

MINUTES - NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION
Friday, October 25, 2019
Civic Center Exhibition Hall - Farmington, NM 87401

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Meeting Called to Order

Called to order by Chairwoman Prukop at 9:03 AM.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call

Present: Chairwoman Prukop, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of Agenda

Motion by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry to approve the agenda as presented.

Seconded by: Commissioner Cramer.

Approved: Unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Introduction of Guests

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Consent Agenda Itmes

Motion by: Commissioner Vesbach to accept the minutes as presented.

Seconded by: Commissioner Soules.

Approved: Unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Workshop - Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Efforts – Presented by Stewart Liley

Stewart Liley, Chief of the Wildlfie Mangement Divison, provided a presentation on the Department's habitat enhancement and restoration efforts.

There was a subsequent discussion on habitat enhancement and restoration efforts.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: General Public Comments

Chairwoman Prukop asked for the Commission's consensus approval that they put the Landowner Certification of Non-navigable Water Rule on the November Commission meeting agenda. None of the Commissioners objected.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Presentation on the Recovering America's Wildlife Act- Presented by Matt Wunder

Matt Wunder, Chief of the Ecological and Environmental Planning Division, presented an overview on the Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2019 (H.R. 3742) as introduced into the House of Representatives on July 12, 2019. The proposed legislation would provide dedicated federal

funding to states, territories and tribes to monitor, manage and protect Species of Greatest Conservation Need and their habitats as described in the State Wildlife Action Plans.

There was a subsequent discussion on the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. The Department asked the Commission for a resolution supporting the Act.

Motion by: Commissioner Lopez: "Move to authorize the Chair of the Commission to sign a resolution in support of the Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife Campaign to enact the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (H.R. 3742) which will dedicate \$1.3 billion annually to the Wildlife Conservation Restoration Program to diversify funding for and management of all wildlife."

Seconded by: Commissioner Cramer.

Approved: Unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Subsequent Discussion on the Fair Chase Rule - Presented by Stewart Liley

Stewart Liley, Chief of the Wildlife Management Division, presented on the Fair Chase Rule development. The rule would prohibit the premature release of wildlife location data collected by the Department or its contractors.

There was a subsequent discussion on the development of the Fair Chase Rule.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Fiscal Year 2019 Depredation and Nuisance Abatement Report - Presented by Stewart Liley

Stewart Liley, Chief of the Wildlife Management Division, presented on the number of wildlife complaints filed and resolved in accordance with 19.30.2 NMAC for Fiscal Year 2019.

This agenda item was required under Commission rule 19.30.2 NMAC to summarize the total number of depredation and wildlife nuisance complaints filed with, and resolved by, the Department for Fiscal Year 2019.

There was a subsequent discussion on the Depredation and Nuisance Abatement Report.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Update on the Mexican Gray Wolf program - Presented by Stewart Liley

Stewart Liley, Chief of the Wildlife Management Division, provided an update on the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program.

The Department's recommendations are as follows:

- Direct the Department to become a Cooperating Agency and sign the associated MOU.
- Authorize the Director to allow for the importation and release of pups for cross foster in New Mexico.
- Authorize the Director to allow for the importation of wolves into captive facilities in New Mexico for management purposes.

The Department asked the Commission for direction on involvement in the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program in the United States. The Department also discussed the efforts and roles the Department has played in assisting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the recovery of Mexican wolves since reintroduction and the Department's future role.

There was a subsequent discussion on the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program.

Motion by: Commissioner Soules: “Move to direct the Department to engage in the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program including becoming a signatory to the Cooperating Agencies MOU and engaging in on the ground management activities. Further, move to authorize the Director, at his discretion, to approve the importation and release of pups in New Mexico for the purpose of cross fostering to achieve genetic recovery goals. Finally, move to authorize the Director, pursuant to 19.35.7 NMAC and at his discretion, to approve the importation of Mexican gray wolves to private captive facilities in New Mexico.”

Seconded by: Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry.

Approved: Unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Discussion on the Department’s Special Draw

Stewart Liley, Chief of the Wildlife Management Division, presented on the Department’s Special Draw.

The Department sought direction from the Commission regarding the application of 17-3-16 NMSA 1978 to 2020 license draws.

There was a subsequent discussion on the Department’s Special Draw.

Motion by: Commissioner Lopez: “Move to direct the Department to allocate licenses such that residents receive a minimum of 84% of all draw licenses by hunt code, unless doing so is not possible due to a lack of resident applications. Further, move to no longer allow the application of 19.31.3(O) NMAC, Director’s authority to adjust licenses and permits.”

Seconded by: Commissioner Vesbach.

Approved: Unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: General Public Comments

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Other Business

Chairwoman Prukop said that the Commission would like to reinstate a policy, for all rule making procedures going forward, that if any member of the public wants their public comment email to be part of the official rule-making record, then it must be sent to the official rule-making email address. The current email addresses are as follows:

Trapping and Furbearer Rule:

Dgf-furbearer-rules@state.nm.us

Bear and Cougar Rule:

DGF-Bear-Cougar-Rules@state.nm.us

Chairwoman Prukop stated for clarification that for these rule makings, and for any future rule makings, in order for public comment emails to be recorded as part of the rule making record, they must be sent to the official Department rule-making email addresses.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Closed Executive Session

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.

Moved by: Commissioner Cramer.

Seconded by: Commissioner Vesbach.

Roll Call Vote – Approved: Unanimously; Chairwoman Prukop, Vice-chairwoman Salazar-Henry, Commissioner Cramer, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner Soules, Commissioner Vesbach.

After returning from closed executive session, Chairwoman Prukop made a recommendation to the Commission that in addition to putting the Landowner Certification of Non-navigable Water Rule on the agenda for the November meeting, to consider directing the Department to also open the rule at that meeting. With no objection from Commissioners, Chairwoman Prukop so directed the Director, with the consensus of the State Game Commission, to add the Landowner Certification of Non-navigable Water Rule 19.31.2.22 on the November meeting agenda and that the rule be open at that time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Adjourn at 5:22 PM

Motion by: Commissioner Lopez to adjourn.

Seconded by: Commissioner Cramer.

Approved: Unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
NEW MEXICO STATE GAME COMMISSION**

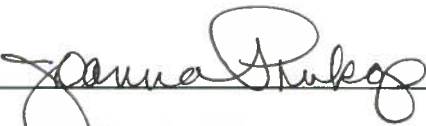
**October 25, 2019
Civic Center Exhibition Hall
200 W. Arrington St.
Farmington, NM 87401
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.**



Michael B. Sloane, Director

11/21/19

Date



**Joanna Prukop, Chair
New Mexico State Game Commission**

11/21/19

Date

MS/scd