NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION

Notice of Hearing for the Adoption of Regulations of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

LCB File No. Temporary Regulation – RXXX-XX – Commission General Regulation 524

The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners will hold a public hearing at 8:30 a.m. on March 8, 2025, at the Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested persons regarding the adoption of regulations that pertain to Chapter 502 of the Nevada Administrative Code. A Zoom link is provided below for those individuals that are unable to attend in person.

If you wish to make public comment, please use this link for Saturday, March 8, 2025: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83006666049?pwd=EegIZaTWdVw4w7saSXZTVFgPWe3Hp2.1 Webinar ID: 830 0666 6049

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.0603:

1. The need for and the purpose of the proposed regulation or amendment:

This regulation will simplify the issuance, use, and tracking of bonus points for big game and wild turkey hunt applications. The regulation will remove the separation of junior versus regulation bonus points and will have a positive benefit to junior hunt applicants, while maintaining a neutral impact for regular hunt applications. This regulation will also reduce the administrative burden, time, and money required to track and transfer bonus points between junior and regular hunt applications. This regulation also creates additional convenience to the public by simplifying bonus point regulations.

2. Either the terms or the substance of the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed, or a description of the subjects and issues involved:

The regulation to be adopted will simplify the process of issuing, using, and tracking bonus points for big game and wild turkey hunt applications. It will eliminate the distinction between junior and regular hunt bonus points, benefiting junior applicants while keeping the impact neutral for regular hunt applicants. The regulation will reduce the administrative burden, time, and cost associated with tracking and transferring bonus points between junior and regular hunt applications. Additionally, it will enhance convenience for the public by streamlining the bonus point system

3. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public. These must be stated separately and in each case must include:

(a) Both adverse and beneficial effects on businesses; and

The regulation will not have any significant adverse or beneficial economic effects on businesses.

(b) Both immediate and long-term effects on businesses:

There will be no immediate or long-term economic effects from the proposed regulation on small businesses because it does not regulate the operation of any small business.

(c) Both adverse and beneficial effects on the public; and

This regulation does not have an anticipated adverse economic effect on the public.

(d) Both immediate and long-term effects on the public:

This regulation does not have an anticipated immediate or long-term economic effect on the public.

4. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation:

The enforcement of the regulation falls within current operations of the Department; therefore, there will be no additional cost to the agency above the current legislatively approved budget. Since this regulation will simplify bonus point processes, it is anticipated to save costs for the Department.

5. A description of and citation to any regulations of other state or local governmental agencies which the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates and a statement explaining why the duplication or overlapping is necessary. If the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the notice must include the name of the regulating federal agency:

This regulation does not overlap or duplicate any other state, local, or federal laws or regulations.

6. If the regulation is required pursuant to federal law, a citation and description of the federal law:

This regulation is not required pursuant to federal law.

7. If the regulation includes provisions which are more stringent than a federal regulation that regulates the same activity, a summary of such provisions:

This regulation does not include provisions that are more stringent than federal regulations.

8. Whether the proposed regulation establishes a new fee or increases an existing fee:

This regulation does not establish a new fee or increase an existing fee.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed action of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners may appear at the scheduled public hearing or may address their comments, data, views, or arguments, in written form, to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, Nevada 89511 attention Director's Office. Written submissions must be received by the Nevada Department of Wildlife 5 weekdays before the meeting. If no person who is directly affected by the proposed action appears to request time to make an oral presentation, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners may proceed immediately to act upon any written submissions.

A copy of this notice and the regulation to be adopted will be on file at the State Library, 100 Stewart Street; Carson City, Nevada, for inspection by members of the public during business hours. Additional copies of the notice and the regulation to be adopted will be available at the Nevada Department of Wildlife Director's Office, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120; Reno, Nevada 89511, and in all counties in which an office of the agency is not maintained, at the main public library, for inspection and copying by members of the public during business hours. This notice and the text of the proposed regulation are also available in the State of Nevada Register of Administrative Regulations, which is prepared and published monthly by the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS 233B.0653, and on the Internet at http://www.leg.state.nv.us. Copies of this notice and the proposed regulation will also be mailed to members of the public upon request. A reasonable fee may be charged for copies if it is deemed necessary.

Upon adoption of any regulation, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either before adoption or within 30 days thereafter, will issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption and incorporate therein its reason for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption.

