

Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA)

Mission: To preserve, protect and promote Nevada agriculture.

Leadership:

Director, J.J. Goicoechea, DVM

Deputy Director, Douglas Farris

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Annual Governor's Recommended Budget

- FY 26 Budget: \$274,164,367
- FY 27 Budget: \$273,646,333
- Total FTE: 173



Agency Strategic Plan

- Goals

- Customer focused (Both internal and external)
- Leverage government and community relationships
- Improve customer service and increase public trust
- Develop opportunities for agriculture in Nevada

- Challenges

- Combination of budget accounts BA 4552 to BA 4545
- BA 3194 transfer from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to NDA
- Fee and federal structured agency



Agency Overview

Offices

- Sparks (Headquarters)
- Las Vegas
- Elko

Warehouses

- Reno
- Las Vegas

Divisions:

Division of Administrative Services

- Cathy Balcon, Administrator

Division of Animal Industry

- Chad Sestanovich, Administrator
- William Dawson, Deputy Administrator

Division of Food & Nutrition

- Patricia Hoppe, Administrator
- Brittany Mally, Deputy Administrator

Division of Measurement Standards

- William Striejewske, Administrator

Division of Plant Health & Compliance

- Meghan Brown, Administrator
- Raymond Saliga, Deputy Administrator



Division of Administrative Services

Purpose:

- The Division of Administrative Services centralizes the budgeting, payroll, information technology, communication and economic development functions for the NDA.

Programs:

- Nevada Board of Agriculture
- Fiscal Program
- Information Technology
- Communications
- Industry Development & Marketing
- Agriculture Literacy
- Craft Beverage Passport
- Meat & Poultry Inspection Program
- Nevada Junior Livestock Show (NJLS)



Division of Administrative Services Enhancements:

BA 4554- E684 - New: Information Technology Technician
IV Position

This contracted position is currently funded and has been
under contract with Marathon Staffing since early 2023.

FY26: \$63,996

FY27: \$86,173

BA 4554 – E710 - Replacement Equipment

IT Equipment: hardware replacement and software renewals

\$212,488 - * One shot appropriation

Division of Animal Industry

Purpose:

- The Division of Animal Industry's primary focus is the protection of public health and safety from animal disease, theft or loss of livestock and unfair business practices through a variety of programs geared toward animal health, investigations and enforcements of laws.

Programs:

Predatory Animal and Rodent Control Program
Veterinary Medical Service Program
Livestock Inspection Program
Agriculture Police
Dairy Program
Commercial Feed Program



Division of Animal Industry Enhancements:

BA 4470 – E682 – New: Auditor II Position

The Dairy program has expanded the scope of their audits. Previously, auditors were verifying remittance payments only during the audit process.

FY26: \$71,412

FY27: \$93,247

BA 4470 – E905 – BA 3194 Transfer from DHHS to NDA

- Fees and Grants related to food inspections
- 12 FTE
- ** this decision unit is contingent upon passage and approval enabling legislation



Division of Animal Industry Enhancements:

BA 4550 – E683- New: Administrative Assistant II Position

This position would allow the Division to replace a currently approved, funded, and filled contract position dating back to 2018 with at state position.

FY26: \$36,588

FY27: \$52,117

New Equipment

BA 4550- E720 – Automation ELISA

FY 26: \$38,761

Replacement Equipment

BA 4550- E710 – Automation Thermocycler

FY26: \$46,889



Division of Food & Nutrition

Purpose:

- The Division of Food and Nutrition provides access to nutritious food to Nevada's Children, seniors, tribal communities and other populations in need through administration and oversight of the United State Department of Agriculture nutrition and feeding programs.

Programs:

- Child and Adult Food Program
- School Breakfast Program
- National School Lunch Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- Special Milk Program
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- USDA Foods for Child Nutrition Program
- Senior Farmers Market Program
- Emergency Food Assistance Program
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations



Division of Food & Nutrition Enhancements:

BA 1362- E680 – New Administrative Assistant II

This new position is needed due to the increased amount of administrative work throughout this program. This position would assist with administrative support to 6 USDA food and nutrition programs, and two food warehouses that are overseen by the Food Distribution team.

FY26: \$53,394

FY27: \$69,096

BA 1362– E710 - Replacement Truck and Trailer

FY26: \$334,798

BA 1362 – E710 - Replacement Vehicle

FY26: \$42,405

BA 2691– E681 - New Program Officer II

This position is currently a contracted position since May of 2023

FY26: (\$13,901)

FY27: \$71,612



Division of Plant Health & Compliance

Purpose:

- The Plant Health and Compliance Division serves Nevada by protecting plant health through monitoring for diseases and invasive species by conducting inspections. Laboratory testing and registration and certification of vendors.

• Programs:

- Seed Certification Program
- Noxious Weed Program
- Produce Safety Education & Compliance Program
- Specialty Crop Block Grant Program
- Pest Control Program
- Environmental Services
- Chemistry Laboratory Program
- Nursery Program
- Hemp Program
- Producer and Produce Vendor Certification Program
- Plant Pathology Program
- Entomology Program
- Drought Initiative
- Sagebrush Ecosystem Program



Division of Plant Health & Compliance Enhancements:

Replacement Equipment

BA 4545 - E710 - ICP-OES Commercial Fertilizer Analyzer

FY26: \$135,259

BA 4545 - E711 - Liquid Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer and Nitrogen Generator

FY27: \$719,145

BA 4545 - E712 - Nitrogen Analyzer -

FY27: \$119,593

BA 4545 - E713 - Microwave Digestion

FY27: \$55,876

BA 4552 - E304 - Agriculture Inspector II - Intermittent position to permanent position

FY26 -\$36,505

FY27-\$37,915



Division of Plant Health & Compliance Enhancements:

BA 4552 – E900-E904 - Combination of BA 4552 to BA 4545

Budget Account (4545) houses the most personnel that facilitate and perform the operations of grant-funded program, some which are approved for reimbursement through budget account (4552). Challenges exist from drawing upon grants for reimbursement of personnel costs in budget account (4552) due to personnel being in Budget Account (4545).

Merging would allow staff to be properly diversified across fees and grants creating more fiscal stability, particularly for personnel costs in budget account (4545) as well as meet the needs of NDA's constituencies. It would also allow staff to be more efficient in providing NDA services, so industry can receive multiple services when NDA staff are present.

Division of Measurement Standards

Purpose:

- The Division of Measurement Standards offers consumer and marketplace protection through the Petroleum Technology and the Weights and Measures programs.

Programs:

- State Sealer of Measurement Standards
- Metrology
- Petroleum Technology Program
- Weights and Measures Program



Division of Measurement Standards Enhancements:

Replacement Vehicles

BA 4551 – E710 - Replacement Vehicle – Specialty Truck

FY26: \$367,586

BA4551 – E710 - Replacement Vehicle - Ford F-550

FY27: \$74,070

Replacement Equipment

BA 4551 - E711 - Replacement Laboratory Equipment – Octane/Ethanol Analyzer and Barometric Pressure Sensing Device

FY26: \$24,200

FY27: \$3,707

New Equipment

BA 4551 – E720 - New Laboratory Equipment:

FY26: \$42,839

Bill Draft Request (AB 29)

- Advertisement of Motor Vehicle Fuel & Petroleum Products
- This BDR seeks to clarify and update the language within NRS 590.160-590.330, inclusive, to reflect changes and modernization within the petroleum industry, including new fuels, new modes of advertising, variable pricing based on loyalty programs or method of payment, etc., and to update or remove some instances of specificity that are no longer needed.
- Adopting these changes to NRS Chapter 590 will satisfy the Lombardo Administration 3-Year Plan Policy Matrix Priority 5.2 (Providing Outstanding Customer Service). Consumers will have additional confidence that signage and labelling at retail locations will be accurate and current. Retailers will have greater clarity and guidance on signage and labelling requirements, whereas at present, statutes can be vague or difficult to interpret.

****No fiscal impact.**



Questions?

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