

Intergovernmental Executive Committee

Fallon Range Training Complex

Draft Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 3, 2024

2:00 p.m. PDT

Virtual Meeting and In-Person at the:

Nevada Department of Agriculture

405 21st St.

Sparks, NV 89431

This meeting was also held virtually pursuant to NRS 241.023.

Join the meeting online: <https://mantech.zoomgov.com/j/1600698113>

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

Webinar ID: 160 069 8113

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

Please Note:

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

Intergovernmental Executive Committee (IEC) Elected Positions				
Government/Agency	Name	In Person	Zoom	Not Present
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Chair J.J. Goicoechea	√		
	Vice Chair (to be elected)			√
IEC Members				
Government/Agency	Name	In Person	Zoom	Not Present
Department of the Navy	Shane Tanner, Captain	√		
Department of the Navy	Dan Muller, Commander	√		
Bureau of Land Management	Jon Raby, State Director			
Bureau of Land Management	Kim Dow, District Manager	√		
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Colleen LaBelle, WNA Superintendent			√
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Seann Woster, Regional Archaeologist		√	
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Alan Jenne, Director			√
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Matt Maples, Habitat Division, Wildlife Staff Specialist			√
Nevada Department of Wildlife	Tony Wasley, Director			√
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	James Settelmeyer, Director	√		
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Chad Stephens, Deputy Director			√
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Dominique Etchegoyhen, Deputy Director			
Nevada Department of Agriculture	J.J. Goicoechea, Director	√		
Nevada Department of Agriculture	Doug Farris, Division Administrator			
Nevada Division of Minerals	Rob Ghiglieri, Administrator	√		
Churchill County	Myles Getto, Commissioner	√		
Churchill County	Jim Barbee, County Manager	√		
Lyon County	Scott Keller, Commissioner	√		
Lyon County	Andrew Haskin, County Manager		√	
Mineral County	Cassie Hall, Commissioner			√
Pershing County	Shayla Hudson, Commissioner			√
Pershing County	Larry Rackely, Commissioner	√		
Nye County	Bruce Jabbour, Commissioner (1069)			√
Nye County	Meagan Labadie, Natural Resources Director			√
Eureka County	Rich McKay, Commissioner			√

Eureka County	Jake Tibbitts, Natural Resources Manager		√	
Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe	Cathi Tuni, Chairwoman			√
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Andrea Martinez, Chairman			√
Walker River Paiute Tribe	Elveda Martinez, Water Resources Coordinator		√	
Yomba Shoshone Tribe	Marisa Weaselboy		√	
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Steven Wadsworth, Chairman			√
Lovelock Paiute Tribe	Debbie George, Chairwoman			√
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Warren Graham, Tribal Chairman and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer			√
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Debbie O'Neil, Vice-Chairwoman			√
Battle Mountain Band Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Clorinda Guzman, Chairwoman			√
Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Danena Ike, Chairwoman			√
Elko Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Leah Brady, Council Member			√
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes	Arlo Crutcher, Chairman			√
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Arlan D. Melendez, Chairman			√
South Fork Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Duane Garcia, Chairman			√
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	Serrell Smokey, Chairman			√
Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Harvey Healey, Chairman			√
Wells Band Council Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Andrea Wood, Vice Chairwoman			√
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada	Judy Rojo, Chairwoman			√
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Randi Lone Eagle, Chairwoman		√	
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	Nedra Crane, Vice Chairwoman			√
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	Joseph Holley, Chairman			√
Yerington Paiute Tribe	Elwood Emm, Chairman			√

IEC Liaisons and Support

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

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

- Chair J.J. Goicoechea, Nevada Department of Agriculture, called the meeting to order at 2:00.
- Ms. Robin Schofield, IEC Liaison, called roll. The list of attendees/absentees is above.

