be able to see what is going on and the invoices all come to me. I get them to our Financial Department. So I am the gatekeeper for that. We have discussed it. We may run out. It's our first year, you know. We're attempting to check everything to see how it goes. We have no clue how many or what will happen. So if it does run out we will just keep trying to fund raise for it and around it.

MALE SPEAKER: Yes. Get back to me after this, because I can probably take care (indiscernible). JULIE ANDERSON: OK.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Ms. Romero, what about your outfit. Kerry Romero. To put you on the spot. I know you probably have got a lot of people that come from out of state that work with your folks and they are probably not taking much home with them, so I hope you make the pitch to your members to use this program because I think it is pretty awesome.

KERRY ROMERO: Yes, we've been involved in the process, (indiscernible). So, yes, we're excited (indiscernible).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Thank you. Sorry to put you on the spot.

MALE SPEAKER: Woke her up.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, I would just make the comment that you can go to the Roadrunner Food Bank page and click on Take Action. Roadrunner Food Bank has done a great job putting all this information on one web page. So if you can go to their main page, click on Take Action and click on the Hunters Helping the Hungry, all of this has been very well laid out. Thank you, Ms. Anderson, for putting that all together. And it makes the donation very easy. So I think all the questions, it articulates everything we have discussed today. So tell your neighbors, tell your friends, tell everybody, go to their web page. They've got a great donation site. It is very easy to make that.

FEMALE SPEAKER: We were at the State Fair last week, yes. And lots and lots and lots of interest. So I think once this gets going and we get the push of media behind it we are going to see it's just going to snowball. That's my true opinion.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Stewart, you want to hang around or you want to step down for a while.

STEWART LILEY: I forget if I'm up still.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You're not up next. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 16, Mike Sloan.**

Proposed Amendments to the Fisheries rule regarding identifying special trout waters designations on the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

MIKE SLOAN: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. As with elk and turkey, with the changeover of the Valles Caldera Preserve to the National Park Service we have been talking to

the Park Service about fishing regulations. Past management was, by our regulations, a 5 fish limit. The preserve at the time decided to manage via an access agreement and catch and release and restrict where anglers could fish. Over the course of our discussions, the original proposal was to try and get Rio Grande (phonetic) cuts into the San Antonio Creek, or Rio San Antonio. That didn't come to fruition and that is why the preserve originally went to the catch and release. The Park Service is interested in allowing some amount of take and allowing additional access so we are proposing a 2 fish limit with restrictions of artificial flies and lures, barbless hooks on all waters of the preserve and also to extend on the Rio San Antonio through the current special trout water which is catch and release to mirror those same regulations. They also would like to create a fishing season primarily to protect the roads and access so it would be May 1st through October 15th. So that's the basic proposal to allow 2 fish limit and the terminal tackle restrictions and the fishing season. And I will probably bring you that proposal formally in November.

Questions from the Commission?

MALE SPEAKER: You want to comment?

(Inaudible)

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: Quick question. Mike, will they limit the number of people accessing the preserve or will they have to obtain a special permit?

MIKE SLOAN: My understanding is that they do not currently have plans to limit access.

MALE SPEAKER: So you just check in and as long as you have a valid fishing license, go fishing?

MIKE SLOAN: I believe that is the intent at the moment, yes.

MALE SPEAKER: OK. Other questions from the Commission?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: If not, we have one speaker's card. Garrett? Any others? This is the only one I've got. Other comments. If not, we will move on to **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: Update on Development of Shooting Ranges in New Mexico.** Lance Cherry.

LANCE CHERRY: Good afternoon, Commissioners. I come before you today to present an update on shooting range development in New Mexico, to discuss some of the progress that we have made and talk a little bit about some of the challenges that we face. Begin, development of the youth archery range at that Albuquerque Shooting Range Park is facing basically its last step. We're just waiting on a final review and signature of an MOU and at that point, once signed, we can begin construction. Everything is in place for us to roll forward with it. We are really excited about the opportunities this is going to provide for our youth and it will be a much needed facility and really, for our annual outdoor expo that we hold every year it will be an opportunity to showcase a great range. We are anticipating that as the pieces come together and we get that MOU signed, we should be breaking ground on this thing and have it built by this coming February. I am really excited about that and like I said, last step, last little step, and we'll be moving forward. Progress on the Clovis shooting range continues to move in a positive direction. As a matter of fact, just breaking for me, this last week—at the end of this last week—the contract with (indiscernible) and Houston finally got signed and they are moving on the designs as we speak. In fact, we received e-mails today as they are moving through the process. We

expect we will have those designs at the end of the month at which point we can present it to the Clovis County Commissioners for their final approval and once it gets its approval, we will be able to move forward with construction of that project. We are anticipating a completion on that thing this spring. I put a May date out there but we are pretty optimistic that we are going to beat that time frame. The Cibola County shooting range: This has perhaps been one that has had a handful of the challenges that have been a little bit unexpected. We have made every effort possible to keep this on the fast track but one of the issues that has come up is that we just completed the ARC survey on this project and with it comes a little bit of mitigation. We are going to have to deal with a little bit of some park issues. And one of the other things that was brought to our attention, BLM brought to us that there was an existing grazing lease on it which would require a 2-year notification to reduce the acreage that the lessee has. But the good news on this, though, is that the Department has reached out to that lessee and we are moving forward with picking up that lease from them which would cut an entire year off that project. So I am really excited about that. It has been moving forward. You know, just so you know, we are very committed to finishing this project and looking forward to a real positive outcome on it. We have had great support from the Cibola County and, as a matter of fact, the Federal partners in this have been working with us and communicating openly with us about the process. Just so that you have an idea, I am going to share with you just a timeline that BLM provided for us just so you have an idea of some of the things that we're facing and that have fallen a little bit in our lap. What you'll notice is really an outline of some pretty strict timelines and some processes that deal with reviews, notifications, and surveys required before we can actually break ground on this project. In this first portion of it, carrying us through February, what you'll see is the big piece in there is that Federal Register notification process that we have to go through dealing

