

STATE OF NEVADA  
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
401 S. CARSON STREET  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-4747  
Fax No.: (775) 684-6600



LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION (775) 684-6800  
JOHN OCEGUERA, *Assemblyman, Chairman*  
Lorne J. Malkiewich, *Director, Secretary*

INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE (775) 684-6821  
BERNICE MATHEWS, *Senator, Co-Chair*  
STEVEN HORSFORD, *Senator, Co-Chair*  
Mark Krmptic, *Fiscal Analyst*  
Tracy W. Raxter, *Fiscal Analyst*

LORNE J. MALKIEWICH, *Director*  
(775) 684-6800

BRENDA J. ERDOES, *Legislative Counsel* (775) 684-6830  
PAUL V. TOWNSEND, *Legislative Auditor* (775) 684-6815  
DONALD O. WILLIAMS, *Research Director* (775) 684-6825

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 13, 2010

## NEWS RELEASE

### Legislative Committee on Public Lands (NRS 218.5363)

Date: Friday, January 22, 2010  
Time: 8 a.m.  
Place: Grant Sawyer State Office Building.  
Room 4401  
555 East Washington Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Videoconference:  
Legislative Building  
Room 2135  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada

Contact: Susan E. Scholley  
Research Division  
Legislative Counsel Bureau  
Legislative Committee on Public Lands  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747  
(775) 684-6825  
[research@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:research@lcb.state.nv.us)

### PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE TO MEET IN LAS VEGAS

Senator Dean A. Rhoads (R-Tuscarora), Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Public Lands, announced that the Committee will hold its second meeting of the 2009-2010 Legislative Interim at the Grant Sawyer State Office Building (Room 4401) in Las Vegas on Friday, January 22, at 8 a.m. The meeting will also be simultaneously videoconferenced to the Legislative Building (Room 2135) in Carson City. An agenda is attached to this news release.

At the Las Vegas meeting, the Committee will receive updates from the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service on their activities and planning efforts in southern Nevada. **“Since the federal government is the single largest landowner in Nevada, the Committee believes it is critically important to monitor the programs and policies of the BLM and Forest Service and the impact they have on both our rural and urban communities,”** said Rhoads. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide an update on the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

– more –

One of the statutory duties of the Committee is to receive reports from water districts and agencies across the State. The Moapa and Virgin Valley Water Districts, along with the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the Colorado River Commission, will provide reports to the Committee.

Also appearing will be the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to discuss the proposed agreement between Nevada and Utah on the management of the Snake Valley Groundwater System in eastern Nevada. **“As the most arid state in the nation, Nevada must be especially vigilant about water use and management. The Committee works hard to stay up-to-date on all water issues and to look for opportunities to make contributions to Nevada water law and policies,”** declared Rhoads.

Also on the agenda is an update on the legislation enacted in the 2009 Legislative Session on titling and registering off-highway vehicles. **“The issues related to off-highway vehicle use on our public lands are difficult and complex, and the Committee has grappled with this issue for years. During the 2009 Session, the Legislature finally enacted legislation to begin, in a small way, to deal with some of these challenges, and the Committee looks forward to hearing about the implementation of this legislation,”** Rhoads explained.

Finally, the Committee will hear from Clark and Lincoln Counties about public lands and natural resources issues from the local government perspective. According to Rhoads, **“Local governments are often the ones who deal with public lands issues at the ground level, and their insight and suggestions are invaluable to the Committee’s work.”**

The Public Lands Committee was created in 1983 as a permanent Committee of the Nevada Legislature. Its purposes are to review and comment on federal land management policies and practices and to provide a forum for the discussion of public lands matters. The Committee will hold meetings throughout Nevada between November 2009 and August 31, 2010, to hear from federal, State, and local entities, and Nevada residents on public lands and water issues. At its last meeting in 2010, the Committee may make recommendations for legislation in the 2011 Session or for other legislative action.

Under legislation approved by the 2009 Nevada Legislature, the Committee has expanded from six to eight legislators. The members of the Committee are: Senator Dean A. Rhoads (R-Tuscarora); Senator Terry Care (D-Las Vegas); Senator John J. Lee (D-Las Vegas); Senator David R. Parks (D-Las Vegas); Assemblyman Jerry D. Claborn (D-Las Vegas); Assemblyman David P. Bobzien (D-Reno); Assemblyman Paul Aizley (D-Las Vegas); Assemblyman John C. Carpenter (R-Elko); and Clark County Commissioner Tom Collins. The Committee has elected Senator Rhoads to serve as Chairman and Assemblyman Claborn to serve as Vice Chairman for the 2009-2010 Interim.

Alternate members are: Senator Michael A. Schneider (D-Las Vegas); Senator Mike McGinness (R-Fallon); Assemblywoman Ellen B. Spiegel (D-Henderson); and Assemblyman Pete Goicoechea (R-Eureka).

###