

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 6:12:08 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 6:12:06 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Alicja pozarzycki
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Genoa
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>I'm opposing 23 mile fencing through Washoe Lakes: -Washoe Lakes &amp; surrounding water sources have been the primary water source for generations -The State does not have a plan for alternative water sources for Washoe all animals and Lakes horses. Seasonal water is not sufficient - impacted deer, coyotes bears and a little fawn won't be able to jump fence and mountain lions . are at risk of dehydration &amp; death. -Safety/ fencing needs are higher in other areas of South Reno and should be prioritized (Geiger, Toll, Veterans Pkwy, Rio Wrangler, Damonte, Steamboat) -There is a real concern about increased fire danger when horses are no longer grazing west of the new fence allowing flash fuels to grow uncontrolled on both private and public lands. -Ask the NDA and State to work collaboratively &amp; transparently with advocacy groups for wild animals Thank you</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 6:12:06 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 7:29:10 PM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 7:29:07 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Allison Hinkle
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical_address	[REDACTED]
City	Reno
State	Nv
Zip code	[REDACTED]
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>Dear Members of the Board,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding the management of Virginia Range horses and the use of allocated earmark funds. I strongly urge the Board to prioritize public safety by utilizing these funds as intended: to enhance fencing projects and support diversionary feeding programs. These measures are critical for protecting both the public and the horses.</p> <p>It is deeply concerning that the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) has yet to implement these proven solutions. Instead, funds are being directed toward actions that jeopardize public safety and harm the Virginia Range horses, including rejecting the City of Reno's request for a high-priority fencing project and blocking effective diversionary feeding initiatives in South Reno. These missed opportunities endanger lives—both human and equine—and neglect the will of the community.</p> <p>Earmark funds should be immediately redirected to:</p> <p>Support the City of Reno's high-priority fencing project to reduce horse-vehicle collisions.          Authorize diversionary feeding programs, which have demonstrated success in keeping horses on the range and away from developed areas.          Complete other high-priority public safety projects,</p>

including fencing repairs and construction in areas like Fernley Canal, North Carson City, and Washoe State Park. Additionally, I ask that the NDA shift its policies back toward collaborative efforts with community partners. Programs like fertility control and humane range management have shown success in managing the Virginia Range horses. Such partnerships reflect the values of the 86% of Nevadans who support wild horse protection and humane solutions.

It is imperative that the NDA:

Halt the proposed 23-mile fencing project in Washoe Lake, which would cut horses off from their water sources and lead to their removal.

Engage transparently with the community on earmark fund spending plans.

Work with local advocacy groups to ensure humane and effective management practices.

The Virginia Range horses are an iconic part of Nevada's heritage, and their protection aligns with the safety and well-being of our communities. I urge the Board to take action that reflects the will of Nevadans and the best interests of public safety.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 5:00:22 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 5:00:15 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Amy Roberts
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Washoe Valley
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	The Virginia range horses need to be protected! Those in charge need to have a heart and do the right thing by protecting these beautiful creatures, God's creatures. Those of you making the decision in the protection of the Virginia range horses, please choose kindness and compassion for these horses. Are we a civilized society or are we barbarians? How we treat the vulnerable and voiceless reflects on all of us. Anything less for these horses is a choice of violence and wickedness.

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 3:20:12 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 3:20:09 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Barbara Ann Warner
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Lebanon
State	KY
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	These wild horses must not be fenced away from water. This would be cruel. Many people come to this area to see wild horses so they must be allowed access to water. They are an asset to Nevada.

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 7:07:45 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 7:07:38 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Camille LaMotte
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	7
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Favor
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	Feral, non native horses mess with water resources and harm native wildlife. Just because they majestic animals in their own right doesn't mean they should be given preferential treatment over native vegetation and wildlife.

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 7:04:05 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 7:03:58 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Cheyenne Raduha
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Chicago
State	Il
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>Please do not fence around a natural body of water. Public lands are a resource and should not be fenced. Especially since this lake provides a natural habitat and resource, water to the wild Horse population. The wild horse population has continued to be declining. Wild horse pose no threat to public lands by living on them. They are only considered to damage lands because of the forced perception that they do.</p> <p>I ask to please not fence off this water source as it will forcibly decline not only the animal population, the very small amount of wild horses in this area and is a horrible statement for water to be fenced off. Please don't fence around publicly owned resources!</p>

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 7:37:32 PM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 7:37:26 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Christy Wolfe
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Los Angeles
State	CA
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>I strongly oppose the Nevada Department of Agriculture's proposal to use funds earmarked to address the management of the Virginia Range horses. Instead of using these funds to enhance public safety and support local management programs, the funds have been used to advance measures that will harm our beloved Virginia Range horses, increase risk to the public and undermine the community management programs.</p> <p>I request:            All action to construct a 23-mile stretch of fencing in the Washoe Lake area immediately be halted, as it will not address public safety issues but will instead fence 400 wild horses off their only reliable year-round water sources, which will in turn likely force their removal.            Authorizing diversionary feeding projects in the South Reno area that have proven effective in keeping wild horses on the range and out of developed areas.            Using earmark funds to support the completion of the City of Reno's high-priority fencing project which is necessary to reduce horse-vehicle collisions in developed areas, as well as other previously identified high priority areas such as the Fernley canal, Centennial Park to Duck Hill Road in North Carson City, and repair of the Washoe State Park's fencing which to date has been done by local advocacy groups.            Directing the NDA to collaborate with its community partners to continue the successful and humane management of the Virginia Range horses.</p>



Demand transparency in the planning and process of the  
earmark fund spending.

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 7:21:13 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 7:21:04 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Debra Clemente
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical_address	[REDACTED]
City	Bayville
State	NJ
Zip code	[REDACTED]
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>I did not know about the agenda number or letter. I AM commenting on the Washoe wild horses. They are managed group with fertility control. Please do not remove their main source of water. You will next then remove w emergency of no water. We would like a better solution I am limited on time due to a PT work commitment. I will send a detailed letter later in the day. Please know I oppose this agenda. Thank you</p> <p>Debbie</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 7:21:04 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:05:14 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:05:09 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Deena Kirk
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	Yes
Comment	

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 11:02:10 PM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 11:01:26 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Deirdre Leclercq
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical_address	[REDACTED]
City	Washoe Valley
State	NV
Zip code	[REDACTED]
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I live in Washoe Valley and have for several years now. Part of the beauty of this area is living with wildlife. The wild horses make this Washoe Valley area unique and very special. I OPPOSE fencing the lakes and surrounding areas for safety when there are many other better solutions.</p> <p>For safety I suggest you consider hiring Mounted Rangers. It will both create jobs and help to keep both visitors and the resident wild horses safe. In addition the Mounties can educate people and their children about the wonderful history of the area and about all the wildlife that lives in the park and surrounding areas. This will create a happy, healthy balance. Most people come to the lake and valley to see the magnificent wildlife esp the wild horses. Forcing them to leave would create a forever hole. The area would never be the same.</p> <p>Additionally, you might also consider at the crossing areas paint reflective stripes on the road like they do at school crosswalks. This will help drivers see where horses tend to cross. Adding blinking signage and solar motion censored street lights along both sides of the road before and up to the crossing areas can allow both the horses and the drivers see on dark nights.</p> <p>Please DO NOT fence these waterways it's not cruel and</p>

unnecessary and a waste of our money. As a local I OPPOSE  
this idea to fence the Washoe Lakes.

