

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting
October 20, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
NACO Office
304 S. Minnesota Street
Carson City, NV 89703

AGENDA

Some NACO Board members may attend via video link or phone from other locations. Items on the agenda may be taken out of order. The NACO Board may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The NACO Board may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

Call to Order, Roll Call, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

1. Public Comment. Please Limit Comments to 3 Minutes.
2. Approval of Agenda. **For Possible Action.**
3. NACO President's Report.
4. NACO Executive Director's Report.
5. Approval of Minutes of the September 27, 2017 NACO Board of Directors Meeting. **For Possible Action.**
6. Approval of NACO Resolution 17-02 Thanking Humboldt County for Hosting the 2017 NACO Annual Conference. **For Possible Action.**
7. Approval for A&H Insurance LLC, Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth Inc., and Q&D Construction to be Associate Members of NACO. **For Possible Action.**
8. Approval of the Appointment of NACO Executive Director Dagny Stapleton to Replace Jeff Fontaine as the Nevada Association of Counties Representative on the Federal Lands Access Program's Nevada Programming Decisions Committee. **For Possible Action.**
9. Discussion Regarding Future NACO Annual Conferences Including the Approval of Douglas County as the Host of the 2018 NACO Annual Conference to be held November 13-15, 2018. **For Possible Action.**
10. Update on University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Including Discussion on the Preliminary Budget Proposal Submitted by The College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources.
11. Approval of a NACO Plan to Prepare for the 2019 Legislative Session by Conducting Outreach to State and Legislative Officials regarding County Priorities. **For Possible Action**
12. Update Regarding the Phase-out of Advanced Data Systems Used by Nevada's Rural Counties including County Contracts for Software Development and Licensing.

Note: The NACO Board of Directors May Interrupt the Open Meeting and Exclude the Public from the Meeting for the Limited Purpose of Receiving the Information and for Deliberation Relative to Agenda Items #13(a)ii and #13(b) below:

13. Update and Possible Action Regarding Public Lands and Natural Resources Issues Including:
 - a) Greater Sage-Grouse. **For Possible Action.**
 - i. BLM's Proposed Sagebrush Focal Area Withdrawal Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

- ii. The BLM's and U.S. Forest Service's Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plans including the Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Filed by the State of Nevada and Nine Nevada Counties.
- iii. Cooperating Agency Status for Upcoming BLM and U.S. Forest Service's Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendments. **For Possible Action**
- b) The Center for Biological Diversity's Lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Seeking to Vacate their Decision not to List the Bi-State Sage Grouse as an Endangered Species and NACO's Motion to Intervene on behalf of the F&WS.
- c) March 27, 2017 Memorandum from the Secretary of Interior to the Bureau of Land Management, "Improving the Bureau of Land Management's Planning and National Environmental Policy Act Processes." **For Possible Action.**
- d) Military Withdrawals
 - i. The U.S. Department of the Navy's Notice of Intent to Prepare a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal.
 - ii. The U.S. Air Force's Notice of Intent to Prepare a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test and Training Range Military Land Withdrawal at Nellis Air Force Base.

14. NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update. **For Possible Action.**

15. National Association of Counties and Western Interstate Region Board Member Updates.

16. NACO Board Member Updates.

17. Public Comment - Please Limit Comments to 3 Minutes

Adjournment.

Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify NACO in writing at 304 S. Minnesota Street, Carson City, NV 89703, or by calling (775) 883-7863 at least three working days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public can request copies of the supporting material for the meeting by contacting Amanda Evans at (775) 883-7863. Supporting material will be available at the NACO office and on the NACO website at: www.nvnaco.org

This agenda was posted at the following locations:

NACO Office 304 S. Minnesota Street, Carson City, NV 89703

Washoe County Admin. Building 1001 E. Ninth Street, Reno, NV 89520

Clark County Admin. Building 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89155

POOL/PACT 201 S. Roop Street, Carson City, NV 89701

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 5

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Board of Director's Meeting

September 27, 2017

Immediately upon adjournment of the NACO Annual Business Meeting but no earlier than 8:15a.m.
Winnemucca Convention Center

UNADOPTED MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: President Phillips, President-Elect Weekly, Vice President Waits, Past President Wichman, Carson City Mayor Crowell, Churchill County Commissioner Olson, Douglas County Commissioner Thaler, Elko County Commissioner Dahl, Esmeralda County Commissioner Bates, Humboldt County Commissioner French, Lyon County Commissioner Alt, Mineral County Tipton, Nye County Commissioner Schinhofen, Pershing County Commissioner Shank, Storey County Commissioner McGuffey, Washoe County Commissioner Herman, White Pine County Commissioner Perea, and Catherine Bakaric, Nevada Association of County Treasurers. (NACO Staff Jeff Fontaine, Dagny Stapleton and Tori Sundheim)

OTHER ATTENDEES: Churchill County Commissioner Erquiaga, Lyon County Commissioner Honeywell, Elko County Manager Rob Stokes, Norman Frey, Susan Frey, Roger Mancebo, Washoe County Manager John Slaughter, Jamie Rodriguez, Doug Johnson and CABNR Dean Bill Payne

