

*Study to Evaluate and Recommend
Potential Funding Sources for
the Department of Wildlife*



*Legislative Counsel
Bureau*

*Bulletin No.
93-20*

September 1992

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**Legislative Commission
of the
Legislative Counsel Bureau**

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SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Legislative Commission Subcommittee Study to Evaluate and Recommend Potential Funding Sources for the Department of Wildlife recommends to the 67th Session of the Nevada Legislature:

1. The subcommittee recommends that the Department of Wildlife continue to justify low cost and free licenses and the subcommittee supports the concept of general fund reimbursement to the Department of Wildlife for revenues lost by the issuance of low cost licenses to senior citizens, juniors and servicemen and free licenses to disabled veterans and Indians.
2. The subcommittee recommends continued funding transfers from the Department of Tourism to support Department of Wildlife programs in support of Tourism efforts in the State of Nevada.
3. The subcommittee recommends the 1993 Legislature should consider an increase in hunting and fishing licenses if the department can justify those increases to the 67th Session.
4. The subcommittee recommends continued general fund support for nongame programs operated by the Department of Wildlife.
5. The subcommittee recommends continued support from the mining industry at current funding levels as enacted in A.B. 535 by the 1991 Legislative Session.

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REPORT TO THE 67TH SESSION OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION'S SUBCOMMITTEE
TO EVALUATE AND RECOMMEND POTENTIAL FUNDING
SOURCES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

I. INTRODUCTION

The following is submitted in compliance with Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36 (File No. 187, Statutes of Nevada, 1991) which directed the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study to evaluate and recommend potential funding sources for the Department of Wildlife.

The subcommittee which conducted the study held a total of three meetings in Las Vegas, Reno, and Carson City.

Members of the subcommittee appointed to conduct the study were:

Senator Nicolas J. Horn, Chairman
Assemblyman Joseph E. Dini, Jr., Vice Chairman
Senator Virgil M. Getto
Senator Thomas J. Hickey
Assemblyman John W. Marvel
Assemblyman Mike McGinness
Assemblyman Larry L. Spitler

Upon the death of Senator Horn, Assemblyman Dini was appointed chairman and Senator Bob Coffin was appointed to the subcommittee.

Legislative Counsel Bureau staff services for the subcommittee were provided by Robert A. Guernsey of the Fiscal Analysis Division (Principal Deputy Fiscal Analyst), Steve Coburn of the Legal Division (Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel), Ryan Campbell of the Legal Division (Deputy Legislative Counsel), and Nenita Wasserman of the Fiscal Analysis Division (Subcommittee Secretary).

This report presents the findings and recommendations of the subcommittee information bearing upon the recommendation may be found in the narrative and appendices. All supporting documents and meeting minutes are available from the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

II. BACKGROUND

The last major study of funding of the Department of Fish and Game, as it was then known, took place after the 1975 legislative session as a result of Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 47 (1975), contained in Bulletin #77-13, titled General Funding for the Support of the Nevada Department of Fish and Game.

The recommendation contained in Bulletin #77-13, was that the legislature will provide general fund support to the Department of Fish and Game in an amount sufficient to match the federal funds apportioned annually to the State of Nevada under the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts in order to help the state meet the obligations of fish and game management, including, but not limited to: (1) wildlife research; (2) acquisition and management of wildlife habitat; (3) nongame and rare and endangered species management research and protection; (4) environmental impact evaluations; (5) firearms safety education; and (6) capital construction.

The 1991 Legislature received considerable testimony on funding problems within the Department of Wildlife and the possibility of insufficient funds to meet obligations during the 1991-93 biennium. The Legislature examined the revenue and expenditure problems within the Department of Wildlife and evaluated a number of options. The Legislature compared license fees charged to hunters and fishermen in Nevada with fees in other states and, with the passage of Senate Bill 506, raised out-of-state hunting and fishing licenses and big game tags to bring in an additional \$218,583 each year of the coming biennium. The Legislature also added \$500,000 each year in revenue from the mining industry to help offset costs associated with mining's impact on wildlife (and bodies of water) within the state. In addition, the Legislature adjusted federal funds to levels actually anticipated to be received by the Department of Wildlife during the coming biennium. The Legislature increased the transfers from the Commission on Tourism by \$125,000 each year and from the Trout Management account by \$100,000 each year. The general fund appropriation was increased by approximately \$486,000 in FY 1991-92 and approximately \$456,000 in FY 1992-93.

With approval of Senate Concurrent Resolution 36, the Legislature directed the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study to evaluate and recommend potential revenue sources to provide Nevada's Department of Wildlife with a long-term plan to adequately fund all of its functions.

III. HISTORY AND OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Funding for fish and game activities in Nevada has changed periodically since the legislature first enacted legislation for the protection, conservation, propagation and management of wildlife in Nevada. Beginning in 1877 and continuing through 1947, the state fish and game activities were supported primarily with general fund appropriations, except for the period 1899 to 1905 when no appropriations were made. General fund appropriations for operating expenses during this period varied from \$1,000 for calendar year 1877-1878 to \$35,000 for the 1947-1949 biennium, with occasional "one-shot" appropriations for specific projects.

Although hunting licenses were required since 1909 and required for fishing somewhat later, revenue from licenses went to support county fish and game activities. It was not until 1917 that the state shared the hunting license revenue collected by the counties. This distribution arrangement was abolished in 1921 and it was not until 1929 that the state again shared in the distribution of hunting license revenue. This arrangement remained until 1947.

Legislation enacted in 1947 relieved the counties of co-sharing with the state responsibility for wildlife, and required that hunting and fishing license revenue collected by the counties be deposited in the state treasury to the fish and game fund. The receipt and expenditures of license revenue by the state qualified Nevada for Pittman-Robertson federal funds and later for Dingell-Johnson federal funds.

With passage of Senate Bill 333 by the 1979 Legislature, the name of the Department of Fish and Game was changed to the Department of Wildlife. The legislation also eliminated the separate fish and game fund and created the wildlife account in the state general fund.

The 1989 Legislature, with passage of Senate Bill 395, increased the size of the Wildlife Commission from seven to nine members. Each commissioner is appointed to represent an area of interest related to wildlife matters: conservation (one member), farming (one member), ranching (one member), sportsmen (four members), and the general public (two members).

NRS 501.167 created the Board of Wildlife Commissioners to establish broad policies for the protection, propagation, restoration, transplanting, introduction, and management of wildlife in the state. They also are charged with the responsibility to promote the safety of persons operating vessels on the water of the state. The Commission is to guide the department in its administration and enforcement of the state's wildlife and boating laws.

Each of Nevada's 17 counties has a three to five member county advisory board to manage wildlife. The county wildlife boards act as a liaison between the public and the Wildlife Commission. The county boards hold meetings to consider department recommendations prior to the establishment of hunting, fishing and trapping seasons.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

The Department of Wildlife is responsible for administering a comprehensive program of protection, restoration, management and enhancement of the state's fish and wildlife resources, and enforcement of the Nevada Boat Act. Statutory authority for the department and its programs is contained in NRS Chapters 488, 501, 502, 503, 504 and 505.

The Department of Wildlife operates under the direction of an unclassified director and unclassified deputy director. The agency operates with 202.25 full time equivalent positions as approved by the 1991 Legislature.

The department has six divisions, including: Administrative Services, Game Management, Fisheries Management, Law Enforcement, Habitat, and Conservation Education.

The Administrative Services Division is the service and support arm of the agency, providing services such as personnel, fiscal accounting, license/tag sales, and boat registration and titling. The department operates out of three regions responsible for program implementation in Eastern Nevada, Western Nevada and Southern Nevada.

The Game Division is responsible for the management of both game and nongame animals throughout the state. Responsibilities include the survey and inventory of game species and selected nongame animals, and wildlife habitat improvement projects, including water and wetland developments.

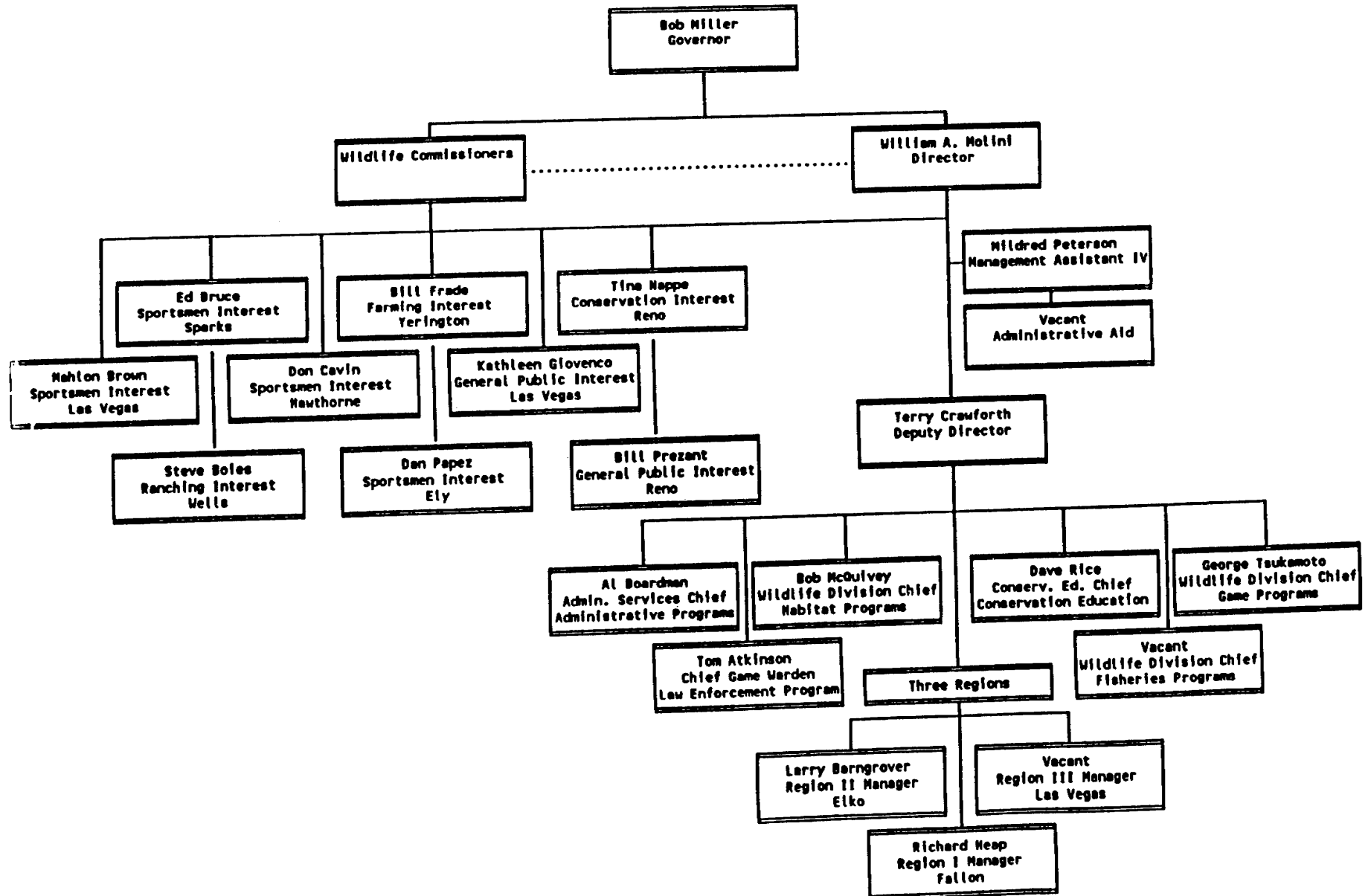
The Fisheries Division is responsible for all fisheries management functions, including stream, lake and reservoir surveys, fish population monitoring, three fish hatcheries and one fish-rearing station, fish stocking and the development and maintenance of fish habitat.

The Law Enforcement Division is responsible for ensuring compliance with all laws and regulations relative to wildlife, habitat, and boating.

The Habitat Division is responsible for the monitoring of all land uses to ensure that proper and due consideration is given to the protection and maintenance of wildlife habitat.

The Conservation Education Division administers environmental education programs, Project Wild, boating safety education and public information dissemination projects.

Department of Wildlife
Executive Structure



V. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

At the request of the S.C.R. 36 Subcommittee, the Department of Wildlife prepared a detailed needs assessment of what the department feels it needs to accomplish its mission to protect, maintain, enhance and manage the wildlife resources of the state. The detailed needs assessment covers the needs from the time period of 1994 to year 2000.

The report covers such areas as physical facilities and program needs by division and region. The department's estimate of the cost of meeting all these needs would have an initial cost of \$4,591,000 and an annual operating cost of \$3,384,000. The detailed needs assessment is attached as Appendix C.

VI. HUNTING AND FISHING FEE COMPARISON AND SALES HISTORY

History

As displayed in Exhibit #1, the Department of Wildlife has been faced with significant decline in its sales of hunting and fishing licenses. Since 1981, the sales of resident regular hunting licenses has declined from 43,470 to 20,961 in 1991. The number of resident regular fishing licenses sold has declined from 83,257 in 1981 to 52,753 in 1991.

NEVADA HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES SOLD
BY TYPE AND CALENDAR YEAR

RESIDENT

NON-RESIDENT

<u>Year</u>	<u>RESIDENT</u>			<u>RESIDENT</u>			<u>RESIDENT</u>			<u>NON-RESIDENT</u>		
	<u>Regular</u> <u>Hunting</u>	<u>Regular</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Combined</u> <u>Hunting/</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Junior</u> <u>Hunting</u>	<u>Junior</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Junior</u> <u>Combined</u> <u>Hunting/</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Senior</u> <u>Hunting</u>	<u>Senior</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Senior</u> <u>Combined</u> <u>Hunting/</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Regular</u> <u>Hunting</u>	<u>Regular</u> <u>Fishing</u>	<u>Junior</u> <u>Fishing</u>
1981	43,470	83,257	-	3,831	8,096	-	2,476	8,027	-	3,985	3,555	991
1982	46,252	65,418	14,150	4,830	7,749	-	3,507	8,637	-	5,817	1,498	855
1983	28,380	59,090	16,071	3,758	7,381	-	3,175	8,709	-	3,419	1,242	789
1984	26,102	60,929	17,670	3,651	8,091	-	1,285	7,196	2,204	3,520	1,372	720
1985	25,917	64,373	18,602	3,509	8,309	-	965	7,127	2,771	4,189	1,578	824
1986	27,087	63,377	18,430	3,224	7,191	-	958	6,823	2,860	6,278	2,041	770
1987	27,866	62,345	19,564	3,231	6,583	-	928	6,528	3,099	4,508	2,198	642
1988	26,711	57,770	19,082	3,225	5,724	-	900	5,707	3,058	7,099	1,929	528
1989	25,338	62,806	19,626	3,348	5,909	-	812	5,881	3,164	3,563	1,770	489
1990	23,431	57,714	18,507	2,043	4,700	1,164	795	5,378	3,114	3,279	1,558	511

AdS:z
10/11/91

The Department of Wildlife requested that the subcommittee consider the possibility of raising fees for hunting and fishing licenses in order to provide additional funding for the Department from its most traditional revenue source. Exhibit 2 compares Nevada's 1991 hunting and fishing license costs to those of other western states.

