



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS
(*Nevada Revised Statutes 218.5363*)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The seventh meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Legislative Committee on Public Lands was held on Friday, June 6, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. in The Stockmen's Hotel Casino, Spade and Club Rooms, Second Floor, 340 Commercial Street, Elko, Nevada. A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's website at www.leg.state.nv.us/74th/Interim. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Dean A. Rhoads, Chairman
Assemblyman John W. Marvel, Vice Chairman
Senator Mark E. Amodei
Senator Terry Care
Assemblyman David P. Bobzien (*alternate*)
Assemblyman Jerry D. Claborn
Tom Fransway, Humboldt County Commissioner

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Assemblywoman Debbie Smith

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Michael J. Stewart, Supervising Principal Research Analyst, Research Division
J. Randall Stephenson, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Susan M. Gottschalk, Senior Administrative Assistant, Research Division
Ryan Dombrowski, A/V Technical Assistant, Broadcast and Production Services
Aaron Riley, A/V Technical Assistant, Broadcast and Production Services

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Rhoads opened the meeting with Committee and staff introductions. Senator Rhoads then expressed appreciation to the City of Elko for hosting the Legislative Committee on Public Lands.

APPROVAL OF THE “SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT” OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON APRIL 4, 2008, IN WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA, AND ON MAY 7, 2008, IN LAUGHLIN, NEVADA

- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

ASSEMBLYMAN MARVEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE “SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT” OF THE APRIL 4, 2008, MEETING HELD IN WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA, AND THE “SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT” OF THE MAY 7, 2008, MEETING HELD IN LAUGHLIN, NEVADA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN CLABORN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

UPDATE OF PUBLIC LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND RELATED PLANNING ACTIVITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION BY ELKO COUNTY

- Warren Russell, Member, Board of County Commissioners, Elko County, provided an update of public lands, natural resources, and related planning activities under consideration by Elko County, which included: (1) the oversight of water, natural resources, and mining issues; (2) public lands management coordination with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service (USFS); (3) Elko County’s support of public lands access for recreation, mining, and ranching; (4) concerns regarding wild horse herds and BLM grazing permits; (5) the County’s wildfire challenges with personnel and equipment resources; and (6) the organization of the Natural Resource Advisory Commission to develop public policy responses to natural resource issues. (Please see [Exhibit B](#).)

UPDATE OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PLANNING EFFORTS IN ELKO COUNTY AND NORTHEAST NEVADA

- Kenneth Miller, District Manager, Elko District, BLM, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), provided an update of the BLM management activities and planning efforts in Elko County and northeast Nevada, which included: (1) the restructuring of the Elko District field offices; (2) implementation of fuels and fire treatments; (3) fire preparedness and suppression; (4) fire emergency stabilization and rehabilitation; (5) rangeland management concerning BLM grazing permits and the effects of fire closure; (6) wild horse management; (7) wildlife and sage grouse conservation; (8) noxious weed management; (9) off-highway vehicle (OHV) travel

management and trail use; (10) lands and minerals projects; (11) energy projects; and (12) the California Trail Center. (Please see [Exhibit C.](#))

Responding to questions from Assemblyman Marvel and Senator Rhoads regarding BLM grazing permit renewals, Mr. Miller noted that 36 of the renewed permits have been appealed. Mr. Miller further noted that the grazing permit renewal completion date is 2010.

- Bryan Fuell, Field Manager, Wells Field Office, BLM, DOI, offered a brief discussion on the current legal action regarding challenges to grazing permits. Mr. Fuell explained that the appeals process is handled by an administrative law judge. The first step is for the appellant to ask for a stay to stop all actions.

A discussion ensued between Commissioner Fransway and Mr. Miller with Commissioner Fransway opining that the main reason for the backlog of BLM grazing permit renewals and transfers was due to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Mr. Miller concurred with Commissioner Fransway. Commissioner Fransway remarked that the NEPA process is unnecessary.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF MINING RELATED ACTIVITIES IN NEVADA

(As directed by Chairman Rhoads, this agenda item was taken out of order.)