with that grazing lease. And then the second piece of this timeline really deals with the other requirements that we'll have to work through which is (indiscernible) Service and (indiscernible) appraisal, and eventually we will get to that stage where we get to that issuance of the decision to offer the lease with an option to buy at which point Cibola County should be able to take ownership of that property and we would be able to begin construction. That is going to push that all the way out to July of 2016 on this project. The start of the fiscal year is when we will be able to tap our funds, working through their process that will be the soonest we will be able to tap funds so we can begin that construction project. And so, we actually are looking at more like a September timeline before that range is really up and running in 2016. Santa Fe Camel Tracks, on the other hand, continues to be right on track with R and PP process completion still anticipated in the spring and we have made significant progress with the completion of that process including the cultural survey, receipt of the biological evaluation and cultural resources draft report. The other thing is that we have a range cleanup day scheduled for October 3rd, so we are actively moving toward getting this project up and on its feet. Again, based on discussion with BLM and the County, we are confident that we will be in the driver's seat to begin construction on this project also at this next fiscal year which will begin there in July and so this project will actually be right on track with Cibola County and we will really be looking at 2 ranges that will be open in and around the same time frame. And so, in closing on this, I would like to just state that our Department is actively and aggressively working on future ranges across the state. I'd say the lesson that we've learned throughout this year has been that it's never too early to start working on building ranges. And we're working to stack future range development right behind each of these projects as we speak and in a manner that will, I believe, yield the

results and meet some of the expectations of this Commission. With that, I will stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You've exceeded my expectations. That's all I will say. So thank you. That's really excellent progress in what I think is a very short amount of time. I do have a question, maybe for you and perhaps for Mr. Sayer (phonetic). In terms of insurance or whatever else when we actually get one of these up and operating, did we ever resolve that issue?

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chairman, I think the discussion around insurance, actually we need to visit with the county or the city entity and so there are some things we can work with the NRA on, but it hasn't been necessarily resolved.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And the NRA is a great resource for that. I know they insure the ranges that I belong to, so somebody just needs to pick up the phone. You may need to look at some of the liability issues. So before one of these comes online, you probably need to be prepared to address one of those. That make sense? OK. But we can talk more formally about that at some point. But again, you have exceeded my expectations. Great work. Any questions or comments.

MALE SPEAKER: I'd like to congratulate Lance and Dr. Arbus (phonetic) has been a big promoter of this and you look at where we've gotten in such a short time, and there's people willing to work with you. I just want to thank you. Good job. And your group, you know.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, one comment. Again, I've had numerous discussions with Craig (phonetic) and you guys' persistence is unparalleled. So thank you. And we look forward to it, and so do New Mexico sportsmen. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We've got 2 public comments, John Brennan (phonetic) and Tony Mace.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I'm Tony Mace, Cibola County Sheriff. We have been trying to develop this range since 2006 on our own. Just recently this year, when Craig (phonetic) and Chris came out, spoke with us, in the last several months we have moved forward more than we have since 2006 with the assistance of Chris and Craig (phonetic) and Jessica and so I mean I appreciate everything these guys are doing. They have the full support of my Commission, the city council and also the Village of Milan. They have all drafted resolution letters. We've all contacted all of our Congressmen, Representatives to try to get this registry pushed through, fast-tracked, so we can keep with that timeline. And I just want to say thanks to these guys for helping us out and really making this a priority in our community. The residents there are ecstatic that we are actually moving forward now on this project.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well, it's a big deal to me, so we will keep driving it from our end and thank you, Sheriff. We tried to partner with local governments and organizations to get it done, so we thank you for your support. It takes a team to get these things done, so I want to thank you. John Brennan.

GUEST SPEAKER: Good afternoon, Commissioner, Director, Commissioners. I'm John Brennan, Field Manager from Bureau of Land Management. Thanks for seeing me again. It has been great working with Craig (phonetic) and Jessica (phonetic) on this project. We actually have 3 projects with you guys on BLM and the Rio Puerco Field Office. One is the Albuquerque shooting range which is moving along quite well; we are just waiting on a plan of development from the city and then the MOU will be signed. We are also looking on the Milan (phonetic) gun

range. When I got here in January 2014, it wasn't a priority for our office. I made it a priority and we are moving at light speed for the government which is kind of amazing. But we are going to get this done and it is moving forward. Our Federal Register notice hopefully will be at Santa Fe today and then will go out after that. Our last project is a primitive range with you guys around the Ojito wilderness. We are finding that there is a problem out there with people shooting in all directions and my assistant field manager, Calvin Parson came up with an idea to create an area as a sacrifice area to create a gun range so that all of the stuff is concentrated in one area rather than shooting through the wilderness. We have a slight glitch with that. We are waiting for our resource management plan to be completed so we can amend it so that we can continue on this project. But communications and work with New Mexico Game and Fish has been fabulous and we are going to continue that, and thank you for your time.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We can't do it without you. So we appreciate it.

GUEST SPEAKER: So we'll get it done together.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And I agree that trying to put, and that is part of the drive for this, is to have safe places to shoot. You can't be 100 percent safe, I suppose.

GUEST SPEAKER: I've already got myself and a chief range safety officer at the Del Norte Gun Club and the Las (indiscernible) Gun Club, and 4 law enforcement officers so I know the importance of gun ranges and the safety. So we are going to keep pushing these until they get done.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thanks so much.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thanks for your time.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any questions or further comments? Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, thank you for recognizing me. José (indiscernible) Lopez. I own (indiscernible) LLC which is right next door to your proposed Santa Fe shooting range, and I am concerned that there is not public process for setting up this facility and you know, my private property line is just several thousand feet from this proposed facility and I am concerned that in the future with this permanent facility that I am going to be unable to use my land for anything but what I am doing right now which is just grazing and that would be taking my private property rights, so I would like to ask that there be some public process whereby folks that are concerned about the shooting range are able to speak to the Commission or Director or whomever you believe is appropriate.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What I would recommend that you do is visit with Mr. Cherry certainly as the frontline person. But the Director's door is always open to address those issues as well. So we are best to deal with those now rather than later.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. That is a discussion item. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 18: Update on the Department's assessment, monitoring, and cooperation efforts with agencies on Animus River regarding the Gold King Mine spill.** Mike Sloan.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, as I am sure you all know, Environmental Protection Agency was digging on the Gold King Mine and released 3 million gallons of mine wastewater. That water flowed down Cement Creek into the Animus River, flowed through Colorado to Durango and into New Mexico, passing through (indiscernible), Aztec, and Farmington, and entering the San Juan River at Farmington flowing all the way to

