

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
OF THE
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, NATURAL RESOURCES,
AND TRANSPORTATION
AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Seventy-Seventh Session
April 4, 2013**

A joint meeting of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means' Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources, and Transportation and the Senate Committee on Finance's Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Transportation was called to order by Chairman David P. Bobzien at 8:06 a.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2013, in Room 2134 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775-684-6835).

ASSEMBLY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Chairman
Assemblyman Tom Grady
Assemblyman John Hambrick
Assemblyman Michael Sprinkle

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Pete Goicoechea, Chairman
Senator David R. Parks
Senator Joyce Woodhouse

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER EXCUSED:

Assemblywoman Marilyn K. Kirkpatrick



STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cindy Jones, Assembly Fiscal Analyst
Mark Krmpotic, Senate Fiscal Analyst
Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst
Linda Blevins, Committee Secretary
Cynthia Wyett, Committee Assistant

Chairman Bobzien advised that the agenda included budget closings for the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

INFRASTRUCTURE

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (101-4205)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-19**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, stated that staff had not identified any major closing issues in the budget account. The Governor recommended a combination of General Funds and historic preservation grant funds totaling \$13,086 over the 2013-2015 biennium to reclassify a historic preservation specialist 2 position to a historic preservation specialist 3 position.

The agency said that new supervisory and management responsibilities had been added to the duties of the position since its establishment in 2006. The recommendation for the reclassification appeared reasonable to staff.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY MOVED TO CLOSE BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4205 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Assemblyman Hambrick voiced concern that many small towns and communities in the Comstock area were challenged because of the commercialization of the area and the age of the buildings. He wanted to ensure historic buildings in the area were monitored to ensure the historic value was retained.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 3

Chairman Bobzien stated that the next budget item on the agenda was the Comstock Historic District and suggested the Subcommittees could obtain an update at that time.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

COMSTOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT (101-5030)

BUDGET PAGE DCNR-24

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, explained that staff had identified one major closing issue regarding increased hours for an administrative assistant 1 position in decision unit Enhancement (E) 805. The Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$27,921 over the 2013-2015 biennium to increase the employment status of a part-time administrative assistant 1 position from a 0.15 full-time equivalent (FTE) to 0.50 FTE. The position was originally funded as a 0.51 FTE but because of budget reductions was reduced to 0.15 FTE. Staff had identified two problems with restoring the position to 0.50 FTE.

The first concern identified was that based on hours worked, a 0.50 FTE level position was required to enroll in the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and was eligible for health insurance through the Public Employees' Benefits Program. There would be no cost savings benefit between the 0.51 FTE and the 0.50 FTE.

The second identified area of concern was that 0.50 FTE positions were not only required to enroll in PERS but also to contribute to a deferred compensation account through the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) alternative plan. The state, in certain cases, would be required to pay into Social Security for that position.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 4

If the Subcommittees chose to approve the position at a 0.51 FTE rather than a 0.50 FTE as recommended by the Governor, there would be a General Fund savings of \$1,005 during the 2013-2015 biennium.

Mr. Thorley explained there were two options for consideration by the Subcommittees. The first option was to approve the position as recommended by the Governor which increased the position from a 0.15 FTE to a 0.50 FTE.

The second option for the Subcommittees was to approve the increase from a 0.15 FTE position to a 0.51 FTE position. This option would save \$1,005 in General Funds during the 2013-2015 biennium.

Chairman Bobzien requested agency staff provide testimony to answer the concerns voiced earlier by Assemblyman Hambrick.

Rebecca Palmer, Acting State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, explained that the Comstock Historic District Commission oversaw the development and rehabilitation activities on the Comstock. The Commission would retain the full authority to ensure that all development was consistent with current guidelines and had been approved by the full Commission. Any proposed development within the purview of the Comstock Historic District Commission would be reviewed in a public hearing.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE OPTION 2 AND
TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE
NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not
present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE PARKS (101-4162)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-50

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, noted that staff had identified two major closing considerations.

The first was under decision unit Enhancement (E) 226 regarding credit card terminals at nine state park locations. The Governor recommended General Funds of \$11,267 in fiscal year (FY) 2014 and \$6,000 in FY 2015. Currently there were four locations that accepted credit cards, including Lahontan State Recreation Area, Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park-Sand Harbor, Valley of Fire State Park, and the Division headquarters in Carson City. The recommendation would add the new locations of Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area, Lahontan State Recreation Area (east entrance by the dam), the northern region office near Fallon, the Panaca Visitor Center, Rye Patch State Recreation Area, South Fork State Recreation Area (fee booth and park office), Spring Mountain Ranch State Park (two locations), Valley of Fire State Park (east entrance), and Washoe Lake State Park (two locations).

Mr. Thorley stated that in response to questions from the Subcommittees, the agency had confirmed that all infrastructure was in place at the new locations to install the machines. The agency also said that not only was infrastructure in place, but the machines would be placed in areas that met customer demand.

