

FRTC IEC Meeting - Aug 8, 2023

Meeting Transcript

Robin Schofield 01:42

Alright for everybody here in the room really quick. Again, thank you for coming in my name is Robin Schofield. For our committee members here at the table, your mics are live right now. So if you're not going to speak or aren't presenting, turn them off if you'd like. It does sometimes pick up rustle noises here. But other than that chair this is your meeting.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 02:05

Thanks, Robin. Thanks everyone online. I'm gonna call the meeting to order. Again, like Robin said, thanks everyone for coming. Just a little bit of housekeeping. After this meeting, we're gonna have a grazing-specific meeting with some of the grazers and some of us from Department of Agriculture, the Navy, you guys Navy real estate folks as well, so on, BLM. So some of you guys stick around for that, by all means, if you're a grazer. The second public comment today is gonna be a little different if you guys remember the last meeting. Bus had actually talked about having more of a question and answer type thing. And we're gonna do that on the second public comment today. So kind of hold, if you want to have a question and answer back and forth, we're going to try it. And we want to be civil, by all means in that. We're going to kind of limit the time so we're not here for breakfast in the morning. So be aware of that. And I will ask again, if it's a grazing specific question, maybe hold that and we'll do it after the meeting for a little more one on one stuff. So with that, I'm gonna go ahead and ask Toni to do the roll call.

Toni Burton 03:06

Navy

Commander Muller 03:07

Commander Muller for the Navy

Toni Burton 03:13

Bureau of Land Management, Nevada

Kim Dow 03:16

Kim Dow, Carson City District Manager

Toni Burton 03:18

Bureau of Indian Affairs. Nevada Department of Wildlife

Matt Maples 03:25

Matt Maples, Wildlife Staff Specialist

Toni Burton 03:32

Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Toni Burton 03:40

Nevada Department of Agriculture?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 03:43

Director Goicoechea

Toni Burton 03:44

Nevada Department of Minerals

Mike Visher 03:46

Mike Visher.

Toni Burton 03:48

Churchill County

Bus Scharmann 03:51

Commissioner Scharmann

Toni Burton 03:53

Lyon County.

Scott Keller 03:55

Commissioner Keller

Toni Burton 03:58

Mineral County.

Catherine Hall 04:00

Commissioner Hall

Toni Burton 04:02

Pershing County

Larry Rackley 04:03

Larry Rackley here

Toni Burton 04:07

Nye County

Toni Burton 04:12

Eureka County

Jake Tibbits 04:16

Jake Tibbits

Toni Burton 04:17

Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe

Cathi Tuni 04:20

Chairwoman Cathi Williams Tuni

Toni Burton 04:23

Walker River Paiute Tribe

Andrea Martinez 04:24

Andrea Martinez, Tribal Chairwoman

Toni Burton 04:30

Yomba Shoshone Tribe. Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

Toni Burton 04:38

Lovelock Paiute Tribe

Toni Burton 04:42

Duckwater Shoshone Tribe

Toni Burton 04:46

Battle Mountain Band Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Toni Burton 04:52

Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Toni Burton 04:59

Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe

Toni Burton 05:06

Reno-Sparks Indian colony

Toni Burton 05:11

South Fork Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Toni Burton 05:17

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.

Toni Burton 05:23

Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Toni Burton 05:29

Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada

Toni Burton 05:35

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe

Toni Burton 05:39

Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone

Toni Burton 05:42

And Yerington Paiute Tribe

Toni Burton 05:48

That's it, thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 05:51

Thank you, Toni. I want to verify that the agenda was posted correctly.

IEC Moderator 05:57

Yes, chair, the agenda was posted in accordance with NRS 241.

Toni Burton 06:04

Thank you. Move on to approval of the agenda. Someone move approval of the agenda.

Bus Scharmann 06:12

Make a motion to approve the agenda.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 06:14

Mr. Scharmann, is there a second? Second Eureka County. Any discussion? Anyone opposed to the posting? Or approval this evening of the agenda? Anyone opposed? Anyone opposed? The agenda is approved. On a public comment just reminder it's more of a question and answer hold it for the final public comment. This will be limited to three minutes per person we will not take action on matters raised under this one so there won't be a question and answer at this point. If it's truly a public comment please come forward by the microphone and give your public comments. Those online raise your hand or enter into the chat. We'll start in the room in Fallon. Any public comments in Fallon?

IEC Moderator 07:01

Yes, ma'am please come up. And there's a microphone right here if you could state your name please. And any organization you represent

Member of public 07:09

(inaudible)

Member of public 07:34

(inaudible) I was never notified. Not only as a member but my children meet the qualifications. They are not of age yet. They are still growing they are still learning they need to utilize and all these resources upon these lands sacredly ancestrally by blood. It hurts me today. (inaudible) to see our own people sell us out here. Where are they? We are here now. Under the name under our family name. Ancestral to these lands I have children that would have interest in different reservations throughout this community. Some are coming of age and they just they oppose this as well. They see the hazard that is causing causing on their environment they hear the lies that's coming out on social media they hear our own councils telling us. It hurts me to this day to stand in front of you guys all the public comment but (inaudible) each and every one individuals here today. (inaudible) indigenous in that way. Thank you for your voices thank you for your presence. Thank you for doing your jobs. But I am here today to stand not only for myself but for the next future generations unborn. I oppose. It's not right. Our people are dying for many people to come up. (inaudible) no more. (inaudible) justice. Today here and now.

Not only as just a tribal member, but as a person as an individual person equal connected to you all in a good way. (inaudible) no more gates, no more borders. All these questions come to us. Where are you? We're asking where's our people who come to us now, a lot of these people out in the community come to us with these grave concerns because no one's listening. I am here today representing all the people in the nation equally. Come to us all equally don't hold these meetings quiet. Put them out in the open for everybody to decide equally. In the right way for everybody for our children the unborn we don't even know who exist yet. I'm here to leave his comment in a good way. (inaudible) to all the leaders as we're all individually leading our own people on a journey on our own in a good way. So your decisions are individual leaders. Imagine yourself as a president your presidential decisions for each nation of your family. How does that make you feel when you decide to commit acts of war? I don't agree with war. I don't agree with desecration upon our mother Earth. I don't agree with desecrating myself. Or anyone out here. Because we are all children mother of this earth given from our Father God. (inaudible) You don't feel any of this within you and you don't feel that rage within you. Where is your heart? Condor and eagle? Where's our family? Without our heart we have no family. Mother Earth is incubating right now she is living off a machine.

She has machines controlling her body taking things from her body and shoving it around the world. How would you feel if that was you? As a mother? What how would any of us feel if that was your grandmother, your sister, your child, your unborn grandchildren, you're gonna watch this desecration throughout your life. This is my public comment here today. Our mother and our father are in need of us as children all equally (inaudible).

IEC Moderator 11:15

Thank you, ma'am, for your comment. Is there anyone else in the room that has a comment today?

IEC Moderator 11:23

We do have some comments online. I'll go ahead and read them from Casey Royer. She says Good afternoon the chat has been disabled and I cannot cannot share my screen or unmute myself in the Zoom meeting. Will there be a chance for those on the phone to comment? Yes, Miss Royer. If you would like to make a verbal comment, you can raise your hand and I will unmute you. Oh, she follows up please ignore my last question. I will comment via phone. Thanks. Okay. So I will go ahead and I see I believe this may be her she has raised her hand. The last four digits are 7736. I will go ahead and unmute you and please note that you will also be to press star 6 to unmute yourself. So please go ahead when ready.

Casey Royer 12:23

Good morning. Can you hear me okay? Well, afternoon I guess

IEC Moderator 12:27

Please go right ahead. Thank you.

Casey Royer 12:30

My name is Casey Royer. I'm an attorney with Perkins Coie LLP, Perkins Coie was retained to represent Jack and Rachel Paine. The Paines are multi-generational ranchers who employ numerous employees throughout northern Nevada. The FRTC expansion significantly affects their business and private property right. We're here today just to gain a better understanding of the expansion project and work with the IEC. Because of the significant impact that the expansion will have on our clients' interests, as well as the interest of other private property owners in the area. We would like to encourage the IEC to conduct individualized outreach to affected parties. We believe that the additional discussion and coordination is needed with private landowners as the process continues. And we really appreciate appreciate the opportunity to attend and comment today. And we really encourage the IEC to continue offering additional opportunities for comment and collaboration. And just again, thank you so much for letting us be here today. That's all I have.

IEC Moderator 13:39

Thank you Miss Royer.

IEC Moderator 13:46

Is there anyone else on the phone today that would or on Zoom that would like to make a comment? You can type it into the Q&A or press star 9.

IEC Moderator 14:05

Okay, at this time, I have no nothing at the q&a. No raised hands and no one else in the room at this time. The public comment period is now closed. Chair.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 14:18

Thank you. We'll go to new/old business.

Robin Schofield 14:22

Yes, Chair, just want to give everybody a quick update on this last meeting. It was requested that a point contact was put up on the website, the FRTC modernization website. There is now a point of contact on that website. An email and I believe a phone number is up there that you can contact any anytime with any question especially if you can't find your answer on the website. Rolling updates are being conducted to the website. So if you can't find your answer on the website, please don't hesitate to reach out to that point of contact. Chair.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 15:03

Alright thank you. On the approval of the IEC meetings for April 24 23 are in your packet page 6 through 12. You received them, members did, of the IEC electronically as well. Gonna move approval of the minutes.

Kim Dow 15:03

This is Kim Dow. I motion to approve the minutes

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 15:24

(inaudible) second?

Unknown 15:28

Second

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 15:29

Thank you. Any discussion, corrections, modifications?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 15:35

Anyone opposed? Anyone opposed? Anyone opposed to post approval the minutes of April 24 23? Minutes are approved. Now going to discuss a possible action about Department of Transportation State Route 361 Reroute. And we have members of NDOT here today. So if you want to make your way to the table, find you a microphone.

Robin Schofield 16:02

Chad if you want to grab the other chair you can sit next to Ryan if you want.

Ryan Hornback 16:09

Good afternoon. Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome. My name is Ryan Hornback. I'm the NDOT Project Manager for the SR 361 realignment project. Are we going to Robin, are we gonna have slides? It's okay if we don't.

Robin Schofield 16:24

We did but apparently I looked them up this morning.

Ryan Hornback 16:29

Oh okay.

Robin Schofield 16:32

Chair this is up to you. If you give me a minute recess. I can...

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 16:36

Just take let's just take a real quick recess. We'll put those slides up I think they'll help in looking through what you guys provided.

Robin Schofield 16:43

Yes, okay. Yes.

IEC Moderator 16:54

For the participants on Zoom, we're going to take just a short moment to pull up the correct presentation. Thank you.

17:32

(inaudible)

Ryan Hornback 17:43

The battery (inaudible)

Robin Schofield 18:01

It's not the prettiest but,

18:03

okay.