Appendix D displays in greater detail costs to hunt and fish in a number of states effective January 1992.

1991 Resident Hunting and Fishing Licenses

<u>State</u>	<u>Fishing</u>	<u>Hunting</u>	<u>Combination</u>
Alaska	10.00	12.00	22.00
Arizona	12.00	18.00	34.00
California	22.60	23.10	-
Colorado	15.25	10.25 ^a	20.25 ^b
Hawaii	3.75	10.00	-
Idaho	16.00	7.00	21.00
Montana	9.50	9.00 ^c	45.50 ^d
Nevada	15.50	20.50	34.00
New Mexico	8.50	22.50	26.00
North Dakota	9.00	6.00	-
Oregon	14.50	9.50	21.50
South Dakota	5 + 9 ^e	5.00 ^e	30.00 ^f
Texas	8.00	10.00	15.00
Utah	18.00	12 + 15 ^g	35.00
Washington	17.00	15.00	29.00
Wyoming	7.50	15.00 ^h	-

a Small game.

b Small game and fishing.

c Deer only.

d Resident sportsman license (includes conservation license, bird license, fishing license, one deer tag, one elk tag and black bear tag).

e \$5 Basic game and fish license and 9 annual fishing stamps.

f Sportsman license includes basic fish and game plus annual fishing stamp, small game stamp and pheasant restoration stamp.

g Small game \$12, Big game \$15 (includes one deer tag).

h Deer.

rag lic comparison/nw
WILDLIFE

VII. BUDGET STATUS

The 1991 Legislature was faced with a potential budget shortfall in the Department of Wildlife of upwards to \$1.3 million. During the session it appeared, the department had estimated expenses in excess of anticipated revenues leading to a potential shortfall of \$796,199 in FY 1992 and \$749,801 in FY 1993.

To offset the anticipated shortfall, the 1991 Legislature approved a number of revenue increases, including \$500,000 a year from mining with the passage of A.B. 535. The 1991 Legislature also increased the amount of funding to be transferred from the separate trout account to offset expenses by \$100,000 each year, provided a general fund rebate on free or low cost licenses of \$411,363 each fiscal year, and increased the transfer from the Department of Tourism by \$125,000 each year in support of the Department of Wildlife's efforts to promote tourism, especially in rural Nevada. Finally, the 1991 Legislature increased nonresident hunting and fishing fees and increased the cost of trophy big game tags, but did not increase resident hunting and fishing licenses. The increases in fees/tags was anticipated to generate yearly revenue of \$218,583.

Appendix E is an update from the Department of Wildlife concerning revenues vs. expenses as of May 1992, which continues to display a revenue shortfall.

VIII. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The S.C.R. 36 Subcommittee reviewed a number of funding options, including a number of proposals submitted by the Department of Wildlife. Appendix F contains formal recommendations from the Department of Wildlife and the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

The Department of Wildlife submitted the following for the subcommittee's review:

- A. General fund support of nongame and wildlife conservation education programs.
- B. Reimbursement for revenue lost from low cost and free hunting and fishing licenses.
- C. Support transfer of funds from the Department of Tourism.
- D. Propose a \$1 per day surcharge on car rentals.
- E. Propose that off-highway vehicles (those not registered by DMV) such as three and four wheelers and motor cycles pay a registration fee to help off-set Department of Wildlife expenses.
- F. Propose a Habitat Modification Permit and Fee
- G. Increase Hunting and Fishing License Fees

The S.C.R. 36 Subcommittee discussed all of these proposals in detail and made the following recommendations.

Subcommittee Recommendations

The S.C.R. 36 subcommittee made a total of five recommendations to improve and stabilize the funding of the Department of Wildlife.

1. The subcommittee recommends that the Department of Wildlife continue to justify low cost and free licenses, and the subcommittee supports the concept of general fund reimbursement to the Department of Wildlife for revenues lost by the issuance of low cost licenses to senior citizens, juniors and servicemen and free licenses to disabled veterans and Indians. The subcommittee had concerns in reference to a number of senior citizens who have considerable resources yet received a reduced license, and the subcommittee felt it was proper for the department to rejustify this to the 1993 Session.

The 1991 Legislature provided general fund support to offset the cost of free and reduced fee licenses based on the following data:

	<u>Fishing</u>		<u>Hunting</u>		<u>Combination</u>		<u>Revenue Lost</u>
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>No.</u>	
Senior	\$3.50	5,378	\$3.50	795	\$5.50	3,114	\$166,800
Junior	5.50	4,700	5.50	2,043	9.50	1,164	104,999
Serviceman	5.50	386	5.50	148	-	-	6,080
Indian	-0-	430	-	-	-0-	2,847	103,463
Handicap	3.50	191	3.50	7	5.50	284	10,505
Disabled Vet.	-	-	-	-	-0-	574	19,516
					Total		\$411,363

Updated data from the Department of Wildlife on 1990 and 1991 is contained in Appendix G.

2. The subcommittee recommends continued funding transfers from the Department of Tourism to support Department of Wildlife programs in support of Tourism efforts in the State of Nevada.

Appendix H provides justification from the Department of Wildlife in support of the Tourism transfer.

3. The subcommittee recommends the 1993 Legislature should consider an increase in hunting and fishing licenses if the department can justify those increases to the 67th Session.

4. The subcommittee recommends continued general fund support for nongame programs operated by the Department of Wildlife. Appendix I provides additional information on nongame program activities.
5. The subcommittee recommends continued support from the mining industry at current funding levels as enacted in A.B. 535 in the 1991 Legislative Session.

The subcommittee received considerable public input at the meeting in reference to all the recommendations, and the subcommittee felt the input was of great value to the subcommittee in reaching their recommendations.

IX. APPENDICES

A.	Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36 (File No. 0187, <u>Statutes of Nevada, 1991</u>).	19
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APPENDIX A

**APPENDIX A -- Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36
(File No. 0187, Statutes of Nevada, 1991).**

Filed 7/1/91

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36—Committee on Finance

FILE NUMBER.0187

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study to evaluate and recommend potential funding sources for the Department of Wildlife.

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Nevada recognizes the importance of the Department of Wildlife, which is responsible for the preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife and its habitat within this state for aesthetic, scientific, recreational and economic benefits; and

WHEREAS, Funding derived from sportsmen in this state has not been sufficient to meet the financial needs of the Department of Wildlife; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes the financial impact on the Department of Wildlife when reduced or free licenses are allowed for senior citizens, juniors, servicemen, Indians, handicapped persons and disabled veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislative Commission is hereby directed to conduct an interim study to evaluate and recommend potential funding sources which will provide the Department of Wildlife with a long-term plan for adequate funding for all functions performed by the Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study should include, but not be limited to:

1. The examination of all functions performed by the Department of Wildlife, including the cost of performing those functions and the source of the money currently used to support each function;
2. A determination of the adequacy of all fees charged by the Department of Wildlife;
3. An analysis of the adequacy of the funding for nongame, educational and other programs operated by the Department of Wildlife;
4. A determination of the functions and the level of participation that should be supported by the residents of Nevada; and
5. An analysis of whether other uses of land which have an impact on the Department of Wildlife, including mining, recreational activities and development, are contributing their fair share to the support of the Department;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislative Commission submit a report of its findings and any recommendations for appropriate legislation to the 67th session of the Nevada Legislature.

APPENDIX B

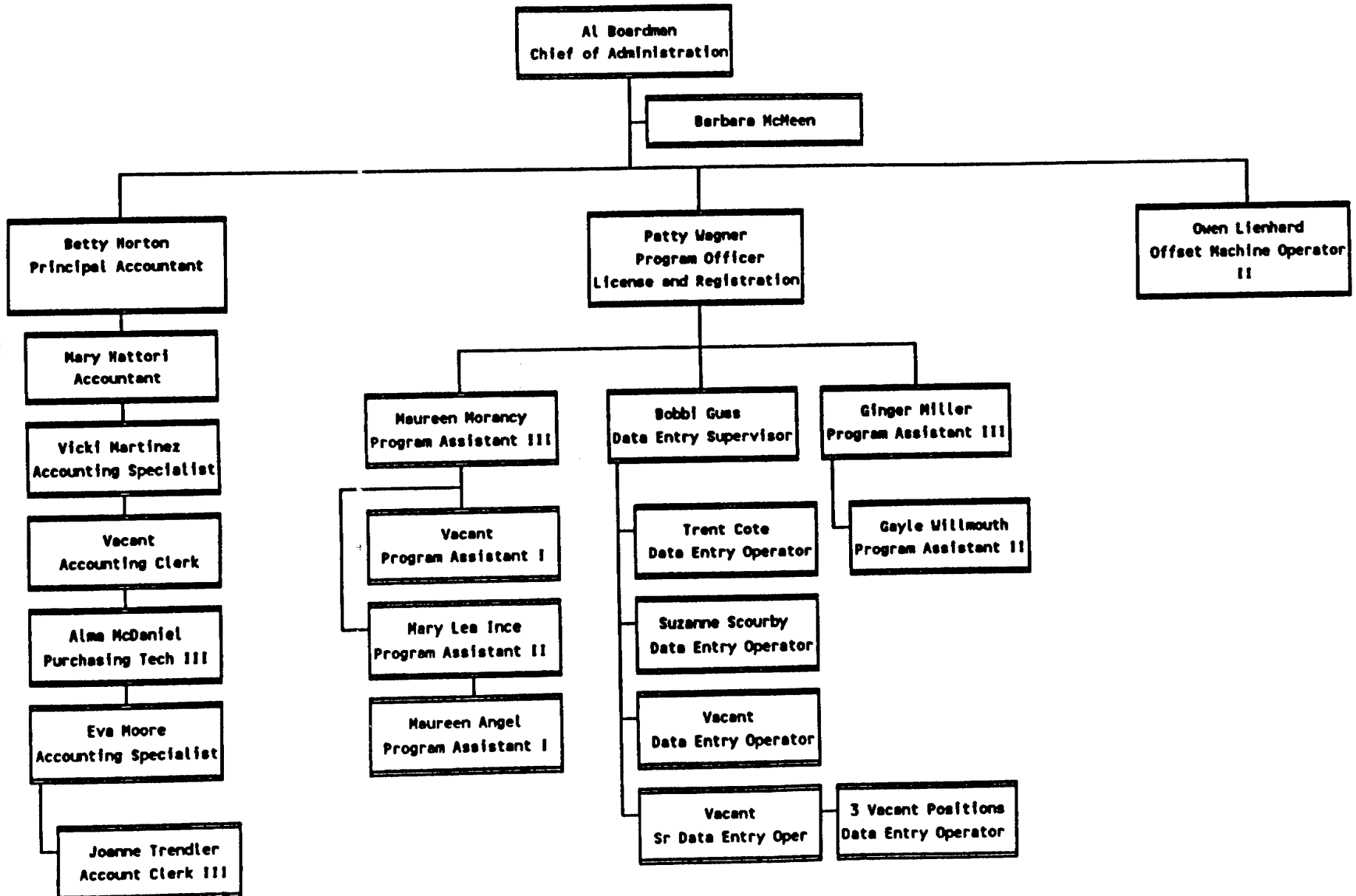
APPENDIX B -- Nevada Department of Wildlife Division Organizational Charts.

Nevada Department of Wildlife

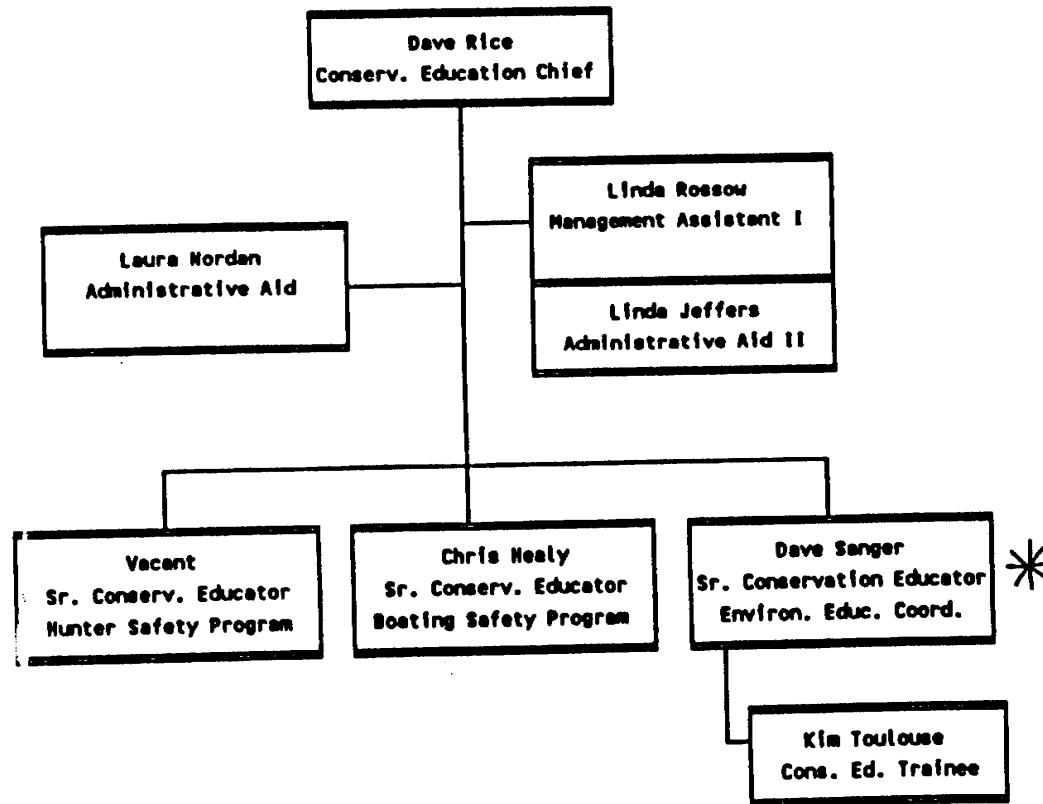
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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

