# March 15, 2024 Board Report

Office of the Director



### **Industry / External**

- Participated in discussion with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) regarding Emerging Markets Program (EMP) funds to continue trade missions to Africa and Southeast Asia with the goal being to identify non-tariff barriers, establish partnerships with groups in the region, and strengthen relationships that will increase market access for U.S. Agriculture.
- Attended multiple NASDA meetings including, Natural Resources and Environment Committee, International Trade, and Animal Agriculture.
- Hosted meeting with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Carson City Office personnel regarding coordination efforts on fence repairs in the Virginia Range area.
- Meeting with Dolan Group, a developer in the Damonte Ranch area, regarding the VRE and diversionary feeding areas.
- Meeting with Naomi Duerr from the City of Reno regarding coordination efforts on fencing in the Virginia Range.
- Call with BLM and Cassidy and Associates regarding Grazing Public Lands policy.\
- Meeting with USDA APHIS VS related to Animal Disease Traceability and funding for identification tags, infrastructure, and cooperative agreements.
- Interviewed by National Public Radio (NPR) Northern Nevada and Eastern Sierra station KUNR regarding alfalfa.
- Attended the Western Governors' Association Sage-grouse Task Force Weekly meetings.
- Attended the Society of Rangeland Management 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference in Reno with the opening remarks given by Governor Lombardo.
- Attended the Nevada Shared Stewardship Executive Committee meeting.
- Attended the 2024 Predatory Animal and Rodent Control (PARC) Annual Meeting.
- Attended the National Cattlemen's Association (NCA) Board of Directors meeting and presented a dedication for the newly displayed Brand Wall at the Rafter 3C in Fallon.
- Met with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding Sage-grouse conservation.
- Attended the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council (SEC) meeting.
- Attended and chaired the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC) Intergovernmental Executive Committee (IEC) meeting.
- Traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with the South Korean embassy and others in advance of the Governor's Trade Mission Trip to South Korea in May 2024.

### **Partner Coordination**

- Quarterly Meeting with Three-Square and Food Bank of Northern Nevada
  - Collaboration efforts to expand the economic piece of the Home Feeds Nevada Program and continue combatting Nevada's food insecurity.
- Eureka, Elko, and Lander Counties
  - o Coordination meetings regarding Mormon Crickets.

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• Collaborated with other states on multiple natural resource letters on behalf of Governor Lombardo for his signature. These include, but are not limited to, Old Growth Forest and Natural Asset Companies during this last quarter.

### **Executive**

- Attended the Governor's Cabinet and Rural and Natural Resources Sub-Cabinet meetings.
- Met with Senator Cortez Masto's office regarding Xylazine legislation.
- Gave a presentation before the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources regarding the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), Food Production, Food Security, and gave an update on the Home Feeds Nevada (HFN) Program.

#### **Internal**

• The NDA has filled the Administrator position for the Division of Plant Health and Compliance with Meghan Brown. Meghan has served as the Deputy Administrator for the past eight years and it is her personal goal is to leave a legacy that has created opportunities and enhanced the sustainable productivity of agricultural communities both within the Silver State and at the national level. We are in the process of filling her former Deputy Administrator position.

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