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Lake Powell (phonetic). We had folks out on the ground immediately before, during and after, assessing impacts to wildlife. We did not really see any other than, I think, we found 2 fish that had died due to dewatering of irrigation ditches when they shut them off to prevent intake of the polluted water. It's also important to note that the plume entered the San Juan River well below the San Juan quality waters and below Navaho Reservoir and below the intake for the San Juan-Chama water that provides drinking water in the Rio Grande Basin. There was some confusion in the public about that. Our agency, in particular fishery staff, put together a white paper and had that posted on the web and on the Environment Department's web, discussing what we anticipated short term and long term impacts might be. We coordinated with both the EPA and the Environment Department on how to assess it, when to assess it. We did not see any acute impacts immediately. We are monitoring long term impacts. We have done 1 fish collection thus far at 5 sites, coordinated with the Department of Health and the Environment Department to determine whether we should lift the advisory. We did decide to lift that advisory based on the risk assessment. We are going to do a 6-month collection, and then we will do a 1-year assessment and then annually thereafter to determine if there are any long term effects. At this point, it is very difficult whether there will be or not. We continue to attend public meetings. I was at one up in Farmington and continue to respond to any questions. We are a member of the long-term response team that the Governor has appointed. With that, I'll stand for any questions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: How we (indiscernible)? Who wants to go first? Adam? (Inaudible).

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think, you know, that you guys are checking and the evidence was there that we were having problems and we would need to be more proactive about addressing those but as long as the data coming back is showing clean, we just stand to wait and see and continue to monitor.

GUEST SPEAKER: And the real risk is the long term risk. We don't know what the bio-accumulation effect may or may not be. So that's why we are going to continue to monitor.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

MALE SPEAKER: I know that we've got concerns with the aquatic vegetation and the invertebrates in the river, but we have checked fish and did all kinds of things. Have we gone on into that realm in great detail or are we satisfied that we can live with what's happened.

GUEST SPEAKER: We have collected macro (phonetic) invertebrates and run metals testing on those. We just got those results in this week. I have sent those out to the Environment Department and the Department of Health for their assessment. In terms of vegetation, I don't think we have looked very closely at those. We have looked at water fowl impacts and big game impacts and really haven't seen any. Like I said, I think that sort of those short term acute effects, we really haven't seen any probably because the pH had lowered to the point where it was really sediment moving through, metal laden sediment but sediment moving through New Mexico. And so, the question now is, with that sediment in the bottom of the river, what's the long term effect and we will just have to wait and see and keep monitoring.

MALE SPEAKER: So presently you're pretty happy with where we're at after the disaster?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So what's the short term cost to the Department for dealing with this?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, we are actually collecting that right now. We have the information from our field operations. We are collecting it from the Fishery Division, and also

from Wildlife Management. We will be putting that together and actually coordinating that through the Environment Department. But if I were to take an educated guess, looking at what I've seen come in so far, the cost to the agency has been about 50 to 60 thousand dollars for response, and the time spent doing the analysis. Long term, of course, is going to be greater because of all of the testing.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So who are you going to send the bill to?

FEMALE SPEAKER: The EPA. And that will be done as a coordinated effort. The entire state of New Mexico will be working on that and sending that over to the EPA.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: What has the EPA said about paying that bill?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, the information that we have is that the EPA will pay for all of the mitigation and costs associated with this bill.

MALE SPEAKER: That's depressing (phonetic).

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Any other, when will we hear about this again?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, when would you like to hear about it? I think our next sampling event is 6 months from August 5th, so maybe in March or April with consents.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. When do you send that information to the Environment Department.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that will be due, I think, in a week-and-a-half, over for the initial cost and then it will be a regular update.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. So we'll hear about this next spring, it sounds like. All right. And, if anything pops in the meantime, let us know. Garrett, do you have any comment on this?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. This same event happened in 1975. I've been up to Cement Creek outside of Silverton in the past. And this is a draining mine. It is like a pimple. What happens is, water builds up inside that side of the mountain. This was inevitable. This happened in 1975. Commissioner Ryan, you talked about proactive solutions. I think a proactive solution here is some reform to the 1872 Mining Act. What some Congressional people are talking about is a Good Samaritan clause to be added to the Mining Act itself which would allow individuals, nonprofits, communities, to start to mitigate these individual mine issue and actually, you know, to lessen the liability to mitigate these issues. And these mines exist all over the West. And I think this is a really good opportunity for a state like New Mexico to start to allow individuals, private organizations to mitigate these problems on a mine-by-mine basis. This will happen again if it's not mitigated. And you know Cement Creek example is just one of hundreds of examples. So there are proactive ways to do this. We just need to allow people, from a liability standpoint and a cost standpoint, to start to mitigate these issues and take care of them. Because look at the costs that are associated. It is not necessarily the EPA's fault. It's that there is a situation here, and they need to be mitigated and they need to be mitigated on an individual basis. So I think these are ways that we can address these problems and avoid them in the future if we can mitigate these mines. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: It's a law school exam question. Who is liable and who pays?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes, I was going to say which Department would have jurisdiction over that and I think it is definitely not Game and Fish. It would be (indiscernible) Environmental Department, I am not sure, State Land Office, some of those.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: State Land Office? OK.

[Laughter]

MALE SPEAKER: Looks like the lease just went up.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Any other questions or comments? All right. Thank you. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 19: Gaining Access into Nature (GAIN), proposed rule development.** Ryan Darr.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, my support fish program manager, Erik Fry (phonetic), has been working diligently on the Committee to analyze Gaining Access into Nature and has come up with some alternatives and he is here to give the presentation.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, like Mike Sloan said, I am here to give you an update. Director Sandoval assigned a review committee to look at the GAIN program. It has been a while since it has been reviewed. We wanted to take a look at it and make sure it is meeting the goals of the original rule, just update it. I am here to just to present an update of our committee. To just give you a background, currently how we access wildlife management areas you either need a fishing, hunting license, or GAIN permit is required to access wildlife management area. Just to give you an idea, we only sold 1,100 GAIN permits last year. Comparatively, we sold over 200,000 HMAV (phonetic) stamps. So really we are not selling many GAIN licenses or permits so it is really not making much money to pay for itself to

