



Eighth WRP Principals' Meeting Notes

August 17-18, 2016 • Salt Lake City, Utah

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Western Regional Partnership Eighth Principals' Meeting Brief Meeting Summary

Senior leaders from state, federal and tribal agencies gathered August 17-18 for the Eighth Western Regional Partnership's Principals' Meeting hosted by the State of Utah at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

WRP Co-Chairs Frank DiGiovanni, acting DoD Principal; Utah Governor Herbert; and DOI Assistant Secretary Janice Schneider addressed the 145 senior policy-level leaders in attendance. Governor Herbert thanked the group for continuing to work collaboratively on shared interests in this region, to include such issues as unmanned air systems, wildfire and endangered species, and emphasized the progress to be made when we work in a culture of cooperation. Assistant Secretary Schneider noted WRP's collaborative framework and importance of working together. She touched on topics of interest to DOI, including drought and wildfires, protecting landscapes, unmanned aerial vehicles, endangered and sensitive species issues, energy trends, fulfilling trust responsibilities to American Indian Tribes, and collaborative efforts with DoD. Mr. DiGiovanni offered that he is impressed with the level of involvement of the various partners in WRP. He discussed several issues of importance to DoD, including compatible use of land and airspace, unmanned aerial vehicles, the need to work cooperatively in the development of renewable energy resources as energy security is part of national security, and the encroachment challenges presented by the use and limitations of spectrum.

Keynote remarks were provided by Utah Congressman Chris Stewart and highlighted national security challenges and environmental issues. Four WRP plenary sessions with senior subject-matter experts focused on the following subjects: Immediate Threats to the West: Drought and Wildfires; Energy Trends in the WRP Region; Endangered Species Act: Challenges, Trends and Efforts; and Integrating UAS in Airspace: Challenges, Trends and Efforts. WRP Partners shared updates in an "around the room" discussion highlighting land management issues. All of this information sharing assisted WRP Partners to be more aware of key efforts in the region, best practices, emerging issues, current resources and collaborative opportunities.

During the meeting, Committee Co-Chairs serving as panel moderators shared information on WRP efforts over the past year, with a focus on the information available in the "WRP Regional Strengths, Areas of Commonality and Emerging Issues" 2016 Report.

WRP Principals concurred with WRP Steering Committee recommendations to maintain the current WRP Charter and Structure and adopt the priority of conducting a Regional Assessment. During the WRP 2016-2017 year, WRP will work to better understand the current priorities of its Partners and the continuing or emerging issues impacting their agencies; and to identify and recommend potential available resources (such as grants, agency actions, planning efforts) to address these issues. A report highlighting these items and findings will be presented at the 2017 WRP Principals' Meeting in New Mexico.

Eighth WRP Principals' Meeting

Meeting Notes

I. Utah Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Mike Mower, Deputy Chief of Staff, Utah Governor's Office and WRP Steering Committee Chair

Mr. Mower welcomed the Principals on behalf of Governor Gary Herbert. He provided an informative background on Utah including settlement, territorial days, statehood and the military's importance to the State. The location of this meeting used to be Fort Douglas, before it was officially closed and turned over to the University of Utah. Mr. Mower noted the uniqueness of the Western Landscape and importance of working together, especially given the significant amount of federal land managed in the West. He provided some examples of working together such as efforts in Utah to reopen the Utah National Parks during the government shutdown and efforts in support of Hill Air Force Base. He reiterated the importance of the Western Regional Partnership and for all Partners to share information and to continue efforts to build positive interagency relationships. He emphasized the reason for this week's meeting is to continue to discuss several high-level issues and to work together towards collaborative outcomes.

II. Welcoming Remarks by WRP Co-Chairs, Ms. Janice Schneider, DOI, and Mr. Frank DiGiovanni, DoD

Ms. Schneider, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, DOI, thanked Utah for hosting the meeting and welcomed the WRP Principals and meeting attendees. She noted WRP and its Partners are essential in the work of DOI. She noted the importance of partnering, collaboration and solution building and how WRP assists in these efforts. Ms. Schneider introduced DOI senior leaders in attendance from DOI Headquarters, BLM, USFWS, BuRec and BOEM and recognized their efforts. In her role at DOI, she has administrative oversight over four bureaus: BLM, BOEM, BSEE and OSMRE. Ms. Schneider touched on several specific topics of importance to DOI that will be discussed at this year's meeting to include drought and wildfires, trends in energy development, conservation of sensitive species on Federal lands and unmanned aerial systems. Drought issues are of serious concern and there is much work to do. According to NOAA, the U.S. in 2015 had its highest calendar year average temperature but also the highest average temperature for any 12-month period on record. She acknowledged DOI's presentation (via webinar) to WRP on [DOI Secretarial Order 3336](#) and DOI efforts to help guide sagebrush conservation planning efforts to address rangeland fires to conserve habitat and working landscapes. She noted that BLM and USGS are working together to develop a [geospatial tool](#) that will be forthcoming this week. She noted her concern with interference to firefighting from drones and noted the NPS efforts. She recognized the efforts by NV Governor Mead and WGA for highlighting ESA and best practices. Ms. Schneider declared that DOI is modernizing regulations and processes. DOI is engaged with DOE to develop the 2016 National Offshore Wind Strategy. BOEM has had success working with DoD during the siting of renewable energy lease areas off the Atlantic Coast and is looking to do that on the west coast.

She recognized Mr. Bill Van Houten who is working in her office as a DoD liaison to assist with issues such as DoD land withdrawals and energy coordination efforts. She emphasized there are essential partners here at WRP for collaborative information sharing and addressing common issues and encouraged everyone to work together even more with this organization.

Mr. DiGiovanni, Director of Force Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, DoD, noted he was impressed by the number of people and the senior-level of WRP Partners in the room. He stated it was an honor to be at the meeting and to serve as the WRP DoD Co-Chair for Mr. Duma who was unable to attend this meeting. He views DoD as more of a junior partner in the WRP, while states, federal agencies and Tribal leaders are the primary/senior partners, and DoD benefits by their collaborative efforts. There are many issues of importance to DoD within the WRP region including: compatible use of land and airspace; and encroachment challenges presented by the use and limitations of spectrum. He noted the need to work cooperatively in the development of renewable energy resources, as energy security is part of national security. Most of the “crown jewel” installations and ranges are in the WRP Region and much of these lands are in the form of land withdrawn for military use. There is a need to share information and explore best practices regarding land exchanges, land use permits and land withdrawals in a collaborative fashion to streamline and make the process more efficient. The DoD mission is always evolving; DoD needs to operate unmanned aerial systems, test hypersonic weapons and meet cyber challenges, for example. He stressed the need for symbiotic relationships, and the importance of maintaining good data and mapping showing partners’ equities on one big picture to help clearly visualize status and look ahead together for future collaborative planning.

