

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETINGS  
MARCH 14, 1973

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Senator Lamb was in the chair.

PRESENT: Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman  
Warren L. Monroe  
B. Mahlon Brown  
James I. Gibson  
William J. Raggio  
Clifton Young  
Archie Pozzi

Earl Oliver, LCB Fiscal Analyst  
Bob Tripp, LCB Deputy Legislative Auditor  
Howard Barrett, Budget Division  
Cy Ryan, UPI

Tom Ballow, State Department of Agriculture  
Fred Fulstone, Jr., Livestock, Smith, Nevada  
Lloyd Sorensen, Livestock, Elko, Nevada  
DeLoyd Satterthwaite, President, Nevada Wool Growers  
John E. Humphrey, Secretary, Nevada Sheep Commission  
Joe E. Miner, Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife  
(Predator Control)  
J. Elrod Starley, Director Nevada Cattlemen's Assoc.  
Ernest Newton, Taxpayers Association  
James A. Ornellas, mountain lion hunter, Sario  
Livestock Company  
John Borda, Borda & Land Corporation  
Frank W. Groves, Dept. of Fish & Game  
Frank Sullivan, Chief Probation Officer, Washoe  
County  
Harry E. Springer, State Inspector of Mines  
William D. [unclear], Chief Assistant, "

INSPECTOR OF MINES:

See attached statement made by Mr. Springer. Senator Gibson asked him if there would be any problems with regard to the proposed reorganization plan. Mr. Springer said, "I don't think this should be turned over to the Nevada Industrial Commission. When the NIC was first established March 15, 1913, the governor, attorney general, and inspector of mines sat on the NIC board of commissioners. It seems a little ludicrous that suddenly they should take over this agency. I think we have a different code of ethics that was originally written in the records of my oath of office. (He then read

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Two

his oath of office.) The NIC has various types of investments, and whether they invest in mines I don't know, but we avoid any conflict of interest so to speak."

Senator Young asked if there wouldn't be some savings in consolidation with the NIC. Mr. Springer said, "This remains to be seen. We're a small agency and I think we are able to act a little more fluently than a large agency."

There are no general fund monies in this budget, it is funded through fees collected.

Mr. Springer also said, "As the price of gold is increased there is the possibility that underground mining might increase."

#### PREDATOR CONTROL:

See the proposed new budget attached. Mr. Miner said, "Our aerial hunting is becoming a significant factor in controlling coyotes and is successful. The new budget proposal (attached) contains increases only for salaries and travel for the new positions recommended. The in-state travel includes mileage for their vehicles, and they usually use their own vehicles, and we also pay \$25 a month so they can maintain a horse. They get a small subsistence of \$4 per day they are in the field when they are not in conventional facilities. This travel amounts to a total of \$200 per month per man.

"The aircraft hunting operation is \$50,000. We need to hunt them with helicopters because they set up their dens near lambing areas. This will enable us to be more efficient in our searches of dens." Senator Lamb said, "We recently found two female coyotes who had 11 pups each." Mr. Miner said, "As far as manpower, the new budget request is what we carried on this budget during 1964-68. During 1964-68 there were the same number of people on our staff as we are now requesting."

Mr. DeLoyd Satterthwaite, president of the Nevada Wool Growers, testified, "In 1972 we took a survey of some of our people, (see results of survey attached) and projecting these figures to include similar percentages on sheep in Nevada, we figured that the state had lost \$1,894,464 due to coyotes. This involves 8,580 ewes at a total of 1,201,200 pounds (only 60% of which would be edible), and 24,453 lambs for a total pounds of 1,956,240. This loss also meant a loss of 51,000 pounds of cleaned wool which could have made 8,500 men's suits."

Senator Raggio asked if this involved total loss or just

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Three

predator loss. He was told it involved only predator loss and not loss from any other reason. Mr. Miner said, "Now 3/4 of the total loss that occurs is due to predation."

