

# Intergovernmental Executive Committee

## Fallon Range Training Complex

### Draft Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 16, 2025

2:00 p.m. PDT

**Virtual Meeting and In-Person at the:**

**Nevada Department of Agriculture**

405 21st St.

Sparks, NV 89431

This meeting was also held virtually pursuant to NRS 241.023.

Join the meeting online: <https://mantech.zoomgov.com/j/1600605456>

Call in by phone: 1-669-254-5252

Webinar ID: 160 060 5456

Pursuant to NRS 241.020, the Agenda for this meeting was posted at the following locations: State of Nevada Website (<https://notice.nv.gov/>), the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC) Modernization website ([www.frtcmodernization.com/IEC](http://www.frtcmodernization.com/IEC)), the Clearinghouse website (<http://clearinghouse.nv.gov/>), and the Churchill County Administration Building (155 Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406).

Please Note:

- Public Comment was limited to three (3) minutes per person. The Committee reserves the right to reduce the time or limit the total time allowed for public comment.
- Presentations should be approximately 15 minutes in length plus 15 minutes for questions and answers.
- Items on the agenda may be taken out of order, combined, or removed, or discussion delayed, at the direction of the Committee.
- Documentation and supporting agenda items are available on the FRTC website at [www.FRTCmodernization.com/IEC](http://www.FRTCmodernization.com/IEC)

<b>Intergovernmental Executive Committee (IEC) Elected Positions</b>				
<b>Government/Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>In Person</b>	<b>Zoom</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Chair J.J. Goicoechea	√		
Churchill County	Vice Chair Myles Getto	√		
<b>IEC Members</b>				
<b>Government/Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>In Person</b>	<b>Zoom</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Department of the Navy	Mike Haymon, Captain	√		
Department of the Navy	Dan Muller, Commander		√	
Bureau of Land Management	Director			√
Bureau of Land Management	Kim Dow, District Manager		√	
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Colleen LaBelle, WNA Superintendent			√
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Amy Roberts, Realty Specialist		√	
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Brad Bauman, Administrator	√		
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Matt Maples, Administrator, Data and Technology Services Division			√
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	James Settelmeyer, Director	√		
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Chad Stephens, Deputy Director			√
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Dominique Etchegoyhen, Deputy Director			√
Nevada Department of Agriculture	J.J. Goicoechea, Director	√		
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Doug Farris, Division Administrator			√
Nevada Division of Minerals	Rob Ghiglieri, Administrator	√		
Churchill County	Myles Getto, Commissioner	√		
Churchill County	Jim Barbee, County Manager	√		
Lyon County	Scott Keller, Commissioner		√	
Lyon County	Andrew Haskin, County Manager		√	
Mineral County	Tina Manzini, Commissioner			√
Pershing County	Connie Gottschalk, Commissioner		√	
Pershing County	Joe Crim, Jr., Commissioner			√
Nye County	Bruce Jabbour, Commissioner			√
Nye County	Meagan Labadie, Natural Resources Director		√	
Eureka County	Rich McKay, Commissioner			√
Eureka County	Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager		√	
Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe	Cathi Tuni, Chairwoman		√	

Walker River Paiute Tribe	Melanie McFalls, Chairman			√
Yomba Shoshone Tribe	Marisa Weaselboy, Environmental Manager			√
Yomba Shoshone Tribe	Darryl Brady, Chairman			√
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Steven Wadsworth, Chairman			√
Lovelock Paiute Tribe	Alfred Happy, Chairman			√
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Debbie O'Neil, Chairwoman			√
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes	Dackota York, Chairman			√
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Daryl "Doug" Gardipe, Chairman			√
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	Serrell Smokey, Chairman	√		
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada	Eric Magiera, Chairman			√
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Randi Lone Eagle, Chairwoman			√
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Nedra Crane, Vice Chairwoman			√
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Chairperson			√
Yerington Paiute Tribe	Ginny Hatch, Chairwoman			√

#### ***IEC Liaisons and Support***

<b>Government/Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>In Person</b>	<b>Zoom</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Naval Air Station Fallon	Toni Burton, Tribal Relations Coordinator	√		
Naval Air Station Fallon	Robin Schofield, Community Planning and Liaison Officer	√		
ManTech	Allison Turner, Moderator	√		

#### **Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call of Committee Members**

- IEC Chair J.J. Goicoechea, Nevada Department of Agriculture, called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.
- Ms. Toni Burton, Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon Tribal Coordinator, called roll. The list of attendees/absentees is above.

#### **Verification of Agenda Posting**

- The agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with NRS 241.020.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

- Chair Goicoechea proposed a change to the agenda to switch items 7 and 8 to have the Navy present first, followed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). IEC Vice Chair Myles Getto, Churchill County, motioned for approval of the agenda; Mr. James Settlemeyer, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, seconded the motion. The agenda was approved.

## Public Comment

- Chair Goicoechea opened the floor for public comments on the agenda, noting a three-minute time limit per person.
- No comments were made during this comment period. The public comment period was closed.

## New/Old Business

- No new business or old business.

## Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2024

- Mr. Settelmeyer motioned for approval of the March meeting minutes; Vice Chair Getto seconded the motion. The March meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

## Discussion/Possible Action: Navy Update

*(Please refer to the presentation slides in the IEC member package for additional details from the presentations)*

- **Introduction:** Captain Mike Haymon, commanding officer of NAS Fallon, reviewed the agenda and introduced the Navy presenters.
- **Legislative/Implementation Update:** Mr. Matt Ryan, FRTC Modernization Program Manager, provided an overview of modernization status, the military construction (MILCON) program, fiscal year (FY)25 plan updates and Year 3 implementation goals, the overall range modernization schedule, and where to find more information.
  - FRTC Modernization Overview: Mr. Ryan presented updated information and a map depicting each large-scale task or infrastructure project by range to support modernization, the funding source, various tasks by range to reach final occupancy capability, and the anticipated year of completion.
  - MILCON Program: Mr. Ryan reviewed a snapshot of military construction projects with active appropriations and planned projects for future Congressional funding.
    - Funds are available for P442 and P445 (Training Range Land Acquisition projects).
    - MILCON projects P448 (B-16 Sand Canyon/Lone Tree Road Improvements), P444 (B-17 State Route 361/Great Basin Pipeline Improvements), P446 (Training Range with Land Acquisition – Phase 3), and P447 (B-20 Pole Line Road Relocation) are out-year projects, and the Navy will continue to track funding for each year of appropriations.
    - The lead agency for P448 is Churchill County (design and construction), with the Navy and BLM in supporting roles. The lead agencies for P444 are Great Basin Gas Transmission Co., and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), with the Navy and BLM in supporting roles.
  - Year 3 Implementation: Mr. Ryan reviewed a snapshot of progress towards major Navy goals for Implementation Year 3, focusing on P442 as the active tasks.
    - Dixie Valley Training Area (DVTA)/B-17 private land acquisition: The Navy made 10 offers for private land acquisition and six properties have been acquired.
    - B-16 grazing payments and modifications: The Navy made two offers for B-16 grazing payments; discussions are ongoing.

- B-16 Range Environmental Assessment (EA): The Navy is preparing an EA for B-16 range improvements; it should be completed by the end of 2025. The next step is to install initial points of fencing at B-16.
    - B-17 Great Basin Pipeline: This project is slated for FY27. The Navy will continue to coordinate with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on the design and environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
  - Year 3 Non-Range-Specific Tasks:
    - The Draft Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) is in review by the NAS Fallon cultural resources team.
    - The Wildland Fire Management Plan (WFMP) will be completed in 2025.
    - Onboarding for new conservation law enforcement officers is in-progress.
    - Data collection is in progress for the sage grouse noise study.
  - Range Overview and Schedule: The integrated schedule shows related tasks associated with overall modernization effort. Each range has a different final occupancy capability target depending on associated tasks.
  - The project website is updated with the IEC briefs as well as quarterly. The Navy may include interactive mapping on the website for more real-time information sharing.
  - IEC Member Comments/Questions:
    - Mr. Jim Barbee, Churchill County, informed the IEC of a recent U.S. House of Representatives Committee Report issued last week on the Department of Defense Appropriation Act regarding payments for losses for grazers. The report noted the committee's concerns about the compensation process for grazers and detailed the committee's interpretation of the FY23 NDAA's intent in regard to how grazing permittees should be compensated.
    - Chair Goicoechea asked for clarification that no offers with respect to grazing have yet been accepted for B-16 and asked for clarification that there are four grazers for B-17. Captain Haymon confirmed both.
    - Mr. Rob Ghiglieri, Nevada Division of Minerals, asked if the mining claim payment process would start in Quarter 4 or if there would be a delay due to funding availability. Captain Haymon confirmed funding is available for these payments.
- **Natural Resources Update:** Ms. Ann Schofield, NAS Fallon Conservation Manager, updated the IEC on the Navy's natural resources program, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) requirements, and follow-on NEPA projects.
  - Sage Grouse Noise Study: The purpose of the noise study is to assess the potential effects on sage grouse from military aircraft overflight noise. The Navy is wrapping up year 2 of the pilot study and planning for year 3. The Navy continues to work in partnership with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW).
  - Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan: The INRMP covers all aspects of natural resources management for NAS Fallon including the ranges and the main station. The Navy is working with the contractor to update the current plan by integrating new data for the expanded lands. The draft plan will be distributed for stakeholder review and comment soon. An EA will follow, and the contract will be

awarded in mid-summer or early fall 2025. The Draft EA will be made available for public review and comment.

- Wildland Fire Management Plan: The Navy has partnered with the USGS Fire Science Team to integrate innovative science, knowledge, and practical experience for wildland fire protection into the WFMP. A draft plan is expected to be available for stakeholder review soon. The Navy evaluated fire risk and are proposing new fuel breaks and treatment areas on the expanded lands. The Navy will prepare an EA to analyze the potential environmental impacts of those actions. The Navy will reengage the fire working group to receive feedback and have a collaborative approach on the review and implementation of the plan on historic ranges. The team is beginning implementation of the WFMP on B-17. The contractor initiated aerial herbicide applications on high-priority areas of B-17 for fuel breaks. The Navy is also studying fire scar restoration on B-17.
- B-16 Infrastructure Improvements EA: The Navy prepared an EA to analyze the potential impacts on the environment from range improvements, including fence installation, road improvements, and other infrastructure needed on the expanded B-16 range. The public review and comment on the Draft EA was open from May 16 – June 16, 2025.
- Future NEPA Actions: The next EA for public review will be the Lone Tree Road Improvements EA. Public review is expected end of summer.
- Chair Goicoechea asked if the aerial herbicide application for fuel breaks has been completed for the year. Ms. Schofield stated if additional treatments are needed, herbicides will be applied again next spring. She then summarized the remaining steps in the process, including a review of the effectiveness of applications, seeding, and additional assessments.
- **Cultural Resources Update:** Mr. Mike Baskerville, NAS Fallon Cultural Resources Program Manager, updated the IEC on the Navy's cultural resources program and surveys.
  - B-20 cultural resource inventory survey: Far Western crews inventoried approximately 87,770 acres within the B-20 range. The inventory documented 572 cultural sites primarily located on the southern, eastern, northern, and western edges of the expansion area. The Far Western contract occurred before the new plan for splitting up inventory crews, so the inventory was completed by survey teams with combined archaeological and Native American crews. An additional contract to inventory the remaining 13,000 acres was awarded and the contractors are preparing to deploy. Differences were noted between Native Americans crews and archaeologists which resulted in the need to split crews.
  - B-17 cultural resource survey: Approximately 241,000 acres need to be inventoried, and the contractor has completed approximately 54,000 acres working alongside Native American archaeological technicians. The inventory of an additional 98,000 acres has started, with separate Native American crews. From this point forward, Native American monitors will complete the remainder of the B-17 inventories without the archaeological crews.
  - The Navy reevaluated 78 archaeological sites within the Open Maneuver Area to determine whether any changes may affect a particular site's eligibility determination. The B-16 range fencing project was complete, but the Navy reevaluated the sites due to changes in the fence alignment. Based on the Navy's reevaluation, five sites that were identified as being potentially impacted were removed from the list, and nine new sites

were added as being potentially impacted. A report was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and is being reviewed.

- The NAS Fallon cultural resources team submitted comments on a cultural report for the Lone Tree Road project which primarily focuses on constructed features.
- The Navy reviewed and commented on the proposed realignment of Gabbs Gas Pipeline.
- Cultural resource information on State Route 361 was sent to BLM; Navy team members will request this information also be sent them.
- NAS Fallon received Ethnographic and Traditional Cultural Places reports. Comments were provided and the reports are being updated.
- The Navy is expecting comments on the Programmatic Agreement (PA) from the SHPO. Once those comments are incorporated, the Navy, SHPO, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will meet to finalize the PA.
- A draft ICRMP is being worked on, but progress is slow.
- **Tribal Engagement Update:** Ms. Toni Burton, NAS Fallon Tribal Relations Coordinator, updated the IEC on the Navy's Tribal Engagement program.
  - Tribal Access Memorandum of Agreement (MOA): NAS Fallon obtained signatures from three Tribal partners and all required Navy signatories. The MOA is now considered complete; however, Tribes will still be able to sign on to the MOA and all Tribes will be offered the same type of range access regardless of if they have signed.
  - Draft Programmatic Agreement: Tribes were invited to be consulting parties on the PA. The Navy is reviewing and incorporating comments received from SHPO and ACHP.
  - Cultural Resource Survey Draft Work Plan: The plan is for the restructuring of current survey methods on the expanded ranges to enhance data collection of the Tribal perspective of sites and areas of traditional cultural importance. Tribes are currently reviewing the draft work plan, and the Navy is expecting to receive their comments before finalizing the work plan.
  - B-16 Range Infrastructure Improvements EA: The Navy has conducted a few site visits with the Tribes. The Navy is open for government-to-government consultation and welcomes Tribal comments and feedback.
  - NAS Fallon is hosting a free training on June 25 for local small businesses for doing business with the Navy and other federal and state agencies.

#### **Discussion/Possible Action: BLM Update**

*(Please refer to the presentation slides in the IEC member package for additional details from the presentations)*

- **Introduction:** Ms. Kim Dow, BLM Carson City District Manager, introduced team members updating the IEC on the BLM implementation strategy for modernization. She also informed the IEC that the district currently has a vacancy rate of 34%, which impacts the ability of the district to move forward with NDAA actions.
- **Grazing Actions:** Ms. Kat McCray, Grazing Allotments Specialist, updated the IEC on grazing actions.
  - BLM's top priority is to issue two B-16 permits and make decisions for the Lahontan and Horse Mountain allotments. Decisions can be implemented no sooner than July 13, 2025, two years after the notification letters were sent. Preliminary work includes

drafting parts of the grazing decision, coordinating with affected permittees, scheduling legal reviews, and creating maps.

- Another priority is planning for the required monitoring to support the newly issued permits and their required land health assessments. This includes contracting portions of the monitoring and modifying existing agreements to supplement any monitoring needs that require staff augmentation. Due to a tight schedule for B-16, permits will have an initial reduction in Animal Unit Months (AUMs) and acreage. After those lands are removed, a land health assessment will occur, and a new permit with more options for infrastructure and management will be planned for FY29.
- An interdisciplinary team has agreed on data collection needs to analyze resources. In FY26, 40 terrestrial plots will be collected for the B-16 allotments through an assistance agreement. While monitoring is occurring, permittees can also develop new grazing proposals and contribute to monitoring efforts.
- **Cadastral Update:** Mr. Wayne Strickland, Chief Cadastral Surveyor, provided an update on cadastral efforts.
  - Section 2981 Withdrawal and Reservation of Public Land for B-16 status: The project is on schedule. The surveys in sectors 1-5, 7, and 8 are completed and officially filed. Sector 9 (Simpson Road) will be filed prior to Sept. 30, 2025. Sector 10 (administrative survey for Sand Canyon Road) cannot be completed until the right-of-way has been determined. No survey is required for Sector 6.
  - B-17 and B-20 status: Surveys are underway. BLM is supporting Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest with their contract to locate 120 miles of range boundary for fencing requirements. For the federal authority surveys and field investigations, BLM has a field investigation underway for B-17, and a field survey is underway for B-20.
  - Section 2907(b) Public Purpose Conveyances to Churchill County and the City of Fallon: Land conveyances are in progress. Fifteen land surveyor reports were submitted to the BLM Carson City District Office, and one is pending subject to coordination with Churchill County. Cost estimates for cadastral surveys and work were provided to the district.
  - Section 2907(c) Exchanges between Churchill County and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI): In progress. Ten land survey reports were transmitted to BLM Carson City District Office. Cost estimates for the needed cadastral work were submitted.
  - Section 2922 Conveyances to Lander County: In progress. The U.S. Forest Service notified BLM that they will execute all survey needs for parcels to be conveyed within U.S. Forest Service lands. Land surveyor reports were completed and submitted to the district for parcels of land to be selected for conveyance to Lander County.
    - Supplemental plats under cadastral groups 1024 and 1025 were completed May 22. A cadastral survey will be required for portions of Parcel 21 if it is selected to be conveyed.
  - Section 2988 Resolution of Walker River Paiute Tribe claims: Not yet initiated. Once the Tribe determines the lands for transfer, survey needs will then be identified and coordinated with Cadastral.



