

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

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STEVE SISOLAK
Governor



STATE OF NEVADA
Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

MEETING OF THE SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL

Friday, October 1, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.

Physical Meeting Location:

901 S. Stewart Street, Bryan Building, Tahoe Meeting Room 2nd Floor

Those planning to participate at the physical meeting location will be escorted to the meeting room and will be required to wear a mask upon entry into the building and throughout the meeting.

The meeting will also be available to the public using the Lifesize virtual meeting information listed below. The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting using Lifesize.

Meeting materials will be available on the http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov/Meetings/2020/2020_Meetings/ website.

You are invited to participate in the SEP-SEC Meetings on Lifesize.

Join the video meeting: <https://call.lifesizecloud.com/3983136>

**Join the Lifesize meeting using Skype for Business:
<https://skype.lifesizecloud.com/3983136>**

**Call in by Phone (audio only)
United States: +1 (877) 422-8614
Meeting extension: 3983136#**

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be made on any matter relevant to the Council. Public comment will be taken at the beginning and end of the meeting and may be taken at the discretion of the Chair on specific agenda items. 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. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***

A. Approval of agenda for Friday, October 1, 2021.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***

A. Approval of minutes from the meeting held on Friday, July 23, 2021.

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. **EXCEPTION REQUEST FROM WHITE PINE WATERPOWER, LLC FOR THEIR GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION PROJECT TO OCCUR IN DESIGNATED SAGE-GROUSE WINTER HABITAT BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1, 2021 – FEBRUARY 28, 2022 – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Kelly McGowan, Program Manager – SEP; Luigi Resta, President, rPlus Energies**

7. **REVIEW OF REVISED AND NEWLY DRAFTED POLICIES TO THE CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM'S (CCS) MANUAL FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

A. **REVIEW OF DRAFT POLICY CONCERNING MITIGATION FOR PERMITTED ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO DECEMBER 07, 2018 THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT RENEWAL EXCLUSIVELY FOR AN EXTENDED TERM – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Dan Huser, Division of Forestry Representative – SEP**

B. **CONSIDERATION OF A NEW POLICY TO APPLY AN ASSESSMENT FACTOR TO PROJECTS THAT ARE NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH NAC 232.400-232.480 – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Kathleen Petter, NDSL Representative – SEP**

8. **PRESENTATION ON A MAPPING PRODUCT THAT IDENTIFIES HABITATS FOR MULTIPLE SPECIES WITHIN SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEMS – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Shawn Espinosa, Upland Game Staff Specialist – NDOW**

9. **UPDATE ON REVISING THE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN AND USE OF THE BEST AVAILABLE TOOLS AND PRODUCTS THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO ESTABLISH PRIORITY CONSERVATION EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THREATS – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Kelly McGowan, Program Manager – SEP**

10. **PRESENTATION ON EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-18, "CREATING THE NEVADA HABITAT CONSERVATION FRAMEWORK" AND CORRESPONDING SECTIONS WITHIN THE ORDER – *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION* Tony Wasley, Director, NDOW; Alan Jenne, Habitat Division Administrator, NDOW**

11. **DISCUSSION ON RATIFYING THE SUPPORT OF THE COALITION FOR NEVADA HEALTHY LANDS' LETTER TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, SECRETARY DEB HAALAND, REQUESTING REDUCTIONS TO WILD HORSE POPULATIONS TO**

**APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVELS AND MAINTENANCE OF THOSE LEVELS –
FOR POSSIBLE ACTION William Molini, Wildlife and Conservation Representative, SEC**

12. STAFF BRIEFINGS TO THE COUNCIL

- A. CCS Status Update
- B. Introduction of Mary's River Credit Project
- C. Adaptive Management 2021 Update

13. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED DURING THIS MEETING AND SCHEDULING NEXT SEC 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 next regularly scheduled Council meeting.
- C. Scheduling of the next Council meeting date, time, and place.

14. FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:

- A. US Fish and Wildlife Service
- B. Bureau of Land Management
- C. US Forest Service
- D. USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
- E. Other

15. STATE AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:

- A. Office of the Governor
- B. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- C. Department of Wildlife
- D. Department of Agriculture
- E. Conservation Districts Program
- F. Other

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

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17. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed, combined for consideration, or removed from the agenda at the discretion of the Chair.

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following location:

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, 201 S. Roop Street, Carson City, Nevada

Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada
Department of Wildlife, 6980 Sierra Pkwy #120, Reno, NV
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources 901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada
Department of Agriculture, 405 South 21st Street, Sparks, Nevada
Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada
Capitol Building, 101 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada

Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program website at:
<http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov> and the Nevada Public Notices Website at <http://notice.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. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701; or by calling 775-687-2005 no later than two (2) working days prior to the scheduled meeting. You can also email Kathleen Petter at kpetter@sagebrusheco.nv.gov

Please contact Kelly McGowan at 201 S. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701; or by calling 775-687-2001; or email kmcgowan@sagebrusheco.nv.gov, to obtain support material for the agenda. Meeting materials will also be posted on the <http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov> website.