

Minutes of the Work Session Meeting of the
Arizona Game and Fish Commission
Saturday, May 3, 2014
Yavapai Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
1015 Fair Street
Prescott, Arizona 86305

PRESENT: (Commission)

(Director's Staff)

Chairman John W. Harris
Commissioner Robert E. Mansell
Commissioner Kurt R. Davis
Commissioner Edward P. Madden
Commissioner James R. Ammons

Director Larry D. Voyles
Deputy Director Ty E. Gray
Assistant Attorney General Jim Odenkirk
Assistant Attorney General Linda Pollock

Chairman Harris called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. This meeting followed an agenda dated April 29, 2014. This meeting was an informal roundtable setting for discussion and informational purposes only. The Commission took no action at this meeting.

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2. Update on Bison Management Strategies for House Rock Wildlife Area and Raymond Wildlife Area.

Presenter: Craig McMullen, Regional Supervisor, Flagstaff

The Commission was provided updates on bison management strategies for House Rock Wildlife Area and Raymond Wildlife Area. Diane Chalfant and Martha Hahn with the Grand Canyon National Park, and Mike Williams with the Kaibab National Forest, were present and participated in discussions regarding the House Rock herd. Discussion centered around potential ideas to reduce the number of bison on the Park, including free range managing with a home range centered on House Rock, specific tags and seasons, capture corrals, and baiting. Harvesting on the Park would be the most efficient way to get the numbers down. The National Park Service is currently working on a Bison Management Plan. The big decision is the method of lethal removal of the herd on the Park. The Department and the Grand Canyon National Park could potentially work together to manage the bison numbers.

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3. Commission Policy Review Discussion.

Presenter: Jennifer Stewart, Rules and Risk Branch Chief

The Department provided an overview of current Commission Policies for discussion. Discussion included a review of the policies and developing a plan for future policy changes and/or new Commission policies. The Department will present a few policies at a time at regular Commission meetings for review and approval. Items of high interests to the Commission will be handled first and included predator management, lands, travel management and enforcement.

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1. Update on Big Game Hunting at Camp Navajo Army Depot.

Presenter: Craig McMullen, Regional Supervisor, Flagstaff

The Commission was provided an update on the big game hunting strategies at Camp Navajo Army Depot in unit 6B. Lieutenant Colonel Kim Gage, LTC John Ladd and CSM Richard Langston with the Arizona Army National Guard were present and participated in discussions. This update was primarily a report on the success of the fall hunt season at Camp Navajo thanks to Camp Navajo's assistance and cooperation. Also discussed was the updated INRMP and that it was now compliant with the Sikes Act.

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5. Review of Commission Revocation Proceedings

Presenter: Gene Elms, Law Enforcement Chief

The Department provided the Commission with a review and discussion of the revocation and civil assessment process. The presentation focused on the difference in revocation periods, the civil assessment guidelines and the reasons certain cases are presented to the Commission. The Commission was provided with handouts of Revocation Rules, Revocation Statutes, and Commission Revocation Authorities. Discussion included the Department's process for tracking individuals that have had their license revoked and preventing them from drawing a tag or purchasing a license.

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4. Commission Owned and Managed Properties

Presenter: Jim Hinkle, Assistant Director, Field Operations Division.

The Department led a discussion with the Commission regarding Commission owned and managed properties. Discussion included items such as the recent update of the Commission Property Portfolio, property management plans, operations and maintenance, annual inspections, and the opportunities for cost recovery on selected properties, which included the possibility of an outside entity developing a revenue based business on Commission owned property such as a campground, hotel/motel, or bed and breakfast.

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6. Department Priorities Discussion

Presenter: Ty Gray, Deputy Director

Department staff provided informal discussions on Department priorities. Topics included:

- FY16 budget priorities and new funding streams
- Bundled service concepts and paperless license and draw system
- Federal Resource Management and Travel Management plans and issues
- Access issues on public and private lands

- personnel reform
- Development of the Wildlife Conservation Education Center
- Hunter orange requirements
- Public outreach messaging

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7. Meeting Wrap up and Future Agenda Items.

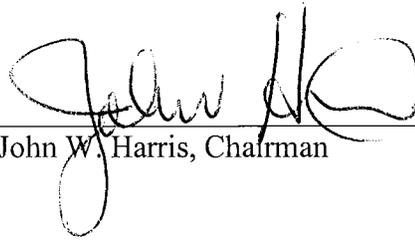
Mr. Gray confirmed with the Commission that another workshop will be scheduled in November.

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Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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John W. Harris, Chairman



Robert E. Mansell, Vice Chairman

Kurt R. Davis, Member

Edward P. Madden, Member



James R. Ammons, Member

ATTEST:



Larry D. Voyles
Secretary and Director