maintain those wildlife areas. Our approach currently is that the wildlife management areas are closed unless otherwise open. So we've taken a really restricted approach to our wildlife management areas. The activities aren't really consistent so it makes it confusing for the public and also makes it hard to enforce for officers. So, just real quickly, the Committee goal is basically we want to get back to getting public in the outdoors. And that is what the statute intended when they first formed it. So, our Committee's approach, we took 2 side boards when we began looking at how we access wildlife areas. And the first one, we consulted with several experts within the Department. We wanted to make sure that whatever access we propose doesn't negatively impact our wildlife, our cultural resources. And what we did, we looked at, we identified, or had the experts identify important wildlife populations, areas or times. And then the second part, the other sideboard we used, we want to make sure that whatever we propose doesn't violate the original purpose of the property. And what that is, most of these properties are bought with Federal Aid money and with that we bought them for, there's a purpose. For example, we have several waterfowl winter resting areas so we want to make sure, we're not going to allow a jet boat race in the middle of December on one of our waterfowl resting areas. And we took the approach that these wildlife areas are going to be open unless otherwise closed. We want people to use them. We also are attempting to simplify the rules and make them consistent as possible. We do have a few areas that are going to have special closures for stuff like the Rio Chama deer closure; we still think that's important. But we are going to try to make them as consistent as possible. We came up with about 12 or 13 general rules that we can apply to all the wildlife areas. Here are just a few examples. There are other things, like no driving off-road, campfires have to be contained, that kind of stuff. But one of the things we are trying to do, and a couple of notes in here, like the camping will be allowed on a couple of areas and want to

be sure it's consistent with state parks and the Forest Service, the 14-day limit. We also wanted to keep it consistent with our State Land Access Lease. If there is a closure, you can access it for scouting 7 days before, so trying to make everything as consistent as possible so it's easy for the public to understand. And then, lastly, one thing I wanted to point out, the Director still maintains the authority to close lands or allow certain activities. So, as far as permitting, as I mentioned earlier, right now you have to have a hunting license, a fishing license, or a GAIN permit. But one of the things we would like to propose or one of the things we are looking at is to access it is that somebody in the group will have to have either a hunting license, a fishing license or a HMAV (phonetic) stamp. And what that is, you know we have a hard time recruiting new anglers and hunters and if there is a group there, and really a family, if you have a family there and Mom or Dad are not participating in fishing but they are there and the kids are there fishing, they are there supporting those individuals, why not, I mean why really hammer on everybody has to have a game permit. I think you will discourage them from coming. We want to encourage people to use these. So that's a quick overview of what the Committee is looking at, and I'll entertain any questions.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible) and I thought that's a great idea to involve via families, one person needs in the group to be there like, why persecute everybody if a child or somebody doesn't have one. I think it's great.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, the only other thing I did forget to mention is, we would like to showcase some of these wildlife areas, habitat management, you know to really pick 2 or 3 and really showcase them and encourage people to come and use them.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Very good. It's a process. It is a process. So when you say you want to unify the rules, there is a different set of rules for almost every WMA, right.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct, we do have. Right now there are currently several different allowed activities for each one of those. We took a different approach and did build a few rules, as long as they are not violating those rules, go use those wildlife management areas. Now there will be a few special closures just because of original purpose. You know they will still have to have closures during our waterfowl winter areas, the Rio Chalma deer closure to protect those deer, a few like the Elliott Barker (phonetic) Wildlife Area that the adjacent (indiscernible) unit has a (indiscernible) so we will have probably similar closures of that. But we are really going to try to simplify that and be as consistent as possible.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Then I assume part of this working group, Colonel Griego or one of his staff is part of that as well?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, that is correct. The Committee is made up of representatives from all the divisions including law enforcement divisions.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Good. Any other questions or comments? My Commissioners are dropping like flies. Maybe they're hungry. Thank you. Anything else on this one. I don't think I've got any public comment cards on it this. **AGENDA ITEM NO. 20: Proposed amendments to the aquatic invasive species rule.** James Dominguez. Welcome.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you for having me back. I think the last time we spoke was in May, in the Farmington meeting. So, Commissioners, Chairman, and Director Sandoval, thank you. Just a quick overview and review of aquatic invasive species, a quick overview. We are going to primarily speak about zebra and Quagga mussels. But there are a whole slew of AIS issues that we need to be concerned about. So some of the activities we are doing encompasses those preventions to keep these critters out of our state. From this map, you can see zebra and Quagga mussels are seen throughout the eastern part of the United States. I think, Commissioner Montoya, you asked at one point why they hadn't invaded the Florida panhandle and some of that area. And the information I found is, it's based on calcium levels or at least that's what they believe. So hopefully that will continue to stay free of mussels but we'll see. I did circle 2 areas. The smallest circle is Lake Powell (phonetic) and the larger circle is for Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. My personal opinion is that these are our biggest risks to New Mexico water bodies. A lot of water bodies are positive in these states, especially that eastern side. And they don't have current inspection or decontamination programs in place. So boaters are free to move around the country and in their state and potentially spread. They do rely on education, outreach, and compliance among the boaters. But out-of-state boaters can definitely be our biggest risk right. Lake Powell (phonetic) even though it is one water body there, it gets about 1.8 million visitors a year. So the threat is there, and we do know, we have a lot of boaters who run back and forth between Navaho and Lake Powell (phonetic) regularly. So, update on what we did this last year. We did a lot of education outreach, going to our outdoor events, got into some of the schools, and then tried to really get involved with the social media side, Facebook and website development. We also got on some of our highway billboards and did some TV interviews to again just keep the AIS word out in public. We did a lot of early detection monitoring and will