Update on the Programs and Activities of the Bureau of Land Management Relating to Mining in Nevada

- T. Scott Murrellwright, Solid Minerals Program Lead, Nevada State Office, BLM, provided an update on the programs and activities of BLM management relating to mining in Nevada, which included: (1) a briefing on the current status of the minerals programs in Nevada, including budget plans; (2) statistics regarding BLM's largest locatable minerals program, which is in Nevada; (3) the surface management program; (4) increase in mining claims locations; (5) plans of operations authorized and plan modifications; (6) workload increase correlating with the price of gold, (7) future uses of minerals; (8) communication with the mining industry; and (9) mining law reform and S. 2750 (Abandoned Mine Reclamation Act of 2008), 110th Congress, introduced by U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein (D-California).

UPDATE OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE ACTIVITIES AND PLANNING EFFORTS IN ELKO COUNTY

- Tom Montoya, District Ranger, Mountain City, USFS, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), offered a brief introduction of the USFS activities and planning efforts in Elko County. (Please see [Exhibit D.](#))

- Terry Chute, District Ranger, Jarbidge and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts, USFS, USDA, provided an update of USFS activities and planning efforts in Elko County, which included: (1) a brief description of the Jarbidge, Mountain City, and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts; (2) Jarbidge litigation update regarding two ongoing lawsuits related to the South Canyon Road in Jarbidge Canyon; (3) status of the rangeland management analyses; (4) interagency fire suppression cooperation; (5) the restoration and fuels reduction program; and (6) Federal Highway Administration road projects. (Please see [Exhibit D.](#))
- Susan Elliot, Acting Forest Geologist, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, USFS, USDA, provided an update of USFS mining and minerals programs in the Jarbidge, Mountain City, and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts, which included: (1) an increase in plans of operation for exploration of precious metals submitted to the Districts; (2) an increase of staffing commitments outside the planned program of work; (3) the complexities of the Jerritt Canyon Mine outside of Elko, Nevada; (4) an increased interest in leasable minerals and also an increase in applications for oil, gas, and geothermal leases on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest; and (5) continued progress on reclaiming abandoned mines. (Please see [Exhibit D.](#))

There was a discussion between Senator Rhoads and Mr. Chute regarding OHVs in the Jarbidge, Mountain City, and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts. Mr. Chute remarked that the greatest difficulties are OHV riders who cut fences and self-create new trails for riding. He further opined that there should be some form of OHV regulation.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE BUREAU OF MINING REGULATION AND RECLAMATION (BMRR), NEVADA'S DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (NDEP)

- Dave Gaskin, P.E., Chief, BMRR, NDEP, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (SDCNR), provided an overview of the programs and activities of the BMRR, which included: (1) responsibilities and duties of the BMRR; (2) expansion of current and reopening of closed BMRR projects throughout the State; (3) changes and improvements to regulations dealing with water pollution control; (4) mine reclamation costs and calculations; (5) cooperation among interagencies and different associations; and (6) challenges with integrating NEPA requirements with State requirements.

OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS OF NEVADA'S DIVISION OF STATE LANDS AND BRIEF UPDATE ON THE USE AND ALLOCATION OF "QUESTION 1 PROGRAM" BOND MONEY AUTHORIZED IN BALLOT QUESTION NO. 1 OF THE 2002 GENERAL ELECTION

- Pamela B. Wilcox, Administrator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR, gave a brief introduction of Nevada's Division of State Lands.

