Overview of the Activities and Accomplishments of NDOR

Colin Robertson, Administrator

Presentation to Nevada Advisory Board on Outdoor Recreation

June 29, 2021
January 2021 Division Priorities

- NDOR Advisory Board
- Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Nevada Outdoor Recreation Profile
  - The North Face Grant for Get Outdoors Nevada
- Great American Outdoors Act/Land and Water Conservation Fund Opportunities
- GOED Recovery/ Stabilization and Strategic Planning
- Rural Community and Economic Development
  - Economic Development Administration Grant Opportunities
- Sustainable Recreation Planning/Advocacy
- Dark Skies BDR
Division Partners

- NDCNR and Divisions
- GOED
- USDA FS H-TNF, LTBMU
- USDA RD
- BLMNV
- NPS & USFWS
- OHV Program
- NDOT
- Travel Nevada
- NDHHS
- NVOBC
- Outdoor NGOs
- NDOW
- Main Street Program
COVID-19/Economic Recovery

• Helped organize and co-lead a state-wide interagency COVID response team of federal and state land managers and stake holders for dealing with the impacts of COVID on public lands.

• Advocated on Capitol Hill for the importance of the COVID recovery of the outdoor economy nationally and in Nevada in a U.S. Senate Commerce Subcommittee hearing on tourism, trade, and export promotion on June 18, 2021.

• Contributed to ORR Outdoor Recreation Rural Development Toolkit, and presented to Nevada partners
• Collaborated with the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) to incorporate Nevada's $5.5 billion outdoor economy into the State's COVID recovery plan as well as the State's next five-year strategic plan.

• Participated in the Tahoe Prosperity Center "Tahoe Rising Summit" looking at comprehensive economic and community development strategies tied to the outdoor economy for the Lake Tahoe Basin's 20,000 residents and 15+million visitors.

• Contributing to the Nevada Economic Assessment Project (NEAP)/OREC Economic Analysis.
• Helped develop Travel Nevada’s new destination development program and plan for Lincoln County, Nevada to build upon its world class mountain bike trail infrastructure by planning for and building the community infrastructure needed to welcome more visitors to the area while adding to the quality-of-life indicators for residents.

• Working with and encouraging Boulder City community leaders to continue building their community and economic development strategies toward their outdoor recreation economy.

• Helping new leadership develop updated strategic goals with the Nevada Outdoor Business Coalition.
• Contributing to the outcomes of SB 448, a renewable energy and vehicle electrification bill by working on the bill's inclusion of outdoor recreation and tourism as key to the electrification of vehicle infrastructure and the transition to renewable energy-driven transportation planning.
Conservation / Stewardship

• Successfully supported Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall in introducing and passing dark sky conservation legislation, promoting awareness and protection of Nevada's dark sky places for the benefit of rural community and economic development and tourism. The bill authorizes the Administrator of NDOR to create a statewide dark sky designation program based on International Dark Sky Association certifications.

• Collaborating with federal land management agency partners in Nevada to frame a shared vision for sustainable and responsible outdoor recreation
Conservation / Stewardship

- Continuing to develop ongoing collaborations with Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, The Tahoe Fund, and other Sustainable Recreation Working Group partners and the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership, in an effort to place sustainable/responsible outdoor recreation and tourism at the forefront of what NDOR is recognized for.
• Successfully introduced and passed legislation augmenting the makeup of the Nevada Advisory Board on Outdoor Recreation to include non-voting members from the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Agriculture and a voting member from the Nevada Association of Counties.

• Contributed to the creation of the Nevada Climate Strategy, a framing document for the State of Nevada Climate Initiative, with responsibility for the economic development overview of the strategy document.
Public Health / Equitable Access

- Collaborating with the southern Nevada Regional Open Space and Trails initiative to map and promote accessibility to regional trails and open space, particularly in underrepresented communities in the Las Vegas Valley; promoting the Neon to Nature app, which aims to provide information about how to access nature areas and outdoor recreation opportunities in Clark County, Nevada.
- Responded to SB 285, a transportation bill that aimed to improve bicycle safety by making better investments in drivers' education and complete streets infrastructure following the deaths of five cyclists in the fall of 2020.
• Developed Toiyabe Trails Institute Proposal for EDA technical and planning assistance to develop a feasibility study and implementation plan/curriculum design for a professional trail building institute in eastern Nevada, currently tentatively recommended for funding.

• Continuing to shape and contribute to the 2022 SCORP revision

• Supported Creation of Las Vegas Cyclist Memorial
• Successfully introduced and passed legislation to move the Nevada Outdoor Education and Recreation Grant Program from the Division of State Parks to the Division of Outdoor Recreation. The associated position (grants analyst) and budget accounts will help to more strategically position the education goals of NDOR and the Confluence of States around diversity, equity, and inclusion.
• Continue to advise the Administrator of the Division of Outdoor Recreation on needs, opportunities, and challenges
• Open Doors, Make Connections, Introduce the Division to Potential Partners
• Help raise funds (or awareness about them) for the Outdoor Education and Recreation Grant Program
• Be a force multiplier—advance the causes, objectives, and mission of NDOR to the benefit of Nevadans
Questions and Discussion

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