



April 14, 2023

To: State Land Use Planning Advisory Council

From: Scott Carey AICP, State Lands Planner

RE: State Land Use Planning Agency Update

Since the February 3rd, meeting the Agency has been working on and tracking various activities, SLUPAC projects, Federal public lands and other legislation, and other issues of interest to the Council. The purpose of this memo and agenda item to provide the Council with an update on the agency and provide an opportunity to answer questions or provide additional information.

- 1) 2022 BLM A Sound Investment for America Brochure: Since the last Council meeting, the BLM has issued its annual A Sound Investment for America brochure. This report along with its accompanying report paint a picture of the economic contributions stemming from specific resource uses supported by BLM-managed lands and by BLM's labor and non-labor expenditures. The report includes interactive charts and statistics that the total economic output of recreation, renewable energy, mining, oil and gas, grazing, coal, and timber uses on public lands throughout the country. According to the report the total economic output of BLM lands in Nevada was \$29,333,000,003, which supported a total of 93,659 jobs.

A copy of the latest brochure which summarizes the information from the report is attached to this member. The full report along with the interactive charts and data is available [at this link](#).

- 2) Avi Kwa Ame National Monument: On March 21, 2023, President Biden issued a proclamation under the Antiquities Act to designate Avi Kwa Ame in Clark County as a National Monument. A copy of the full proclamation is available [at this link](#). The new national monument spans approximately 506,814 acres of lands managed by the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and National Park Service. A copy of the fact sheet issued by the White House for this designation is available [at this link](#).

Included in the White House's fact sheet provided was a paragraph that included an interesting perspective on the potential of renewable energy development on public lands in Nevada.

“The designation will not slow the positive momentum of clean energy development in the State of Nevada, which will continue to play a leading role in helping the nation meet its goal of permitting 25 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy by 2025. Outside of the national monument boundaries, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has identified more than 9 million acres of public lands within the State of Nevada that may be appropriate for solar development. Additionally, BLM is currently reviewing more than three dozen proposed renewable energy projects in the state that would add more than 13 GW of potential clean energy generation to the grid if constructed.”

- 3) Executive Order 2023-007: On March 21st, Governor Lombardo issued an Executive Order establishing the state's energy policy objectives. This order establishes a new energy policy for the State of Nevada and will remain in effect until December 31, 2033 unless terminated or extended by another Executive Order. Section 9 of the order requires that the Nevada Climate Strategy “be reviewed and revised, as applicable through a broad-based stakeholder effort, to reflect these policy directives.” Other parts of the order establish goals for increasing new energy infrastructure and projects that compliment Nevada's energy portfolio and promote in state energy resources. Section 5 of the order states encourages new policies to “reduce regulations and streamline the permitting process to provide for shorter approval timelines for energy projects while providing for appropriate environmental and cultural resource reviews. A copy of Executive Order 2023-007 is attached to this memo.
- 4) White Pine Pumped Storage Project Agenda Item Request: Earlier this month, staff received a request from Rhiannon Scanlon of rPlus Hydro for an future agenda item request about the White Pine Pumped Storage Project in White Pine County. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Friday August 4th in Eureka. Attached to this memo please find a copy of the request and some information about this project.
- 5) Federal Public Lands Bills: The Agency continues to track the progress of several Nevada specific public lands and natural resource Federal bills. As the 118th Congress and the Biden Administration begin their work, the Agency expects new Federal public land bills to move through the process or resurface over the next year. Below is a listing of the bills that the agency is tracking during the 118th Session.

Status of Legislation in the 118th Congress.

- Lake Tahoe Restoration Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1274) (S. 612) – [Congressman Amodei](#) introduced the House version of this bill on 3-1-23. [Senator Cortez Masto](#) introduced the Senate version of this bill on 3-1-23.
- Maude Frazier Mountain (H.R. 848) – [Congresswoman Titus](#) introduced this bill on 2-21-23.
- Nuclear Waster Informed Consent Act (H.R. 1051) (S. 404) - [Congresswoman Titus](#) introduced this this bill on 2-14-23.
- Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2023 (H.R. 178) – [Congressman Mike Levin \(CA-49\)](#) introduced this bill on 2-21-23.
- Avi Kwa Ame National Monument – On March 21, 2023, President Biden issued a proclamation under the Antiquities Act to designate Avi Kwa Ame in Clark County as a National Monument. The new national monument spans approximately 506,814 acres of lands managed by the Interior Department’s Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and National Park Service.
- Southern Nevada Economic Development and Conservation Act – No bill introduced yet.
- Ruby Mountains Protection Act – No bill introduced yet.
- Carson City Public Land Correction Act – No bill introduced yet.
- Elko National Cemetery Act – No bill introduced yet.
- Apex Area Technical Corrections Act – No bill introduced yet.
- Truckee Meadows Lands Bill – No bill introduced yet. Discussion draft of the proposed bill has been circulated to stakeholders.
- Nye County Lands Bill – No bill introduced yet.
- Lyon County Lands Bill – No bill introduced yet.
- Nevada Test and Training Range modernization & withdrawal – No bill introduced yet.
- Sunrise Mountain Protections – No bill introduced yet.