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration.

Kindest regards,  
Deirdre Leclercq - a property owner and concerned citizen

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[boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 11:01:26 PM.

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 9:53:03 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 9:52:58 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Giselle Reyna
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>It would be extremely cruel for the NDA to put a fence around Washoe Lake to keep out horses from a huge water source. The money for fencing should be done in areas like Damonte Ranch. Why aren't they worried about the huge public safety risk happening in that area? With the new housing developments happening in Damonte Ranch, the area has become so risky for people driving 60mph on Veterans and the horses. The NDA should be more transparent about what projects they're doing because all of this has been kept pretty hush. Documents should be released about the Washoe Lake fencing and how it came into fruition. Has anymore else also thought about the impact it will have on other species utilizing the lake? What long term impact will this have on that environment? I strongly oppose the 23 mile fencing. Let's allocate the money towards fertility control and feeing programs to get them out of the roads. That helps immensely.</p>

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 1:40:54 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 1:40:49 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Jackie Jeanes
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Trenton
State	TX
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	The wild horses are an asset to our lands, our community, and for tourism. They have intrinsic value. Do not fence them out from Washoe Lake. They belong on the lake. They deserve to have access to a natural water source and people want to see them there. People come from all over to see these wild horses on the lake and spend money in this city.

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**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 10:37:24 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 10:37:18 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Jennifer Bullock
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	Nevada
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Favor
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	Little has been done over the years other than a continued removal and onslaught by a poorly managed BLM (penning thousands of horses). I've written to BLM administrators in charge (letter returned) in support of maintaining wild horse bands and herds, making certain they have access to water and forage. Relevant and recent data show that private cattle interests are predominantly taking unprecedented grazing within their terrain (and development encroaching on formerly safe areas). I, for one and many others are in support of our Public domain being inclusive of wild horses into the future, able to flourish through protective management.

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:02:23 AM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:02:18 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Jennifer Garrett
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Deeth
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	Neutral
Wish to Speak	Yes
	<p>12/6/24</p> <p>NV Board of Ag Meeting Comments Hello,            I am Jennifer Garrett. I emailed on 8/27/24 all the Board members, the Director, the State Vet and the Animal Industry Administrator a letter asking that the Board make changes to the proposed changes to NAC 571. I was going to read that letter and submit it during Public Comment at the Sept. 4 meeting in Elko. As we know, that meeting was canceled. Since then, I received the 2022-2024 Trichomoniasis test results from the State. (attached below) Seeing that Trich in Nevada has averaged less than 1% for the last 11 years has made me change my mind about the proposed changes to NAC 571. I realized that there is no need to change the current regulation. It works as written. The 11 year testing results prove this and NAC 571 will continue to work without any changes as long as enforcement is done by the Dept of Ag. The 2024 positivity numbers are greater due to a Trich outbreak in Northern Nevada last Spring. The Department did a very good job of immediately enforcing the current NAC 571. All butls that neighbored ranches that had Trich positive bulls were tested until they reached a ranch that was clean. The cleanup of this hot spot proves that this regulation is efficient and effective without any changes needed.</p> <p>There is no need for more unnecessary regulation that will only burden both the Dept. that has to enforce it and burden the producer that has to abide by it.</p>

**Comment**

Therefore, I urge this Board to deny acceptance of the proposed changes to NAC 571 and leave it as written. The proposed changes are just a back door way of initiating mandatory annual Trich testing. We do not need additional governmental costs and burdens for a problem that has affected less than 1% of the bulls in the last 11 years proving that the current regulations are working. Thank you for your time. Jennifer Garrett

NEVADA TRICH TESTING RESULTS FROM 2014-2024

11 YEAR AVERAGE= .72% POSITIVITY RATE, LESS THAN 1%

48% of Nevada bulls were tested from 2018-2024

YEAR	BULLS TESTED	POSITIVE BULLS	POSITIVITY RATE
2014	8753	98	1.14%
2015	7701	82	1.17%
2016	7336	37	0.52%
2017	6779	22	0.35%
2018	6373	38	0.61%
2019	7007	57	0.86%
2020	8175	67	0.84%
2021	8325	32	0.41%
2022	6958	48	0.69%
2023	7322	20	0.29%
2024	6289	65	1.12%
11 YEAR AVERAGE			0.72%

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**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:35:28 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:35:23 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	KAT Laughlin
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical_address	[REDACTED]
City	Leslie
State	AR
Zip code	[REDACTED]
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>Our mustangs should never be taken off of land for development or be fenced out of water which is vital to life. To take their water source is starving them. You are to protect our mustangs per the 1971 protection act. Altering them in any way should also be avoided. Man ruins all he touches. The mustangs only have very small areas left as they only allow them to use 10% of land and cattle get upwards of 70%.</p> <p>Do not fence the water as it will cause them to go into developed areas and its not their fault. If you were dying of thirst and saw water with held from you you would be crying unfair treatment. No development or altering of access to water for our mustangs. Leave them alone</p>

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**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 9:55:38 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 9:55:34 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Kate Andrew
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	Fencing horses out of the Washoe lake area is a poor management decision which will result in poor outcomes for both horses and the public

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**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:09:38 AM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:09:33 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Lili A Wolf
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Elko
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	Neutral
Wish to Speak	Yes
Comment	<p>Hi my name is Lili Wolf and I want to let the board know; I am against the proposed changes to NAC 571. In 2022 many workshops were held regarding mandatory annual Trichomoniasis testing. Not all cattle producers in the state support mandatory trich testing and many producers signed a petition against it. I would like to note that some of these producers do annually trich test, but they noted they did not approve the government mandating them to trich test.</p> <p>The 2022 workshops discussed different issues regarding Trichomoniasis. One of the issues brought up by producers was that bulls are moved around within' the state and that is the concern for the spread of this disease, The Department has noted that Trich is not a statewide disease and that it only has some hot spot areas.</p> <p>This spring a Trich issue arose here in Elko County and the department immediately acted on the issue and implemented the existing regulation in place. This issue is briefly mentioned in the Dec. 6, 2024 Division of Animal Industry Board Report. I would like the board to ask the department about this issue to determine if the current regulation is sufficient.</p> <p>From 2014-2024, approximately 50% of bulls that were tested each year in the state have resulted in less than 1% positive. The 11-year average is actually .72%. The state has noted in their meetings that this is NOT a statewide issue,</p>

I would like the board to consider the following before voting on the proposed changes to the NAC chapter 571:

1. Why is the proposed regulation being changed to require 5 years of Trich testing?

- Five years is an excessive burden to producers adding time and more costs to their operation.

-During the 2022 and 2021 Workshops producers also had concerns about

having vets available to do the testing. 5 years increases the demand for more vets.

2. Why does the regulation require a neighbor to test for 5 years if their bulls test negative? They were not the source of the problem. Is this a back door

way to make trich testing mandatory?

3. Does the current regulation work, if implemented?

-Again, ask the department about the current situation in Elko County.

Hot spot areas are known within the state and the department can enforce the current regulation within these areas.

Therefore, please don't approve the proposed changes to NAC: 571.

Thank you for your time, Lili A. Wolf

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 9:09:33 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 2:09:35 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 2:09:29 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Lisa Gamet
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Dayton
State	Nevada
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>The idea of putting a fence around Washoe Lake is a terrible idea. Have any of you that are proposing this horrendous endeavor ever been to Washoe Lake? It is a picturesque natural body of water that Supports these wild horses and other wildlife. A fence enclosing this Lake would be a terrible hardship for the horses and other wildlife and an ugly eyesore. Please reconsider this proposal and possibly travel to the Lake and see what your decisions will affect before you make the final decision on this beautiful body of water that we the people and the horses and other wildlife enjoy.</p> <p>Sincerely Lisa C. Gamet</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 2:09:29 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 10:02:42 PM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 10:02:40 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Lisa OSullivan
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	Nevada
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>I am writing to you today to voice my STRONG opposition to item 2A the 23 -mile Washoe fencing project. First of all, to fence approx. 400 horses out of Washoe lakes, their year-round natural source, is cruel and inhumane. I have been all over that range and do not believe there is adequate water up on the range for the horses. There are 4 seasonal ponds on the range above Little Washoe and they have been dry by May 31st before summer even begins 4 out of the last 5 years! I have pictures with dates to prove it.</p> <p>The federal grant money the NDA received is to be used for several things. The part that I want to touch on is the public safety portion. The grant states the money is to be used to expand public safety efforts with fencing and diversionary feeding. It does not state the money is to be used to fence sensitive areas as was stated about Washoe Lakes. To use that money to fence sensitive areas is a misuse of what the funds were intended for. There is a MAJOR public safety issue in South Reno right now until the City of Reno's fencing project is complete. Why would the NDA who has approx. \$1,000,000 not jump in and help fund that fence in the name of public safety? It shows that they truly do not have the people's best interest at heart. Instead they are choosing to fence an area that is not as dangerous and has far less horse vs. vehicle accidents. To top that off, they are also making it way more dangerous for the people of South Reno by not allowing for a variance in distance for their diversionary feed sites. They have approved 0000000 feed sites in South Reno which these feed</p>



sites have been proven to bring the horses away from the dangerous areas and up onto the range. Feed sites that were utilized last year were not approved this year! I ask you WHY??? They obviously do not care about the people who live and travel in South Reno. A variance in distance of 1000 feet could save a life! It could be your family member, coworker or friend driving in South Reno on any given day. This should be unacceptable and I ask you to make some changes now before a person or people die!

I am also curious to know what the rest of the \$1,000,000 is going to be spent on. Is it just the Washoe fence project? Why is the NDA asking for another \$1,000,000? What will that money be used for? I think there needs to be more transparency to show how all this money is being spent going forward. On a side note I think it is strange that the range fence the NDA has put up does not even meet the requirements to make it a legal Nevada fence. For years there has been barbed wire strewn all over the range from the old BLM fence. I really want to know who is going to maintain the 23 miles of fence so this doesn't happen again. In closing, going forward, the public wants transparency from the NDA and for them to work collaboratively with the advocacy groups and not against them.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 10:02:40 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:48:23 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:48:19 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Dr Lori Ugolik
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>It will not only be a major taxpayer expense and eyesore; the horses and other wildlife will not have access to the water. I have met people from all over the world to photograph them and spending money in the state of Nevada. They are a national treasure . They also help reduce the risk of wildfires due to their grazing style. Keeping the speed down as well would save lives. We have deer , mountain lions, coyotes, bears and bighorn sheep as well. Are they all going to be rounded up and eradicated? I'm a Georgia transplant and moved here to photograph the wildlife. I've seen a horse hit when everyone stopped in a 45 mph limit in the daytime. An idiot sped by at over 70 mph. He almost killed other drivers.</p>



Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 9:48:19 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 6:36:56 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 6:36:52 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Marie Lewis
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	
State	FL
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	Stop what ur doin its wrong

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 6:36:52 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 2:23:57 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 2:23:54 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Monica Ross
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	
State	Nevada
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	I oppose fencing out the horses from the park area. These horses are a great tourist attraction. I've spoken with several people and it's the only location people can come and watch the horses interact with each other. Diverting them to another area puts them at risk of not finding other water sources and puts them in danger of being hit by vehicles. They have been down in that area for years now. They used to be at little Washoe, they would come down and drink and go back up in the hills but people built houses in their path. Please don't displace these horses. As long as fertility control is being administered to them the population will not grow. In every situation the horses loose. Please let this be a win.

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 2:23:54 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:43:39 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:43:36 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Rebecca Johnson
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	I oppose to this building of a 20+ mile fence around the foothills of washoe lake until there has been alternative permanent watering areas created for wild horses and other wildlife to access. I.e. building guzzlers accessible to horses and other wildlife.