Verification of Agenda Posting

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

Approval of Agenda

- No additions or corrections to the agenda were received. Commissioner Myles Getto, Churchill County, motioned to approve the agenda, with Captain Shane Tanner, Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon seconding the motion. The agenda was approved by the IEC with no dissents or abstentions.

Public Comment

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

New/Old Business

- *Election of IEC Vice-Chair.* Commissioner Myles Getto, Churchill County, was nominated for Vice-Chair by Mr. Jake Tibbits, Eureka County, and the nomination was seconded by Commissioner Scott Keller, Lyon County. There were no other nominations and Commissioner Getto was elected by voice vote without dissent.
- *FRTC Website Update.* The modernization website is frequently updated with the most current schedule information.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2024

- No changes to the March IEC draft meeting minutes were received. Chair Goicoechea asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Getto motioned to approve the March meeting minutes; Ms. Kim Dow, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) seconded the motion. Meeting minutes were approved by the IEC with no dissents or abstentions.

Discussion/Possible Action: BLM Update

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

Ms. Dow, BLM Project Manager, updated the IEC on BLM implementation strategy. Ms. Dow informed the IEC that BLM is hiring additional staff to support this project, including a realty specialist.

Ms. Melanie Hornsby, BLM Military Liaison, updated the IEC on Cadastral actions.

- Range B-16 status: On schedule, with field work almost completed and a survey review underway. Sand Canyon Road realignment and right-of-way (ROW) will determine timelines for the northwest boundary surveys.
- Range B-17 and Range B-20 status: Planning has been initiated. BLM is assisting Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest (NAVFAC SW) with the development of a survey contract

to locate 120 miles of range boundary for fencing requirements. BLM planning is underway for areas requiring Federal Authority Surveys.

- Section 2907(b) of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) addresses public purpose conveyances to Churchill County and the City of Fallon. Land conveyances are in progress and the preliminary coordination meeting was held with Churchill County and representatives of Resource Concepts, Inc. (RCI). BLM is determining potential survey needs for 16 parcels identified for conveyance to both parties.
- Section 2907(c) of the NDAA addresses exchanges between Churchill County and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and is in progress. BLM is determining potential survey needs for parcels to be conveyed to Churchill County and DOI. Preliminary coordination meeting with Churchill County and RCI representatives to be requested in the coming months.
- Section 2922 of the NDAA addresses conveyances to Lander County and is in progress. Preliminary coordination with Lander County and the U.S. Forest Service was completed in January. BLM and U.S. Forest Service are currently confirming survey needs for parcels to be conveyed. A follow-up meeting with Lander County will be held in the coming months.
- Section 2988 of the NDAA addresses the resolution of Walker River Paiute Tribe claims and has not yet been initiated. Survey actions cannot be initiated until the required environmental assessment by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is complete and trust lands are identified.
- Section 2989 of the NDAA addresses land to be held in Trust for the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe and is in progress. BLM Land Status Records were updated to show the new lands held in Trust. Currently, BLM is working with BIA to coordinate funding for required surveys and will request a coordination meeting with BIA and the Tribal Council to discuss survey requirements once funding is established.

Ms. Shedra Rakestraw, BLM Acting Stillwater Field Manager, updated the IEC on five real estate actions.

- **State Route 361 Realignment**
 - Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is the lead agency and is working with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and BLM. NDOT has collected data and initiated environmental screening efforts. NDOT recently submitted a pre-application letter to BLM; BLM participated in NEPA-related meetings with CA Group, Inc., on resource surveys. BLM will send the SR-361 pre-planning concurrence letter to NDOT and will continue meeting with CA Group, Inc., on pre-NEPA tasks. BLM, NDOT, and FHWA will schedule an onsite field visit of the proposed SR-361 realignment.
- **B-16 Sand Canyon Road Realignment**
 - BLM is the lead agency on the Environmental Assessment (EA). The closure and realignment of a portion of the existing Sand Canyon Road will impact the community. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and BLM have agreed on which lands they manage for this authorization and have communicated with the Navy and Churchill County. RCI submitted a SF-299 draft for BLM and BOR to review. A meeting will be held on the specific resource survey needs for the proposed route. The BLM procurement office set a deadline of July 11th, 2024. Funding was received.
- **Section 2988 – Bureau of Indian Affairs – Walker River Paiute Tribe**
 - BIA is the lead agency for the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) with a 1-year timeline. The ESA is valid for six months after it is completed. BLM assisted the BIA on the ESA and provided land information on the area. ESA results were submitted on May 7, 2024. The BIA just submitted an ESA letter with the results to the Walker River Paiute Tribe. BLM will wait to hear from BIA and the Walker River Paiute Tribe to determine next steps.