**Administrative Services
Organizational Structure**

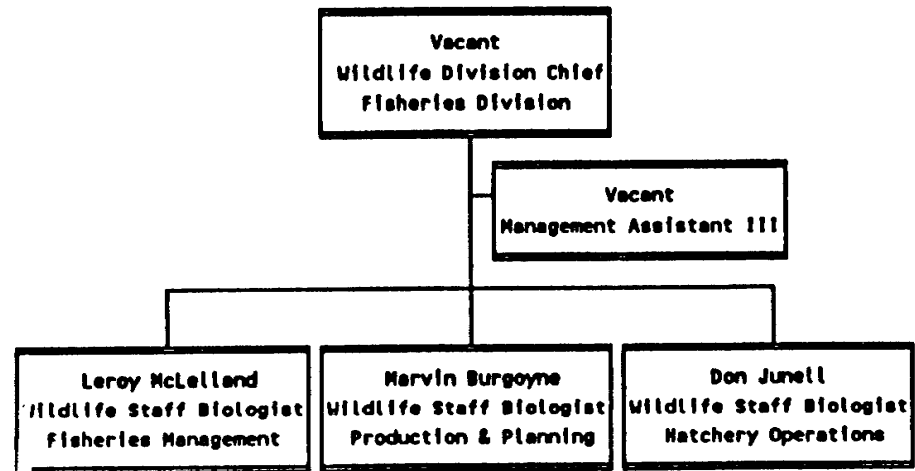


Conservation Education Division
Organizational Structure

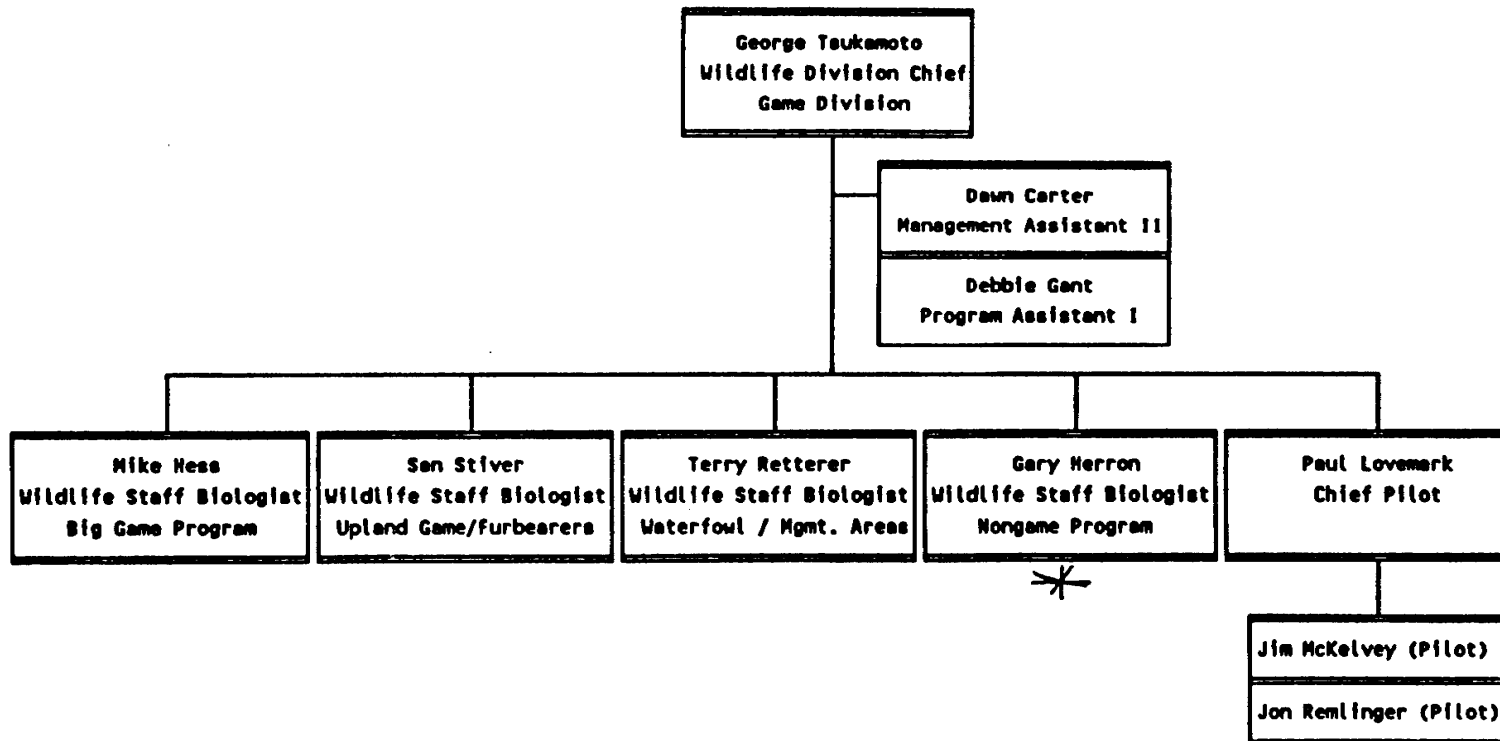


* WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY FUNDED BY GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS.

**Fisheries Division
Organizational Chart**

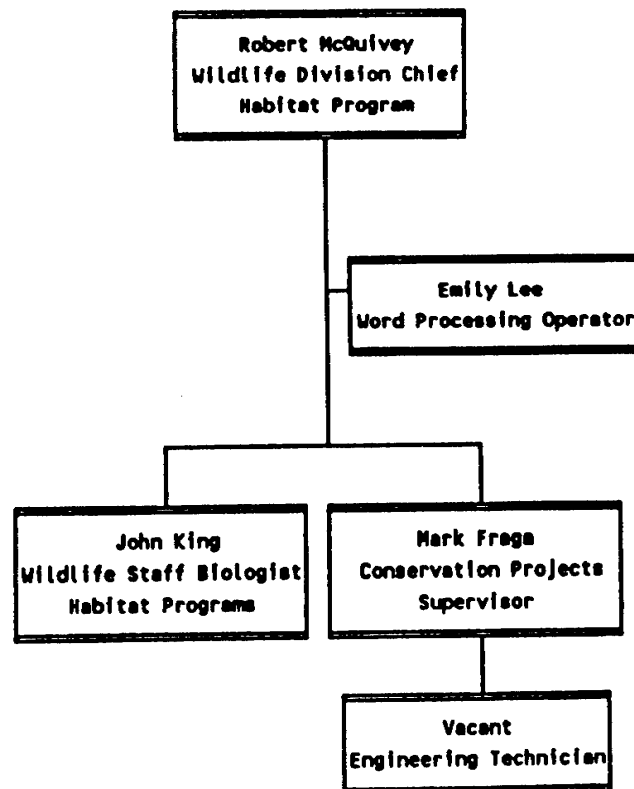


Game Division
Organizational Structure

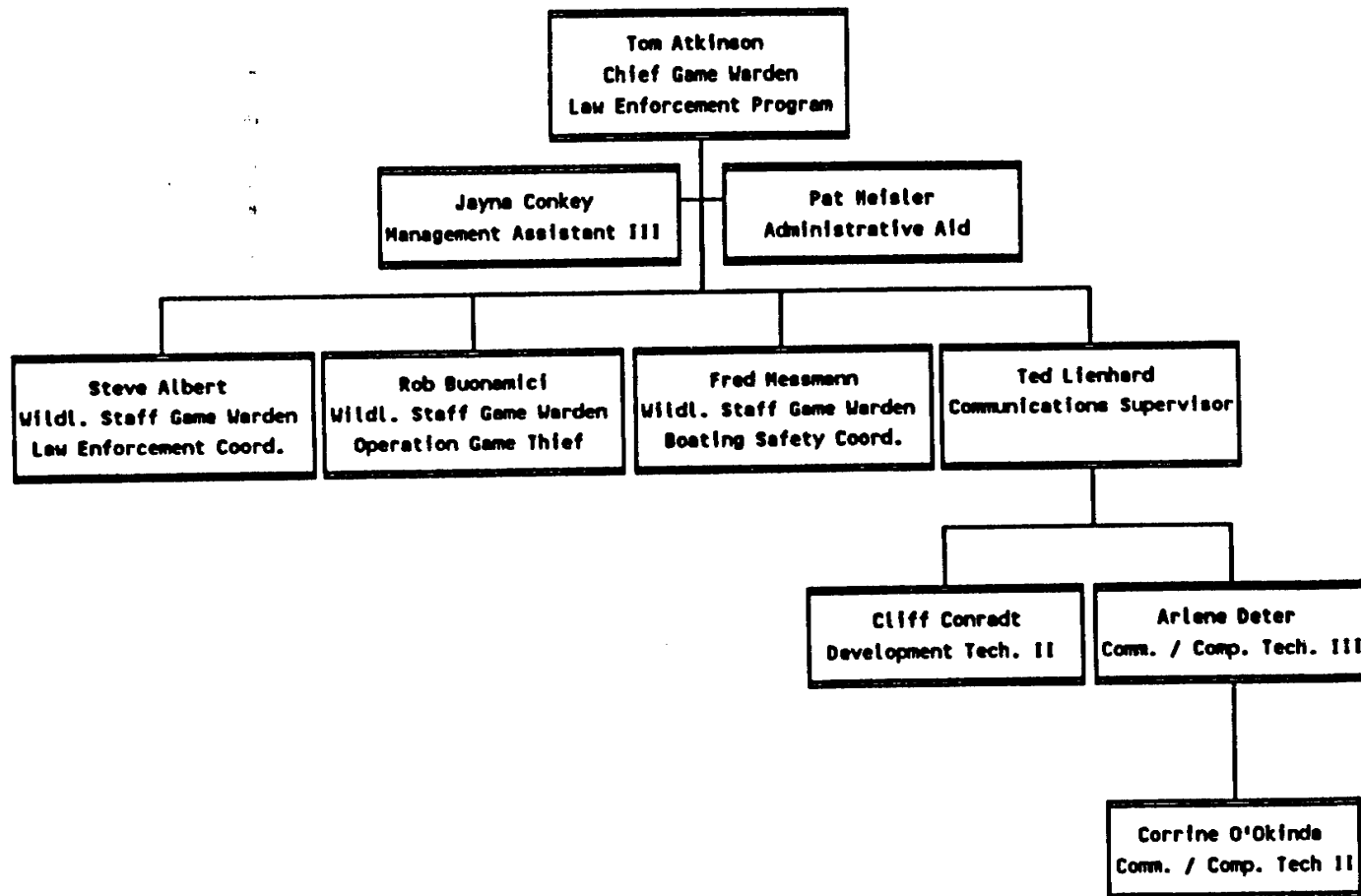


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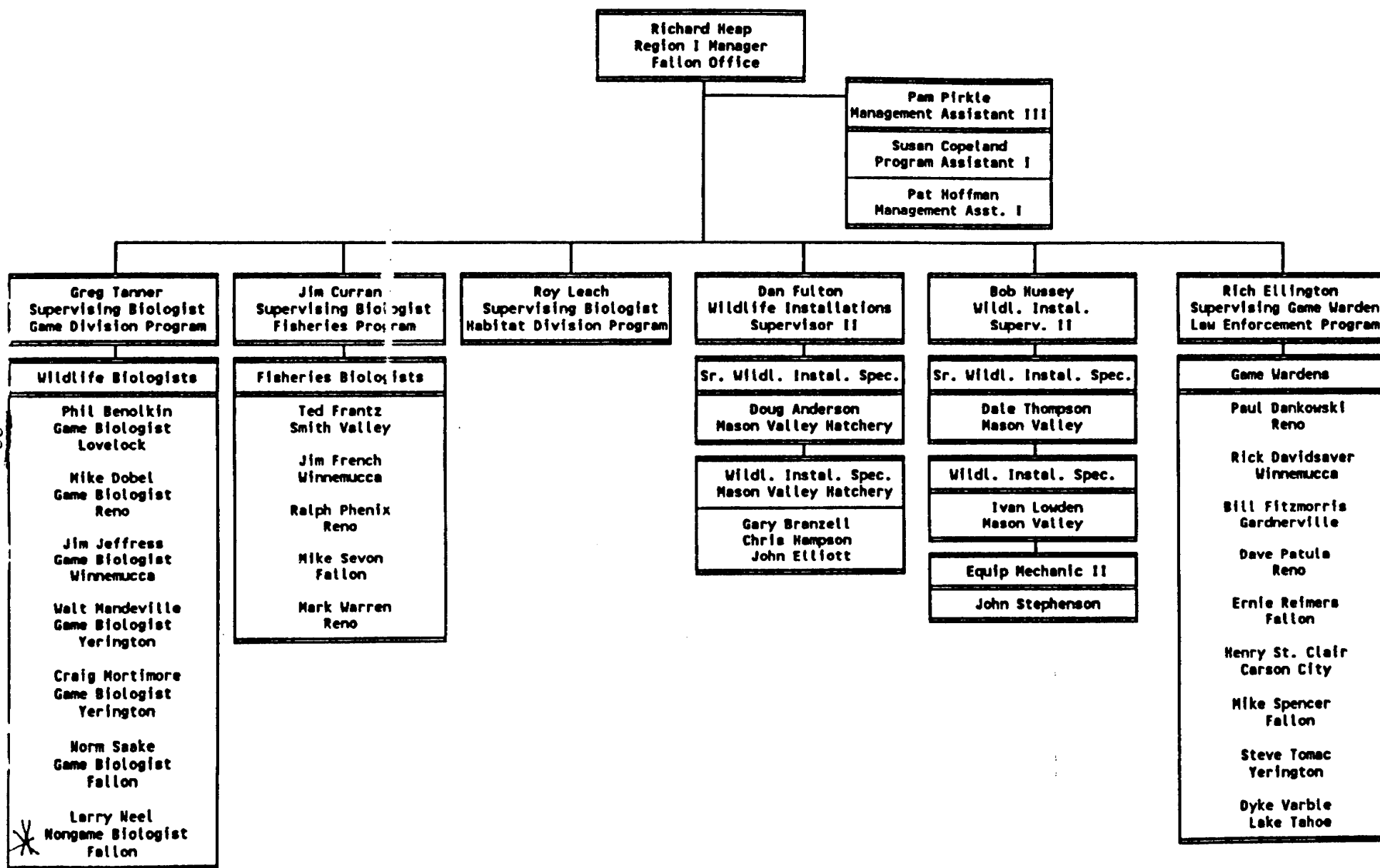
Habitat Division
Organizational Structure



