MEMORANDUM

26 January 2018

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

From: Chet Van Dellen, Data and Technology Services Division Administrator

Title: Commission Regulation 18-06, 2018 Silver State

Description: The Commission will review, revise and adopt recommendations for the establishment of the 2018 Silver State Tags seasons and quotas.

Agenda No: 22-F

Summary:

This regulation is to establish the 2018 seasons and quotas for Silver State big game tags. Combined Heritage and Silver State tag quotas may not exceed 15 big game tags and 5 wild turkey tags per Nevada Revised Statute 502.250. Nine (9) big game Heritage tags for 2018 were approved last year, leaving up to six (6) big game tags remaining for Silver State.

Brief Explanation of the Proposed Regulation

The Department recommends no changes to the previous year’s Silver State tag species, seasons, or quotas, allowing one (1) tag for each of mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, and Nelson (Desert) bighorn sheep.

The Department continues to recommend the closure of hunt unit 091 for the elk tag.

The Department recommends a new method for closing Silver State bighorn sheep hunt units based on the Tag Allocation and Application Hunt Committee recommendations. These recommendations include the closure of hunt units where the Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag No. 1 was filled in the year prior and the harvest quota for the current year for that hunt unit is less than ten (10).

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission review and adopt the proposed regulation as presented.
The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, under the authority of Section 501.181, 502.140, 502.250 and 503.140 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), does hereby adopt the following regulation for the management of wildlife resources in the State of Nevada.

**2018 Silver State Tags**

**Hunting Hours:** Big game mammals may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset as listed on government sunrise-sunset tables.

**Take Limit:** One animal allowed per tag.

**Legal Weapon:** Any legal firearm or bow as described in NRS 503.150 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 503.141, 503.142, 503.143 and 503.144 may be used throughout the big game season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hunt Class</th>
<th>Unit Group</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mule Deer Hunt 1300</td>
<td>Any mule deer, any hunt unit with an antlered mule deer season.</td>
<td>August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pronghorn Antelope Hunt 2300</td>
<td>Any pronghorn antelope, any hunt unit with a pronghorn antelope with horns longer than ears season.</td>
<td>August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson (Desert) Bighorn Sheep Silver State Tag No. 1 Hunt 3300*</td>
<td>Any ram, any hunt unit with a Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep open season except unit 253.</td>
<td>August 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, except for units 252, 280, 281, 282 which will be established by the Commission for Hunt 3151</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk Hunt 4300</td>
<td>Any elk with at least one antler, any hunt unit with an antlered elk season except for unit 091.</td>
<td>August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* There are portions of hunt unit 181 in Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon where public access is restricted. To hunt Nelson (desert) bighorn sheep in the NAS portions of this unit, the tag holder is required to attend a NAS hunter safety briefing.

Portions of Hunt units 252, 280, 281, 282 are within the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR) where public access is restricted. Hunters and everyone in their respective hunting parties must comply with all Nevada hunting requirements and all NTTR safety and security requirements including the following: 1) consent to and pass a criminal history background check; 2) be at least 14 years old on opening day of the respective hunting season; 3) attend the Nellis Air Force Base hunter safety briefing; and 4) within the NTTR portion of unit 252 limit party size to 5 including tag holder. Additional party members may complete background check and safety briefing, but only maximum of 5 party members including tag holder may be present within the NTTR portion of unit 252 at any given time.

Hunters and members of their parties who fail to comply with these requirements may be denied access to the NTTR. Hunters and members of their parties may not access the NTTR after a tag is filled and animal has been removed and in possession of tag holder. No pets are allowed on NTTR. It is the hunter’s responsibility to meet and/or comply with all NTTR eligibility requirements. In some units there may be adjustments to season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners hereby delegates authority to the Nevada Department of Wildlife to adjust season dates to accommodate Department of Defense operations so long as there is no change to the overall length of the season.

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