

Equity and Justice in the Composition of Nevada's Natural Resources Boards and Commissions

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Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners

- Governor-appointed
- Established in NRS 501.171
 - 5 members possessing a hunting or fishing license in 3 of last 4 years;
 - 1 member actively engaged in farming;
 - 1 member actively engaged in ranching;
 - 1 member actively engaged in conservation;
 - 1 member who represents in the interests of the general public.
- No more than 3 members from Clark County; no more than 2 members from Washoe County; no more than 1 member from any other county.

Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources

- Governor-appointed
- Established in NRS 513.023
 - 2 person familiar with large-scale mining;
 - 1 person familiar with production of oil and gas;
 - 1 person familiar with mineral exploration;
 - 1 person familiar with small-scale mining and prospecting;
 - 1 person familiar with geothermal energy;
 - 1 member to represent the general public.
- No more than 3 members from Clark County; no more than 2 members from Washoe County; no more than 1 member from any other county.

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners – Population Disparities

- Nevada total population: 3.2 million
 - Clark County population: 2.3 million (72%)
 - Washoe County population: 498,000 (16%)
 - Remaining counties population: ~400,000 (12%)

- Statutory commission composition:
 - Clark County (max 3 commissioners): 33%
 - Washoe County (max 2 commissioners): 22%
 - Remaining counties: 45%

Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners – Wildlife Interaction Disparities

- Nevadans:
 - Hunting/fishing license holders: 3-4% (per NDOW)
 - Employed in farming or ranching: 0.5% (per NDA)
 - Support for conservation of “30x30”: 79% (per Colorado College poll)
- Statutory commission composition:
 - Hunting/fishing license holders: 56%
 - Farming: 11%
 - Ranching: 11%
 - Conservation: 11%
 - General public: 11%

Nevada Demographics & Diversity

- Nevada is racially & ethnically diverse:
 - 28% Latine
 - 13% AAPI
 - 12% Black
 - 3% Native American
- Racial/ethnic makeup of NBWC/NCOMR unknown but likely does not reflect diversity of Nevada
- Nevada has broad gender diversity, but...
 - NBWC: 8 men/1 woman (89% male)
 - NCOMR: 5 men/2 women (71% male)

Representation Matters

- NBWC & NCOMR fail to adequately represent Nevadans':
 - Racial/ethnic diversity
 - Gender diversity
 - Geographic representation
 - Interests in natural resources
- NBWC & NCOMR are dominated by the very interests they are intended to regulate.
- The current legislative and executive structure of these agencies disenfranchises frontline & indigenous communities, urban communities, communities of color, women, and more.