

The attached document was submitted to the **Washoe County Board of Commissioners** during the meeting held on February 14, 2017 by Commissioner Herman for Agenda Item No. 13 and included here pursuant to NRS 241.020(7) as amended by AB65 of the 2013 Legislative Session.



Nevada Land: Public Access For All

The Nevada Lands Council and our supporters are local people who care about protecting public access to public lands. Many of us are dedicated sportsmen and sportswomen. We love wildlife and the beauty of our outdoor places. Some of our friends in the hook and bullet world seem to misunderstand what profound benefits transferring public land to the state of Nevada would bring to this community. We share in the concern to protect opportunities for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities. We also want improved wildlife habitat and public access protected. We simply believe that can be best accomplished under state and local control. Read on for our response to the misinformation being perpetuated by some "Sportsmen" organizations.

[Visit our Website](#)

TRCP Flyer Misleads

The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) has recently created and distributed a flyer designed to persuade sportsmen to oppose the transfer of certain public lands to the states. If you would like to see the flyer; links to the document can be found below.

BCC 2-14-17 #13
Commissioner Herman

Here are some facts you need to be aware of:

- **Claim: 72% of western sportsmen depend on public lands for hunting.** That is likely true and will certainly not change except the access that is being lost now, under federal control, will be better protected by the state. If the state of NV controlled the land sportsmen access would be preserved and even improved.
- **Claim: The transfer effort is lead and fueled by special interests.** This is false. The legislation now in Congress calling for the transfer of those certain lands in Nevada is not sponsored by special interests as you have been told but is the product of the Nevada Land Management Task Force that was made up of one county commissioner from every county in Nevada. The Task Force produced a resolution calling for the transfer that was approved by all the counties, both houses of the NV legislature and signed by the Governor.
- **Claim: Land transferred to the states would become part of the state trust lands system.** This is COMPLETELY false. Trust lands are an economic tool to help fund public education. Land transferred to the state under our legislation would be managed under different agencies and with different policies. They would essentially become truly Multiple Use lands open and accessible to the public. Profitability would not dictate how the vast majority of these lands would be managed and retained in public ownership. Claims such as these are designed to scare people by misleading them.



[View Our Graphs Showing Ownership Changes Over Time](#)

- **Claim: State and local economies would take a serious hit and taxes will have to be increased.** This is also false. In fact the Task Force commissioned an economic analysis that determined that not only can Nevada afford to manage its own public lands but can expect a net revenue of three hundred and

Nebraska is federally owned. Are the citizens of NV not entitled to the same rights and opportunities as those citizens of other states? Even IF NV had no legal claim to the land; we certainly have the right to petition the Congress for the transfer. We can make a strong case that it is in the best interest of the country and local citizens, including sportsmen, to allow state and local governments ownership and management of local public land. So TRCP's claim regarding this point is mostly irrelevant.

Links to view TRCP Flyer:

[TRCP Flyer P1](#)

[TRCP Flyer P2](#)

**Want To Help?
Contact These 3 Congressmen,
TODAY!**

Click the link below to see our recent email with details on how to contact Congressmen Amodei, Chaffetz, and Bishop. We urgently need your help on this!

[Click Here To Help Us](#)



Nevada Lands Council | [\(775\) 778-9709](tel:7757789709) | www.nevadalandscouncil.org

STAY CONNECTED



fifty million dollars from doing so.

- **Claim: States can't afford to fight fires.**
The state of Idaho has created a state fire management plan that we will provide you in the near future. States are capable of not only controlling and suppressing fire but under state management large catastrophic fires will be reduced due to better management and quick aggressive response. The Nevada Land Management Task Force addresses this issue in the report and found it would be manageable. You can view that report in full by clicking this link: [NV Task Force Report](#)

Public Land Transfer Land Allocations



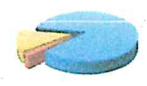
NEVADA LANDS COUNCIL
1000 S. RIVER BLVD., SUITE 100, LAS VEGAS, NV 89102
702.733.1234

Phase I will include the transfer of 20 million acres of public lands to the state. This includes the transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state and 10 million acres of public lands to the state. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016.

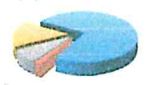
Phase II will include the transfer of 20 million acres of public lands to the state. This includes the transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state and 10 million acres of public lands to the state. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016.

Phase III will include the transfer of 20 million acres of public lands to the state. This includes the transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state and 10 million acres of public lands to the state. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016. The transfer of 10 million acres of public lands to the state will be completed by the end of 2016.

Current Nevada Land Allocations



Nevada Land Allocation after Phase I



Nevada Land Allocation after Phase II



- **Claim : Counties will lose out on federal funding known as Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT).**
This is partly true. Because Nevada becomes the new land lord the economic analysis determined the State can provide PILT funds that now come from the Federal Government to local counties. It should be noted that counties have to fight with the feds every year to get this payment and it is rarely paid in full. These funds are at jeopardy under federal control and often come with strings attached. The state will be a MUCH better partner to work with.
- **Claim: The State will sell the public land and it will be closed to hunting, fishing and access.** The only lands allowed by the legislation to be sold are not our hunting fishing and recreation lands but such lands as those already now designated for disposal by the Federal agencies, solar and geothermal zones and some lands on the Rail Road Corridor. *(see HR1484 for description). The legislation which determines how the land will be managed after the transfer mandates no net loss of public lands on the remaining land.
- **Claim: Nevada long ago relinquished any claim to America's public lands.** This also is not true. They quote part of our State Enabling Act that says "The people inhabiting said territory do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within the boundaries thereof." This statement was to clear the legal title to the public lands to allow the federal government to transfer the land into state or private control. It was never intended that the federal government would retain title to hundreds of millions of acres across the west. The State of Nebraska's Enabling Act is identical to Nevada's and only three percent of