1. **Public Comment.** None was given
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Past President Wichman.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the August 25, 2017 NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Past President Wichman.
4. **Acceptance of NACO's Audited Financial Statements December 31, 2016 and 2015.** The financial statements were accepted on a motion by Past President Wichman with second by Commissioner Tipton.
5. **Approval of the 2017 NACO Honor Roll, NACO 2017 Participatory Democracy Award and NACO Legislator of the Year Award.** The awards were approved on a motion by Past President Wichman with second by Commissioner Tipton.
6. **NACO Emeritus Committee Update on Upcoming Educational Workshops for County Officials.** Past President Wichman, as Chair of the Committee, informed the Board that the Committee has established four workshops to be conducted during the remainder of 2017 and in 2018. The first will be held in December on understanding Medicaid, in February on county tax revenues, in April on public lands and why and how to write county natural resources plan and in July on how bills become law in the State of Nevada. Past President Wichman also noted that now is the time to foster new relationships with Legislators and to teach them what is important to rural communities. President Phillips also noted that the workshops will be open to all county staff not just Commissioners.
7. **Update on University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.** Dean Payne informed the Board that a recommendation was reached by the search committee for a Director of Cooperative Extension and that an offer of employment had been sent the previous day. The Dean noted that the candidate is engaged and has indicated a November 1 start date. He thanked Commissioners Kirkpatrick, French, Herman and Dagny for serving on the search committee. He informed the Board that the College was given a month's notice to come up with a two-page request for budget enhancement for Cooperative Extension, due the first of October. He noted the engagement of a third party to help with the process through a survey, and thanked everybody who

was able to participate. He said that he would like to work with a small group, including Jeff and Dagny, to finish working on the draft of the budget enhancement, which was currently for \$6 million. The Dean also noted that there is a nucleus of an Extension Advisory Committee, and that the plan is to start the first meeting as soon as the new Extension Director is appointed. He informed the Board that the NSHE audit of Cooperative Extension has been prepared. It was noted that the Plan to spend down reserves in Clark was a 5-year plan and since then there have been a few ad hoc committee's and conversations with Clark County Commissioners regarding the use of those funds. The Dean noted that he has also asked for ways to increase collaboration with Southern Nevada Water Authority and has been attending Southern Nevada Strong. Commissioner French noted that he was involved with the survey and expressed concern that it looked like the budget enhancement melds Extension and CABNR. He asked why the budgets are not being run parallel. The Dean stated that the survey had to do with the Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension and on their integration. He noted that the research should be driven by stakeholders and that more should be occurring off campus. He agreed that there isn't currently a defined strategic plan and that it is being developed by stakeholders. The Dean explained that there are six or seven working groups from Extension and the third party is expected to deliver a more detailed report shortly. Dagny asked whether the \$6 million was for CABNR and Extension together, and the Dean clarified that those funds were only for Extension. President-Elect Weekly inquired about the resources in Clark County and the reserve there. The Dean stated that he believes it was \$13 million and is now down to \$11 million and mentioned the five-year plan. President-Elect Weekly inquired as to a timeline for spending the funds and the Dean referenced the five-year plan. President Elect-Weekly also asked for clarification on who could spend the surplus in Clark County and it was clarified that only Clark County would be able to utilize those funds. The President-Elect asked the Dean to speak with Commissioners Giunchigliani and Kirkpatrick about the recommendations for spending those funds down, and also asked that that conversation take place with the county. Past President Wichman inquired about an Extension Office in Tonopah. The Dean said that there is a proposal to put an educator in Tonopah for Northern Nye and Esmeralda Counties, and Commissioner Wichman requested to be informed on the progress of that process. Commissioner French asked about spending down fund balances in the rural counties and the Dean stated that he has difficulty gaining access to those numbers. Commissioner French requested transparency and to be informed of the process as well. President Phillips appointed Commissioner French, Commissioner Giunchigliani, Commissioner Herman, and Dagny to work with the Dean on the budget enhancement.

8. **Update on a NACO Plan to Prepare for the 2019 Legislative Session by Providing Outreach to State and Legislative Officials regarding County Priorities.** Dagny provided an update on the Board's request that staff work on a plan for outreach to elected officials during the legislative interim. She informed the Board that a preliminary plan is being developed and that it will be brought to the Board in October along with a recommendation that the Legislative Committee be tasked with carrying out the plan.
9. **Public Comment.** Jeff gave a brief review of the schedule for the remainder of the day and Tori reminded the group that the Sage Grouse counties would be meeting the following day at 6:30A.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by President-Elect Weekly with second by Past President Wichman.