continue that for the next couple of months and then we will start up again in the spring. And then, primarily what we did was inspections and decontaminations at Navaho and Ute Lakes. We inspected about 9500 watercraft during the busy part of the season, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. I did this Conchas (phonetic) and Elephant Butte. While we didn't spend a lot of time there, we did decontaminate a few boats there that were coming in that we got worried about. And then Lake Farmington is on there because, as I mentioned at our previous meeting, Lake Farmington is now open to boaters and the City of Farmington is running their inspection with the help of New Mexico Game and Fish. I believe they are up to about 1300 inspections so the usage there has been of benefit to that community. I put these maps on there just to give you an idea of where our boaters are coming from. So, of 9500 boats that we looked at, you can see that they come from all over the country. If you had asked me 2 years ago did we get boats from Vermont or New York, I'd have said you're crazy, they don't come this far to New Mexico just to boat. But they do, maybe not often, but they are here. Out-of-state boats with those previous maps where there are zebra and Quagga mussels, the risk is there for these out-of-state boats to bring infestation to our state. You can even see at Ute Lake we had a boat from Alaska. I think in the data base he was there a couple of days out of the whole summer. So it is definitely a big risk. The next part is just wanting to look at our current rules. They were put in place in 2009 when zebra and Quagga mussels were making their way west. And while they were put together with a whole lot of thought, it's time to look at them again and see if we can solidify our AIS program. The first thing I'm looking at is clarifying some of our decontamination protocols. We have some language in there but we don't ever state how we do this. We want to put it in there, wording, so everybody up front it is known what we are doing. It is using hot water, and we are complying and following the same protocols that other states are using. So it leads to reciprocity

with other states. The expansion of options for red warning tags, the wording in there talks more about issuing it to the person or sticking it to the boat in person. I would like to expand that to e-mail it to the person or provide it by U.S. Mail because a lot of these boats we hear about coming to New Mexico we are getting calls: it's a houseboat that's leaving Lake Powell (phonetic) and we want to make sure that owner, that transport company, knows what we are expecting before they even get to the state line so there are no questions, no misunderstanding. So I can e-mail them, this red warning tag is in their possession and then they can start working with us directly to get their boat decontaminated. The last part has several steps to it, or several parts. It is putting in an inspection and decontamination program into our current rules. We don't really have anything that directly talks about inspection and decontamination. It is in our statute but not in our rules. First one I'd like to bring up is requiring that all watercraft owners stop at an established inspection station. Up to now, most people do but there is always this belief that it is voluntary. So there are a few that try to drive by. I instruct our inspectors not to lay down in the street, they are not to go to that extreme. But we want people to know that if we are checking boats we want them to stop and comply. As I mentioned with the maps that I've shown, out-of-state boats are our biggest risk. So I think having mandatory inspections for out-of-state boats is a big need and will further reduce that risk of zebra and Quagga mussel infestation. Advance notice for the transport of conveyances. These are the large houseboats, cabin cruisers, things of that nature, that end up at Lake Havasu (phonetic) for a year or two years or maybe six months. We want to know that they are coming in. In the past, there was always this scramble to get people on board at the ramp, stop this boat, don't let it launch. If they are required to call us ahead of time, we can start making arrangements. It is a benefit to do this, to the boater, to the transport company, because everybody knows what steps are going to be needed and an

approximate time frame. So that will be of benefit to the AIS program. The initiation of an inspection and decontamination seal program is actually one the watercraft owners, the boaters that we speak with, they want one of these seal programs. And what it is, is the ability to, on your way out of a reservoir, ask to be cleaned, drained, and dried to show that you have complied with doing the best possible actions to make sure you are not transporting water. At that point, we can put what we call a wire seal from the boat to the trailer and it just shows that this boat hasn't been launched since we last checked it. It's a real benefit to those boaters that return to the same reservoir time after time. And, like I said, it's being asked for by the public and it'll help with reciprocity with other states because states like Colorado and Wyoming on are on board with these kinds of seals so we could then start speaking with them directly to accept those seals as well. And then the last one is to require all watercraft owners to pull the plug. In the state of Arizona, if you transport a boat in the state of Arizona, your plug needs to be pulled out of your boat as you're on the highways. I think it is a great idea because it's just one more step in working towards that clean, drain, and dry effort that the boat owners should be performing. And then, you know, there is no misunderstanding when I cross one state line to the next, do I have to do it. It's already known that New Mexico is doing it, Arizona is doing it, let's just keep it out of the boat. One thing I failed to mention on some of our inspections from this past year is, out-of-state boats at Ute Lake account for about 40 percent of our total boaters, primarily from Texas. I think that number out of the 44 percent is roughly 38 percent Texas boaters. At Navaho, it is slightly less, I believe 16% are out-of-state boaters. But nonetheless, 16 percent is still quite high. So again, the out-of-state risk is there if we are not checking all these boats that come into the state. And with that, I believe I'll just sit down and quit.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: This looks like a lot of work. Do you have the personnel to get the job done?

GUEST SPEAKER: That's a great question.

(Laughter).

FEMALE SPEAKER: That's the same one I had.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Oh, I'm happy to give you all the tools you think you need, but you've got to be able to use them.

GUEST SPEAKER: No. The short answer is no. But I think what this provides us is the opportunity to reach out to the public and say, it's not just Game and Fish's responsibility to do this. It's not just the other agencies involved to do this. It is a cooperative effort. So it's going to be somewhat on the boat owners to seek out those inspectors. I think what it also provides us is a little more teeth in our rules so I can go out and reach out to departments, agencies, NGO's, and say look, we're ready to do this, where can you guys help us. Up to now, everybody kind of wants to do something but nobody is really ready to jump.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, ultimately, you'll need more people? I would do the best job possible.

GUEST SPEAKER: (indiscernible), Mr. Chairman. I think there may also be an option to have, you know, the boat repair shop become an inspector and charge people whatever fee they deem appropriate where we could do it for free but it is going to be on our schedule. The boat (indiscernible) can do it for a fee and on their schedule so there may be some opportunities to do that as we move forward.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: And then what is the penalty for not following the new rules, the ones that you're proposing.

GUEST SPEAKER: I don't have any new penalties but our current rules have . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So it would tie into existing penalties.

GUEST SPEAKER: Correct, correct. And most of it, with most of what the AIS program is about, it's not so much penalizing people. We want to gain compliance. It's not to (indiscernible, background) more or less.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Right. Is there anything else on your wish list that didn't make it that you're quote-unquote too afraid to put on a slide. Is there any other tool that you want, because I feel like we are going to get one good shot at doing this, perhaps not the last. I mean is there anything else on your wish list.

GUEST SPEAKER: That's a tough question. It's a big wish list. I'm probably not prepared to answer that just yet.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well, if you've got any more, certainly float them out there before, when is our final action on this?