Robin Schofield 18:04

For short term

Ryan Hornback 18:05

Alrighty. Thank you Robin.

Ryan Hornback 18:08

So we gave this presentation about a month as part of NDOT's planning process, kind of as the as our PEL kind of before we started the NEPA process, which is the National Environmental Policy Act. So we're just gonna give you guys a little rundown on what's going on here. So like I said, I'm the project manager for NDOT on the SR 361 realignment project. And you might be wondering, what is this project? Alrighty, so they, as you guys are all aware that US Navy is expanding their their base, and as part of that expansion, the B17 bonding range is getting expanded. And if you look up there the current 361 line that goes through the bombing range. So we need to relocate that to keep everyone safe. So we're partnering with the US Navy to accomplish this. So you might be wondering, why is NDOT involved? Well, we're NDOT's responsible for operating and maintaining SR 361. And the Navy is excellent building ships and bases, but we're pretty good at building roads. I know the Seabees could

build the road too, but we're gonna take care of that. So the funding is being provided 100% by the US Navy, and we're doing a planning study and the next step is the full environmental study.

Ryan Hornback 19:39

Next slide.

Ryan Hornback 19:41

So we're currently in the planning study, like I said. So the next phase is the environmental study. The dates up there are approximate, but I would like to point out that NDOT is also seeking public comments at all the phases of this and we have already received many public comments that we'll be dealing with, in a future environmental stage as we as we continue these studies. Alright, so as we relocate 361, you might be wondering, how do we do that well we utilize a software called QUANTM, we take the surface model of the terrain with all the hills, valleys, washes, and whatnot. And we put in some engineering inputs, i.e. like how much does it cost to move a cubic yard of the dirt? How many miles for cuts and fills? How much does asphalt costs cost? And so then we let the QUANTM software kind of plot different alignments, and then it gives us a cost efficient solutions. So that up there, you can see many alignments. Like the red ones are not very cost efficient, like they might might go around mountains and be pretty flat in cut and fills but they use a lot more asphalt and so it's not very cost efficient. But we are in receipt of the Weapon Danger Zone curvilinear line, so it won't be stuck like that. And we'll actually explore all routes up to that line further West. So as QUANTM kind of does the different routes, we kind of look and see where the most cautious cost efficient routes are. And then we kind of, we'll choose a corridor. So you can kind of see that the blue lines are the most cost efficient. And there we have the curve curvilinear boundary for the weapon danger zone that will go up against the that will represent the western edge of the corridor. All right, so shorter realignments are good for cost and drive time. And so kind of the corridor that we've identified is probably about a mile from the Weapon Danger Zone going east on the southern portion of the realignment. And then because of all the hills and little mountains in the north, we're probably going to be looking at about a two mile wide corridor to choose the correct alignment the most cost efficient alignment in the north. Alrighty. So as we begin our initial environmental screening, we've identified many areas of concern. You know, there are the Eagles, eagle nests up there, there are mining claims and rights up there. There's grazing claims and rights that we're going to need to avoid and, and mitigate there may be. And then we're engaging the Native American tribes to understand their considerations. And then also, one thing that might occur or may not occur, but there could be naturally occurring asbestos up there. But that just means that we need to mitigate the dust hazards and have a lot of water when we're moving dirt around it. That's not, that's not uncommon in the State of Nevada to have that. So this is the planning and environmental linkage report that comes before NEPA. So that's what we're doing. Alright, so, again, here, here's some of the stakeholders that we're reaching out to the US Navy, the county officials, BLM, resource agencies within the state of Nevada and the Federal ones. And then obviously, we work very closely with the Federal Highway Administration. So we had a public meeting last month here in this room, but we're going to have another community conversation in Middlegate in the coming month, and also in Gabbs. And we have a website where all this is, is posted as well as SR361 dot NVDOT dot org.

Ryan Hornback 24:04

So what are the next steps?

Ryan Hornback 24:12

So like I said, we're going to complete this current PEL that we're working on compile and review the comments, address and mitigate some of the concerns will be the reports and there'll be the public review and comment room comments on our updated reports and amendments. And then we're gonna also be starting the full blown NEPA process shortly after this. So for the NDOT portion, not the Navy portion. But for the NDOT portions, you might be wondering, how can I provide comments and like I said on the virtual website there, it's www dot dot dot nv dot gov dot sr 361 I got that website wrong earlier. Apologize. And there's my email address also I can take comments too. And that's all I have right now.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 25:11

Members of the IEC any questions for Ryan? This is one to put on the radar. I'm sure you guys have thought about what's our reclamation look like on that old right of way as that is abandoned, I understand it will be in plan of operations. But what's reclamation to make sure we don't end up with noxious weeds and bases etc.

Ryan Hornback 25:35

So the old alignment will stay open until this new alignment's done so we'll have no no negative impact to the traveling public, then the Navy has requested that that realignment stay in there we'll maintain gate access to the range. Because it's my understanding that you know, there's there's going to be hunting access and some limited recreational access provided. And then as far as the we will develop for our construction program, we'll develop a noxious weed program. And mitigate that

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 26:11

So they can look going forward to you guys actually have duplicate efforts, then you'd have the old 361 and a new 361 you'd have to do treatments on as needed for those noxious weeds.

Ryan Hornback 26:21

You know, that would be part of the plan. And I can't speak to that at this time. The gentleman next to me asked how long it was it likely will be 12 13 miles it might be a little shorter than the current alignment. So it might actually improve drive time.

IEC Moderator 26:38

Are there any questions from our IEC members via Zoom? Please go right ahead or raise your hand

IEC Moderator 26:53

Not seeing any questions at this time.

Ryan Hornback 26:58

Thank you everyone. Appreciate it.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 27:01

All right now we'll go to discussion and possible action. BLM update Carson district Kim Dow and if you have other staff you want to bring up as well. Go ahead ma'am it's yours.

Kim Dow 27:17

Good afternoon, thank you for the opportunity to be here. We appreciate having this opportunity to provide updates at the last IEC meeting, we provided an overview of how we intend on implementing the NDAA actions that are specific to the BLM. And our intention is to continue providing updates at each IEC meeting. So today we have two presenters. We have Mark Maza, who is an assistant field manager in our office, and he will be presenting on livestock grazing and mining claims. And then after Mark speaks Shedra Rakestraw, who was an assistant field manager in our office will provide an update on multiple Realty actions that we have associated with with this NDAA. So at this time, I'll turn it over to Mark.

Mark Maza 28:21

Yeah, so Mark Maza, Assistant Field Manager with the Stillwater Field Office, and just gonna go through the livestock grazing and the mining claims updates and some refreshers here. So the first item is, you know, both the Carson City BLM and Winnemucca BLM offices had conversations, through phone call with the grazing permittees with the B17, the B16 and B20 effected allotments. And in Carson City, we completed this in April of this year. But this was not the first time that the grazing permittees had heard about the coming withdrawal. Some of the common questions we received were about specific dates for closures. And of course, we don't have a precise schedule yet at this time. But we're working really closely with planners from the Navy to help better inform what some of the BLM's requirements are that help inform their timeline, so we can get closer to precise dates. We also had some questions about replacement forage. And it's clear that there's no vacant allotments available at this time that are available for a grazing permit, and therefore the BLM does not have any replacement forage to offer as specified in the legislation.

Mark Maza 29:32

The Navy is focusing on making the people go back to the livestock grazing not through the Navy is focusing on making the B16 bombing range operational first, which affects the Horse Mountain and Lahontan allotments. So during the phone calls I was referring to earlier in April, we also let the two BLM permittees affected by the B16 closure that we'd be sending what's called the two year notification letter, which is a specific requirement that the Bureau of Land Management has your 4110 dash four dot two which reads when public lands are disposed of or devoted to public purpose, which precludes livestock grazing the permittee shall be given two years prior notification except in cases of emergency. And so those letters have been received by both of the permittees for the B16 closure at this time, and BLM will be sending us the same letter to the permittees for the B17, and B20 closures once we're notified that we're about two years out from the other ranges going live. And to be clear, until the ranges are going to go live and become operational the full intent with the BLM, Navy and the grazing permittees is to maintain current grazing operations until the ranges are live. So just like the current permit is we're going to continue with those grazing schedules.

Mark Maza 30:59

Now you can go to the next slide, please.

Mark Maza 31:05

So as far as mining claims, each mining claimant has a different circumstance related to their claim access and needs. These are determined by the location of their claim and the type of withdrawal specified in the NDAA for that area. For example, there may be differences on how the claim is handled if it's in the Dixie Valley Training Area, as opposed to if it's in one of the Bravo ranges or the bombing ranges. If you have specific questions about your mining claim, we're asking that you contact the Carson City District so we can have a greater level of coordination with you and help better understand what your requests may be. And then going to the third dot there can new claims be filed on NDAA withdrawn lands? As far as new claims under the NDAA, the Bravo ranges and the Dixie Valley Training Area are withdrawn from location, entry and patent under mining laws. That means any new mining claims would not be valid on the withdrawn lands. Projects that are associated with the NDAA that are outside the withdrawn areas. They would analyze mining claims and access to the claims through the NEPA process just like we currently are doing for projects. So with that, I'm going to turn it over to the Shedra for the lands and realty discussions.

Shedra Rakestraw 32:30

Hello, Shedra Rakestraw, Assistant Field Manager Stillwater Field Office or Carson City District I manage the Lands, Realty for Carson City District. Today I'll just give you a brief overview of the National Environmental Policy Act which is NEPA. And how some of these decisions documents will play into the four realty actions that we'll speak to today. Then B16. Bravo16, Sand Canyon Road realignment, also section 2988, the Bureau of Indian Affairs with the Walker River Paiute Tribe trust land. Followed by your section 28 2908 checkerboard resolution area. And then also this is probably out of order today. But also with the Bureau of Reclamation new lands project overlaps with the NDAA 2023 map. Before we get started, I do want to address the Newlands project. This is a bureau of reclamation project that was in process since 2015. And so, many acres overlap within the NDAA legislative map. And so when we walk through the slides, I'll highlight how many acres overlap and what are we going to what the next steps.

Shedra Rakestraw 33:55

Okay, thank you.