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 9:43:36 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 11:53:53 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 11:53:48 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Romaine S. Kamberg
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Tempe
State	AZ
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>Immediately halt all action to construct a 23-mile fencing in the Washoe Lake area that will not address public safety issues but will fence 400 wild horses off their only reliable year-round water sources, or most likely, force their removal.</p> <p>Authorizing diversionary feeding projects in the South Reno area that have proven effective in keeping wild horses on the range and out of developed areas.</p> <p>Using earmark funds to support the completion of the City of Reno's high-priority fencing project which is necessary to reduce horse-vehicle collisions in developed areas, as well as other previously identified high priority areas such as the Fernley canal, Centennial Park to Duck Hill Road in North Carson City, and repair of the Washoe State Park's fencing which to date has been done by local advocacy groups.</p> <p>We ask the NDA to collaborate with its community partners to continue the successful and humane management of the Virginia Range horses.</p> <p>We demand transparency in the planning and process of the earmark fund spending.</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 11:53:48 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 11:34:52 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 11:34:46 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Sarah Schiller
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Berlin Germany
State	Deutschland
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	<p>Ladies and Gentlemen</p> <p>I would urge you not to vote on whether any fence that may be erected will prevent wild horses and other wildlife from accessing the water. Because every animal and every person has the right to access to clean water at all times. These animals belong on this planet just as much as we humans do. It is our duty to protect them. They have already suffered enough due to the failures of many people and decision makers who only care about their own benefit.</p> <p>It's about not always just pretending that they really want to make this world a safe place for people and animals so that their children and those who come after them can continue to enjoy it.</p> <p>Please protect the animals in your area of activity, because anything else is a massive crime against these species. Please lead by example, be the future of these animals and their conservation.</p> <p>with kind regards Sarah Schiller</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 11:34:46 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 7:10:42 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 7:10:38 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Shannon Hill
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Washoe Valley
State	NV
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
	<p>My name is Shannon Hill. I am a voting constituent who lives in Washoe Valley. I am writing in opposition to the fencing project in Washoe Valley to keep horses from accessing Washoe Lake State Park.</p> <p>I am the primary responder for both Wild Horse Connection and Least Resistance Training Concepts technical rescue for calls in Washoe Valley. To date we have had only one horse struck by vehicles this year. Whereas we have had 5 vehicle strikes in South Reno and 7 from along the highway 50 corridor.</p> <p>If the horses are fenced out of Washoe Lake, they will migrate into unfenced South Reno, Mound House, and Dayton. The speed limits in Washoe Valley are all under 45 mph vs 45 - 65+ mph in other unfenced areas. This greatly increases the risks to public safety.</p> <p>The single horse who was struck by a vehicle in Washoe Valley on Thanksgiving night was hit in a location on Eastlake that horses do not usually cross. I was the responder that night and the next morning to help my teammate remove the deceased horse from the roadway. In daylight I discovered a 20 foot section of fencing deliberately cut a few yards away from where the horse was struck.</p> <p>My teammates are I are the boots on the ground who help to</p>



Comment

maintain and repair current fencing. The NDA or volunteer teams do not have the resources to maintain an additional more than 23 miles of fencing back in the hills. This would lead to tax payer money being spent on a project that cannot be maintained long term.

Public funds would be more efficiently spent to complete the fencing in South Reno and along highway 50 east of Carson City. These projects would also increase public safety in highly congested neighborhoods and on high speed roadways that are both much busier than Eastlake in rural Washoe Valley.

I was recently in the evacuation zone for the Davis Fire. Removing horses from public lands west of this new fence line would greatly increase fires risks in Washoe Valley as the vegetation would not be naturally kept at bay by the horses grazing on wildfire fuels.

Additionally, removal of the horses from Washoe Lake State Park would decrease tourist income for our state parks from both locals and people who travel from all across the country to view Nevada's wild horses. The protected Virginia Range horses are highlighted in tourism sites such as <https://travelnevada.com/parks-recreational-areas/washoe-lake-state-park/>.

Please reallocate funding and resources for this fencing project to others in South Reno and highway 50 corridor to increase public safety and maintain tourism funding to Washoe Lake State Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,  
Shannon Hill

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 7:10:38 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 10:03:36 PM

Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 10:03:33 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Suzy Shaffer
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical_address	[REDACTED]
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip code	[REDACTED]
agenda_number	7
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
	<p>Me, my family and neighbors are extremely concerned about potential fencing of Washoe Lake. As a resident of the steamboat area, I am quite used to dealing with horses in our neighborhood. Our neighbors love the horses. I love the horses, they keep the cheat grass down on our hillside and act as our best source of protection from wildfires.</p> <p>I spend \$100 each year to go down to Washoe Lake and little washoe with my dogs for recreation. The horses keep the cheat grass under control in the meadow past little washoe. Without the horses not only will there be fire danger, all the dog owners that go down there to exercise dogs are not going to be able to take the risk of FoxTails on overgrown trails. Foxtails are deadly to dogs, and there's no way I'll risk my dogs life going to that lake which I love. There's also hunters who take their dogs down there to exercise them, who will have to think twice about the risk presented by overgrown grass</p> <p>The horses are best resource for fire protection and they also serve as a food resource from mountain lions and other Apex predators in our area. When you start messing with mother nature, there will be issues. When the mountain lions start feeding on dogs and cats, will they go after livestock. What's your solution then kill the mountain lions try and keep playing God. Then the coyotes will be way out of control.</p>

Comment

Our wild horses are magnificent, beautiful animals that serve an important purpose at Big and Little Washoe, and in the steamboat area. For you to consider to fence them out and provide no water access when you have this huge lake, is cruel and reprehensible. For children who have not grown up with horses around them, will they parents have to drive out in the desert and hope to see some poor starving horse out there who's barely surviving from lack of water.

Please listen to all of us who want horses at Washoe Lake. We need them to keep the grass down, provide a food source for predators, for tourism for people who drive out to see the horses. And I can tell you a lot of people drive out to see the horses, to take pictures of the horses. to show their children and grandchildren, these beautiful horses out there in the wild.. The horses have never been violent and I've spent a long time around them with my dogs out at Washoe Lake.

Please do not cruelly fence these horses out of Washoe Lake. If you do so, you'll be ruining that lake and the memories of children who have been able to see those horses up close and experience a beautiful animal that God has blessed us with who serves a great purpose in our area. We need our horses.

Thank you for reading my letter and I pray and hope that you'll consider leaving the horses alone at Washoe Lake. We need them.

Sincerely,

Suzy Shaffer

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 10:03:33 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 9:33:59 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 9:33:53 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Sydne Solley
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Moncks Corner
State	SC
Zip code	
agenda_number	1
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	Please for the love of wild horses do not fence in their only source of water! There has to be a better way thank you

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 9:33:53 AM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 7:33:32 PM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/5/2024 7:33:25 PM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Terri Farley
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Verdi
State	Nevada
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	Yes
Comment	<p>Fencing wildlife, especially wild horses, from their traditional water sources is not only cruel, it is disruptive to the environments at Washoe Lake, Steamboat Creek etc. I've yet to see any explanation of WHY this proposal has been made. I've read things along the line of - it's for their own good....to protect horses and humans? That doesn't ring true. I'm sure NDA would have publicized such encounters.</p> <p>This intrusion will not only impact tourism, but other wildlife that come to drink at these water sources.</p> <p>Please stop consideration of this action.</p>

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/5/2024 7:33:25 PM.

**From:** [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov)  
**To:** [Board of Agriculture Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Agriculture Public Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 3:05:16 AM

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Data from form "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" was received on 12/6/2024 3:05:12 AM.

Public Comment Form

Field	Value
Name	Vandy Erbst
Organization	
Email Address	
Physical_address	
City	Chico
State	CA
Zip code	
agenda_number	2
agenda_letter	A
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	In Opposition
Wish to Speak	No
Comment	I am deeply concerned about the prospect of putting up fencing that would keep the wild equine of Washoe Creek from accessing their water sources. I am deeply disturbed that this beautiful, iconic species is NOT provided the protections they deserve.

Email "Board of Agriculture Public Comment" originally sent to [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) from [boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov](mailto:boapubliccomment@agri.nv.gov) on 12/6/2024 3:05:12 AM.

Hi my name is Lili Wolf and I want to let the board know; I am against the proposed changes to NAC 571. In 2022 many workshops were held regarding **mandatory** annual Trichomoniasis testing. Not all cattle producers in the state support mandatory trich testing and many producers signed a petition against it. I would like to note that some of these producers do annually trich test, but they noted they did not approve the government mandating them to trich test.

The 2022 workshops discussed different issues regarding Trichomoniasis. One of the issues brought up by producers was that bulls are moved around within the state and that is the concern for the spread of this disease. The Department has noted that Trich is not a statewide disease and that it only has some hot spot areas.

This spring a Trich issue arose here in Elko County and the department immediately acted on the issue and implemented the existing regulation in place. This issue is briefly mentioned in the Dec. 6, 2024 Division of Animal Industry Board Report. I would like the board to ask the department about this issue to determine if the current regulation is sufficient.

From 2014-2024, approximately 50% of bulls that were tested each year in the state have resulted in less than 1% positive. The 11-year average is actually .72%. The state has noted in their meetings that this is NOT a statewide issue.

I would like the board to consider the following before voting on the proposed changes to the NAC chapter 571:

1. Why is the proposed regulation being changed to require 5 years of Trich testing?
  - Five years is an excessive burden to producers adding time and more costs to their operation.
  - During the 2022 and 2023 workshops, producers also had concerns about having vets available to do the testing. 5 years increases the demand for more vets.
2. Why does the regulation require a neighbor to test for 5 years if their bulls test negative? They were not the source of the problem. Is this a back door

way to make trich testing mandatory?

3. Does the current regulation work, if implemented?

-Again, ask the department about the current situation in Elko County.

Hot spot areas are known within the state and the department can enforce the current regulation within these areas. Therefore, please don't approve the proposed changes to NAC 571.

Thank you for your time,

Lili A. Wolf



12/6/24

NV Board of Ag Meeting Comments

Hello,

I am Jennifer Garrett. I emailed on 8/27/24 all the Board members, the Director, the State Vet and the Animal Industry Administrator a letter asking that the Board make changes to the proposed changes to NAC 571. I was going to read that letter and submit it during Public Comment at the Sept. 4 meeting in Elko. As we know, that meeting was canceled.

Since then, I received the 2022-2024 Trichomoniasis test results from the State. (attached below) Seeing that Trich in Nevada has averaged less than 1% for the last 11 years has made me change my mind about the proposed changes to NAC 571. I realized that there is no need to change the current regulation. It works as written. The 11 year testing results prove this and NAC 571 will continue to work without any changes as long as enforcement is done by the Dept of Ag. The 2024 positivity numbers are greater due to a Trich outbreak in Northern Nevada last Spring. The Department did a very good job of immediately enforcing the current NAC 571. All bulls that neighbored ranches that had Trich positive bulls were tested until they reached a ranch that was clean. The cleanup of this hot spot proves that this regulation is efficient and effective without any changes needed.

There is no need for more unnecessary regulation that will only burden both the Dept. that has to enforce it and burden the producer that has to abide by it.

Therefore, I urge this Board to deny acceptance of the proposed changes to NAC 571 and leave it as written. The proposed changes are just a back door way of initiating mandatory annual Trich testing. We do not need additional governmental costs and burdens for a problem that has affected less than 1% of the bulls in the last 11 years proving that the current regulations are working.

Thank you for your time.

Jennifer Garrett

## NEVADA TRICH TESTING RESULTS FROM 2014-2024

11 YEAR AVERAGE = .72% POSITIVITY RATE, LESS THAN 1%

48% of Nevada bulls were tested from 2018-2024

YEAR	BULLS TESTED	POSITIVE BULLS	POSITIVITY RATE
2014	8753	98	1.14%
2015	7701	82	1.17%
2016	7336	37	0.52%
2017	6779	22	0.35%
2018	6373	38	0.61%
2019	7007	57	0.86%
2020	8175	67	0.84%
2021	8325	32	0.41%
2022	6958	48	0.69%
2023	7322	20	0.29%
2024	6289	65	1.12%
		<b>11 YEAR AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.72%</b>

# PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

December 6, 2024 NDA Board Meeting

First and Last Name	Naomi Duerr
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical Address	[REDACTED]
City	Reno.
State	NV
Zip Code	[REDACTED]
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	Information + Request
Wish to Speak (Yes or No)	yes

Comment:

Work w/ City of Reno on our  
fencing project by  
reinstating diversionary  
feeding.

Do not fence off Washoe Lake.  
from horses + other  
animals

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Nevada Department of Agriculture Board Meeting December 6, Ref Item Number 2, Letter A  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 4:23:23 AM

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**WARNING** - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

[REDACTED]

December 5, 2024

Reference Item: number 2, letter A, in opposition

To Nevada Department of Agriculture Board:

This letter is to comment on the plan to construct fencing in the Washoe Lake area that will obstruct 400 wild horses from their water sources. This proposal must be halted. It will cause distress, cruelty, and chaos, and will put these horses at risk of death or removal from their long time homes.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture has unused allocated congressional earmark funds intended to address the management of the Virginia Range horses and public safety. These are funds earmarked for projects that would promote protection and well-managed coexistence for the horses in developed areas, including protective fencing to prevent horse-vehicle collisions. These funds need to be transparently utilized for these important projects.

A few months ago, I attended an educational conference in Reno focused on wild horses; which included field experiences in the Reno/Sparks, Carson Valley and Tonopah areas.

