



STATE OF NEVADA  
**SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL**  
201 South Roop Street, Suite 101  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5247  
Phone (775) 684-8600 - Fax (775) 684-8604

**MEETING OF THE SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 8:30 a.m.**

**The Legislative Building**  
**401 S Carson Street, Room 4100, Carson City, Nevada 89701**

The meeting is available for viewing on the internet at:  
<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Calendar/A/>

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment will be taken at the beginning and end of the meeting, and may be taken at the discretion of the Chair on agenda items listed for possible action. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action will be taken on any matters raised during the public comment period that are not already on the agenda. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

**3. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**4. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Approval of minutes from the meeting held December 18, 2013.

**5. COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

A. Council members may make comments at this time and the Program Manager will bring forward any pertinent correspondence directed to the Council.

**6. PRESENTATION ON THE SAGE-GROUSE INITIATIVE.**

A. Presentation and discussion on the Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI). SGI national and state leadership will describe SGI's strategic solutions to tackling key threats to sage-grouse, highlight range-wide accomplishments to date, and help partners explore opportunities to expand successes in Nevada. – *Tim Griffiths, National SGI Coordinator, NRCS, Bozeman, MT; Dave Naugle, National SGI Science Advisor & Professor, Wildlife Biology Program, University of MT, Missoula; Jeremy Maestas, National SGI Technical Lead, NRCS, Redmond, OR; Bruce Petersen, State Conservationist, NRCS, Reno, NV; Thad Heater, State Biologist, NRCS, Reno, NV*

**7. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PRESENTATION “USING RESILIENCE CONCEPTS TO MANAGE SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT AFFECTED BY ANNUAL GRASSES AND ALTERED FIRE REGIMES – A MULTI-SCALE APPROACH.” \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Dr. Jeanne Chambers will present on the on-going work by WAFWA's Fire and Invasive Initiative to develop a conceptual framework that provides a strategic approach to integrate landscape-scale and local, site-scale prioritization and decision tools for the restoration and conservation of sage-grouse habitat. This framework has been adopted by the BLM/ USFS for incorporation into the Sub-regional EIS. The Science Work Group has vetted this approach and agreed that it was a good direction for the State of Nevada to adopt as well. The Council may provide direction to the SETT to work in partnership with the BLM/USFS to continue developing this framework and adopt it as part of the State's approach on fire and invasives for sage-grouse conservation. – *Dr. Jeanne Chambers, USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station*

**8. DISCUSSION OF PROGRESS REGARDING THE CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM:**

A. Presentation and discussion on the approach and work plan to develop the Nevada Conservation Credit System (CCS). Environmental Incentives will present their approach to developing credit systems, the near-term work plan for producing the initial products, and an overview of the initial product currently under development – the Assessment of Habitat Quantification Approaches. – Introductions by *Jennifer Newmark, Nevada Natural Heritage Program Administrator*. Presenters – *Jeremy Sokulsky, Eoin Doherty and Katie Riley -- Environmental Incentives*.

**9. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL OF SECTION 7.0 DE MINIMIS ACTIVITIES OF THE 2012 STATE PLAN/EIS ALTERNATIVE. \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Discussion and consideration of the proposed withdrawal of the De Minimis Activities section from the updated State Plan/EIS Alternative. – *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team*

**10. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM PROGRAM COMMENTS ON THE BLM/USFS SUB-REGIONAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS). \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. Discussion and consideration of comments on the Sub-regional DEIS prepared by the SETT and submitted by the Council. Possible development of additional comments on specific items to be considered by the Council and possible direction to the SETT on how to further develop the comments. – *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team*.

**11. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DRAFTED ON FLIP CHARTS DURING THIS MEETING - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

A. With staff assistance, the Council will review items discussed, as well as items acted upon during this meeting, and determine which of those they wish to direct staff to do further work on, as well as which items the Council wishes to act on that may not have been acted upon during earlier discussion.

B. Determination of any specific items the Council would like to work on at their January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 meeting, which is the next scheduled Council meeting.

**12. FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:**

- A. US Fish and Wildlife Service
- B. Bureau of Land Management
- C. US Forest Service
- D. Other

**13. STATE AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:**

- A. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- B. Department of Wildlife
- C. Department of Agriculture
- D. Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team
- E. Other

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Public comment may be made on any matter, provided that comment will be limited to matters relevant to the Council. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action will be taken on any matters raised during the public comment period that are not already on the agenda. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record.**

**15. ADJOURNMENT - \*FOR POSSIBLE ACTION\***

**NOTICE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed, combined for consideration by the Council, or removed from the agenda.**

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following location:

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, 201 S. Roop Street, Carson City, Nevada  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada  
Department of Agriculture, 405 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Sparks, Nevada  
Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada  
Nevada State Library & Archives Building, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada  
Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada  
Capitol Building, 101 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada  
Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada

Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program website at:  
<http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov>

*We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. If special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested, please notify our office by writing to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, 201 S. Rook Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701; or by email at [timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov) or calling 775-684-8600 no later than two (2) working days prior to the scheduled meeting.*

*Please contact Tim Rubald at 201 S Rook St Ste 101 Carson City, Nevada 89701; or email [timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov](mailto:timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov) ; or phone 775-684-8600 to obtain support material for the agenda. Materials will also be posted on the <http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov> website.*

### **Video Viewing Location:**

This meeting will be available at the time of the meeting on the Legislative Council Bureau's website. This is for viewing only and is not interactive; some presentations may not be viewable concurrent with the meeting activity due to technical limitations. Any presentations that are available before the meeting will be posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program website at <http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov>.

To view the meeting live on the internet, please go to <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/>, click on *Calendar of Meetings* in the upper right hand side of the page, and then click on *View* under the appropriate listing.