GUEST SPEAKER: I don't think we . . . go ahead.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We haven't developed specific rules?

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, there are not specific, these are beginning, the very first step in this, so we are not necessarily looking for November or a specific date. It is just we are starting the process now.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Any questions, comments?

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: James, I apologize for missing the first part of your presentation but I had the opportunity to meet James and discuss with him a little bit in Farmington. Looks like you've just come leaps and bounds since then, since just earlier this year. But I want to echo what the Chairman says. I think this is a form, you know we are keeping them out of New Mexico, and this battle is going to be won being proactive not being reactive. So as you move forward with the process of what you're going to need and how it is going to look, etc., I don't know if it's unlimited but I think we can throw some resources at it. Just don't be afraid to ask.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you.

MALE SPEAKER: Because this is highly important, understanding—what I understand—what other states have gone through, the financial results of having these things in their water systems is huge. And you know, some of the municipalities, Farmington being the first that recognized that, and I'm hoping other municipalities in New Mexico are recognizing the same thing and coming on board. I think this is high on the priority list. And thank you for what you've done.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I am normally not for let's figure out another area that the government can regulate unless there is a very good reason to do so. And if we are going to do so, then it needs to be the least restrictive means and especially to the economy to people being able to comply with it and then what are the penalties for violation. Are we talking just simple

assessment or what are we talking about. Your suggestion about the local repair shop or somebody being able to, I think there should be a section in your proposed draft where some vendor or somebody can apply and get a certification from your Division that they are an approved person, an approved inspector and if they want to charge fees to do it that's fine. But there should be, if we're going to have these regulations, I want to see a process to make it easier on someone to just go down and get one of these certifications however often or when they need to on their schedule. And I'd like to just consider lots of those, you know, impacts, that we can do to make it better. He said we are going to have some reciprocity, really think into that as these out-of-staters are coming here, their seals or whatever you were discussing, we just want to make it easy to comply and be clean, drain, and dry. So we want, I guess that's my concern, if we are going to regulate an area, there should be a good reason to do it, and if we are we should keep in mind the economic and other potential impacts of what we are doing. So I'd like just some specific, next time it comes in front of us, some ways to minimize, you know, those impacts. Because I think it will make it successful. If it's easy to comply with and everyone's going to, then you can go down and comply.

MALE SPEAKER: Right.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think it only benefits the program.

GUEST SPEAKER: And the wire seal, Chairman and Commissioners, the wire seal is a voluntary program so the idea being as they left the lake they would stop on their time, and our inspectors would help them complete this clean, drain, and dry. If they didn't get it because of a thunderstorm, or kids are running late for something, it just means that a full inspection has to take place the next time they return. My guess is most people are going to want this seal because

it does make life easier, so even a lot of out-of-state folks will be receiving these because of these 40 percent that are showing up at Ute Lake regularly, they're there time after time, they are close to Ute Lake, that's where they want to recreate so they are going to learn to get these seals and it helps our inspectors as well because now they know where that boat has been since the last time it was launched.

FEMALE SPEAKER: So, what about the locals that just want to go out there every single weekend, and have to get an inspection every single week? I mean, those are some of the things we need to think about, the 60 percent of the people that are there, too.

MALE SPEAKER: Right.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Because like you said, it is the out-of-staters that we are primarily concerned with so I'd like to see the rule drafted to address that primary concern.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ryan, I think the intent is that they would get that seal and they would probably be waived through or checked to make sure that the seal is there, and wouldn't actually have to go through an inspection. So, it would just be a matter of them remembering when they got off the lake to make sure they got a seal. And the other issue I wanted to address, there is currently a mechanism in statute for us, for the Director to designate other folks as trained inspectors, and James has the training to give that training. So we have that. We can formalize it in rule, though.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes, that would be great. And advertise, . . .

MALE SPEAKER: And that's how we went through the process with the City of Farmington. We trained them, they follow our rules, so we are doing everything the same way.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Great.

MALE SPEAKER: So, it works out.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: You have some work to do.

GUEST SPEAKER: I have some work to do.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, how often does this working group, is this a working group that you've got, or is it just you?

GUEST SPEAKER: I'm the working group. I do work with other state coordinators that (indiscernible, background noise) working groups.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. I'm sure the Director will give you more people if you need some assistance. Because it seems like you've got a law enforcement aspect to it, you've got inspections, looks like there are a lot of cooks in the kitchen.

MALE SPEAKER: All it takes is one contaminated . . .

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Well, and then the State Legislature and other people will holler at us and say, why didn't you do this? So, they're going to blame us one way or another, and hopefully we're far enough ahead of the curve here that we avoid any problems. Any other questions or comments? Thank you.

GUEST SPEAKER: Thank you.

MALE SPEAKER: Keep truckin'.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: **AGENDA ITEM NO. 21: Potential property acquisitions in areas of Albuquerque, Roswell, and Farmington, New Mexico.** Presented by Chris Chadwick.

GUEST SPEAKER: OK, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. Good afternoon. As you mentioned today, I will be talking about some potential land acquisitions in the Albuquerque, Farmington, and Roswell areas. By way of background, the Department is seeking Commission approval to begin the process of purchasing land for the following purposes. We would like to secure land to gain access to a commission-owned property commonly referred to as the Rutherford tract located in the San Juan, along the San Juan River in Farmington. We would also like to build 2 new area offices, one in the Albuquerque area, the other in Roswell. Originally purchased in 1986, the Rutherford was intended to provide access for fishing and hunting along the San Juan and consists of approximately 82 acres. However, since its original purchase date, the Department has become aware that it lacks good public access. The Department was recently approached by an adjacent landowner who has offered the Department the opportunity to acquire access through is property. This project could also potentially include purchase of up to 30 acres that could be used for parking access or other facilities. The purchase of this easement would allow hunters and anglers to take advantage of opportunities to hunt and fish along the San Juan. It would also involve obtaining a Yellow Book appraisal and that's what would predicate the actual purchase price. As I mentioned also earlier, it is located east of Farmington. The access point, as you can see in the little yellow line, would actually be a strip where you would have vehicle access from the county road. It is on the south side of the San Juan River. And then the yellow part that is in hatch marks on the slide, that would be the 30 acres that would be under consideration for parking. I have since, during the process of preparation for this presentation, I have spoken to some people including Commissioner Espinoza who pointed out that that area

along the San Juan River does have a lot of rushy vegetation. So any kind of purchase price would require some habitat use in order to make it more accessible for hunting or fishing and recreation. It was also pointed out to me that the fishing opportunities may be somewhat limited which I think the Commission would need to discuss because of its location along the San Juan River. It is certainly not an area that is the highest quality fishing waters along that stretch of the river. Moving forward to Department area offices, as this slide indicates, this Department would like to acquire properties in Roswell and Albuquerque that include the following amenities or characteristics. We would like areas that are easily accessible to the public, than contain enough land to support a larger facility to better serve our staff and our public, enough space to accommodate a variety of educational opportunities such OHV training, archery, and other skills-based outdoor training. We would also like to have larger conference rooms to host meetings and be able to provide these educational indoor opportunities to our public. In effect we would like to create a destination location that could potentially attract not only wildlife but create opportunities for habitat improvements to increase use by small game animals, migratory birds and water fowl. If possible, if we could locate a property that would offer fishing access, that would be ideal as well. Currently, our lease in our Roswell office is set to expire on July 1, 2017. We are initiating a request for proposal to seeking a 3-year lease with two 1-year options to renew. We believe that will give us enough time to acquire property and to build, given our pending Commission approval. Our annual lease rate is approximately \$76,000.00. however, this office lacks adequate parking and spaces for equipment. The Department has, in fact, leased from an adjacent property owner, additional space to park trailers, vehicles, that sort of thing, not connected directly to this property we are currently leasing. The office also contains a small conference room and the size of it along with the office again makes it a little bit difficult to best

serve our public. In our FY 2017 budget request, we did include money to construct an office building there in the Roswell area. As we move forward in preparation for this meeting, the Department has identified a property in Roswell, in the Roswell area. However, just last week we discovered there are some issues with this property. Although it is a 240 acre parcel, most of the property is, unfortunately, located within a flood plain. Only 68 acres of it are outside the flood plain. And of those 68 acres, unfortunately all limestone subsurface. Speaking with our facilities manager, that is going to create enormous cost . . .

MALE SPEAKER: Dynamite.

GUEST SPEAKER: To construct an adequate office space there. In fact, his estimate is that it would be somewhere in the neighborhood of 13 to 15 million dollars to complete the project.

MALE SPEAKER: (indiscernible)..

GUEST SPEAKER: So, having said that, in this presentation, we are not recommending that we move forward with acquiring that property. However, it was on the agenda and I wanted to let you know what we discovered, to keep the Commission informed. However, in the northwest area, the Department—let me give you some background for the northwest area, Albuquerque office. Our current lease was recently extended for 5 years. Annual rent is approximately \$168,000.00. Unfortunately the parking and the space for storage of equipment is also limited. Recently, a school, a couple of years ago a school moved in next door and acquired a building adjacent to ours. This has created some traffic congestion, especially in the morning and the afternoon. And we also have seen several programs within that office that have grown, particularly in our outdoor or within our information/education section and within field operations. Because of that, we feel that that facility, though serviceable for the next 5 years,

moving forward, we do want to move forward and acquire property on our own. We think it would be a wiser use for sportsmen's dollars and in addition to that it would offer, hopefully meet the amenities or the characteristics I described for you previously. We have, in preparation for this possibility, we have obtained legislative, or we have received appropriation or approval of 6 million in capital outlay for this building development and the Department will be eligible to leverage additional funds through its Federal aid assistance. As we move forward, the Department has identified a potential property in the Albuquerque area that appears to meet all the criteria previously discussed. The Department, however, believes that any further deliberation on this, and open meeting at this time, could have a detrimental effect on the position of the Department in negotiations for this property. Therefore, the Department is recommending an open session discussion be postponed to a future Commission date. As we move forward, however, the Department is seeking Commission approval to initiate the process to secure and acquire property for an Albuquerque office, for an office in the Albuquerque area. And with that, I am open for any questions or comments or discussion.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, how many properties, then today just one or two? And the Farmington?

GUEST SPEAKER: We are looking, the Department is not recommending the Roswell property that was under consideration. However, we would like to move forward with the process and receive Commission approval to move forward.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Albuquerque and Farmington?

GUEST SPEAKER: Yes. But Albuquerque we'd like to move forward and then the Rutherford I think that with discussion, the Department is interested in acquiring that. However, that is obviously up to the Commission.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, the approval today is just to go forward. It's not to finalize anything?

GUEST SPEAKER: No. Any final decisions would have to come before the Commission process.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. I can live with that. Go ahead.

MALE SPEAKER: Potential Federal aid assistance on the Albuquerque office?

GUEST SPEAKER: We think that we could probably get a 50-50 match or a 60-40 match. So, with our 6 Million, we think we could leverage, and it would depend on further research, but early discussions indicate we could leverage probably another 7 Million from that in addition.

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman. (indiscernible) comment.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: I do want to recognize, and I appreciate your efforts to look at the global view, you know, rather than just, for multi-purpose uses, I think that's great. Huge conference rooms possibly a place where we can hold Game Commission meeting, the education behind that as well.

MALE SPEAKER: That would be cool, a meeting in our own facility.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Ramos, that is precisely what we are looking at. We would like to create area offices that are more than just an administration building but a place where our clients, our customer, our young people can go and they can learn more about the wildlife resources and all those services and the functions of the Department of Game and Fish provided to New Mexico.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'd also suggest that, just as we use other government or museum facilities, that we make our facility available to people if we get something that's sufficient, because we can't use it 100 percent of the time.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, we do, my experience, you know, having worked out of the Albuquerque office and actually managed it for some time, many of our conservation partners do use those facilities outside of regular business hours. The Rocky Mountain Owl, Wild Turkey Federation, and others. So any facility we develop would be for benefit to the local community sportsmen without a doubt.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Great. Any other questions?

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Had a discussion with Chris on the Rutherford property and gave him a couple of concerns and I'd like to recommend that when you bring that proposal back to us you include this as one of them is bosque, and it has been a bosque for a number of years, that's been undeveloped and so it is really overgrown and we did have a fire in there a few years ago, so now we've got a bunch of dead trees which create a falling hazard. So I want to, when

you do that, give us an assessment of what it's going to cost to develop that property, and give us some kind of ratio of what benefit is because you mentioned fishing. That is a dead portion of the river. I think Mike can attest to that. There really isn't any fish in that portion of the river. Right now, we had some recent rains in there. The Largo runs full (indiscernible) and it looks like chocolate milk, and is that consistency as well. So there are no fish that really live there, so there's not really a fishing opportunity like we had at the (indiscernible). So, it's kind of limited to the waterfowl and I know we have turkeys in that area because I've seen them. So I want to, before I say let's move forward on acquisition of 30 acres, you know is there really a benefit for our sportsmen and how many sportsmen can we really fit into that area because we are literally looking at the north side; the south side is still going to be inaccessible, is that correct?

GUEST SPEAKER: Actually, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, the access would come in from the south side, from the county road. But the north portion of that, and we can go back to this slide, the property spans both sides of the San Juan. So you'd come in on the south side.

MALE SPEAKER: So, go back to that slide.

GUEST SPEAKER: So, at county road, I can't see it, it's 5 . . .

MALE SPEAKER: Because on the bottom of the slide, that's 64, is it not? Or . . .

GUEST SPEAKER: No, that's the county road, 64 is actually located above the San Juan.

MALE SPEAKER: It's actually 41-90 (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Espinoza, again this is on the agenda for discussion within our closed executive session. I do have some more information on that. But

that's my understanding of the lay of the land. If I'm incorrect, then certainly you can correct me but I believe that's how it's set up.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I think what he's saying, less is more.

MALE SPEAKER: OK. But again, just for information (indiscernible).

GUEST SPEAKER: Absolutely.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Commissioner Espinoza, just as a point, former Deputy Dan Brooks and I went out and visited. We were the unwitting recipient of a whole bunch of habitat work on there. The landowner thought it was his property and went in and did quite a bit of restoration work unbeknownst to us. So we worked through that with him, but I appreciate your thought very much on it being a bosque and their being some concerns about there being overgrowth in that area. But he did give us a gift of having cleared out that area. So it is cleaned up in our particular area on the south side, not on the north side.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: I'm looking at the suggested motion and it asks the Chairman and Director to negotiate the purchase of these properties on behalf of the entire Commission. Is that, will it come back in front of the Commission for full approval or is this the only opportunity the Commission gets on the Albuquerque, Roswell, and Rutherford properties?

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, absolutely any final decision would come before the entire Commission in an open meeting. What we are looking at now is a discussion item going into closed executive and then of course we are looking for Commission approval to move forward with some of these acquisitions to make those expenditures and do the research, the due

diligence, and what is necessary to get us to that point so that we could come before the Commission with some viable options that could be voted on by the entire body.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: So, let's see. The second portion of the motion should read, then, "to negotiate a purchase agreement for these properties on behalf of the entire Commission". That way, it would come in front of us again for the final approval. While I appreciate doing the dirty work, I don't want to make all the decisions, so I think it is important to get those kinds of decisions back in front of all of us again. So does somebody want to make that?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Sure, I'll give it a try. Mr. Chairman, I move the Commission instruct the Department to investigate and initiate discussions to acquire properties for the purpose of development of area offices in Albuquerque and Roswell, and to initiate the process of acquiring adjacent land to gain access for the Rutherford property along the San Juan River, also to negotiate and purchase agreement allowing the Chairman and the Director to negotiate the purchase of these properties on behalf of the entire Commission.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Second?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All right. So when do you expect we will see this again?

GUEST SPEAKER: Very shortly.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: If you can't tell, I like to know when I'm going to hear these things again so I can start working on my own internal calendar.

FEMALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, we are hoping to have the Albuquerque and Roswell in front of you in November.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: OK. Thank you. Somebody needs to read the blurb.

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Mr. Chairman, I move to adjourn into Executive Session closed to the public, to discuss the acquisition of real property located in Bernalillo County as authorized by the real property discussion exception Section 10.15.1 (H) (8) and pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7) on matters subject to the attorney-client privilege relating to threatened or pending litigation (Docket No. 1:15-CV-00252-EGS) in which the Commission and/or Department is or may become a participant.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Director, roll call vote.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Espinoza?

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Chairman Kienzle?

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Vice Chairman Montoya?

VICE CHAIRMAN MONTROYA: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ramos?

COMMISSIONER RAMOS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ricklefs?

COMMISSIONER RICKLEFS: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Ryan?

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: Commissioner Salopek?

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: Yes.

DIRECTOR SANDOVAL: For the audience, we will actually be going across the rooms, across the hall excuse me, so you all can stay here.

(Return from Executive Session)

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Public, during the Executive Session, the Commission discussed only those matters specified in its motion to adjourn and took no action as to any matter. Is there any further discussion or comment on any of the potential property acquisitions?

MALE SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, sir.

MALE SPEAKER: I move to amend the previous motion made for Agenda Item No. 21 regarding the potential purchase of the Albuquerque property. I move to allow the Chairman and the Director to finalize the purchase agreement for the Albuquerque property as discussed in Executive Session today.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Can I get a second?

MALE SPEAKER: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Are there any questions or comments? OK. Can I get a vote?

MALE SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: The Aye's have it.

MALE SPEAKER: You're getting tired, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, lost a step.

FEMALE SPEAKER: I think you have all of the cards in front of you.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Yes, I do. Mr. Arserio (phonetic) is not here, I know that. Richard Craft (phonetic), are you here? Garrett, you're it.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, Garrett VeneKlasen, New Mexico Wildlife Federation. We again kindly request that the Commission open the Elk Rule and also to form and facilitate a fair and balanced task force of stakeholders to be able to start to discuss changes in the Elk Rule. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: Thank you. Commissioners, any further questions or comments? I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER SALOPEK: So moved.

COMMISSIONER ESPINOZA: Second.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: All in favor?

ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KIENZLE: We are adjourned.

In Re:

Game Commission Hearing

C E R T I F I C A T E

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APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

Embassy Suites

1000 Woodward Place NE

Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



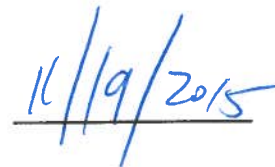
Alexandra Sandoval, Director and Secretary



Date



Paul M. Kienzle III, Chairman



Date

New Mexico State Game Commission

AS/scd