This notice of hearing has been posted at the following Nevada Department of Wildlife offices:

1100 Valley Road; Reno, Nevada 89512 (775) 688-1506 4082 Reno Hwy; Fallon, Nevada 89406 (775) 423-3171 60 Youth Center Road; Elko, Nevada 89801 (775) 777-2300 3373 Pepper Lane; Las Vegas, Nevada 89120 (702) 486-5127

These regulations will also be available at the following websites:

https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Notice/A/

https://notice.nv.gov/

http://www.leg.state.nv.us/register/

https://nvboardofwildlife.org/

A copy of all materials relating to the proposed regulation may be obtained at the hearing or by contacting the Director's Office at the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120; Reno, Nevada 89511 or (775) 688-1597. A reasonable fee may be charged for copies if it is deemed necessary.

February 3, 2025

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS COMMISSION GENERAL REGULATION 524

EXPLANATION - Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: NRS 501.105, NRS 501.181, NRS 502.103, NRS 502.160, NRS 502.175, NRS 502.250

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising provisions relating to the award, use, and tracking of customer bonus points associated with hunt applications.

Section 1. NAC 502.4187 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.417 to 502.4225, inclusive, an applicant to obtain a tag for a season who is unsuccessful, or an applicant for a bonus point who does not wish to obtain a tag and is applying for the sole purpose of earning a bonus point, must be awarded a bonus point for the category of the species, *subspecies*, *and gender* for which he or she applied if he or she applied for a tag to hunt deer, elk, mountain goat, antelope, black bear, moose, wild turkey or bighorn sheep, or for a bonus point for such a tag.
- 2. Regardless of the number of applications to obtain a tag or bonus point for a season submitted by a person, the Department shall not award the person more than one bonus point per season per hunting license for each *category of the* species, *subspecies*, *and gender* [or category of a species] for which the person applied.
- 3. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, t] The bonus points awarded to a person for a species or category of species accumulate until the person loses his or her bonus points pursuant to this subsection. A person loses all of his or her bonus points for a [species or] category of a species, subspecies, and gender:
 - (a) If the person is successful in drawing a tag for a season for that species or category of

- a species, subspecies, or gender; or
- (b) If the person does not apply for a tag or a bonus point for a season for two (2) consecutive calendar years during which [that type of] a hunting [for a] season is open for that category of species, subspecies, and gender.
- 4. Upon written request, the Department shall reinstate each bonus point a person lost pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3 if:
- (a) During the entirety of the respective *two* (2) consecutive calendar years, the person was mobilized, deployed, training or stationed outside of the United States as an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States, as verified by a copy of his or her orders or other proof satisfactory to the Department; and
- (b) The request is submitted to the Department not later than *one* (1) year after the date the person returns to the United States.
- [5. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 502.4189, a person may not use any bonus points awarded to the person for being unsuccessful in a junior hunt to apply for a drawing for a tag for any other type of hunt after the person is no longer eligible to participate in a junior hunt.]
- 5. [6.] If an applicant requests and receives a refund for the value of his or her hunting license, the Department shall not award the applicant a bonus point for any [species or] category of species, *subspecies*, *and gender* applied for during the period that the applicant possessed the hunting license.
- 6.[7.] If an applicant is successful in obtaining a tag for a [species or] category of a species, subspecies, and gender but transfers the tag to another person pursuant to section 1 of LCB File No. R022-19, the applicant and the new recipient of the tag lose all bonus points for that [species or] category of species, subspecies, and gender.
- 7.[8.] The Department shall not award bonus points for depredation hunts or management

hunts.

- **8.**[9.] As used in this section, "management hunt" means a hunt established to seek the harvest of additional wildlife within a population.
 - Sec. 2. NAC 502.4188 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 502.4188 Any bonus points awarded by the Department pursuant to the bonus point program must be awarded in one of the following categories of species, subspecies and gender:
 - 1. Antlered mule deer;
 - 2. Antlerless mule deer;
 - 3. Mule deer, either antlered or antlerless;
 - 4. Antlered Rocky Mountain elk;
 - 5. Antlerless Rocky Mountain elk;
 - 6. Rocky Mountain elk, either antlered or antlerless;
 - 7. Spike Rocky Mountain elk;
 - 8. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are longer than their ears;
 - 9. Pronghorn antelope whose horns are shorter than their ears;
 - 10. Rams, from one of the following subspecies:
 - (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;
 - (b) California bighorn sheep; or
 - (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;
 - 11. Ewes, from one of the following subspecies:
 - (a) Nelson bighorn sheep;
 - (b) California bighorn sheep; or
 - (c) Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;
 - 12. Mountain goats;