After several days in Reno, Sparks, and Tonopah for the event, some of us continued to travel in Nevada, staying in the Amargosa Valley and Las Vegas. All of this meant tourism dollars to the local economies.

During this visit, we saw a number of Virginia Range horses, including around Washoe Lake. The stunning landscape and seeing the horses around the lake was one of the highlights of the trip.

It is hard to imagine the area without the horses. They are essential and integral to the beauty and character of the area.

However fascinating and beautiful Nevada is, I would only visit again to see the wild horses

and burros.

These horses are a public, cultural and historical resource. Nevada and local authorities need to recognize their value, particularly as a tourism draw.

Nevada should not miss an opportunity to brand itself as the Mustang State. The Virginia Range horses are an historical herd, of great value historically and culturally: a draw to national and international tourists who come to view the wild horses and burros.

You have a tremendous gift and resource in these horses, which are currently undervalued and underrecognized. They are a treasure of Nevada, and also of the American people.

As the authorities for the State of Nevada charged with management of these horses and areas, you must make protection of these horses a priority. You have the tremendous boon of community partner organizations with wild horse knowledge, experience, and willing volunteers that make that job much more manageable.

These horses could be showcased as emblems of Nevada's unique beauty, landscape, and history; and integrated into wisely managed growth and development.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, for your stewardship and service, and I hope to visit beautiful Nevada again soon.

Respectfully,

Ms. Penny M. Jackson  
Tallahassee, Florida



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding Virginia Range horses  
**Date:** Friday, December 6, 2024 10:21:00 AM

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**WARNING** - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

I am writing in regards to the governor's horse policies in the Virginia Range. I would like to urge the governor to immediately halt all action to construct a 23-mile fencing in the Washoe Lake area that will not address public safety issues but will fence 400 wild horses off their only reliable year-round water sources, or most likely, force their removal. I would also urge the governor to authorize diversionary feeding projects in the South Reno area that have proven effective in keeping wild horses on the range and out of developed areas.

Thank you,  
Mauve



# PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

December 6, 2024 NDA Board Meeting

First and Last Name	Jenny Lesieur
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Physical Address	[REDACTED]
City	Washoe Valley
State	NV
Zip Code	[REDACTED]
Favor, Opposition, Neutral	Support NDA (Estray Horses)
Wish to Speak (Yes or No)	YES

Comment:

- 1) Verbal & written comments given to NDA Director & Deputy Director. (CNHL)
- 2) Would also request to give personal comment as a Washoe Valley Resident.



## Coalition of Healthy Nevada Lands Public Comment (Nevada Board of Agriculture Meeting - December 6, 2024)

The Coalition of Healthy Lands (CHNL) supports the NDA proposals and projects for fencing the Virginia Range. These projects will assist in keeping the overpopulation of stray horses off areas with concerns of adverse effects to the rangeland's plants and water sources, Conservation Areas that are dedicated to certain species ensuring their viability, Wildlife, and public safety concerns related to roads and residential areas. In addition are other areas to consider:

- 1) The CHNL requests that the number of stray horses immediately be brought down to the minimal, feasible level of 300 horses and then maintained not to exceed 600 free roaming stray horses. The 2000 agreement of a carrying capacity of 550 horses for the entire Virginia Range has proven to be ineffective based on today's estimated population level of 3,900. The effects to the ranges and wildlife are beyond a "critical state".
- 2) Once the Virginia Range is at the appropriate management level, it is recommended that NDA create a partnership that will work to develop a fertility control program. This should include a database with the pertinent details of each animal including pictures, dates of vaccines and foals. Population continues to increase due to the estimates (2020: 3,000 / 2021: 3,151 / 2022: 3,186 / 2023: 3,507 / 2024: 3,900).
- 3) CHNL requests that any stray horse showing signs of genetic and / or physical deformities are to be humanely euthanized immediately as an "act of mercy" for the animal. *NOTE: Pictures at the end of this document show examples.*
- 4) CHNL has concerns regarding Public Safety Issues. CHNL requests the NDA review the increase of stray horses on roadways creating collisions with vehicles and put forth a plan to decrease the incidents in residential areas and our Nevada highways. *NOTE: Pictures at the end of this document show examples.*
- 5) CHNL has witnessed a failure of proper maintenance on the Washoe Lake / Scripps Wildlife Area (Migratory Bird Nesting) which currently has been overtaken by stray horses. The stray horses have decimated the habitat of was once, a prestige nesting area of over 215 species of birds. All stray horses currently populating these areas should be removed immediately to allow the area the opportunity to revitalize back to the original mandate (or near). Below are a few pictures showing the devastation due to stray horses in the area where public access is prohibited February 15 – August 15.







Below pictures show an example of devastation in the Washoe Lake Park Bird Nesting Area  
(This is the area off the south end of Eastlake Boulevard):