Shedra Rakestraw 33:59

So just a brief overview of NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act of course, it was signed into law January 1st, 1970. And then federal agencies have to follow this based on assessment of the environment of human affects here and propose four different prior to make a decision so I'm sorry there and then the different levels of NEPA planning are there environmental impact statement. So based on the effects of the environment, we have to review the rigorous rigorous effects and make sure that we're following the federal laws as well. Doing that environmental impact statement. And the next one is environmental assessment. So with this environmental assessment is done to determine if the action would have significant effect on the environment. The next NEPA level will be determinations on NEPA adequacies, which, which is abbreviated as DNA. The DNA confirms that an action is adequately analyzed in existing NEPA decision documents and its conformance to our land use plans. And then we have the category exclusion, which is CXs. And so this is a form of NEPA compliance without any

analyzing on, from analyzing existing environmental assessments or even environmental impact statements. Yes, NDAA direction for the BLM in Section 2991, to conduct the realignment of the Sand Canyon Road, which is the expansion of Bravo's 16 that you can see here on the map. And so that also lies on the east side to the west side is the new route at the top of the of the map, and then existing roads are, of course, within the middle of the expansion of Bravo 16. So BLM is the lead agency on the NEPA analysis, the community impact will result in closure of the portion of the existing Sand Canyon Road to general traffic. There, what we have completed so far right now within our internal BLM process is our project information form. So this is where we identified the project and also bring in our resource specialists who are expert matters in understanding the environment. And so that has been submitted. And now we're continuing working with the Navy. There will be the Navy will be funding this project as well. And so the next steps here is to compose of a timeline. Right? Yeah, so the next item here really to action will go into the Walker River Paiute tribe trusts land Land Trust. And so I said it right first time, sorry, Walker River Paiute Tribe trust land? And I believe in April at the IEC meeting, there was a question about the Silver Springs parcel which is on the legislative map. It's identified Silver Springs parcels not included in the act. And so we have identified that is not included in an act. And we the NDAA, once again, has given us the BLM direction on transferring use land to the Walker River Paiute tribes, tribe trust lands. So walking through this realty action here in section 2988 the Bureau of Indian Affairs is leading this, this action. And so the BLM how we play into it is of course, the public lands that has been selected to be transferred over into the bureau into the Walker River Paiute Tribe trust land. Last week, what we have completed was an environmental environmental site assessment. And so this environmental site assessment has about one year of a timeline from the acted NDAA date, I believe, December 20th. And so the Bureau of Indian Affairs are in their contract, they're at BLM and, of course, the Walker River Paiute. Tribe chairman, Chairwoman was there as well last week and we were able to evaluate these parcels. So that is ongoing just to note once this ESA is completed, then there will be more discussions of course between BIA and the Walker River Paiute tribe to discuss which parcels will be accepted. To note here the ESA has a 6 month timeframe. So that's very important when those discussions are started between all entities there. So completed a questionnaire prior to our on-site visit last week. So BLM Realty specialists responded to BIA questionnaire and so it what was current is what happened last week, of course so I just mentioned and share that we was out in the field and conducted some assessments there and so now we're assisting in the BIA with the findings or questions that they have from that visit through communication making sure they have contact with all of the resource specialists or even in anyone at our state office Nevada State Office for questions. So this, were this map is more so speaking to the Fernley East parcels that are circled there. And so with that said, this is the second set of parcels that were designated in the legislative in the NDAA to declare a reviewing in the environmental sites assessment. And then depending on the outcome, the Walker River Paiute Tribe can decide if they will accept those parcels as well. Thank you.

Shedra Rakestraw 40:42

Sorry, can you go back real quick? Sorry, that was my mistake. Okay. So I do want to point out these two parcels pertaining to the Newlands project that I've shared a little bit about, in the beginning, these two are within the withdraw revocation. So they're a part of that Newlands, which is the new lands parcels. (inaudible)

IEC Moderator 41:06

Okay.

Shedra Rakestraw 41:09

So the Newlands parcels are approximately all together, where this project for BLM 275,000 acres. So I just want you to keep that in your mind as well, because now we're about to dive into this checkerboard resolution. And that, that is important also to the NDAA map. So with the checkerboard resolution here, the Newlands, they, it shows the overlap. So just to give you an overview of what are you looking at, in purple, those are the Newlands parcel acreage that are open overlapping in the NDAA. So there's approximately 171,000 acres here, overlapping in the NDAA legislative map. So with that the community impact is to focus on the checkerboard. So we can understand how to have well so we can have the conversations on where where to place the priorities at, right. And so the NDAA directed us as BLM to resolve the checkerboard by exchanging private land and public land, the goal is to keep them out of public land private land pretty much the same, but to consolidate public land with public and private land with private land. As you can see, it is pretty busy. So we have a lot going on there. Um, so with that the community impact the focus of this checkerboard will probably start sometime in fiscal year 24 for the BLM to review the land exchange process between the Department of the Interior and neighboring counties. Also what we have completed already, we hosted some internal meetings to discuss the checkerboard resolution by identifying land ownership and land administers. So there's a on the map legend you may not see but there's a Fish and Wildlife Service, land and of course, private, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management. So so much movement going on there. And then currently, we're coordinating with the Winnemucca District due to jurisdiction crossover. And we have assigned a point of contact which is one of our realty specialists, who Tarah Malsam, who will also assist with this Realty action effort. So what do we need to do next, identify as strategic and business plan for fiscal year 24. And also a priority let areas of the checkerboard and then of course identify a timeline and a business analysis or budget analysis.

Shedra Rakestraw 44:14

Alright, next slide. So this is more of the Newlands and shed so this is very important to showcase. What you're seeing here in purple is the NDAA 2023 legislative map. And what's crossing over in grey like a checkerboard feature is are the Newlands part. acreage and so there's about 239,000 acres here and crossing over in that NDAA area. And so, majority of it is still within the checkerboard of course, but then when you come out of the solid area which is the NDAA legislative map, you start to see some, like down to the south or south east, how it how those acres are crossing over still. So it gives you more of a visual of what are we working with at the Bureau of Land Management. So with that said, me, the community impact is to meet to identify which parcels can be directly conveyed from the Bureau of Land Management to neighboring counties, or if they have to come back into county lands and go to the neighboring counties also completed, we reviewed the Newlands acres that overlaps which is demonstrated here on this map. However, we are looking more with we are working more with our state office to identify like the type of records which is currently now. And then what we need to do next is work with the Bureau of Reclamation, and making sure which lands are they are able to convey versus bringing it back into the Bureau of Land Management. They're only and then also conveying over to like the nearby counties And thank you very much.

46:18

Thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 46:21

Kim do you have anything further you want to add or any questions?

Kim Dow 46:25

We can do questions

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 46:27

Questions from IEC members. County manager Barbee?

Jim Barbee 46:34

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We actually met with bureau of rec this morning this is Churchill County, there's not neighboring counties, there's just Churchill. And so in the process in the conversation with them, there may be someone on to clarify, but it sounds like they have been working with BLM over the last few years and trying to identify lands that they would like to see leave Bureau of Rec, and that they have a procedure that they have to follow that starts prior to going from Bureau of Rec back to BLM. And so just giving notice, we're going to start that process, the county specifically putting in a letter forward to Bureau of Rec identifying our specific direct transfer areas which haven't been addressed. And I'm not sure why but haven't been addressed in this conversation because 13000 and change of direct transfer lands as part of the NDAA. And so we'll be putting that in a letter that all obviously CC BLM because we don't want this process to drag out for years as the process of Naval expansion has because we believe the NDAA is pretty clear what the intent is. So we will be looking for congressionals to help us and trying to push that forward. I guess my question would be, A do you see an issue with us putting that letter forward in the next couple of weeks to Bureau of Rec to start the process of the direct transfers? And then secondly, why was direct transfer property to Churchill county not identified in your Realty actions?

Shedra Rakestraw 48:23

Thank you for the question. I will defer to Kim for the first question. But the second question I can say. We have been working closely with the Bureau of Reclamation, just to understand from our endpoint priorities. Where do we want to start as as mentioned earlier, the Newlands project as a whole is approximately 275,000 acres. And so we knew and understood back in January that this is a massive project at that crosses over with this legislation. And so we wanted to really be mindful and take the direction from Kim Kim Dow herself, our district manager to make sure that we're following the priorities being set by her and also the communication with our state director too. So we didn't want to jump too soon on things but we wanted to really conduct an exercise and make sure all the title records were together and to make sure how are we going to move forward with the next steps that are non-Navy related and Navy related. I hope that answers your question.

Jim Barbee 49:39

Well, I would just I would just point back to some of the priority consideration would be those statements within the act that say that those lands shall be transferred. That should be an easy priority. So I would just make that point.

Kim Dow 49:55

Yeah, thank you. That is our priority as well. And we've talked before that, our priorities are going to match Churchill County's priorities with relation to those NDAA actions that are specific between BLM and Churchill County. And then our actions will match the Navy's priorities specific to those actions with the Navy. So for example, the Navy is looking to make B16 operational first. So we are focusing on those B16 actions first, as they relate to the Navy. And then with Churchill County the direct conveyances are your priority and so those are our first priority as well. We didn't cover them here in this process, because our first step right now is to look at the funding mechanism for that. So we are continuing to look at how we can utilize funding which funding we can utilize to carry out those direct conveyances. And so we're still in that process right now. As soon as we answer that question, we'll be able to get started on those direct conveyances. Of course, we'll be working very closely with Churchill County on making sure we're doing those in the order that Churchill county would like to see done. I do anticipate that we'll have an update on that at the next IEC meeting. I think we'll have an answer to the funding question. And hopefully, we'll have met with Churchill County on a couple of occasions, before the next IEC meeting to make sure we're the ones that are priorities. Did that answer your question?

Jim Barbee 51:21

Just as the secondary part, or the first portion, as BOR previously identified lands they would like to see disposed of I think it's the term that they use. Because it's my understanding that there are several, almost 200,000 acres that they've already identified, largely in some of those areas of checkerboard that they've already identified through their planning previously. So I would think that that would fast forward chunks of this conversation.

Kim Dow 51:53

Yeah, I might have to turn it to Shedra for some of the specifics. But we have been working with the Bureau of Reclamation, on their revocation, it's a revocation so we kind of undo that withdrawal is kind of how I in layman's terms put it but I'm not a realty specialist. But so we undo those withdrawals through the revocation process, which brings it back into Bureau of Land Management administration. And from there, we can do that conveyance in the checkerboard. Prior to the NDAA being being passed, we were working with the Bureau of Reclamation, and their priority was actually in different areas. And so those were the conversations that were happening prior to the NDAA. After the NDAA, they wanted to switch the priorities over to this area. So that's been a relatively new conversation. As far as the lifespan of the conversation with Bureau of Reclamation, this area has been relatively new in that lifespan. Previous conversations were focused on a different area, west of this, this land. Sorry there was another question that you had that I was going to make a point about but I can't remember what it was.

53:03

Any other questions?

IEC Moderator 53:05

Any questions from our members on Zoom?

(inaudible)

IEC Moderator 53:17

Please hold your question till the comment period for the public. Thank you.

Jake Tibbits 53:24

Jake Tibbits with Eureka County. So on the grazing stuff, I know there are certain commitments that that's on the Navy meeting in the NDAA give some highlights about what BLM has done. But part of that there's some, the reason Eureka County's interested in it just because some residents in the county are grazing permittees for the (inaudible) grazing allotment. And there's through the EIS process, there was the site right alongside state route 39 869. It goes to (inaudible) there, and there's the old carrels and the stock well was on that site. And so called for that to be relinquished back for Public Land Management. But it's you know, it's a greatly improved area. There's a well there, it's permitted to the state of Nevada with water rights, all kinds of equipment there, their trails and whatever else. So is there an update on that process? And then my second thing is related to that that so that ranching family has facilities located within the weapon defense zone, carrels and all kinds of other facilities that will have to be relocated at some point that's where they move their cattle and unload and do all that type of operation. So in the comments, we had suggested something spelling out in the EIS that kind of fell on deaf ears, about using that of finding an alternative site for those facilities and just kind of silent on that I haven't heard a lot about it. The map as part of the NDAA does show that location, that so small there was a little arrow that points there. So anyways, any update on that process and working with rancher so they're well ahead when they're closer comes that they have with their facilities still where they need them.

Mark Maza 55:26

Well, why not take that I do know about that well in particular and Shedra and the realty team were just doing a field visit out there because the first step of that is granting a right away because I believe that's the Department of Energy monitored well, and so it's on our radar as far as that land going back to BLM management. As far as the grazing piece of that discussion. I think we need to tie in estuaries, correct right over there. And so we can definitely prioritize those conversations, but we haven't had too many of them yet.

(inaudible)

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 56:05

Hang on there, wait until the end of the meeting or we'll all bunch up. That's a grazing question.

IEC Moderator 56:14

I don't see any questions on the Zoom. From the members

Andrea Martinez 56:19

I just have a comment. So as Shedra said, I was a part of the environmental assessment field visit at the Walker Lake parcel and the Fernley East parcels. One concern the Walker River Paiute Tribe had was parcel 36, it is part of the Truckee Carson Irrigation District drain and so we didn't see like the

lands were very suitable, I just wanted to make that comment. And after this environmental assessment, phase one, we will have further conversation. But for the record, the tribe does have to accept the lands. Thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 56:58

I guess I just want to comment question surrounding B16. And we've already heard that, we're going to keep open the grazing until we're ready to go. So that's going to include the realignment of that road correct? (inaudible) everything has to be secure with fencing before we close to grazing,

Kim Dow 57:17

Correct. All actions within the NDAA have to be completed before we will close it to grazing.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 57:22

Okay, thank you. Mr. Barbee

Jim Barbee 57:28

I did have a follow up question based on a previous conversation we had with Navy this may be both ways. But additionally, it's my understanding. And I went back and looked at the act that the Lone Tree Project and bulking up that road would be a part of the B16 completion. And that would also have to be completed as part of the preliminary opening B16 because that is the direct connector to the B16 area where we have large trucks. Now that's a little bit complicated with state, county, because I happen to have (inaudible), the state wants to take the lead there, that's not a problem, we just want to ensure that that road is widened. And the requirements for the weights of the vehicles that will be going out to B16. All of that was discussed early on. There was at some point in one of my folks works for me, I was under the impression that wasn't inclusive to B16 opening. And I wanted to reinforce that in our minds that is definitely a part of the B16 piece. Thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 58:41

Anything else from any of our members?

Mike Visher 58:45

Question on the mining claims, have the claimants been notified in writing? Has there been a fact sheet to help answer the questions that are coming in, that we can help distribute to those claimants through our channels?

Mark Maza 59:08

To my knowledge, we haven't updated each individual claimant. And that's why we're we're asking folks to come speak with us that have specific questions just because each one is so different. I could see and work with mineral staff to see if a fact sheet would be helpful. But we definitely, because each one is so unique, right? We wouldn't want to provide a back sheet that leads people awry so let's look into that.

Mike Visher 59:31

Okay, much appreciated.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 59:36

My recommendation would be make sure you plug in with division of minerals sooner rather than later before the next meeting. So (inaudible) commander.

Commander Muller 59:45

Just one comment from the Navy. I know it's been said several times about grazing being available until the ranges go hot. I just wanted to clarify that the fencing, the removal of cattle and everything will be aligned with operational security timelines. So there are several steps between the removal of livestock and the ranges being completely operational that have to be in the timeline.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:00:19

Thank you. If there's nothing else Commander, you have the mic we'll go to you discussion possible action Navy update. Commander Muller however you want to kick it off first.

Commander Muller 1:00:25

Alright. Thank you, Chairman. I've got I've got a list of folks that I want to take, bring up but quick introduction. I'm Commander Dan Muller, the Public Works Officer for Naval Air Station Fallon, representing the Navy today, and my first presenter is going to be Liz Barris discussing the implementation strategy update.

Liz Barris 1:01:00

Okay, great. Good afternoon, everyone.

Liz Barris 1:01:04

I'm Liz Barris, and I am the FTC Modernization Program Manager here to give the update on what's been going on since my last update in April. So change the slide. I wanted to start off with our FY 23 accomplishments. Next slide. So since the NDAA was passed in December 2022, we've made the three \$20 million payouts. We've got the funds we were able to transfer that so to Churchill County, Walker River and Fallon Paiute tribe. NDOT was here to talk about the alternative analysis, the Navy has funded that, that the road relocation is being done by NDOT because the road is being relocated off of Navy land. So the Navy is funding a lot of the infrastructure efforts that because these relocations like Sand Canyon or the pipeline, are occurring off of Navy land, the Navy is not the lead for either NEPA nor the construction. So NDOT presented on that we are funding this fiscal year the next phase for State Route 361 and the pipeline, the NEPA for both of that. We have awarded four real estate contracts and options this year, we have a appraisal contract out and updated grazing appraisal contract. Title and escrow and we have funded BLM for the B16 boundary survey that precedes the fence. We're also going to be awarding the updated intergraded natural resource management plan and the fire management plan. The grazing notification letters have gone out from the Navy to all permittee holders notifying them that the NDAA passed and there could be modifications. We're working the process with BLM in terms of the timelines and the prioritization with staggering. I will say that while the Navy will meet all ROD commitments per range before it goes operational, the timing of the fence could happen sooner. So a correction there that the B16 fence could happen before Sand Canyon's relocation. We are engineering that with gates. So the Sand Canyon relocation was not a

ROD commitment but was in the NDAA that MILCON that construction funds for Sand Canyon road they're our furthest out, we are trying to pull that in and have that happen sooner. But the current plan is to construct the fence at B16 (inaudible) Canyon gets relocated. And we've been really working hard to put together all of our timelines and schedules, we have about 60 ROD commitments that we're tracking in NDAA requirements, a lot of steps to get these ranges operational. So the photo in the top is the largest guzzler in the state of Nevada. We worked NDOW and volunteers to get that done this year. That was a ROD commitment that was completed. And then a lot of outreach, there's been a lot of outreach efforts and visits that have all been continuing as part of the expansion.

Liz Barris 1:04:09

Next slide.

Liz Barris 1:04:12

This is the same timeline that I presented in April, we have not yet updated though we do know there are changes. So I did want to be consistent with what I gave out in April. But again, realize that this will be changing. I think the tagline is the most important that based on our funding, we have five military construction large projects, and when those are the fiscal years that those are appropriating really dictates when we can get the work done with the construction efforts. In addition, we are working with a lot of other entities to get the work done and working with BLM Nevada Department of Transportation, Great Basins. We'll be working with the county on construction relocation. And then we have three MILCONs for private land acquisition. It really depends on the process that the negotiations and then the grazing we're going to talk about a little bit later. But I'll walk us through the general plan that we have at the top, there's fiscal year. And then on the left side, you'll see the ranges that we're planning that we're going to be expanding with major tasks. So Dixie Valley is going to remain unfenced. And that just has private land acquisition. So theoretically, that could happen soonest. The second priority would be B16. We do have in here, the longest hole in that is Sand Canyon Road. We're trying to move the whole thing over. We've requested that BLM start the NEPA now, and Congress is looking at pulling that appropriation to give us funding in FY 25 for Sand Canyon, so that'll move when we get that. When we get that really programmed in there, this, this timeline will change. B17 we have State Route 361 and Great Basin relocations, those are kind of the longest efforts there. B20 has a lot of private land acquisition and Pole Line Road. So this is just sort of a notional overview with the very last bar kind of being when we plan on having that range operational. So this will continue to be updated. And of course, the Navy's preference is to move everything as quickly as possible, just so we can be out there. But there are processes that we will be following. I'll continue to update at each IEC meeting the status of where we're at.

Liz Barris 1:06:31

Okay, next slide.

Liz Barris 1:06:34

I mentioned we have over 60 ROD and NDAA commitments, I'm not going to go through all of them. But we currently have 17 in process. A lot of them are multi-year efforts, natural cultural programs.

Liz Barris 1:06:55

I mentioned a few of the FY 23 Awards with the INRMP, Sage Grouse noise study is underway. I know after me is Anne and Mike and they'll probably give you more details on some of these. Go to the next one. The planned ones. Maybe I did that in progress and plans. Yeah, the next one.

Liz Barris 1:07:25

The planned ROD commitments either we're waiting on funding to start them, or there is a milestone that has to happen before we can get started on that. But we have about 17 that are being planned.

Liz Barris 1:07:47

So those, either we'll hit a major milestone, for example, we do have the appraisal contract out there, we don't yet have had the results of that. Some of these will happen after we either get funding or we've made more more progress in some of our studies. And then the next slide, with completed.

Liz Barris 1:08:14

We've completed about 27, we are working through all of the ROD commitments. There's a lot of them there. There's a lot of details on our website. But the Navy is tracking, tracking all of them. All of them require that level of effort, either resourcing or funding and made it through 27 of those. And that's pretty much it. And the last slide is just again, to remind people to go to our website, which does have all the ROD commitments, contacts for more information. I don't know if anyone has any questions. There are a lot of moving pieces in this. Certainly, the Navy is responsible and will be meeting all of our commitments commitments per range before we expand. And we're working through these as quickly as we can but trying to keep everyone updated and informed and working with our partners.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:09:06

Any questions from IEC members?

Mike Visher 1:09:10

Just real quick, is there a proposed route for the pipeline realignment?

Liz Barris 1:09:16

Not yet.

Mike Visher 1:09:18

Okay.

Jake Tibbits 1:09:21

Jake Tibbits, Eureka County. On the grazing on the slide. Yeah, to ask you a certain problem and talk about finding them alternate grazing allotments. And the language in the NDAA talks about assisting the holders to obtain replacement forage. So are you you know there's there may be opportunities like the private land leasing for alternate forage or even hay purchases? I didn't know if. I was I was just looking at vacant allotments and saying that's the thing. That's all we're looking at for alternative forage or. Is there other alternative forage options? That would be okay as spelled out in the NDAA.

Liz Barris 1:10:02

That's a BLM question.