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 6

Resolution 17- 02

of the Nevada Association of Counties

A RESOLUTION THANKING HUMBOLDT COUNTY FOR HOSTING NACO'S 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, NACO holds an annual conference to provide its members with an opportunity to receive training and information on relevant issues, as well as to network with county officials and private sector partners from across Nevada, and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Annual Conference, provided an outstanding educational, and social experience, and demonstrated the commitment of Humboldt County to furthering the goals of NACO, and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Annual Conference was very well attended, with nearly 200 participants including representatives from all 17 of Nevada's counties, and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County staff and Commissioners assisted in planning the Conference and also provided invaluable help during the Conference, and

WHEREAS, the hospitality and effort of the Commissioners and staff of Humboldt County was the key to a successful 2017 Annual Conference, and

WHEREAS, NACO recognizes the importance of Humboldt County and the contributions they make to our State.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada Association of Counties Board of Directors, on behalf of all Nevada Counties, extends its sincere appreciation and thanks to the Commissioners and staff of Humboldt County for hosting a truly outstanding Annual Conference; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners of Humboldt County.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 20th day of October, 2017 by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties.

Attest:

Kevin Phillips
President

Dagny Stapleton
Executive Director

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 7

NACO ASSOCIATE MEMBER INFORMATION

Company Information (please print or type)

A AND H INSURANCE, INC.
Company Name

3301 S. VIRGINIA STREET
Headquarters Address

RENO NEVADA 89502-4501
City State Zip

(775) 829-2600 (775) 829-6630
Phone Fax

WWW.AANDHINSURANCE.COM
Company Website

Official Company Representative (please print or type)

TRACY NEELEY BENEFITS CONSULTANT / MANAGER
First Name Last Name Title

3301 S. Virginia St, Reno NV
Address (if different from above)

(775) 284-7800 (775) 742-7798 TNEELEY@AANDHINS.COM
Phone Fax (SAME) Cell E-mail

Carol Ingalls CINGALLS@aandhins.com
Additional/Alternate Company Contact (Name & E-mail)

Please provide a brief summary of what your firm does and how a partnership with NACO will be mutually beneficial.

A AND H INSURANCE, INC. IS A CLIENT-FOCUSED AGENCY. WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS IN THE NEVADA RURAL AREAS. A AND H INSURANCE BELIEVES IN CREATING BRIDGES OF TRUST WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT EVERY MEMBER OF A COMMUNITY WANTS TO BE VALUED AND IT IS OUR GOAL TO BE A PART OF THIS CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

Thank you for your interest in joining NACO!

Please return your completed application to us at: 304 S. Minnesota St.
Carson City, NV 89703
or via E mail at: aevans@nvnaco.org

OK JB
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NACO ASSOCIATE MEMBER INFORMATION

Company Information (please print or type)

Company Name

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth, a professional corporation

Headquarters Address

660 Newport Center Drive, Suite 1600, Newport Beach, CA 92660

City State Zip

949-725-4000 949-725-4100

Phone Fax

sycr.com

Company Website

Official Company Representative (please print or type)

Colleen Quantrell Office Manager

First Name Last Name Title

275 Hill Street, Suite 270, Reno NV 89501

Address (if different from above)

775-393-1950 775-418-8339 775-224-1401 cquantrell@sycr.com

Phone Fax Cell E-mail

Scott Shaver, Shareholder sshaver@sycr.com

Additional/Alternate Company Contact (Name & E-mail)

Please provide a brief summary of what your firm does and how a partnership with NACO will be mutually beneficial.

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth (the "Firm") is one of the largest public finance law firms in the west. Thirty-five attorneys of the Firm practice exclusively in the areas of public finance and general public law. Our public law attorneys devote their time overwhelmingly to the representation of the interests of public agencies, including counties, and to the supplying of legal services in connection with the financings of such agencies. Since the 2013 addition of our Reno, Nevada office, the Firm has seen steady growth in our representation of Nevada issuers. We believe that a partnership with NACO may allow opportunities for the Firm to provide information to and answer questions from representatives of Nevada's counties regarding the services the Firm has to offer and will benefit NACO through the Firm's support of NACO's goals and educational programs.

Thank you for your interest in joining NACO!

Please return your completed application to us at: 304 S. Minnesota St.
Carson City, NV 89703
or via E mail at: aevans@nvaco.org

NACO ASSOCIATE MEMBER INFORMATION

Company Information (please print or type)

Company Name

Headquarters Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Fax

Company Website

Official Company Representative (please print or type)

First Name

Last Name

Title

Address (if different from above)

Phone

Fax

Cell

E-mail

Additional/Alternate Company Contact (Name & E-mail)

Please provide a brief summary of what your firm does and how a partnership with NACO will be mutually beneficial.

Thank you for your interest in joining NACO!

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Carson City, NV 89703
or via E mail at: aevans@nvnaco.org

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 8

<https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/nv/>

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 9

NACO Annual Conference Host County Contributions

Presidents Reception \$ – Pre-conference evening (avg. attendance 75 - 125)

- Venue – Can be off site if transportation is made available
- Decorations – If necessary or desired
- Food
- Beverage – A cash bar is fine if at least one complementary drink ticket is provided to those who register for the event
- Entertainment – If desired
- Other – A podium w/microphone and/or wireless microphone

Guest Tours - NACO will make the final decision on tours to be offered.

- 3-6 Options – Typically includes one technical tour of a facility/project the host county is proud of
- Transportation \$
- Food/snack if applicable
- Free tours are preferable but fees can be charged if absolutely necessary

Conference Bag/Attendee Gift \$

- Conference Bag – NACO will collaborate on this item and has final approval authority
- Inserts for conference bag – Typically includes items from the Chamber, Visitors Authority, museums etc.
- Attendee Gift – Something representative of the host county, can be placed either in the conference bag or individually at the banquet

Other Host County Responsibilities

- Obtaining venue proposals based on NACO requirements - NACO will review, enter into and maintain all contracts
- Transportation for off-site events
- Volunteers – 3-5 depending on day & events. Scheduling will be coordinated with NACO
- AV/Tech. Assistance and/or loaner equipment - projectors, laptops, etc.
- Coordination of Welcome letter for program – usually provided by Commission Chair
- Coordination of personal welcome during the General Session – usually provided by Commission Chair
- Presentation about host county during the General Session – no longer than 10 minutes
- Coordination of a choir and color guard for General Session – donations may be given at the discretion of NACO
- Provide NACO with a list of and contact information for possible local sponsors
- Additional items as determined by NACO

Items noted \$ are traditionally the fiscal responsibility of the host county.

NACO Annual Conference Site Requirements

General Requirement

- Hotel facilities for 200 rooms – guaranteed reservation code w/attrition if necessary
- Meeting facility to accommodate 200 people for general session and major meals
- At least 4 smaller rooms for breakout sessions that will accommodate groups of at least 70 theater style
- At least 2 smaller rooms for other sessions that will accommodate groups of at least 25 classroom style. Can be the same rooms as noted above for breakout sessions
- At least 1 room that can be set up in a 'board room' fashion
- Exhibitor space to accommodate at least 30 4-6' tables with the option for power
- A lockable room near the convention center for storage of NACO conference supplies
- A defined registration area with power (preferably near storage room)

Minimum Technical Requirements

- WiFi included in the contract package or provided via sponsorship (preferred not required)
- 4-6 projectors and screens
- 4-6 microphones – wireless preferred
- 4-6 podiums w/ microphones
- 1 onsite representative to assist with AV issues
- At least one teleconference style phone

Additional Preferred Items

- Venue to provide vendor tables
- Venue provided easels
- Business Center – including color printer, fax & scanner (preferred not required)

Please note the above are best case scenarios. We have and will be flexible and creative to accommodate host counties available facilities.

Location/Host of NACO Conferences

1981	White Pine		
1982			
1983	Nye		
1984	Elko		
1985	Douglas (Valley)		
1986	Humboldt		
1987	White Pine		
1988	Elko		
1989	Pershing		
1990	Clark		
1991	Churchill		
1992	Douglas		
1993	Nye		
1994	Humboldt		
1995	White Pine		
1996	Washoe (Incline)		
1997	Elko		
1998	Carson City		
1999	Clark		
2000	Churchill		
2001	Eureka, White Pine, Lincoln		
2002	Douglas (lake)		
2003	Elko		
2004	Washoe		
2005	Humboldt, Lander, Pershing		
2006	Clark		
2007	Elko		
2008	Carson City		
2009	Douglas (lake)		
2010	Washoe		
2011	Churchill		
2012	Carson City		
2013	Douglas w/ NLC&M (lake)		
2014	White Pine, Eureka, Lincoln		
2015	Clark		
2016	Nye		
2017	Humboldt		

The following links and/or pages are support for agenda
Item 13a

Authority: 43 CFR 1784.4–2.

Donald Gonzalez,
Vale District Manager.

[FR Doc. 2017–21962 Filed 10–10–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLWO350000.16X.L11100000.PI0000
LXSISGMW0000]

Notice of Cancellation of Withdrawal Application and Withdrawal Proposal and Notice of Termination of Environmental Impact Statement for the Sagebrush Focal Area Withdrawal in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of cancellation.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has canceled its withdrawal application and the withdrawal proposal relating to approximately 10 million acres of public and National Forest system lands located within Sagebrush Focal Areas (SFAs) in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming. The BLM has determined that the lands are no longer needed in connection with the proposed withdrawal. The BLM has also terminated the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement evaluating this application and proposal.

DATES: This Notice is applicable on October 11, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark A. Mackiewicz, BLM, by telephone at 435–636–3616, mail to 125 South 600 West, Price, UT 84501–2833 or by email at mmackiew@blm.gov. Persons using a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 800–877–8339. FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Proposed Withdrawal was published in the **Federal Register** on September 24, 2015, (80 FR 57635), as corrected (80 FR 63583), of the Department’s proposal to withdraw approximately 10 million acres of public and National Forest System lands in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming from location and entry under the United States mining laws for 20 years, subject to valid existing rights. The September 24, 2015, Notice also served

as a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4331, and initiated a public scoping process. The BLM has determined that the lands are no longer needed in connection with the proposed withdrawal. In accordance with 43 CFR 2310.1–4(a), the BLM therefore has canceled the proposed withdrawal and its application in support thereof. Preparation of an EIS is hereby terminated. Pursuant to 43 CFR 2310.2–1(d), the segregative effect for the lands described in 80 FR 57635 as amended by 80 FR 63583 terminated by operation of law on September 24, 2017, and the lands are currently open to location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provision of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law.