The Governor recommended the purchase of 12 credit card machines and pin pads at a total cost of \$5,267 (\$439 each per bundle). Additionally, there was a cost of \$6,000 in FY 2014 and \$6,000 in FY 2015 for merchant fees payable through the state's contracted vendor, First Data Government Solutions. The estimated cost of the credit card machines and projected merchant fees appeared reasonable to staff.

The question for the Subcommittees was whether they wished to approve the Governor's recommendation to add 12 new credit card terminals at 9 state park locations.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK MOVED TO APPROVE THE
GOVERNOR RECOMMENDED PURCHASE OF 12 CREDIT CARD

MACHINES TO BE LOCATED IN 9 STATE PARKS UNDER
DECISION UNIT E-226.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not
present for the vote.)

The second area of concern, as explained by Mr. Thorley, was in decision unit E-752, the restoration of one maintenance repair specialist 2 position. The Governor recommended General Funds totaling \$91,065 over the 2013-2015 biennium. The 2011 Legislature eliminated two maintenance repair specialist 2 positions, one at Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area and one at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park. The agency said that elimination of the positions would negatively affect the ability to properly care for all of the buildings and grounds at those two locations. The restored position would be located at the southern division office but would roam throughout the 11 state parks in the southern district concentrating efforts at Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area and Spring Mountain Ranch State Park.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE
GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO RESTORE ONE
MAINTENANCE REPAIR SPECIALIST 2 POSITION IN DECISION
UNIT E-752.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not
present for the vote.)

Mr. Thorley moved to other closing items in budget account (BA) 4162.

1. The Governor recommended elimination of a vacant conservation staff specialist 2 position (decision unit E-225) assigned to the Recreational Trails Program, for a grant fund savings of \$129,455 over the 2013-2015 biennium. The duties of the eliminated position would be transferred to an existing position.
2. The Governor recommended General Fund appropriations of \$1,148 in decision unit E-227 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to allow

both the administrator and deputy administrator of the Division to attend the National Association of State Parks Directors conference.

3. The Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$251,840 in decision unit Maintenance 425 in FY 2014 for various deferred maintenance projects throughout the state. The agency said the deferred maintenance projects contributed to a healthier and safer environment for state park employees and the public.
4. The Governor recommended additional General Funds of \$165 in decision unit E-350 in the 2013-2015 biennium to add a sun protection hat to the lifeguard and beach patrol uniform allowance.
5. In decision unit E-710, the Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$109,223 in FY 2014 for replacement vehicles and parts. In decision unit E-711, the Governor recommended total funding of \$110,340 in FY 2014 for replacement computer hardware and software. In decision unit E-711, \$105,131 was recommended funded from the General Fund and \$5,209 was recommended funded from Question 1 [a 2002 ballot question approved by the voters] bond revenue.
6. In decision unit E-720, the Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$11,995 in FY 2014 for a 17-foot, flat-bottom boat and trailer for use at Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area.
7. In decision unit E-750, the Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$2,364 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to restore travel funding as well as funding for membership dues and registration fees for one position in the Division to attend an annual conference of the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers. Decision unit E-751 contained the Governor recommended General Fund appropriation of \$7,000 in FY 2014 to restore funding for a biennial training academy for employees of the Division of State Parks.
8. In decision unit E-802, the Governor recommended a change in the cost allocation. The Governor recommended a transfer of dispatch services and related expenditures from the Highway Patrol account to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) general services account.

Decision units E-802 and E-803 would align the cost allocation that the Division of State Parks paid to DPS for dispatch services provided at several state parks. There would be a net savings of \$956 over the biennium. This recommendation appeared reasonable to staff. If approved, staff requested authority to make technical adjustments based on how the DPS budget accounts were closed.

According to Mr. Thorley, the next five items were for informational purposes only and no action was required.

9. Assembly Bill 467 was a one-shot appropriation of \$371,023 to replace DPS and law-enforcement equipment.
10. There were two capital improvement projects [decision units Maintenance (M) 37 and M-53] recommended in The Executive Budget for state parks. One was at Spring Valley State Park to replace underground electrical lines and the second was at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park to restore adobe walls and repair windows on historic buildings.
11. Assembly Bill 58 required the Division of State Parks to offer free annual passes to certain disabled veterans for all Nevada state parks.
12. Senate Bill 121 allowed the transfer of ownership of the Belmont Courthouse to Nye County. Belmont Courthouse was under the Division of State Parks; however, the agency did not expend any operating funds and no savings were anticipated.
13. The 2011 Legislature approved funding from the federal Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) of \$250,000 in each year of the 2011-2013 biennium to fund operating expenses at Lahontan and Rye Patch State Recreation Areas. The Division said that the funding was not absolutely guaranteed to continue in the upcoming biennium. The agency testified the possibility of losing funding appeared to be remote.

