

Intergovernmental Executive Committee

Fallon Range Training Complex

Final Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

3:00 p.m. PST

Virtual Meeting and In-Person at the:

Fallon Convention Center

100 Campus Way
Fallon, Nevada 89406

This meeting was also held virtually pursuant to NRS 241.023.

Join the meeting online: <https://mantech.zoomgov.com/j/1613129864>

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

Webinar ID: 161 312 9864

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), 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 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
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Chair Amber Torres	•		
Bus Scharmann	Vice-Chair (elected at this meeting)			•
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	Kim Dow, District Manager	•		
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Garry Cantley, Regional Archaeologist		•	
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Matt Maples, Habitat Division, Wildlife Staff Specialist		•	
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Scott Carey, State Lands Planner	•		
Nevada Department of Agriculture	J.J. Goicoechea, Director	•		
Nevada Division of Minerals				•
Churchill County	Jim Barbee, County Manager	•		
Lyon County				•
Mineral County	Cassie Hall, Commissioner		•	
Pershing County	Shayla Hudson, Commissioner	•		
Nye County	Bruce Jabbour, Commissioner		•	
Eureka County	Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager		•	
Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe	Cathi Tuni, Chairwoman	•		
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Amber Torres, Chairman	•		
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Elveda Martinez, Water Resources Coordinator		•	
Yomba Shoshone Tribe	Janet Weed, Office of Environmental Protection Director		•	
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe				•
Lovelock Paiute Tribe				•
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Warren Graham, Tribal Chairman and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	•		
Battle Mountain Band Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone				•
Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Leah Brady, Council Member		•	
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes				•
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony				•

South Fork Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone				•
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California				•
Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone				•
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada				•
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Randi Lone Eagle, Chairwoman		•	
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone				•
Yerington Paiute Tribe				•

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	•		

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

- Chair Amber Torres called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- Ms. Toni Burton called roll. The list of attendees/absentees is above. For the record, it was stated that representatives of 15 member agencies or Tribes were in attendance at the start of the meeting.

Verification of Agenda Posting

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

Approval of Agenda

- No additions or corrections to the agenda were noted.
- Mr. Jim Barbee of Churchill County motioned to approve the agenda; Ms. Shayla Hudson of Pershing County seconded the motion. IEC members voted to approve the meeting minutes by consensus voice vote, motion passed with no dissent or abstentions.

Public Comment

- Chair Torres opened the floor for providing public comments on the agenda, noting a three-minute time limit per person. The meeting moderator, Ms. Allison Turner, reviewed the instructions for providing public comments, including via Zoom and telephone.
- No public comments were received during this public comment period. The public comment period was closed.

New/Old Business

- **New Business**

- *Election of Vice-Chair of FRTC IEC.* Chair Torres opened the floor for Vice-Chair nominations. Captain Shane Tanner, Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon nominated Ms. Kim Dow of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Mr. Jake Tibbitts expressed that Eureka County would like to see a Churchill County Commissioner as Vice-Chair. Mr. Barbee noted that Mr. Bus Scharmann, Chair of Churchill County Commission, would be willing to serve as Vice-Chair. The Committee agreed to follow past protocol for voting, with each standing vote (member who was in attendance) counted, with one vote per organization represented. The final count was Mr. Scharmann with 11 votes, Ms. Dow with two votes, and four abstentions. The abstentions were due to unfamiliarity with either candidate or by the candidate themselves abstaining. By vote count, Mr. Scharmann of Churchill County was elected Vice-Chair.
- *Amendments to IEC Documents.* The Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) was passed with language to expand the IEC to include Eureka County, the Nevada Department of Agriculture, and the Nevada Division of Minerals. In approximately three weeks, there will be written amendments to IEC governing documents, and at the April IEC meeting there will be a vote to approve the language changes.

- **Old Business**

- *Participation Forms.* A reminder was issued to fill out participation forms and send to Ms. Robin Schofield and Ms. Burton if there have been changes in IEC representatives.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 25, 2022

- Ms. Dow of the BLM motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Ms. Hudson of Pershing County seconded the motion. IEC members voted to approve the meeting minutes by consensus voice vote, motion passed with no dissent or abstentions.