- Section 2989 Land to be held in Trust for the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe: In progress. Field work and surveys are nearly complete. BLM is working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for funding in FY25-26.
- **Real Estate Update:** Ms. Shedra Rakestraw, BLM Assistant Field Manager for Sierra Front Field Office and Lands and Realty Manager for Carson City District, updated the IEC on realty actions.
  - State Route 361 Realignment
    - This project is functioning under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NDOT, and BLM. The portion of State Route 361 that goes through the expanded B-17 will be rerouted outside the Navy expansion area. Several alternatives for the road rerouting have been identified.
    - CA Group, Inc., and NDOT are finishing baseline studies and reports, then BLM will review the reports. The Preliminary EA is expected for review in early summer 2025.
  - B-16 Sand Canyon Road Realignment
    - BLM is the lead agency for the NEPA analysis of the realignment of Sand Canyon Road and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is the co-lead. The Navy and BOR met on June 3, 2025, to discuss maintenance and steps forward. The contractor is conducting baseline surveys through summer of 2025. Next, the Navy, BLM, and BOR will meet with Churchill County to discuss road maintenance and construction options.
  - Section 2988 – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Walker River Paiute Tribe
    - The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is the lead agency for the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) with a one-year completion timeline. An ESA letter is valid for six months but can be renewed. BIA submitted an ESA letter with the results to the Walker River Paiute Tribe and BLM in May 2024. BLM sent a letter to BIA and the Tribe to confirm the lands they'd like to receive. BIA took leach pad samples in the area of interest on May 21, 2025. Sample results are expected in mid-July. BLM will review the data from these samples and await a response from BIA and the Walker River Paiute Tribe.
  - Section 2907 – Land Conveyances and Exchanges
    - Approximately 25,386 acres of Churchill County lands and 13,920 acres of federal lands are identified for land exchange. Section 2907 also identifies 6,892 acres of federal land for conveyance to Churchill County for public purposes. BLM is focusing on two of Churchill County's four priorities (first priority is Township 19 North Range 28 East and Range 29 East; second priority is Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35, Township 22 North Range 26 East).
    - BLM is in discussions with BOR and Churchill County on priority parcels for exchange. A timeline and draft budget plan were submitted to BLM for review. BLM and BOR are preparing an MOU on roles and responsibilities for the exchange process. Next, BLM will schedule meetings with Churchill County to discuss next steps.
  - Section 2908 – Checkerboard Resolution Area

- The focus is for DOI and Churchill County private landowners to consolidate federal land and non-federal land ownership in Churchill County. BLM is working to schedule a briefing with the BLM Nevada State Director, followed by meetings with BLM, BOR, and Churchill County to review the plan.
- IEC Member Questions:
  - Vice Chair Getto asked whether grazers on B-16 will be allowed to continue to graze since a settlement has not yet been reached with the Navy. Ms. Dow stated that the ability to graze is not dependent on when a settlement is reached. BLM's action to sign the decision is independent of the Navy's compensation to permittees. BLM coordinated with the Navy that letters to B-17 and B-20 permittees would be sent approximately two years before the Navy initiates fencing.
  - Chair Goicoechea asked when BLM signs the decision to close grazing whether there will be a new permit. Ms. Dow stated that there will be a new permit which will establish new AUMs and new acreage. A full land health assessment will be conducted.
  - Chair Goicoechea followed up by asking if there will be a change in season of use in addition to a reduction in AUMs. Mr. Mark Mazza, BLM, stated that BLM would consider any alternative the permittee provides, which would be the analyzed alternative. A permittee could suggest a different season, but otherwise BLM would suggest a no action alternative as the current grazing season, which for B-16 is Nov. 1 to March 31. There would be a new allotment management plan associated with the new permit.
  - Vice Chair Getto asked to be included in any Sand Canyon Road realignment project meetings. Ms. Dow responded that they had a meeting with Churchill County tomorrow.

#### **Call for Agenda Items for Next IEC Meeting**

- No specific agenda items were offered for the next IEC meeting.

#### **Scheduling of Next IEC Meeting**

- The next IEC meeting will be held during the week of Sept. 8-12 or 15-19.

#### **Public Question and Comment**

- Mr. Jim Barbee informed the committee that this was his final meeting as Churchill County Manager. Mr. Chris Spross will be taking his spot on the IEC starting July 1, 2025.
- No further comments were made during this comment period. The public comment period was closed.

#### **Adjourn**

- Chair Goicoechea called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Getto made the motion, seconded by Captain Haymon. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.