

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Coulter
Vice Chairman Fielding
Assemblyman Polish
Assemblyman Price
Assemblyman Prengaman
Assemblyman Rhoads

MEMBERS ABSENT:

(Excused)

Assemblyman Bedrosian
Assemblyman Dini
Assemblyman Bergevin

Chairman Coulter brought this meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

AB 365 - Revises schedule of fees charged by Nevada Department of Fish and Game.

Mr. Glen Griffith, Dept. of Fish and Game, was first to testify in support of this bill. He noted that at the last session of the Legislature the hunting and fishing licenses were separated; they no longer have a combination license. Therefore, they went to a \$10.00 fishing license and a \$7.50 hunting license. The department now requests the hunting license be brought up equal to the fishing license, i.e., \$10.00. Additionally, they are requesting on page one of the bill, line 21, they would like to increase the trapping license to make it also comparable to the hunting license. Thus, their fishing, hunting and trapping licenses would all cost \$10.00. Additional cost amendments would be on page two of the bill, line 8, exceed \$20.00, as opposed to [\$10.00]. Then to be consistent, on line 17, [\$10.00] should be increased to \$20.00; and on line 21, the annual trapper's license, [\$35.00] should be increased to \$50.00.

Assemblyman Rhoads made note of the fact that there is a new bill coming out which has to do with the entire Fish and Game Department and expressed concern that perhaps this bill (AB 365) would be somewhat premature until we see the other bill. Mr. Griffith disagreed, as he stated that right now all they are trying to do is make the licenses consistent.

Mr. Fred Wright, Dept. of Fish and Game, testified next in support of this bill. In answer to a question from Assemblyman Rhoads, Mr. Wright explained that prior to July 1, 1977, the hunting license was \$10.00, as was the fishing license \$10.00 and the combination was \$17.00. When the license structure was changed so that they had no combination license, the hunting license was reduced to \$7.00. Therefore, they are, in effect, merely asking for a restoration of that fee back to the \$10.00 that it was prior to July 1, 1977. Additionally, in answer to Mr. Rhoads concern of the other bill which may overall effect the department, the biennial budget estimate now reflects the increase that this bill would cause. It would be about \$116,000 for the resident hunting license \$3.00 increase and a total of

\$145,000.00 estimated, based on current sales, exclusive of the change on the trapper's license. Thus, the biennial budget does reflect the anticipated increase if it were to pass.

Through questioning from Assemblyman Rhoads, Mr. Griffith submitted a License Fee Structure on adjacent states which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "A". There followed a lengthy discussion on this schedule.

Based on a question from Assemblyman Prengaman, Assemblyman Rhoads explained the general funding bill which was touched on earlier. He explained that there has been discussion in the last ten, twenty years of having the Nevada Fish and Game go through the General Fund. Thus far they have been self-supporting. However, in the last few years due to high costs they have had a very tough time at it. There is a bill in the bill drafter's office presently which will give some of the money from General Fund to the Fish and Game to operate on.

Mr. John Schultz then came before the committee with a question on AB 365, regarding page 2, line 44. He stated that he didn't understand why there was to be a deletion of the entire clause. Mr. Griffith explained that all it is doing is eliminating, by definition, an archery tag. Mr. Fred Wright added, by way of explanation, that this will not eliminate the ability for non-residents to hunt with a bow and arrow. Mr. Schultz stated that he was now satisfied that he would not lose the right to hunt with a bow and arrow.

SJR 9 - Requests Congress to enact legislation returning Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge to the State of Nevada

Assemblyman Rhoads testified in support of this bill stating that this bill passed on the Senate side, as our AJR 11 passed on the Assembly side. However, he feels that there is a little more "meat" in AJR 11, although they are quite similar. He feels, therefore, that the Senate bill should be killed and that the Assembly bill should be passed, or at least that the Senate bill should be amended if that is to be passed.

SB 140 - Removes certain restrictions from fishing licenses issued to blind persons.

Mr. Mervin Flander, Chief of the Bureau of Services to the Blind, testified in support of this bill. He explained that presently the law for issuing licenses to the blind has the stipulation that the licenses should be issued, but that an attendant must do the fishing or the hunting for them. This bill simply eliminates the requirement for an attendant to accompany the blind person while fishing, retaining the requirement for hunting.

Chairman Coulter then brought to the attention of the committee the amendments that the trappers and the Fish and Game Department came up with in relation to AB 15. Said amendments are attached hereto and entered as Exhibit "B". After this, Chairman Coulter asked Larry Smith of the trappers' association if he would like to comment on certain problems in trapping as alleged by the Humane Society. He noted that he has received numerous letters and phone calls from concerned citizens that the trappers do not check their lines often enough. Larry Smith confirmed that the law in Nevada is presently that the traps be checked every seven days. Mr. Coulter stated that the Humane Society wants them checked every thirty-six hours. Mr. Smith stated that he went to Arizona, Utah, Oregon, Idaho and California and all of these states originally had no visitation requirements and now they have gone to some form of visitation requirements. He stated that they now have more criticism from their Humane Societies than prior to when they had the requirements. Mr. Smith and Chairman Coulter discussed prior testimony from previous years wherein the committee was advised how difficult this visitation is in the State of Nevada because trap lines are so long; they cover so many miles and it is therefore, impractical.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

SB 140 - Assemblyman Rhoads moved for a DO PASS, Assemblyman Fielding seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Assemblymen Bedrosian, Dini and Bergevin were absent from this vote, as they were excused. The motion passed.

AB 15 - Assemblyman Rhoads moved for a DO PASS AS AMENDED, Assemblyman Polish SECONDED the motion. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Assemblymen Bedrosian, Dini and Bergevin were absent from this vote, as they were excused. The motion passed.

There being no further business at hand, Mr. Rhoads made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Polish. Chairman Coulter adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne M. Peirce,
Committee Secretary

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

License Fee Structure -- Adjacent States

Nevada 1978-79

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting	\$ 7.00	\$40.00
Fishing	10.00	20.00

Arizona 1979

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting	\$ 8.00	\$45.50
Fishing	5.00	18.50

Oregon 1978

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting	\$ 7.00	\$75.00
Fishing	9.00	25.00

California 1978-79

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting	\$10.00	\$35.00
Fishing	5.00	20.00

Utah 1978-79

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting		
Small Game	\$ 6.00	\$20.00
Big Game	7.00	75.00
Fishing	8.00	25.00

Idaho 1978

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting	\$ 5.50 (50¢ vendor fee)	\$50.50
Fishing	6.50 (50¢ vendor fee)	20.50

New Mexico 1978-79

	Resident	Nonresident
Hunting		
General	\$15.00	
Big Game	12.00	\$90.00
Small Game	8.00	25.00
Fishing	7.00	15.00

February 16, 1979

Section 1. Chapter 503 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section which shall read as follows:

Every trap used in the taking of wild animals shall bear a number registered with the department or permanently marked with the name and address of the owner or trapper using it. A one time only trap registration fee of \$5 is required.

Section 2. Chapter 503 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section which shall read as follows:

1. Every person who takes or sells raw furs of fur-bearing animals or unprotected animals for profit shall procure a trapping license.

2. It is unlawful to remove or disturb the trap of any licensee while the trap is being legally used by him on public land or on land where he has permission to trap.

Section 3. NRS 503.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.570 Every person taking or causing to be taken wild animals by means of traps, snares or any other [device used in the trapping or taking of wild animals that] devices which do not, or are not designed to [,] cause immediate death to [such] the animals, shall, when any such traps, snares or devices are placed or set for the purpose of taking [such] animals, visit or cause to be visited at least once each week each such trap, snare or other device during all of the time any such trap, snare or device is placed, set or used in the taking of wild animals, and remove therefrom any [and all] animals caught therein.

Section 4. NRS 503.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.040 1. Except as provided in this section, it is unlawful for any person at any time to transport or offer for transportation to any place within or outside of this state any game animal, ^{raw furs of} fur-bearing animal, ^{etc.} wild animal taken by trapping, game bird or game fish taken within this state.

2. Any person who has legally taken any game animal, ^{raw furs of} fur-bearing animal, ^{etc.} wild animal taken by trapping, game bird or game fish within this state may use his hunting license, trapping license, or fishing license or [game] tag or stamp, when required as a permit to transport one possession limit to points within or outside the state.

3. Any person who legally acquires ownership or custody of any game animal, ^{raw furs of} fur-bearing animal, ^{etc.} wild animal taken by trapping, game bird or game fish not taken by him through hunting, trapping, or fishing may transport such animal, bird or fish within the state without a transportation permit if such shipment does not exceed one

possession limit and if such shipment is labeled with the name, address, number and class of license of the hunter, trapper, or fisherman who legally took such animal, bird or fish and date taken, provided such animal, bird or fish is not required by law or regulation to be tagged. Unless otherwise specified by commission regulation, when tagged shipments are involved, a transportation permit is required as provided in this section.

4. Any other person who desires to transport any game animal, ^{Law 2020 04} fur-bearing animal, ⁰² wild animal taken by trapping, game fish or game bird to a point within or without the state may do so only under the authority of a transportation permit as provided in this section.

5. The department shall designate the form of the transportation permit and such permits shall be issued for a fee of \$1 by any game warden or other such persons, establishments and agencies] as may be specifically designated by the department. The person legally in possession of the game animals, ^{Law 2020 04} fur-bearing animals, ⁰² wild animals taken by trapping, game birds or game fish to be transported and the person transporting such [fish or game] wildlife must appear before the issuing agent to obtain a transportation permit. The permit shall describe the [game animals, game birds, or game fish] wildlife to be transported and shall identify by name, address, license number and class the person who legally took such [fish and game] wildlife and by name and address the person transporting it. Whenever [game animals, game birds or game fish] wildlife are to be transported by the postal service or by common carrier, freight or express agency, such agency may be designated by name and need not appear as an applicant for the issuance of a permit.

6. Game animals, ^{Law 2020 04} fur-bearing animals, ⁰² wild animals taken by trapping, game birds or game fish transported to another person shall be deemed to be in the legal possession of the person making shipment until actual delivery is made.

7. Any package or container in which game birds, ^{Law 2020 04} fur-bearing animals, ⁰² wild animals taken by trapping, game animals or game fish are being transported by common carrier must have the name and address of the shipper and of the consignee and an accurate statement of the number and kinds of game birds, ^{Law 2020 04} fur-bearing animals, ⁰² wild animals taken by trapping, game animals or game fish contained therein [clearly and conspicuously marked] attached on the outside thereof.

8. The commission may limit the number of shipments by any one person in any one season of any kind of game bird, game animal, or game fish.