Discussion/Possible Action: Round Table Future Agenda Topics

- **FRTC IEC Purpose and Goals**

- Committee members were asked to bring to the table ideas for collaboration, goals, or discussion topics for the IEC now that the NDAA was approved and modernization of the FRTC has passed.
- *Modernization Timeline and Priorities.* Various committee members, including Mr. J.J. Goicoechea (Nevada Department of Agriculture), Mr. Barbee (Churchill County), Ms. Dow (BLM), and Captain Tanner (NAS Fallon), contributed to a discussion of agenda topic suggestions including the following:
 - A walk through of what is included or authorized in the NDAA, so that Committee members have an idea of what to expect and what steps need to be taken by various agencies. Mr. Goicoechea noted that this would facilitate a more realistic understanding of timelines and expectations, continued dialogue, and reduced conflict.
 - Information on the implementation timeline and discussion of how the NDAA legislation impacts local stakeholders, including private property owners, individuals, and grazers. Mr. Barbee added that the work of the Committee

really starts now, as many impacted stakeholders are assembled around the table.

- Common understanding of priorities, including the Navy's priorities and what that means for the impacted stakeholders. Ms. Dow added that BLM updates on implementation strategy will be provided at meetings.
- *Pole Line Road Project*. Mr. Scott Carey, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, noted that the Pole Line Road project is a priority for his agency due to the involvement of state lands and its potential impacts on natural and cultural resources. They will provide comments on the preliminary engineering studies submitted by the Navy. Mr. Carey mentioned the engineering studies in the context of a future agenda item, and the project as whole for the Committee to work on in the future.
- *Pole Line Road Project Pedestrian Surveys*. Ms. Janet Weed of the Yomba Shoshone Tribe shared that the Yomba, Duckwater, and Timbisha tribes are planning a para-archaeology training so they can fully participate in the pedestrian surveys, including the Pole Line and Gabbs areas.

Discussion/Possible Action: Navy Update

- **Legislative/Implementation Update**

- Captain Tanner provided a status update on the recent passage of the FY23 NDAA, which included the FRTC modernization language, in December 2022. The Navy, as part of implementing its obligation outlined in the Record of Decision, will work with the Nevada delegation; federal, state, and county agencies; and the Tribes to execute the NDAA.
- The Navy is now setting the budget, allocating resources for mitigation, and allocating personnel to fulfill requirements. The Navy plans to present an initial schedule of events at the next IEC meeting.
- A map associated with NDAA language was presented, and Captain Tanner noted that the Dixie Valley Training Area, per legislation, will remain open to the public, and each expanded range area will have to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy prior to Navy use.
- Captain Tanner encouraged Tribal council, county, and agency representatives to reach out for any support and affirmed that the Navy is committed to doing their best to provide support.

- **Natural Resources Update**

- Ms. Ann Schofield, natural resources specialist at NAS Fallon, provided an update on the Navy's natural resources program.
- *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan Update and Revisions*. Ms. Schofield shared that efforts are now being focused on addressing the modernization, and on an additional contract to incorporate the new lands into the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The Dixie Valley toad section of the INRMP is being updated to reflect the species status as endangered. An Environmental Assessment-level of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is anticipated for the updated INRMP, and Operation & Effect signatures, in accordance with the Sikes Act, will be sought from the Navy, Nevada Department of Wildlife, BLM, and United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