- **Section 2908 – Checkerboard Resolution Area**
 - The focus for DOI, Churchill County, and landowners in Churchill County is to consolidate federal land and non-federal land ownership in Churchill County. A BLM Nevada State Lead Realty Specialist will draft the Checkerboard Resolution Implementation Strategy Plan. RCI will conduct a market analysis and BLM continues to draft the plan. The next step is to identify federal priority areas in Churchill County with BOR to align with the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act process.
- **Section 2907 – Land Conveyances and Exchanges**
 - Identified for exchange are 25,386 acres of Churchill County lands and 13,920 acres of federal lands. Section 2907 also identifies 6,892 acres of federal land for conveyance to Churchill County for the purpose of constructing a new fire station, expanding the wastewater treatment facility, operating at existing gravel pits and rock quarries, and constructing public recreational facilities. The next step is for BLM to submit questions to DOI solicitors for opinion about the flexibility on land exchanges. Churchill County, BOR, and BLM will revisit priorities and discuss next steps.

Discussion/Possible Action: Navy Update

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

- **Introduction**

Captain Tanner introduced Navy presenters and discussed the effectiveness of the Navy's fire break and green/brown stripping efforts to mitigate wildfires.
- **Legislative/Implementation Update**

Ms. Liz Barris, Navy FRTC Modernization Program Manager, gave an overview on different funding types, the military construction (MILCON) program, the B-16 timeline, an overall range overview, grazing payment for losses, recent accomplishments, a 3-month look ahead, and where to find more information.

 - Funding Types: Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Funds and Military Construction (MILCON) Funds.
 - O&M funds are 1-year funds and mostly used for natural and cultural resources management and NEPA actions. FRTC Record of Decision commitments are O&M funds. These funds are awarded under contract by Sept. 30 each year.
 - MILCON funds are 5-year funds appropriated by Congress typically for real estate, infrastructure, and design and construction actions.
 - Ms. Barris reviewed current MILCON-funded actions for FRTC modernization. Land acquisition is broken up into multiple projects based on funding availability. Scope and cost amounts are validated and refined as funds get closer to appropriation.
 - Mr. Jim Barbee, Churchill County, asked for information regarding the extension of funds (if not spent) for the two funding types. He also asked if Navy 1391 forms (government estimates) are available for external (non-Navy) review, which they are not. Ms. Barris said counties can assist the Navy by helping prepare cost estimates.

- Mr. Alex Goff, Senator Rosen’s office, requested clarification regarding the “negotiation” of grazing payments for losses. Ms. Barris stated “business valuation” is more accurate terminology.
- Mr. Rob Ghiglieri, Nevada Division of Minerals, asked about the amount for nominal mining claims; the Navy does not have this value yet.
- B-16 Timeline:
 - The Navy has funding for NEPA actions and is working with Churchill County to transfer design funds.
 - Chair Goicoechea asked whether BLM has calculated the value for Animal Unit Months (AUM). Ms. Dow replied that the BLM is meeting with solicitors and a timeline has not yet been determined. He reminded BLM to avoid “table-top calculations.” Permittees will be involved in the calculation process.
 - Mr. Barbee asked if BLM has started actions for B-17. Ms. Dow said it will depend on the associated level of effort for each range. For example, B-20 could be next instead of B-17. BLM’s hiring of additional staff, hopefully by the end of 2024, will help.
- Range Overview
 - All ranges are in different phases based on funding availability, beginning with the Dixie Valley Training Area, followed by B-16, B-17, and finally B-20.
 - The Dixie Valley Training Area is the first range for private property appraisers.
 - Private land acquisition is the only step for this range.
 - The range will remain unfenced; after draft land appraisals are finalized, meetings with private property appraisers can begin.
 - Boundary surveys are proceeding for B-16.
 - The timeline is variable, as there are ways to use contractors to complete surveys more quickly than originally planned.
 - Grazing notifications have been sent.
 - Fencing the existing fence line will start as early as this fiscal year. Fencing will follow behind boundary surveys. Grazing permit modification will have to happen before those areas are fenced.
 - The Sand Canyon Road/Lone Tree Road NEPA efforts are underway, and the Navy is working to transfer design funds to begin construction in FY25.
 - NEPA actions have been funded for SR-361 and Great Basin (B-17). After contract award, schedules to begin construction and relocation efforts in FY26.
 - The B-20 schedule for Pole Line Road relocation is the farthest out. The Navy is planning to start payments of nominal mining claims in FY25 after the MILCON appropriation.
 - Remaining project timelines are subject to change based on timing of funding.
- Grazing Payment for Losses:
 - The approach is to add business valuations and use funds currently available in P442 and more funds in P445.
 - The awarded contract modification will include business valuations and BOR/Navy has communicated no losses to one B-16 permittee.

- Letters will be sent to remaining permittees outlining the business valuation plan. The business valuation process likely will request information from all permittees.
 - There is a need to complete two B-16 permit appraisals, a grazing permittee meeting is expected to be held in the summer, at least for the B16 permittees.
 - Recent Accomplishments:
 - Grazing Permittee Meeting and BLM Coordination meeting were both completed.
 - Received NDOT's NEPA schedule for SR-361 and Great Basin's schedule.
 - Issued grazing business valuation modification.
 - Three-Month Look Ahead:
 - The Sand Canyon Road NEPA contract will be awarded in the next month.
 - BLM is working to contract NEPA analyses.
 - Sand Canyon and Lone Tree Road funds are underway.
 - Lone Tree Road NEPA process is underway.
 - B-16 Range and Fence Surveys are underway.
 - The website will be updated with the most current schedule.
- **Natural Resources Update**

Mr. Zack Bowers, NAS Fallon natural resources, updated the IEC on the Navy's natural resources program.

 - Wildland Fire Management Plan (WFMP)
 - The contractor is preparing the draft WFMP. The Navy will begin to receive sections in June 2024. A draft is expected to be available for stakeholder review Fall 2024.
 - An EA is planned for the revised WFMP.
 - Fuel break installation at B-17 is a priority and proposed methods are in development.
 - A reconnaissance survey for the B-17 scar restoration is planned for June 8-16.
 - A meeting is planned in July to discuss proposed methods and locations.
 - Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP)
 - The Navy received the first draft, with certain sections still for review. The final plan is scheduled for March 2025.
 - The EA for INRMP is scheduled to start November 2024, with public review currently scheduled for June 2025. The Final EA is scheduled for December 2025.
 - Chair Goicoechea asked who is invited to the meeting regarding proposed methods and locations. The Navy will get back to him on this question.
- **Cultural Resources Update**

Mr. Mike Baskerville, archaeologist at NAS Fallon, updated the IEC on the Navy's cultural resources program.

 - B-20 cultural resource inventory survey:
 - The total inventory area is 118,000 acres. Crews have inventoried approximately 73,443 acres (approximately 62%) to date.

