

Nevada

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

Delineation of Data
Centers in the CCS

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What are Data Centers

- A data center is a physical room, building, or facility that houses information technology infrastructure for building, running, and delivering applications and services and storing and managing the data associated with those applications and services.



Data Centers in Nevada

- Google, Tract, Switch, EdgeCore, Novva, Vantage, and PowerHouse are all operating, building, or expanding facilities within the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, a business park bigger than the city of Detroit.
- Microsoft acquired more than 225 acres of undeveloped property within the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center and an even larger plot in nearby Silver Springs, Nevada.
- Apple is expanding its data center, located just across the Truckee River from the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center.
- OpenAI has said it is considering building a data center in Nevada as well.

– MIT Technology Review

Concerns

- Habitat loss
- Large structure for perching and nesting
- Increased activity
- Noise
 - Produce an average of 65-85 dB(A) up to 96 dB(A) – **Data Centers Knowledge**
 - Similar to standing next to a semi truck
 - Sounds at or above 85 dB can cause hearing loss over time
 - Outside core areas 39 dB(A) is default ambient and near leks, shouldn't be higher than 10dB(A) over ambient
- Use of large amount of ground water
 - Pipes, Pumps, etc.
 - Large data centers can consume up to 5 million gallons per day, equivalent to the water use of a town populated by 10,000 to 50,000 people – **Environmental and Energy Study Institute**
- Use of large amount of power
 - Powerlines
 - Webb Data Center in Reno plans to use 28.5 megawatts of power, which is enough to power 17,000 homes on average – **Reno Gazette Journal**

Include within Urban_Low

- 75% weight with 3 km distance
- Justification
 - Same category as landfills
 - Increased human traffic
 - Noise
 - Large buildings
 - Supporting infrastructure
- Cons
 - Urban is preliminarily based off NV Census blocks
 - Not always associated with urban areas



Own Category – Data_Centers

- 75% weight with 6 km distance
- Justification
 - Same category as powerlines and substations
 - Large perching and nesting capabilities
 - Extensive powerline networks



Own Category – Data_Centers

- 100% weight with 6 km distance
- Justification
 - Same category as geothermal
 - Large perching and nesting capabilities
 - Noise
 - Geothermal plants generate noise from 70-120 dB(A)
 - Extensive water processing and associated infrastructure for both water and power





Questions?

Thank You



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