- *Wildland Fire Management Plan*. The Wildland Fire Management Plan is planned for public review in the March/April timeframe, and revisions to the Plan are funded for FY23. The Navy will evaluate fire risk on the expanded ranges and fuel breaks to protect sensitive habitats. Ms. Schofield noted that the Plan addresses the use of flares in direct bombing ranges, and restrictions during fire season. She also clarified that the Plan addressed current lands, and the revision would address new lands associated with the expansion.
 - *Sage Grouse Noise Study*. The United States Geological Survey is developing the study plan to evaluate the potential effects of military overflights on Sage Grouse; there are no major updates at this time.
 - *B-17 Bighorn Sheep Hunt Memorandum of Agreement*. The draft Memorandum of Agreement has been prepared and is ready for signatures.
 - *Conservation Law Enforcement Officers*: Coordination with BLM on two full-time, Navy-funded Conservation Law Enforcement Officers (CLEOs) to support the FRTC is underway. Ms. Elveda Martinez, Walker River Paiute Tribe, suggested the CLEOs be Tribal members.
- **Cultural Resources Survey Update**
 - Mr. Mike Baskerville, archaeologist at NAS Fallon, provided an update on the Navy's cultural resources surveys.
 - *B-20*. Approximately 64,473 acres (approximately 55%) of B-20 has been surveyed to date. The inventory to this point has recorded 487 sites and 705 isolated cultural finds. Sites documented Paleo-Indian sites, which are dated between 11,500 to 7,500 B.P., and historic mining and homestead sites. Each field crew has a minimum of one Native American archaeological technician assigned to them.
 - *B-17*. The Navy sent a finalized work plan to the Tribes in December for review. Additional inventories are being planned with FY24 funding and the work plan for that inventory will be sent out for comment.
 - *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan and Programmatic Agreement*. The draft Programmatic Agreement will be sent out internally to Navy cultural resource specialists, for an approximate 30-day review. After revisions are made, it will be sent to the Tribes to initiate discussion. Development of a new Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan is planned and will reflect the new modernization legislation.
 - Mr. Baskerville, in response to a question from Chairman Warren Graham, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, clarified that while the presence and absence is being recorded at the sites, eligibility determinations are not being made. Later, if there are impacts, additional inventories would be conducted to determine eligibility. He also added that input from Tribes on eligibility determinations are taken into account.
 - Mr. Baskerville, in response to a question from Chairman Graham, spoke on the topic of Tribal diversity of the Native American technicians. He noted that the majority of technicians are from Walker River, Pyramid Lake, and the Carson City area, and that the Navy would like to see greater diversity in Tribal representation in that position.
 - Ms. Martinez of the Walker River Paiute Tribe expressed that she would like to see more funding for the Tribes to train cultural resource monitors for the job positions. She also noted that the pay for cultural monitors with Far Western is about half of the pay for similar positions at the Greenlink Power Line project. She added that they would like to see at least two Tribal people on every field team. Mr. Baskerville responded that he will approach Navy staff that run the program to inquire about funding for additional

training. Regarding the wages, he noted that Far Western is responsible for the determination of wages for the cultural resource monitor positions.

- Ms. Weed inquired about the paving of the road between Gabbs and the Yomba reservation; Mr. Baskerville noted that the Navy does not have a funding mechanism to pay for the paving of the road, but that he had looked into other funding sources for the Tribes and passed along a Federal Highways Administration website to Ms. LaPierre. Ms. Weed commented that there was a miscommunication as Tribal leadership thought the Navy was going to fund the road project.
- Captain Tanner, responding to Chairman Graham and Ms. Weed, emphasized that it is in the Navy's interest to ensure representation across the Tribes in the hiring process. He also noted that he reviewed the cost estimate for the road pavement and approved its release to the Yomba Tribe.

Tribal Engagement Update

- Ms. Kish LaPierre, Tribal liaison at NAS Fallon, provided an update on the Navy's Tribal program.
- *Road Paving Project.* Ms. LaPierre responded to Ms. Weed's inquiry regarding the paving of road between Gabbs and Yomba Reservation, noting that she would forward the estimate. She added that the Navy has been researching agencies that may be able to assist with funding the road paving.
- *Tribal Visits.* Range closures provide an opportunity for Tribal visits to the ranges; B-19 has a scheduled closure from February 7-17, 2023. Captain Tanner will meet with Chairman Graham of the Duckwater Tribe in February, the Pyramid Lake Tribe in March, and the Lovelock Tribe in April.
- *Tribal Employment Opportunities.* A December job fair organized by Ms. Martinez had good representation from the three cultural groups. A Tribal Employment Opportunities flyer was shown, and Ms. LaPierre added that the term "Tribal Technicians" would be changed to reflect that the position is for cultural "Tribal Experts."
- *B-17.* The Navy is working with the Tribes in finalizing the draft work plan which acknowledges the Ruby Valley Treaty for the Shoshone people.
- *Ethnographic Studies.* Ethnographic studies are ongoing. The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office requested additional consultation on a group of buildings part of the B-800 Complex and Historic District, and fence replacement discussions are also in progress.
- *Wildland Fire Management Plan.* After the revised draft with internal comments is received, the Plan will be submitted to the 13 involved Tribes for consultation.
- *Green Belt Studies.* The Navy is awaiting the Draft Green Belt Studies to submit to the Tribes.
- *B-16 Fence Installation.* Tribal members would visit the site prior to construction associated with the B-16 fence installation.