- 13. Black bears:
- 14. Antlered moose;
- 15. Antlerless moose;
- 16. Moose, either antlered or antlerless; or
- 17. Wild turkey.
- **Sec. 7.** NAC 502.4189 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 502.4189 1. Each applicant in a drawing for a tag for a season receives a number of additional draw numbers that is equal to the number of bonus points that he or she has accumulated squared, as expressed in the following equation:

 $n=b^2$

where "n" is the number of additional draw numbers and "b" is the number of bonus points. The number of additional draw numbers determines the number of draw numbers for the species or category of the species for which the application was submitted. The applicant's lowest randomly assigned draw number is the number used for the drawing.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, bonus points accumulated by a person for a [species or] category of species, *subspecies*, *and gender* cannot be transferred to any other person or any other [species or] category of species, *subspecies*, *and gender*.
- 3. Any bonus points accumulated by an applicant automatically transfer with the applicant if the applicant changes his or her state of residence. Bonus points transferred pursuant to this subsection apply to the same species or category of species, *subspecies, and gender* to which they applied before the transfer.
- 4. The number of bonus points applicable to applications submitted by a group pursuant to NAC 502.4185 for tags is the quotient of the total number of points held by the members of the

group divided by the number of members in the group, rounded to the nearest whole number.

5. Bonus points associated with a junior hunt are not distinct from and automatically transfer to those associated with a general hunt. If the junior hunt for which the application was made allows for the harvest of an antlered or antlerless mule deer, the bonus point will be issued in the category of antlered mule deer. [If a person becomes ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for deer pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to participate in a junior hunt for deer because of his or her age, each unused bonus point accumulated by that person for a junior hunt for deer automatically transfers to the category for antlered mule deer. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to a bonus point accumulated by the person for a junior hunt for deer in a year in which the person also accumulated a bonus point in the category for antlered mule deer.

6. If a person becomes ineligible to apply for a junior hunt for wild turkey pursuant to NAC 502.333 or becomes ineligible to participate in a junior hunt for wild turkey because of his or herage, each unused bonus point accumulated by person for a junior hunt for wild turkey automatically transfers to the category for wild turkey.]

STATE OF NEVADA NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT PURSUANT TO NRS233B

Commission General Regulation 524 LCB File No. RXXX-XX Bonus Points Associated with Junior Hunt Applications

The purpose of this form is to provide a framework pursuant to NRS 233B.0608 to determine whether a small business impact statement is required for submittal of a proposed regulation before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Note: Small business is defined as a "business conducted for profit which employs fewer than 150 full-time or part-time employees" (NRS233B.0382).

1. Describe the manner in which comment was solicited from affected small businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary:

ANSWER:

Comment was not solicited from small businesses. This regulation does not affect small businesses as the changes are associated with individual customers of the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

2. Describe the manner in which the analysis was conducted:

ANSWER:

Agency personnel concluded that there would be no small businesses impact and no need for a small business impact analysis.

- 3. Describe the estimated economic effect of the proposed regulation on the small businesses which it is to regulate, including, without limitation:
 - a.) Both adverse and beneficial effects:

ANSWER:

There will be no adverse or beneficial effects from the proposed regulation on small business because it does not regulate the operation of any small business.

b.) Both direct and indirect effects:

ANSWER:

There will be no adverse or beneficial effects from the proposed regulation on small business because it does not regulate the operation of any small business.

4. Describe the methods that the agency considered to reduce the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and a statement regarding whether the agency actually used any of those methods:

ANSWER:

There will be no impact from the proposed regulation on small businesses, therefore no methods were considered or taken by the agency.

5. Describe the estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation:

ANSWER:

The enforcement of the regulation falls within current operations of the Department; therefore, there will be no additional cost to the agency above the current legislatively approved budget. Since this regulation will simplify bonus point processes, it is anticipated to save costs for the Department.

6. If the proposed regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used:

ANSWER:

The proposed regulation does not provide new or increased fees.

7. If the proposed regulation includes provisions which duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity, an explanation of why such duplicative or more stringent provisions are necessary:

ANSWER:

This regulation does not include provisions that duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state, or local standards.

8. The reasons for the conclusions of the agency regarding the impact of a regulation on small businesses:

ANSWER:

The agency concluded that this regulation does not impact small businesses because the changes are associated with individual customers of the Nevada Department of Wildlife and do not include any added fees, costs, or requirements of those customers.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

Alan Jenne, Director Nevada Department of Wildlife