- Jim Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR, provided an overview of the activities and programs of Nevada's Division of State Lands and a brief update on the use and allocation of "Question 1 Program" bond money authorized in ballot question No.1 of the 2002 General Election, which included: (1) land use planning assistance; (2) facilitation and outreach, including conferences and public meetings; (3) history, current status, and future direction of commitments to Lake Tahoe; (4) "Question 1 Program" background; (5) "Question 1 Program" eligible applicants, fund allocations, and recreational trails; (6) habitat conservation and open space plans; (7) land and water acquisitions; (8) the Carson River Corridor; (9) summary of awarded projects; (10) future steps for the "Question 1 Program;" and (11) the preliminary recommendation for Round 9 projects. (Please see [Exhibit E-1](#), [Exhibit E-2](#), [Exhibit E-3](#), and [Exhibit E-4](#).)

Responding to Chairman Rhoads' question regarding the monitoring of the Southern Nevada Water Authority's purchase of private lands for public ownership, Ms. Wilcox, surmised that those land acquisitions have not previously been monitored, but some sort of mechanism could be utilized for monitoring purposes.

There was a discussion between Senator Amodei and Mr. Lawrence regarding authority for implementing the Round 9 Lake Tahoe recommendation. Mr. Lawrence noted that there are three areas of concentration for implementing the Round 9 Lake Tahoe Recommendation: (1) the ability to declare an emergency situation to obtain additional funding; (2) the process to streamline regulations; and (3) funding for the Round 9 projects to progress.

- In response to Assemblyman Bobzien's query about the proposal in the California Legislature to construct a trail completely around Lake Tahoe, Mr. Lawrence noted he has been following the proposed trail; however, he has not been actively involved in the process at the current time.
- Chairman Rhoads presented a retirement appreciation plaque to Ms. Wilcox for all of the years of hard work and service that she provided to the Committee. Ms. Wilcox expressed her gratitude and fond remembrances of working with the Committee.

BRIEF REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ELKO COUNTY WATER PLANNING COMMISSION

- Chris Johnson, Chairman, Elko County Water Planning Commission, provided a brief review of programs and activities of the Elko County Water Planning Commission, which included: (1) a history of the development of the Elko County Water Planning Commission; and (2) the status and plans for recharging the water basins in Elko County. (Please see [Exhibit F-1](#) and [Exhibit F-2](#).)
- Randy Brown, Director of Planning and Zoning, Elko County Planning and Zoning Department, offered additional history and background of the Elko County

Water Planning Commission, which included: (1) the usage of a working water plan; (2) the amount of water available based upon current science; and (3) the approval and implementation of the water plan by the Elko County Planning Commission.

There was a discussion between Senator Rhoads and Mr. Brown regarding the amount of water available for reasonable growth in Elko County. Mr. Brown noted that Elko County is over-allocated based upon the 1966 information from Nevada's Division of Water Resources, SDCNR. (Please see [Exhibit F-1](#) and [Exhibit F-2](#).)

- Gerald Miller, Vice Chairman, Elko County Water Planning Commission, commented that following the implementation plan as a "road map" is crucial.

REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES IN NEVADA AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (USFWS)

(As directed by Chairman Rhoads, this agenda item was taken out of order.)

- Jody Brown, Deputy Field Supervisor, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, USFWS, DOI, provided an update of recent developments concerning threatened and endangered species, which included: (1) a brief update of the activities of the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office; (2) a status review of the Greater Sage Grouse for possible listing as an endangered species; (3) a status review of the pygmy rabbit to consider adding the species to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA); (4) a proposal to designate 417,577 acres of critical habitat for the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep; (5) an assessment of the bull trout to ensure the appropriate level of protection under the ESA; (6) status and current focus of the Devils Hole Pupfish; (7) information warranting an in-depth study of the Mount Charleston Blue Butterfly; (8) the process of completing a revised draft Revised Recovery Plan for the Mojave Desert population of the Desert Tortoise; and (9) the Nye County habitat conservation plans. (Please see [Exhibit G-1](#) and [Exhibit G-2](#).)

Responding to Assemblyman Bobzien's request for an overview of the considerations used to determine distinct population segments for species such as the bull trout and the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, Ms. Brown summarized that the primary consideration is based on whether a particular population is discrete from the whole or significant from the whole, as ascertained from the following three factors or a combination thereof: (1) genetic factors; (2) morphological factors; and/or (3) behavioral factors. She noted that isolation from the rest of the population of a species is the key component because, over time, a species can develop different genetic, behavioral, or morphological characteristics.

