

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS  
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT PURSUANT TO NRS233B**

**Re: Commission General Regulation 459 - LCB File No. R145-15 – Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones)**

**The purpose of this form is to provide a framework pursuant to NRS 233B.0608 to determine whether a small business impact statement is required for submittal of a proposed regulation before the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners. Note: Small business is defined as a “business conducted for profit which employs fewer than 150 full-time or part-time employees” (NRS233B.0382).**

The need and purpose for the proposed regulation amendment is to clarify that unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) are prohibited for the purpose of hunting, locating, or observing big game animals. The proposed changes would strengthen existing language, match current regulations for use of aerial scouting, and expand aerial scouting prohibitions to year-round, instead of just during big game seasons.

1. Describe the manner in which comment was solicited from affected small businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary:

**ANSWER:**

Comment was solicited from affected small businesses by using SurveyMonkey to survey all 100 master guides licensed in Nevada. Of the 100 master guides surveyed, 22 percent responded.

The vast majority (95.45 percent) stated that this regulation would not be an economic burden. One master guide stated that there would be between 11 and 20 percent economic loss to their business.

A copy of the summary can be obtained through the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120, Reno, NV 89511.

2. Describe the manner in which the analysis was conducted:

**ANSWER:**

SurveyMonkey automatically analyzes the data and additional mail-in responses were included in the total analysis. The Nevada Department of Wildlife was able to obtain percentages from the analysis and Chief Game Warden Tyler Turnipseed determined the proposed regulation would not cause a significant impact to small businesses.

3. Describe the estimated economic effect of the proposed regulation on the small businesses which it is to regulate, including, without limitation:

- a.) Both adverse and beneficial effects:

**ANSWER:**

The vast majority of respondents (95.45 percent) stated there would be no adverse effect on their small business if this regulation were to pass. The remaining participants that responded (4.55 percent) were unsure if there would be an adverse effect on their business.

Conversely, two master guides (9.09 percent) stated there could be a beneficial effect by giving guides a better reputation by following fair chase standards.

b.) Both direct and indirect effects:

**ANSWER:**

A possible direct economic effect on small businesses would be on hunting guides who currently use aircrafts to locate big game animals who, as a result of this regulation, may have to work harder without the assistance of drones.

Possible indirect economic effects could be providing for a more equal opportunity for guides by eliminating aerial scouting. As two of the surveyed guides pointed out, there may be a beneficial economic effect if the guiding industry sees an improvement in its reputation for conforming more to the fair chase standard by not using aircraft to locate big game animals.

4. Describe the methods that the agency considered to reduce the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and a statement regarding whether the agency actually used any of those methods:

**ANSWER:**

This regulation will not adversely affect the majority of small businesses; therefore, no methods were needed to reduce the impact.

5. Describe the estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation:

**ANSWER:**

There will be no additional cost to the Nevada Department of Wildlife for the enforcement of this regulation.

6. If the proposed regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used:

**ANSWER:**

This regulation does not propose a new fee or increased fees.

7. If the proposed regulation includes provisions which duplicate or are more stringent than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity, an explanation of why such duplicative or more stringent provisions are necessary:

**ANSWER:**

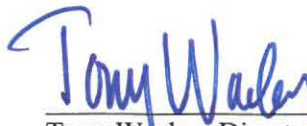
This regulation amendment does not overlap or duplicate any local, state, or federal regulation.

8. The reasons for the conclusions of the agency regarding the impact of a regulation on small businesses:

**ANSWER:**

The analysis showed that over 95 percent of small businesses would not be affected by this regulation; therefore, the agency was able to conclude that there will be no impact to small businesses.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

  
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Tony Wasley, Director  
Nevada Department of Wildlife