PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

LCB FILE NO. R160-22I

The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed by the agency submitted on 06/30/2022

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagle permit: Application, issuance, renewal

- 1. The Department may issue a golden eagle permit to an applicant who:
 - a. Is currently licensed as a Master Falconer pursuant to NAC 503.205 and NAC 503.235 through 503.250 inclusive.
 - b. Provides the following on an application form that the Department provides:
 - i. A copy of a current and valid Nevada Master Falconer License;
 - ii. A copy of a current and valid Department issued hunting license;
 - iii. Two letters of reference from other current licensed Master Falconers that legally possess golden eagles in the United States;
 - iv. A narrative explanation of the master falconers direct experience with large raptors;
 - v. Proof of sufficient housing requirements set forth in NAC 503.375;
 - vi. Proof of a sufficient enclosure that is a minimum of a 12 foot by 12 foot by 8 foot tall for each golden eagle housed;
 - vii. If rehabilitating, the sub-permit from a licensed rehabilitator; and
 - viii. Any other information the Department deems necessary that the applicant is capable of safely and humanely housing, caring for, and controlling golden eagles.
- 2. A golden eagle permit is valid for one year from date of issuance.
- 3. A golden eagle permit may be renewed upon submission of an application pursuant to subsection 1.

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagles: grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of Golden eagle permit. The Department may deny an application for, or suspend or revoke a golden eagle permit for any of the following:

- 1. Material misstatement in, and/or falsifying any documentation related to, the application.
- 2. Failure to provide and maintain required housing and care for golden eagles, pursuant to NAC 503.375 through NAC 503.475, inclusive and NAC 503.xxx (permit application regulation above).
- 3. Except under conditions of rehabilitation, failure to maintain a golden eagle in healthy body conditions such that greater than five (5) primary flight feathers are broken, more than four (4) tail feathers are broken, body weight indicates malnourishment, and/or excessive parasite loads.
 - a. Upon credible report that a golden eagle is found in poor body condition, the Department may order that permit holder to obtain a certified veterinarian release that health conditions have improved within 3 to 6 months or the golden eagle(s) may be removed from the individual at the discretion of the Department.

- 4. Any conviction of law in any federal, state or local municipality for violations related to animal welfare or wildlife.
- 5. Violation of any of the terms of this chapter related to falconry, rehabilitation of raptors, and/or possession of golden eagles.

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagles, and parts thereof: possession, transport, prohibited acts.

- 1. A person shall not remove a golden eagle from the wild except for purposes of rehabilitation by a licensed rehabilitator possessing a master falconry license and a golden eagle permit issued by the Department.
- 2. A person shall not possess, or transport for the purposes of transfer, a golden eagle except under the following provisions:
 - a. Temporary possession of up to two years for purposes of rehabilitation per the provisions of NAC 503.xxx (possession by rehabilitation permit holder below),
 - b. Is transferred to the master falconer from another master falconer who is licensed in this State or another state, as approved by the Department,
 - c. Is legally obtained from the wild in another state per the Federal National Lottery System; or
 - d. Is legally possessed by a master falconer in another state and that master falconer moves to Nevada with the golden eagle.
 - i. A master falconer moving to Nevada with a golden eagle in possession will have sixty (60) days to obtain licensure as a master falconer in Nevada and obtain a golden eagle permit from the Department.
- 3. A golden eagle permit holder shall not possess more than two golden eagles, except that the Department may temporarily authorize additional golden eagles for the purposes of emergency rehabilitation, at their discretion.
 - a. Each golden eagle possessed counts towards a master falconer's wild possession limit, as defined in NAC 503.250.
- 4. Possession of golden eagle feathers, eggs, or body parts is prohibited, except for:
 - a. Primary wing feathers and 12 tail feathers for purposes of imping;
 - b. Eggs laid shall be reported to the Department for disposition instructions;
 - c. All body parts or full carcasses shall be surrendered to the Department within five (5) business days of death or discovery.

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagles: terms of possession for purposes of rehabilitation, release

- 1. A licensed master Falconer with a golden eagle permit may possess a golden eagle for not more than 2 years from the first date of transfer from:
 - a. A licensed rehabilitation facility;
 - b. A licensed rehabilitator individual; or
 - c. An authorized Department employee.
- 2. A licensed master Falconer with a golden eagle permit shall follow all Federal and State laws and regulation for post rehabilitation release back to the wild including returning it to the state of origin as close as possible to where it originated.
- 3. Rehabilitators shall contact the Department for instructions on disposition for all golden eagles that do not reach the release criteria.

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagles; practice of falconry, non-resident possession and use

- 1. A master falconer licensed in this state who holds a current golden eagle permit and is in legal possession of that golden eagle, may utilize that golden eagle for the purposes of falconry.
- 2. A non-resident master falconer in legal possession of a golden eagle may practice falconry with that eagle in the State after:
 - a. Purchasing a non-resident hunting license; and
 - b. Obtaining a form indicating the dates of their hunt in Nevada signed by a representative of the Department.
- 3. A non-resident master falconer hunting with a golden eagle in the State shall have in their possession during their hunt, and have ready for inspection by any game warden or representative of the Department:
 - a. All documentary proof of legal possession of the golden eagle from their state of residence,
 - b. Their non-resident hunting license; and
 - c. The Department form indicating the dates of their hunt in Nevada signed by a representative of the Department.

NEW REGULATION

NAC 503.xxx Golden eagles; Civil Penalties

1. Notwithstanding any other penalty provided for by law, a civil penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) shall be imposed against any person, firm, company, corporation or association who violates NRS 503.610 subsection 1.