At 8:55 a.m. Senator Pozzi first entered the meeting.

Mr. Miner said, "A cougar doesn't kill just to eat, he kills for the joy of it, and will kill from 20 to 120 in a band of sheep. A coyotte will eat certain vital organs, and sometimes a lamb is just ripped. Sometimes people will think the lamb just died, but a rancher knows if you peel back the wool you find a few marks on the neck by the juglar vein." Mr. Starley testified, "After they eliminated poison and the coyottes increased and the sheep decreased, the coyotte is now taking to what is available, and that is why they are taking these calves. This is occuring all over the country. The day before yesterday we had three calves taken in half a days time."

Senator Lamb said, "I had 120 mother cows in an area, and I usually got 80% of the calves. That spring I branded only 28 head of calves. I screamed for help and they helped me, and last spring it was okay."

Senator Young asked about the reports that Golden Eagles had been killed by predator traps in Eastern Nevada. Mr. Miner said, "There have been bobcat trappers, and also because of the raise in the price of coyotte fur pelts to \$30 (although coyotte fur is only in good condition and they are only hunted by trappers three months of the year) has attracted a lot of amateur trappers who don't know what they're doing. The primary problem is when they use rabbit bait on the trap, because this attracts hawks and eagles. These losses of eagles were not done by any agents under our control but only by private trappers. This agency turns in our pelts and receives \$10,000 each year which is returned to the fund by this agency. However, these pelts are only good three months of the year, and when we hunt by helicopter we cannot stop to pick up the pelts.

"None of the money the State of Nevada appropriates goes into any overhead (such as office rental, supplies, etc.), every bit of money for this goes in the field. The federal government provides us with operating funds for overhead costs.

"There are 50,000 to 100,000 coyottes in Nevada, and this is a conservative estimate.

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Four

"We cannot enter onto federal lands or forest service lands except by agreement with the BLM or other agency. We operate on areas where we have received requests for control, and we operate on only about 1/5 of the land in Nevada. This area will enlarge because we now need to help cattle growers. There are only small areas such as public parks or private areas where there are people in the area. However, with the present manpower we have difficulty servicing requests and would not attempt to reduce the predator population as such, but would be more involved from a protection angle and not now many coyottes we could kill in numbers. We attempt to hit the hot spots and protect areas around producers particularly in their lambing or calving seasons. We have only been able to assist where there is a demonstrated need.

"We just got a report from one person in Star Valley who had to hire a man on a 24-hour basis to keep his calves safe. In Tonopah they are finding that coyottes actually pull the calves out by the nose as they are calving and kill them. We are going to keep them away from ranches by killing them in that immediate area."

Senator Gibson asked how much they thought they could reduce the kill (to calves or sheep) by their program if it were expanded. Mr. Miner said it could be reduced by 50%.

Mr. Ballow, of the State Department of Agriculture, said, "The sheep industry has decreased to where it is now about one-tenth of what it was a few years ago. The coyottes are now attacking calves because there are fewer sheep." "I think Senator Raggio's question is important, I think we had better look into getting the coyotte population down. I think we had better wring the BLM's neck, and perhaps the forest service, too (to get them more involved in predator problems)," Mr. Sorensen of Elko said.

Mr. Frank Groves, of the Fish and Game Commission, said, "People who are concerned about poison and the need to protect the coyotte don't take into consideration that the coyotte population and rodent population grow together, but then there may be an epidemic killing rodents and then the coyotte must turn to killing cattle and sheep. When you take the poison and the steel trap away we would have little control left. Before, when we were allowed to use poison, we had many cattlemen who wouldn't let you go on their areas--they felt coyottes were beneficial in keeping meadow mice down. We aren't interested in exterminating coyottes but they have to have control of numbers. The predatory problem has gone clear out of control. We have to keep them down in relationship to wildlife so we can

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Five

all live together."

Senator Young asked, "Do you think coyottes could be trained to eat mustangs?"

