

State of Nevada
Sagebrush Ecosystem Council
Approved Minutes

Action was taken to approve minutes April 22, 2013.

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2013
Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Place: Capitol Building, the Guinn Room, 101 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Video Conference was made available at Elko UNSOM Griswold Room 31, Winnemucca Great Basin College Room 201, and Ely White Pine County Cooperative Ext.

A full recording of this meeting is accessible through the following website -
http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov/Meetings/Sagebrush_Ecosystem_Council_Meeting/

Council Members Present: Allen Biaggi, Steven Bois, Doug Busselman, Jeremy Drew, Bill Dunkelberger, Gerry Emm, JJ Goicoechea, Ted Koch, Starla Lacy, Amy Lueders, Kent McAdoo, Tina Nappe.

1. **Call To Order** – The first meeting of the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council was called to order by Leo Drozdoff, Director, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) at 9:14 AM. Mr. Drozdoff introduced Jim Lawrence, Administrator, State Lands; Cassandra Joseph, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney Generals Office; and Cory Hunt, Governor’s Office Representative. Mr. Drozdoff explained he would be running the meeting through agenda item 6 and then the meeting would be turned over to the elected Chairman.
2. **Public Comment** – Mr. Drozdoff opened the meeting for public comment. He noted that public comment would be taken at the beginning and end of the meeting as required by the Open Meeting Law. He indicated that on future agendas, public comment may be outlined under action items. He reminded the public guests that the agenda was full and to be mindful of the time. Mr. Drozdoff moved agenda item 4 prior to public comments. He indicated agenda item 16 would be moved and would be heard after agenda item 5.
 - a. *Tamzen Stringham, Professor of Rangeland Ecology and Management, University of Nevada Reno – College of Ag.* Her specialty is upland habitat including Sagebrush systems, Pinon Juniper systems and Riparian systems in the Great Basin. Her expertise is in state and transition modeling and disturbance ecology. Disturbance ecology includes: resilience and climate change, seeding, fire, Sage-grouse habitat potential and is described at landscape scales not plot level. Tamzen is currently working on 22 million acres in Nevada. Over the last 5 years, she has been part of a team collaborating with BLM and NRCS. BLM uses these models for rehab plans after wildfires and Sage-grouse is the primary species of concern.

- b. *Jim Sedinger, Wildlife Biologist and Professor of Natural Resources and Environmental Science Dept., University of Nevada Reno – College of Ag.* He and his students study the response of Sage-grouse to a number of different effects. His team recently completed field work on a 10-year transmission line impact project in Eureka County. They also assessed the effects of vegetation, climate, fire, weather, and how the birds handle these changes in terms of survival rate, number of recruitments into the population, and to what extent the birds react to these disturbances. He feels his most effective role in this process will be to interact with the technical team when they have questions about the status and perspective on the bird.
- c. *Cliff Gardner, Elko, NV, representing self and family.* Mr. Gardner read a letter for the record highlighting his concern and opposition of the Governor's advisory committee's objectives. He does not feel due process has been observed. A complete copy of the letter is available on the audio recording posted to the website.
- d. *Rose Strickland, Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club, NV.* The Sierra Club has a long history and has worked cooperatively as members of Governor's Guinn's Sage-grouse conservation planning team and local working groups since 2000. They have worked as volunteers with other federal and state agencies in these efforts. Rose welcomed the council and other state agencies. She noted efforts to help Sage-grouse and its habitat will help a host of other sagebrush dependent species as well as humans who depend on sagebrush wilderness for recreation and livelihood. The 2004 Nevada Sage-grouse Conservation Plan as well as NDOW resource experts will provide guidance for restoration of sagebrush country. The stakeholders still need to address the findings in the 2004 report; while moving forward addressing the recent issues of climate change, oil and gas exploration, energy development and dewatering projects. In 2004, it was agreed the priority was keeping good sagebrush habitat in tact. She would like to see more time given to explain why some sagebrush habitat is in excellent condition where others are in decline. She feels it is imperative to identify what we are doing right, in the core and critical areas and expand efforts in management and restoration to sagebrush habitat that is degraded and fragmented.
- e. *Dennis Ghiglieri - long time resident of Nevada.* Mr. Ghiglieri shared his early childhood memories of hunting Sage-grouse and its abundant population at the time. He requested we reflect on how the landscape once was and how the sagebrush is now diminished. He encouraged the council members and public to focus on replenishing this natural resource, but not to move forward in fear.
- f. *Jeff White, Director of Environmental Stewardship, Newmont Mining Corporation and Vice President of Elko Land and Livestock Company.* Mr.

White is looking forward to working with the council and technical team in addressing issues related to Sage-grouse. Newmont is particularly fortunate in its land position in Nevada and they have a demonstrated track record of Sage-grouse habitat management and restoration. They want to work with the council; technical team and state to advance their efforts and to put Nevada in a situation where the listing of the Sage-grouse is precluded.

- g. *Karen Boeger, Board Member for the Nevada Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers.* Ms. Boeger has been a Nevada conservation activist for over 40 years. She commended the council for taking on this huge task due to the short time frame. She noted that it is critical to ensure the Sage-grouse survive and thrive, and although hard decisions will have to be made by curtailing short-term profit to maintain long term sustainability. Ms. Boeger expressed the importance of prioritizing effort and collaborative power. She emphasized the need to use the best peer review science, data collection, and resources available and working together to find a solution and beneficial use for the mitigation funds.
- h. *Megan Brown, Representative for Congressman Amodei.* Ms. Brown expressed Congressman Amodei's interest in this issue and that his office is an available resource for the state and federal agencies as well as the private public represented. She commented that this issue allows for a unique opportunity to work together as a group and have a unified voice. Congressman Amodei sent his regrets that he was unable to attend the meeting.

- 3. **Adoption of Agenda** – Mr. Drozdoff asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilman McAdoo made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Nappe. Comment - Councilman Drew requested an amendment to move agenda item 16 between items 5 and 6 as requested previously. All in favor, motion passed. *ACTION
- 4. **Governor's Office Welcome** – Mr. Bibee, Director of Public Relations and Community Affairs, Governor's Office presented to the council that Governor Sandoval is unable to attend the meeting as he was called to testify at the Legislature. Governor Sandoval expressed his appreciation for the council's commitment and expressed his confidence in the council's ability with this important matter. Mr. Bibee thanked all in attendance for their dedication and noted the critical nature of the impacts the Sage-grouse listing would have on the state of Nevada.
- 5. **Comments from Bob Abbey – Former Director of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management** – Mr. Drozdoff introduced Mr. Abbey. Mr. Abbey provided a brief history of his service and those he has worked with in his career in Nevada including federal and state public officials and stakeholders. Mr. Abbey said that this is not a new issue; it has been discussed since the early 90s, if not before. What we have learned during those discussions is not that maintaining the status quo, which is looking at proposals on a case by case basis, does not work well, nor will good intentions prevent the listing of the Sage-grouse as an endangered species. The clock is ticking and it is time to take actions that will result in improving ecological conditions in Nevada, the Great Basin and other states

where there is habitat important to Sage-grouse. This is a legacy that those in the room today and those other stakeholders who can perform on-the-ground implementation can leave behind. The challenge for us is to find common sense solutions for the challenges we collectively face. Decisions will need to be made in a timely basis; some will be easy and others complex. This decision is not to place blame or debate federal vs. state, it is about people working together to achieve a common goal, which is to improve ecological conditions which in turn will improve economic development opportunities. Listing the bird is not the end of world. It will definitely have impacts that will change the way we do things in the state. The listing of the bird provides a clear signal to others that we failed in the many opportunities we had to be good stewards of this land. We have had opportunities to take action that will leave a positive legacy for generations to come. Mr. Abbey introduced Larry Selzer with the Conservation Fund.

