



Brian Sandoval
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

1100 Valley Road
Reno, Nevada 89512
(775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY
Director

RICHARD L. HASKINS, II
Deputy Director

PATRICK O. CATES
Deputy Director

February 9, 2014

Governor Brian Sandoval
Governor's Office
101 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

I acknowledge and take full responsibility for an unintentional oversight made by the Department of Wildlife in our efforts related to collaboratively developing the State of Nevada's strategy to preclude the need to list the Greater Sage-grouse.

Recent comments made by my Department to the Bureau of Land Management, although well-intentioned, gave the perception that we were not supportive of the State's efforts. I assure you that this is not the case and that the Department remains committed to the success of the Nevada strategy.

You have made it clear that you wish for Nevada agencies to work collaboratively with all of our partners and with an "all-hands-on-deck" approach to address this critical issue. In the future we will proactively present our concerns to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council and better coordinate our commenting approach. Furthermore, I commit to meet with any of the involved state agencies, the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council, or our federal partners to formally clarify the Department's position and to address any of the issues raised in our technical comments.

I remain optimistic that through collaboration, the Department of Wildlife will be better able protect, preserve, manage and restore wildlife and its habitat to the benefit of the citizens of Nevada. Again, I am personally committed to addressing these issues and regaining the confidence of our partners - they are central to our success.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tony Wasley in blue ink.
Tony Wasley
Director

tw:ss

cc: Sagebrush Ecosystem Council Members
Director Leo Drozdoff, Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
Director Jim Barbee, Nevada Department of Agriculture