

HWCC Wildlife SUBCOMMITTEE Report
April 17th, 2023

Members: Brad Brooks, Simon Roosevelt, Land Tawney, and Joel Webster

The wildlife health subcommittee has been hard at work since the first full Council meeting. We have met three times and are happy with our progress.

During our first meeting, we discussed issues for the subcommittee to potentially target. That list includes the following:

1. West Nile virus
2. Chronic wasting disease
3. Invasive species
4. Lead
5. Feral horses and burros
6. Wildlife corridors
7. Mine reclamation

We narrowed that list down to:

1. Lead
2. CWD
3. Invasive species

From that list we chose initially to focus the subcommittees' efforts on lead.

In our second meeting, we developed an initial list of external resources and experts utilized to better inform our discussion on lead throughout our subcommittee process: Chris Parish and Leland Brown with the North American Non-lead Partnership, Mitch Butler with Natural Resource Results, Jim Heffelfinger with Arizona Game and Fish Department and Todd Katzner with U.S. Geological Survey.

During our third meeting, we discussed focal topics related to lead that could lead to recommendations for consideration by the full council:

1. Education: Share information with the hunting public on the impacts of lead; also, what non-lead ammo is, its current availability, and its effectiveness
2. Science-based decision making at a unit level
3. Voluntary and incentive-based programs to adopt non-lead ammo vs. bans or phase-outs of lead ammo
4. Public-private partnerships to address non-lead ammo, including its availability and affordability
5. Engaging federal agencies to address research and development impediments for industry

Today we are seeking feedback from the full council: both specifically on our potential recommendations but also broadly on whether this subcommittee is headed in the right direction.