

September 4, 2024, Board Report

Office of the Director



Nevada
Department
of Agriculture

Industry / External

- Attended weekly/monthly calls regarding the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 detections in Dairy Cows with industry leaders, affected state agencies, as well as the following agencies:
 - Health and Human Services (HHS) Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)
 - National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
 - United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Met with stakeholders regarding the Heat Illness Regulations.
- Attended the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Advisory Committee meeting in Sacramento, CA.
- Attended the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources (CABNR) Advisory Board Meeting.
- Speaker and Moderator at the 2nd Annual Western Agricultural and Environmental Law Conference.
- Attended the State Environmental Commission (SEC) Meeting.
- Attended the Public Lands Council (PLC) Board Meeting.
- Attended the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Summer Business Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- Attended the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA) Annual Meeting in Park City, Utah.
- Held workshops to solicit comments regarding the proposed regulation changes to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 571.
- Attended the Craft Beverage Passport Day at the Ace’s baseball game.
- Attended the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council Meetings.
- Attended a State Leadership Roundtable meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada hosted by Nevada Business Magazine.
- Attended the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) Board meeting.
- Attended the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC) meeting with the Navy and grazing stakeholders regarding appraisals.
- Met with Nevada Farm Bureau and Governor Lombardo

Partner Coordination

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - Moving forward with the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process for the Virginia Range Estray Fencing Project.
- Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)

- Met to discuss Disturbance Caps and Renewable Energy Developments in Sage-Grouse Habitats.
- Quarterly Meetings
 - Three Square and Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN)
 - Deputy Attorney General
 - College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR)
 - BLM
 - APHIS Wildlife Services (WS)
- United States Department of Defense
 - Met with representatives of the Navy regarding grazing retirement and compensation due to FRTC expansion

Executive

- Met with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small to discuss the need for additional funding through APHIS for treatment of Mormon crickets and grasshoppers.
- Along with our Senior Trade Officer, traveled to Washington, D.C. with Governor Lombardo and the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) and attended the Select USA Investment Summit, to develop and advance new economic opportunities for Nevada agriculture.
 - Met with delegations from Japan, Canada, Australia, S. Korea, and Denmark.
- While in D.C., also met with the following regarding a number of pressing issues:
 - National Cattlemen's Beef Association
 - Senator Rosen's Office
 - Senator Cortez Masto's Office
 - Representative Amodei
 - Representative Susie Lee
 - USDA APHIS
 - Elaine Trevino, Associate Administrator of the USDA Foreign Ag Service
 - Julie Callahan, U.S. Trade Representative for Ag Affairs
- Participated in a discussion with representatives from Eureka County, the USDA Forest Service (FS), and BLM before the Natural Resources Subcommittee regarding Rangeland Challenges Surrounding Multiple Use of Public Lands to include Renewable Energy Projects, Transmission Lines, Grazing, Wildlife and Recreation.
- Met with Senator Rosen's staff regarding the Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act.
- Met with the Governor's Chief of Staff Ryan Cherry and representatives from the American Wild Horse Conservation and Wild Horse Connection regarding the Virginia Range Estray (VRE) horses located in an active construction site in the S. Reno area.

Internal

- Met with staff from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Public and Behavioral Health to discuss moving some of their Environmental Specialists and Food Safety and Inspection responsibilities to the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) to tie into the existing Dairy and newly started Meat and Poultry Inspection program.