A discussion ensued between Senator Care and Ms. Brown regarding the effect on the Desert Tortoise on home building in southern Nevada. Ms. Brown explained that there is

a large-scale habitat conservation plan in place to assist land developers in the Las Vegas area. She further noted that there are predisturbance surveys to determine if Desert Tortoises could potentially be harmed by land development. Ms. Brown pointed out that Desert Tortoises on land slated for development will be relocated to the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AND RELATED WILDLIFE ISSUES

Update of Recent Developments Concerning Threatened and Endangered Species and Related Wildlife Management and Overview of the Biennial Report of Nevada's Department of Wildlife (NDOW)

- Kenneth E. Mayer, M.S., Director, NDOW, provided an update of recent developments concerning threatened and endangered species and an overview of the biennial report of NDOW, which included: (1) a brief overview of NDOW in the current and projected biennium; (2) the ESA and issues regarding several threatened and endangered species native to Nevada; (3) the creation of partnerships for restoring Nevada's rangelands and coordinating the reduction of cheatgrass; and (4) the Nevada Sagebrush Collaboration. (Please see [Exhibit H.](#))
- Laura Richards, Wildlife Diversity Bureau Chief, NDOW, provided an update on endangered species activities in Nevada, which included: (1) the status of the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher; (2) Desert Tortoise management; (3) progress to secure and improve the status of the bull trout; (4) the process to conduct a status review of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout; (5) NDOW's Wildlife Action Plan; and (6) Nevada's Landowner Incentive Program to provide federal dollars to assist private landowners with the restoration and protection of beneficial habitats. (Please see [Exhibit I.](#))

Review of Recent Developments Concerning Threatened and Endangered Species in Nevada From the Perspective of the Bureau of Land Management

- Elroy Masters, Wildlife Program Lead, Nevada State Office, BLM, reviewed recent developments concerning threatened and endangered species in Nevada from the perspective of the BLM, which included: (1) a brief update of the Nevada BLM's primary focus; (2) addressing priorities of sage grouse habitat conservation and restoration; (3) BLM's healthy lands restoration projects; (4) interagency cooperation with the implementation of recovery plans for endangered and threatened species; (5) updating the status review of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout; and (6) creating a map to identify range-wide habitat priorities.

Discussion of Proposal to Eliminate Threats to Wildlife From Hollow Mine Claim Markers

- Bob Goodman, Conservation Committee Member, Lahontan Audubon Society, Reno, offered a discussion of a proposal to eliminate threats to wildlife from hollow mine claim markers, which included: (1) a brief background and basis for concern regarding hollow claim markers; (2) documentation of bird and wildlife mortalities; (3) a brief review of previous legislation that required the capping of hollow mine claim markers; (4) a brief description of the ineffective plastic caps and removal of hollow plastic pipes; (5) a possible effective solution to replace the plastic caps with posts; and (6) support to change the wording in *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 517.030 to “Monumenting of Claim.” (Please see [Exhibit J.](#))
- Kenneth E. Mayer, previously identified, concurred with Mr. Goodman regarding the proposed revisions to NRS 517.030 as an effective solution to address the hazards of hollow claim markers to wildlife. (Please see [Exhibit K.](#))

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF MINING-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN NEVADA

Overview of Nevada’s Abandoned Mine Lands Program, Bonding, Mineral Exploration Activity, and Other Programs and Activities of Nevada’s Commission on Mineral Resources

- Alan R. Coyner, Administrator, Division of Minerals, Nevada’s Commission on Mineral Resources, provided an overview of Nevada’s abandoned mine lands program, bonding, mineral exploration activity and other programs and activities of Nevada’s Commission on Mineral Resources, which included: (1) statistics concerning abandoned mine lands (AML); (2) Eagle Scout projects to secure abandoned mines; (3) AML backfill projects and accomplishments in 2007; (4) the need to raise public awareness about the danger of abandoned mines; (5) a brief update on mineral production and exploration activity in Nevada; (6) a review of petroleum and geothermal production; (7) Nevada gold, silver, and copper production; (8) an overview of major mines, oil fields, and geothermal plants; (9) financial security assurance from Nevada mining entities; (10) a status of active claims and gold prices; (11) the trend for molybdenum mines; (12) wilderness in Nevada and activity on county public lands bills; and (13) the status of claim post monumentation. (Please see [Exhibit L.](#))

Review of the Economic Impacts of Mining in Nevada and Overview of the Possible Effects of Federal Royalty Legislation on Nevada's Mining Industry

- John L. Dobra, Ph.D., Director, Natural Resources Institute and Associate Professor of Economics, University of Nevada, Reno, reviewed the economic impacts of mining in Nevada and offered an overview of the possible effects of federal royalty legislation on Nevada's mining industry, which included: (1) a brief description of the federal gross proceeds royalty; (2) a brief description of different states' mineral taxes and royalties; (3) possible effects of the federal royalty on the mining industry; (4) impacts of a gross royalty on State and county tax revenues and other potential impacts on Nevada; (5) loss of revenue projections based on 2006 net proceeds taxes; and (7) the future direction of federal gross proceeds royalties. (Please see [Exhibit M.](#))

DISCUSSION OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) USAGE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND POSSIBLE FUTURE LEGISLATION REGARDING THE TITLING AND REGISTRATION OF OHVs IN NEVADA

- Dan L. Galian, President, Nevada Cattlemen's Association, Elko, offered a brief discussion of OHV usage on public lands and possible future legislation regarding the titling and registration of OHVs in Nevada, which included: (1) a brief description of the Nevada Cattlemen's Association; (2) the use of OHVs for recreation and work; (3) the need for potential OHV regulations to address abuse of public lands; and (4) the Nevada Cattlemen's Association support of potential future OHV legislation to address protecting the rights of all public lands users. (Please see [Exhibit N.](#))
- Jeremy Drew, Director, Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife (on behalf of Larry Johnson, President, Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife), offered a discussion of OHV usage on public lands and possible future legislation regarding the titling and registration of OHVs in Nevada, which included: (1) a brief description of the Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife; (2) the increasing popularity of OHV uses and the small percentage of irresponsible OHV users; and (3) the Coalition's support for legislation that promotes the interaction and input of various public land users in developing comprehensive and balanced OHV rules and regulations. (Please see [Exhibit O.](#))
- Dale Lotspeich, Sheriff, Elko County Sheriff's Department, and Member, Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association, discussed OHV usage on public lands and possible future legislation regarding the titling and registration of OHVs in Nevada, which included: (1) the need for legislation to stop the reckless use of OHVs; (2) concern for the disregard of posted signs and the lack of identification tags for OHV users; (3) the need for a law enforcement component in the potential future OHV legislation; (4) specific actions to help mitigate the problem of reckless OHV use; and (5) the need for resources for law enforcement to enforce rules and protect the public lands. (Please see [Exhibit P.](#))

There was a discussion between Senator Rhoads and Sheriff Lotspeich regarding the appropriate enforcement agency if potential future OHV legislation is passed. Sheriff Lotspeich opined that a primary enforcement agency was not a necessity, but that there should be a primary agency for OHV titling and registration, such as NDOW.

- In response to Sheriff Lotspeich, Kenneth E. Mayer, previously identified, noted that using NDOW as the State agency for registration is feasible; however, the titling component of potential future OHV legislation should be directed through a different State agency. Mr. Mayer suggested that NDOW would need funding for enforcement of regulations if potential future OHV legislation is passed that involves NDOW.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(As directed by Chairman Rhoads, this agenda item was taken out of order.)

- John Glenn, President, Nevada Powersport Dealership Association, opined that OHV safety and responsible use education is the greatest tool for promoting responsible OHV use. He noted that there is potential to educate young OHV riders through hunter's safety education classes. Mr. Glenn commented that regulation will be difficult to enforce unless there is OHV titling and registration. He called attention to the State of Idaho's willingness to assist Nevada with the set up of an OHV program.
- Michael J. Stewart, Supervising Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), noted that David Claycomb, State and Federal Grant Program Manager, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, recognized that there is a problem with enforcement of Idaho's OHV statutes, but a great deal of enforcement is conducted through a volunteer process. Mr. Stewart clarified that Idaho's OHV program is considering raising their \$10 Annual OHV registration fee by \$5 and applying that fee increase to law enforcement.

OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE EASTERN NEVADA LANDSCAPE COALITION (ENLC)

- Betsy Macfarlan, Executive Director, ENLC, Ely, offered an overview of the activities and programs of the ENLC, which included: (1) the purpose and establishment of the ENLC; (2) a partial list of partners that assist the ENLC; (3) the accomplishments of the ENLC; and (4) the future direction of the ENLC. (Please see [Exhibit Q-1](#) and [Exhibit Q-2](#).)

OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE NORTHEASTERN NEVADA STEWARDSHIP GROUP (NNSG)

- Gerald Miller, President, NNSG, Elko, offered an overview of the activities and programs of the NNSG, which included: (1) two successful grant proposals; (2) a workshop held in the Elko community to assist in creating a viable community

through sustainable development during a mining based and a post-mining based economy; and (3) the implementation of a land exchange to manage hay production on the Cross Ranch. (Please see [Exhibit R.](#))

- Gary Back, Ph.D., President/Ecologist, Great Basin Ecology, Inc., Reno, provided an update on assessing and prioritizing management needs at the watershed scale, which included: (1) a brief description of the methodology, including sub-watershed delineation and site selection; (2) the purpose and functions of conducting a watershed assessment; (3) water retention and storage, erosion and sediment transport, and modification of the landscape in geologic time; (4) benefits of water infiltration rather than runoff; (5) the linking of nutrient cycles with plant cycles; (6) energy recycling; (7) the scientific background of the riparian channels and riparian systems; and (8) prioritization of the watersheds. (Please see [Exhibit S.](#))

POSSIBLE WORK SESSION ON PRECEDING AGENDA ITEMS AND DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETING DATES AND INFORMATIONAL TOUR DETAILS

- Michael J. Stewart, previously identified, provided an update of the Legislative Committee on Public Lands' upcoming meeting in Eureka, Nevada, on Monday, July 14, 2008, and suggested that Committee members and the public bring ideas for bill draft requests to the Eureka meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dan Gralian, previously identified, commented on the seriousness of the threat of wildfire. Mr. Gralian noted that the Nevada Cattlemen's Association and the ranching community is taking a proactive approach to wildfires and would like to see a greater emphasis on fire suppression management. He opined that ranchers can utilize grazing and livestock effectively for fire suppression and land repair.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Gottschalk
Senior Administrative Assistant

Michael J. Stewart
Supervising Principal Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Dean A. Rhoads, Chairman

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda” provided by Michael J. Stewart, Supervising Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

[Exhibit B](#) is the written testimony of Warren Russell, Member, Board of County Commissioners, Elko County.

[Exhibit C](#) is a document titled “Elko District Manager’s Update June 2008,” provided by Kenneth Miller, District Manager, Elko District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Department of the Interior (DOI).

[Exhibit D](#) is the written testimony of Tom Montoya, District Ranger, Mountain City, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); Terry Chute, District Ranger, Jarbidge and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts, USFS, USDA; and Susan Elliot, Acting Forest Geologist, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, USFS, USDA.

[Exhibit E-1](#) is a document dated June 6, 2008, titled “Informational Sheet, State Land Use Planning Agency, Legislative Committee on Public Lands,” submitted by Jim Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resource (SDCNR).

[Exhibit E-2](#) is a document dated June 6, 2008, titled “Informational Sheet, Lake Tahoe Environmental Program, Legislative Committee on Public Lands,” furnished by Jim Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR.

[Exhibit E-3](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “2002 Conservation Bond Act Question 1,” given by Jim Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR.

[Exhibit E-4](#) is a document dated April 18, 2008, titled “Round 9 Preliminary Recommendation, Expenditure of the Special Account for the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act and Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act – Round 5,” submitted by Jim Lawrence, Deputy Administrator, Division of State Lands, SDCNR.

[Exhibit F-1](#) is a document titled “Elko County Nevada Water Resource Management Plan 2007,” provided by Chris Johnson, Chairman, Elko County Water Planning Commission.

[Exhibit F-2](#) is a document titled “Elko County Water Resource Management Plan Water Resource Management Section 2,” furnished by Chris Johnson, Chairman, Elko County Water Planning Commission.

[Exhibit G-1](#) is the written testimony of Jody Brown, Deputy Field Supervisor, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. and Wildlife Service (USFWS), DOI.

[Exhibit G-2](#) is a pamphlet titled “U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office,” submitted by Jody Brown, Deputy Field Supervisor, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, USFWS, DOI.

[Exhibit H](#) is the written testimony of Kenneth E. Mayer, M.S., Director, Nevada’s Department of Wildlife (NDOW), for agenda items “Continued Discussion of Threatened and Endangered Species and Related Wildlife Issues” and “Update of Recent Developments Concerning Threatened and Endangered Species and Related Wildlife Management and Overview of the Biennial Report of Nevada’s Department of Wildlife (NDOW).”

[Exhibit I](#) is the written testimony of Laura Richards, Wildlife Diversity Bureau Chief, NDOW.

[Exhibit J](#) is the written testimony of Bob Goodman, Conservation Committee Member, Lahontan Audubon Society.

[Exhibit K](#) is the written testimony of Kenneth E. Mayer, M.S., Director, NDOW, for agenda items “Continued Discussion of Threatened and Endangered Species and Related Wildlife Issues” and “Discussion of Proposal to Eliminate Threats to Wildlife From Hollow Mine Claim Markers.”

[Exhibit L](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation dated June 6, 2008, titled “Overview of Nevada’s Abandoned Mine Lands Program, Bonding, Mineral Exploration Activity, and Other Programs and Activities of Nevada’s Commission on Mineral Resources,” provided by Alan R. Coyner, Administrator, Division of Minerals, Nevada’s Commission on Mineral Resources.

[Exhibit M](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation dated June 6, 2008, titled “Mining Taxes & Royalties & Their Potential Impacts on Nevada State and Local Government Finances,” given by John L. Dobra, Ph.D., Director, Natural Resources Institute and Associate Professor of Economics, University of Nevada, Reno.

[Exhibit N](#) is the written testimony of Dan L. Galian, President, Nevada Cattlemen’s Association, Elko.

[Exhibit O](#) is the written testimony of Larry Johnson, President, Coalition for Nevada’s Wildlife, given by Jeremy Drew, Director, Coalition for Nevada’s Wildlife.

[Exhibit P](#) is the written testimony of Dale Lotspeich, Sheriff, Elko County Sheriff’s Department, and Member, Nevada Sheriffs’ and Chiefs’ Association.

[Exhibit Q-1](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition, Collaboration and Restoration Within the Great Basin,” offered by Betsy Macfarlan, Executive Director, Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC).

[Exhibit Q-2](#) is a newsletter titled “Easter Nevada Landscape Coalition Landscape News,” provided by Betsy Macfarlan, Executive Director, ENLC, Ely.

[Exhibit R](#) is the written testimony of Gerald Miller, President, Northern Nevada Stewardship Group, Elko.

[Exhibit S](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation dated June 6, 2008, titled “Assessing and Prioritizing Management Needs at the Watershed Scale,” given by Gary Back, Ph.D., President/Ecologist, Great Basin Ecology, Inc.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.