Michael D. Nedd,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 2017–21963 Filed 10–10–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–84–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLWO200000/LXSGPL000000/17X/
L11100000.PH0000]

Notice of Intent To Amend Land Use Plans Regarding Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation and Prepare Associated Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Assessments

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: On March 31, 2017, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada held that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) violated the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (NEPA) by failing to prepare a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the designation of Sagebrush Focal Areas (SFA) in the Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment in Nevada. In order to comply with the court’s order and to address issues raised by various interested parties, the BLM intends to consider the possibility of amending some, all or none of the BLM land use plans that were amended or revised in 2014 and 2015 regarding Greater Sage-Grouse conservation in the States of California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and

Montana (“2015 Sage-Grouse Plans”). By this Notice the BLM is announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments on Greater Sage-Grouse land management issues that could warrant land use plan amendments.

DATES: This Notice initiates the public scoping process for RMP amendment(s) with associated NEPA document(s). Comments may be submitted in writing until November 27, 2017. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local news media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: <http://bit.ly/GRSGplanning>. In order to be included in the analysis, all comments must be received prior to the close of the 45-day scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation as appropriate.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related to amending land use plans regarding Greater Sage-Grouse conservation to the BLM Web site at: <http://bit.ly/GRSGplanning> or to one of the addresses listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below. If your comments are specific to an individual State or region, please specify that in your comments.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the addresses listed below in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Johanna Munson in the BLM-Idaho State Office at (208) 373–7834, email BLM_sagegrouseplanning@blm.gov, or mail 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83708. For a list of local BLM contacts, please see the **SUPPLEMENTARY**

INFORMATION section below. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individuals during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 31, 2017, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada held that the BLM violated NEPA by failing to prepare a supplemental EIS for the designation of SFAs in the 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Plan in Nevada. Similar claims were raised in other lawsuits that have not been decided. The BLM also recognizes that the 2015 Greater Sage-Grouse Plans blended elements from among the action alternatives analyzed through the NEPA process for those

decisions. In order to comply with the court's order, to address issues raised by various interested parties, and to consider recommendations in the August 4, 2017, report prepared by the Department of the Interior's Greater Sage-Grouse Review Team in Response to Secretary's Order 3353 (SO 3353), the BLM seeks comment on the SFA designation, mitigation standards, lek buffers in all habitat management area types, disturbance and density caps, habitat boundaries to reflect new information, and reversing adaptive management responses when the BLM determines that resource conditions no longer warrant those responses. The BLM also seeks comment on State-specific issues, such as the need for General Habitat Management Areas in Utah, and other issues identified by State, tribal, and local governments. The BLM also seeks input on planning criteria, which include compliance with laws and regulations and adequacy of Greater Sage-Grouse conservation measures in the land use plans. Any RMP amendment(s) with associated NEPA document(s)—EISs or Environmental Assessments (EAs)—developed will be completed in compliance with NEPA and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended.

The BLM coordinated with the Sage Grouse Task Force to develop the SO 3353 report and continues to identify issues that warrant clarification or reconsideration. This coordination effort is continuing and will help to inform the BLM's implementation of SO 3353 in each State, as will input from other stakeholders. This Notice and potential planning effort does not preclude the BLM from addressing issues and inconsistencies through other means, including policy, training, or plan maintenance, nor does it commit the BLM to amending some, all, or none of the Greater Sage-Grouse plans. In addition to comments on the issues and planning criteria, the BLM would like to receive input on whether the planning effort should occur through state-by-state amendment processes and decisions. In particular, the BLM looks forward to receiving the comments of the Governors of each state, and will strive to accommodate those comments to the extent practicable given prior collaborative efforts.

You may submit comments in writing to the BLM at any public scoping meeting, or you may submit them to the BLM using the method listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. You should submit comments by the close of the 45-day scoping period or within 15 days after

the last public meeting, whichever is later.

The BLM will utilize and coordinate the NEPA scoping process to help fulfill the public involvement process under the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about historic and cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed action will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources.

The following is a list of BLM contacts and the BLM offices where documents may be examined:

California: Jeremiah Karuzas; telephone: 916-978-4644; email: jkaruzas@blm.gov; 2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, CA 95825.

Colorado: Bridget Clayton; telephone: 970-244-3045; email: bclayton@blm.gov; 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506.

Idaho: Ammon Wilhelm; telephone: 208-373-3824; email: awilhelm@blm.gov; 1387 S Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83708.

Nevada: Matt Magaletti; telephone: 775-861-6472; email: mmagalet@blm.gov; 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502.

Montana/Dakotas: John Carlson; telephone: 406-896-5024; email: jccarlso@blm.gov; 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101.

Oregon: Molly Anthony; telephone: 503-808-6052; email: manthony@blm.gov; 1220 South West 3rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97204.

Utah: Quincy Bahr; telephone: 801-539-4122; email: qfbahr@blm.gov; 440 West 200 South Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84101.

Wyoming: Erica Husse; telephone: 307-775-6318; email: ehusse@blm.gov; 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

The BLM will consult with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175 and other policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with tribes and other stakeholders that may be interested in or affected by the proposed action that the BLM is evaluating, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate in the development of the environmental analysis as a cooperating agency.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that

your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. The BLM will evaluate identified issues to be addressed in the plan, and will place them into one of three categories:

1. Issues to be resolved in the plan amendment(s);
2. Issues to be resolved through policy or administrative action; or
3. Issues beyond the scope of the plan amendment(s).

The public is encouraged to help identify any issues, management questions, or concerns that should be addressed in the plan amendment(s). The BLM will work collaboratively with interested parties to identify the management decisions that are best suited to local, regional, and national needs and concerns.

The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the plan amendment(s) in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 43 CFR 1610.2.

Michael D. Nedd,
Acting BLM Director.

[FR Doc. 2017-21958 Filed 10-10-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NRNL-24190;
PPWOCRADIO, PCU00RP14.R50000]

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service is soliciting comments on the significance of properties nominated before September 16, 2017, for listing or related actions in the National Register of Historic Places.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by October 26, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent via U.S. Postal Service and all other carriers to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St. NW., MS 7228, Washington, DC 20240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The properties listed in this notice are being considered for listing or related actions



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

ORDER NO. 3355

Subject: Streamlining National Environmental Policy Act Reviews and Implementation of Executive Order 13807, “Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects”

Sec. 1 Purpose. This Order is intended to: 1) immediately implement certain improvements to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews conducted by the Department of the Interior (Department); 2) begin assessment of additional such opportunities; and 3) begin implementation of Executive Order 13807 of August 15, 2017, “Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects” (E.O. 13807).

Sec. 2 Authorities. This Order is issued under the authority of section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended. Other statutory authorities for this Order include, but are not limited to, NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347.

Sec. 3 Background. The Department has broad responsibilities to manage Federal lands and resources for the public’s benefit. The NEPA applies to the execution of many of the Department’s responsibilities with the goal of ensuring that information regarding environmental impacts is available to decisionmakers and the public before decisions are made. The NEPA accomplishes this goal by requiring Federal agencies to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Both the Department and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have issued regulations to implement NEPA. Because the purpose of NEPA’s requirements is not the generation of paperwork, but the adoption of sound decisions based on an informed understanding of environmental consequences, the regulations encourage agencies to: 1) focus on issues that truly matter rather than amassing unnecessary detail; 2) reduce paperwork, including by setting appropriate page limits; 3) discuss briefly issues that are not significant; and 4) prepare analytic (rather than encyclopedic) documents, among other measures.

In recognition of the impediments to efficient development of public and private projects that can be created by needlessly complex NEPA analysis, I am issuing this Order to enhance and modernize the Department’s NEPA processes, with immediate focus on bringing even greater discipline to the documentation of the Department’s analyses and identifying opportunities to further increase efficiencies.

This NEPA-streamlining effort dovetails with E.O. 13807. Among other requirements, E.O. 13807 requires CEQ to take actions to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review process and to form an inter-agency working group to identify agency-specific

impediments to efficient and effective reviews for covered infrastructure projects. This Order begins implementation of E.O. 13807 in the context of the Department's overall effort to streamline the NEPA process.

Sec. 4 Directives.

a. Setting Page and Timing Limitations for Environmental Impact Statements.

(1) To implement the longstanding directives in 43 C.F.R. 46.405, and in 40 C.F.R. 1500.4 and 1502.7, all EISs 1) for which a bureau is the lead agency and 2) that have not reached the drafting stage shall not be more than 150 pages or 300 pages for unusually complex projects, excluding appendices. Approval of the Assistant Secretary with responsibility for the matter, in coordination with the Solicitor, is required to produce an EIS exceeding the above stated page limitations. In instances of EISs prepared with bureaus serving as co-leads, each responsible Assistant Secretary shall approve any deviations from this policy. To meet the page limitations, each preparer should focus on various techniques such as tiering or incorporation by reference.

(2) To ensure timely completion of EISs, and consistent with the timelines established for major infrastructure projects in E.O. 13807, each bureau shall have a target to complete each Final EIS for which it is the lead agency within 1 year from the issuance of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS. The initial timeline must be developed by the lead bureau before issuing the NOI in accordance with 43 C.F.R. 46.240, taking into account all relevant timing factors listed therein, including any constraints required by cooperating agencies. An updated timeline should be prepared as needed during the development of the EIS (e.g., at the completion of scoping or if additional time is provided for public comment). Timelines exceeding the target by more than 3 months must be approved by the Assistant Secretary with responsibility for the matter. In instances of EISs prepared with bureaus serving as co-leads, each responsible Assistant Secretary must approve any deviations from this policy.

b. Setting Target Page and Timing Limitations for the Preparation of Environmental Assessments. Within 30 days, each bureau head shall provide to the Deputy Secretary through its supervising Assistant Secretary a proposal for target page limitations and time deadlines for the preparation of environmental assessments. Any common impediments to achieving the proposed targets should also be identified. In developing its proposal, each bureau should consider guidance from CEQ on the page length of environmental assessments. (Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations, 46 Fed. Reg. 18,026, 18,037, Question and Answer 36a. (Mar. 23, 1981)).

c. Additional NEPA-Streamlining Review.

(1) The Deputy Secretary will coordinate a review of the Department's NEPA procedures to identify additional ways to streamline the completion of NEPA responsibilities. The review will include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

(a) bureau/office NEPA regulations, policies, guidance, and processes to identify: 1) impediments to efficient and effective reviews; 2) best practices and whether they can be implemented more widely; and 3) whether the Department should consider establishing additional categorical exclusions or revising current ones;

(b) requirements and process improvements under Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 42 U.S.C. 4370m-1(c)(1)(D), to determine whether any best practices can be broadly applied, including to projects beyond the terms of the FAST Act;

(c) requirements and process improvements required by E.O. 13807, to determine whether any best practices can be broadly applied, including to any projects beyond the terms of E.O. 13807; and

(d) CEQ NEPA regulations and guidance to assess whether to recommend changes to facilitate agency processes.

(2) Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, each Assistant Secretary, in coordination with bureau heads, should provide recommendations for actions to streamline the NEPA process to include potential regulatory revisions, development of revised or additional categorical exclusions, revised or new guidance or policies, and recommendations on streamlining the surnaming process.

d. Implementation of E.O. 13807. The Deputy Secretary will also coordinate implementation of E.O. 13807.

(1) In order to begin implementation of E.O. 13807, each Assistant Secretary, in coordination with the bureau heads, is hereby directed to identify:

(a) potential impediments to efficient and effective reviews for infrastructure and develop an action plan to address such impediments as a subset of the review required in Sec. 4c(1)(a) above;

(b) potential actions that could be taken by CEQ to facilitate a review of major infrastructure projects, as a subset of the review required in Sec. 4c(1)(d) above; and

(c) pending proposals for major infrastructure projects, as defined in E.O. 13807 and that are not yet the subject of a NOI issued by the Department, that could be candidates for the "One Federal Decision" process.

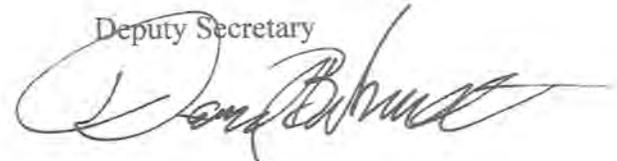
(2) Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, each Assistant Secretary, in coordination with the bureau heads, should provide the information requested in Sec. 4d(1)(a)-(c) above.

Sec. 5 Implementation. The Deputy Secretary is responsible for implementing all aspects of this Order, in coordination with the Solicitor and the Assistant Secretaries.

Sec. 6 Effect of the Order. This Order is intended to improve the internal management of the Department. This Order and any resulting report or recommendations are not intended to, and do not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officer or employees, or any other person. To the extent there is any inconsistency between the provisions of this Order and any Federal laws or regulations, the laws or regulations will control.

Sec. 7 Expiration Date. This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until it is amended, superseded, or revoked, whichever occurs first.

Date: AUG 31 2017

Deputy Secretary




Nevada Association of Counties

304 S. Minnesota Street

Carson City, NV 89703

775-883-7863

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Recommended Course of Action For Individual Boards of County Commissioners Greater Sage-Grouse Plan Amendments October 6, 2017

Step 1: Discuss the upcoming Plan Amendment Process with your Attorney and/or DA and establish protocols to ensure you do not waive any of your rights through this process (e.g. language needed to go in comment letters and correspondence with the Agencies).

Step 2: Schedule the Greater Sage-Grouse Plan Amendment as an Agenda Item on future BOCC meetings throughout the duration of this process and with County staff.

Need 1: Closed Item on Next Board of County Commissioners Agenda (ASAP).

Suggested Language: The Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Filed by Western Exploration LLC, Elko County, Eureka County, Quantum Minerals, White Pine County, Lander County, Humboldt County, Churchill County, Washoe County, Ninety-Six Ranch, LLC, Paragon Precious Metals, LLC, and the State of Nevada. For Possible Action.

Need 2: Public Item on Next Board of County Commissioners Agenda (ASAP).

Suggested Language: Cooperating Agency Status for Upcoming Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Process. 82 Fed. Reg. 47248 (Oct. 11, 2017). For Action.

Need 3: Public Item on Next Board of County Commissioners Agenda (ASAP).

Suggested Language: Scoping Comments on Upcoming Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Process, due November 27, 2017. 82 Fed. Reg. 47248 (Oct. 11, 2017). For Action.

Need 4: Sign and send a letter to the BLM requesting formal Cooperating Agency Status. Designate point person(s) from your county for communications with the BLM and a county team to provide information to them.

Need 5: Invite and schedule BLM Field and State Staff to speak in front of the Board of County Commissioners throughout the planning process.

