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Nevada Natural Heritage Program

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Senate Finance - Assembly Ways and Means
Department of Conservation Natural Resources Hearing
Budget Highlights 4101
31 January 2003

The Nevada Natural Heritage Program systematically collects information on the occurrences, distribution, and population status of all sensitive species in Nevada. These data are continually updated and maintained in a system of computerized databases, topographic maps, GIS and manual files. The Program serves a clearinghouse for information on sensitive species, and sets priorities for conservation efforts based on species rarity, vulnerability, and management needs. Currently, the Program maintains detailed information on over 600 species of animals and plants and is expanding our documentation and inventory of the state's vegetation communities.

In a recent publication, States of the Union: Ranking America's Biodiversity (NatureServe, 2002), Nevada ranked 11th highest in the nation for overall species diversity. Our state was also ranked third in the nation for species at risk, 6th in number of endemic species, and 11th in the nation for number of extinctions.

Highlights:

Our staff of eight has recently expanded with a biologist supported by a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Nevada Biodiversity Initiative. A wetlands planner recently joined the staff to complete a statewide wetlands plan and coordinate the development of a wetland inventory and archive with support of an EPA grant.

Additional funding in Enhancements is requested in both years of the biennium in E-710 for computer replacements. These replacements will be funded with grants from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

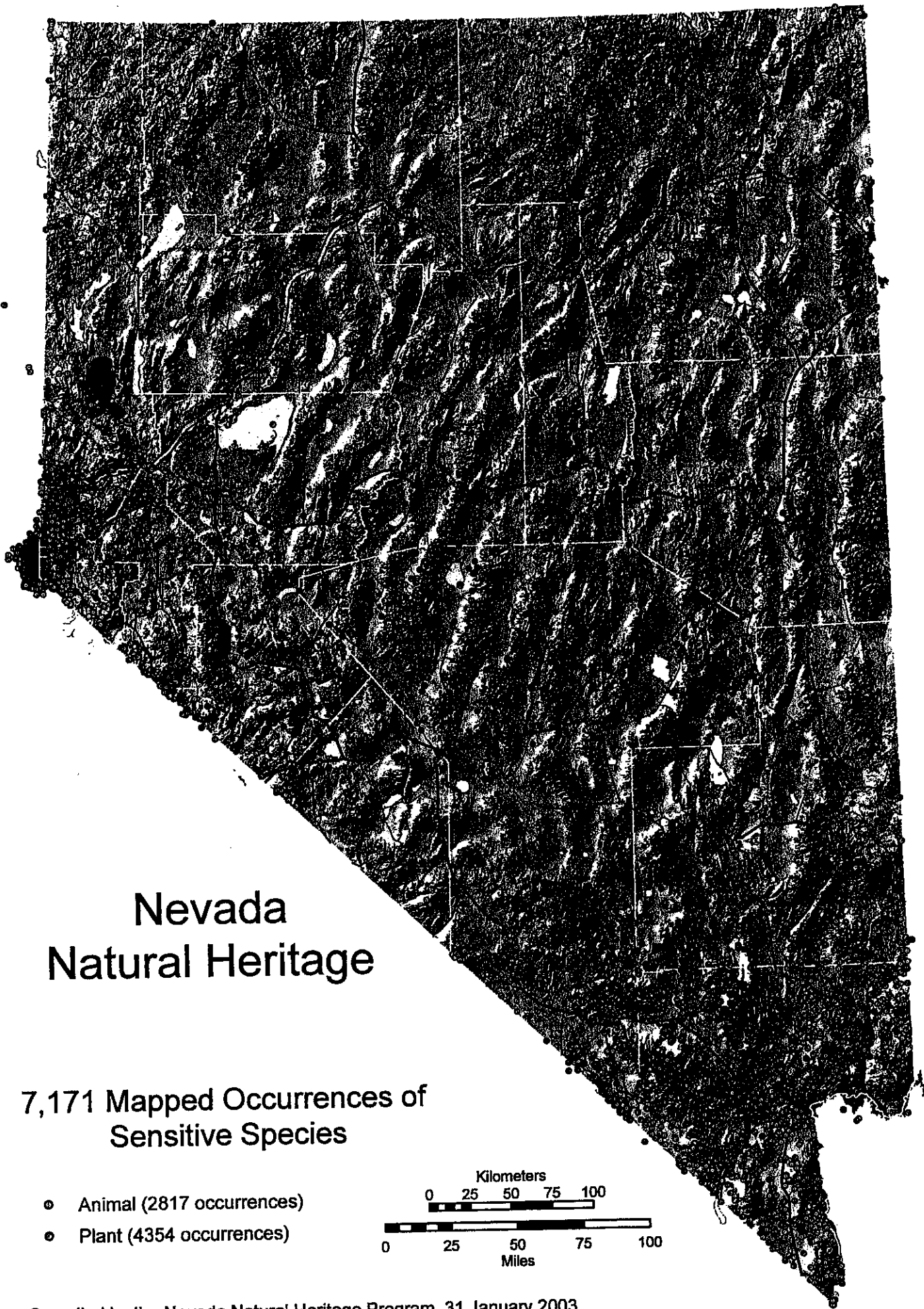
Our revenue for the biennium by percentage is:

	2003-2004	2004-2005
Federal grants	44%	33%
Department of Transportation	41	50
General Funds	13	15
Fees	2	2

Glenn H. Clemmer
Program Manager

EXHIBIT G Senate Committee on Finance

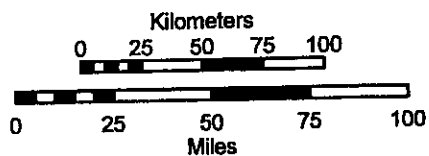
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Nevada Natural Heritage

7,171 Mapped Occurrences of
Sensitive Species

- Animal (2817 occurrences)
- Plant (4354 occurrences)



Compiled by the Nevada Natural Heritage Program, 31 January 2003