



STATE OF NEVADA  
**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 1003  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5247  
Phone (775) 684-2700 - Fax (775) 684-2715

Friday, May 16, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.  
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Tahoe Hearing Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
901 South Stewart Street  
Carson City, Nevada

**REVISED AGENDA**  
(Revised May 2, 2014)

Notice is hereby given that the Nevada State Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on May 16, 2014 at the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 901 South Stewart Street, Tahoe Hearing Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in Carson City, NV.

There will be a telephonic connection available for this meeting. Please call (888) 808-6929, then enter code 3499573 to participate.

**NOTICE:** Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Items may be combined for consideration by the Commission. Items may be removed from the agenda at any time.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
  - A. Introductions
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comment may be made on any issue and any discussion of those items; provided that comment will be limited to areas relevant to and within the authority of the Conservation Commission. Public comments may be limited to 3-5 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. No action will be taken on any items raised in the public comment period that are already not on the agenda. At the discretion of the Chair, public comment may be received prior to action on individual agenda items.
- III. **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***
  - A. Approval of Minutes from March 25, 2014 Meeting
  - B. Approval of Minutes from March 31, 2014 Meeting
- IV. **BRIEF UPDATE ON CONSERVATION DISTRICTS PROGRAM - \*NOT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***
  - A. Tim Rubald, interim program coordinator, will provide the Commission with a brief update on Program activities and progress on the search for a new Coordinator.

- V. **RECESS FOR ATTENDANCE AT REGULATION PUBLIC HEARING - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
The State Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing to receive input on proposed language changes to the Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 548, as follows:  
A. LCB File No. R139-13 will provide minimum standards for the Conservation Districts related to the Sage Grouse Habitat Grant Fund, prescribing qualifications and eligibility processes.
- VI. **RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***
- VII. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF PERMANENT REGULATIONS AND CHANGES TO NAC CHAPTER 548 - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. LCB File No. R139-13, provides that those Conservation Districts in good standing, and meeting other requirements, have a process to qualify for monies from the Sage Grouse Habitat Grant Fund, and describing a duty to account for grant funds to the Commission, and other related matters.
- VIII. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON WATER ISSUES IN NEVADA - \*NOT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. Presentation and discussion of a variety of water issues in Nevada with *Mr. Jason King, P.E., State Engineer.*
- IX. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. Per NRS 548.140, the Commission will select a Chair. A new vice-chair will also be selected in case of the absence or incapacity of the Chair.
- X. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE UNR COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE BIOTECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES (CABNR) AND THE NEVADA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION - \*NOT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. Dr. Bill Payne, Dean of CABNR and the Director of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station will provide an update of recent activities.
- XI. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON DEVELOPING OFFICIAL COMMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGARDING THEIR PROPOSED RULE – Definition of “Waters of the United States” Under the Clean Water Act - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. The Commission will discuss the issues surrounding the proposed Rule, and possibly determine to comment on the Rule, and in that case, direct staff in drafting comments.
- XII. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REVIEWING THE CURRENT COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***  
A. The Commission’s current strategic plan expires next year. Discussion on the wishes of the Commission on how they would like to proceed, and possible direction to staff.

**XIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING CURRENT ISSUES PRETAINING TO THE WILD HORSE AND BURRO ACT (WHBA) AND SITUATIONS ENCOMPASSING THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF WHBA BY BLM AND US FOREST SERVICE.**

A. The current lawsuit filed by the Nevada Association of County Officials and the Nevada Farm Bureau - **\*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

B. Recent action by the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council in their development of the State's Alternative (Alt. E) for the BLM/USFS Sub-regional EIS; and also their effort in updating the State Plan - **\*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

C. The situation in Pershing County regarding possible trespass of horses on private land - **\*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

D. Additional issues regarding the WHBA - **\*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**XIV. AGENCY UPDATES - \*NOT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Nevada Department of Agriculture – *Robert Little, Noxious Weeds Coordinator*

B. UNR-College of Agriculture Biotechnology and Natural Resources – *Dr. Sherm Swanson, Range and Riparian Extension State Specialist for University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and Scientist for Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station.*

C. Natural Resources Conservation Service – *Bruce Petersen, State Conservationist*

D. Farm Services Administration – *Clint Koble, State Executive Director*

E. Nevada Department of Wildlife – *Connie Lee, Landowner Incentive Programs*

F. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts – *Jake Tibbitts, President*

G. Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Program – *Tim Rubald, Program Manager*

H. Others - Participating agencies and partners may report items of importance or urgency as necessary at this time.

**XV. COMMISSIONER ITEMS - \*NOT FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Comments and Reports

**XVI. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - \* FOR POSSIBLE ACTION \***

A. Agenda items for future consideration.

B. Date, time and location of next meeting.

**XVII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Public comment may be made on any issue and any discussion of those items; provided that comment will be limited to areas relevant to and within the authority of the Conservation Commission. Public comments may be limited to 3-5 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. No action will be taken on any items raised in the public comment period that are already not on the agenda.**

**XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following location:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Conservation Districts Program Office, 201 S. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701

NRCS Office 1200 Winnemucca Blvd East, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

NRCS Office 555 West Silver Street, Suite 101, Elko, Nevada 89801

Notice of this meeting was emailed for posting to the following locations:  
NRCS State Office, 1365 Corporate Blvd, Reno, NV 89502

Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Internet website at:  
<http://dcnr.nv.gov/conservation-district-program/conservation-commission>  
And the Nevada Public Notice website <http://notice.nv.gov/>

*Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify our office by writing to the Conservation Districts Program, 201 S. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701 or by email at [timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov) or calling (775) 684-8600 no later than two(2) working days prior to the scheduled meeting.*

*Please contact Tim Rubald at 201 S. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701; or E-mail [timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@dcnr.nv.gov); or phone 775-684-8600 to obtain supporting material for the agenda.*