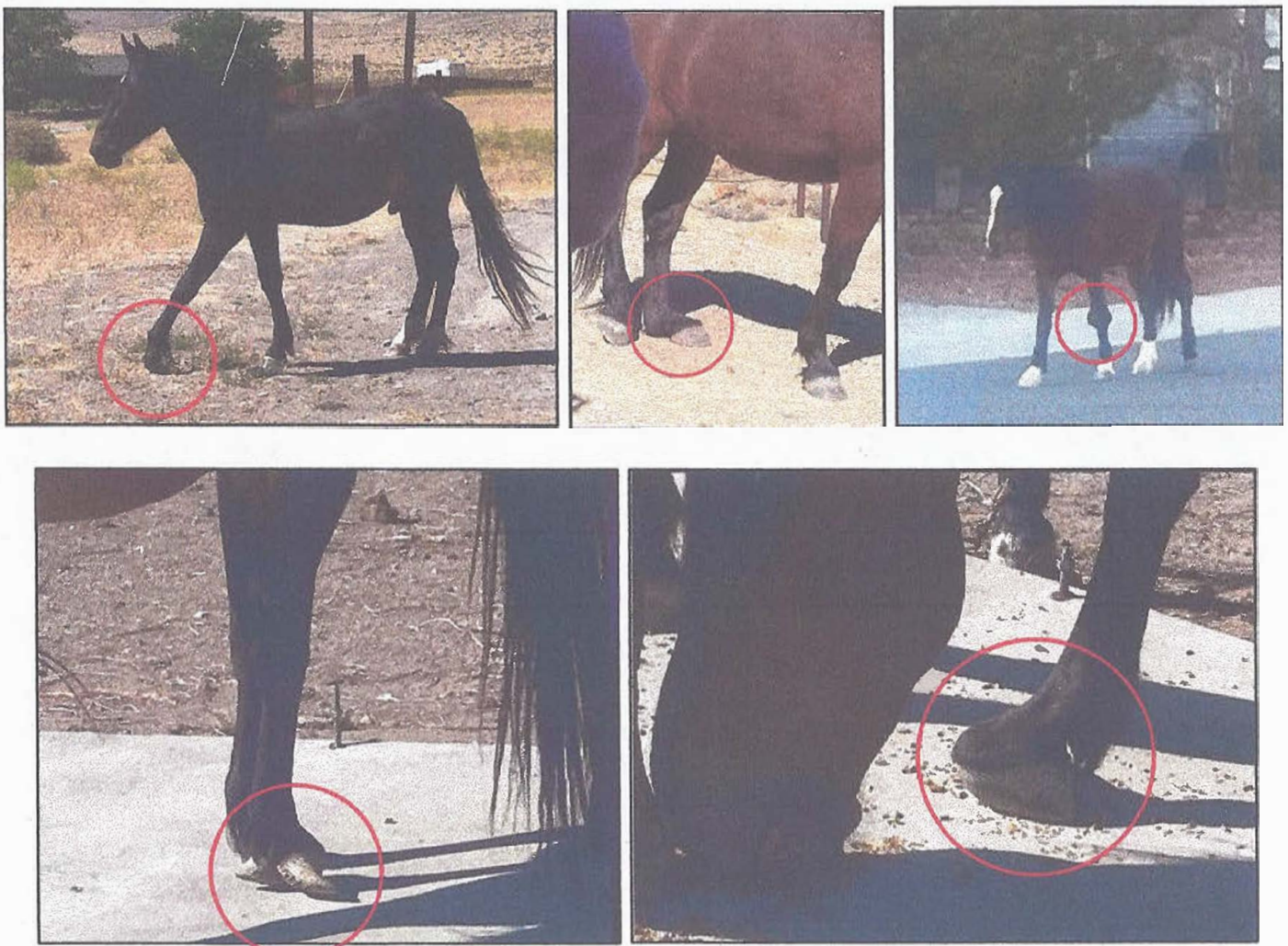




**Little Washoe Lake Area (This is the area off the north end of Eastlake Boulevard near old Hwy 395):**

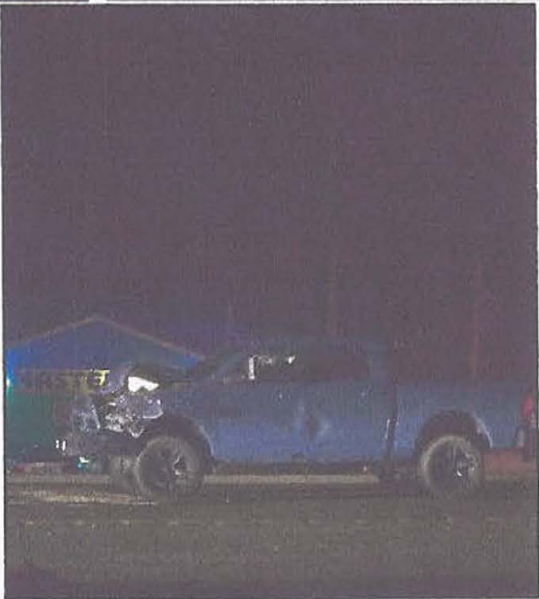
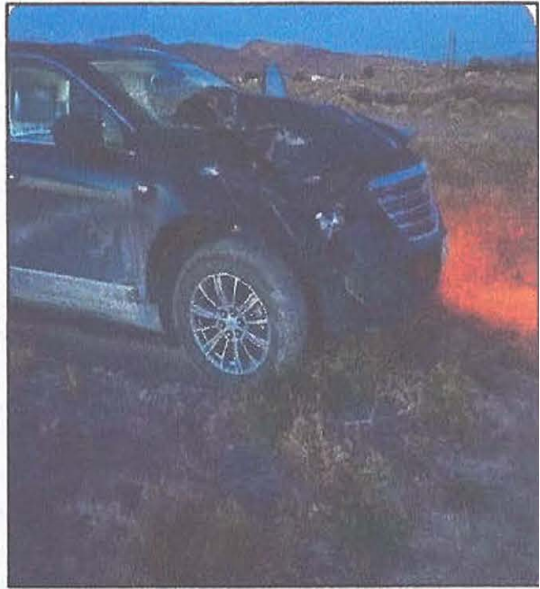


**#3 Pictures of examples of genetic / physical deformities (all pictures are just from 2024):**



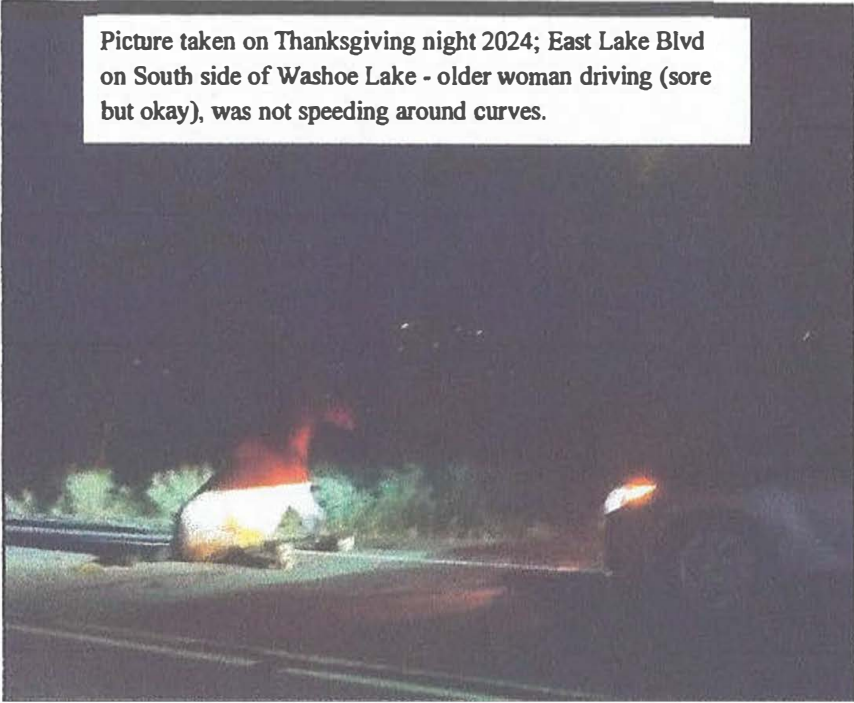


**#4 Pictures of examples of Public Safety Issues: Vehicle Collisions, Dead Horses, Public and Private Land Issues (all pictures are just from 2024)**