Senator Monroe said, "Everybody talks about destroying the balance of nature, but we do this when we destroy trash fish or diseased fish." Mr. Groves said, "Too many of our environmentalists couldn't even spell the word a few years ago. Man is the biggest predator. People think nature is on an even keel, but it doesn't go like that, populations go up and go down, even if man wasn't in the picture at all. We must take this into consideration if man is going to harvest deer, livestock, or crops, and then man will have to harvest predators if he wants to keep his crops. We must have management of all species if we are going to help mankind out. There weren't many coyottes here before man settled because the wolves kept the coyottes down."

A rancher (I believe either Mr. Fulstone or Mr. Ornellas) said, "In the last four nights we lost forty lambs due to coyottes. Last year we lost 1,200 lambs or 72,000 pounds of meat, and we spend a lot of our own money on predator control."

Senator Raggio asked about Senator Lamb's efforts to have the coyotte named as the state animal.

Mr. Borda, a rancher in Dayton, said, "A guy came to my ranch yesterday, and we sold him all our sheep. We reduced the flock from 4,000 to 2,000 so that this year we would have more control, but we are still loosing more lambs than we used to. You can't operate on a 20% loss. We are going out of the sheep business just because of coyottes. We cut down our flock to where we could operate, but you can't operate against these coyottes. We lose as many as 10 to 13 lambs a night.

"Mr. Broadbent (a citizen who is interested in environment) says that coyottes are eating berries. I don't see any berries in Nevada that these coyottes are supposed to be eating, and would like to see him feed his dog berries.

"We had a \$135,000 loss for three outfits, and we aren't too big. It hurts me to sell these sheep because that's all I know. I can't afford to keep these sheep in pasture and haul in feed for them, but I can't let them out in the range because of the coyottes. I'd lose them.

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Six

"In 1925 there were two million sheep in Nevada on the tax rolls, so there must really have been at least three or four million sheep in the state. I believe there are at least 300,000 coyottes in Nevada. Its getting to where there are a lot more coyottes than there are sheep."

Senator Brown said, "Do you think it would actually make any kind of dent if we increase your budget?" Mr. Miner said, "It would cut losses to coyottes by half or more. Back in the forty's we had 32 predator control agents in the field. Today we are down to less than 20, and in those days the agents were mostly single men who lived on the range and payed no attention to a forty hour week. Now our agents live in town and work only forty hours per week, and besides they have to spend a good deal in travel time to get to the range."

Mr. Barrett, the budget director, said they had a meeting with the predator control division in his office, but they did not meet with the governor for a budget hearing.

Senator Lamb said coyottes are also death on antelope and young deer. Senator Raggio said, "It seems to me like they are really damn limited." Senator Lamb said, "I think by going to the BLM they can get cooperation."

Senator Young moved they approve the agency's new budget request (see attached). This would allow them \$303,389 for 1973-74 and \$308,326 for 1974-75. Senator Pozzi seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

MINE INSPECTOR - Page 424:

Senator Raggio made a motion to approve the Governor's recommendation. Senator Brown said, "If we decide to go along with the reorganization and abolish the position as an elective position, would we still have this office and would they need funds for it in the NIC?" Mr. Barrett said, "The function of this office would still be carried on under the NIC, and we never see the NIC budget so we don't know how they would provide for this. The NIC fund isn't established by the legislature, its established by the NIC. The NIC isn't subjected to budget control, the only thing you review is their salaries." Senator Monroe asked if there was any provision in NIC for taking over this on January 1. Mr. Barrett really didn't know, so Senator Raggio rescinded his motion. They will hold this budget.

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Seven

WICHE - Page 178:

Senator Monroe moved they approve the governor's recommendation. Senator Gibson seconded the motion, and the committee approved it unanimously. Senator Brown didn't vote as he had just left the room.

OASI DETERMINATION UNIT - Page 324:

Senator Pozzi moved they approve the governor's recommendation. Senator Gibson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Senator Brown had left the room. After this vote, at 9:55 Senators Raggio and Young left the meeting.

SERVICES TO THE BLIND - Page 332:

Senator Pozzi moved they approve the governor's recommendation. Senator Monroe seconded the motion, and it passed with Senators Lamb, Gibson, Monroe, and Pozzi voting for it. The others were absent.

AGING SERVICES - Page 335:

Senator Gibson asked if the federal money would be forthcoming. Mr. Barrett said, "Yes. They will probably have a little more federal money than is indicated here." Senator Pozzi moved they approve the governor's recommendation. Senator Monroe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

PROBATION SUBSIDY:

Frank Sullivan said, "I am not against probation subsidy. I think its a good thing. But the structure cannot be set down as in the State of California where a county is paid X number of dollars for not sending youths to institutions. California has run into many difficulties. Over the last two years the committment rate has been cut. Formerly there were 18 boys sent to the Boys School and 7 girls to the Girls School. This year they have sent 11 boys to the Boys School. It is extremely hard if no strong measures are set to contain these kids. I have two kids on probation who were tried for kidnap and rape, one for armed robbery, and a couple of kids who tried to kill a police officer. I have three children, ages 18, 15, and 12, who were tried for rape, and they were looking for boys as well as girls. These kids do not belong on probation subsidy. If we are forced into a probation subsidy such as California has we will turn a lot of kids onto the streets that are going to be hard on the community. It is a dangerous game.

Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Eight

"I am not against probation subsidy and welcome the opportunity to do things we haven't been able to do before. However, this state is growing and there are many people coming into this state, not all of whom are desirable. I have seen probation subsidy studies that show the recidivism on probation subsidy is 72%. I would not like to see this set up where you have to commit X number of juveniles per year to probation subsidy programs or you will be penalized in subsidy dollars." (Judges would be more likely to meet quotas in order to retain their share of the funds.)

Senator Gibson said, "I think the governor thinks like you do about this. He says at this point we just don't have enough experience on this to know. He thinks we should continue this program this biennium and build a case on this. (They need more experience to determine more how to better operate it.) How do you feel about the job the girls and boys schools are doing?"

Mr. Sullivan replied, "I am particularly happy with the girls school. I have kind of lost a lot of contact with the boys school. A few years ago I was not too happy with it but am not sure now. I wonder what we are doing to these schools when we take the cream of the crop and put them on probation." Mr. Barrett said, "I think this indicates why the school budgets don't decrease as their population decreases. They need the funds because they are getting more difficult kids." Senator Monroe agreed and said they ended up with a concentration of very difficult kids.

#### HIGHWAY PATROL COMMUNICATIONS:

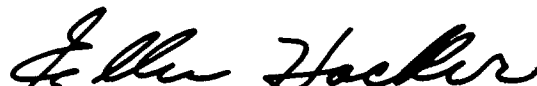
Mr. Ernest Newton of the Taxpayers Association said, "I would like to have you re-examine the communications network for the highway patrol because I think they really need this money. The amount of money in the highway patrol request comes out of the highway funds and might very well come out of general funds. I feel this can be justified because the network is used not only by the highway patrol but by sheriffs in Nye, Esmeralda, and Mineral Counties. The network is a link from Las Vegas to Silver Peak and this is the only serious dead spot in Nevada. I really think we can justify an appropriation from the general fund rather than the highway fund for this.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

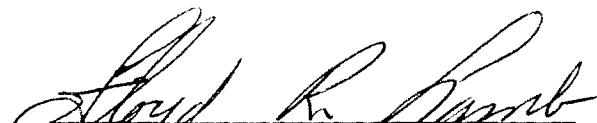


Senate Finance Committee  
March 14, 1973  
Page Nine

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ellen Hocker, Secretary

APPROVED:

  
Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman

August 31, 1972

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF JUSTIFICATION  
1973-74 AND 1974-75 BUDGET DOCUMENT

*Mr. Springer*  
*Inspector of Mines*

Nevada Statutes set out specific qualifications, duties and authority for the personnel of this department. The State Inspector of Mines, Deputy Inspector of Mines, and his assistant mine inspectors are required by law to inspect all active operations of mines, mills, smelters and ore reduction plants in Nevada as often as necessary to insure safe working conditions at each individual property, large or small, except where they are worked exclusively by the owners, or lessees of the owners, and where no men are employed and working for wages.

Other requirements include accident prevention through Health and Safety Standards (adopted for enforcement by this agency on July 21, 1970) and Health and Safety Provisions (Chapter 518, Nevada Revised Statutes 518.010 to 518.380), proper mining methods, investigations and reports of serious and fatal accidents, testing of underground diesel equipment which must meet standards set out by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, testing for unhealthy and harmful gases and proper air control, making dust surveys and taking dust counts as required by the Dust Control program, thorough investigation of all complaints, the compiling and recording of yearly statistics from the mandatory operator's reports of each operating mine, mill, smelter and ore reduction plant in Nevada and from the accident reports on each disabled individual losing one or more days of work. Nevada Statutes also require this department to make informative annual and biennial reports and to administer the Hoisting Engineers License Act.

Statutory authority is given the State Inspector and his assistants to make recommendations, both oral and written, for safer working conditions at all operations and these must be followed up by further inspections. This may mean inspecting the same property two or three times within a month. I would also like to note at this point that prior to July 21, 1970, there were but thirty four Health and Safety provisions to enforce. There are now upwards of nine hundred Health and Safety Standards adopted for enforcement. Statistical figures support the increase in the work load in this department since July 21, 1970. Where there were 540 examinations of mines, mills, and smelters made in the year ending June 30, 1969, there were 544 examinations of mines, mills, and smelters made in the year ending June 30, 1972. This figure does not include the air quality surveys, 41 dust surveys, or 7 diesel application surveys for a grand total of 628 examinations for the year ending June 30, 1972.

For the first time since 1933 this department has to report only one fatality during the fiscal year 1971-72. This reflects the increased attention to safety on the part of the people of the industry, and the availability of improved inspection devices. It is hoped that with adequate funding this figure will be brought to zero in the coming years.

The statutory salary of the State Inspector of Mines has been set at \$18,000 per year beginning with the first Monday in January 1971. The two Assistant Mine Inspectors are all at the top of their salary ranges. The Senior Clerk Typist is at grade 20, step 3, in her classification and salary raises in accordance with personnel practice have been taken into consideration in computing her salary for the 1973-75 biennium. However the State Inspector of Mines has requested Mrs. Beverly Allen, Senior Clerk Typist, to submit a request for "position reclassification" to Principal Clerk Typist or from grade 20, step 3, to grade 23, step 1, and should the Personnel Division approve the job classification the salary category would be augmented for the increase in compensation.

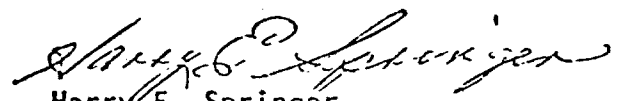
All three positions are in the classified service.

The Chief Assistant salary has been budgeted for a 12% increase so as to bring the compensation up to the equivalent pay grade of a Administrative Secretary II, grade 27, step 8, a classification held by an former incumbent in the present position. The Deputy Mine Inspector salary has been budgeted for a 5% increase so as to keep up with the increasing cost of living that seems to prevail in a healthy economy. Both of these positions are in the unclassified service.

A number of new and old mining ventures have been Intermittently operating in the past two years. While some of them have failed to develop into full time operations they still must be inspected for as long as they continue to operate. This also increases the work load on this department.

In the preparation of this budget document for the 1973-1974 and 1974-1975 fiscal years we have kept in mind many varying factors as well as our past experience. Consideration must also be given to the fact that in the mining industry good fortune is not always with us and there is the possibility of a major disaster that would of course, deplete our in-state travel funds excessively and increase our communications expenses, also a transition from agency owned vehicles to motor pool vehicles accounts for the large increase in the motor pool account 6210. Because of the new equipment purchased in the last fiscal years, it will be necessary to purchase dust collecting filters and testing tubes for hydrogen cyanide, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulphide, chlorine vapors, and sulphur dioxide. A monthly SO<sub>2</sub> survey at Kennecott's McGill Smelter for three shifts will expend 12 boxes of sulphur dioxide testing tubes. At a cost of \$8.00 per box a monthly survey costs \$96.00 or \$1152 per year.

Suppliers and the purchasing department forecast higher prices for materials, paper, supplies, printing, etc., and we have taken this into consideration when computing our proposed operating expenses. We do not consider there will be any reduction in costs in the operating categories.

  
Harry E. Springer  
State Inspector of Mines

August 31, 1972

NARRATIVE STATEMENT FOR HOISTING ENGINEERS LICENSE FUND

FOR F/Y 1973-74 AND 1974-75

(Administered by the State Inspector of Mines)

The Hoisting Engineers License Act was approved by the Nevada Legislature in 1921 and the fund for its administration created at that time. In 1955 the Legislature approved an amendment to the act which made the fund non-reverting. In other words, the expenses incurred under the provisions of the Act are paid out of the fund which is maintained by the license fees collected. There is no money appropriated from the general fund and none of the monies in the fund revert to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year but carry over each year.


The Act makes the State Inspector of Mines responsible for its administration and he is the ex-officio chairman of all boards of examiners for hoisting engineer's licenses. The Inspector, or one of his deputies, acts as the chairman of all board meetings which are held for the purpose of examining and licensing hoisting engineers.

Records are kept of all proceedings of the various district examining boards, all licenses, and all applicants rejected by the district examining boards.

The original and delinquent license fees for hoisting engineers is \$5.00 and renewal and reclassification fee is \$2.50 per year. The Acts provides that all hoisting engineers must renew their licenses annually. At this time each applicant for a renewal must accompany his application form with a certificate from a licensed physician to be sure their health still maintains the standards set out in the law. Renewal forms are sent out by the inspector of mines' office and renewal cards issued in the proper manner by the inspector. At the present time there are 66 licensed hoistman.

Claims against the fund are paid by this office in the regular channels, the same as are other state claims. Each board member, with the exception of the mine inspector or his deputies, is paid \$10.00 for each examination meeting they attend.

The Act also provides for various classes of license and the experience necessary to obtain them, and for apprentice hoisting engineers, employment of unlicensed hoisting engineers in emergencies, and for the enforcement of all portions of the act by the inspector of mines and each of his deputies.

  
Harry E. Springer  
State Inspector of Mines and  
Ex-Officio Chairman of the  
Hoisting Engineers License Fund

Nevada Woolgrowers Association  
Box 543  
East Ely, Nevada 89315  
289-4770

1972  
ANNUAL PREDATOR LOSS

Name Nevada Wool Growers Association Address Box 543 East Ely, Nevada

1. Number of Ewes 165,000
2. No. of months you operate in Nevada 12
3. Counties in which you operate Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander  
Lincoln, Lyon, Mineral, Nye, Ormsby, Pershing,  
Washoe, White Pine
4. Number of mature sheep lost during 1972 8,580
5. Number of lambs lost during 1972 24,453

6. Type of predator loss:

Coyotes 87% Bobcats 4.8% Cougar 6.2%  
Dog .9% Other (Please name) 1.1% (Eagles .0002%)

7. Where did your losses occur? Please % if you can.

	Lambs 9.3%		Lambs 18.9%
Deeded lands	<u>Mature Ewes 8.3%</u>	National Forest	<u>Mature Ewes 14.1%</u>
	Lambs 4.8%		Lambs 67%
Lessed Private land	<u>Mature Ewes 5.1%</u>	BLM	<u>Mature Ewes 72.5%</u>

8. Did these losses occur in fences - pastures or meadows XX
- Herder operation XX Combination XX

9. Any other comments:

The total number of sheep returned on this was 131,266 head and we took these figures and % them to the 165,000 sheep for the state. The lambing loss is figured on lambs from docking to shipping time, as this is the only count the sheepmen have. From past experience, we have found the average docking % to be 130%.

We put a face value of \$40.00 per head on the mature ewes and \$30.00 on the lambs, for a total loss of \$ 1,076,790 to the sheep industry in the state during 1972.

PREDATORY ANIMAL & RODENT CONTROL (REVISED BUDGET FOR FYS 1973-74 AND FYS 1974-75) AS REQUESTED BY SENATOR LAMB 02/28/73

2 237

101-4600

	-----1973-74-----		-----1974-75-----	
	AGENCY REQUEST		AGENCY REQUEST	
REGULAR APPROPRIATION	\$	283,389	\$	288,326
APPN FROM OTHER FUNDS	\$	20,000	\$	20,000
CLASS SAL ADJUSTMENT	\$		\$	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>303,389</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>308,326</b>
EXISTING POSITIONS				
DISTRICT SUPERVISOR	1.00 \$	9,633	1.00 \$	9,670
DISTRICT FIELD ASST	11.00 \$	84,177	11.00 \$	84,833
TOTAL EXISTING	12.00		12.00	
SALARIES	\$	93,810	\$	94,503
PAYROLL COSTS	\$	15,181	\$	15,884
NEW POSITIONS -DISTRICT	9.00		9.00	
FIELD ASSISTANTS				
SALARIES	\$	58,698	\$	61,533
PAYROLL COSTS	\$	8,369	\$	9,075
<b>TOTAL NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>9.00</b>		<b>9.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL SALARY - PAYROLL COSTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>176,058</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>180,995</b>
<b>TOTAL IN-STATE TRAVEL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>70,560</b>		<b>70,560</b>
INSURANCE EXPENSE	\$	121	\$	121
OTHER CONTRACT SERVICE	\$	1,650	\$	1,650
AIRCRAFT OPERATION	\$	50,000	\$	50,000
RAW MATERIALS	\$	5,000	\$	5,000
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>56,771</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>56,771</b>
<b>TOTAL AGENCY EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>303,389</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>308,326</b>

Predator control programs are conducted only on those lands where requested by the owner, lessee or manager. Predator numbers have increased dramatically during the past few years. Losses of sheep, lambs, calves, game animals, poultry, and pets to predator has become a serious problem to many people.

Nevada wool growers have just completed a survey and calculated a loss of sheep and lambs valued at \$1,076,790 taken by predators in the state during the past year. Cattle growers are considering an assessment on range cattle to increase predator control programs. The Nevada Department of Fish and Game considers present coyote populations a threat to game animals in many areas. The Presidential Executive Order of February 1972 prohibited the use of chemical toxicants for predator control. This took away the most economical and effective control method.

Predator control is now dependent on trapping, ground and aerial hunting, and denning. Records kept by our field personnel on livestock losses show our present work force is providing service on less than 10% of the losses reported by Nevada wool growers.

Nine additional field positions and an increase of \$45,000 for aerial hunting is requested in this budget. The requested field positions would restore personnel to the same number employed in 1964 through 1968. These additional positions would make it possible to service complaints on a current basis and provide preventative predator control on lambing and calving ranges where losses are heaviest. Aerial hunting has become one of the most effective control methods in stopping predation in open country. Aerial hunting is producing an average take of 3 coyotes per hour this winter on areas where predation is occurring. Requested funding would provide 300 hours of helicopter flying for denning and hunting rougher country plus 665 hours of airplane hunting.

We believe a 50% reduction in current livestock losses could be accomplished with this budget and all complaints could be answered on a current basis.

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