

Intergovernmental Executive Committee

Fallon Range Training Complex

Draft Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023

2:00 p.m. PDT

Virtual Meeting and In-Person at the

Bureau of Land Management Carson City District Office

5665 Morgan Mill Road

Carson City, NV 89701

This meeting will be held virtually pursuant to NRS 241.023.

Join the meeting online: <https://mantech.zoomgov.com/j/1606731824>

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

Webinar ID: 160 673 1824

Pursuant to NRS 241.020, the Agenda for this meeting has been 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), the Clearinghouse website (<http://clearinghouse.nv.gov/>), and the Churchill County Administration Building (155 Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406).

Please Note:

- Public Comment will be 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 discretion of the Committee.
- Documentation and supporting agenda items are available on the FRTC website at www.FRTCmodernization.com/IEC.

Intergovernmental Executive Committee (IEC) Elected Positions				
Government/Agency	Name	In Person	Zoom	Not Present
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Chair J.J. Goicoechea (elected at this meeting)		√	
Churchill County	Vice-Chair Bus Scharmann	√		
IEC Members				
Government/Agency	Name	In Person	Zoom	Not Present
Navy, Naval Air Station Fallon	Captain Shane Tanner	√		
Navy, Naval Air Station Fallon	Commander Dan Muller	√		
Bureau of Land Management	Jon Raby, State Director	√		
Bureau of Land Management	Kim Dow, District Manager	√		
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Colleen LaBelle, Superintendent			√
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Sean Woster, Regional Archaeologist			√
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Alan Jenne, Director			√
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Matt Maples, Habitat Division, Wildlife Staff Specialist	√		
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	James Settelmeyer, Director			√
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Dominique Etchegoyhen, Deputy Director	√		
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Scott Carey, State Lands Planner	√		
Nevada Department of Agriculture	J.J. Goicoechea, Director		√	
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Doug Farris, Division Administrator			√
Nevada Division of Minerals	Mike Visser, Administrator	√		
Nevada Division of Minerals	Rob Ghiglieri			√
Churchill County	Bus Scharmann, Commissioner	√		
Churchill County	Jim Barbee, County Manager	√		
Lyon County	Scott Keller, Commissioner		√	
Lyon County	Andrew Haskin, County Manager		√	
Mineral County	Cassie Hall, Commissioner		√	
Pershing County	Shayla Hudson, Commissioner			√
Pershing County	Carol Shank, Commissioner			√
Nye County	Bruce Jabbour, Commissioner (1069)		√	
Nye County	Lorinda Wichman, 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	Olen McCleod, Tribal Chairman		√	
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Elveda Martinez, Water Resources Coordinator		√	
Yomba Shoshone Tribe	Darryl Brady, Chairman			√
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	James Phoenix, Chairman			√
Lovelock Paiute Tribe	Debbie George, Chairwoman			√
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Warren Graham, Tribal Chairman and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer			√
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Debbie O'Neil, Vice-Chairwoman			√
Battle Mountain Band Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Clorinda Guzman, Chair			√
Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Danena Ike, Chairwoman			√
Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Leah Brady, Council Member		√	
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes	Arlo Crutcher, Chairman			√
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Arlan D. Melendez, Chairman			√
South Fork Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Duane Garcia, Chairman			√
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	Serrell Smokey, Chairman			√
Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Harvey Healy, Chairman			√
Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Andrea Wood, Vice Chairwoman			√
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada	Judy Rojo, Chairwoman			√
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Randi Lone Eagle, Chairwoman		√	
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Nedra Crane, Vice-Chairwoman			√
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Joseph Holley, Chairman			√
Yerington Paiute Tribe	Elwood Emm, Chairman			√

IEC Liaisons and Support

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

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call of Committee Members

- Mr. Bus Scharmann, Churchill County, opened the meeting and introduced himself as Vice-Chair.
- Ms. Toni Burton, IEC Liaison, called roll. The list of attendees/absentees is above.

2. Verification of Agenda Posting

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

3. Approval of Agenda

- Captain Shane Tanner, Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon, motioned to delay the recurring updates for natural resources, cultural resources, and tribal engagement from the agenda, to allow more time and discussion for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Navy updates on implementation strategy. Discussion of implementation strategy was requested by the IEC at the January meeting, and BLM and the Navy have prepared presentations to address the request.
- Vice-Chair Scharmann summarized the motion to strike the natural resources, cultural resources, and tribal engagement updates from the April agenda and called for the approval the amended agenda. Mr. Jon Raby, BLM, seconded the motion. IEC members voted to approve the agenda by consensus voice vote; the motion passed with no dissent or abstentions.