III. WRP Overview and Presentation of WRP Steering Committee Recommendations

Mr. Ryan McGinness, Director, Washington, DC Office, State of Nevada, and WRP Steering Committee (SC) Vice Chair, provided an overview of WRP, purpose and format of the meeting, and WRP SC recommendations. Details were provided on the WRP Vision, Mission, WRP Goals, an overview of significant events since WRP’s formation in 2007, WRP Structure and GIS/mapping analysis that underlies and supports all WRP and Committees’ work. The WRP Region has many unique features including its importance to the military, the significant amount of federally managed land, large state trust holdings and over 170 Federally recognized Tribes. WRP is instrumental in bringing together the different interests that arise because of this unique situation. WRP continues to have strong leadership despite many retirements and job changes and he noted the importance of conveying information on WRP to successors for smooth transition. The importance of the WRP Steering Committee role was noted along with several of the WRP’s accomplishments, most notably the “WRP Regional Strengths, Areas of Commonality and Emerging Issues Report,” a compilation of all the WRP’s efforts from the past year.

An important outcome of annual WRP Principals’ Meetings is the adoption of strategic priorities to complete over the next year, as required by the WRP Charter. Principals will be asked to decide on WRP SC recommendations (including the priorities) during the business session tomorrow. The WRP Principals’ Meetings serve as an opportunity to share information among

the many different Partners and noted the plenary sessions and networking breaks offer useful opportunities to exchange information and enhance collaboration. Mr. McGinness outlined the format of the meeting, which includes four plenaries, an open forum for attendees to provide updates on WRP Partners' land management issues, remarks by WRP Co-Chairs and the keynote speaker Congressman Stewart, numerous networking opportunities, and the WRP Business Session.

Mr. McGinness detailed the SC recommendations for decision items being considered by the WRP Principals during the Business Session of this meeting. These recommendations include adoption of the 2016-2017 WRP priorities (Regional Assessment); approval of Mr. Mower and Mr. McGinness as WRP Chair and Vice Chair of the Steering Committee, respectively; and approval of the proposed WRP Principals' Meeting Rotation for New Mexico in 2017 and Colorado in 2018. He noted that every year the WRP Charter and WRP efforts are reviewed for further refinement. The SC recommends that the Principals make no changes this year to the WRP Charter, the WRP Mission/Vision Document, the WRP structure, and the WRP Tagline.

It is recommended that WRP focus its 2016-2017 efforts on a Regional Assessment to better understand current priorities of Partners and the issues impacting their agencies and to identify and recommend potential available resources (grants, agency actions, planning efforts) to address those issues. Given that in 2017, there will be a Federal Administration transition and WRP's tenth anniversary, it seems an appropriate time to ensure WRP remains focused on the most important items. WRP will solicit input from Partners and send monthly updates on Partner-related efforts relevant to the WRP Mission. WRP SC will work with Committee Co-Chairs to draft a survey for WRP Partners to identify input regarding:

- Partners' top WRP-relevant issues in the region (land use, ecological goals, etc.)
- Partners' top three needs (resources, data needs, etc.)
- Significant, publicly announced state and regional planning efforts that are expected to commence in 2017-2020 and potential collaborative opportunities
- Data layers/web mapping services that would assist Partners' regional planning

WRP Committees will more fully explore survey results. A report capturing the survey results, analysis and recommendations will be presented at the 2017 WRP Principals' Meeting. Mr. McGinness noted that the 2016-2017 Priority: Regional Assessment is described in detail in a handout in everyone's packet, and he concluded his remarks on the value of WRP.

IV. Invocation by Kelly Zunie, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Indian Affairs Department

Mr. Keith Gardner, Chief of Staff for NM Governor Susana Martinez, introduced Secretary Zunie and noted her accomplishments. Secretary Zunie provided an invocation.

V. Around the Room Brief Highlights on WRP Partners' Land Management Issues

Mr. Mower noted that the Ms. Jacqueline Pata, Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians, was unable to attend this meeting due to a death in the family. Mr. Mower noted the importance of collaboration among state, federal and Tribal leaders in the WRP region and opened the floor for input from the Principals and meeting attendees to discuss the various land management issues that they face.

Brigadier General Dallen Atack, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Utah National Guard, shared the following perspective:

- For encroachment issues at Camp Williams, with numerous residential developments along the range boundary, the primary encroachment concerns of the installation revolve around stray rounds and fires.
- The installation is taking advantage of Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) agreements to address encroachment concerns. The City of Herriman is currently working with a non-profit to build a disaster recovery center on buffer land acquired through the ACUB program and is potentially working with FEMA to turn the site into a FEMA emergency management training center.

Mr. Aubrey Dunn, New Mexico State Land Commissioner, New Mexico State Land Office, offered the following perspective as a manager of state trust land:

- The primary concern of managers of state trust land is the generation of income for their beneficiaries, which, in the case of New Mexico, are public school children. Mr. Dunn raised the issue of BLM acquiring state trust land through the Antiquities Act and not providing just compensation, thereby removing means of generating income.
- Attempting land trades through land swaps and withdrawals is nearly impossible as it requires Congressional action. From his perspective, this is not an option.
- In the case of military use of state trust lands, his primary concern is just compensation due to the resulting loss of income.

Mr. David Ure, Director, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (Utah) and WRP SC member noted the following as a manager of state trust land:

- He is currently working with Congress on the land withdrawal for Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR). Working with the relevant county governments is challenging because counties in Utah use state lands as a buffer between private and federally managed lands. This transaction will eliminate that buffer for many of the counties.
- Asked that the federal government decrease the amount of time it takes to execute these land exchanges. Ten years to process and execute a land exchange is far too much time and reduces the payout to the beneficiaries of the state trust land, who, in the case of Utah, are the public-school children.
- The federal government must consistently pay fair market value for the use or purchase of state trust land. This must provide just compensation for the loss of income.

Ms. Simone Westbrook Hall, Director of Policy, Arizona State Land Department, also provided her perspective on behalf of the Commissioner, Lisa Atkins as a state trust land manager:

- She echoed the points that her colleagues from other state land trusts made and added that, though her agency has obligations that they need to meet, they are also trying to balance these concerns with the priorities of many of their partners, where overlapping goals occur.
- The Advancing Conservation and Education Act of 2016 ([H.R.5758/S.3316](#)) provides for "in lieu" land swaps, which might assist with land management near DoD lands, and other federal lands to promote more compatible and contiguous land use on all lands in the west.

- The Department is working on efforts to create a wood products or biomass program that would remove natural vegetation on state trust lands, thereby monetizing aspects of the land with minimal *in situ* value.
- The key is to work with state and federal partners to ensure that all parties can achieve their land use goals while adequately compensating the state land trust.

Mr. Dan Hicks, on behalf of Brigadier General Timothy R. Coffin, Commanding General, U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range, shared the following DoD perspective:

- White Sands Missile Range just underwent a process of identifying 30-year priorities in their Strategic Plan. Looking ahead, as the various interests in the region become more and more connected (e.g. need for long-range air corridors for testing and evaluation) there is a strategic importance to engaging and cooperating with the partners moving forward.

Mr. Jerome Perez, State Director, California, Bureau of Land Management (DOI), shared his thoughts as a federal land manager:

- He offered BLM's Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan as an example of the positive outcomes achieved through collaborative, comprehensive land use planning. This process effectively highlighted the least controversial path forward for renewable energy development for all parties involved.