Law Enforcement Division
Organizational Structure

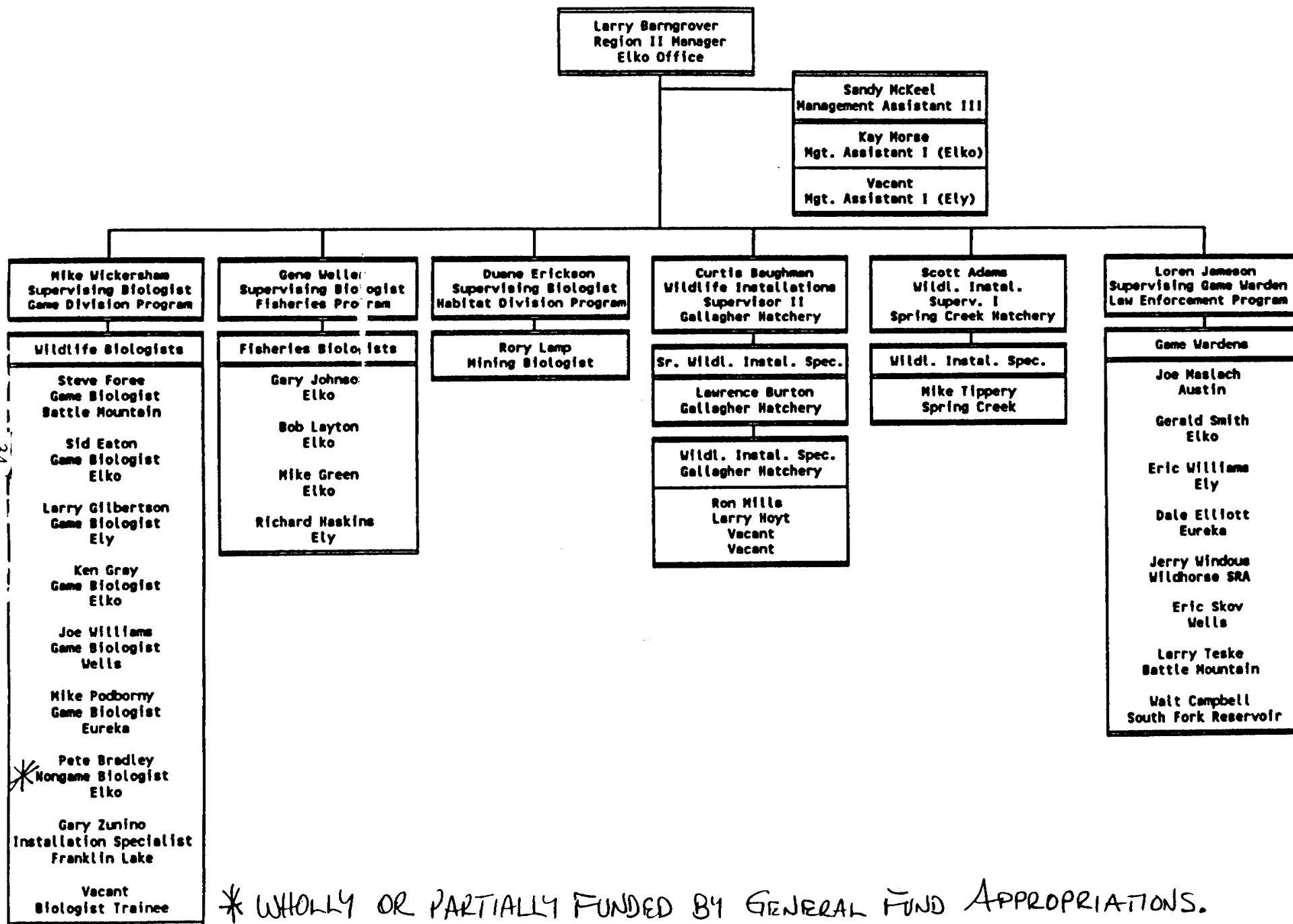


Region I Organizational Structure

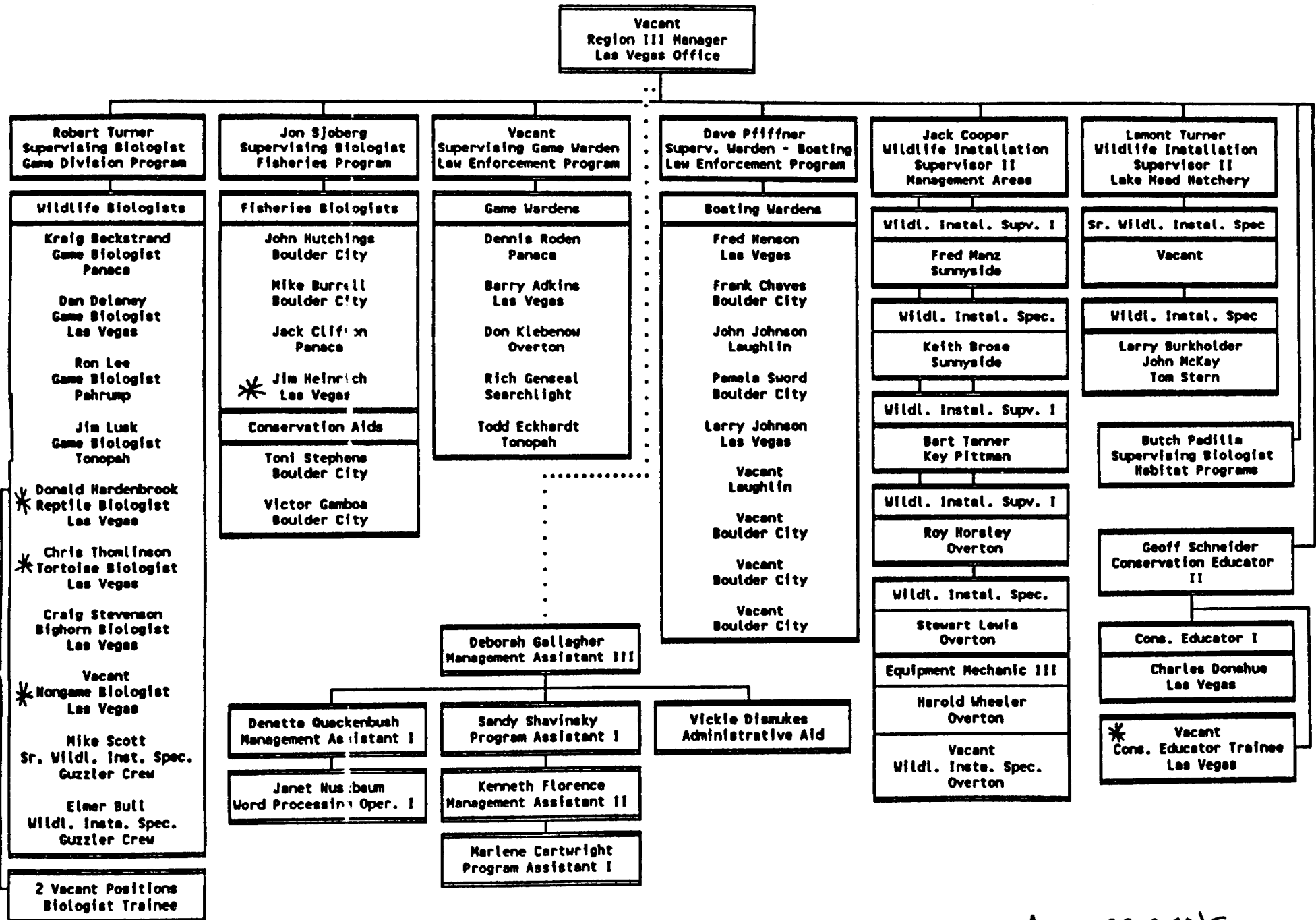


* WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY FUNDED BY GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS.

Region II Organizational Structure



Region III Organizational Structure



* WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY FUNDED BY GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS.

APPENDIX C

APPENDIX C -- Nevada Department of Wildlife Needs Assessment.

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Needs Assessment 1994-2000

Introduction:

This document represents an assessment of the needs for the Department of Wildlife to do a full and complete job of meeting its mandated mission to protect, maintain, enhance and manage the wildlife resources of this state for their recreational, educational, scientific, economic and aesthetic value to the people of the state and the nation. While the Department is currently striving hard to meet its mission, funding and personnel resources fall short in many areas to fully meet the expectations of the public and the needs of wildlife.

Wildlife resources have an array of values, but historically their value for hunting, trapping and fishing have been viewed as the most significant, and wildlife management and enhancement programs have traditionally been funded by fees from these consumptive uses. Over time, society has come to recognize other wildlife values including the importance of wildlife as an indicator of environmental health and their importance to human quality of life. As a result of society's increased awareness of wildlife's full range of values there are ever increasing demands on how wildlife should be cared for and managed. Of particular importance is the maintenance of wildlife diversity and the preservation of the habitats necessary to support such diversity.

With these new demands and an increasing desire on the part of traditional users for more and higher quality opportunity for consumptive use even in the face of a declining habitat base, the need for program expansion and enhancement is clear. This needs assessment represents an effort to address the program enhancements necessary to allow the Department to more fully meet the needs of Nevada's wildlife and her citizens who use and enjoy them. The narrative presented below is a companion to the attached needs assessment outline and references the items listed in the order presented in the outline.

I. PHYSICAL FACILITIES:

Facility needs are addressed first, and except for annual needs at the fish hatcheries and wildlife management areas, the costs are primarily one time construction costs.

Reno Office:

Space - New employees in both existing and new positions require additional work space. In the very near term, the headquarters building will not accommodate all the personnel assigned it. A building plan is needed to house all current

and projected personnel and their associated equipment. This plan should include the agency homes now occupied by agency personnel in the outlying areas. An exterior building to the headquarters has been estimated to cost \$350,000. Additional storage space is also needed.

Region I Office, Fallon:

We are rapidly reaching the limit on our available office space to house our expanding staff. Additionally, our conference room facilities are already taxed beyond their design capabilities. We propose an addition to our existing office, utilizing the adjoining lot and containing a reception area, boat desk, Regional Manager's office and a conference room with rest room facilities. Additional funds will be necessary to remodel the existing office to house the staff currently using the airport office and additional staff that will result from increasing work demands. The proposed annex should be built to allow the later addition of a second story, allowing for future expansion that may be necessary.

A designed reception area will facilitate walk-ins and better handle boat registration customers. The improved conference room would greatly enhance our ability to accommodate hunter education classes, school programs, county advisory board meetings and public hearings. There will also be increased efficiency of the Department's programs and a reduction in off-site rental expenses.

Region II Office, Elko:

At the present time the regional office in Elko does not satisfy either the public's or Department employee's needs. Administration staffing levels at the regional office do not meet public and employee needs. The existing office situation includes the regional office housing the program supervisors, administrative personnel and regional manager. A downtown field office houses 11 field personnel. Several trailers and other equipment are presently being stored at the NDOT yard. These physical facilities are cumbersome at best.

Region III Office, Las Vegas:

The yard behind the existing office which is used to store agency vehicles and for employee parking is now gravel. The area needs to be paved and additional storage space for equipment is necessary.

Oxbow Nature Study Area, Reno:

In the original plans of the Oxbow facility, a classroom training room was to be constructed on the site. However,

funds ran out and this facility was not included. The present visitor center building is not fashioned for groups larger than 10 to 12, and during the majority of the year, it is impossible to conduct classes outside due to the weather, noise, and other distractions. This building would allow for formal classroom training by NDOW personnel. Currently, weather dictates the use of this area, and since school use begins in October, and usually ceases in early May, usage is less than desirable. The building would allow teachers to visit the area and then have their students receive one or two hours of "classroom" instruction.

Field Offices:

In all locations listed, we either now have at least three employees or we will have that number before the end of FY-92. In the near term future, all locations will have from three to five employees. Except for Ely, where we do have a very old office building, office space is rented. It would be in the public's best interest and in the long-term financial interest of the state to have permanent state-owned office facilities in these locations.

Other Facilities:

o

New homes are needed at three hatchery facilities to house the employees necessary to operate these facilities. The house for Gallagher hatchery is to replace one very old house which is virtually worn out.

In order to keep our hatcheries and wildlife management areas in good condition, and to replace old and worn out equipment, we estimate an annual need of about \$100,000. The public will benefit by having improved areas to hunt, fish and view wildlife and the hatcheries will be able to produce at maximum capacity over time.

II. PROGRAM NEEDS - DIVISIONS AND REGIONS:

A. Administration

Statewide Data Center:

A center to handle all electronic data processing functions for the Department to be housed in the addition to the Reno office. The center would be supervised by a data processing coordinator who would be responsible for ensuring that all Department data processing needs are met in the most productive and cost effective manner. This position would be responsible for technical liaison with the Department of Data Processing and any outside vendors or contractors. The center would function as the

point of data entry for all Department functions including the biological data collection, manipulation, storage and retrieval including biological assessments and evaluations of data. This center, and its management staff will serve as a control point for the effective distribution and use of personal computers within the agency. All present data entry functions will be housed in this center. Geographical positioning system capabilities applicable to all wildlife sight records and survey and inventory information would also be an integral part of this center.

The cornerstone of all the Department of Wildlife's actions, with the sole exception of the boating project, are the inventory and analysis of wildlife data. The baseline inventory data required to properly manage the resource are categorized as what species lives where, when does it live there, how many live there, and what are the characteristics of the location. The baseline analysis of these data require that biologists determine the status of each population and the trend of each population.

Historically the programs that collect and analyze wildlife data have been moderately to severely manpower short. The Department has attempted to mitigate this shortage with the implementation of advanced technologies for data collection including the use of radio telemetry and helicopters. The use of personal computers for population modelling is an example of increasing the accuracy of the analysis of the status and trend of populations.

The collection of wildlife data is critical to the agency, however, many other elements of the field biologist's job compete for time in his/her annual cycle of work. The net outcome of these varied job demands and the shortage of people is that some aspects of each job suffers. Analysis of these shortages indicates that two aspects of the wildlife data collection function lag far behind. The first is related to the recording of high volume data in a usable format. As an example, a biologist may collect 2,000-5,000 wildlife observations in a day in the helicopter. The result is a huge data recording backlog. The standard reports are completed at the conclusion of the survey, but much of the data are missing and no method exists for moving the data rapidly from observation to retrievable storage. The second shortcoming is the recording of incidental wildlife observations that occur on a daily basis. These data are observed but the biologist rushing from one job to another fails to record the information. The biologist

must stop the current activity, i.e. driving or hiking, find the appropriate data sheet, and record the observation. Later the biologist must plot the location on a map and determine where the observation occurred and record that data.

The public will benefit from the Department's ability to more fully utilize data collected in the field. The Department will collect greater quantities of data through incidental observations. These analysis should significantly improve the management of the state's wildlife resource.

Printing and Document Storage and Retrieval:

The Department prints a considerable number of reports annually. These include a substantial number of Federal Aid in Fish & Wildlife Restoration reports, as well as many specialized reports such as hunting and fishing season recommendation booklets which receive broad public dissemination. A replacement with a newer and more modern offset printing press and a revolutionary platemaker would substantially enhance the speed of printing and the quality of the end product.

Document storage and retrieval has been an historic problem for the agency for many reasons including storage space and capability and sufficient staffing. While the Department has a substantial collection of books and periodicals and technical papers and journals, they are not currently stored in a usable fashion. Someone trained in library service should staff a library and document center and be responsible for accountable documents and an accountable records storage and retrieval plan and a records retention schedule. This would allow the Department to keep pace with current professional literature, to have a solid record handling center and avoid some of the record accountability problems which have been noted in past audits.

Agency-Wide Needs Assessment:

Before the year 2000, nearly all of the top and middle management personnel will have completed employment in state government sufficient to retire. This necessitates preparatory personnel management in the form of an agency personnel manager directly responsible for and concerned with all personnel action items, such as: providing centralized guidance on standardizing all agency position descriptions and work performance factors, EEO/AA actions, recruitment of qualified job applicants, timely submission of employee evaluations, and training. The

training requirement will become increasingly sensitive and expensive as the aging work force retires, and a dedicated sum will have to be identified each year for training all employees.

The Department has not done a good job of keeping a comprehensive management system through an appropriate strategic and operational plans. A strategic plan was developed for the fisheries and game management programs in the early 1980's and this plan is very much in need of update. A comprehensive management system of planning which includes the budgeting process as an integral part of the planning system is definitely needed. The agency currently lacks good expertise in the planning field and a planner is needed to facilitate agency planning and to integrate agency planning with the current statewide planning effort.

Over 5 million dollars is currently available to the Department on an annual basis from Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration. Federal Aid funding requires a significant amount of preparation, justification, execution and accountability. This function has been delegated to the staff of the respective divisions that qualify for Federal Aid funding. Federal Aid rules are continually changing and growing more sophisticated. The Federal Aid Division of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the grantor, has recommended several times that a Federal Aid Coordinator would be a desirable move. Additionally the Department often receives \$300,000 to \$500,000 in gifts and donations and the opportunity to double this amount is available. A position to handle Federal Aid and gift and donation coordination could substantially assist our funding resource base thereby enabling the Department to implement enhanced programs.

