



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Wildlife Diversity Division

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MEMORANDUM

July 23, 2018

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Jennifer Newmark, Administrator, Wildlife Diversity Division

Title: **Commission General Regulation 479, Scientific Name Change of the Rosy Boa, a Protected Reptile, LCB File No. 152-18 – For Possible Action/Public Comment Allowed**

Description: The Commission will consider and may take action to change the scientific name of the rosy boa, protected under Nevada Administrative Code 503.080, from *Lichanura trivirgata*, to *Lichanura orcutti* due to recent studies that have updated the taxonomy of the species.

Summary:

A genetics study in 2008 by Woods et al. split the rosy boa into two distinct species – the three-lined boa (*Lichanura trivirgata*) and the rosy boa (*Lichanura orcutti*). This split was formally recognized in 2017 by the Committee on Standard English and Scientific Names by the Society of the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Three-lined boas, *Lichanura trivirgata*, occur in Baja California, Southern Arizona and Sonora Mexico, while the rosy boa, *Lichanura orcutti* occur in Nevada, parts of California and northern Arizona.

As currently listed, NAC 503.080 protects the three-lined boa, *Lichanura trivirgata*, a species that does not occur in Nevada. Recognizing the taxonomic change will ensure the species presumed to occur in Nevada, the rosy boa (*Lichanura orcutti*) will remain protected.

The Department is recommending the Commission change the name of the rosy boa listed under NAC 503.080 from *Lichanura trivirgata* to *Lichanura orcutti* to protect the correct native species occurring in the state.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

LCB File No. R152-18

July 9, 2018

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 501.105, 501.110 and 501.181.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; revising the scientific name of the rosy boa snake; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to classify wildlife into various categories and further classify wildlife in such categories as protected and unprotected. (NRS 501.110) This regulation revises the scientific name of the rosy boa, which is classified as a protected reptile.

Section 1. NAC 503.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

503.080 1. The following reptiles are classified as protected:

	Common Name	Scientific Name
Lizard	Gila Monster	<i>Heloderma suspectum</i>
	Sierra Alligator	<i>Elgaria coerulea palmeri</i>
	Shasta Alligator	<i>Elgaria coerulea shastaensis</i>
Snake	Rosy boa	<i>Lichanura trivirgata orcutti</i>
	Sonoran Mountain King	<i>Lampropeltis pyromelana</i>

2. The following protected reptile is further classified as threatened:

	Common Name	Scientific Name
Tortoise	Desert	<i>Gopherus agassizi</i>

3. All species of reptiles which are not classified as protected, sensitive, threatened or endangered are unprotected.