



Nevada Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

"The sportsmen's voice for our wild public lands, waters and wildlife"

www.backcountryhunters.org

December 20, 2016

Senator Michael Roberson
Chairman, Legislative Commission
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Chairman Roberson & Members of the Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with some information for your December 21, 2016 meeting. Backcountry Hunters & Anglers seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting, through education and work on behalf of wild public lands and waters. The membership of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers values wild lands and wildlife.

We wish to provide comment in support of regulation R144-15 from the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, dealing with so-called smart rifles. This technology is in early development and now is the time to examine the consequences, intended or unintended, should this technology become widely used for hunting purposes and take appropriate proactive regulatory action "ahead of the curve".

We fully support this regulation to minimize disparate advantages to hunter over prey by this technology. BHA State Chapters have taken on this issue nationally. It is important to our mission of protecting traditional hunting by hewing to fair chase principles. In our view, this technology takes the human out of the equation, by only firing when the computer decides the tagged "target" is pinpointed. Simply put, it eliminates any human action to pull the trigger, takes away traditional marksmanship skills hunters have had to cultivate, and removes any "uncertainty" from hunting, converting hunters into mere long-distance target shooters. The further we distance ourselves from our traditional skills and woodsmanship, the greater the risk to ability to claim self-restraint, fair chase and respect for our wildlife.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to offer our feedback for the meeting on December 21st. Thank you again for your work on these issues and willingness to serve the State of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Karen Boeger
kboeger1011@gmail.com