

# Policy White Paper from the NBU-Reno Board of Directors

(Revised) November 1, 2010

NEVADA BIGHORNS  
UNLIMITED



## 1. Our Mission:

"To protect and enhance Nevada's wildlife resources for sportsmen, outdoor and wildlife enthusiasts for this and future generations. NBU volunteers do this through the reintroduction of big game, habitat conservation and improvement, public education and participation, biological and scientific research, and the influence of public policy."

## 2. Our Slogan:

"Sportsmen working for the future of Nevada's wildlife"

## 3. Our Core Values:

- 3.1 Integrity – trust, honesty, ethics, responsible, respect
- 3.2 Dedication – commitment, volunteerism, hard working, service, hands-on, support, diligence
- 3.3 Results – quality, production, accomplishment, resolve, solutions, focused, resourceful, proactive
- 3.4 Science-based—"proven sound science and knowledge" which is defined by NBU as incorporating the following:
  - 3.4.1 The utilization of the scientific method and recognized scientific protocol, especially evidence-based studies, to arrive at scientific conclusions. It is understood that evidence changes with time and therefore scientific conclusions may change with time.
  - 3.4.2 Peer-reviewed and accepted studies and studies representing the majority opinion of scientific leaders in any given field will be given special (but not exclusive) consideration.
  - 3.4.3 Anecdotal reports, field reports and general observations should be collected and monitored over time, but will not be utilized solely for the basis of scientific decisions.
- 3.5 Culture – community, family, humor, hunting, adventure
- 3.6 Collaboration-cohesiveness, visibility, influence

## 4. Our guiding principals in developing policy:

- 4.1 Wildlife conservation and sportsmen's issues are non-partisan.
- 4.2 Do what is best for wildlife, its habitat, and the sportsmen and women of Nevada.
- 4.3 Put wildlife first and foremost above any personal bias.

## 5. Where do we stand on the key issues important to us fulfilling our mission that is consistent with our core values and guiding principals:

- 5.1 We support the reintroduction and augmentation of big game species into all areas of Nevada with viable habitat and with sound multi-use pre-planning that includes all stakeholders.
- 5.2 We support range and habitat restoration and development that include wildlife forage as well as watershed.
- 5.3 We support optimizing and managing of existing populations of wildlife using "proven sound science and knowledge" as defined in our core values.

- 5.4 We support wildfire policies that stress a high priority for the defense and fire prevention of critical wildlife habitat utilizing any and all motorized vehicles and equipment available.
- 5.5 We support the management of feral horses at the appropriate levels defined by the BLM to maintain self-sustaining herds and as set forth in the Wild Horse and Burro Act.
- 5.6 We support expanding sportsmen's and non-sportsmen's opportunities to experience Nevada's wildlife and outdoors.
- 5.7 We support educating our youth and the general public about our wildlife and sportsmen so they will understand all the issues.
- 5.8 We support sound multiple uses of our public lands that include wildlife, sportsmen, ranching, mining, energy development, and agricultural interests.
- 5.9 We support future development in Nevada so long as it meets the following criteria:
  - 5.9.1 It considers ways to provide a positive wildlife benefit.
  - 5.9.2 It minimizes adverse impacts to wildlife and sportsmen by avoiding sensitive habitats and recreational areas wherever possible.
  - 5.9.3 Involves locals experts and stakeholders early and often
  - 5.9.4 Demands responsibility and accountability from energy project proponents.
- 5.10 We will support wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, and special land designations so long as they include:
  - 5.10.1 Provisions for mechanized (motorized) vehicle access and use of motorized equipment for maintaining and enhancing wildlife habitat, wildfire restoration, conducting wildlife surveys, and constructing and maintaining wildlife water developments.
  - 5.10.2 Provisions for aggressive fire prevention and suppression which include the use of mechanized (motorized) vehicles and equipment when required to save important wildlife habitat.
  - 5.10.3 Provisions for reasonable access corridors for sportsmen and other users as priorities.
- 5.11 We support predator management that uses "proven sound science and knowledge" as defined in our core values and that is approved by the trained professionals of NDOW.
- 5.12 We support political action that educates the general public regarding wildlife and sportsmen's issues and conflicts within the guidelines of our non-profit status.