Need 6: Schedule a series of meetings for a formal *Consistency Review* pursuant to Federal Land Policy and Management Act § 202(c)(9); 43 C.F.R. 1610.3-3. Use this time to provide the information compiled by your team so they can sit down with the BLM Staff to resolve inconsistencies with land use planning and county programs. **Note:** Have your county team meet ahead of time to prepare for the meeting and for follow-up responses to the Agencies.

Need 7: Schedule future meetings with BLM Staff to follow up on key issues in your county throughout the plan amendment process.

Discussion Points for First Board of County Commissioners Meeting

1. Approval of Cooperating Agency Status (highly recommended if you would like to obtain and share important information throughout the process).
2. Designate a point person or persons from your county for communications with the BLM.
3. Designate a county team to compile information to provide to the BLM immediately and to work through plan amendment issues as information comes up throughout the process:
 - a. Planning (i.e. provide maps and lists of lands needed for disposal, planned growth, infrastructure, landfills, especially where current Land Use Plans overlap) (provide shape files if possible)
 - b. Roads Issues (i.e. gravel pits, list of county maintained roads, a past and future road maintenance schedule so you will have the information you need to work through the times of year you will need access or clearance)
 - c. Permits held with the BLM that can/will be revised in the future
 - d. Fire Department (i.e. past few years of emergency response logs and future projections)
 - e. Noxious Weed Department
 - f. Local Conservation District
 - g. Other resources departments, districts or agencies (e.g. water, flood)
4. Would you like to designate NACO as your representative (or as a joint representative)? Note: NACO has been representing Lander, Pershing, Nye, and Mineral Counties through the Sagebrush Focal Area Withdrawals and Military Withdrawals. NACO helps keep a pulse on the project and reaches out any time a new development arises to help you respond or respond for (or with) you. The arrangement is catered to your needs. Note that this is not a replacement for your engagement, as your departments or point person(s) will need to stay engaged to fully represent your county in this process.
 - a. NACO will be working with UNR to obtain additional technical support.
5. Direct Staff to draft and send the Cooperating Agency request letter, to be signed by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners. The BLM may need to work with you on the request language. NACO has drafted templates in the past and is happy to share those with your team, and to work with you by request.
6. Work with your attorney to ensure you have draft language that clarifies engagement in this process does not waive any rights or claims pursuant to the Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Filed by Western Exploration LLC, Elko County, Eureka County, Quantum Minerals, White Pine County, Lander County, Humboldt County, Churchill County, Washoe County, Ninety-Six Ranch, LLC, Paragon Precious Metals, LLC, and the State of Nevada."
7. Are you interested to join with one or more counties to hire a shared consultant, especially one with GIS Capabilities?

Overarching Recommendations

Do more, early on. The scoping period of time (beginning now) is crucial. It is during this time that you should be working as closely as possible with the BLM to identify changes that need to be made that would satisfy conservation objectives and county service needs. The BLM will provide several documents throughout this time period, including key components such as: Purpose and Need, Alternatives to be Analyzed, and Impacts Analyses. Once these are drafted, the document will be compiled and sent out to the public.

Engagement as a Cooperating Agency

- a. Request to be on Inter-Disciplinary Teams that are relevant to the above issues.
- b. Request and schedule regular meetings, and updates with the Board of Commissioners.
- c. The BLM will hold stakeholder meetings, schedule accordingly and be present.
- d. Request a local government forum or group with BLM to discuss and work through county-specific issues.
- e. Take the BLM on tours in controversial or important areas to **show them** your concerns.
- f. Emphasize the FLPMA requirement that the BLM engage in a formal *Consistency Review* pursuant to Federal Land Policy and Management Act § 202(c)(9); 43 C.F.R. 1610.3-3.

What to Expect: The Plan Amendment Process (Environmental Impact Statement Process)

Note: Expect this process to move quickly, especially given the August 15, 2017 Secretarial Order 3355 that requires the EIS to be 300 pages and completed within a year.

- a. The Agency published a **Notice of Intent** in the Federal Register on October 11, 2017. 82 Fed. Reg. 47248 (Oct. 11, 2017).
- b. **45-day Scoping Process Began on October 11, 2017 and ends November 27, 2017.** During this time the Agency and public will identify issues and possible alternatives to be addressed in the EIS.
- c. **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)** (followed by 45-day minimum public notice and comment period).
 1. Cooperating Agencies should receive an Administrative Draft of this document prior to release. Be ready to respond to this Draft very quickly. Ideally, you will have had meetings with the BLM and worked out the above issues so they are reflected in the Draft Document. This would mean you would already know what to expect, and the review would not be as cumbersome.
- d. **Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)** (followed by public notice and comment/protest period 30 day wait minimum).
 1. Cooperating Agencies should receive an Administrative Draft of this document prior to release. Be ready to respond to this Draft very quickly. Ideally, you will have had meetings with the BLM and worked out the above issues so they are reflected in the Draft Document.
- e. **Record of Decision (ROD)** published in Federal Register.
 1. Explains the Agency's action
 2. Describes the alternatives the agency considered, and
 3. Discusses the agency's plans for mitigation and monitoring, if necessary.