4. Public Comment – Three minutes maximum per person. Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an item.

- Mr. Jim Lee of Minden, an instructor pilot and member of 10 different flying organizations, expressed concern that airspace issues were not a topic in past IEC meetings, and that this topic was brought up in the last meeting during public comments. He noted that he would like to know more about airspace changes, in particular Restricted Area 4805 that will expand airspace south out of Fallon down past Gabbs. He stated pilots are curious as to when this will be implemented. He expressed hope that it could be addressed at this meeting even though not on the agenda. Captain Tanner responded that the topic could be integrated into the next implementation update and added to the agenda for the next IEC meeting.
- The meeting moderator, Ms. Allison Turner, opened the public comment period to attendees via Zoom and reviewed the instructions for providing comments. She noted that there would be a second opportunity for public comment on the content of the meeting.
- No additional public comments were received and the public comment period was closed.

5. New/Old Business

- *Election of Chair of FRTC IEC.* A motion was made by Mr. Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County, and seconded by Vice-Chair Scharmann, to nominate Director J.J. Goicoechea, Nevada Department of Agriculture, for the position of IEC Chair. Captain Tanner nominated Chairwoman Cathi Tuni, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, to serve as Chair; the nomination was seconded by Mr. Raby. The nomination was voted on by secret ballot (one per organization, via card for in-person attendees and via chat for Zoom attendees), with votes totaling eight for Director Goicoechea and five for Chairwoman Tuni. Newly elected Chair Goicoechea opted to allow Vice-Chair Scharmann to continue in his role leading the current meeting, and will assume his role as Chair for the next meeting.

- *Discussion/Possible Action: Public Comment/Q&A Session.* Ms. Robin Schofield, IEC Liaison, relaying a suggestion made to IEC Admin, proposed to (1) have the last public comment period of IEC meetings revised to a Q&A session, keeping the three-minute time limit per comment or question, and (2) limit the session time limit to 30 minutes, with comments or questions beyond that time period submitted in writing for discussion at the next meeting. This would go into effect at the next IEC meeting.
 - Captain Tanner and Vice-Chair Scharmann clarified that this format would offer both real-time responses to questions and, for those questions that could not be readily answered, would be noted for the next meeting. Vice-Chair Scharmann entertained a motion to approve, Captain Tanner seconded the motion, and IEC members provided consensus voice vote, with no dissent or abstentions.
- *Amendments to IEC Documents.* Ms. Schofield noted that IEC Admin will have the amendments to IEC documents ready for the next meeting. Vice-Chair Scharmann confirmed this would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

6. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Jan. 24, 2023

- Captain Tanner motioned to approve the April meeting minutes; Mr. Raby seconded the motion. IEC members voted to approve the meeting minutes by consensus voice vote; the motion passed with no dissent or abstentions.

7. Discussion/Possible Action: BLM Update – Implementation Strategy

- Mr. Raby expressed appreciation for the meeting that was recently held at NAS Fallon and introduced Ms. Melanie Hornsby, the BLM liaison to NAS Fallon, who would present an update of BLM actions in relation to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Mr. Raby stated that the overall intent is to have pragmatic solutions to issues and to work with other entities where the BLM has discretion to do so.
- Ms. Hornsby, Planning and Environmental Coordinator and Military Liaison in the Stillwater Field Office of BLM, presented on five topics and associated geographical depictions.
 - *Special Designations, Wilderness Areas, and Wilderness Study Areas Released.* There are three special designations under the NDAA: (1) Numu Newe Special Management Area, (2) Numunaa Nobe National Conservation Area (NCA), and (3) Pistone-Black Mountain NCA.
 - The NDAA legislation specifies that BLM must protect, conserve, and enhance the nationally important (a) natural, cultural, and scenic resources of the Nunu Newe and Numunaa Nobe areas, and (b) historic, cultural, archaeological, natural, and educational resources of the Pistone site on Black Mountain.
 - Three wilderness areas (WAs) were also established by the NDAA: Clan-Alpine WA (128,362 acres), Desatoya Mountains WA (40,303 acres), and Cain Mountain WA (14,030 acres).
 - Management plans are currently being developed and any actions taken will be subject to valid existing rights.
 - Any remaining lands that were not designated as WAs were released. The Wilderness Study Areas that were released (located in Churchill, Lander, and Pershing counties) will be managed consistent with the BLM's Resource Management Plan. There were also Wilderness Study Areas in Lander County and Pershing County were released from being Wilderness Study Areas.