The other positions and equipment identified here will improve our fiscal accountability, and our service to the public, including the application hunt process, and service and liaison with license agents. We are very desirous of entering into a "point of sale" system with the major license agents (about 20% of which sell 80% of the licenses) so that the sales information can be electronically entered into the license sale and revenue tracking system at the agent (point of sale).

B. Game Program

With increasing demands in the area of big game depredation response, i.e. elk damage payments and deer and antelope tags awarded to landowners sustaining damage

there is a need to add tighter program direction and implementation. In addition, this position could handle the statewide waterfowl program. This would allow the existing positions which share these responsibilities to focus their efforts totally on Wildlife Management Areas and other Department owned and managed lands program and on the nongame wildlife program.

The current staff of field wildlife biologists have very large areas of responsibility with overloaded work programs rendering them incapable of performing all of the duties that are desirable. Often, the biologist supervisors or regional managers are faced with situations where one area of work has to be decided over another. When big game animals must be trapped and transplanted for example, then important habitat work goes undone. By adding three biologist technicians, strategically placed in each region to help the existing field biologists, much of the work which is now not being accomplished would get done.

We are currently having great difficulty in keeping up with wildlife problems in the rapidly expanding urban areas of Reno and Las Vegas. The public is frustrated and oftentimes does not receive satisfaction to their complaints from the Department or the county animal control entities. An urban wildlife control officer in each of the state's major urban areas would be of substantial help in addressing these problems.

Air Operations Upgrade:

Replacement of the remaining Bell 47 helicopter with jet ranger. Our next turbine helicopter should be of a new vintage, at least a 1988 or newer. The acquisition of much a machine will increase service to the field personnel to do a better, more cost effective job in managing the wildlife for the state, and will increase safety for all personnel.

Replacement of fixed wing aircraft Cessna T206. Our Cessna is high time on the airframe hours, and is developing a stress crack. We need to trade this aircraft in on a newer model with low airframe time. The last year they made this model was 1986. We can get one with 400 or 500 hrs. total time on it. This replacement would increase service to all personnel and increase safety as well as increase savings of repair money that will be needed to keep our old Cessna going.

C. Nongame Program:

With the rapid urban growth in both Las Vegas and Reno, the need to provide the public with ways to enjoy wildlife, enhance urban wildlife habitats and cope with unwanted interactions with wildlife is urgently needed. Urban biologists are also needed to coordinate and participate in watchable wildlife activities. With the present nongame program priorities and staffing levels, the Department is unable to maintain the proper associations with our constituents.

Urban biologists would enable us to reach a much broader segment of the public. The Department has a legislative mandate to manage wildlife populations for the people of Nevada and to reach the majority of the public we must have the capability of working within our urban communities. We also have a substantial need to work more closely with county and city governments to protect and preserve wildlife habitat in and around the urban environment.

The Department is very anxious to initiate a watchable wildlife program, including a watchable wildlife viewing guide for Nevada. In cooperation with the Defenders of Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, a series of state wildlife viewing guides is underway. Guides have been published for Oregon, Utah, Montana and Idaho, and several other states are in progress. The Departments of Tourism and Transportation would be natural partners and should be involved. This program is expected to have significant tourism value and fits well into the theme of the "other side of Nevada".

D. Fisheries Program

There is a large area of central Nevada including western Nye county, Esmeralda, southern Lander and Eureka counties that do not now receive adequate fisheries management attention. There is a need to position a full-time fisheries biologist in central Nevada to ensure the continued existence of the fisheries resources in this area, and the further enhancement of many of these resources.

In order to maintain and enhance fisheries habitat to ensure a diversity of fish species and fishing opportunities, fish habitats must be inventoried and work done with land management agencies and private landowners. The Department is working on this currently with three stream survey crews. In order to address the

statewide demands for this fish habitat inventory information, additional stream survey crews are needed for Elko, White Pine, Humboldt, Churchill, Lander, Eureka and Nye counties.

Because of the unique, and often isolated habitats for native fish in Nevada, and because of the Endangered Species Act, it is vital that we have an in-depth understanding of the native fish species and their population status and habitat needs. We currently have one endemic fish biologist working in southern Nevada. We have a need to add such a biologist in both Region I and Region II.

E. Law Enforcement and Communications

Nevada presently has one of the worst ratios in the United States of officer to public, licensed hunters, anglers and patrol area. These circumstances need to be corrected if we are in fact going to protect Nevada's invaluable resources. Some simple facts which depict our field program status and needs areas follows:

- 1 warden per 6,749 licensed sportsmen.
- 1 warden per 49,922 people in the general public.
- 1 warden per 4,095 square mile patrol area.
- 3.02 wardens on patrol during any 12-hour period statewide.

Last year the average number of public contacts per warden was 1,923. The total number of people contacted by all wardens was 51,929.

In addition to these program needs, the law enforcement division must address the following areas in which work efforts are virtually nonexistent because of current funding constraints:

The enforcement program needs staff to work in a covert capacity on a statewide basis to address critical loss of our resource. We are the only western state which does not use this technique to address serious wildlife crimes.

We need additional staff to address training, special licenses and permits, regulations and support functions.

The statewide dispatch center needs additional personnel to function adequately. The increased traffic coverage and data entry are vital to officer safety and efficient division function. This office currently not only protects our personnel but also assists them to work

efficiently in many key areas such as CJIS, coding, citation FI cards, warrants, etc.

Besides consumptive use and protection of our resources, more work has to be accomplished in protecting the environment and habitat, educating the public, prevention of trespassing and destruction of property.

F. Conservation Education and Public Information Program

The conservation Education program is in need of a public affairs specialist, assigned to the Reno office, to conduct the ongoing public affairs duties and programs including news release writing, video taping and editing for television airing, etc.

The amount of unplanned, but important projects such as the fishing and (proposed) hunting regulations, application hunt assignments, Question 5, video productions, etc., have continually made it difficult to maintain the expanded public affairs program.

It is the assigned duty of the public affairs program to keep the public informed as to what NDOW is doing to preserve, protect and enhance the wildlife resources of the state. With this comes the responsibility of keeping the public informed of changes in NRS, regulations, policies, procedures, etc. Although we have attempted to do this to the best of our ability, we are not adequately addressing this assigned duty. As the population of the state grows, we will continue to find ourselves falling behind in this endeavor until additional personnel are assigned to the conservation education division. The public will benefit from increased press releases, and video programs--the two areas of concern at this time--through increased knowledge of our projects, programs, procedures, etc.

In addition, we have a need to expand the environmental education and aquatic education programs into Regions I and II. With the workload of the environmental education coordinator, it will be impossible to expand these programs beyond their present level without additional personnel. The main thrust of these positions would be environmental education and public affairs, with some time spent in boating safety education and hunter education.

The Las Vegas and Reno offices are in need of a permanent person, assigned to answer incoming calls and walk-in requests for information. These positions would be trained and then responsible for answering most of the

questions posed by the public. This would also reduce the number of calls and walk-ins that are presently assigned to other personnel working in these two offices.

During busy periods, many callers are unable to get through to these offices to have their questions answered. The installation of additional incoming lines does not solve the problem because a receptionist can only handle two lines at the most. Therefore, the addition of another person would increase the public's ability to get through by telephone by 100% with the installation of two additional lines. This person would also be able to respond faster to the walk-in public that often wait in line to get the information needed.

G. Habitat Program

Since all fish and wildlife resources are ultimately dependent on habitat for their survival, and since habitat condition is the single most important factor determining population levels and distribution limits of most species of fish and wildlife, and since the Department has direct control over habitat management programs only on limited agency owned or leased lands, we must continue to develop a strong program which is directed at influencing habitat related decisions on both private and public lands. On private lands, this direction should not be oriented toward regulations and/or restrictions which impact private property rights, but should be directed toward the development of a program which provides some type of benefit to the landowner, who manages his land for the future well being of wildlife, individual landowners cannot continue to be expected to manage their lands for maximum wildlife benefits without some type of incentive. On public lands, we need to continue working in cooperation with the federal land managing agencies under the multiple use concept in an effort to insure that fish and wildlife resources receive due consideration in the decision making process. As an agency, we are legally responsible for protecting, preserving, enhancing, managing, and restoring wildlife and its habitat throughout Nevada.

A full time field biologist in each region is needed to work on public land use planning issues. During the next 5-10 years, there will be increased opportunities for establishing objectives and influencing decisions relating to the use of both private and public lands from a wildlife protection standpoint. We need to be fully staffed and in a position to address these opportunities.

The Department has expended considerable time and energy attendant to the land use planning processes of both the

USFS and BLM, and it is therefore imperative that we follow through during the next 5-10 years to insure that wildlife related objectives are being met.

We have a tremendous opportunity in southern Nevada to take advantage of private funding and special interest group donations for wildlife projects, but do not currently have the mantime necessary to meet this demand.

The habitat program must necessarily be viewed as a public service, for which the Department is legally responsible for representing the general public's views on the importance of wildlife to our quality of life. Without agency attention or focus on wildlife, the general public will necessarily need to rely on special interest groups and other nontechnical resources to carry the banner for wildlife. Recognizing that special interest groups (consumptive and nonconsumptive) have a lot of support and generate a lot of money, we need to meet our needs as an agency by developing that same type of support for Department programs. The benefits of the habitat program must be viewed in terms of the general importance of wildlife to all citizens of this country. As we improve habitat conditions for all species of wildlife, the consumptive user will also benefit.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT: 1994-2000

	<u>Initial Cost</u>	<u>Annual Operating Cost</u>
I. Physical Facilities		
A. Department offices		
1. Addition to Reno office	\$ 500,000	\$ 4,000
2. Addition to Region I office-- Fallon	150,000	1,000
3. New office building, Region II-- Elko	1,500,000	4,000
4. Paving and storage, Region III-- Las Vegas	150,000	
5. New Field Offices at:		
a. Winnemucca	250,000	1,500
b. Ely	250,000	1,500
c. Tonopah	250,000	1,500
d. Pioche	250,000	1,500
B. Other facilities		
1. New or replacement homes at installations		
a. New home at Mason Valley Hatchery	100,000	
b. Replacement home at Gallagher Hatchery	100,000	
c. Additional home at Lake Mead Hatchery	100,000	
2. Hatchery repair, maintenance and facility and equipment replacement		100,000
3. Wildlife Management Area facility repair, maintenance, enhancement and equipment replacement		100,000
4. Environmental/aquatic education training facility--Oxbow	75,000	
II. Program needs--Divisions and Regions		
A. Administration		
1. Data Center (includes wildlife resources center)		
a. Data Processing Coordinator		55,000
b. Data Center Technician		45,000
c. Data Entry Operators (2)		55,000
d. Equipment	50,000	
e. Operating and utilities		15,000

2.	Printing and document storage/retrieval		
a.	Librarian		30,000
b.	Equipment and operating		10,000
c.	Resolutionary platemaker	3,500	
d.	New printing press	12,500	
3.	Personnel Manager		55,000
4.	Planner		55,000
5.	Gifts-grants and Federal Aid Coordinator		55,000
6.	Program Assistant, License office		35,000
7.	Account Clerk, BMS		35,000
8.	12 PC's networked	70,000	
9.	Point-of-Sale system (lease)		100,000
B.	Game program		
1.	Staff Biologist--wildlife depredation control and waterfowl		57,000
2.	9 Biologist Technicians--3 strategically located in each Region to help Biologists		333,000
3.	Urban Wildlife Control Officers (2)--one each in Reno and Las Vegas		72,000
4.	Replace Bell 47 helicopter with Jet Ranger (used)	600,000	
5.	Replace Cessna 206 with newer model (used)	80,000	
6.	Annual flight training		6,000
7.	Automated data collection equipment (GPS data loggers, laptop computers)	100,000	
C.	Nongame Program		
1.	Urban Wildlife Biologists (2)--Reno and Las Vegas		95,000
2.	Watchable Wildlife program--operating		50,000
D.	Fisheries Program		
1.	Fisheries Biologist--Tonopah		45,000

2.	Stream Survey Crews (each crew consists of one crew leader as a full-time employee and 2 seasonal positions for 4 months in summer)	
a.	Elko	50,000
b.	Ely	50,000
c.	Winnemucca	50,000
d.	Tonopah	50,000
3.	Endemic Fisheries Biologist--Regions I and II	45,000
4.	Installation Specialist, Mason Valley Hatchery	30,000
E.	Law Enforcement and Communications Program	
1.	3 Field Wardens in each Region (9)	423,000
2.	Staff Warden--training officer, investigations	55,000
3.	2 Radio-communications Dispatchers	65,000
4.	Add 6 months of secretarial time	13,000
5.	Covert Operations Team (3 positions)-- 1 staff warden and 2 field operatives	170,000
F.	Conservation Education and Public Information Program	
1.	2 Conservation Educators (1 each in Fallon and Elko for public information, environmental education, and hunter safety education)	75,000
2.	Hunter Safety Education Coordinator, Las Vegas	45,000
3.	Aquatic Education Coordinator, Las Vegas	45,000
4.	Information Clerks (2)--1 each in Reno and Las Vegas	55,000
G.	Habitat Program	
1.	Conservation Engineer (refill vacant position)	45,000
2.	3 Habitat Biologists (1 in each Region)	135,000
3.	Staff Biologist--habitat development and mining coordinator	55,000
4.	Habitat improvement, water development, access acquisition, maintenance of dams and reservoirs, habitat acquisition	500,000

TOTAL:

Initial Cost \$4,591,000

Annual Operating Cost \$3,384,000

12/9/91

CURRENT AND PROJECTED NEEDS OF WILDLIFE

Habitat

The key to maintaining balanced and viable populations of wildlife is the perpetuation of good quality habitat. The diversity and density of wildlife is a direct function of habitat quantity and quality, therefore the greatest single current and future need for wildlife is to maintain and enhance habitat. For those wildlife species that are consumptively used and for some others, habitat needs are fairly well defined and understood. However, for a large number of species, particularly some nongame, reptiles and some endemic fish, habitat needs are poorly defined or unknown.

Generally, the protection of habitat requires careful monitoring of land and water uses by man, and avoidance of competitive land uses or some form of mitigation of debilitating land uses. Virtually all of man's land uses have negative impact on habitat for some species of wildlife. Urban development, highway construction, transmission lines and pipelines, mining, livestock grazing, fire, water diversion, sewage effluent disposal and many other activities degrade or destroy wildlife habitat for native wildlife. The greatest single need now and in the future is to work diligently with the many human land use activities to try and direct them away from critical habitats, or temper the land use in a way that has the least possible impact to wildlife habitat. This is one of the primary jobs of the department's biological programs. It is not the department's posture to inhibit the needs of the human population, but rather to find ways to provide for these needs and the needs of wildlife.

While we are working hard to accomplish habitat protection now through the U.S. Forest Service and BLM land use planning process and working some with local governments, we lack sufficient resources to do the job which is needed. This is especially true in working with county government planning entities to assure that wildlife habitat considerations are given full measure in county planning. With the state's growing population and demand for water and other resources the need to be diligent in monitoring such things as new water delivery systems is present now and will increase in the future.

Need

To be in the best position to address habitat needs for wildlife over the next 10 years, including a program to begin managing toward biological diversity we need the following additional personnel. The cost figures include some operating, travel and initial investment in vehicles and other minor equipment for the positions:

1. Habitat Biologists (3), one in each Region. Initial Cost = \$180,000; Continuing Cost = \$150,000
2. Biologist Technicians (6), two located in each Region to help existing field biologists and relieve some of their existing workload to allow them to expend more time and attention on wildlife habitat matters. Initial Cost - \$270,000; Continuing Cost = \$200,000
3. Urban Wildlife Biologists (2), one each for Las Vegas and Reno to work with urban residents on wildlife problems and maintenance of urban wildlife habitat. Also work with local governments on local wildlife habitat needs. Initial Cost - \$115,000; Continuing Cost = \$95,000
4. Stream Survey Crews (4), each crew is one full-time crew leader and 2 seasonal positions for 4 months. Initial Cost \$200,000; Continuing Cost - \$150,000
5. Data Center (includes Wildlife Resources Center). Needed to store and retrieve all field data, and other data processing needs of the Department. The center would be staffed with a Data Processing Coordinator to work with Department data needs and coordinate with Department of Data Processing and outside contractors. Also a data center technician and 2 data entry operators as well as data processing equipment. Initial Cost - \$275,000; Continuing Cost = \$225,000
6. Annual Operating for Wildlife Habitat Improvement Projects. Would be used to match federal agency challenge grant money or to match private landowner funds to provide an incentive for private landowners to maintain wildlife habitat. Continuing Cost = \$250,000

Law Enforcement

In order to ensure the protection of wildlife from illegal take and that habitat protection laws are complied with, we need to add to our force of field law enforcement officers. Our current field force of 25 full-time wardens have average patrol areas of over 4,000 square miles which are the largest of any state except Alaska. We also have only one warden per 6,750 licensed sportsmen and one warden per 50,000 people in the general public.

Need

Add 3 field wardens in each Region (9) and add one staff warden as a training officer and to conduct more detailed investigations. Initial Cost = \$500,000; Continuing Cost = \$400,000

Other Support Functions

Conservation education is very important to increase people's understanding of the importance of wildlife habitat including clean

water and wetlands. If our youth have an understanding of wildlife and the environment through the school curricula they will be better positioned to advocate for the protection of this habitat which will further help the quality of our environment.

Need

Add a conservation educator for environmental education, hunter safety education and public information in the Regional offices in Elko and Fallon. Add a hunter safety education and aquatic education coordinator in Las Vegas. Initial Cost = \$200,000; Continuing Cost = \$175,000

Need

In order to keep pace with increasing work demands, budgets, changing and more complicated Federal Aid requirements, we need to add a gift-grants and federal aid coordinator in the Administrative Services Division, a program assistant in the license office, and an account clerk in the business management office. Initial Cost = \$125,000; Continuing Cost = \$125,000

Physical Facilities

We have some physical facilities in critical need now and, see the need for some facilities expansion in the future, especially if we are able to expand our needed work force as previously described.

Need

Most critical now is an office building for our Region II office in Elko. Some 11 field people are currently housed in rented office space in downtown Elko. Initial Cost = \$1,500,000; Continuing Cost = \$5,000

An addition to the Reno office to house Data Center. Initial Cost = \$500,000; Continuing Cost = \$5,000

An addition to the Region I office in Fallon which is currently at the limit of number of people it can house. Initial Cost = \$150,000; Continuing Cost = \$1,000

We need 3 new homes at our hatchery facilities, one at Mason Valley, one at Gallagher as a replacement for an old home, and one at Lake Mead. Initial Cost \$300,000; Continuing Cost = 0

William A. Molini
Director, NDOW
May 27, 1992

APPENDIX D

APPENDIX D -- Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Cost to Hunt Comparisons/Costs effective January 1992.

FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES COST TO HUNT COMPARISONS COSTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY, 1992 RESIDENT

#2

PROV/ STATE	DEER	ELK	BLACK BEAR	TURKEY	MTN LION	MOOSE	ANTELOPE	SHEEP	MTN GOAT	SMALL GAME
ABT	\$51.45	\$51.45	\$33.60	\$43.60		\$51.45	\$35.75	\$67.20		
AK	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$37.00			\$12.00		\$12.00	\$12.00	\$17.00
AZ	\$35.50	\$81.00	\$32.00	\$29.50	\$32.00		\$71.00	\$171.00		\$21.00
BC	\$8.00	\$20.00	\$8.00		\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$8.00
CA	\$13.25	\$222.75	\$21.25				\$74.50	\$200.00		
CO	\$20.25	\$30.25	\$30.25	\$10.25	\$30.25	\$203.25	\$20.25	\$153.25	\$153.25	\$15.25
HI	\$10.00			\$10.00				\$10.00		\$7.50
ID	\$17.00	\$23.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$33.00	\$79.00	\$41.00	\$79.00	\$79.00	\$7.00
MT	\$15.00	\$17.00	\$15.00	\$8.00	\$17.00	\$64.00	\$13.00	\$64.00	\$64.00	\$0.00
NV	\$45.50	\$130.50		\$45.50	\$75.50		\$75.50	\$125.50	\$125.50	\$20.50
NM	\$18.00	\$38.00	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50		\$23.00	\$38.00		\$9.50
OR	\$17.00	\$29.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$60.00		\$35.00	\$100.00		\$9.50
UT	\$15.00	\$45.00	\$64.00	\$22.00	\$39.00	\$218.00	\$43.00	\$218.00	\$218.00	\$12.00
WA	\$49.50	\$55.50	\$49.50	\$49.50	\$39.00	\$195.00		\$105.00	\$75.00	
WY	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$11.00	\$25.00	\$55.00	\$20.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$10.00
YK			\$15.00			\$15.00		\$20.00	\$20.00	\$5.00
AVERA	\$23.16	\$62.10	\$25.45	\$20.07	\$36.58	\$118.46	\$38.36	\$97.31	\$98.71	\$9.62
MAX	\$51.45	\$222.75	\$64.00	\$49.50	\$75.50	\$218.00	\$75.50	\$218.00	\$218.00	\$21.00
MIN	\$8.00	\$12.00	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$10.50	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$0.00

NON RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	DEER	ELK	BLACK BEAR	TURKEY	MTN LION	MOOSE	ANTELOPE	SHEEP	MTN GOAT	SMALL GAME
ABT	\$207.90	\$269.35	\$107.20			\$269.35	\$245.75	\$327.90		
AK	\$235.00	\$385.00	\$585.00			\$485.00		\$510.00	\$385.00	\$25.00
AZ	\$164.00	\$388.50	\$238.50	\$139.00	\$238.50		\$338.50	\$838.50		\$88.50
BC	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$100.00		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$25.00
CA	\$141.75		\$141.75					\$495.00		
CO	\$150.25	\$250.25	\$250.25	\$75.25	\$250.25	\$1,003.25	\$150.25	\$753.25	\$753.25	\$40.25
HI	\$20.00			\$20.00				\$20.00		\$20.00
ID	\$212.00	\$337.00	\$212.00	\$112.00	\$212.00		\$177.00	\$598.00	\$598.00	\$46.00
MT	\$238.00	\$462.00	\$125.00	\$18.00	\$325.00	\$455.00	\$15.00	\$455.00	\$455.00	
NV	\$255.50	\$610.50			\$255.50		\$355.50	\$905.50		\$100.50
NM	\$146.00	\$213.00	\$76.00	\$76.00	\$51.00		\$123.00	\$373.00		\$51.00
OR	\$176.00	\$266.00	\$176.00	\$126.00	\$251.00		\$226.00	\$1,001.00		\$100.50
UT	\$120.00	\$220.00	\$292.00	\$50.00	\$292.00	\$1,123.00	\$223.00	\$1,123.00		\$40.00
WA	\$361.50	\$421.50	\$481.50	\$361.50	\$661.50	\$661.50		\$661.50	\$481.50	
WY	\$105.00	\$255.00	\$55.00	\$35.00	\$105.00	\$305.00	\$105.00	\$405.00	\$505.00	\$30.00
YK			\$155.00			\$155.00		\$160.00	\$160.00	\$20.00
AVERA	\$173.86	\$337.25	\$196.45	\$97.08	\$267.02	\$617.12	\$171.84	\$579.18	\$492.12	\$49.80
MAX	\$361.50	\$610.50	\$585.00	\$361.50	\$661.50	\$1,123.00	\$355.50	\$1,123.00	\$753.25	\$100.50
MIN	\$20.00	\$150.00	\$55.00	\$18.00	\$51.00	\$150.00	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$160.00	\$20.00

RATIOS: NONRESIDENT FEES TO RESIDENT FEES

AVRG	7.5	5.4	7.7	4.8	7.3	5.2	4.5	6.0	5.0	5.2
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WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
PROPOSED COST TO HUNT COMPARISONS
COSTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY, 1993
RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	DEER	ELK	BLACK BEAR	TURKEY	MTN	LION	MOOSE	ANTELOPE	SHEEP	MTN	GOAT	SMALL GAME
ABT	\$51.45	\$51.45	\$33.60	\$43.60			\$51.45	\$35.75	\$67.20			
AK	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$37.00				\$12.00		\$12.00	\$12.00		\$17.00
AZ	\$35.50	\$81.00	\$32.00	\$29.50	\$32.00			\$71.00	\$171.00			\$21.00
BC	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$10.00		\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$8.00		
CA	\$14.45	\$231.25	\$22.05				\$77.25	\$200.00				
CO	\$20.25	\$30.25	\$30.25	\$10.25	\$30.25	\$203.25	\$20.25	\$153.25	\$153.25	\$15.25		
HI	\$10.00			\$10.00				\$10.00		\$10.00		\$10.00
ID	\$17.00	\$23.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$33.00	\$79.00	\$41.00	\$79.00	\$79.00	\$79.00		\$7.00
MT	\$15.00	\$17.00	\$15.00	\$8.00	\$17.00	\$64.00	\$13.00	\$64.00	\$64.00	\$64.00		\$0.00
NV	\$45.50	\$130.50		\$45.50	\$75.50		\$75.50	\$125.50	\$125.50	\$20.50		
NM	\$19.00	\$38.00	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$10.50		\$23.00	\$38.00		\$9.50		
OR	\$23.00	\$38.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$63.00		\$38.00	\$103.00		\$12.50		
UT	\$15.00	\$45.00	\$64.00	\$22.00	\$39.00	\$218.00	\$43.00	\$218.00	\$218.00	\$12.00		
WA	\$49.50	\$55.50	\$49.50	\$49.50	\$39.00	\$195.00		\$105.00	\$75.00			
WY	\$22.00	\$33.00	\$16.00	\$11.00	\$27.00	\$60.00	\$122.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$11.00		
YK			\$15.00			\$15.00		\$20.00	\$20.00	\$5.00		
AVERA	\$23.97	\$64.15	\$25.93	\$20.37	\$37.13	\$119.17	\$50.33	\$97.97	\$99.34	\$10.27		
MAX	\$51.45	\$231.25	\$64.00	\$49.50	\$75.50	\$218.00	\$122.00	\$218.00	\$218.00	\$21.00		
MIN	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$8.00	\$10.50	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$0.00		

NON RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	DEER	ELK	BLACK BEAR	TURKEY	MTN	LION	MOOSE	ANTELOPE	SHEEP	MTN	GOAT	SMALL GAME
ABT	\$207.90	\$269.35	\$107.20				\$269.35	\$245.75	\$327.90			
AK	\$235.00	\$385.00	\$585.00				\$485.00		\$510.00	\$385.00		\$25.00
AZ	\$164.00	\$388.50	\$238.50	\$139.00	\$238.50			\$338.50	\$838.50			\$88.50
BC	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$100.00		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$200.00		\$25.00
CA	\$147.25		\$147.25						\$495.00			
CO	\$150.25	\$250.25	\$250.25	\$75.25	\$250.25	\$1,003.25	\$150.25	\$753.25	\$753.25	\$40.25		
HI	\$20.00			\$20.00				\$20.00		\$20.00		\$20.00
ID	\$212.00	\$337.00	\$212.00	\$112.00	\$212.00			\$177.00	\$598.00	\$598.00		\$46.00
MT	\$238.00	\$462.00	\$125.00	\$18.00	\$325.00	\$455.00	\$150.00	\$455.00	\$455.00			
NV	\$255.50	\$610.50			\$255.50			\$355.50	\$905.50			\$100.50
NM	\$176.00	\$506.00	\$301.00	\$101.00	\$301.00			\$256.00	\$1,506.00			\$76.00
OR	\$226.00	\$326.00	\$201.00	\$151.00	\$276.00			\$251.00	\$1,026.00			\$125.50
UT	\$120.00	\$220.00	\$292.00	\$50.00	\$292.00	\$1,123.00	\$223.00	\$1,123.00				\$40.00
WA	\$361.50	\$421.50	\$481.50	\$361.50	\$661.50	\$661.50		\$661.50	\$481.50			
WY	\$155.00	\$355.00	\$75.00	\$45.00	\$140.00	\$755.00	\$155.00	\$1,005.00	\$1,505.00	\$40.00		
YK			\$155.00			\$155.00		\$160.00	\$160.00	\$20.00		
AVERA	\$182.89	\$387.58	\$224.00	\$103.75	\$301.47	\$692.12	\$214.71	\$725.68	\$658.79	\$56.47		
MAX	\$361.50	\$610.50	\$585.00	\$361.50	\$661.50	\$1,123.00	\$355.50	\$1,506.00	\$1,505.00	\$125.50		
MIN	\$20.00	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$18.00	\$140.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$20.00	\$160.00	\$20.00		

RATIOS: NONRESIDENT FEES TO RESIDENT FEES

AVRG	7.6	6.0	8.6	5.1	8.1	5.8	4.3	7.4	6.6	5.5
IDAHO	12.4	14.6	15.1	8.0	6.4	.0	4.3	7.5	7.5	6.5

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
COST TO FISH COMPARISONS
COSTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY, 1992
RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	Trout License	Stamp	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
ABT	\$15.00		\$15.00							
AK	\$10.00		\$10.00							
AZ	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$22.00	\$6.50						
BC	\$17.00		\$17.00					\$10.00		
CA	\$23.65		\$23.65	\$8.40						
CO	\$20.25		\$20.25	\$5.25			\$18.25			
HI	\$.00		\$.00							
ID	\$16.00		\$16.00	\$6.00		\$11.00				\$16.00
MT	\$15.00		\$15.00							
NV	\$15.50	\$5.00	\$20.50			\$6.50				\$10.50
NM	\$8.50	\$5.50	\$14.00	\$5.25			\$10.50			
OR	\$14.50		\$14.50	\$5.00	\$9.50	\$14.00				\$21.00
UT	\$18.00		\$18.00				\$9.00			
WA	\$17.00		\$17.00			\$9.00				
WY	\$12.50		\$12.50	\$5.00			\$15.00			\$25.00
YK	\$15.00		\$15.00	\$5.00				\$15.00		
AVERAGE	\$14.36	\$6.83	\$15.65	\$5.80	\$9.50	\$10.12	\$13.18	\$12.50	\$.00	\$18.12
MAX	\$23.65	\$10.00	\$23.65	\$8.40	\$9.50	14.00	\$18.25	15.00	\$.00	\$25.00
MIN	\$.00	\$5.00	\$.00	\$5.00	\$9.50	\$6.50	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$.00	\$10.50