Kim Dow 1:10:08

For the BLM, the only authority we would have would be to find other vacant allotments that have a permit available on them. We don't have any authorities to look at private land or enter into agreements with private land or provide hay, so for us, replacement forage is specific to finding a vacant allotment.

Jake Tibbits 1:10:27

So Jake Tibbits again so in the NDAA it says Secretary of Navy shall notify the grazing allotments impacted and assist and if practicable, assist the holders of grazing allotments in obtaining replacement forage. So I know BLM's authority, that's why I held this question for the Navy presentation because replacement forage doesn't. RFP doesn't necessarily mean it has to be public for public land allotments, there's private land leases, there's hay. There's all kinds of things that could give replacement forage for those losses, rather than just the payment too if somebody wants to hold their cow herd together. So anyway, I just think there's other novel things like the fall within the sideboards, of the NDAA (inaudible)

Liz Barris 1:11:20

I think that's probably a good question to ask after the IEC meeting I don't have anymore (inaudible)

Liz Barris 1:11:31

I did have an asterisk on that note, though, because it does mentioned, I think, in that same note, the payment process, there's a bunch of things in there. So that was more referred to my bar, you know, when I try and say things are going to be, you know, two years, it sort of caveated, that there might be alternative things that we look at, and then the payment could happen later. So I didn't want to just imply that the whole entire grazing process can be completed and that there might be other consideration. Certainly at our meeting afterwards for grazing there. We have smart people on our team. The real estate team can help answer that question so

IEC Moderator 1:12:14

Any of our members on Zoom? No questions chair

Commander Muller 1:12:25

Alright, thank you Liz. Next we've got Ann Schofield providing the Natural Resources update.

Ann Schofield 1:12:42

Hello everyone, Ann Schofield Conservation Manager at NAS Fallon. I will be giving the update on the natural resources commitments from the NDAA and the new ROD. So I'm going to start with our integrated natural resources management plan. We are incorporating the new lands into our INRMP and have secured funding this year to start that process. We anticipate award of that contract by the end of this month. And we will be working with our stakeholders, including the IEC, the counties, tribes, as well as having public comments on our INRMP updates and revision to incorporate the new lands. The NDAA identified, identified a two year timeline for the INRMP to be revised, and we will be striving

to meet that timeline for the plan revision. Please note that we anticipate that this plan revision will require NEPA analysis at an EA level and we plan to initiate that EA in the next year so that we can meet that timeline. Once the NEPA has been completed, we will be pursuing new operation and effect signatures by all of our Sikes Act stakeholders and we'll have a new implemented INRMP that addresses all of the expansion lands as well as the existing.

Ann Schofield 1:14:18

Next slide.

Ann Schofield 1:14:20

Next item is our wildland fire management plan. We will also be revising this plan to incorporate the new lands. And again we have secured funding this year to implement that contract to do that work. We will be analyzing the new expansion lands for fire risk, and identifying fuels management projects and fuel breaks that are necessary to protect habitat and infrastructure on those ranges from wildland fire. So NEPA analysis will again be required for that plan. We anticipate an EA that will be initiated in the next fiscal year. And we'll be pursuing public comments and input from all of our stakeholders for this one as well. So, I do have good news that we as you all know, we've been working on a wildland fire plan for the existing ranges that we, that we had. And that plan is finalized because our EA has been finalized. And just earlier this week, we were notified that the FONSI was signed. So we are cleared to proceed with implementation of that wildland fire management plan that identifies fuel breaks and fuel treatments on the existing ranges. And fortunately we have also been able to secure funding through our installation climate resiliency program to begin those fuel breaks on the existing ranges as well as treating the B17 fire scars, both on and off of the B17 ranges. So we're excited to get that started. Those contracts will be awarded soon and we will be working with our partners to implement those, those wildland fire projects. In addition to wildland fire focused projects, we also received funding to do some habitat restoration at our Horse Creek parcel in the Dixie Valley and as well as begin a vegetation conversion monitoring program for the expanded FRTC ranges. So we'll start with an analyzing baseline range land monitoring, and evaluate vegetation at over time as grazing is removed from the bombing ranges.

Ann Schofield 1:16:41

Next slide.

Ann Schofield 1:16:46

Our next commitment is the sage grouse noise study. This is a study we're partnering with USGS, NDOW and US Fish and Wildlife Service to evaluate the potential effects of military aircraft overflight on the sage grouse. We are working closely with our partners on this and we are near completion of development of study design. Desktop analysis by USGS is currently in progress looking at the existing data that is out there for the sage grouse. And we are planning to begin fieldwork on the initial pilot study in 2024. So this next spring is our goal. So we're moving forward on that. Next item is our B17 bighorn sheep hunt MOA, this MOA has been in a final draft for quite a long time. Right now, we're currently aligning the language to with the NDAA language about this item. And we will be updating the map accordingly with from the NDAA map, then we should be good to proceed with finalization and signature of this agreement. And then finally, our conservation law enforcement officers we're

committed to finding and implementing to CLEO officer positions to support conservation law enforcement on the FRTC. We have been working with BLM to set up a partnership and work through BLM to implement this commitment, but have determined mutually that it that was not a viable option. So we are now pursuing and looking into getting approval for in-house CLEO positions through the Navy. And I believe that's it. Are there any questions? Alright.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:18:48

Let's check online real quick. Can anybody online?

IEC Moderator 1:18:52

Any questions from our members on Zoom?

Commander Muller 1:18:58

All right, thank you, Ann. Up next, I've got Mike Baskerville. Who'll be covering the Cultural Resources program.

Mike Baskerville 1:19:10

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Mike Baskerville. I'm the archaeologist at NAS Fallon. So today, we're gonna go over. As everybody who's been attending his meetings for a while knows that as part of our commitments, we promised to inventory the expansion plans. So first one is B20, we've been working on this for about a year. That's an inventory of about 118,000 acres. There there was a delay due to weather and environmental conditions, other environmental conditions, so it has now resumed, crews have now inventoried approximately two 73,122 acres, about 62% of the withdrawal in that area. So far, sites they have documented with Paleo-Indian sites, and historic mining sites amongst others. Each field crew has minimum of one Native American archaeological technician assigned to it. The purpose of these assignments are to identify those types of sites that may not be recognizable by a archaeologist but also do assist archaeologists with defining site boundaries and other things. Next slide, please. So we have started on B17. To date, we've originally identified 34,595 acres and to date, 12,355 acres that have been inventoried. We did have received funding to begin to get inventory in the larger area. And we're in the planning phase for that. So we're also beginning the task of drafting a new Programmatic Agreement that has been worked on quite a long time internally. And currently, it's, you know, the PAs, the way that section 106, of the National Historic Preservation Act is implemented on different areas really depends upon the mission and types of resources. And we hope to have the internal review done sometime very soon. From there, the draft will actually go out to the Tribes for their comments. And then we will begin having comments with both the State and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. So also, we've been tasked to revise the integrated cultural resource management plan. It is currently, part of the issue with that has been, we did send it out for contract. But note, there were no bidders. So we are working on alternative ways to accomplish that task as well. Next slide please. So as part of the climate resiliency project, one of the things that was suggested was to do an environmental study, that's basically the intent of that study is to look at various changes in the environment that have occurred over the last 14,000 years. That contract is now being flown. And we'll we'll find out who wants to do that. At this point. The first part of this is actually developing a research plan. So we're gonna go out there check with University of Reno, and other places to see what type of collections they have that might provide us information, identify gaps in that information, and then the

follow on is (inaudible) with that type of study. So the overall project is intended to assist in developing natural resource management strategies to match regional environmental trends, and also to assist in understanding pre-contact changes in technology and resource procurement strategies. Slide. (inaudible) are there any questions?

IEC Moderator 1:24:26

Any questions via Zoom?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:24:32

Thanks Mike.

Commander Muller 1:24:33

Alright, thank you Mike. Up next, we'll be doing tribal engagement update with Toni Burton.

Toni Burton 1:24:41

My name is Toni Burton. I'm the Tribal Relations Coordinator for NAS Fallon. Our tribal liason on is out on temporary duty so I am covering the office. Just to go over some of our latest you know major projects we have going on the first one is the tribal access memorandum of agreement. The purpose of this, MOA is to establish a procedure on accessing the ranges based on the needs of the tribes and the Navy. So far this year in February, the Navy sent a revision out to the tribes. In April the Fallon tribe hosted a tribal leadership discussion and kind of took the reins on putting a revision together with the comments they received from the different tribes. In June, the Navy received that revision. And through a long review with the Navy we have sent out our revision, it was actually mailed out today. So keep an eye out for that. I will reach out to the tribes individually and discuss their, you know, comments, thoughts, and we'll figure out the next steps to hopefully reach a, you know, final final version of that MOA. As Mike mentioned, we have the ethnographic and archaeological surveys going on. Far Western Anthropological group is our contractor. I know that the tribes have been working closely with the contractor to coordinate some of the ethnographic interviews and working the surveys. I'm also currently coordinating range access for Far Western and the Fallon tribe to access some of the ranges some later on this fall. As we heard earlier, from NDOT, the highway realignment of SR 361 was an important topic to the Yomba Shoshone tribe especially, this is a main access roadway for them. They were here at the public meeting held on July 18. I have actually worked with the NDOT team and gave them our tribal contracts to make sure that they're working closely with the tribes and they're listening to any of their concerns and that they're involved with any of the future studies that go on so they have the opportunity to participate in that. The last one is our NAGPRA consultation and coordination. The Navy does have a collection that's stored currently at the Nevada State Museum. Just to go over our timeline. I'm sure this has been reviewed before but in February, we met with some of the tribes to do a presentation on this inventory and introduce the tribes to the staff there at the Nevada State Museum. In June, we had a tribal consultation with the Tribal Historic preservation officers that are here the tribes, the cultural, like cultural resource committees and staff for each tribe as well as the tribal leadership. The tribes did have a tribal working group discussion in July to discuss repatriation protocol and future findings. So we are working with the tribes to move forward. Our requirement is to post post a notice of inventory completion which we'll do on the federal register, we'll do a site visit with the local tribe here in Fallon, and follow the tribes guidance on completing repatriation on those remains. So that

is a major goal of our program. On the last slide, I do have my contact information there, please feel free to reach out to me or reach out to me with any concerns or questions you might have. And that's it. Thank you.

(inaudible)

IEC Moderator 1:28:39

Anyone on Zoom with questions for Toni?

Commander Muller 1:28:46

Alright. I've got one more. So thank you, Toni. Up next, providing an airspace update. We've got Commander Elliot Patterson from Naval Air Warfare Development Command.

Commander Patterson 1:29:03

Mic check. Okay.

IEC Moderator 1:29:04

It's good.

Commander Patterson 1:29:06

Good afternoon. Commander Patterson, I'm the Operations Officer for the Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center. Thank you for having me today. So this brief will be to give you an overview of the airspace associated with the FRTC Modernization. Slide, please. So just a quick overview, the FRTC there you can see a lot of the military training happens in the western portion of our country. We've got the ranges associated with UTTR to our east, with Nellis to our south, to the North Mountain Home and then Oregon. And those green lines depict essentially all the air traffic routes that go through that area specifically coming out of the west coast there, the Bay Area. So the airspace updates I'm going to discuss here are basically ways to more efficiently utilize the airspace that we have because we are constrained in knowing that our airspace is not going to grow. Slide. Some quick definitions before I get into the specifics of the airspace here on the FRTC. So visual flight rules VFR, these are the rules that pilots utilize when they are flying around in good weather. They can navigate looking at the ground. They don't necessarily need to be communicating with anyone. For instrument flight rules IFR these are the rules that pilots need to follow when they're flying either in weather that is bad, precludes them from seeing the ground such as clouds or maybe a higher altitude. Anytime you're on an airliner for flying IFR there. For the airspace, we have a bunch of different types of airspace that we utilize that the FAA defines and regulates. Military Operation Areas this is essentially areas where there is congested, concentrated military activity training in where we define those areas so that airliners and VFR traffic can avoid it. However, VFR traffic is allowed to fly through it, either communicating or not communicating any of the controlling agencies. Restricted Areas a little bit different, these are areas where there's hazardous activities, maybe we're dropping ordnance or deploying sensors, where other aircraft cannot be in there safely while we're doing those activities. So they are controlled a little bit more tightly. Slide. Controlled airspace just another definition of a type of airspace that the FAA owns and they essentially release it to the Navy periodically within specific time and area constraints for our use, again for our training. And then uncontrolled airspace is essentially everything else to include

VFR corridors, where civilian aircraft and aircraft transit through either communicating or not communicating with Controlling Agencies. Slide. So overview of the FRTC, just a quick orientation to this slide. So this is looking at the existing FRTC that is outlined in black from the west you can see Walker Lake down there to the south, and then Fallon is kind of located on the the bottom left hand corner, so looking out to the east. Slide. So this is our existing airspace that we utilize you can see in darker blue, it might be a little difficult to see on that slide is the VFR Corridor that allows VFR traffic to transit safely through the FRTC while we we're using it, or while we're not. And then you can see the other MOAs, those military operating areas out to the West, the ranches, the Churchill's they have a stairstepped effect. Part of our modernization is to essentially clean up that airspace, make it easier for us to use as military operators to make it easier for civilian aircraft to follow. Slide. So this is envision what it would look like you can see the airspace the altitudes have been cleaned up. Additionally, that VFR corridor has been expanded again to make sure that civilian traffic can easily and safely transit through the FRTC. Slide. This is our restricted current existing restricted areas. So these are this is the airspace that exists overtop of the bombing ranges. And again, its purpose is that when they're activated and utilized, it keeps people safe away from the activities that they don't necessarily want to be close to. Again, you can see that as it's been built over the years, there's a lot of different altitudes, kind of stair steps, it makes it more challenging for us to use them and also for civilians to have that situational awareness to avoid. Slide. So the envisioned modernization would clean up those altitudes. Additionally, you see the growth of the restricted area to the south that would accompany the growth expansion Bravo 17 to the south. Again, that VFR Corridor, even with restricted areas still exists to allow VFR traffic to transit through. Slide. Here it is all put together. So this is again, current day our military operating areas and restricted airspace, slide. And then the efficient modernization there we're getting cleaning up the altitudes and then the restricted areas associated with Bravo 17 as well. Slide. This is the same area just looking at it from Eastern perspective looking to the west. And I'll draw your attention to the top center of the screen you can see the Reno MOA outlined there in black and the airspace I'll highlight here in a second. Slide. Again, existing airspace the FRTC we already discussed the Reno MOA. The Reno MOA is a smaller airspace that we use for smaller scale, the training the way I think about it, it's kind of a relief valve so that we can put that small scale training out there to the Reno MOA while we still continue to utilize the rest of the FRTC for larger scale training. Slide.

Commander Patterson 1:34:53

So again, just envisioning what all it would look like if we expand the airspace within the existing lateral boundaries, again, you can see that that VFR corridor extends all the way from east to west. And then we'll just go a couple slides here built. Existing restricted areas. Slide. Expanded ones, slide.

Commander Patterson 1:35:20

Everything as it exists today, one more slide, please. And all that put together there. And then for the final slide, just a breakdown of the phases. So phase one is expanding the vertical constraints on the Reno MOA begin to make that a more peaceful airspace for us as a relief valve for the rest of the range that we have. Phase two is essentially cleaning up those altitudes for those MOAs that we saw in the West as well as the East. Phase three would be looking to expand some ATCAAs that exist on top of them. Again, those are FAA controlled airspace that they can occasionally lend to us for Navy use. And then the final phase would be once the ranges are modernized and expanded and in place the restricted areas that would accompany those.

Commander Patterson 1:36:04

Slide. That concludes my presentation if there are any questions?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:36:14

IEC members in the room?

Jake Tibbits 1:36:22

I used to work with the chairman, so I'll do the filibuster.

Jake Tibbits 1:36:29

So Jake Tibbits again, Eureka County. So along this whole process, we had some discussions through the EIS about jamming in the MOAs. And we've highlighted some concerns. On the eastern side of expanded airspace, takes in about half of Diamond Valley and much Eureka County, we have a lot of farmers in that area that use the precision agricultural methods where they're using the GPS guided tractors for both precision fertilizer application pesticide and things like that. And so there was concerned about GPS jamming that would occur that effects some of the civilian use of the GPS. And essentially, I have the response back on provided comments on the draft EIS. And essentially, this is word for word it says, The GPS jamming events, type periods, you will be announced via NOTAM to allow for civil GPS use planning. So I know that's kind of like when the cable guy is coming in-between eight and four. And so it's hard for people to plan especially when they need to be out in the field. So that is a continued concern that we have. But the thing that puzzled me is one other place in, this is in appendix F of the final EIS. So in one location it says GPS jammers will be announced via NOTAM. But then an another it says Navy will not interfere with civilian use of electromagnetic, electromagnetic spectrum, including GPS. So can you clarify within the airspace is civilian GPS jamming done?

Commander Patterson 1:38:16

I don't know that answer exactly. What I would say is there are restrictions for the range that keeps us from operating our equipment, whether that's jammers or sensors, in frequency bands that are used for other things, radio, television, cell phones, whatever it may be. We do utilize GPS jamming as part of our training, we do that currently, same thing, we have to abide by FAA regulations so that we minimize or eliminate its ability to impact other aircraft. And to the first part of your question it already that GPS jamming already exists. So I don't I'm not aware of any plan to expand that. So if they're not being affected now. To the east, I don't believe there would be any change to that

Jake Tibbits 1:39:05

So does it currently exist outside of MOA? Right.

Commander Patterson 1:39:12

No.

Jake Tibbits 1:39:13

So that's my question with the expansion of MOA creating new military operations areas like in the diamond MOA, the Duckwater MOA , and that's where this precision agriculture is taking place. I mean,

if their GPS and their tractor goes out there, it's metering chemicals as they use it. And so there's just NOTAM is pretty ineffective for a farmer. It's not he's not a pilot. He's not used to checking that

Commander Patterson 1:39:37

Yes sir I understand. For clarification the GPS jamming that we use is ground based. So it's, it's not flying around on an aircraft. And so it already exists and it doesn't just arbitrarily stop with the existing MOAs right? It continues to propagate as well. So it's already there. It's already been cleared to basically make sure that it's not going to interfere with anybody within the existing MOAs. We wouldn't necessarily move it further east or further south. So I do not anticipate any change.

Jake Tibbits 1:40:11

My request to check just during the implementation if we can, because again, it's conflicting in the final EIS. Where in one area it says, there'll be notification. Then in the other it says well we won't interfere. So, you know, if we have a firm understanding of how that's going to occur. And if it is, and it's going to affect some of these, whether the crop dusters are staying within the floor, or, you know, tractors guided with GPS, and we all have a good firm understanding of that it helps us to get that message back to our constituents. Right now we just don't see that clear message of whether or not that occurs.

Commander Patterson 1:40:53

Yes sir. I understand.

Jake Tibbits 1:40:54

Thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:40:59

Anyone else in the room? Anyone on Zoom?

IEC Moderator 1:40:03

Any questions from our members on Zoom?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:41:09

Anything further Commander?

Commander Muller 1:41:10

Alright. Thank you, Chairman. Nothing further from the Navy. Thank you chair.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:41:16

Alright we'll move on to call for agenda items for the next IEC meeting, we'll get to that scheduling admin is a member of the IEC have. Mr. Barbee.

Jim Barbee 1:41:29

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I got four items, I'd like to identify and update. I would ask the Department of Interior BLM have an update on production and finalization of the official map as called out in the act. Additionally, it would be nice if we could take a look at and review some of the memorandums or

memorandums of agreement that deal with access, including the big game that's been identified previously in the conversation but some of those other access components that are called up as well. Churchill County specifically would request an update and we'll be communicating with BLM in the meantime and appreciate that offer Kim, but on direct conveyances to Churchill County along with the funding capabilities for the direct access to Churchill County as well as the checkerboard resolution component. So four items thanks.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:42:47

Robin, you have a perplexed look.

Jim Barbee 1:42:51

I can circle back.

Robin Schofield 1:42:53

That's fine I'll get with Barbee afterwards, but were you separating out the last two as two items?

Jim Barbee 1:42:58

Correct.

Robin Schofield 1:42:59

Okay, just, okay

Kim Dow 1:43:03

If I may clarify also the MOAs was that meant for the Navy?

Jim Barbee 1:43:07

Yes.

Kim Dow 1:43:08

Okay. Thank you. Was not sure how I was gonna do that. I was gonna offer up that BLM would like to do an update at the next meeting. But I think that's clear.

Mike Visher 1:43:21

Yeah, tied to Jim's official map, accessibility to the shapefiles for that map as well for the public.

(inaudible)

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:43:43

Anyone online have anything that want us to consider at this time?

IEC Moderator 1:43:50

I will repeat the request anyone on Zoom from our members requests for future agenda items?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:44:03

(inaudible) schedule your the next IEC meeting?

Robin Schofield 1:44:08

Yes, Chair. I am looking at November 6 through 10th and 13th through 17th. So staying away from Thanksgiving, and if everybody agrees I'll send out the Doodle poll. And the next meeting will be held in Carson City. We're alternating our locations. If those dates are appropriate I will send out the doodle poll

Jim Barbee 1:44:34

Mr. Chairman, one question.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:44:36

Mr. Barbee.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:44:36

Carson City's cool. Can we do a location that has a little better cell service?

(inaudible)

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:44:50

Anyone have any major conflicts with that? I know that I will have to stay off the end of that week of the sixth. (inaudible) is kind of nodding his head.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:45:09

The end of the week of the 13th as well, the last part of all of those weeks I have conflicts. But we'll address them in the doodle poll.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:45:22

Alright, so now we're gonna go into our new public comment and question period. And if you have some specific question you would like answered, we will try to answer them, we're gonna limit this, no more than 30 minutes this afternoon. Grazers, Jack Justin, you guys gonna stick around afterwards we're gonna have a closed door conversation with these guys so we won't have to bring them up here. If you want to come forward, state your name, your question and keep it concise. I don't want to have to limit it if we get repetitive or argumentative. I'll send Robin to straighten you out if we have to.

Robin Schofield 1:46:03

Thank you chair also, if somebody does not want to come up to the mic. We do have cards in the back, comment cards, you can fill them out, you can give them to myself, any of the admin up here. We can read them into public comment. If we do go past the 30 minutes. Please don't hesitate to write down your question. I will get it to the right agency. So whether it's BLM, the county, a tribe, the Navy, we'll answer your question and make sure it gets into public record.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:46:35

While we're waiting, it looks like you have some written ones. You want to start with those anyone wants to come forward with public comment question come on up, we'll let Robin read the first one

Robin Schofield 1:46:41

Perfect. Thank you. Yes, I have one statement here for public record. When the tribal council spoke about the land agreement, did they provide a proof of tribal members in agreement with the land agreement? She wanted that read into public comment.

Robin Schofield 1:46:57

And then the other one, she actually already gave her public comment.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:47:05

Name for the record, if you would, and go ahead sir.

John Powell 1:47:08

John Powell with JP aerospace. And I had an airspace question. I was looking at the maps, I was wondering if we could get more precise maps. The MOA is actually right on our property of an airport, the balloon launch facility. And in the text, it says the Fallon one through four is going to be expanded slightly to the north. And since that MOA is running on the property line, the North may go 300ft and roll over us. Or it may not. Where can we get some more precision maps so we can see how it'll impact. And then how would you go about finding out if it does impact? And the MOA is now over our balloon port (inaudible) that does now impact, the MOA, and still operate in that. But how would we do this process with our clients? And then the last question of that there were two GPS jamming, we've been affected by that on occasion where everything goes down, GPS, phones go down (inaudible) Is notification done by NOTAM? Because I happen (inaudible). Because if so we're going to be checking NOTAM. But I have not seen that, we check the NOTAM. Is that something that's one (inaudible) that's just my question.

Commander Muller 1:48:50

Okay, thank you, John, in just if you could just be sure to speak into the microphone for the sake of the folks online and the recording. So for Commander Patterson or Pipper, do either of you have an answer to the two questions about the MOA boundaries or electronic interference? Thanks.

Jerry Burns 1:49:12

For the record, Jerry Burns. I'm the Range Division Program Manager from Naval Air Warfare Development Center here. So to the first question, as far as the actual airspace files, we do have GPS, excuse me, GPX files are still being refined. They're still being refined. So we could provide either GPX or we have shapefiles if you would prefer. For the notification. Yes, the NOTAM for going out any time, we're going to operate a system that interferes with any portion of the spectrum. We have a spectrum manager that's onsite. We have allocated frequency bands that we're allowed to radiate and that should be approved through the spectrum manager prior to the activation of any GPS jamming system. That's already that's already ongoing. And we can provide the information where we have to look at for the NOTAMs for GPS jamming.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:50:19

Thank you. Does that answer your questions John? Okay.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:50:27

If it's specific to grazing hold on. We are going to get into it after this meeting (inaudible)

Jim Estelle 1:50:32

No I have two non-grazing questions. My name is Jim Estill I own and live on the Copper Kettle allotment north of Bravo 20. And I don't have any assurance that the increase in noise from the expansion is not going to affect our home where we live. I see they're doing a study for the sage hens and the sheep. What about a study for my home and family, chickens, dogs and horses? We get quite a bit, not a lot, we get some pretty loud noise now, but an increase would decrease the quality of life decrease our property value.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:51:27

Take that question first and then we'll have his second.

Commander Muller 1:51:30

Okay, so the question is, is there going to be a study for noise separate from what's already been mentioned yet?

Jim Estelle 1:51:41

Well, yes, I would like it addressed because once the expansion is done, it's going to be too late to mitigate it. If that turns out to be a problem.

Commander Muller 1:51:53

Okay, I, if Pipper or Patterson do you have any anything to say on that? Otherwise I do not have a solid answer right now for to specifically address any noise increases or periodicity of overflights for any specific area. I'd say the general comment is, the range expansion, by and large, is to incorporate either new or optimized target areas, or just a safety buffer. The actual flights are not being expanded.

Jim Estelle 1:52:38

But the reason for the expansion to see shoot further away, which is six or seven miles from our home, well, listen, it's gonna be moved within four or five miles or three or whatever. So logically, it's getting increased. I don't expect you to have an absolute answer right now, but I want to put it on the record. right now. The second point I wanted to make this is a question I've run up to the BLM, every chance I get, and I haven't got an answer, or a plan about what you're gonna do with the horses inside the area that you're taking. When it's fenced. You, the BLM hasn't answered it, or got a plan yet. So if they don't, they're gonna be your horses.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:53:33

All in favor? (laughter)

Commander Muller 1:53:35

I'll happily defer to BLM on that question.

Kim Dow 1:53:48

Yeah, thank you I wasn't sure if we were gonna address horses now or later. But we can do both, actually. So for the horses, what we are doing currently is we're finishing up our Clan Alpine environmental assessment for horse gathers. And our next priority is to work on the Lahontan HMA gather plan. So as most ranchers know, or most permittees know, the BLM's grazing or I'm sorry, the gather schedule is set by our headquarters office, we have to each year identify our priorities to headquarters, and then they let us know which which gathers will be done, when they'll be done and how many how many animals we are able to gather. So we don't have a lot of control over that, aside from making sure that we are ready to execute a gather meaning, we have our environmental assessment in place, and making sure that we identify it as a priority. So we are working on both of those right now. We're working on our gather EA, and then we will also be elevating it as a priority. So we're already elevating the messages up to headquarters now that this is an issue that we need to resolve and that message will continue.

Jim Estelle 1:55:00

Okay thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:55:02

Kim I'll just build on that. I know we will later as well. But I think for the record, I know NDA hooked up support before well, mostly before it goes live, but as livestock domestic livestock are removed and fencing is in we would sure hope BLM will prioritize the actual removal of those not the displacement onto adjoining range lands, which would further exacerbate these ecological damages we're seeing now.

Kim Dow 1:55:28

Correct. Yeah, that's the message that we're elevating up to headquarters and why we need this to be a gather on it. And earlier

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:55:35

Mr. Paine.

Jack Paine 1:55:37

Jack Paine for the record.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 1:55:38

Hang on one second.

Commander Muller 1:55:40

Thank you. Thank you, chairman. Just just one follow on comment for the previous gentleman's questions about the noise concerns in the place, we have a noise complaint, phone number that we monitor will make sure that gets posted up onto the website from here, I don't have it right off the top of my head, but we'll include that. So if there is an increase or to the noise, there's an outlet for you.

Jack Paine 1:56:11

For the record, Jack Paine. Just one quick comment about the horses if the Navy has the money to move highways, maybe the Navy could come up with some money to help with the gathers because funding seems to always be the 99% of the problem gathering horses. My comment is not about grazing or horses, but about the Middlegate gas station. They're currently using diesel to operate their entire electric car charger, it seems you know, ironic running a diesel generator 24 hours to charge electric cars. But they're critical to that area it's 110 miles from Fallon to Austin, there's no other place to get fuel. I see lifeflight lands there all the time when there's wrecks, I see them as being very valuable to the community that that side. There's nowhere else to get gas, there's nowhere else to stop and eat. My crew and myself we eat there, you know, a couple times a day certain times of year when we're down there. So there's all those ATV folks, you know, the side-by-side guys and motorcycle guys come out there and camp, I would say they're probably 50% of their annual income. And so as they're losing a lot of those folks, because of this expansion, I've talked to them often, I think a great offset to what they're losing there would be to provide power for them that would save them hundreds of 1000s a year in fuel. So I wanted to get that on the record that. And also if in the grazing offset, maybe some farm ground, you know, the power might benefit us for being able to run pivots and stuff like that, but it would also benefit them. And I think they're very important in that in that area. That's my comment.

Jerry Burns 1:58:03

Again, Jerry Burns, Range Manager for NAWDC. With reference to the previous gentleman's question about the noise studies. Now we're going to point out that the both the 2015 EIS for the FRTC had a noise study completed in it and the 2020 EIS for the FRTC modernization had a noise study. In the noise study that was completed for the modernization, that information is available in the EIS, which is posted up on there for FRTC frtcm.com. So anybody can access that and review that. But just a quick summary. As we said, throughout the FRTC modernization process, the type of tempo of operations that the Navy is going to be conducting on the FTC is not going to change. The range expansion and the airspace realignment is primarily to maximize the efficiencies of the available training space that we have. While the gentleman is correct that the expanded bombing ranges allows aircraft to release weapons at a greater range, the flight profile is not going to be changing. What would happen in the past, they would just fly close to the target before they released their weapons. How that impacts the noise study is that the noise contours essentially don't change. And then those contours that they generated from the FRTC modernization EIS essentially were unchanged from what we had in the 2015. So since we're not changing type of tempo of operations, noise contours haven't changed there shouldn't be an appreciable difference in the level of noise that's experienced on the ground.

Shaina Gibson 1:59:46

Hi, my name is Shaina Gibson. I have a question of what programs are going to be created to keep our water quality or improve our water quality or prevent permanent water damage because I know the Summit Lake reservation has bad water when the military gave them reservation, so I'm just concerned. What what, are there any tests or investigations in our water quality standards that are in place?

Commander Muller 2:00:21

I guess I do not have anybody here to answer that. And it's not specifically related to the modernization

Shaina Gibson 2:00:28

Yeah I was asking. Because when, you know, everybody goes out to a military practice outside the Lone Tree area. I lived out in the area, and I hear the military how close they are. So I'm just concerned like when it rains, the water goes down and goes down into the earth, and a lot of those families have well water access. And has there been any studies if they're contaminated underneath the ground? That's my major concern.

Commander Muller 2:00:51

I believe Mr. Burns.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:00:57

Get him a permanent seat.

Commander Muller 2:00:58

I know.