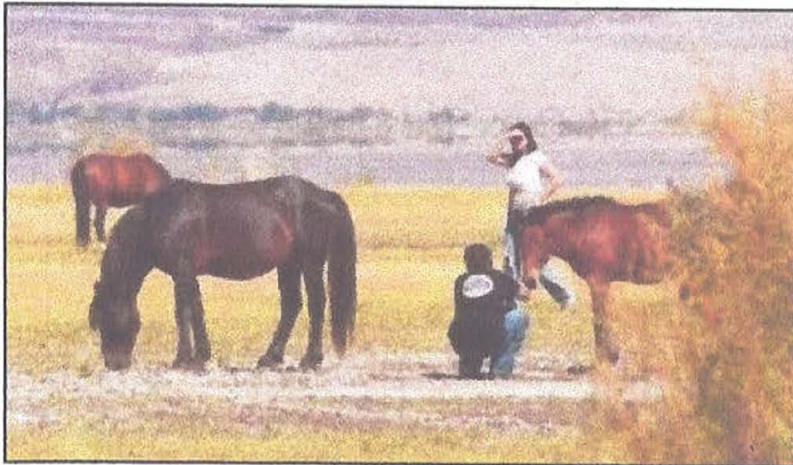
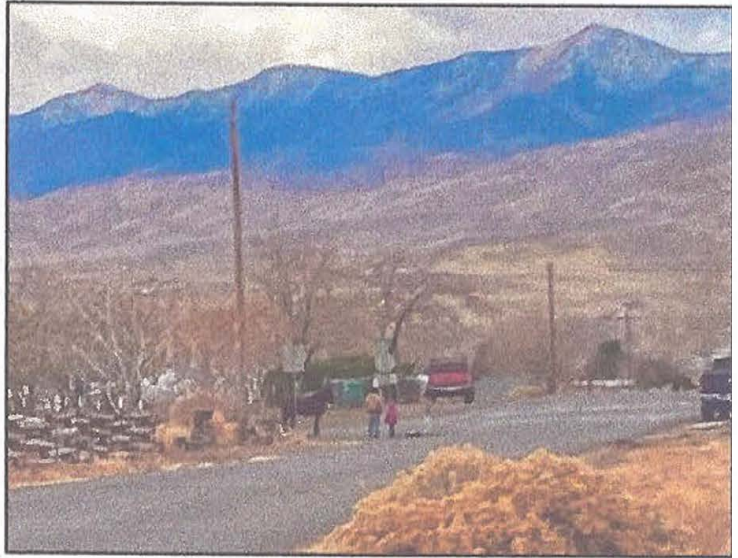




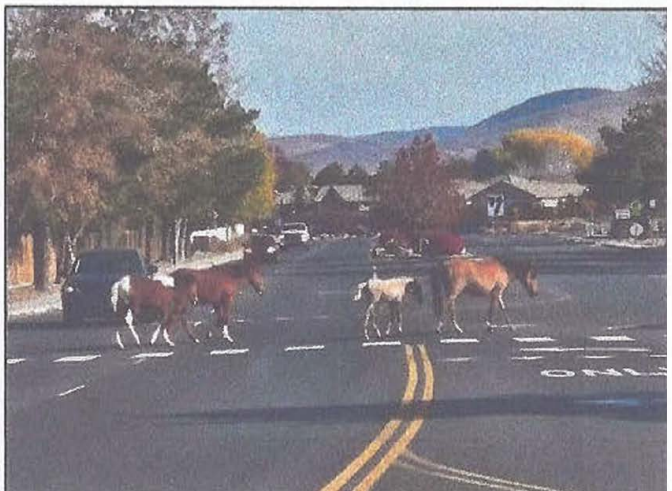
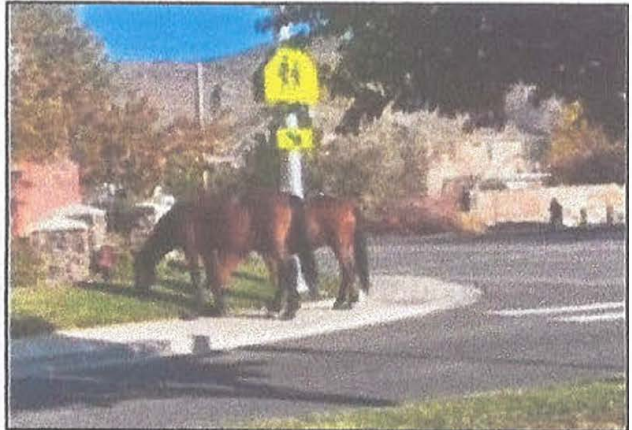
Picture taken on Thanksgiving night 2024; East Lake Blvd on South side of Washoe Lake - older woman driving (sore but okay), was not speeding around curves.











**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Fencing  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024 8:49:00 AM

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2024 2:51 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fencing

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Governor Lombardo,

The Virginia Range Wild Horses continue to be under attack by the Nevada Department of Agriculture.

This is a massive fencing project that will affect 100's of Virginia Range Wild Horses. The Virginia Range Wild Horses will be confused, they will die a thirst, be pushed into the Moundhouse area and end up on Highway 50.

The Virginia Range Wild Horses depend on the Steamboat Springs, Washoe Lake, and other small water sources in the area. This is inhumane, cruel and wrong.

Do not fence the Virginia Range Wild Horses off from their known water sources.

Thank you for your time.

Catherine Ryals



# PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

December 6, 2024 NDA Board Meeting

First and Last Name	Sherman Swanson
Organization	[REDACTED]
Email Address	swanson@unc.edu
Physical Address	[REDACTED]
City	Reno
State	NV
Zip Code	[REDACTED]
<input type="radio"/> Favor, <input type="radio"/> Opposition, <input type="radio"/> Neutral	
Wish to Speak ( <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes) or No	

Comment:

- When ~~at~~ horse populations are excessive reducing numbers becomes necessary
- When reductions are not possible exclusion fencing becomes necessary
- The question is not if horses it is where & what numbers sustain our desired mix of land uses with perennial vegetation
- Perennial vegetation <sup>not cheatgrass</sup> is needed for forage in dry years, wildlife habitat and soil protection. If we lose the soil we lose the future for all
- Riparian areas are the heart of wildlife habitat and excessive grazing throughout



The growing season destroys this habitat

- To keep the habitat for wildlfe and horses requires management.
- Nevada citizens must support proper management of horses that are the responsibility of Nevada.
- Thank you NSA for taking on this challenging endeavor and thanks to all of you for lending your voice for this important conversation.