NON RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	Trout License	Stamp	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
ABT	\$30.00		\$30.00			\$20.00				
AK	\$50.00		\$50.00			\$15.00				\$20.00
AZ	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$78.00	\$8.00			\$18.50		\$27.50	
BC	\$27.00		\$69.00					\$15.00		
CA	\$63.55		\$60.65	\$8.40						
CO	\$40.25		\$40.25	\$5.25			\$18.25			
HI	\$.00		\$.00							
ID	\$41.00		\$41.00	\$6.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
MT	\$45.00		\$38.00		\$15.00					
NV	\$45.50	\$5.00	\$40.50			\$17.50				\$30.50
NM	\$18.50	\$7.00	\$25.50	\$5.25			\$10.50			
OR	\$35.50		\$35.50	\$5.00	\$9.50	\$14.00				\$21.00
UT	\$40.00		\$40.00	\$5.00			\$15.00			
WA	\$48.00		\$48.00			\$17.00				
WY	\$40.00		\$40.00	\$5.00			\$15.00			\$25.00
YK	\$35.00		\$35.00	\$5.00				\$20.00		
AVERAGE	\$37.33	\$17.33	\$41.96	\$5.87	\$11.83	\$15.75	\$15.87	\$17.66	\$22.75	\$22.90
MAX	\$63.55	\$40.00	\$78.00	\$8.40	\$15.00	20.00	\$18.50	20.00	\$27.50	\$30.50
MIN	\$.00	\$5.00	\$.00	\$5.00	\$9.50	\$11.00	\$10.50	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$18.00

RATIOS NONRESIDENT TO RESIDENT

STATE/PR	License	Trout	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
AVRG	2.6	2.5	2.7	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.4	NA	1.3

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
PROPOSED COST TO FISH COMPARISON
COSTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1993
RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	Trout License	Stamp	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
ABT	\$15.00		\$15.00							
AK	\$10.00		\$10.00							
AZ	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$22.00	\$8.00						
BC	\$17.00		\$17.00					\$10.00		
CA	\$24.40		\$24.40	\$8.65						
CO	\$20.25		\$20.25	\$5.25			\$18.25			
HI			\$0.00							
ID	\$16.00		\$16.00	\$6.00		\$11.00				\$16.00
MT	\$15.00		\$15.00							
NV	\$15.50	\$5.00	\$20.50			\$6.50				\$10.50
NM	\$8.50	\$5.50	\$14.00	\$5.25			\$10.50			
OR	\$14.75		\$14.75	\$5.25	\$10.00	\$14.75				\$21.25
UT	\$18.00		\$18.00				\$9.00			
WA	\$17.00		\$17.00			\$9.00				
WY	\$14.00		\$14.00	\$5.00			\$20.00			\$35.00
YK	\$15.00		\$15.00	\$5.00				\$15.00		
AVERAG	\$15.49	\$6.83	\$15.80	\$6.05	\$10.00	\$10.31	\$14.43	\$12.50	\$0.00	\$20.68
MAX	\$24.40	\$10.00	\$24.40	\$8.65	\$10.00	14.75	\$20.00	15.00	\$0.00	\$35.00
MIN	\$8.50	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$6.50	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.50

NON RESIDENT

PROV/ STATE	Trout License	Stamp	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
ABT	\$30.00		\$30.00			\$20.00				
AK	\$50.00		\$50.00			\$15.00				\$30.00
AZ	\$38.00	\$40.00	\$78.00	\$8.00			\$18.50			\$27.50
BC	\$27.00		\$27.00					\$15.00		
CA	\$65.90		\$65.90	\$9.70						
CO	\$40.25		\$40.25	\$5.25			\$18.25			
HI			\$0.00							
ID	\$41.00		\$41.00	\$6.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
MT	\$45.00		\$45.00		\$15.00					
NV	\$45.50	\$5.00	\$50.50			\$17.50				\$30.50
NM	\$40.00		\$40.00	\$5.25			\$10.50			
OR	\$35.75		\$35.75	\$5.25	\$10.00	\$14.75				\$21.25
UT	\$40.00		\$40.00	\$5.00			\$15.00			
WA	\$48.00		\$48.00			\$17.00				
WY	\$55.00		\$55.00	\$5.00			\$20.00			\$35.00
YK	\$35.00		\$35.00	\$5.00				\$20.00		
AVERAG	\$42.42	\$22.50	\$42.58	\$6.05	\$12.00	\$15.87	\$16.70	\$17.66	\$18.00	\$27.04
MAX	\$65.90	\$40.00	\$78.00	\$9.70	\$15.00	20.00	\$20.00	20.00	\$18.00	\$35.00
MIN	\$27.00	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$10.50	\$15.00	\$18.00	\$18.00

RATIOS NONRESIDENT TO RESIDENT

STATE/P	License	Trout	TOTAL	1 Day	2 Day	3 Day	5 Day	6 Day	9 Day	10 Day
AVERAGE	2.7	3.3	2.7	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.4	NA	1.3

APPENDIX E

APPENDIX E -- Update from the Department of Wildlife concerning revenues vs. expenses as of May 1992.

Update on Budget Status

As of May 27, 1992 revenues seem to be tracking well with our projections and the authorizations in the legislatively approved budget with two exceptions. One is the balance forward amount where the legislative budget indicates \$400,000 and we actually carried forward, in unobliged reserve \$202,670.95. The other area of revenue shortfall is in the license and fee category. The approved budget was for \$4,676,883 in this category and our best estimate at this time is that we will receive about \$4.2 million. Our major license and tag sale period occurs in the March through June period in concert with application hunts, and we will not have an accurate final reading until license agent sales reports are in, which will be late July for the month of June, and until our big game tag drawings are completed. In FY 91 we received \$4,357,275 in this category. If our projections are correct, we will have a shortfall in this of between \$400,000-\$500,000 compared to the budgeted figure.

Because of Governor mandated general fund budget reductions we had to cut our general fund appropriation by \$186,000.

Based on our best estimates at this point in time, we believe that our unobligated reserve to carry forward at the end of this fiscal year will be similar to last year or about \$200,000.

FY 92 has been a tight year and even though we have had as many as 18 position vacancies for nearly one-half of the year and have carried an average of 10 vacancies for the full year, we have had to initiate some budget reduction measures for the May and June period.

Fiscal Year 1993 looks to be very similar to FY 92. The big unknown at this point in time is what the effect of the drought will be over the summer and fall of 1992 and then what kind of a winter we have in 1992-93. Drought conditions as of May, 1992 are the worst we have experienced in the six years of the current drought. On this basis, there is not much hope on the horizon for any increase in license or tag revenues for FY 93 and, probably they will be below FY 92 levels.

At this point we will estimate total revenues for FY 93 to be the same as for FY 92, but we will temper our FY 93 internal budget and delegation of authority with the potential decrease in license and fee revenues.

We have already submitted our proposal for the general fund budget reduction at the same percentage as last year. Overall, FY 93 looks to be a tight revenue year and we will probably not be able to fill all of our authorized positions and will likely have to trim equipment, operating and travel in order to make it through the year. We don't anticipate any major reductions in programs but we will be in a "hold the line" mode.

William A. Molini
Director, NDOW
May 27, 1992

APPENDIX F

APPENDIX F -- Formal recommendations from the Department of Wildlife and the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

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BOB MILLER
Governor

WILLIAM A. MOLINI
Director

May 26, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: Assemblyman Dini, Chairman, SCR 26 Committee

SUBJECT: Potential Funding Sources for Department of Wildlife Programs

FROM: *Willie* Willie Molini, Director, Department of Wildlife

The Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Board of Wildlife Commissioners respectfully request consideration by your Committee of the following funding proposals. We believe that these proposals are realistic and justified and we hope that the Committee will agree with some or all of them and will further put them forth as recommendations from the Committee.

A. General Fund support of Nongame and Wildlife Conservation Education Programs.

We request that the legislature continue to fund the nongame, endemic fish, reptile and Project Wild programs. These programs provide benefit to all of Nevada's citizens who enjoy wildlife, as they are designed to build an information base on nonhunted wildlife and their habitats. These programs also are designed to provide information on land and water uses to try and gain maximum consideration for the over 600 species of fish and wildlife which are not fished for or hunted. This information base is not only important for habitat protection and long-term protection of the species, but such information could be pivotal in stimulating actions which could preclude species from getting to the point where they are considered for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The Project Wild program is designed to integrate wildlife conservation education in primary and secondary

school curriculum. It is very important that our youth gain some understanding of wildlife and their environment so that they can develop a conservation ethic.

B. Reimbursement for revenue lost from low cost and free hunting and fishing licenses.

Currently the Department issues low cost licenses to the following: senior citizens 65 years or older (hunting and fishing license \$3.00, combination license \$5.00); juniors - 12-16 years old (hunting or fishing \$5.00, combination \$9.00); persons with a severe physical handicap (same cost as senior); Nevada residents in the armed forces stationed outside of Nevada (fishing or hunting \$4.00); and free licenses to disabled veterans and resident Indians. The loss of revenue from these classes of licenses is about \$400,000 per year. Because the Legislature has established this reduced fee structure, all of the people of the state should help pay for the loss of revenue, therefore the general fund should make up these lost revenues on an annual basis.

C. Transfer of Funds from the Department of Tourism

We propose that the current biennium funding of \$200,000 per year from Tourism continue on an annual basis. Hunting and fishing and enjoyment of wildlife contribute substantially to the economy of the state, especially rural Nevada. For example, we did an economic study of big game hunters in 1986 and found that they spent nearly \$14 million in Nevada in that year. Of particular note is what was expended in some major rural counties, e.g., Elko - \$1.9 million, White Pine \$1.3 million and Nye \$1.1 million. A more recent study done for the Department by the Department of Agricultural Economics at UNR showed the net economic value of fishing in Nevada in 1988 was \$17.3 million with total expenditures of \$31 million. Clark county had fishing expenditures of \$17 million while other notable figures were \$4.4 million in Elko, \$3.2 million in Washoe and \$1.2 million in White Pine. According to the 1985 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, nonconsumptive wildlife users spent \$68 million in Nevada in 1985 for wildlife related trips.

Additionally we are working with other agencies to try and develop a Nevada Watchable Wildlife Viewing Guide. This has the potential to further enhance wildlife related tourism.

D. Rental Car Fee.

We propose that \$1.00 per day surcharge be levied on car rentals within the state. The revenue generated by this source would be split on a 50:50 basis to be used for wildlife management and park development and maintenance. We would further propose that the one-half of the revenue which is earmarked for parks, be split between the Division of State Parks, and the Department of Tourism with Tourism to manage a trust fund that would be available for grants to counties for park development.

We believe that there is a relationship between car rentals and Nevada's outdoor experience, as Nevada's outdoors, wildlife and parks is a major attraction for tourists. We also believe that the outdoor part of Nevada needs to be promoted more vigorously.

With the continuing threat to our gaming industry by other states which are legalizing gambling, it is more important than ever that we sell both sides of Nevada. Not only does Nevada have the best to offer in gaming, but it also has the best to offer in terms of uncrowded outdoors. Certainly our scenic outdoors and rich wildlife diversity is a tremendous asset that other states with gaming cannot offer.

We are currently planning to work with other federal and state agencies to publish a Watchable Wildlife Guide for Nevada. This is a booklet which will tell people about special places throughout the state where they can go to watch various species of wildlife. With enhanced funding from the car rental fee we can develop the Watchable Wildlife sites with appropriate signs, vehicle parking and interpretative signs. To promote watchable wildlife and parks could fit nicely with the promotion of our casinos and destination resorts.

E. Off-Highway Vehicle Registration/Tax.

We propose that off-Highway Vehicles (those not now registered by DMV) such as 4 wheelers, 3 wheelers and motorcycles be registered. The registration would be accomplished by the private sector, such as dealers for those type vehicles or service stations. This would provide an opportunity to functionally test the privatization of vehicle registration. A portion of the registration fee would be used to offset the cost of registering the vehicles, while the remainder of the fee

would go to the Department of Wildlife. Funding generated from this fee would be used for law enforcement for the use of such vehicles including enforcement of laws prohibiting such vehicle use in some places, as well as general wildlife law enforcement. Such funds would also be used for rangeland rehabilitation for wildlife habitat enhancement.

An alternative to a registration fee would be to add a sales tax at the point of sale for off-highway vehicles including mountain bikes. The funds collected would go to the Department of Wildlife for the same uses as described under the registration proposal.

F. Habitat Modification Permit and Fee.

We propose that any person, firm or corporation which, through its activities would substantially modify or destroy fish and wildlife habitat must secure a habitat modification permit from the Department. The permit fee would be sufficient to cover the costs of the Department to evaluate the habitat to be disturbed and recommend mitigating measures and to enforce compliance in obtaining permits and permit stipulations. This permit would apply to all land and water uses wherein the natural character of the land or water would be substantially altered.

Through the use of such a permit, wildlife habitat alteration could be mitigated where possible, other off-site habitats could be enhanced to help mitigate for the habitat loss or alteration.

G. Increase Hunting and Fishing License Fees.

If some other sources of funding are not found and implemented, the Department will not be able to maintain its current program through the FY 94-95 biennium. Because of the continuing drought wildlife and fish populations are being substantially impacted. Deer herds have declined by 30% since they peaked in 1988 and the drought conditions facing us in 1992 are cause for serious concern. Most major wetlands in the state are dry which has seriously impacted duck hunting. We anticipate the loss of fisheries in both Rye Patch and Lahontan Reservoirs this summer and many other fishery reservoirs are very low and some could be lost. All of this translates into a reduction in opportunity and

reduced license sales. The following points must be considered:

1. Nevada big game hunters demand high quality and that is what we try to deliver with the total quota system on big game tags. However, this does reduce available revenue, and in order to maintain a quality program, it may be necessary to pay more for hunting opportunity.
2. Eighty-seven percent of the Department of Wildlife budget for fiscal year 1991 (July 1, 1991-June 30, 1992) is for sportsmen user fees. Of this user fee portion, about one-half is from Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration and the other one-half is from license, tag and stamp fees.
3. The overall game management (hunting) program will cost about \$4,600,000 in FY 92. This figure includes all direct game management expenditures including wildlife management areas, as well as a pro-rata share of the other Department program efforts which contribute directly to the hunting program. These other program areas include law enforcement, habitat protection, administration, hunter education, and public information. Current funding from license and tag sales and Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration just barely meets the funding demand for this program.
4. In the period from 1975 to 1990 the resident hunting license fee increased by 100% and the resident fishing license fee increased 106%. Over this same time period, the cost of a 4 wheel drive pickup increased by 170% and the salary for a field biologist or game warden increased 180%.
5. If a resident license fee increase were to be enacted by the 1993 legislature, the fee increase would not take effect until March 1, 1994. The last fee increase for resident hunting licenses occurred on March 1, 1990 and for fishing on March 1, 1986.
6. While Nevada's license fees are in the high range compared with other western states, Nevada has a far more limited resource base and therefore sells far fewer licenses than do any other western states. For example, we generate about \$4.3

million in total license sales, while the next lowest western state, New Mexico, generates over \$9 million in license sales.