- The inventory has recorded 487 sites and 705 isolates (Isolates are typically lone pieces of glass or pottery unconnected to a site).
 - Sites documented date from 11,500 to 150 years Before Present, along with historic mining sites, roads, and other sites.
 - B-17 cultural resource survey:
 - Work has commenced on the inventory of 36,827 acres within the B-17 expansion area. Approximately 34,595 acres have been inventoried.
 - A contract up to 97,000 acres was just awarded, with another contract for 52,000 acres expected to be awarded in the summer.
 - Native American Participation:
 - Native American participation in expansion inventories is being reorganized to increase participation and ensure all important regional Native American cultural resource sites are documented.
 - The primary change related to Native American participation is that the Navy now will provide funding directly to Tribes rather than funding them to accompany the Navy's contractor. Tribal surveys will go out after the Navy's contractor to validate reported sites and identify any sites that were missed.
 - Fallon PA and ICRMP development:
 - The draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) is complete and was sent to Tribal, county, and local governments and interested third parties for a first round of comments. Comments were due March 17, 2024. A revised draft was sent to Tribes on May 8.
 - Development of a new Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) has been contracted, and a draft is expected in December and will be shared.
 - Ms. Elveda Martinez, Walker River Paiute Tribe, asked for more information about Navy contractors for the cultural resource inventories and ICRMP. Far Western is the contractor for inventories and Navy AC3 is leading the ICRMP update.
 - Ms. Martinez also expressed concern regarding changes to Native American participation in inventories, as Tribes want to be kept informed. She asked if funding is available for Tribes to participate. She hopes that inventories will include Tribes as active participants. Mr. Baskerville clarified that the Navy is splitting its existing funding to enable the Tribes to complete their independent surveys.
- **Tribal Engagement Update**

Captain Tanner updated the IEC on the Navy's Tribal Engagement program.

 - Tribal Access Memorandum of Agreement (MOA):
 - The purpose is to establish a procedure for accessing FRTC ranges that captures the needs of Tribes and the Navy.
 - In March 2024, the Navy sent the final draft MOA to Tribes for review. In April 2024, the Navy received comments from the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe. NAS Fallon will work with Tribes to schedule a consultation meeting to discuss additional questions and comments.
 - Draft Programmatic Agreement:
 - In January 2024, a tribal consultation meeting was held for a first look at the draft PA. Comments from Tribes were to be submitted by March 2024. In May, the revised draft document was sent back to the Tribes for review.

- NAS Fallon will work with Tribes to schedule a consultation meeting to discuss any additional questions or comments on the PA. The PA will be reviewed by Tribes and signed by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- Cultural Resource Survey Reorganization:
 - In April 2024, the Navy met with Tribes to discuss cultural resource surveys for ranges B-17 and B-20. The Navy proposed restructuring the current method of surveys to enhance data collection of Tribes' perspectives of sites and areas of traditional cultural importance. Tribal monitors will field-review existing survey results while providing additional Tribal perspective.
- Ms. Marissa Weaselboy, Yomba Shoshone Tribe, commented that Tribes requested an extension for the review and comment on the draft PA, which was not granted by the Navy; perhaps this is the reason few comments were received. She also stated that the Yomba Shoshone Tribe wants to be a cooperating agency on NEPA actions, and it is imperative that NDOT consult with them regarding SR-361. She requested the revision to the PA be emailed directly to her in addition to the Tribal chairperson. CAPT Tanner assured her that the comments from the Tribe will be incorporated into the PA and that the intention of the PA comment process was to have more, shorter comment periods, to better enable Tribal feedback. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy is informed and involved in the issue of road conditions leading to SR361.

Call for Agenda Items for Next IEC Meeting

- Business valuation information is planned for the next meeting.

Scheduling of Next IEC Meeting

- The next IEC meeting will be held during the weeks of September 9-13 or 16-20 in Fallon. A poll will be sent out for the members to vote for their preferred date and time.

Public Comment

- No public comments were made during this comment period. The public comment period was closed.

Adjourn

- Captain Tanner motioned to adjourn the meeting, with Ms. Dow seconding the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.