Mr. Perry Shirley, Executive Staff Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation, shared his perspective as a tribal representative:

- The Navajo Nation is interested in participating in this Partnership for the purposes of addressing two major concerns: drought and wildfire management and energy production.
- Working to address the problems presented by droughts and wildfires is a priority for the Navajo Nation and they are interested in building upon pre-existing partnerships to improve collaborative efforts on this issue.
- The Navajo Nation depends on the revenue that they receive from coal production, but they understand that there is a need to develop renewable energy resources and are interested in working with the WRP to further address this need.
- Mr. Shirley noted the positive relationship that the Navajo Nation has developed with the White Sands Missile Range and sees an opportunity for greater collaboration with the DoD.
- The Navajo Nation is interested in engaging more proactively with the WRP.

Mr. Tony Willardson, Executive Director, Western States Water Council, provided the following insight as a water resources manager:

- Water and land resources are intertwined with the military's mission, so cooperation between the military and resource managers at the state and federal level is necessary moving forward. He noted the positive cooperation between the State of Idaho and the Mountain Home Air Force over securing water for the base for the future.

Mr. Scott Morgan, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning & Research and Ex-Officio Member, Governor's Military Council and WRP SC member, provided examples of positive cooperative land planning in California:

- He highlighted his state's mapping effort to identify least conflicted lands for solar development in the San Joaquin Valley and a similar landscape-scale planning effort for offshore wind development.
- California has shown the importance of partnerships with local, state and federal stakeholders as well as the significant role of mapping in these large-scale collaborative planning efforts.
- The California Tree Mortality Task Force is working to address the vast tree mortality resulting from unprecedented drought and the resulting bark beetle infestations across large regions of the State.
- California continues its efforts on RETI 2.0 to meet the state's ambitious 2030 energy and environmental goals.

Mr. Gary Harter, Executive Director, Utah Department of Veteran & Military Affairs, offered his perspective on the Utah Test and Training Range:

- The State of Utah recognizes that it is in the interest of the DoD to expand the Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR) and they are working to achieve an outcome that is in the best interest of all parties involved. Trying to determine the role that the State of Utah needs to play in balancing the competing interests for the various resources in question.

VI. Plenary Session #1 – Immediate Threats to the West: Drought & Wildfires

Mr. Ryan McGinness, Director, Washington, DC Office, State of Nevada & WRP SC Vice Chair moderated the panel and began by highlighting the following WRP efforts relevant to this topic:

- Water was added as an area of interest during the 2014 Principals' Meeting. Since then there have been several webinars highlighted efforts such as the National Drought Resilience Partnership, Western States Water Council, WestFAST and NOAA Western Regional Climate Services. A 2015 WRP Report was prepared highlighting a "Brief Overview of Water-Related Resources Available to WRP Partners."
- In 2016, the Natural Resources Committee had a webinar on Integrated Rangeland Fire Strategy (Implementation of DOI Secretarial Order 3336).
- Recently, DoD became a member of Wildland Fire Leadership Council.
- The WRP Steering Committee have held multiple communications on tree mortality and drought/wildfires in the region.
- He shared information from the U.S. Drought Monitor and NASA Earth Observatory maps highlighting drought as well as concerns for fire due to mass tree die-offs.

Chief Ken Pimlott, State Forester, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), shared the following information on efforts in California:

- The current situation is a significant concern: central and southern California are in the fifth year of the most significant drought in state history, which has led to a significant increase in wildland fuels and, consequently, roughly 250-300 wildland fires per week within the state. With record low humidity and high temperatures, wildfire professionals are seeing rates of spread unlike anything that they have seen before. This is a significant concern not only from a damage and life safety perspective, but also from an economic standpoint.

- The State of California has a goal of containing all wildland fires within the State Responsibility Area at less than 10 acres. The increase in number of fires coupled with a longer fire season has placed increasing pressure on meeting this goal. In response, CAL FIRE has added additional fire fighters during the peak fire season months and is staffing fire engines earlier and later in the year. There is also a need to create a mitigation solution to reduce fuel loadings.
- Tree mortality is a major concern for wildfire management as it can increase fuel loadings and lead to access issues for firefighters. Mean temperature increases have led to changes in vegetation throughout the state, with drought stress creating an epidemic level of insect-induced tree mortality. The state has identified a total of sixty-six million trees as dead from the Southern Sierra to Lake Tahoe and some areas have seen mortality rates between eighty and one-hundred percent. Governor Brown declared a state of emergency and has put together a task force to address this issue. Made up of 80 agencies and organizations, this task force will work extended longer-term projects as long-term solutions need to be worked. This involves working land use planning with counties also.
- California fire management relies on the resources and manpower that the military services and National Guard bring to the table.

Mr. Astor Boozer, Regional Conservationist, West, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA, provided background on several NRCS initiatives that are on-going in the WRP region:

- The Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership – provides funding to address forestry issues where public and private lands meet, including for fire management and fuel reduction projects.
- WaterSMART program – Working with the Bureau of Reclamation (DOI) to address drought and water scarcity issues in the region. They are also working with EPA, USFWS, NOAA and the WGA.
- NRCS is involved in water supply forecasting in the West by monitoring snowpack levels.
- Currently partnering with the OSD REPI office and participating in the DoD Sentinel Landscapes partnership. NRCS views these opportunities as a success and is seeking to build these partnerships moving forward. Mr. Boozer described the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape partnership as a great example of a cooperative solution to key issues. The RCPP program has also been leveraged to address resource concerns in the WRP region and is a key component of the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape.
- He introduced members of his team including: Ms. Luana Kiger, Special Assistant, California; Mr. David Brown, Utah State Conservationist; Mr. Pedro Ramos, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs, Utah; and Mr. Tim Macklin, Western Governors' Association Liaison, NRCS.

Mr. Brian Cottam, State Forester/Director, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, described Utah's approach to addressing the problem of wildfire management:

- Utah’s approach to fire management is progressive, seeking to target risk reduction as opposed to just relying upon fire suppression. The three goals of risk reduction as codified in statute for pre-suppression state funds are:
 - Prevention: stopping a fire before it starts by changing human behavior. Before this new strategy, Utah had no concerted prevention program.
 - Preparedness: ensuring that the state can deal with a fire if it does start.
 - Mitigation: reducing the impacts/effects of a fire once it occurs.
- After the 2012 fire season, Governor Herbert tasked state agencies with devising a solution to the problem, which led to the creation of the Governor’s Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy. This strategy includes the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and Utah is the only state that has the three goals codified in state statute. This developed a system to prioritize limited resources and led to a far more informed conversation within the state where all the partners are coming to the same table using the same language.
- The state legislature appropriated funding for pre-suppression activities, which is rare as most states rely on federal funding for these programs. Utah spent three years completely re-writing their fire management statute, rebuilding the structure of fire management in the state and codifying the relationship between state and local resources. This new statute focused on risk reduction and created measurable expectations for every entity in the system for risk reduction activity that they will do each year to remain within the system.

Discussion

- Mr. Shaun McGrath, Regional Administrator, Region 8, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, noted that addressing drought requires cooperation across different jurisdictions and levels of government. Mr. McGrath is the EPA representative in the National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP), and he provided an overview and background of their efforts. The NDRP is coordinating with Montana Governor Steve Bullock on a proposal to implement a landscape-scale drought resilience project for the Upper Missouri River Basin. The pilot project area includes eight different watersheds with many different interests and uses, so it was necessary to bring together all interests to create a work plan for implementation. The NDRP is focused on assisting with the development of drought plans and creating on-the-ground drought resiliency projects.
- Mr. Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director, Western Governors’ Association, provided an overview of the recently-announced WGA Chairman’s Initiative of Montana Governor Bullock is the “National Forest and Rangeland Management Initiative.” The three main components of the Initiative are: an exchange of best practices, case studies and policy options; a deep-dive examination of collaborative efforts; and an evaluation of the tools available to land managers. There will be a series of webinars and workshops across the West. The goal of the Initiative is to inform future gubernatorial policy. The WGA is currently looking for partners and financial resources for this effort.
- Brigadier General Kevin J. Killea, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton thanked Chief Pimlott and CalFire for their support, especially around Camp Pendleton, and asked him to expand upon how they are working the stated need for more resources and personnel in California to combat the

growing wildfire season. Chief Pimlott stated that they are shifting the approach to more public outreach to build resilient communities as they can't keep up the previous approach of fire suppression. These resources are necessary to adequately address suppression needs, but much of the additional resources are required for risk reduction programs.

- Mr. Scott Morgan, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning & Research and Ex-Officio Member, Governor's Military Council, asked Mr. Cottam about how Utah went about getting buy-in from the local communities and private landowners for their new strategy. Mr. Cottam attributed Utah's success in obtaining support at the local level to strong legislative leadership and the presentation of a solution up front. The 2012 fire season was also particularly devastating, so that likely played into getting strong support. Mr. Cottam also thanked the strong support from the federal partners, and specifically recognized Ms. Nora Rasure, Regional Forester, Intermountain Region, USDA Forest Service, for her leadership.
- Ms. Schneider noted they are also working on how best to engage ranchers in firefighting and the importance of local engagement. The ranchers, for example, are on-the-ground and already doing prevention measures. They are working on further engaging counties, rural fire departments and grazing permittees.

VII. Plenary Session #2: Energy Trends in the WRP Region

Mr. Steve Arenson, Deputy Director, Strategic Plans and Programs, SAF/IEI and WRP Energy Committee Co-Chair, moderated the panel, highlighted aspects of the energy section of the *2016 WRP Report* with focus on energy regional strengths, areas of commonality, emerging issues and energy trends and detailed the WRP Energy Committee's activities over the past year:

- In 2015/2016 the WRP Energy Committee continued to share information on new renewable energy projects and transmission lines and highlighted state, federal and tribal energy planning efforts in the WRP region. The Energy Committee also enhanced WRP Partner awareness of new energy generation and transmission planning processes and opportunities for engagement to address mission impacts.
- The energy section of the *2016 WRP Report* highlights the significance of energy efforts in the WRP region and reports on the status and trends of renewable energy in the area. The Report also identifies potential areas where additional collaborative action might best support WRP agencies, areas for potential mitigation, provides summaries of the energy committee webinars held over the last year and provides energy-related information organized by projects, trends and resources.
- The Energy Committee held multiple webinars this year, including the Energy Zone Mapping Tool (developed by Argonne National Laboratory) and an overview of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council mission and activities.

Mr. Maury Galbraith, Executive Director, Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB), focused his remarks on the dramatic changes occurring in the electric generation resource mix in the West:

- Significant increase in solar capacity (forecasting approximately 16,000 MW in behind-the-meter rooftop solar PV in 2026) and many coal unit retirements (projected 7000 MW decrease by 2025).
- The main drivers of the changing resource mix in the region include: a dramatic decline in the cost of solar PV, changing customer preference and choice, historic low natural gas prices, environmental regulation (CAA regulations on regional smog), low load growth, state mandates (Renewable Portfolio Standards), and federal incentives (ITC & PTC).
- This trend has several implications for the electricity system in the WRP region. The increase in solar and wind in the energy mix will lead to a greater need for flexible generation capacity. The increase in renewable resources has also led to changing flows in the generation and distribution systems, with a surplus often appearing in southern California. The increase in coal-unit retirements raises concerns about electric system frequency response and voltage stability. There is a significant need for cooperation in energy policy on the regional scale.

Ms. Stacey Crowley, Vice President of Regional and Federal Affairs, California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO), noted her appreciation for WRP and how much it has grown over the years. She provided information on the California ISO and the energy imbalance market (EIM):

- The California ISO is one of nine independent/regional transmission operators (ISOs/RTOs) in North America.
- The energy imbalance market (EIM) is an easily-scalable extension of the real-time market to a broader region. The EIM allows for the more efficient use of variable energy resources, which are increasing in the region due to the recent growth in renewables. The ISO economically dispatches all energy resources on a 5-minute basis through the EIM (compared to on an hourly basis in conventional markets), which allows for more effective use of resources across a larger geographic footprint, providing cost savings and reduced renewable energy curtailment.
- A regional ISO can transform the electricity sector to an efficient energy delivery system. This would provide a cost-effective way to help comply with federal and state energy and environmental policies and aid the integration of renewable energy. With a larger pool of resources in a regional ISO, the need for new resources is reduced, leading to significant cost savings. A successful regional market will require collaboration and engagement from a broad set of stakeholders. Preserving each state's authority over energy policy and procurement strategies is a key principle driving the proposed regional ISO.

Mr. Mark A. Gabriel, Administrator & CEO, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), provided his perspective as the CEO of a power marketing administration:

- WAPA has more than 17,000 circuit miles of transmission, markets electricity from 56 federal hydropower plants, serves more than 700 customers including rural electric cooperatives, municipal entities, irrigation districts, public power entities, and 92 Native American Tribes. Of these customers, 42 are federal agencies who vary in mission, size

and scope from DOE laboratories to NASA to more than 40 Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine installations under 24 contracts across 15 states. Currently, WAPA is expanding the geographic scope of its markets, thereby expanding the number of participants; however, they are increasingly facing a limited number of trading partners.

- WAPA is statutorily required to deliver electricity at the lowest possible cost consistent with sound business principles. Each region has unique legislation and needs that must be addressed on a case-by-case basis, which presents a significant cost concern.
- WAPA joined the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) in 2015, becoming the first Federal agency to become a full member of a regional transmission organization. This led to a significant cost reduction for customers in the region, resulting in \$11.5 million in net benefits as measured by avoided cost.
- WAPA is currently exploring and analyzing existing markets and EIM alternatives, trying to determine if there are any customer benefits of joining the EIM or potential alternatives. WAPA's Sierra Nevada (SN) region has unique operations for serving renewable hydropower to WAPA customers within two California balancing authorities. SN schedules an average of 700,000 megawatt-hours into the CalISO day-ahead market.
- Key takeaways: Each region has unique legislation and needs that must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Customer engagement is critical.

Ms. Joan Barminski, Regional Director, Pacific OCS Region, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), provided information on the development of offshore wind in the WRP region:

- BOEM is within the Department of the Interior and oversees the development of the nation's energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). Offshore renewable energy technologies include wind, wave, ocean current and transmission. OCS jurisdictional boundary is between 3-200 nautical miles from the coastline. The Pacific OCS Region encompasses the waters off California, Oregon, Washington and Hawaii. BOEM does not have jurisdiction within the National Park System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Marine Sanctuary System, or any National Monument.
- BOEM's four-step (planning and analysis; leasing; site assessment; and construction and operations) wind leasing process has a roughly ten-year timeline.
- Potential areas of offshore wind development in California include areas that are less than 1500 meters in depth, average wind speeds greater than seven meters per second, and do not coincide with National Marine Sanctuaries.
- Trident Winds, LLC submitted on Jan 14, 2016 to BOEM a request for an offshore wind energy lease in federal waters, called the Morro Bay Offshore Project. The proposed project would consist of approximately 100 floating turbines for a total of 800 megawatts (MW) of power and would be located roughly 33 nautical miles offshore. Transmission lines would connect to the transmission grid at the existing Morro Bay Power Plant. BOEM issued a Request for Interest in the *Federal Register* to determine competitive interest in the area.
- Governor Brown requested establishment of Offshore Renewable Energy Task Force enabling stakeholder process to identify ideal lease areas for renewable energy

projects. BOEM and the State of California will hold the first meeting in October 2016. The Intergovernmental Task Force includes members of federal, state, local and tribal governments to address issues.

Discussion

- The question was raised regarding the cost of wind energy production on land vs. sea. In general, it is more economical on land but not always desirable aesthetically. In Hawaii, it may be cheaper to do offshore wind. DoD has had a great partnership with BOEM to date on energy-related issues.
- Ms. Crowley discussed the additional transmission capacity that a regional ISO would require. The regional ISO would likely undergo a comprehensive planning operation that would lead to new transmission capacity. The physical location of transmission systems is important and thus is a possible encroachment threat for military installations. There would need to be consideration given to military missions of regional installations. There is still much work to be done to develop storage technologies, especially considering continued increases in renewable energy.
- There was some discussion on the environmental impacts of solar/wind energy development versus traditional coal; all aspects of energy production have costs, some are more cost-effective.
- The panel discussed the effect of the current drought and wildfire threat on the electricity system in the region. Wildland fires certainly affect production and transmission and excessive heat can affect system load. Water availability affects systems that are heavily reliant upon hydropower resources and requires enhanced coordination among users of water resources.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment for Day One

Mr. Ryan McGinness recapped that WRP Principals will be making decisions on a few key items during the Business Session, and asked that everyone take the time to review the WRP 2016-2017 Priority: Regional Assessment in their packet. Mr. McGinness detailed the background, overview of efforts and expected products that would be accomplished through the Assessment. Mr. Mike Mower provided brief closing remarks for Day One to wrap up activities and inform the attendees of the untimely passing of Dr. Lee Allison, State Geologist for Arizona, who served in WRP leadership and was a key partner. Mr. Mower directed Ms. Duffy to send a letter of condolence on behalf of WRP to Dr. Allison's family.

IX. Opening Remarks for Day Two

Mike Mower provided brief opening remarks for Day Two before introducing Mike Hamilton as the moderator for Plenary Session #3. Highlights for the day included remarks from both Utah Governor Herbert as well as Congressman Chris Stewart.

X. Plenary Session #3 – Endangered Species Act: Challenges, Trends and Efforts

Mr. Mike Hamilton, Environmental Planner (G7 GEA REC), Marine Corps Installations West and WRP Natural Resources Committee Co-Chair, provided an update on the Committee's activities in 2015-2016 and detailed related information in the 2016 Report. The Committee:

- Served as a resource for the DoD Legacy funded project regarding “Coordinated multi-species management plans for high priority species at risk on or near DoD lands in the Southwestern U.S.”
- Served as a resource to the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape Committee. Previously this was the WRP Southern Arizona/New Mexico Project, which after much analysis focused efforts to three identified areas consisting of 1,335 square miles. As a direct result of this project’s efforts, the area received funding from the Arizona Military Installation Fund for conservation easement/deed restriction for 1,208 acres within the WRP SoAZ/NM Project priority Focus Area 1. The area also received funding in the 2014 and 2015 REPI Challenge cycles (over \$7.6 million) and received \$5.9 million in Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) funding. WRP provided a support letter for Arizona Land and Water Trust’s 2016 REPI submission and RCPP funding proposal.
- Served as a forum for WRP Partners to more fully collaborate and address natural resources-related issues.
- Assisted WRP Partners in engaging in an ongoing dialogue on Western water sustainability.
- Hosted several webinars related to natural resource issues in the West (i.e., USFWS brief on Monarch Butterflies, USACE support of species and USBP stewardship efforts).

Mr. Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director, Western Governors’ Association provided an update. WGA represents the Governors of 19 Western states and 3 U.S.-flag islands. The Chairman’s initiative of the 2015-2016 WGA Chair, Governor Matt Mead of Wyoming, was the Western Governors’ Species Conservation and Endangered Species Act Initiative. Mr. Ogsbury presented a [video](#) produced by the WGA that detailed the Initiative and provided further details:

- Species conservation and the ESA are divisive issues in the West; the Governor believes, however, that the WGA is ideally suited to address the associated challenges. Goals of the Initiative include: creation of a mechanism for states to share best practices in species management; promotion and elevation of the role of states in species conservation efforts; and exploration of ways to improve the efficacy of the Endangered Species Act.
- In its first year, there were four workshops held across the West and a series of webinars that brought together stakeholders with differing opinions.
- The four keys to success for the Chairman’s Initiative were:
 - At the outset, the WGA pledged its commitment to species conservation and made it clear that Western Governors do not intend to dismantle the ESA.
 - The WGA engaged a diversity of stakeholders and experts.
 - The WGA partnered with federal ESA practitioners.
 - The Governors engaged directly in the Initiative.
- The Initiative led to the production of a report, *Species Conservation and ESA Initiative*, published in conjunction with the WGA’s summer meeting. The report identifies six overarching initiative themes.
- The information and recommendations produced by the Initiative informed WGA Policy Resolution 2016-08, [Species Conservation and the ESA](#). The eight-page resolution focuses on state authority and the importance of states operating as full and equal

partners in the implementation of the ESA. The Resolution calls on the WGA staff to develop a work plan to implement the principles outlined within, and includes a 90-day timeline to complete a work plan.

- During the second year of the initiative, WGA will conduct in-depth work sessions on topics identified during year one. The association will also host a series of webinars and continue its engagement with stakeholders and federal agencies.
- The WGA Winter Meeting takes place on December 13-14 in San Diego, CA.

Mr. Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), provided information on the USFWS National Listing Work plan and updates to other Service policies:

- The USFWS National Listing Work plan is intended to develop a schedule for undertaking various listing actions that are in the queue (30 candidate species, 557 twelve-month findings, and 10 species needing status updates) based in part on the newly established prioritization methodology for twelve-month petition findings. The objectives of the Work plan are to improve transparency and predictability while also achieving sound conservation outcomes. The Work plan will mostly be static in nature.
- The USFWS is in the process of updating its mitigation policies because of the November 2015 Presidential Memorandum and 2015 DOI Secretarial Order on compensatory mitigation. The new USFWS Mitigation Policy broadens the scope of the 1981 Policy to all USFWS authorities and updates the former Policy to incorporate modern mitigation science and policy, emphasizing a landscape-scale approach. Anticipated delivery of the final Policy is November 2016. The USFWS is also set to issue a proposed ESA Compensatory Mitigation Policy soon.
- The USFWS is also expecting to publish the final policy regarding voluntary pre-listing conservation actions soon. The policy is designed to provide another incentive to landowners for early conservation efforts by describing those circumstances in which prelisting conservation can impact the listing determination. This creates a crediting and debiting system with the goal of a net gain to species conservation, and differs from Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) in that federal agencies can participate and regulatory assurances are not provided. More information can be found at <https://www.fws.gov/endangered/>.

Ms. Janice Brown, Director of Field Services West, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), provided insight into FHWA's ecological perspective and the [Eco-logical: An Ecosystem Approach to Developing Infrastructure Projects](#), which was developed by a mix of federal agencies and State Departments of Transportation:

- It is inevitable that wildlife and the highway transportation industry interact and this interaction often results in adverse outcomes for both humans and wildlife. The traditional approach to mitigating impacts of the highway system on wildlife worked on a project-by-project, species-by-species basis, resulting in the inefficient use of resources and suboptimal outcomes for wildlife.
- The Eco-Logical approach gives highway managers the permission to think differently and empowers collaboration across relevant agencies. The Eco-Logical framework

allows for multi-objective solutions that bring together environmental and infrastructure-related priorities. The program gives infrastructure managers more flexibility by providing a means to preclude listing by participating in pre-listing conservation efforts and assigning credits based on wildlife outcomes. Eco-Logical has led to the creation of successful programmatic approaches to species conservation such as the desert tortoise and the Utah prairie dog.

XI. Remarks by Utah Governor Gary Herbert, WRP Co-Chair

Governor Gary Herbert welcomed the Principals and other meeting attendees to Utah. Governor Herbert discussed the culture of collaboration in Utah that dates to the state's founding. The Governor praised the WRP for coming together to cooperate and discuss issues that matter to the state and the region. Governor Herbert noted that in the current political climate, the states have a responsibility and unique opportunity to step up and lead on several important issues, many of which the WRP focuses on. The Governor referenced the effort of his office to cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior during the most recent shutdown of the federal government to reopen Utah's National Parks and remarked that there is opportunity for the states to work collaboratively with the federal government in a bi-partisan manner. He recognized Mr. Ogsbury for his efforts leading WGA's ESA initiative and Nevada Governor Sandoval (represented by Mr. McGinness) for his regional leadership to mitigate the effects of western droughts and wildfires. He concluded his remarks by thanking WRP and its members for their great collaborative efforts in the west.

XII. Keynote: Congressman Chris Stewart (R-UT)

Congressman Stewart noted his background as an Air Force pilot for fourteen years, flying both rescue missions and the B-1B bomber. The Congressman discussed the sentiment that the institutions do not function as they used to and are perhaps in need of repair. Congressman Stewart stated that the primary role of the federal government is to provide for the nation's national security, emphasizing the importance of the Department of Defense. The Congressman discussed environmental issues and noted that he cares for the environment as a conservative Republican and sees opportunity for greater collaboration on these issues to protect our environment in a responsible manner. He also stated that he hopes for greater collaboration on the designation of new National Monuments and ESA implementation. The Congressman noted the important role of the Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR) and that it is a national jewel and is critical to maintain. He noted that UTTR needs more space to conduct its mission, and Congress has developed a solution to do land exchange through a bi-partisan, collaborative effort thereby benefitting DoD and state trust land beneficiaries (schools).

XIII. Plenary Session #4 – Integrating UAS in Airspace: Challenges, Trends and Efforts

Mr. Kim Stevens, Director of Communications, National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) and Co-Chair of the WRP Military Readiness, Homeland Security, Disaster Preparedness and Aviation (MRHSDP&A) Committee began by providing background on the Committee's activities. In 2015 and 2016, the MRHSDP&A Committee:

- Supported military readiness by providing information on the DoD mission in the WRP region and serving as a forum to address compatible land uses near military operations.

- Provided a forum for collaboration and information sharing on members' respective homeland security/disaster preparedness missions to foster awareness of the interdependence among WRP Partners.
- Served as a forum for aviation users.
- Completed military asset listing summaries for 80 military locations in the region.
- Hosted several webinars on subjects that included the mission of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms and the need for land acquisition and airspace expansion; spectrum policy developments affecting DoD test ranges; and the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) efforts to address the aviation hazards associated with meteorological evaluation towers (METs).

Mr. David Suomi, FAA Deputy Regional Administrator, Northwest Mountain Region, provided his perspective on UAS and discussed FAA's efforts to regulate these technologies:

- UAS can perform many roles that manned aircraft cannot and these uses will likely increase in the future to include, at least theoretically, cargo delivery and passenger transportation at some future time. The FAA sought to address in 2012 how UAS could be incorporated into the National Airspace System without risk to the public or national security.
- The FAA issued Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in 2013 regarding the operation and certification of small UAS and received approximately 4,600 comments. A final rule was released in June 2016 that applies to UAS less than 55 pounds with non-hobbyist operations. The rule has several restrictions, including an operational training requirement, a temporal restriction, and a line-of-sight operation requirement, among others. The rule also limits the use of UAS in and around controlled airspace. This new rule goes into effect on August 29, 2016.
- The industry is changing quickly and FAA recognizes the need for a nimble and adaptable process.
- Congress has directed the FAA to take additional action on the use of UAS. This includes undertaking a two-year research and development program to incorporate UAS into the traffic management system, working with other Federal agencies to identify where UAS operation should be restricted, developing a mitigation technology to identify UAS around controlled airspace, and conducting impact testing with various conventional manned aircraft.

Mr. Frank DiGiovanni, Director of Force Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, discussed the role of UAS in the military and the need for cooperative airspace use:

- Mr. DiGiovanni remarked that airspace cohabitation is an important national security and public safety issue. The DoD has more than 20 years' expertise in using UAS cooperatively with manned aircraft and there is an opportunity to make use of this expertise for public and commercial uses. His office is currently working on a revised UAS management strategy for DoD.
- The issue of cooperative use of the frequency spectrum is an important consideration for the DoD. This applies at the local, state, and federal level and there needs to be a concerted effort to ensure adequate spectrum cohabitation.

- The DoD is considering the future of autonomous systems and will likely move towards an increased reliance on semi-autonomous fighting capabilities. The Secretary of Defense's Force of the Future initiative is indicative of the direction in which the military is headed. UAS and other autonomous technologies require cooperative strategic planning moving forward.

Mr. David Ulane, Aeronautics Director, Colorado Department of Transportation (DOT), Division of Aeronautics, discussed the use of UAS at the state level:

- The Colorado DOT is one of the first state transportation agencies to use UAS. The use of UAS in Colorado dates to the late 1990s when the DOT used a remote-control airplane to examine rock fall hazards. The Colorado DOT has identified over eighty-five potential uses for UAS within the state (e.g., bridge inspections, riverbed erosion).
- Colorado was the first state to receive blanket authorization from the FAA for public UAS use throughout the state.
- Colorado recently established the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting, which is a state-funded entity designed to find better ways to fight wildland fire. Currently, there are efforts to add UAS to their toolset.
- Colorado is working to develop a remote aircraft control tower pilot site at the Ft. Collins-Loveland Airport. This semi-autonomous aircraft control tower integrates radar and visual technologies to allow individuals to sequence aircrafts and manage traffic remotely. This would allow small, remote airports to install a control tower for a fraction of the cost of standard control towers. This control system would also be easily transportable, allowing for the transfer of the technology to wherever it is most needed. This semi-autonomous control tower will likely be able to detect UAS down to two pounds in size, thereby allowing for the sequencing of UAS as well as conventional, manned aircraft. Colorado is partnering with the FAA on this effort, which should be in the test phase by this time next year.

Discussion

- Colonel Stonemark noted military UAS pilots are in high demand and short supply, impacted by budget cuts. The Air Force is making a concerted effort to recruit and retain these specialized pilots and is treating this as a separate career field for fighter pilots.
- An attendee raised a question regarding the issues associated with hobbyists and inquired as to whether there are any additional policy initiatives aimed at controlling these users. Mr. Suomi noted that Part 107 (Small Unmanned Aircraft Regulations) does not apply to hobbyists and that the problematic operators are those with no real aviation background. The FAA is testing several different counter-UAS systems. Mr. DiGiovanni mentioned that the DoD is considering non-destructive ways of disabling UAS around restricted airspace given the security issue. Mr. Ulane added that the Colorado DOT does not have any enforcement jurisdiction, so they are relying on education programs.
- Discussion included working also with Customs and Border Patrol efforts.

- Mr. Suomi stated that the FAA does not differentiate between the terms “drone” and UAS. UAS is used in all formal documentation, but the FAA views them as interchangeable.
- Mr. DiGiovanni discussed the efforts of the Spectrum Training Consortium, which includes representatives from the telecommunications industry and the military training community and seeks to identify areas of spectrum cohabitation versus the DoD having to abandon certain frequencies.
- The State of Utah asked Mr. Suomi and Mr. Ulane for guidance in obtaining their Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the FAA. Utah has been unable to obtain their COA and are lacking guidance regarding the process of obtaining a COA.

XIV. WRP Business Session

The Hanson Scott Award for Outstanding Leadership was conferred on Mr. Steve Arenson, Mr. Jim Bartridge and Ms. Joy Nicholopoulos. Mr. Mike Mower on behalf of Governor Gary Herbert also presented Amy Duffy with a certificate of appreciation for her work in support of the WRP.

Mr. McGinness presented the Steering Committee 2016-2017 Strategic Priorities and recommendations. The WRP Principals approved with no objection:

- The adoption of the 2016-2017 WRP Priorities;
- The continuation Mr. Mower and Mr. McGinness as WRP Chair and Vice Chair of the Steering Committee, respectively for one more year;
- The proposed WRP Principals’ Meeting Rotation for 2017 (NM) and 2018 (CO); and
- The SC recommendation of no changes this year to the WRP Charter, the WRP Mission/Vision Document, the WRP structure, and the WRP Tagline.

XV. Wrap-up Discussion and Adjournment

Ms. Schneider thanked all attendees for their participation and continued commitment to the partnership. She noted this is an invaluable opportunity to bring together leaders from across the board – federal, state, tribal and local to have a good dialog on common interests and shared goals. She summarized that the WRP is a great organization and it has been her privilege to serve as a Co-Chair. Mr. DiGiovanni also thanked the meeting attendees for their participation and for allowing him to fill-in as Co-Chair. Mr. Mower, on behalf of Governor Herbert, thanked everyone for their involvement and looks forward to seeing everyone in 2017 in New Mexico.

Agenda and Attendee Listing



Eighth WRP Principals' Meeting

August 17-18, 2016 • Salt Lake City, Utah

Meeting held in the Douglas Ballroom at the University Guest House & Conference Center at the University of Utah

[Wednesday, August 17, 2016](#)

8:00-10:00 am	Registration
10:00 - 10:15 am	Welcome to Utah and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Mike Mower, Deputy Chief of Staff, Utah Governor's Office & WRP SC Chair
10:15 - 10:55 am	Remarks by WRP Co-Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Janice Schneider, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, DOI• Frank C. DiGiovanni, Director, Force Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness
10:55 -11:15 am	WRP Overview and WRP Steering Committee Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Ryan McGinness, Director, Washington DC Office, State of Nevada & WRP SC Vice Chair
11:15 - 11:30 am	Networking Break
11:30 am - 1 pm	Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invocation by Kelly Zunie, Cabinet Secretary, NM Indian Affairs Department• Around the Room Brief Highlights on WRP Partners' Land Management Issues
1:00 - 2:20 pm	Plenary Session #1: Immediate Threats to the West: Drought & Wildfires <p><i>Highlighting Federal Drought Resilience Partnership and efforts to enhance drought planning and water resource management as well as exploring fire emergency response and restoration.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Ken Pimlott, State Forester, CA Department of Forestry & Fire Protection• Mr. Astor Boozer, Regional Conservationist, West, Natural Resources Conservation Service• Mr. Brian Cottam, State Forester/Director, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands <p><i>Panel Moderator: Ryan McGinness, WRP SC Vice Chair</i></p>
2:20 - 2:50 pm	Networking Break
2:50 - 4:30 pm	Plenary Session #2: Energy Trends in the WRP Region <p><i>Overview of regional energy efforts and policy, energy reliability, trends, western energy imbalance market and offshore renewable energy activities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maury Galbraith, Executive Director, Western Interstate Energy Board (WIEB)• Stacey Crowley, Vice President of Regional and Federal Affairs, California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO)• Mark A. Gabriel, Administrator & CEO, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)• Joan R. Barminski, Regional Director, Pacific OCS Region, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management <p><i>Panel Moderator: Steve Arenson, WRP Energy Committee Co-Chair</i></p>
4:30 pm	Adjournment of Meeting Day #1

4:35 pm	Principals' Photo
6:00 - 8:00 pm	Dinner Reception in the Commander's House

Thursday, August 18, 2016

7:30 - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 9:00 am	<p>Plenary Session #3: Endangered Species Act: Challenges, Trends and Efforts <i>Exploration of recent developments, conservation partnerships, WGA's Species Conservation and ESA Initiative and upcoming USFWS work plan.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Endangered Species, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service • Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director, Western Governors' Association • Janice Brown, Director of Field Services West, Federal Highway Administration <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Panel Moderator: Mike Hamilton, WRP Natural Resources Committee Co-Chair</i></p>
9:00 - 9:15 am	Networking Break
9:15 - 9:30 am	Remarks by Utah Governor Gary Herbert, WRP Co-Chair
9:30 - 10:00 am	Keynote: Congressman Chris Stewart
10:00 - 10:20am	Networking Break
10:20 - 11:25 am	<p>Plenary Session #4: Integrating UAS in Airspace: Challenges, Trends and Efforts <i>Highlighting the challenges associated with formulating a policy for the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)/Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)/Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) and accommodate systems that make the WRP Region safer, provide economic growth and more efficiently use resources to effectively accomplish mission goals.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Suomi, FAA Deputy Regional Administrator, Northwest Mountain Region • Frank C. DiGiovanni, Director, Force Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness • David Ulane, Aeronautics Director, Colorado Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Panel Moderator: Kim Stevens, WRP Military Readiness, Homeland Security, Disaster Preparedness and Aviation Committee</i></p>
11:25 - 11:45 am	<p>WRP Business Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confer <i>Hanson Scott</i> Award for Outstanding Leadership • Adoption of WRP 2016/2017 Strategic Priorities and Recommendations • Discussion and Action by WRP Principals
11:45 am - 12 noon	Wrap Up Discussion and Adjournment

Eighth WRP Principals' Meeting

Listing by entity

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- Astor Boozer, Regional Conservationist, West USDA-NRCS
- Luana Kiger, Special Assistant, California USDA-NRCS (WRP SC Member)
- David Brown, Utah State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS
- Pedro Ramos, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs, Utah USDA-NRCS
- Tim Macklin, Western Governors' Association Liaison, NRCS

U.S. Forest Service

- Brian Ferebee, National Forest System, Associate Deputy Chief, Forest Service National Headquarters
- Nora Rasure, Regional Forester, Intermountain Region, USDA Forest Service
- Jacqueline Buchanan, Acting Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office, (WRP SC Member)
- Sandra Watts, Deputy Regional Forester, Southwestern Region, US Forest Service

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

- Jeffrey R. Zimmerman, Chief, Operations and Decision Support Division, Acting Chief, Program Support Division, NOAA/National Weather Service/Western Region

U.S. Department of Defense

Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)

- Frank DiGiovanni, SES, Director, Force Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)/Force Training (Acting WRP Co-Chair)
- Kristin Thomasgard-Spence, Program Director, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations and Environment) (WRP SC Member)
- Frederick Engle, Deputy Director, Training Ranges, Sea and Air Space, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)/Force Training
- Melody Johnson, Team Lead, Air Force Range Oversight, Test Resource Management Center
- Robert Arnold, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Ranges, Office for the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation
- William Van Houten, DoD-DOI Liaison to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Interior (Land and Minerals Management)
- Amy Caramanica, Lead Associate, Booz Allen Hamilton

- Jacob Bradt, REPI Program Contract Support, Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program

U.S. Air Force

- Colonel Robert Stonemark, US Air Force, Chief of Staff, 12th Air Force (AFSOUTH), (WRP SC member)
- Colonel David Smith, USAF, Commander, 419 Fighter Wing
- Colonel John Galik, Chief, Airspace, Ranges and Airfield Operations Division HQ Air Combat Command (ACC/A3A)
- Steven Arenson, Deputy Director, Strategic Plans and Programs, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations (WRP Energy Committee Co-Chair)
- David Bell, Ph.D., Air Force Component Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC) Region 9, Acting
- Victor Rodriguez, Encroachment Director, Nellis Air Force Base

U.S. Army

- Eugene Collins, SES, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment)
- Brigadier General Timothy R. Coffin, Commanding General, U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range
- Jeffrey Jennings, Deputy to the Commanding General, US Army Intelligence Center of Excellence, Fort Huachuca
- Aaron Goodman, Garrison Manager, U.S. Army Dugway Proving Ground
- Charles (Charlie) Tangires, Director, Engineering and Logistics (G4) Headquarters, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command
- Ann Wood, Chief, Environmental Service and Support Division, West Region, US Army Environmental Command
- Dan Hicks, Director, G-5, Plans Office, U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range, Office of the G-5 (WRP SC member)
- Kenneth Gritton, Technical Director, U.S. Army Dugway Proving Grounds
- Matthew Walsh, Executive Liaison Assistant, HQ USAICoE & Ft. Huachuca
- Linda Theriault, Emergency Management Specialist, Defense Coordinating Element
- Joel Giblin, White Sands Missile Range Garrison Sustainability, White Sands Garrison
- Captain Joseph Van Valkenburg, White Sands Missile Range

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Mark Mahoney, DoD REC Region 8 Army

U.S. Marine Corps

- Brigadier General Kevin J. Killea, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton
- Colonel Stephen Armes, USMC, Assistant Chief of Staff G-7, MCI West

- Captain Christopher Martis, Mission Compatibility Strategic Planner, Marine Corps Installations Command
- Captain Clinton Sovie, Aide De Camp, Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton
- Charles (Mike) Hamilton, Environmental Planner (G7 GEA REC), MCI West (WRP Natural Resources Committee Co-Chair)
- Francisco Badiola, Deputy Director, Government and External Affairs, Marine Corps Installations Command
- Zachery Likins, Regional Environmental Planner, Marine Corps Installations West
- Karen Gray, Barstow Community Plans and Liaison, MCLB Barstow
- Tomas Kloosterman, Intern, Marine Corps Installations Command
- Gabriel Lovasz, GIS Manager, Mantech Intl Corp

U.S. Navy

- Dwight Deakin, Head, Sustainability Office, Navy-Naval Air Systems Command (WRP SC member)
- Chris Stathos, Fleet Environmental Coordinator, Navy Region Southwest
- Deb Smith Ormsbee, Strategy Support, Dept. of Navy, Naval Air System Command

U.S. Department of Energy

- Mark A. Gabriel, Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)
- Christopher Deschene, Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs
- Michael Dwyer, Ph.D., Environmental Scientist, Argonne National Laboratory

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Headquarters (HQ)

- Brian Hyer, Director of State Affairs, Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- Miguel Ferzola, Assistant Chief, Liaison Division/Law Enforcement Operations Directorate, U.S. Border Patrol

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Pete Bakersky, Integration Branch Chief, DHS/FEMA RVIII NPD (WRP SC member and MRHSDP&A Committee Co-Chair)
- Stephanie Poore, NPD Analyst, FEMA Region VIII

U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)

DOI HQ

- Janice Schneider, Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management , U.S. Department of the Interior (WRP Co-Chair)
- Amanda Leiter, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, U.S. DOI (WRP SC Member)

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

- Michael Black, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- William Walker, Regional Director, Southwest Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, (WRP SC member)
- Sharon Pinto, Regional Director, Navajo Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Gregory Mehojah, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southwest Regional Office

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Jerome Perez, State Director, California, Bureau of Land Management
- John F. Ruhs, State Director, Nevada, BLM
- Jenna Whitlock, Acting State Director, Utah, BLM
- Michael D. Nedd, Assistant Director, Energy, Minerals, and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management
- Aden Seidlitz, Associate State Director, New Mexico, Bureau of Land Management
- Gregory Shoop, Associate State Director, Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management
- Kent Hoffman, Deputy State Director, Utah, Bureau of Land Management
- Raul Morales, Deputy State Director, Nevada, Bureau of Land Management (WRP SC member)
- Julie Decker, Senior Advisor, BLM (WRP MRHSDP&A Committee Co-Chair)
- Mike Haske, Integrated Rangeland Fire Management Strategy Implementation Manager, The Department of the Interior

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- Joan Barminski, Regional Director, Pacific OCS Region, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec)

- Daniel C. Picard, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region

National Park Service (NPS)

- Michael Whiteman-Jones, Editor/Writer, National Park Service

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Gary Frazer, Assistant Director, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Joy Nicholopoulos, Ph.D., Deputy Regional Director, Southwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (WRP SC member)

U.S. Geological Survey

- Max Ethridge, Southwest Regional Director, U.S. Geological Survey

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

- David C. Suomi, Deputy Regional Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration - Northwest Mountain Region

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

- Janice Brown, Director of Field Services West, Federal Highway Administration
- Ivan Marrero, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
- Kevin Moody, Infrastructure Ecologist, FHWA, OTS, Resource Center (WRP SC member and MRHSDP&A Committee Co-Chair)
- Edward Woolford, Environment & Right of Way Program Manager, Federal Highway Administration - Utah Division

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