Mr. Thorley believed all closing items appeared reasonable to staff and recommended closing as recommended by the Governor with the authority for staff to make technical adjustments.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 9

In reference to the \$250,000 funding received from the BOR, Senator Goicoechea asked where the money would come from if the federal funding was cut.

Mr. Thorley responded that because of the remoteness of the possibility, the agency had not developed a plan to fund the \$250,000.

Senator Goicoechea suggested the agency should consider the possibility.

David K. Morrow, Administrator, Division of State Parks, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), testified that the Division had worked closely with BOR to continue the funding. The problem was sequestration [the automatic across-the-board cuts necessitated by the Budget Control Act of 2011] and the possibility of budget cutbacks. Conversations with BOR suggested the Division could try two approaches: (1) to apply for grants (which had been done), and (2) for BOR to avoid running the Lahontan State Recreation Area. The BOR would attempt to find the money to pay for the parks. For Nevada, there was no option. If the state lost \$500,000 in the biennium, there would be no choice but to close at least one of the parks. The reason the DCNR recommended closing the Lahontan State Recreation Area was because it was not owned by DCNR. It would be catastrophic to the Division to lose the funding.

Assemblyman Grady pointed out that if Lahontan State Recreation Area closed, there would be no way for the Lyon County Sheriff's Office to take over running the park. There was no way to prevent people from using the area.

Mr. Morrow agreed with Assemblyman Grady. Representatives from both Lyon County and Churchill County said they had neither the desire nor resources to manage the Lahontan State Recreation Area. The state would have to turn the area over to the BOR that had acknowledged there was no physical way to close the area to the public. Mr. Morrow believed that the Division of State Parks was the only entity capable of managing the Lahontan State Recreation Area. In that scenario, it would be necessary to appear before the Interim Finance Committee to request assistance.

Assemblyman Sprinkle inquired whether the Legislature could assist the agency during the interim with finding funds to keep Lahontan State Recreation Area operational if the federal funding was lost.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 10

Chairman Bobzien answered that was a possibility and a concern. He requested staff provide options to the Subcommittees for consideration. He was hopeful that funding would not be lost.

Mr. Thorley advised there would be an opportunity for the agency to request a contingency allocation from the IFC contingency account. It would first have to be approved by the Executive Branch through the State Board of Examiners. If approved there, it would come before IFC for approval.

It appeared to Senator Goicoechea that the DCNR had decided that lost funding would result in turning the management of Lahontan State Recreation Area over to BOR to fund the program.

Mr. Morrow concurred with Senator Goicoechea's understanding. The DCNR, according to Mr. Morrow, believed that BOR should be an equal partner in managing Lahontan State Recreation Area and Rye Patch State Recreation Area. He thought that BOR was doing everything possible, but no one knew what would happen with sequestration. The BOR neither wanted to manage nor was capable of managing the recreation areas.

[Chairman Bobzien had left the room and Senator Goicoechea, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee, assumed the duties of the chair.] Senator Goicoechea agreed and noted there appeared to be no choice.

Assemblyman Grady questioned whether the changes to the dispatch services in decision units E-802 and E-803 would be an improvement in the service.

Mr. Morrow advised that a change to the DPS general services account reflected a change in the dispatch services and related expenditures from the Highway Patrol account. There would be no change in the communication services.

There being no additional questions or comments, Senator Goicoechea called for a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE
ITEMS 1 THROUGH 13 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR
AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO
MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblymen Bobzien and Kirkpatrick were not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FORESTRY (101-4195)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-84**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, noted there were two items that the Subcommittees should consider for budget account (BA) 4195.

The first area of concern was in decision unit Enhancement (E) 350. The Governor recommended General Funds of \$67,366 in fiscal year (FY) 2014 and \$67,387 in FY 2015 for replacement of the funding for 12 positions that were partially allocated and provided support for the departing (all-risk) fire protection districts pursuant to chapter 473 of the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) in BA 4227 Forestry Inter-Governmental Agreements account.

Under the FY 2000 agreement, assessments were charged to the counties in the all-risk fire protection districts to cover certain administrative costs; however, over the past several biennia, movement was made toward eliminating those all-risk fire protection districts. Mr. Thorley stated the last of the districts would be eliminated at the end of the 2013-2015 biennium.

Mr. Thorley explained the agency stated that as a result of the eliminations, a General Fund backfill was needed to replace the lost county assessment revenue to hold the Division of Forestry harmless from a budgetary perspective. The 12 positions currently funded by the assessment provided administrative support and were partially allocated to the all-risk fire protection districts. The agency said that when the all-risk fire protection districts were eliminated, the positions would be needed in the administrative office to continue to perform functions on a statewide basis.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 12

The General Fund request was based on Carson City and Storey County leaving the NRS chapter 473 fire districts. Eureka County was anticipated to withdraw in July 2015. Mr. Thorley stated that as a result, it appeared that Eureka County would continue making the assessment payments for half of the fiscal year to fund the administrative positions.

The question before the Subcommittees was whether they wanted to approve the Governor's recommendation to replace partial funding for the 12 positions with General Funds. Mr. Thorley advised that if the recommendation was approved, staff recommended reducing General Funds in FY 2014 to \$60,335 to take into account the continued operation of the Eureka County all-risk fire protection district through January 1, 2014.

[Chairman Bobzien resumed the duties of the chair.]

Senator Goicoechea expressed concern at having only three counties in the all-risk fire protection districts and how the jurisdictions would overlap. He believed that when counties were billed an assessment, they would attempt to bill each other for firefighting costs.

Pete Anderson, State Forester, Division of Forestry, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, responded that the state was entering a transitional period in the handling of wildfires. He believed that nearly all of the fire responses in the state were multijurisdictional. There was a "cost share," whether with federal or local jurisdictions. In the event of a wildfire in central Nevada, the state was responsible for wildland fire protection and the responses would not change. The billing processes would be based on the jurisdiction damaged by the wildfire and the response costs. When the state was fully into the Wildland Fire Protection Program (WFPP) on July 1, 2013, a wildfire would be managed in a more complete manner. When Elko County was ready to transition, it would easily merge into the WFPP.

Responding to Senator Goicoechea, Mr. Anderson stated that, as an example, if there was a large fire in Humboldt County in June 2013, and the program was not effective until July 1, 2013, the fire suppression efforts would be the responsibility of Humboldt County. Typically, the worst fire season for central and northeastern Nevada was August. After July the billing procedures would be seamless for those counties joining the WFPP.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 13

Assemblyman Sprinkle pointed out that typically the multijurisdictional fires were large fires and the costs increased with the size of the fire. If that was the case, federal assistance would be available to the state.

Mr. Anderson explained there was a 24-hour mutual aid period for all of the wildland fire responses. If a fire exceeded the initial attack program and moved to an extended attack fire of a few days, the cost share would determine which jurisdiction was responsible for what cost. There were federal funds available through the Fire Management Assistance Grant Program that had been used effectively throughout the state in the past. An application for that funding was submitted in the first few minutes of a major fire.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY MOVED TO APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION UNIT E-350 WITH A REDUCTION OF \$7,031 IN FY 2014 AS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF AND TO AUTHORIZE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

Senator Goicoechea noted that conversations with Eureka County confirmed it anticipated transitioning on January 1, 2014.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, noted the second item for consideration in budget account (BA) 4195, decision unit Enhancement (E) 500 was a change in funding source for the insect and disease program manager. The Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$102,702 in fiscal year (FY) 2014 and \$104,614 in FY 2015 to fund a conservation staff specialist 2 position previously funded by the federal Consolidated Payments Grant. The agency said that over the past several years the grant had been reduced by 20 percent and anticipated a 9 percent reduction because of federal sequestration [the automatic across-the-board cuts necessitated by the Budget Control Act of 2011]. The duties performed by the position, according to the agency, were required by statute for management of the insect and disease program.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 14

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION UNIT E-500 AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised the Subcommittees that other closing items were as follows:

1. In decision unit Enhancement (E) 492, the Governor recommended a reduction of \$358,863 over the 2013-2015 biennium in federal Emergency Supplemental Hazardous Fuels Reduction grant funds. The recommendation eliminated three grant-funded positions, all of which were vacant. The program was eliminated and funds expired at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2012.
2. In decision unit E-710, the Governor recommended General Funds of \$43,456, cost-allocation reimbursement of \$22,035, transfers from the Forestry Inter-Governmental Agreements account of \$5,032, and transfers from the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program of \$1,400 over the 2013-2015 biennium for replacement computer hardware and software.
3. In decision unit E-800, the Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$6,000 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to fund the Division of Forestry portion of two cost-allocated positions (a public information officer 1 and an information technology technician 4) in the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Administration account [BA 4150]. The positions were recommended to be reclassified from existing vacant positions in the DCNR Administration account. The recommendation appeared reasonable to staff; however, staff requested authority to make necessary technical adjustments based on the Subcommittees actions in closing the DCNR Administration account.

4. In decision unit E-903, the Governor recommended transfers from the Division of Minerals of \$94,463 and General Funds of \$31,487 over the 2013-2015 biennium to fund a forester 3 position related to the sage grouse ecosystem protection initiative. The transfer was subject to approval of the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team. Staff requested authority to make necessary technical adjustments based on the Subcommittees' actions in closing the DCNR Administration account.
5. Assembly Bill 469 (decision unit E-888) contained a one-shot General Fund appropriation of \$1,311,065 in FY 2014 to purchase replacement firefighting equipment.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK MOVED TO APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR ITEMS 1 THROUGH 4 AND TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

FORESTRY-WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM (101-4194)

BUDGET PAGE DCNR-95

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, advised the Subcommittees that budget account (BA) 4194, the Wildland Fire Protection Program (WFPP), was a new budget account recommended by the Governor. The Governor recommended a General Fund appropriation of \$448,694 and county assessment revenue of \$3.575 million over the 2013-2015 biennium to support a proposed voluntary, risk-based WFPP. This program included the addition of 17 new positions (11 in FY 2014 and 6 in FY 2015), funding for 12 seasonal firefighters in FY 2014, and 2 seasonal firefighters in FY 2015.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 16

Mr. Thorley noted the agency said the new WFPP augmented state-operated wildland fire management services throughout Nevada by providing aerial and ground fire suppression capabilities, fire prevention planning services, and natural resource health and restoration expertise to all participating counties and jurisdictions.

Mr. Thorley stated that the Division of Forestry (NDF) was undergoing a transitional period, moving away from the all-risk fire protection district toward the WFPP. The "all-risk" meant that in addition to wildland firefighting, the Division was responsible for responding to automobile accidents, chemical spills, health calls, and other incidents.

During the 2011 Session, the Legislature approved eliminating the remaining three chapter 473 of the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) all-risk fire protection districts; Eureka County, part of Clark County, and Elko County. Eureka County said that it would withdraw from the NRS chapter 473 fire districts in mid-2015. Clark and Elko Counties would withdraw before the end of 2015.

According to Mr. Thorley, the agency said that the new program would educate and prepare landowners to reduce the threat of wildfire and to provide a well-trained and well-equipped wildland fire suppression force to respond to wildland fires and to rehabilitate land damaged by wildfires. Under the current NRS chapter 473 district program, the counties were restricted geographically. According to the Division, the new WFPP would be a statewide program that allowed moving resources from area to area based on the needs during the fire season. At the beginning of the fire season, firefighting resources would be based in southern Nevada but would move throughout the state as needed.

In response to questions from the Subcommittees at the March 14, 2013, budget hearing, Mr. Thorley stated that the agency said that the counties would benefit in numerous ways by joining the WFPP. The benefits included greater focus on traditional local government emergency response roles while the state coordinated wildfire prevention, suppression, and rehabilitation; provided mobility and flexibility of fire suppression resources; provided access to the resources in the forest fire suppression account; and reduced the risk of responsibility for large fire bills from other entities. It was stated at the hearing that the WFPP represented an insurance program for the local governments. The local governments would pay an annual assessment to the NDF, and the NDF would be responsible for wildland fire suppression in that district.

Mr. Thorley pointed out that the agency said that the WFPP would commence on July 1, 2013. According to the agency, the DCNR had met with 13 of the 17 counties and the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties regarding the WFPP. The feedback received had been positive. In response to questions from the Subcommittees, the agency said that it was finalizing agreements for participation in the WFPP with the following entities: Storey County, Lander County, Carson City, Humboldt County, Douglas County fire protection district, and Washoe County fire protection district. The City of Reno, Pershing County, White Pine County, Lincoln County, and Clark County said they would be joining the WFPP on or about July 1, 2013. According to the agency, no county had declined participation. Participation in the WFPP was voluntary and if a local jurisdiction did not participate, it would continue under the existing model and be billed by the state for any resources provided by the state for wildland fire suppression in that jurisdiction.

The Governor recommended funding with a combination of General Funds and county assessments. Mr. Thorley explained that the General Fund portion was \$448,694 over the 2013-2015 biennium to support a pilot 3 position, expenditures related to restoring and reseeded land damaged by wildfire and suppression-related activities, and a portion of the continuing training requirements for firefighters.

Mr. Thorley stated that if a county committed to participate in the WFPP, the county would be charged an annual assessment to support the program. The agency developed the following criteria to evaluate each of the counties to determine the amount of the annual assessment:

- Land ownership and management
- Vegetation type
- Fire history
- Population, population distribution, and urbanization
- Values at risk, risk management, and other mitigation factors
- Emergency service capacity and threat reduction activities.

Based on the assessment, the agency evaluated and classified each county into one of six categories with a fixed annual assessment assigned to each category. The categories ranged from minimal risk with an annual assessment of \$25,000 to high-risk with an annual assessment of \$400,000. The lowest risk counties were Churchill, Esmeralda, and Mineral, while the high-risk counties were Elko and Washoe. Mr. Thorley noted some counties, such as

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 18

Washoe County, had multiple jurisdictions, but the maximum cost for the county would be \$400,000.

Mr. Thorley said that as far as accountability for the program was concerned, the agency had identified three performance indicators:

1. Jurisdictional fires contained during first burn period. The goal was to have a strong initial attack and keep wildfires small to reduce the overall costs compared to wildfires that burned beyond the first burn period. This measurement tracked the number of fires contained during the first burn period.
2. Billable incident reports submitted timely. The measurement gauged the efficiency of the central reporting unit to maximize reimbursements to the state. The performance measure was derived by determining the percentage of incident billings that were submitted within the required time frame.
3. Mutual aid requests filled. The agency said the measurement gauged the adequacy and availability of emergency response functions with the Division. The performance measure was derived by dividing the number of mutual aid requests filled by the total number of mutual aid requests over the same time frame.

At the budget hearing on March 14, 2013, the agency said that it was willing to provide regular reports on the status of the WFPP to the Legislature. Mr. Thorley also noted that the agency said that quarterly reports were sufficient; however, the Subcommittees might consider semiannual reports to allow sufficient data to be accumulated for each report. Staff recommended the reports be submitted to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC). If desired, the Subcommittees could issue a letter of intent to the agency for submission of the reports to IFC.

Mr. Thorley pointed out that the decision for the Subcommittees was whether to approve the Governor's recommendation to create the WFPP with 17 new positions funded by a combination of General Funds and county assessment

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 19

revenue. If approved, the Subcommittees might consider directing a letter of intent to the Division to require periodic reporting updates to the IFC.

In response to Chairman Bobzien, Pete Anderson, State Forester, Division of Forestry, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, explained that the risk assessment was completed for all Washoe County jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction was reviewed, thoroughly assessing the responsibilities, capabilities to respond, frequency of fire, vegetation types, and other pieces. Following the assessment, a proportional breakdown of the \$400,000 total was prepared. The City of Reno and the City of Sparks were included as components of the proportional breakdown of the whole.

Chairman Bobzien asked Mr. Anderson the best time frame for reports to be submitted to IFC. Mr. Anderson explained that it could sometimes take months for fire bills to be compiled based on the size and duration of the incident. He suggested by the fall of each year a report could be submitted detailing the incidents during the fire season and providing an estimate for the upcoming fire season.

Senator Goicoechea believed that by early March the DCNR could have a reasonable estimate for the upcoming fire season. He expressed concern that some of the counties might withdraw from WFPP. It appeared that more money would be generated through collection of the assessments for WFPP than was originally anticipated. He asked what DCNR was planning to do with the reserve fund.

Mr. Anderson said that the reserve fund would provide some flexibility during the first years of the WFPP. The DCNR planned to work with the Legislature to ensure the monies were used wisely. Additionally, reports would be provided to the counties to show how the WFPP was working for them.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO CREATE THE WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM AND TO REQUIRE A LETTER OF INTENT FOR SEMIANNUAL REPORTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE INTERIM FINANCE COMMITTEE IN OCTOBER AND MARCH AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION (101-4196)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-97**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided an overview of budget account (BA) 4196, Forest Fire Suppression. The budget account was the primary funding account for all the wildland fires and other emergencies in the all-risk districts.

According to Mr. Thorley, one major closing problem was identified by staff in decision unit Enhancement (E) 350, the reimbursement revenue for vehicle repairs. As part of the new Wildland Fire Protection Program (WFPP), the Governor recommended fleet operating charges to be tracked separately from other incident-related reimbursements. In each year of the 2013-2015 biennium, reimbursement revenue of up to \$250,000 generated from those charges would be available for transfer to the Division of Forestry account. The account contained the majority of the Division's wildland fire suppression equipment. Currently, when the agency billed for services, all reimbursement revenue was received by BA 4196 and was used to pay for firefighting expenses until the end of the fiscal year, at which time the unexpended funding reverted to the General Fund.

The agency said that the current funding was insufficient to cover anything more than routine maintenance and small repairs on the fire suppression vehicles. The agency said it would be able to fund major repairs in a timely manner by permitting any unexpended vehicle reimbursement revenue at the end of the fiscal year to be transferred to the account containing the fire suppression vehicles. The agency noted that if an emergency vehicle was unable to respond because of mechanical failure, not only did the agency lose the opportunity to bill for use of the vehicle, but the agency was required to pay for a cooperator for use of equipment.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 21

The Governor recommended any unspent revenue from fleet operating charges be transferred to the Division of Forestry account at the end of the fiscal year and be made available for vehicle maintenance and repairs. Mr. Thorley noted that if approved, language must be added to the Appropriations Act to give the agency authority to transfer up to \$250,000 each year for the equipment expenses.

Mr. Thorley pointed out the Subcommittees must consider whether to approve the Governor's recommendation for authority for the agency to transfer up to \$250,000 in unexpended vehicle reimbursement revenue in each fiscal year to the Division of Forestry account and to add language to the Appropriations Act to grant the agency authority to balance forward the unexpended vehicle repair funding.

In response to Senator Goicoechea, Mr. Thorley clarified that currently any unexpended reimbursement funding at the end of the fiscal year was reverted to the General Fund. The change would allow the Division to retain \$250,000; however, any amount over the \$250,000 would be transferred to the General Fund.

Pete Anderson, State Forester, Division of Forestry, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, stated that the major vehicle repair expenses were engines and transmissions. The Division planned to use some of the revenue for repair costs. In a slow fire season, the revenue generated could be as little as \$10,000; therefore, the Division would have a cap on the repairs of \$250,000.

Senator Goicoechea was concerned that \$250,000 was not sufficient for a major equipment repair.

Dave Prather, Deputy Administrator, Division of Forestry, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, answered that all of the funds were deposited into one account. The Division was proposing to separate and track the funds because equipment was billed separately. The budget was set up for routine maintenance and small repairs. High-cost repairs forced trucks out of service during fire season. Having the funds available would allow repairs to be performed so equipment was available during peak fire season.

Senator Goicoechea commented that if there was a catastrophic fire season, the \$250,000 might not be enough to keep the equipment operational. He was

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 22

concerned that money would be reverted to the General Fund that could be needed for equipment repairs.

Mr. Anderson explained that the Division intended to start with \$250,000 and determine whether that was enough to keep the equipment running. He understood that it might be necessary to return to the Legislature to report on the program and make adjustments.

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, confirmed Mr. Anderson's testimony. He believed that \$250,000 was a good starting point.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY MOVED TO APPROVE THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR AUTHORITY FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES, FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION TO TRANSFER UP TO \$250,000 EACH YEAR OF THE 2013-2015 BIENNIUM TO THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY ACCOUNT AND FOR STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a base budget overview for the Subcommittees. The Governor recommended continuing General Fund appropriations of \$2,499,636 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium in support of fire suppression and emergency response activities. The recommendation was consistent with funding levels previously approved by the Legislature. Staff recommended closing the remainder of the budget as recommended by the Governor.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK MOVED TO APPROVE THE REMAINDER OF BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4196 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FORESTRY CONSERVATION CAMPS (101-4198)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-100**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided an overview of budget account (BA) 4198, Forestry Conservation Camps. There were no major closing issues for the account.

Other closing items included decision unit Enhancement (E) 710, replacement of equipment. The Governor recommended a combination of project fee revenue of \$24,923 and General Funds of \$1,182 in fiscal year (FY) 2014 to replace computer hardware and software.

The second closing item included decision unit E-888, Assembly Bill 469, and was for informational purposes only. The bill contained a one-shot General Fund appropriation of \$2,559,766 in FY 2014 for replacement vehicles, equipment parts, and a new telephone system at the Stewart Conservation Camp. Staff recommended the budget account be closed as recommended by the Governor.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK MOVED TO APPROVE BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4198 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FORESTRY INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS (101-4227)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-105

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided an overview of budget account (BA) 4227, Forestry Inter-Governmental Agreements, for the Subcommittees. There were two major closing issues on the account.

The first item was in decision unit Enhancement (E) 490, the elimination of chapter 473 of the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) fire protection districts. The Carson City and Storey County fire protection districts had both withdrawn from the NRS chapter 473 fire protection districts and would no longer provide an assessment to the state to provide all-risk services. The Governor recommended the complete elimination of all funding and expenditures related to those counties for a total of \$263,620 in fiscal year (FY) 2014 and \$269,588 in FY 2015. The recommendation also eliminated three positions tied to the districts. The agency said the elimination of those fire protection districts was consistent with a shift toward the new Wildland Fire Protection Program.

The question before the Subcommittees was whether to approve decision unit E-490 as recommended by the Governor and eliminate all revenue and expenditures related to the NRS Chapter 473 fire protection districts in Carson City and Storey County.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE DECISION UNIT E-490 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, moved to the second item, decision unit Enhancement (E) 491, the

elimination of all-risk emergency service responsibilities. This item concerned Eureka County. The Governor recommended the elimination of the majority of funding and expenditures related to the Eureka County chapter 473 of the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) fire protection district. Eureka County was not anticipated to withdraw from the all-risk fire protection agreement with the state until January 1, 2014. The Executive Budget contained minimal funding from Eureka County to cover previous expenditures. As a result, it did not appear The Executive Budget contained sufficient authority to continue the operation of the Eureka County NRS chapter 473 fire protection district through January 1, 2014. Mr. Thorley recommended the agency provide additional information.

Pete Anderson, State Forester, Division of Forestry (NDF), State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, stated that as Mr. Thorley articulated, during The Executive Budget preparation process, the agency anticipated that NDF in Eureka County would transition all-risk emergency services as of July 1, 2014. As a result, the budget to eliminate a majority of the county assessment revenue and related expenditures was included in decision unit E-491. A small portion would carry over. Since the decision unit was built, Eureka County officials said they would rather not assume the all-risk responsibilities in the middle of fire season and would rather transfer on January 1, 2014. To ensure sufficient authority existed in the budget for the state to fund those activities for emergency response in Eureka County until the county made the transition, the Division recommended all Eureka County funding in fiscal year (FY) 2014 be restored in the budget. This effectively added back all revenue and expenditures in decision unit E-491 (\$241,769 in FY 2014). The adjustment had no effect on General Funds.

Senator Goicoechea asked how the budget could be trued up and whether Eureka County would owe money to the state or the state would be responsible for protection during the six-month period from January 1 to July 1, 2014.

Mr. Anderson explained that with all of the counties in BA 4227, figures were trued up at the end of the fiscal year. The same process would apply. The Division would work with Eureka County to true up the budget.

SENATOR GOICOCHEA MOVED TO APPROVE DECISION UNIT E-491 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

ASSEMBLYMAN GRADY SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided information on the other closing item for BA 4227 under decision unit Maintenance (M) 425. The Governor recommended assessment funding from Clark County of \$23,626 in fiscal year 2014 for various deferred maintenance projects, including window and door replacement at the Kyle Canyon Fire Station and the Lee Canyon Fire Station in the Mt. Charleston area. The recommendation appeared reasonable to staff.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK MOVED TO APPROVE DECISION UNIT M-425 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FORESTRY NURSERIES (257-4235)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-111

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of budget account 4235, Forestry Nurseries. Staff had been responsible for developing the closing recommendations in the account. The Subcommittees had not previously reviewed the budget. The Forestry Nurseries account included three programs, the nursery program, the seedbank program, and the forestry products utilization program which became effective at the end of fiscal year 2012.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation
Senate Committee on Finance
Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation
April 4, 2013
Page 27

The Governor recommended funding of \$2,287,411 over the 2013-2015 biennium. There were no major closing issues for the budget.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE MOVED TO APPROVE BA 257-4235 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
NEVADA TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY (101-4166)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-130**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of budget account 4166 for the Subcommittees. Staff was responsible for developing the closing recommendations as the budget account was not previously heard by the Subcommittees. The Governor recommended General Fund appropriations of \$1,318 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium. The appropriations were used to fund three board meetings and the associated travel costs for members. The request appeared reasonable to staff.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4166 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR PARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
NEVADA NATURAL HERITAGE (101-4101)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-134**

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of budget account 4101 for the Subcommittees. Staff was responsible for developing the closing recommendations as the budget account as it was not previously heard by the Subcommittees.

This program was funded primarily with federal grants, fees for database information, and transfers from the Nevada Department of Transportation. The Governor recommended funding of \$2,032,774 over the 2013-2015 biennium. There were no major closing issues and the request appeared reasonable to staff.

SENATOR PARKS MOVED TO APPROVE BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4101 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (101-4149)
BUDGET PAGE DCNR-156**

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 29

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of budget account 4149 for the Subcommittees. Staff was responsible for developing the closing recommendations as the budget account was not previously heard by the Subcommittees.

The Governor recommended funding for the State Environmental Commission of \$110,401 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium. There were no major closing issues and the request appeared reasonable to staff.

SENATOR GOICOECHEA MOVED TO APPROVE BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-4149 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

ASSEMBLYMAN HAMBRICK SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick was not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DEP WATER QUALITY PLANNING (101-3193)

BUDGET PAGE DCNR-199

Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, provided a brief overview of budget account 3193 for the Subcommittees. There were no major closing issues under the account.

Under decision unit Enhancement (E) 710, the Governor recommended a combination of federal and fee funding totaling \$68,163 over the 2013-2015 biennium to purchase replacement equipment and two, four-wheel-drive pickup trucks with camper shells.

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 30

Under decision unit E-720, the Governor recommended a combination of federal and fee funding of \$46,652 over the 2013-2015 biennium to purchase new water monitoring and computer equipment for use by employees in the field.

Under decision unit E-900, the Governor recommended transferring the Laboratory Certification Program, including five positions, from the Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) Water Quality Planning account to the DEP Safe Drinking Water Regulatory Program account (BA 3197). This was an account transfer only and there would be no effect on the budget. The request appeared reasonable to staff.

The question for the Subcommittees was whether they wished to approve all other closing items as recommended by the Governor.

ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE ALL CLOSING ITEMS UNDER BUDGET ACCOUNT 101-3193 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR AND TO AUTHORIZE FISCAL ANALYSIS DIVISION STAFF TO MAKE NECESSARY TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS.

SENATOR WOODHOUSE SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION CARRIED. (Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick and Senator Parks were not present for the vote.)

BUDGET CLOSED.

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Assembly Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation
Senate Committee on Finance
Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation
April 4, 2013
Page 31

Chairman Bobzien opened the hearing for public comments. There being none, the hearing was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Linda Blevins
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Chairman

DATE: _____

Senator Pete Goicoechea, Chairman

DATE: _____

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Public Safety, Natural Resources and Transportation

Senate Committee on Finance

Subcommittee Natural Resources and Transportation

April 4, 2013

Page 32

EXHIBITS

Committee Name: Committee on Ways and Means

Date: April 4, 2013

Time of Meeting: 8:06 a.m.

Bill	Exhibit	Witness / Agency	Description
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster