

Assembly Bill No. 345—Assemblymen Bobzien, Eisen,
Daly; Diaz, Flores, Kirkpatrick and Sprinkle

Joint Sponsor: Senator Smith

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to wildlife; requiring that the wildlife in this State be managed according to the best science available; revising provisions relating to the authorized use of certain money in the Wildlife Fund Account in the State General Fund; requiring the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish policies for certain programs, activities and research relating to predatory wildlife; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, the Nevada Legislature has declared that wildlife in this State is part of the natural resources belonging to the people of the State of Nevada and that preserving, protecting, managing and restoring wildlife in this State contributes immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational and economic aspects of those natural resources. (NRS 501.100) **Section 1** of this bill revises the legislative declaration to require that the wildlife in this State be managed according to the best science available.

Under existing law, in addition to the fee for a game tag, the Department of Wildlife charges an additional fee of \$3 for processing each application for a game tag, the revenue from which must be deposited into the Wildlife Fund Account in the State General Fund and be used by the Department for costs related to: (1) programs for the management and control of injurious predatory wildlife; (2) wildlife management activities relating to the protection of certain game animals and wildlife habitat; and (3) research to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife. Any program developed or wildlife management activity or research conducted must be developed or conducted under the guidance of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners. (NRS 501.181, 502.253) **Section 2** of this bill requires the Department to use at least 50 percent of the money credited to the Wildlife Fund Account from the additional \$3 processing fee for use related to the management and control of injurious predatory wildlife other than research. **Section 2** further requires the Commission, in providing guidance relating to any wildlife management activity, the development of a program to control any species of predatory wildlife or any research concerning that species, to establish a policy for the activity, program or research that specifies the goals and required results of the activity, program or research.



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

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 501.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

501.100 1. Wildlife in this State not domesticated and in its natural habitat is part of the natural resources belonging to the people of the State of Nevada ~~and~~ ***and must be managed according to the best science available.***

2. The preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife within the State contribute immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational and economic aspects of these natural resources.

Sec. 2. NRS 502.253 is hereby amended to read as follows:

502.253 1. In addition to any fee charged and collected pursuant to NRS 502.250, a fee of \$3 must be charged for processing each application for a game tag, the revenue from which must be accounted for separately, deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to the Wildlife Fund Account in the State General Fund and ***, except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,*** used by the Department for costs related to:

(a) Programs for the management and control of ***, and research relating to,*** injurious predatory ***wildlife for the benefit of all other species of*** wildlife;

(b) Wildlife management activities relating to the protection of nonpredatory game animals, sensitive wildlife species and ***other species of game animals which are historically subject to or are at risk of excessive predation by predatory wildlife, and*** related wildlife habitat;

(c) Conducting research, as needed, to determine successful techniques for managing and controlling predatory wildlife, including studies necessary to ensure effective programs for the management and control of injurious predatory wildlife; and

(d) Programs for the education of the general public concerning the management and control of predatory wildlife.

2. ~~The~~ ***Each year, the Department of Wildlife shall use at least 50 percent of the money credited to the Wildlife Fund Account, from revenue received pursuant to subsection 1, for the uses described in paragraph (a) of that subsection other than research.***

3. ***Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,*** the Department of Wildlife is hereby authorized to expend a portion of the money collected pursuant to subsection 1 to enable the State



Department of Agriculture to develop and carry out the programs described in subsection 1.

~~13-1~~ 4. Any program developed or wildlife management activity or research conducted pursuant to this section must be developed or conducted under the guidance of the Commission pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 501.181.

~~14-1~~ *In providing guidance for the development of a program to control any species of predatory wildlife or for conducting any wildlife management activity or research concerning that species, the Commission shall establish a policy for the program, activity or research. Each policy must specify the goals and required results of the program, activity or research, including, without limitation, provisions:*

(a) Setting forth a specific geographic area in this State in which the program, activity or research must be conducted;

(b) Setting forth the reasons for conducting the program, activity or research in the geographic area;

(c) Setting forth the estimated population or density of each species of predatory wildlife and the location of the estimated population or density in the geographic area which must be included in the program, activity or research; and

(d) Requiring the submission of a report to the Commission upon the completion of the program, activity or research setting forth the results of the program, activity or research and the extent to which the program, activity or research achieved the goals and required results established for the program, activity or research.

5. The money in the Wildlife Fund Account remains in the Account and does not revert to the State General Fund at the end of any fiscal year.

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2013.

