

Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA)

Mission: To preserve, protect and promote Nevada agriculture.

Leadership:

Director, J.J. Goicoechea, DVM

Deputy Director, Douglas Farris

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EXHIBIT C Senate Committee on Finance/Assembly Committee on
Ways and Means/Subcommittee on General Government
Date: 3/6/2025 Total pages: 13
Exhibit begins with: C1 thru: C13



Annual Governor's Recommended Budget

- FY 26 Budget: \$274,164,367
- FY 27 Budget: \$273,646,333
- Total FTE: 173



Agency Overview

Offices

- Sparks (Headquarters)
- Las Vegas
- Elko

Warehouses

- Reno
- Las Vegas

Divisions:

Division of Administrative Services

- Cathy Balcon, Administrator

Division of Animal Industry

- Chad Sestanovich, Administrator
- William Dawson, Deputy Administrator

Division of Food & Nutrition

- Patricia Hoppe, Administrator
- Brittany Mally, Deputy Administrator

Division of Measurement Standards

- William Striejewske, Administrator

Division of Plant Health & Compliance

- Meghan Brown, Administrator
- Raymond Saliga, Deputy Administrator



Division of Plant Health & Compliance

Purpose:

- The Plant Health and Compliance Division serves Nevada by protecting plant health. It monitors for diseases and invasive species, conducts inspections and laboratory testing, and registers and certifies vendors.

• Programs:

- Seed Certification Program
- Noxious Weed Program
- Produce Safety Education & Compliance Program
- Specialty Crop Block Grant Program
- Pest Control Program
- Environmental Services
- Chemistry Laboratory Program
- Nursery Program
- Hemp Program
- Producer and Produce Vendor Certification Program
- Plant Pathology Program
- Entomology Program
- Drought Initiative
- Sagebrush Ecosystem Program



Division of Plant Health & Compliance Enhancements:

Replacement Equipment

BA 4545 – E710 - ICP-OES Commercial Fertilizer Analyzer

FY26: \$135,259

BA 4545 – E711 - Liquid Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer and Nitrogen Generator

FY27: \$719,145

BA 4545 – E712 - Nitrogen Analyzer

FY27: \$119,593

BA 4545 – E713 - Microwave Digestion

FY27: \$55,876



Division of Plant Health & Compliance Enhancements:

BA 4552 – E900-E904 - Combination of BA 4552 to BA 4545

Budget Account (4545) houses the most personnel that facilitate and perform the operations of grant-funded programs, some of which are approved for reimbursement through Budget Account (4552). Challenges exist from drawing upon grants for reimbursement of personnel costs in Budget Account (4552) due to personnel being in Budget Account (4545).

Merging would allow staff to be properly diversified across fees and grants creating more fiscal stability, particularly for personnel costs in Budget Account (4545) as well as meet the needs of NDA's constituencies. It would also allow staff to be more efficient in providing NDA services, so industry can receive multiple services when NDA staff are present.



Division of Animal Industry

Purpose:

- The Division of Animal Industry's primary focus is the protection of public health and safety from animal disease, theft or loss of livestock and unfair business practices through a variety of programs geared toward animal health, investigations and enforcements of laws.

Programs:

Predatory Animal and Rodent Control Program
Veterinary Medical Service Program
Livestock Inspection Program
Agricultural Police
Dairy Program
Commercial Feed Program



Division of Animal Industry

Budget Account 4546 – Livestock Inspections

The Livestock Inspection Program is responsible for protecting livestock producers and owners from theft or loss of livestock and unfair business practices. Official animal identification, transportation documentation and transfer of ownership certificates are essential to ensuring animal disease traceability and preventing introduction of diseased animals into the state, ensuring a safe food supply. The powers and duties of the Division of Animal Industry are established in NRS chapters 561, 569, 571, 574, 576, 577, 587, 583 and 584.



Budget Account 4546

The Livestock Identification Program monitors the intrastate and interstate movement of livestock for proof or change of ownership. This is done through the recording of brands and inspection of livestock presented for sale, shipment, or prior to slaughter. The program also is responsible for the licensing and monitoring of livestock and agricultural dealers, buyers and public livestock auctions.



Agricultural Police Officer

The NDA's Agricultural Police Officers (APO) protect public safety of Nevada residents and visitors, the agriculture industry, and the food supply chain.

Protection from illegal and/or unintentional importation of plant and animal diseases, pests, noxious weeds, theft of livestock, and unfair business practices is ensured through performing traffic stops and inspections of vehicles carrying agricultural products, commodities or livestock. APO's work collaboratively with state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies statewide and at port of entry check sites. Additionally, inspections of wholesale and retail nursery stock and pesticide locations are performed.



Division of Administrative Services

Purpose:

- The Division of Administrative Services centralizes the budgeting, payroll, information technology, communication and economic development functions for the NDA.

Programs:

- Nevada Board of Agriculture
- Fiscal Program
- Information Technology
- Communications
- Industry Development & Marketing
- Agriculture Literacy
- Craft Beverage Passport
- Meat & Poultry Inspection Program
- Nevada Junior Livestock Show (NJLS)



Division of Administrative Services Enhancements:

BA 4554- E684 - New: Information Technology Technician
IV Position

This contracted position is currently funded and has been
under contract with Marathon Staffing since early 2023.

FY26: \$63,996

FY27: \$86,173

BA 4554 – E710 - Replacement Equipment

IT Equipment: hardware replacement and software renewals

\$212,488 - * One-shot appropriation



Questions?

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