

New Mexico State Game Commission New Mexico
Department of Game and Fish
Virtual Meeting Notes
October 16, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Meeting Called to Order 09:03:38 AM (00:00:25)

Called to order by Chairwoman Salazar Hickey

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call 09:04:43 AM (00:01:30)

All present: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Agenda (Action Item) 09:05:04 AM (00:01:51)

Motion by: Commissioner Vesbach moved to add a General Public Comment session between items 5 and 6.

Seconded by: Commissioner Soules

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Consent Agenda (Action Item) 09:09:32 AM (00:05:51)

A. Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2020, Virtual meeting

B. Approval of Depredation and Nuisance Abatement Report

C. Approval of Special Hunts Draw Deadline Dates

February 10, 2021 - Bear and turkey draw permits (Draw 1)

March 17, 2021 - Deer, elk, pronghorn, oryx, ibex, Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep, and javelina draw licenses (Draw 2)

August 18, 2021 – Pheasant and sandhill crane draw permits (Draw 3)

Motion by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry moved to approve consent items.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lopez

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Director's Report (Discussion) 09:09:28 AM (00:06:15)

Director Michael Sloane presented on the Department's accomplishments that included:

- Work continues from the Fisheries Management Division on restoring about 120 miles of stream for Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout restoration on the Rio Chama. The project started in 2002 and the Department is on track to stock fish in 2021.
- Bird Die-off – Several staff are working on the die-off, but at this time, there is not a report from the lab. The Department will provide more information at the next commission meeting.
- Officers are on patrol as hunting seasons are well underway. There have been many poaching cases and officers are working on several large cases.
- The 2021 WAFWA winter meeting will be held virtually. The status of the summer meeting is still unclear.
- The hearing results from the Legislative Finance Committee meeting will be coming later in October.
- Online engagement continues with the launch of the Bass Challenge and the Ladies' Social

Hour.

- Social Media Campaigns – #NationalBookMonth and #IamFairChase.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM: General Public Comment 09:17:51 AM (00:14:51)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Department's Revocation Process 09:32:06 AM (00:28:53)

A. Discussion

B. Action Item

Colonel Robert Griego presented the Department's revocations, or suspensions, that are carried out pursuant to the Parental Responsibility Act, and those who have failed to pay a penalty assessment citation within 30 days, or who failed to appear in court on a wildlife citation and the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.

Motion by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry moved to for five individuals listed in group 3 to be revoked for 10 years.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lopez

Approved: Roll call vote – Passes: Approved: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach; Disapproved: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey

Motion by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry moved to pass groups 1 and 2 as presented by the Department.

Seconded by: Commissioner Soules

Approved: Roll call vote – Unanimously: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Subsequent Discussion on the Hunter Education Rule (Discussion)

10:55:43 AM (01:38:08)

Lance Cherry presented the Department's proposed changes to the Hunter Education Rule 19.36.3 NMAC to allow first-time youth hunters, eight years of age and older, the ability to hunt small game, turkey, javelina, deer and pronghorn antelope for two license years in the Department's Mentored-Youth Hunting (MY) Program. The proposed age rollback would more effectively align with the minimum age requirement of 10 for online hunter education certification and allow hunting opportunities for pronghorn antelope. It would also add a requirement for mentors to complete an abbreviated hunter training course comprised of written lessons and testing and current registration in the Department's mentored-youth program or proof of New Mexico hunter training course or a hunter training course of another state which is approved by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and change the rule from permanent to a four-year cycle, April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Subsequent Discussion on the Public Land User Stamp Rule (Discussion)

12:47:38 PM (03:12:20)

Stewart Liley Presented the Department's proposed changes to the Habitat Stamp Program rule (19.34.6 NMAC) based on public comment and coordination with the federal partners from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). Proposed changes include a reauthorization of the Rule for an additional ten years, a reduction in the number of appointed Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC), and the removal of redundancies in the planning process.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Approval of the Director's Final Biennial Review of WCA Species (Action Item) 02:03:51 AM (04:28:33)

Matt Wunder presented the Department's request that the Commission approve the 2020 Biennial Review of state-listed threatened or endangered species pursuant to the Wildlife Conservation Act (17-2-40 NMSA 1978). The sole change recommended in any species' status is an uplisting from threatened to endangered for narrow-headed gartersnake.

Motion by: Commissioner Lopez moved to approve the 2020 Biennial Review of state-listed threatened or endangered species.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bates

Approved: Roll call vote – Passed: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.
Absent: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Draft Recovery Plan for Least Shrew (Discussion) 02:09:36 AM (04:34:18)

Stewart Liley presented the Department's draft Recovery Plan for the least shrew pursuant to the Wildlife Conservation Act 17-2-40.1 (NMSA 1978).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Subsequent Discussion on the Importation of Live Non-Domestic Animals, Birds and Fish Rule (Discussion) 02:26:53 PM (04:48:11)

Kirk Patten presented an overview of proposed amendments to the Importation of Live Non-Domestic Animals, Birds and Fish Rule (19.35.7 NMAC). This presentation will serve to open the rule for Game Commission consideration of amendments. Proposals include:

- Removing the requirement for Game Commission review for any permit application for the importation of carnivores into New Mexico.
- Removing the requirement for fish hatchery renovation or depopulation upon a positive finding of Bacterial Kidney Disease.
- Clarifying language for whirling disease testing at different fish ages.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Initiation of the Hunting and Fishing Licenses and Application Rule (Discussion) 02:45:07 PM (05:06:25)

Chad Nelson presented the Department's proposed amendments to the Commission to define eligibility for returning Iraq/Afghanistan veteran oryx draw licenses.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: General Public Comments 03:13:42 PM (05:35:00)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Closed Executive Session 03:24:02 PM (05:45:20)

Motion: The State Game Commission voted to adjourn into Executive Session closed to the public; pursuant to 10-15-1(H)(2) NMSA 1978, to discuss limited personnel matters relating to complaints and discipline; pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, to discuss property acquisition; and pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(7) NMSA 1978, to discuss matters subject to attorney-client privilege relating to threatened or pending litigation.

Motion by: Commissioner Vesbach moved to adjourn into Executive Session closed to the public pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(8) NMSA 1978, to discuss property acquisition.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bates

Approved: Roll call vote – Passed: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.
Absent: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Return from Executive Session 04:51:56 PM (05:49:25)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Adjourn at 4:52:24 PM (05:49:54)

Motion by: Commissioner Bates moved to adjourn.

Seconded by: Commissioner Vesbach

Approved: Roll call vote – Passed: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Bates, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules and Commissioner Vesbach.


Absent: Chairwoman Salazar Hickey.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION

October 16, 2020

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

Michael B. Sloane

 Digitally signed by Michael B. Sloane
Date: 2021.05.19 10:10:01 -06'00'

Michael B. Sloane

Date

Sharon Salazar Hickey

05/18/2021

Sharon Salazar Hickey, Chair

Date

New Mexico State Game Commission

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