Call for Agenda Items for Next IEC Meeting

- Kim Dow reiterated that BLM is interested in providing an update on ongoing projects in the area and implementation of the NDAA.
- Mr. Barbee reiterated the request to include discussion of the timeline for implementation of modernization.

Scheduling of Next IEC Meeting

- The next IEC meeting will be held during the last two weeks of April. A Doodle Poll will be sent out for the members to vote for their preferred date and time.

Public Comment

- Chair Torres again opened the floor for public comment, noting the three-minute time limit per person. Ms. Turner reviewed the instructions for providing public comments, using the Commenting Instructions slide.
- John Powell with JP Aerospace commented that the Committee doesn't have the representation of private landowners, and suggested that a government official, already on the Committee, could represent private landowners.
- Kurt Haukohl, State Aviation Manager with the Nevada Department of Transportation, would like two areas addressed: the Federal Aviation Administration's approval of airspace and charting, and the Navy's capacities with respect to wildfire fighting. On the latter, he noted that sharing assets with the BLM Air Attack Division is not a good solution, and that his agency is hoping the Navy acquires the ability to handle the fires they have started or take responsibility for the fires in their area.
- Justin Snow spoke from the perspective of a grazing permit holder, and suggested having a representative on the Board that recognized what grazers are losing. He suggested that Captain Tanner visit the ranches, as he is visiting the Tribes, and expressed that he feels grazers have been left out. Mr. Snow emphasized that many grazers are unique in that they have financed or mortgaged their grazing permits. He also noted that many grazers don't necessarily want to be paid for their permits, but that they would like replacements.
- Ms. Turner read a series of comments from Rob Bastien, regarding the date of access restrictions for the Bravo-17 expansion, the blocking or gating of access roads, posting of signs, and the enclosure of Bravo-17 with fencing. Mr. Bastien added in his comments that he would miss being able to visit the Monte Cristo Mountains now within the expanded Bravo-17 bombing range.
- Jim Estelle, a grazing allotment owner, concurred with Mr. Snow's comments and added that there was nothing in the law that addressed horses. He had questions related to the removal and return of horses, and responsibility thereof.
- Carlene Pacheco of the Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Tribe addressed the 45-day period to clean up debris (e.g., construction-related), and asked who would be monitoring the cleanup and who would ensure accountability for the completion of cleanup. She also expressed that she would have liked Captain Tanner to have met with the Tribal community as a whole, not just Tribal Council, prior to the agreement.
- Thoma Tom, a member of the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, referred to a specific area on the map, near Walker River, colored purple, and asked if there was damage to lands in that area, who would hold the Navy accountable.
- Mr. Goicoechea asserted his commitment to the concerns of Mr. Snow and Mr. Estelle and noted that the Nevada Department of Agriculture would be the conduit for addressing those concerns going forward.
- Ms. Schofield read a request from Patrick Fagan, asking for the community liaison contact for affected private stakeholders, and placed the requested information in the Zoom chat.

Adjourn

- Chair Torres thanked the attendees, welcomed new committee members, and asked to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 p.m. Mr. Goicoechea of the Department of Agriculture motioned to adjourn and Ms. Dow of the BLM seconded the motion. IEC members voted to adjourn by consensus voice vote, motion passed with no dissent or abstentions.