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Activity Report

Jim R. Barbee
Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture
Report of Activity

May

2 TOUR FOOD BANK OF NORTHERN NEVADA/CHERI JAMASON, CEO
2 CLIMATE SURVEY REVIEW W/ADMINISTRATORS AND HR
14 GREATER SAGE-GROUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
11 TOUR FOOD DISTRIBUTION WHEREHOUSE
16 MEETING WITH DOA BLM NV: Amy Lueders, State Director
17 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REQUEST TOUR LOCAL BUSINESS
18 GOVERNOR SANDOVAL INVITE/DECOMMISSIONING CEREMONIES NV STATE PRISON
31 GOVERNOR CABINET MEETING

JUNE

5 SUNSET COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
7 ELKO SITE VISIT
8 ELKO SITE VISIT
11 SAGE GROUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
11 AG COMMITTEE MEETING
12 STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
13 LAS VEGAS SITE VISIT/CAR RETURN
14 RC FARMS TOUR/LAS VEGAS
14 LAS VEGAS SITE VISIT/CAR RETURN
19 MEET WITH JENELLE GIMLIM COMMODITY FOOD PROGRAM
21 MEET WITH JIM WHEELER ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 39
25 LCB SUNSET COMMITTEE REVIEW OF BOARDS
26 CONFERENCE CALL USDA UNDER SEC SCUSE SERVICIS
27 WINNEMUCCA INTERVIEWS FOR BRANDS DIVISION
28 CABNR ADVISORY MEETING
28 AG'S OFFICE RE: YOWELL

JULY

2 GOVERNOR OFFICE
5 ADMININSTRATION BUDGET
9 AG COMMITTEE MEETING
10 MEET AT BUDGET RE: AG AND NUTRITION MERGER
15 WASDA SUMMER MEETING CODY WYOMING THRU 20TH
20 RETURN FROM WYOMING

25 SAGE GROUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
26 SUPERIOR SALE WINNEMUCCA

Northern Nevada Economic Development Agriculture Report

Since February the NNED has been hosting an agriculture committee that has reviewed the agriculture industry, identified previously unreported sectors, collected data and surveys, and will soon release a report that represents a state of the industry. It is hoped that the information will be utilized to create key messages that can be utilized to engage citizens and legislators regarding the many important decision made that affect the industry.

Virginia Range Horse Update

We released a press release on Friday July 20, 2012 letting Washoe, Lyon, and Storey county citizens know that we will collect horses that are coming in conflict with citizens or roadways. The range has dried out early this year due to the drought so we would expect to have more horses coming off the range. These horses will be processed as the 39 that we captured last year were.

Drought Disaster Declaration

I have attached resources related to the USDA Secretary Declaration. As a brief overview, this will open producers up to a multitude of operational loans as well as tax deferment on the sale of stock due to herd reductions.

Farm Bill

During our Western Association of States Department of Agriculture meeting in Cody Wyoming NASDA staff presented to us information regarding the Farm Bill and it progress. Although the Senate and House have made progress the feel is that it is still unlikely anything will move prior to the November election.

Yowell Update

This is a suit by Raymond Yowell versus Robert Abbey regarding the seizure of Yowell cattle on May 24th, 2002. Jim Connelley and Dennis Journigan are named in the suit for the alleged violation of due process under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments as well as violation of Article VI of the US constitution related to treaties. Jim Connelley and Dennis Jounigan's motion for summary judgment was denied.

BDR Review

Ag Policy Alignment

The Department of Agriculture has multiple edit needs under chapter 561 to match current personnel and policy rules within the state. This would include aligning with the rules of practice for unclassified personnel, authority of wild horses, and deletion of federal programs no longer managed by the agency.

Consolidation of show and fair boards

This bill draft would transfer the duties of the State Advisory Board of Trustees for the trust relating to fairgrounds to the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board.

Animal Identification Update

There are various Nevada Revised Statutes that are no longer pertinent to the appropriate procedure for the Division of Animal Identifications operations. In addition, language regarding the livestock head tax is located in animal disease NRS 571 rather than NRS 575 – Collection of Taxes.

Producer Certification Clarification

Changes to NRS 576.128 to clarify agricultural products the Nevada Department of Agriculture can certify as produced by producer; change "agricultural products" to "farm products" as defined in NRS 576.0155 excluding livestock and livestock products.

Custom Application of Pesticides

Housekeeping measures to provide consistency throughout NRS 555 regarding custom application of pesticides with NACs relative to same; also to clarify intent of pesticide laws.

Virginia Range Board

Transfers the authority for estray/feral horses to a governor appointed board to carry out the provisions of NRS 569 for a defined area within Washoe, Lyon and Storey counties.

Budget Authority

After a review of NRS 561 and consultation from the attorney generals office it seems we have greater latitude regarding the use of some fees that are collected.