

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 218E.510

This summary presents the recommendations approved by the Legislative Committee on Public Lands during the 2015–2016 Legislative Interim at meetings held on April 15, 2016, in Winnemucca, Nevada; May 20, 2016 in Caliente, Nevada; and at the Committee’s final meeting held on August 19, 2016, in Carson City, Nevada. The bill draft requests (BDRs) will be forwarded to the Legislative Commission for transmittal to the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature in 2017.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION

1. Draft a legislative resolution urging Congress to enact federal legislation requiring the approval of the Nevada Congressional Delegation prior to the designation of any future monuments located in the State of Nevada. **(BDR R–333)**
2. Request the drafting of a bill to allow: (1) for the discharge of a firearm on or across a federal, State, or county road for the purpose of varmint control; and (2) carrying a loaded weapon on or along a public way in a vehicle with the intent to shoot varmint. **(BDR 45–334)**
3. Request the drafting of a bill to clarify that a properly marked barbed wire fence meets the definition of a legal fence. **(BDR 15–335)**
4. Request the drafting of a bill to prohibit the State Engineer from considering wildlife a beneficial use when perfecting a water right. **(BDR 48–336)**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION: COMMITTEE LETTERS

5. Send a letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Department of the Interior, expressing the Committee’s support for the Nevada Association of Counties’ comments concerning the proposed changes to the BLM’s planning regulations found in the Planning 2.0 initiative (81 FR 9674).
6. Send a letter to the Nevada State Director of the BLM to request commencement of negotiations concerning the Albemarle Corporation’s proposal to purchase stockpiled salts located at the Silver Peak Mine site in Esmeralda County.

7. Send a letter to Nevada's Congressional Delegation expressing the Committee's support for Senate Joint Resolution 1 No. (File No. 30, *Statutes of Nevada 2015*), which urges Congress to enact legislation transferring title and ownership of certain federally administered land to the State of Nevada pursuant to the plan laid out in the Nevada Land Management Task Force report (Assembly Bill 227, [Chapter 299, *Statutes of Nevada 2013*]).
8. Send a letter to the Nevada State Director of the BLM, and the Forest Supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), encouraging the incorporation of annual grasses into grazing level calculations and to ensure flexibility is built into grazing permits to allow for adaptive management as issues and concerns arise.
9. Send a letter to the Governor and the Director of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (SDCNR) requesting the creation of a staff position within the SDCNR to assist counties in preparing land use plans and studies that analyze the economic and environmental impacts of various federal land management agency actions.
10. Send a letter to the Governor and Attorney General (AG) requesting funding support necessary to implement Senate Bill 456 (Chapter 452, *Statutes of Nevada 2015*), which urges the AG to take a leadership role in pursuing actions on behalf of the State and counties in formalizing and finalizing title to accessory roads and public roads.
11. Send a letter to the President of the Real Estate Commission, Real Estate Division, Department of Business and Industry, urging the Commission to investigate and take appropriate action to ensure that purchasers of land are aware of the consequences and responsibilities of signing an Open Range Disclosure as required by NRS 113.065.
12. Send a letter to the Office of the State Engineer, Division of Water Resources, SDCNR, requesting that the Office review all claims for water by the BLM and other federal agencies and immediately dispose of those claims that clearly do not meet the criteria of a Public Water Reserve No. 107 or a vested right.
13. Send a letter to the Nevada State Director of the BLM, and the Forest Supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, USFS, USDA, urging each agency to manage wild horses and burros in accordance with the provisions of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burro Act (WH&B) of 1971. The Act authorizes the BLM to remove excess wild horses and burros from the range to sustain the health and productivity of public lands.
14. Send a letter to the Office of the AG requesting the AG to take any legal action deemed appropriate to compel the BLM and USFS to manage wild horse and burro herds as required by federal law under the WH&B Act and subsequent amendments.

15. Send a letter to the Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means of the 2017 Legislative Session requesting support and the necessary funding to implement an effective management program for feral and estray horses.
16. Send a letter to the BLM seeking shared revenue from the sale of horses trained in the prison industry wild horse program, to expand the program to train more wild horses, and to share revenue from the sale of horses with the State and inmates involved in the training.
17. Send a letter to the Department of Motor Vehicles seeking information regarding the cost and feasibility of creating an Internet-based off-highway vehicles (OHVs) registration system.
18. Send a letter to the Director of the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs requesting that any OHV promotional information created by the Department relating to public lands also contain educational information regarding the legal use of OHVs.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION:
STATEMENTS IN THE FINAL REPORT**

19. Include a statement in the final report expressing the Committee's support of the lawsuit (*Western Exploration LLC, et. al. v. U.S. Department of the Interior, et. al.*) challenging the BLM's and USFS's land management plans regarding sage-grouse management in Nevada.