Jerry Burns 2:01:03

Again for the record Jerry Burns, range manager. As far as the one of the primary concerns with any military training range, is migration of munitions constituents, we have a program called range condition assessment that's performed every year by the Navy, five years by the Navy, and they come out and they do a review of the soil samples and execute studies. To find out if any of those constituents are finding their way to the ground, we can provide a copy of the last range condition assessment that was performed. But the net net from that is that there because of the soil conditions, and the type of weather and climate that we have here that those constituents do not migrate. In addition to that, the vast majority of the constituents are consumed during the detonation of the product. If they're not, they're either contained, or they're removed from the range. So again, on RCAs that we've had in the past, they don't show any indication that there's any migration constituents. Final note is it that as part of that we don't place targets anywhere near like lake beds, or streams or anything like that. We place targets on flat ground where there's still you know, drainage areas trying to minimize that.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:02:24

Roll the dice one more time.

2:02:25

Maybe get a seat closer.

Shaina Gibson 2:02:32

I have one more question Shaina Gibson again about the dust pollution, because I come from Owens Valley. And when the dust pollution is bad and blows around, they found dust contaminants all the way to the Grand Canyon. So I'm concerned about the dust pollution above the ground. Has there been any monitoring of it migrating to the near counties?

Commander Muller 2:02:59

I definitely do not have anything prepared for dust. That's not nothing that we can probably.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:03:06

That would probably be in the (inaudible) and I don't believe DCNR joined but that would be someone who could be (inaudible) sister agency

Shaina Gibson 2:03:12

Are there to be programs created to look into this because I know dust does blow pretty far and cause lung lung conditions. And that's a huge concern in Owens Valley. And over here, we also have a dust pollution from the kennel mill. So I'm just concerned, is there anybody monitoring the dust pollution?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:03:30

So Shannon, what we'll do is we'll circle back with DCNR conservation of natural resource and Nevada division of environmental protection. Yep go ahead

IEC Moderator 2:03:40

We have a question coming in via zoom from Brian Law from Sparks Nevada. He asks, I'm a geologist conducting ongoing geologic mapping and research in the proposed B17 expansion area. Will there be access issues within the B17 expansion area? And will there be modification to the landscape i.e. heavy equipment, dirt work for the bombing target areas or structure installations prior to the fences going up? Will my ability to conduct research be effected prior to range closure?

Commander Muller 2:04:21

Thank you. Alright. Yep. All right. If you

2:04:28

just give us a second

Commander Muller 2:04:30

Yep. I feel like you should have stayed

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:04:39

You made one question and I took it for you.

Jerry Burns 2:04:37

Thanks. So in essence question is yes, there there will remain access to the expanded area that's under that's, that's currently under the control of Navy with that land withdrawal. That access will continue it will be considered open land until we actually fence that off. The other part of the question will there be construction yes there will be target area construction, there will be some modifications and improvements to the road access roads that will be out there. Initially there will be some small infrastructure that will be placed primarily consisting of two 50ft monopoles for radio towers, radios, cameras to monitor the target ranges, and the supporting infrastructure, fiber optic links, ground power will have to be run to those, there may be some sites required for microwave relays and radio relays. So there will be some small construction that will be undertaken while we're out there. So, yes, but I do

want to point out also that we do have a managed access program specifically for things like research. Even after the range is closed, we can arrange for managed access if it's absolutely necessary for research.

Natasha 2:06:04

(inaudible) Natasha, I'm grateful to be here at this meeting with each and every one of you each and everything years due to strategic planning and everything that you guys have going on how you communicate with each other in these offices, you know, I get very candid very well. But my question still goes back to where are the original descendants that forming members? Why where's their voices through all this? Well, all your guys's organizations, where are the original people out there who can speak who have a voice? From my understanding, there's quite a few people out here who are suppressed or will not come forward because they don't have a voice as I'm starting to hear in these meetings. Some of the farmers in here don't have a voice. So on that end, if you guys aren't contacting these people out here, how are you guys making decisions without them? Is it legal? And then next question, it takes me back to as I'm an ancestral, you know, ancestral to the lands. So yes, I (inaudible), I go out to these sacred grounds. I don't go out to burial grounds. I don't desecrate our people, there's people out who who have come into our community to help support who do the same thing. And they agreed upon the same thing. Now they may have gone to school may have gone to you know, do all this stuff to bring help bring the world into a better you know, society, you know, into healing. But if our people are not communicating with us out here, if our agencies, our government, any any type of program, nonprofit, doesn't matter who you are, if you're not communicating with the right people, how are you guys even making these decisions? Is that why some of these decisions are bias or not prepared fully all the way? You know, who's contacting these original people, the eldest of our people, we I feel like we're non-existent to any of you. The indigenous people, where are they in here? Where are their voices? Yes, we have counsel here, but who's standing up for the cultural rights for people like myself who go out there pray daily. The eagle is on the emblem. The eagle represents what nation and who prays you guys speak of the Navy and the airspace, the noise and everything, but yet, we're ready upon the sacred grounds that are getting desecrated? Where is that nation to nation relation to relation? Where is international supreme laws of land? Is it all new, the revised bias lateral agreements? By law? Where are the people who are here some of us are here who actually have a voice or are aware of what's going on. Not a lot of people are aware of these meetings. This is a worldwide decision. If you think about if you have counselors coming in here make a decision from other nations. I myself, am a member from Bishop Paiute Tribe from Owens Valley. That's where my enrollment is, but I could relinquish and I have interests in many of these tribes out here who are not speaking up for the people. My children have interests for the betterment of all equally, spiritually, mentally, physically and emotionally. For the water, for the sky. Our Father sky above Mother Earth, Water who gives life below. We are women we birth life of water. For men. Here we go through pain, we endure this pain for our people. Mother has been enduring pain long enough. Stealing gold, stealing lithium, for what? It helps me to go back and think, Is it war over agriculture? How are we going to eat? How are we going to survive? What about our hunting? You know, is it war? Is it chemicals? Is it minerals? The price that people pay on that and then study, you know, just buy the tongue. But what are the people get? Is this cash over nations? Are you guys selling out the people in those titles and those rights were the nation making agreements without us behind our backs? Where are the people where are the voices of this nation? where's freedom of speech? Where are our employees? Where

are the ones our Board of Trustees? Where is that trust agreements? Oathmakers. Where is that? Where's the dedication? I stand for those who do their job (inaudible) in a good way. Because there's a lot of people out here who are going to school standing and doing the studies on this property coming back in here, even they have a hard time trying to get hold of these meetings, like you mentioned, you keep moving around. The world needs to know. The people need to know. And our employees and oathmakers need accountability. Full on is this why our systems are failing, no accountability for the oaths that are made and sworn to the nation, which is an eagle who flies above in the sky? Who thank you (inaudible) for standing for a nation and for the people. I thank you for that oath. I thank you for making that oath and promising dedicating yourself to the people, each and every one of you, who have dedicated themselves to the (inaudible) and for making that oath and upholding it and keeping the trust of the people. That was your job. If you chose to make that oath, you made a chose, you chose to keep the trust of your people. Isn't that what Board of Trustees is?

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:11:05

Ma'am do you have a specific question? We're limited to 30 minutes.

Natasha 2:11:08

Is this cash over nations? Is this cash over council? That's what I'm asking.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:11:13

Thank you. Thank you for the question.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:11:16

Toni, I don't know if you want to elaborate on what the outreach was from the beginning, briefly, but this has been years been going on. And this was actually a congressional act is what we are acting on today in order to get it put into place. So

Toni Burton 2:11:35

Yeah, thank you for your comments Natasha.

Toni Burton 2:11:38

As far as I know, this, you know, the outreach for this entire expansion has started back in 2015. I know that the tribes were notified, you know, from the beginning and it's important to have the public voice heard. You know, unfortunately, we you know, as tribal people don't always agree with everything that goes on, but it's important to speak to your tribal leaders and let them know. And those are the initial people who are named as the committee members here with the IEC. So again, I can give you my packet, my contact info is there and I can get you in touch with any of the tribal leaders here and you know, I'd say that's the best place to start.

(inaudible)

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:12:29

Anyone else? Anyone online?

IEC Moderator 2:12:38

Yes we do. We have a question we have a hand raised from Rena Ballew. I'm gonna go ahead and unmute you, Rena, if you could press you may need to unmute yourself from Zoom. Please go ahead.

Rena Ballew 2:12:52

Thank you. Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Rena Ballew Bureau of Reclamation, our office is the Lahontan Basin area office, and we're in Carson City. So we I certainly appreciate Sheidra and the Navy recognizing that much of the land that's involved in the Churchill County land bill, kind of what we call it is under our jurisdiction, and that we have processes that we need to complete, potentially before BLM completes their process. So my comment is that as a federal agency within the Department of the Interior, we wonder if reclamation should be a part of the IEC organization. Or if we could be a DOI liaison, since a good deal of reclamation land is within this action. That's all I have. Thank you.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:13:57

Well, that makes sense. I'm looking at Kim and manager Barbee is shaking his head yes, they are a big player. And so Robin is going to walk us through quickly what the process would look like if we wish to bring them on board or have a (inaudible)

Robin Schofield 2:14:11

Yes, absolutely. So FY21 NDAA actually stated that we could only have two agencies from DOI, but this body right here governs the IEC. BOR Rena, If the committee here agrees, Rena can write a letter to the committee we would bring it before you next meeting. The committee will vote to accept BOR into the committee and they will be (inaudible)

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:14:46

Did you hear that?

Rena Ballew 2:14:49

I think I heard her say write a letter to the committee asking to be a part of either the committee or a DEA DOI liaison. I'm not sure which one

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:15:00

If you wish to be a member of the actual committee. But we were probably going to want to make sure we don't run afoul of the legislation that says we can only have two. But you can write a letter to this committee requesting to become a member, and then we would hold a vote on that enrollment. Alternatively, if you didn't wish to do that, you can work with Interior and see if you could work through their channels to have a more proactive voice in this process. But if you wish to be a formal member, and make that request, we would put it on the agenda for consideration.

Rena Ballew 2:15:34

Sounds great. Thank you. Appreciate that.

Robin Schofield 2:15:37

Sorry, I didn't mean to interrupt you. This is Robin, I will reach out to you. And work with you on that.

Rena Ballew 2:15:45

Sounds great. Thanks, Robin. Appreciate you.

Robin Schofield 2:15:49

And with that chair, we actually ran our 30 minutes. So once again, if anybody did have any other comment or question that we didn't get to, please don't hesitate to write it down find myself, Allison or even Toni, anybody up here and hand it to us. And we'll make sure it gets in the public record.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:16:09

So before we adjourn I know there's a handful of permittees as everyone leaves, stick around for a few minutes, use the bathroom. We'll come back in here and we'll set up for a little more personal meeting with some of these permittees on some other issues. If there's nothing else. Is there a motion to adjourn?

Kim Dow 2:16:28

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

2:16:30

Second.

Chair J.J. Goicoechea 2:16:30

Seconded by Churchill. I'm gonna pretend that no one is going to be opposed to that at this time. We're adjourned. Thank you everyone.

Robin Schofield 2:16:48

Thank you