- *Livestock Grazing.* The NDAA required grazing allotment permit modifications in the expanded bombing ranges. BLM will work with the Navy and grazing permittees to maintain current grazing operations until bombing ranges are closed to livestock grazing, with a minimum two-year notice to permittees prior to closures. When the Navy is ready to close a bombing range, BLM will sign a decision record that closes the portion of the allotment affected by the NDAA. If the Navy is not ready for closure beyond the end of the two-year notification period, the permittee can continue to graze until BLM issues a decision.
- *Mining Claims.* The Navy will notify mining claimants within the expanded bombing ranges. BLM is encouraging claimants with questions to coordinate with the Carson City District.
- *Tribal Cultural Resources.* BLM is a signatory for the Tribal Access Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), which affirms procedures to ensure 13 federally recognized Tribes can access land within the FRTC bombing ranges. The NDAA specified two areas of land to be held in trust, the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe Trust Lands (10,000 acres) and the Walker River Paiute Trust Lands (8,170 acres). The latter is spread between three areas (Fernley East Parcels, Silver Springs Parcel, and Walker Lake Parcel). Ms. Elveda Martinez, Walker River Paiute Tribe, noted that their Tribe did not receive the Silver Springs Parcel as part of the trust lands. BLM will validate the information they have with the information in the NDAA to confirm the status of that parcel; it could potentially be a mapping error.
- *Realty Actions.* An overview map of all NDAA actions was presented, illustrating the realty actions that are being worked on by the cadastral and realty teams within BLM. There are two major road realignments, a pipeline relocation, the Checkerboard Resolution Area, withdraw and reservation of public lands, and land exchanges and conveyances. For the latter, the NDAA says the Navy would coordinate with the Department of the Interior, which may be BLM, the Bureau of Reclamation, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- *Summary.* Mr. Raby noted that these were the main components at the very early phases of implementation and recognized that there are a lot of details regarding components such as the Checkerboard Consolidation and other Navy transfers, but this presentation is focused on the immediate areas of importance.
- *Question & Answer.*
 - Mr. Mike Visser, Nevada Division of Minerals, asked if the shape files for the realty action were available. Ms. Hornsby responded that they are working with Navy Cadastral to make the files available to the public.
 - The roads to be realigned were discussed using the overview map. Lone Tree and Sand Canyon roads, State Route 361, the area from Middlegate to Gabbs (approximately 15 miles, traffic studies are underway), and Pole Line Road were discussed. BLM is serving as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) lead for the road in the southwest area of FRTC and Pole Line Road.
 - Ms. Martinez asked if WAs would be fenced; Mr. Raby said they are not typically fenced off unless there is a compelling reason to do so, and that survey boundaries will designate perimeters in future. Mr. Raby stated that he is not aware of any compelling reasons to fence off the WAs in question. In the interim, mapping and ground features will be used to for boundaries.
 - Ms. Hornsby clarified that the bombing areas would be fenced off once all the required actions are completed (e.g., road realignments) and prior to being

operational. Captain Tanner stated, to be clear, that the ranges would not be active until all obligations, as detailed in the NDAA, are complete.

- Mr. Visher asked about the timeframe and public outreach for the management plans for the conservation areas and special management areas. Mr. Raby noted that there would be management plans specific to the areas, and possibly interim management plans, and that, unless he hears a need to keep them separate, they would also be part of the State-wide effort.
- Chair Goicoechea asked if, at the end of a two-year closure notice for grazing, roads had not been realigned or other components were not completed, what would be done. Committee members discussed other potential scenarios; Mr. Raby responded that he didn't have that answer as it would depend on the specifics of the circumstance and did not want to speculate.
- The focus of discussion was brought back to meeting the obligations and timeframes set forth in the NDAA. Mr. Raby reiterated that BLM is looking for pragmatic solutions and noted that the intention is to allow appropriate uses such as grazing to continue within the construct of the NDAA.

8. Discussion/Possible Action: Navy Update

- Captain Tanner noted that, since the NDAA passed, the Navy has worked to satisfy the immediate obligations as outlined in the NDAA. The compensation package is complete for Churchill County, is awaiting confirmation for the Walker River compensation package, and is in the final stages of transferring the package to the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe.
- The second obligation is the Tribal Access Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Captain Tanner recognized Chairwoman Tuni for her extraordinary leadership in supporting the Navy in coordinating with the 13 federally recognized Tribes, providing input and feedback on what the MOA should look like, and personally thanked her for her hard work. He looks forward to the consolidated feedback from the Tribes on the MOA and working together on the next steps.
- The Navy hosted a Native American Small Business Training in Fallon to facilitate small business involvement with projects associated with the modernization effort. Captain Tanner thanked Ms. Burton for setting up the training, described it as a resounding success, and plans to offer it again due to the economic value to the local community. The next training session is likely to be this Fall.
- The Undersecretary of the Navy, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy Installations and Environment, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Mission Readiness visited NAS Fallon for a series of engagements with Walker, Fallon, and Washoe Tribal leadership, and City of Fallon and Churchill County leadership. Senior Navy leadership left with a comprehensive understanding of Tribal, city, and county concerns related to modernization.
- At the last IEC meeting, the resounding question after the legislation was passed was "What's next?" Ms. Liz Barris and Mr. Kobe Hertzog from Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southwest prepared a presentation in response to that question.
- Ms. Barris, the FRTC Modernization Program Manager, introduced herself and noted that her role is to secure the funding for modernization plans and the people that are managing natural resources, cultural resources, and engineering, making sure to meet milestones and commitments to get ranges operational and to continue to inform stakeholders. Mr. Herzog is a new member of the team and is a scheduler.
- The presentation was organized into three main areas: (1) Timeline Overview, (2) General Execution Approach by Location (including the Dixie Valley Training Area, B-16, B-17, and B-20),

and (3) More Information. A bar chart, organized by range and showing fiscal years (FYs) of implementation (from FY23 to FY31), with a yellow line indicating where each range implementation is on the FY timeline, was shown. Under each range were implementation components (e.g., modification of grazing allotments, cultural resource surveys) and a bar indicating the planned FYs of implementation (both planning and construction) from start to projected completion. As an added note, the bars associated with modifications of grazing allotments indicate when the Navy would assume control of allotments or fencing may be erected (actual payments may occur later). The timeline represents what is known currently by the Navy and is subject to change.

- *Timeline Overview:*

- *Dixie Valley Training Area.* At Dixie Valley, the task is to purchase non-federal land, with an expected start in FY23 and completion in FY25.
- *B-16.* Modification of grazing allotments, applicable to the three ranges, will commence with B-16 and have an anticipated completion in 2025. Payments to mining claim holders, Lone Tree Road improvements, and Sand Canyon Road relocation is also planned within this timeline. The B-16 boundary survey is currently in progress to put up the fence.
- *B-17.* B-17 is more complicated with longer timelines, with the relocation of State Route 361 (an alternatives analysis study is underway) and the Great Basin Pipeline relocation (27 miles), payment to mining claim holders, cultural resource surveys (underway), and purchase of non-federal land. There are also private lands associated in the area affected by the NDAA.
- *Subtopic: NEPA and Fencing.* The Navy is funding the NEPA efforts and construction associated with the relocations; fences would not be constructed until completion of actions listed in the timeline (and above). Captain Tanner clarified that, as funds become available, they may be spent on fences, and fences will be constructed as small requirements have been met. Ms. Barris noted that funding for building the B-16 fence has been appropriated, as has approximately half of the funding for B-16 grazing allotment payments. Ms. Barris noted that approximately 230 miles of fence will ultimately be installed.
- *B-20.* The relocation of Pole Line Road and the Checkerboard Resolution Area (with private lands) are implementation components of Range B-20, and the former is expected to receive funding last.

- *General Execution Approach:*

- *Dixie Valley.* Additional land withdrawal at Dixie Valley Training Area totals 245K acres. The area will remain fenced, with approximately 2.3K acres of non-federal land purchased, along with associated water rights.
- *B-16.* Cultural resource surveys have been completed and will help guide the perimeter fence location. Grazing and mining modifications and payments are planned, along with widening and improving Lone Tree Road and relocating Sand Canyon Road.
- *B-17.* Cultural resource surveys are underway, and the work plan is approved and starting. Also included is the rerouting of State Route 361, the relocation of

the Great Basin Pipeline, and the implementation of the Hunt Program.

- The rerouting/relocation projects for State Route 361 and the Great Basin Pipeline and associated NEPA efforts are planned, and grazing and mining modifications and payments are part of the expansion. The SR 361 relocation would include 15 miles or more, depending on the Nevada Department of Transportation's decisions on rerouting. Mr. Visser recommended that any additional mining claims be looked at once the rerouting alternatives are determined (as that may affect payment timing), and a general discussion of the timing of funding and appropriations ensued. Ms. Barris differentiated between the nominal mining payments for unvalidated mining claims and the validated mining claims associated with private lands, and made a note to obtain more information related to the mining payments. Mr. Visser reiterated the general concept that, depending on the location of the rerouting, it may affect the Navy's planning and appropriations. Captain Tanner has added this to the Navy's action item list.
- *B-20.* BLM will lead the NEPA process for the relocation of Pole Line Road, and the county will be the lead for the construction project. The county will also be the lead for the construction project for Sand Canyon Road. Timelines, in general, will be affected by these relocations. The Navy will be entering into associated real estate agreements and funding transfers.
- *More Information.* There are natural resource, cultural resource, tribal engagement, and other commitments made, and these are listed on the website, which will be updated to include the Record of Decision commitments and the 23 NDAA commitments. There are also non-range-specific actions that the Navy brings to the area, such as natural and cultural resource groups.

9. Call for Agenda Items for Next IEC Meeting

- The Navy will include the recurring updates and add airspace discussion as requested.

10. Scheduling of Next IEC Meeting

- The next IEC meeting will be held during the July 24–28 or July 31–August 4 timeframes. A Doodle Poll will be sent out for the members to vote for their preferred date and time. The next meeting will be held in Fallon.

11. Public Comment – Three minutes maximum per person. Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an item.

- Mr. Kurt Haukohl, Nevada Department of Aviation, shared that he had the opportunity to meet with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control as well as Seattle mapping groups, and obtained copy of the Wildland Fire Management Plan. He would like to see discussion of the fire management plan as an upcoming agenda item, noted that they share air assets with BLM Fire, and that the Navy only has a land fire group, called Fed Fire, for putting out fires on their base. He noted that the range areas contain potentially live ordnance and the way to put the fires out is with an air asset. They are encouraging the FAA, as well as the Navy, to purchase some fire buckets and air assets to put the fires out themselves, or at least cover their own areas, especially those that are fenced or not available to people other than contractors. Mr. Haukohl stated the Wildland Fire Management Plan as well written and comprehensive but noted that it does not include purchase of a single bucket or aircraft that

could respond to an initial fire air attack.

- From Zoom, Mr. Bob Clifford asked where maps can be accessed that include legends and if the roads to the Shoal site would still be open. Ms. Schofield answered that the FRTC modernization maps are on the FRTC website (under the IEC tab, meeting package) and the legends should be on those maps. For the second question, Captain Tanner responded that the roads to the Shoal site will remain open.
- From the Zoom chat, Mr. Rob Bastien asked if the public would be allowed access the withdrawn land (primarily related to B-17) during the construction phase and until the end of FY28 per the timeline, until all NDAA obligations are addressed. Mr. Raby answered that, yes, the areas would be open but during construction there would be limited access. He added that questions with a certain level of specificity are probably better suited for a written response.
- Mr. John Powell asked if there was a mechanism for submitting questions to the IEC. Ms. Schofield replied that questions could be emailed to IEC Admin (Ms. Burton or herself), and that they are working on a channel for submitting questions.
- Mr. Justin Snow, B-16 grazing permittee, asked how the building of the fences and timeline is going to work in relation to the payments to the permittees. He feels that permittees are in limbo and in need of answers. He stated that, if the two-year notice period ends and negotiations are still in progress, or BLM hasn't found replacement ranches, or compensation isn't settled, whatever the circumstance, the cows will still be there and wouldn't leave until the permittees have been dealt with. If fence construction is started before the end of the two years, gates would need to provide access for the cows so they can have access to their natural water spots. Mr. Snow added that funding will be needed to gather the more than 600 mustangs that are on B-16 and B-20. Captain Tanner noted that this question is important, one that needs to be considered, and a satisfying answer provided. Captain Tanner replied that he would like to register this question and questions like these so that the answers can be researched, tailored to individual circumstances, and presented at the next meeting.
- Mr. Rob Thomas, retiree, noted that the wild horse population in B-17 are going to need surveyed, identified, and rounded up, hopefully before the fencing is completed. He mentioned there is also a herd of longhorns, and actions to meet the two-year deadline need to occur sooner rather than later to allow time to find all the horses and cows and relocate them.
- Mr. Scott Keller, Lyon County, requested an update on the Silver Springs parcels and a corrected map if needed. Ms. Turner responded that this was noted as an action item for BLM.

12. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.