In the legislative budget for FY 92 and FY 93 we are authorized to receive \$4,676,883 in license and fee revenue. At this time it appears that we will receive between \$4.2 and \$4.3 million in license and fee revenue so that we will be short by about \$400,000 in license revenue. Every one dollar increase in the fishing license fee would generate about \$70,000 in revenue while for hunting licenses it would generate about \$40,000.

WAM:mp



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

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BOB MILLER
Governor

WILLIAM A. MOLINI
Director

April 27, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: County Wildlife Advisory Boards, Sportsmen and
Conservation Organizations

SUBJECT: Future Funding for Wildlife Management

FROM: Willie Molini, Director *Willie*

As most of you are aware, the 1991 session of the Legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 36 which provided that a committee of the Legislature study funding for the Department of Wildlife and formulate recommendations for consideration by the full Legislature during the 1993 session. The SCR-36 Committee has held two meetings which have examined in some detail the Department's budget, and adequacy to meet current needs, future needs of wildlife in Nevada, license fee structure in Nevada and other western states, and general fund or other revenue authorizations and their use in meeting program needs outside of the basic hunting and fishing programs. The public has been invited to present testimony at these meetings, but public participation has been light.

The Committee is scheduled to hold one more public meeting before they formulate final recommendations for the 1993 Legislature. Sadly, as you may be aware, Senator Nick Horn who chaired this Committee, passed away last week. Senator Horn was a great friend of wildlife in Nevada and he contributed significantly during his legislative career to the welfare of wildlife and the wildlife management program in this state. His contributions during the 1991 legislative session were nothing less than outstanding. He will be sorely missed by all of us who care about Nevada's wildlife.

No decision has yet been made as to who will succeed Senator Horn as chairman of the Committee. At this time we do not know the date or place of the final Committee meeting, but it will likely be in June. We will advise you as soon as we know this information.

By this letter I am requesting your input and suggestions concerning funding for wildlife management in Nevada. I would urge you to share your thoughts and suggestions with the Board of Wildlife Commissioners at the May 8th and 9th meeting and with the SCR-36 Legislative Committee at their final meeting.

For your information and consideration, we plan to request committee support for the following funding platform:

1. That the legislature continue to fund our nongame, endemic fish, reptile and Project Wild programs by general fund appropriation on an annual basis.
2. That the general fund continue to reimburse the Wildlife Account for the revenue which is lost by the issuance of low cost licenses to senior citizens, juniors, servicemen and free licenses to disabled veterans and Indians.
3. That we continue to receive a transfer of money from the Department of Tourism budget for a Watchable Wildlife Program and for the many other Department programs, such as hunting and fishing which increases tourism in Nevada.
4. That a surcharge be levied on rental cars for each rental. The funds to be used to fund programs for the Department of Wildlife and the Division of State Parks with a fifty-fifty split. We may also consider adding some funds to be used by county parks in Washoe and Clark counties and maybe a grant fund which would be available for parks in other counties.
5. That a habitat mitigation tax be levied against all enterprises which permanently disturb or destroy wildlife habitat.
6. That a tax or registration fee be levied on off-road vehicles, excluding those which are already licensed or registered. This would include 3 and 4 wheelers, off-road motorcycles and possibly mountain bikes.

One other area which must be considered is increasing hunting, fishing, and possibly trapping license fees. While this area is controversial, as are most of the other proposals, at least in some

sectors of society, the following considerations must be taken into account.

1. Eighty-seven percent of the Department of Wildlife budget for fiscal year 1991 (July 1, 1991-June 30, 1992) is from sportsmen user fees. Of this user fee portion, about one-half is from Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration and the other one-half is from license, tag and stamp fees.
2. The overall game management (hunting) program will cost about \$4,600,000 in FY 92. This figure includes all direct game management expenditures including wildlife management areas, as well as a pro-rata share of the other Department program efforts which contribute directly to the hunting program. These other program areas include law enforcement, habitat protection, administration, hunter education, and public information. Current funding from license and tag sales and Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration just barely meets the funding demand for this program.
3. In the period from 1975 to 1990 the resident hunting license fee increased by 100% and the resident fishing license fee increased 106%. Over this same time period, the cost of a 4 wheel drive pickup increased by 170% and the salary for a field biologist or game warden increased 180%.
4. If a resident license fee increase were to be enacted by the 1993 legislature, the fee increase would not take effect until March 1, 1994. The last fee increase for resident hunting licenses occurred on March 1, 1990 and for fishing on March 1, 1986.

We hope that you will give these proposals your careful consideration and provide the Commission and the SCR-36 Committee with your input.

Thank you.

WAM:mp

cc: Board of Wildlife Commissioners
Management Team

APPENDIX G

APPENDIX G -- Chart on Free and Reduced Fee Licenses 1990 and 1991.

Free and Reduced Fee Licenses 1990 and 1991

	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>
<u>Free Licenses:</u>		
Resident Indian Hunting & Fishing	2,816	2,851
Disabled Veteran Hunting & Fishing	584	576
Resident Indian Fishing	435	430
<u>Reduced Fee Licenses:</u>		
Handicapped Hunting (\$3.00)	13	7
Handicapped Hunting & Fishing (\$5.00)	321	284
Handicapped Fishing (\$3.00)	198	192
Junior Hunting (\$5.00)	1,649	2,043
Junior Hunting & Fishing (\$9.00)	1,762	1,164
Junior Fishing (\$5.00)	4,344	4,700
Senior Hunting (\$3.00)	643	795
Senior Hunting & Fishing (\$5.00)	3,307	3,114
Senior Fishing (\$3.00)	5,059	5,378
*Serviceman Hunting (\$20.00)	192	148
Serviceman Fishing (\$15.00)	462	386

*The serviceman license provides nonresident servicemen on permanent duty stationed in Nevada with resident license privileges. If they had to pay nonresident fees, the hunting license would be \$100.00 and the fishing license \$45.00.

APPENDIX H

APPENDIX H -- Justification for Tourism Transfer.

JUSTIFICATION FOR TOURISM TRANSFER

The fish and wildlife resources in the state of Nevada provide a significant economic benefit to the residents of the State, both in terms of bringing money into Nevada and bolstering rural economies. Recent studies conducted by the State Department of Wildlife show that consumptive users (hunters and fishermen) expend some \$52.7 million annually of which an estimated \$16.5 million is expended by nonresidents. If the studies were expanded to include all expenditures associated with each recreational trip (such as gaming and other pursuits not related to hunting or fishing), the total amount of revenue generated as a byproduct of wildlife recreation would be much higher.

Based on an in-depth survey of big game hunters in Nevada during 1986, participants reported expending some \$13.8 million of which \$1.9 went to Elko County, \$1.2 million to White Pine County, and \$1.1 million to Nye County. Non-resident deer hunters reported spending some \$2.6 million, whereas 12 non-resident bighorn sheep hunters spent some \$55,253.

A similar survey associated with the small game and waterfowl resources conducted in 1987 showed that hunters expended some \$7.8 million, of which \$750,767 was expended in Clark County, \$595,723 in Humboldt County, and \$203,180 in Churchill County. Recognizing that 1987 was not a particularly good year for either upland game or waterfowl species in Nevada, non-residents reported expending some \$409,672 during 5,157 use days.

A study relative to the economic impacts of the fishing resources in Nevada which is currently in the final stages of completion, suggests that fishermen expended some \$31.1 million statewide in 1988. Of this amount, \$17.1 million was expended in Clark County, \$4.4 million in Elko County, and \$3.1 million in Washoe County. The study also showed that \$13.6 million of the total resulted from expenditures by non-residents.

An in-depth study of the economic importance of the fisheries resource in Lake Mead during 1977 showed that the resource generated some \$56 million annually of which only \$20.8 million was directly related to the fishing experience. Recognizing that 42% of the fishermen utilizing the lake in 1977 lived outside the Las Vegas area, it was estimated that an additional \$6.8 million went to the entertainment industry, \$10.3 million to service stations, \$3.6 million for lodging, and \$11 million for food, beverages, and restaurants. This study was conducted by an independent contractor from California (Jones & Stokes).

The above listed figures are directly related to consumptive fish and wildlife uses and do not account for the non-consumptive value of these resources (photographers, hikers, etc.). The 1985 National Hunting and Fishing Survey conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of the Census indicate a total value from all uses of wildlife, consumptive and non-consumptive, of about 150 million dollars annually in Nevada.

It should be clear from the above information that fish and wildlife oriented recreation adds considerably to the Nevada economy and tourism industry. Not only is there substantial value from non-residents who come to Nevada to hunt and fish, but there is significant influence on rural economies from hunters, fishermen and wildlife oriented outdoor recreationists who live in the urban Reno and Las Vegas areas, but who pursue their recreation in the rural counties.

The Department not only manages fish and wildlife for all their values including recreation and economics, but also manages the State's boating program. In addition to registering and titling boats, the Department has been quite active in developing boating access. Over the past 3 years, boating access developments have been completed at the Kirch WMA in Nye County, Government Wash on Lake Mead, Walker Lake, Washoe Lake, Knott Creek Reservoir and the Colorado River at Laughlin. Several other projects are in the planning and development stage including Sportsmen's Park near Laughlin, Topaz Reservoir, and reservoirs in the Ely area.

The Department's work creates significant tourism activity and therefore some funding of Department program from this source is warranted.

APPENDIX I

APPENDIX I -- Provides additional information on nongame program activities.



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
P.O. Box 10678, RENO, NEVADA 89520

STATE OF NEVADA
DATE Sept. 26, 1991

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interim Study Committee on Department of Wildlife Funding

SUBJECT: Nongame Program Activities, Positions, and Funding
Willie

FROM: William A. Molini, Director

In response to your discussions and questions concerning the Department's nongame program and past funding sources we are submitting the following summary. The nongame program is presently funded through the Legislature, the Endangered Species Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a minimal amount of gift/grant funds. The program is divided into studies and specific jobs within each study. Funding sources that were used prior to FY92 for each job and job segment are also summarized.

The primary goal of the nongame program is to determine the occurrence, distribution and overall health of individual populations (species) and wildlife communities. The following six categories represent the work conducted and the funding used to complete the assignments. Since 1975 there have been four biologists, one staff position and three field positions, assigned to work on five of the following tasks. Two biologists are assigned to sandhill crane investigations. In 1988 a full time reptile biologist was added to the nongame program.

Raptor Investigations - Surveys are conducted to determine raptor use areas within preferred habitats, life history information is gathered and cataloged, and management recommendations are provided to land management agencies. A raptor bulletin was produced to summarize the Department's activities and state of knowledge.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration under
Pittman-Robertson Project W-53-R - 75%

Water and Shorebird Surveys - Documentation of species distribution, status and trend for approximately 84 species. Extensive investigations are conducted for species that appear to be declining in numbers or those with vulnerable habitats. Samples of both birds and their eggs have been collected and analyzed for pesticide contamination. Public participation has been encouraged during water and shorebird surveys.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Federal Aid, Pittman-Robertson - 75%
Laboratory work to determine chemical

contamination of birds and eggs was funded entirely by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Passerine Bird Investigations - Surveys are conducted to determine distribution, density and habitat preference for individual species and communities. Emphasis is presently being placed on birds using riparian ecosystems.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Federal Aid, Pittman-Robertson - 75%

Greater Sandhill Crane Investigations - The Lower Colorado River population of sandhill cranes depends primarily on Nevada for nesting habitat. The Department conducted a comprehensive banding and population monitoring study for the species. Results of the study are included in a tri-state species management plan.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Federal Aid, Pittman-Robertson - 75%
Species Management Plan expenditures and initial personnel time used to write the plan was funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Threatened and Endangered Species Investigations - Three terrestrial species have been emphasized in the nongame program. Nevada's wintering bald eagle population is presently being surveyed on a triennial basis. The Department also provided a representative to serve on the Pacific States Bald Eagle Recovery Team. Peregrine falcon survey and inventory is an ongoing job. A recovery effort to re-establish the peregrine falcon as a nesting species has been funded since 1984. The desert tortoise is listed as a threatened species and is presently receiving top program priority.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 100% for reptile (tortoise) biologist position. Also has provided matching (25%) funds for bald eagle and peregrine projects.
Mitigation Funding - Tortoise studies that are being conducted are funded through Clark County mitigation money.
Section 6, Endangered Species Funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Funding for desert tortoise studies, bald eagle

recovery plan and peregrine falcon re-establishment.

Pittman-Robertson Funding - Bald eagle surveys and a small percentage of peregrine falcon project.

Gift/Grant Money - This funding has been received from numerous benefactors and is generally used for the state match (25%) to receive endangered species funds (USFWS).

Nongame Mammal Survey and Inventory - Information is being collected on numerous species of small mammals. Emphasis is being placed on species with limited distribution or those with threatened or sensitive habitats.

Funding: Legislative funding - 25%
Pittman-Robertson - 75%

The second primary goal that is identified for the Department's nongame program is the delineation and evaluation of unique and important wildlife habitats. One of the more limited and fragile habitats that we have in the State are those associated with riparian zones and wetlands. The following is a list of recent projects that have been completed or are currently being conducted. Four biologists are involved in all aspects of the following studies.

Humboldt River Study - The Humboldt River is the largest riparian system in the state and is primarily under private ownership. The system supports a large diversity of wildlife species. Many of these species are being affected by modifications to the system by a variety of land use practices. We have identified important habitats on the system, evaluated the health and trends of these habitats and have determined the relative importance to wildlife populations. A base report has been completed and individual landowner reports are being developed that suggest management practices that will benefit wildlife and ranching and farming.

Mahogany Creek Study - The major objective of this study is to determine species occurrence, abundance, breeding densities and distribution of wildlife in excellent condition riparian habitat. The same procedure will be used to determine wildlife use in adjacent riparian systems that are in fair to good condition. The study will enable us to provide management recommendation to land use management agencies.

Carson Range Old Growth Forest Study - The objective of the study is to identify and describe old growth forest stands in the Carson Range, evaluate condition of this unique habitat, and determine its importance to wildlife. This project is being conducted in cooperation with the Toiyabe National Forest.

Funding for the preceding three studies included:
Legislative Funding - 25% (with the exception of the Old Growth Study which was in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service.
Pittman-Robertson Funding - 75% (with the exception of the Old Growth Study)

Another important segment of the nongame program is providing information and recommendations to land management agencies. Since the Department has few areas that we have direct control over the land, our best method for having our survey and inventory data work for wildlife is through recommendation to the agencies that manage the habitat. This is a continuous program.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Pittman-Robertson - 75%

The nongame program has produced numerous publications in the form of bulletins, species lists and informational pamphlets. All publications have been provided to the public to allow them to more fully appreciate the aesthetic enjoyment of wildlife.

Funding: Legislative Funding - 25%
Pittman-Robertson - 75%