6. **Introductions and Opening Remarks**

a. **Council Members** – The council introduced themselves and who they represent. Allen Biaggi, Mining; Steven Bois, Ranching; Doug Busselman, Agriculture; Jeremy Drew, Sportsman; Bill Dunkelberger, US Forest Service; Gerry Emm, Tribal Nations; JJ Goicoechea, Local Government; Ted Koch, US Fish & Wildlife Service; Starla Lacy, Energy; Amy Lueders, US Bureau of Land Management; Kent McAdoo, General Public; Tina Nappe, Conservation and the Environment.

b. *Partner State and Federal Agency Directors* – Mr. Drozdoff introduced George Tsukamoto, Interim Director, Nevada Division of Wildlife. Mr. Tsukamoto noted that the role of NDOW by statute is to preserve, protect, manage, and restore fish and wildlife resource in the state. They depend on good management and good science to accomplish this goal. He urged the council and collaborators to seek out additional answers through science and to move forward without criticism of what has been done in the past. Mr. Drozdoff introduced Jack Robb, Chairman of the Wildlife Commission; Joe Sicking, Chairman, State Conservation Commission; Mark Jenson, USDA Wildlife Services; and Pam Robinson, Senator Heller's office.

c. *Inter-agency Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team* – Mr. Lawrence introduced the technical team and explained the model of the team is a multidisciplinary structure. This model has proven successful through the State Lands, Nevada Tahoe Resource Team. The team represents state departments of Conservation, Wildlife and Agriculture. The team is a collaborative resource and consists of 5 members. Tim Rubald, Program Manager; Lara Neill, Wildlife Staff Specialist; John Copeland, Forester III; Melissa Faigeles, Environmental Scientist III & Watershed Restoration Specialist; and Kelly McGowan, Conservation Staff Specialist II. There will be recruitments for three field positions. Two of those positions are currently funded, and funding is hopeful for the third. This team will work closely with local on the ground efforts by working with the local conservation districts. Mr. Rubald has vacated his position as the Program Manager for the Conservation District Program. His position is currently under recruitment.

7. **Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**
 - a. Mr. Drozdoff opened the floor for Chair nominations. Councilman McAdoo nominated Councilman Goicoechea for Chairman of the council. Councilman Biaggi seconded the nomination. Councilwoman Nappe commented for the record that she had concerns of Councilman Goicoechea's ability to chair the council with his personal interest as a rancher and the issues of livestock grazing that will need to be addressed by the council. Councilman Boies indicated that as the official representative for ranching, that there should not be a concern. Councilman Busselman commented that on the ground efforts will speak for the council and that the council will be responsible for addressing all the existing issues and concerns. Mr. Drozdoff clarified with Councilwoman Nappe if she was advocating for another nominee. She indicated she felt that the chair should not be a member with a mining or ranching interest. Mr. Drozdoff called for a vote to elect Councilman Goicoechea as Chariman; all in favor, Councilwoman Nappe opposed, no abstentions, motion passed. *ACTION
 - b. Mr. Drozdoff opened the floor for Vice-Chair nominations. Councilman Boies nominated Councilman McAdoo for Vice-Chairman of the council. Councilman Emm seconded the nomination. Chairman Goicoechea called for a vote, all in favor, none apposed, no abstentions, motioned passed. *ACTION
8. **Council Member Items and Correspondence** – Councilman Drew read a letter into the record from Maggie Orr, Stewardship Alliance of Northeast Elko. The letter was given to the recording secretary and is available upon request. The letter requested the interest and participation of the council, technical team, and key state and local officials to a three day workshop to develop initial objectives, strategies and actions to move forward with relevant projects. Vice-Chairman McAdoo commented that he felt this collaborative effort would be beneficial. The council agreed to place this item up for discussion under agenda item 14 – Future Council Meeting Dates and Potential Topics.
9. **Summary of Governor Sandoval's Greater Sage-grouse Advisory Committee Recommendations and State of Nevada DEIS Alternative** – Mr. Lawrence referenced the documents behind tab 2 & 3 in the council's binders. He noted these recommendations recognize conservation goals and strategies moving forward, mapping, and areas that still need to be addressed. The task force's recommendation came out at the end of July. The technical team was immediately put in place. While working with Councilwoman Lueders and Councilman Koch, it was determined to formulate the task force recommendation into a draft alternative that was threat based. Mr. Lawrence reviewed the document and the framework of the process and expressed that while established, the council has the opportunity to make modifications to the plan. *NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.
10. **Update on Bureau of Land Management DEIS for "Northeast California/Nevada Sub Region of the National Strategy to Preserve, Conserve, and Restore Sagebrush Habitat"** – Councilwoman Lueders presented a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation is available upon request. The BLM and Forest Service plan amendment objective is a regulatory mechanism through land use planning and forest plans range wide. When US Fish & Wildlife Service made their warranted but precluded determination

for the Greater Sage-grouse, one of the reasons they identified was the lack of regulatory mechanisms. The plan has a range of alternatives which allow for flexibility. There are six alternatives and different components can be selected. Ultimately one of the six could be selected or a combination could be used.

- Alt. A (No action) current management continues
- Alt. B (NTT) National Technical Team Report – Team consists of Forestry, BLM, Fish & Wildlife, USGS, and State
- Alt. C (Citizen based) more restrictive – occupied habitat
- Alt. D (Sub-Region) Sub-regional uses & threats. Great Basin and Rocky Mountain region issues & threats are different.
- Alt. E (State Alt.) Council, Mitigation Bank, SGMA's
- Alt. F (Citizen based) less restrictive – NTT, PPH, PGH – restoration habitat identified

Within the Great Basin there are four sub-regional efforts. The sub-regional alt. is almost completed. In addition, there are 16 MOU's in place with federal & state entities, (including California), counties, and tribals with Sage-grouse population. The challenge for the council will be to be a cooperating agency. Discussion of how best to include them was visited with a possibility of DCNR serving as the umbrella for the council and having the Technical Team as a cooperating agency. The benefits to the council being a cooperating agency are the early release of information and the capability to review and have involvement prior to the information being released to the public. Action timeline: September 2013 – draft EIS published, cooperating agencies will receive it in August, March 2014 – final EIS, July/August 2014 – records of decision signed. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

*Meeting convened for lunch at 12:02 PM

*Meeting reconvened at 1:08 PM

11. Update on USFWS Sage-Grouse Conservation Objectives Draft Report –

Councilman Koch provided an update on the draft report that was produced later last year. He indicated the document went through a peer review and the document will be finalized by March 1. He encouraged everyone to embrace the words – “Stop the decline.” He asked Sean Espinoza to comment on the report. Mr. Espinoza, Department of Wildlife, itemized the 7 major recommendations to achieve the goal, which include: stop decline, targeted management and restoration, triage, threat familiarization plan, implementing effective regulations mechanisms, monitoring plan and implementing voluntary conservation actions for the species and research. He commented that they couldn't be too prescriptive in the recommendations that were made. Focus is more on goals vs. objectives. A discussion ensued. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

Councilman Busselman made a motion to proceed with updates prior to agenda item 12, 13 & 14. Vice-Chairman McAdoo seconded the motion, Chairman Goicoechea called for a vote, all in favor, motion passed. *ACTION

12. Discussion of a State of Nevada Plan for the Sagebrush Ecosystem and Protection of Sage-grouse. – Mr. Drozdoff discussed the previously reviewed EIS

alternative and the best way to implement the plan, whether in its totality or piece by piece. Mr. Drozdoff pursued a discussion on the refinement of the plan. In conversation with USFWS it was made clear that areas of the plan were not fleshed out to ensure “no net loss” would be achieved. In moving forward, DCNR worked closely to refine the EIS, however, what DCNR didn’t do is countermand any recommendations. To address this, a note was added to pg. 19 stating: Regarding #4, #5, and #6 above, The Nevada Sagebrush Technical Team will evaluate these actions and provide recommendation to the Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Council pursuant to any new information that is forthcoming from best available science and utilizing the “Resource Selection Function Model” (Coates). Mr. Drozdoff encouraged working with all the stakeholders to ensure a plan is created that meets the requirements for all involved. The state plan is synonymous with the state alternative in the NEPA process. The state worked to augment the plan with references to the 2004 plan and the 2010 energy plan where appropriate. Moving forward additional input will only strengthen the plan. Councilman Koch noted that the plan is a roadmap for the council. He will bring the recommendation email sent to Mr. Drozdoff to the next meeting for review. A discussion ensued regarding the priorities of what to restore and protect to achieve sustainability, additional methods of refinement and possible tasks for the technical team. Councilman Drew made a motion to have the technical team work with agency personnel to provide a project inventory showing completed projects since the 2010 decision and activities performed by local area workgroups. Councilman Boies seconded the motion, all in favor, none opposed, motion passed. *ACTION

13. **Sage-Grouse Management Area Maps – Purpose and Refinement** – Eric Flomberg, Wildlife Biologist presented the summary of habitat that needs to be identified. Actual point locations through GPS and geo special conditions. Statistical models differ from surrounding landscape through an empirical approach with classifications. Data on Sage-grouse will need to be refined on a statewide map. The area can be surveyed statewide. A discussion ensued regarding cost, funding sources, degree of mapping capabilities, data available, statewide or county by county. *NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

14. **Future Council Meeting Dates and Potential Topics** –

Chairman Goicoechea suggested the agenda’s bulleted list of potential topics be addressed in subcommittees at a later time after the council could identify the habitat and the primary impacts for those areas. The council identified the following items to be discussed or placed on the next agenda. Chairman Goicoechea addressed the motion on the floor, Councilman Drew moved to add the items below to the next agenda, seconded by Vice-chairman McAdoo, comments, all in favor, motion passed.

- Discussion of the email between Mr. Drozdoff and Councilman Koch addressing the deficiencies in the state plan.
- Update on the Gunnison plan and its shortfalls.
- The SANE group and possible meeting facilitation with the council. It was suggested by Councilman Boies and Councilman Drew to have the facilitator’s present to the council at the next meeting. Councilman Drew suggested that both facilitators attend the next meeting to express their views on how the council could proceed. He suggested addressing the conservation objectives

- Councilman Koch expressed that he'd like to invite Pat Giver, USFWS Sage-grouse Coordinator to talk about Gunnison and the COT report and suggested that Mr. Espinoza assist. He also said that he and Mr. Drozdoff and would tag team the comments from the council to the state and how the state incorporated them into the alternative.

Mr. Lawrence said that he would send out a doodle poll to organize a meeting at the end of March, the end of April, and the end of May. The group agreed the next meeting would take place at the Guinn Room.

15. **Update on Bi-State Sage-grouse Population** – Councilman Dunkleberger provided an update on the Bi-State Sage-grouse population. The Bi-State is a distinct population of the Greater Sage-Grouse and was also found to be warranted for listing but precluded. The Forest Service has taken the lead on a Bi-State Sage-grouse amendment for the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and the Carson BLM District. There are other districts that have the Bi-State Sage-grouse; however, they chose not to participate in the process. They have issued a notice of intent to perform an EIS and opened up a public comment period with two public meetings, which were not well attended. The scoping period ended February 15. They received 25 written comments. The Forest Service interdisciplinary team will be reviewing and preparing a draft and delivering months as they have a target date of December for a final EIS and a record of decision to be published by the end of the year. A lengthy discussion ensued. Councilman Dunkleberger will provide Jim Lawrence with the Bi-State Sage-grouse briefing paper to post on the website. **NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.**
16. **Comments from the Conservation Fund** – Mr. Larry Selzer presented to the council that the Conservation Fund is a national nonprofit conservation organization. He noted that they are a unique institution as they are the only chartered conservation group in the nation for both conservation and economic development and job creation. Mr. Selzer expressed the Conservation Fund's interest in being a collaborative partner in this process. He presented that they reach out across the country to work with environmental protection issues and economic development growth issues. They have conserved over 7.5 million acres of land in the United States with federal, state and local agency partners while working with ranchers, the mining industry, and the forestry industry spanning all the economic uses. In Nevada they have protected over 1 million acres under the leadership of Mike Ford. They look forward to being a resource to the council in the days and months ahead. Mr. Selzer provided four points in which he felt necessary for the success of this great challenge: work together, be open to new ideas, maintain focus, and proceed with a biased forward action.
17. **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Update on Western Governor's Sage Grouse Task Force** – Mr. Drozdoff reported that he has had the opportunity to be the state's representative for the past year. Over the course of the year, with the help from various agencies, he feels there is momentum to move the bar forward toward a mitigation and restoration program putting an emphasis on habitat. Mr. Drozdoff noted the state is looking for clarification of priorities from the council to adapt the plan and focus our attention. The state plan is in transition with the existing requirements and the state is trying to determine the best way to move forward. He

indicated the stakeholders are on a good path, a path where the state and council can demonstrate to the BLM and US Fish & Wildlife Service that progress is being made. He said we have to find a mechanism to put activities in place sooner rather than later and with that there is a possibility of using a series of sector MOU's with the mineral sector, exploration section, energy transmission sector, and other industries to put projects on the ground; these types of discussions are ongoing. Mr. Drozdoff addressed the question concerning the possibility of an outlier state that does not develop a plan, and its possible impacts on those states that have a plan in place. He suggested a default mechanism has to be in put in place to avoid such pitfalls. Councilman Biaggi spoke to Mr. Drozdoff comment regarding sector MOU's. He stated that the mining sector has been working with the Forest Service & BLM to provide a bridge between now and when the NEPA process is completed. They are working on rules toward impacts and mitigation. It is consistent with the state plan and provides ground rules to move forward with these projects. The intent is to make it a consistent and objective process that other sectors can work with and use as a template. *NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

18. **Department of Wildlife – Update on Activities of National Committees** – Mr. Espinoza provided an update to the council regarding his current activities and committee associations. He is currently involved with four national committees and is the chair for the Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Sage and Columbian Sharp-tail grouse technical team. The Team is working on a sagebrush decision support tool and has partnered with NRCS and US Fish and Wildlife Service. Dave Pike, Sagebrush Ecologist with USGS, is taking the lead on this particular project. A recent state agency expenditure report was produced by Stan Stiver reporting 132 million dollars have been spent since 2000 over the 11 Western States for Sage-grouse conservation actions, monitoring and research projects. He is a member of the Rangwide Interagency Sage-grouse Conservation Team and that has developed a near term action plan. This plan was developed as a product for the Governor's Task Force. He will send the link of the plan to Jim Lawrence for posting. Mr. Espinoza at the request of USGS is a participating member of the National Research Strategy Team. The team will meet in Boise, ID on March 4 & 5 to review and prioritize 900 potential research projects and questions that have been identified throughout the west.
19. **Council Member Comments** – Councilmember's comments were previously addressed under agenda item 14. Chairman Goicoechea recognized Ted McBride, who died on Monday reseeding an area in Sage-grouse habitat.
20. **Public Comment** – Chairman Goicoechea opened the meeting for public comment.
 - a. *Naomi Duerr, representing Desert Pacific Exploration, Nevada Mine Properties, and Main Quest—all small mineral exploration firms—and from time to time may also represent the Nevada Mineral Exploration Coalition.* Ms. Duerr would like to express her appreciation for the councilmembers and staff's time and commitment to the process. Ms. Duerr expressed her concern about the lack of clarity with the three different alternatives in the EIS. She's also concerned about two of the alternatives being called "citizen's alternatives" as they were generated by two conservation groups (to her knowledge). She requested that they be renamed so that they aren't misnomers. Ms. Duerr also asked that for future agendas public comment be

allowed before decisions are made. She lastly mentioned concern about the narrowed areas for minerals exploration and she'll be paying close attention to the USGS science coming forward.

- b. *Debbie Struhsacker, representing the Nevada Mineral Resources Alliance.* Ms. Struhsacker thanked the advisory council for their service. She commended the motion to task the Technical Team to do a project inventory for conservation projects on –the-ground and sees such conservation projects as directly responsive to the USFWS. Ms. Struhsacker also expressed her concern of the implications of the NTT report, as areas with priority Sage-grouse habitat being withdrawn from mineral entry would adversely impact the future of mining.
- c. *Catherine Clark representing Western Lithium.* Ms. Clark also thanked everyone for their efforts. She expressed her concern with the NDOW and USGS mapping system and feels that data should be based on science and not a model. Ms. Clark shared the experiences she's had with her site and said that despite several surveys showing that the land was not general habitat, NDOW maps claim that it is and the BLM treats it as such. She hopes the council considers the importance of mapping and does not just use the model produced by USGS.
- d. *Robin Boies.* Ms. Boies expressed her feeling that the council made a courageous decision in being open to new ideas in bringing Mike Lund and his partner, Laura to the table. She also suggested that the council look into developing regulatory assurances for states that succeed in their conservation efforts.

21. **Adjournment** – Chairman Goicoechea made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Drew. Meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM.