

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bremner
Vice Chairman Hickey
Mr. Bergevin
Mr. Brady
Mr. Coulter
Mr. Glover
Mrs. Hayes
Mr. Horn
Mr. Marvel
Mr. Rhoads
Mr. Robinson
Mr. Vergiels
Mrs. Westall

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Bible, Fiscal Analyst; Judy Matteucci, Deputy Fiscal Analyst; Mike Alastuey, Deputy Budget Director; Mr. Joseph C. Greenley, Department of Wildlife; Ms. Doris Palazzolo, SOICC; Ms. Linda Ryan, Office of Community Services

Chairman Bremner called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Mr. Joseph Greenley, Director, Department of Wildlife, directed the committee's attention to changes in the program statement as contained in the Executive Budget. One change is to correct the increase in hunting and fishing licenses from \$10.00 per year to \$14.00, rather than \$12.50 as contained in the program statement. Secondly, Mr. Greenley noted that under the Upland Game Program, it is incorrectly stated that the pheasant stamps will be matched with federal aid monies.

Mr. Greenley went on to say that S.B. 333 of the 1979 Legislature made significant changes in the Department of Wildlife by changing the members on the Commission from 9 to 7 members, the manner of appointing the director, the responsibilities of the commission and the funding of the wildlife programs. Rather than all commissioners representing the hunting and fishing interests, the new commission has a representative from livestock industry, a farmer, a conservationist, two representatives from the general public and two representing sportsmen.

Mr. Greenley noted that the budget is not adequate to meet the needs to properly manage this state's wildlife resources. There is a need to augment the law enforcement program, upgrade and expand fish production facilities, expand and refine the game and furbearer data base and annual population survey data, expand our analysis and input into proposed land use plans of federal and other state agencies and private industries. Mr. Greenley noted that this budget is contingent upon a license fee increase which the commission may establish. Mr. Greenley's additional comments are contained in EXHIBIT A.

Chairman Bremner asked for an explanation of the Capital Improvement Projects for the Department of Wildlife. Mr. Greenley said the requested appropriation for \$337,000 for a filtration system for the Verdi Hatchery would be necessary only if the Verdi Hatchery is retained as the prime fish producing facility. Chairman Bremner asked if the Verdi Hatchery can be maintained without the filtration system. Mr. Greenley said yes. Additionally, the \$217,000 appropriation would be used to implement a storage tank and facilities to provide fire protection at the Gallagher Hatchery. Additionally, requests are made for energy improvements at the Elko headquarters in the amount of \$24,000, a canopy structure at the Gallagher Hatchery in the amount of \$25,000, a security fence at the Lake Mead Hatchery in the amount of \$61,000 and repairs to the Reno building for \$58,800.

Mr. Hickey referred to recent audit reports performed on the

Department of Wildlife and asked if the discrepancies had been corrected. Mr. Dale Lockhart, Chief of Administrative Services, said he would supply a summary of all recommendations of the audit to the committee.

Mr. Greenley pointed out that the revenue sources in the budget are reflective of the expected revenue generated from a license fee increase to \$14.00.

Mr. Rhoads said it has been his experience that many people feel the \$50.00 non-resident hunting license fee is excessive and recommended an alternative whereby a 3 day permit could be issued for \$25.00. Mr. Greenley said the commission has considered this alternative and feels it is a logical approach. Mr. John Sweetland, Vice Chairman of the Board of Wildlife Commissioners, noted that the commission has no objection to this approach and considers it to be a good source of revenue. Mr. Rhoads suggested the possibility of amending the fee increase bill to include this proposal. Mr. Greenley said he would be agreeable to that approach.

Mr. Glover asked what the pheasant stamp money is being used for. Mr. Greenley said, to date, no money has been expended for the purpose of purchasing and releasing of pheasants. He said problems exist in that not enough money has been generated to purchase the pheasants and problems arise in releasing pheasants on private property. Mr. Glover suggested eliminating the pheasant stamp program. Mr. Greenley said he would agree with that approach, or as an alternative to broaden the statute so that the money can be used for upland game or habitat development.

In response to a question from Mr. Hickey, Mr. Greenley said that at the present time there are 147 on staff, there is one position recommended that would increase staff to 148. Additionally, Mr. Hickey asked if all positions are filled. Mr. Greenley said there are approximately 4 vacancies at the present time due to retirements. Mr. Alastuey further clarified that in the current 1980-81 work program there are 154.31 positions authorized and 147 are on staff now. The governor recommends 151.09 positions which reflects the conversion from a lump sum salary of \$76,500 for "Gift and Grant Funded Salaries" and has deleted those monies and provided position detail for the 4.09 positions. In effect, the current "Gift and Grant Fund" positions are being replaced with the recommended positions.

Chairman Bremner asked for an explanation of the "Data Processing" line item. Mr. Greenley responded that the \$106,000 for data processing is basically the charges by Central Data Processing for use of equipment. Mr. Greenley pointed that a problem has existed in their efforts to upgrade the data processing function by the acquisition of an 8100 computer but CDP was unable to provide a programmer. Chairman Bremner asked Mr. Greenley if he requested approval of the acquisition of the computer from Interim Finance. Mr. Greenley said approval was granted from Interim Finance for the leasing of the 8100 computer in the amount of \$135,000. Chairman Bremner asked if CDP had told the Department of Wildlife that a programmer would be available and Mr. Greenley said he was under the impression that was the case. Additionally, Chairman Bremner questioned the availability of programming capability through the private sector. Mr. Greenley said that no efforts had been made to determine that feasibility. Chairman Bremner asked that the committee be provided with information relative to other state's wildlife departments' data processing procedures. Mr. Lockhart pointed out that CDP had indicated that programming through the private sector would be too costly for the department.

In response to a question from Mr. Horn, Mr. Greenley said that the increase in the food line item is reflective of the significant increase in fish food. He noted that the requested appropriation of \$178,000 for fish food in 1983 is not adequate to bring the hatcheries to full production. Mr. Hickey asked what would be adequate to reach full production levels at the hatcheries. Mr. Greenley said that \$180,000 in 1981-82 and \$200,000 in 1982-83

would be necessary to reach full production levels.

Wildlife - Boating Program

Mr. Greenley said this program is funded from license registrations, titling and marine fuel tax as determined by statute.

Mr. Sweetland briefly told the committee that this budget is predicated on the fee increases.

Predatory Animal Control

Mr. Joe Packham, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, informed the committee that Warren Olstrom, State Supervisor for the Animal Damage Control Program, was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Packham continued that this budget is used to control animal damage caused by certain wildlife species (coyote, bobcat, mountain lion, etc.). The operating procedure is through an organization which consists of three district supervisors and, on the average, 18½ trapper positions.

Chairman Bremner asked for justification of a reduction of 9 positions (from 20 authorized in the previous budget to 11 positions). Mr. Packham replied that only 15 of the authorized have been filled previously and are recommended by the division to be continued. He added that if only the 11 positions are approved, as is recommended by the governor, that the problem resolution rate would be cut by 50%.

Chairman Bremner asked if trapping by the private sector has increased. Mr. Packham said that due to increased costs of the hides, trapping has expanded over a period of years but at the present time the cost for hides is actually lower than 2 years ago. Mr. Packham pointed out that private trapping does not focus on the problem handled by this division which is to reduce predator damage and not concentrate on the volume of animals.

In response to Mr. Glover's question on the number of coyotes taken by the private sector, Mr. Packham said that he had no statistics available.

Mr. Coulter said he had received information that state trappers with trained hunting dogs are not allowing private hunters the opportunity to trap mountain lions. Mr. Packham responded that the work by this division is only in areas where there has been damage to livestock.

Mr. Robinson referred to an effort in Clark County to outlaw trapping and asked if state laws would preempt such a county ordinance. Mr. Packham said that he could not answer the question.

Mr. Hickey asked for an explanation of the almost 25% decrease in the number of animals taken. Mr. Packham said many factors could impact the numbers, such as a change in population level of the coyotes or demand in terms of requests for assistance. Mr. Marvel pointed out that a drop in numbers could be reflective of the amounts of money available to this division. Mr. Gil Mareujo, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, said the annual survey has indicated a stable population.

Chairman Bremner referred to the 1979 proceeds of fur sales in the amount of \$45,640 and yet the 1979-80 actual fur sales revenue item is \$5,000 and asked for an explanation of the difference. Mr. Alastuey pointed out that in 1979-80 the total amount of revenue was \$15,029 and that if one adds fur sales on both pages 889 and 891 of the Executive Budget the total will be the same.

Mr. Rhoads asked if any portion of the \$312,000 appropriation requested by the agency was federal money. Additionally, Mr. Rhoads asked what impact the difference between the division's request of \$312,000 and the governor's recommendation of \$256,000 would have

on the performance of the agency. Mr. Packham said that all funds in this budget are General Fund monies and the difference is reflected on the reduction of the 4 positions and will impact the effectiveness in the field from a 75% resolution rate down to 50%. Mr. Rhoads asked if the governor recommended the decrease in positions as a result of the decrease in fur sales. Mr. Alastuey said that in the absence of a high level of fur sales proceeds in this budget, the position cuts were recommended. Mr. Rhoads questioned the recommendation in that it would encourage the agency to kill more coyotes to meet quotas rather than ones that are causing animal damage. Mr. Alastuey pointed out that the governor's recommendation of \$15,000 plus puts far less of a "hammer" on this agency than the \$200,000 estimate set during the 1979 Legislature. Mr. Rhoads speculated that if the agency were to produce \$60,000 worth of fur sales, then would the governor recommend more than \$15,000. Mr. Alastuey said the fur sales would be gauged on actual experience. Mr. Marvel noted that this agency is dealing with preditation problems not in number of hides.

Mr. Robinson suggested increasing the bounty paid to private trappers to expand the number of animals eliminated. Chairman Bremner noted that this agency is not maintained to reduce the predatory animal population but to reduce problem animals in certain areas.

Mr. Marvel asked if statistics were available on the degree of depredation on the wildlife. Mr. Packham said he did not have information in that area.

Woolgrowers Predator Animal Control Committee

Mr. John Humphrey, Secretary of the Nevada State Sheep Commission, said that funds for this budget are derived from a twenty cent per head tax on sheep. This program is a cooperative one managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the terms of the agreement with the Woolgrowers Predator Animal Control Committee.

Sheep Commission

Mr. Humphrey said that the Sheep Commission operates on funds received from a direct tax on sheep only. Its primary function is to protect the Nevada sheep industry from communicable sheep diseases. He noted that the 1979 Legislature passed legislation to increase the tax levied.

Grazing Boards Contributions

Mr. Humphrey said the woolgrowers through out the state go to various grazing boards to acquire donations to the program and that the program is administered by the Federal Government.

Mr. Bob Delzerene, President of the Nevada Woolgrowers, told the committee that the annual survey conducted by this organization reveals that damage done by predators to animals and lands amounts to \$772,830. This results in 2½ mature sheep and 6.8% of lamb crop losses. He further noted that the governor's recommended decrease of 9 positions in the predatory animal control budget could severely cut the manpower available. Mr. Rhoads asked if the Predatory Animal and Rodent Control agency is effective in eliminating predatory animal problems. Mr. Delzerene said they are effective and have done a "good job."

Rural Housing

Mr. Ed Markovich, Director of the Rural Housing Authority, introduced his assistant, Mrs. Brown, and informed the committee that the Rural Housing Authority has the responsibility of availing itself of housing programs and funding and development of housing units to alleviate the housing problems of individuals on low or fixed incomes.

Mr. Markovich noted that the division is requesting a new position to handle the Moderate Rehabilitation Program. He further

noted that the salaries reflected in the budget for the director and the Rural Housing Coordinator are not correct. When the budgets were printed there was an effort to upgrade these salaries and are in actuality much less than is reflected in the budget.

In response to Mr. Marvel's question on the impact of possible loss of federal funds, Mr. Markovich replied that, to date, it is determined that the affect will be minimal. The main point would be changing the percentage requirement for persons paying for rent and utilities from 25% to 30%. He noted that the existing program is in the fifth year of a 20 year funding cycle and no changes are anticipated.

Mr. Rhoads referred to Mr. Markovich's previous statement regarding 10 housing units in Wells and asked what would be the role of the Rural Housing Division in this regard. Mr. Markovich replied that a 10 unit housing development in Wells was built 10 years ago by a private non-profit corporation and at the present time does not have the management capabilities to handle the development. At a request of FHA the division assumed the management of the units with the stipulation that FHA provided deep subsidy (residents pay 25% of income for rent and utilities) and funds for rehabilitation of the units.

Mr. Rhoads asked if the division has received criticism from the private sector relative to possible "overlapping" of projects. Mr. Markovich noted that the private sector vies for the same funding sources that are sought by the Rural Housing Division and, to date, there has been no animosity in this regard.

In response to a question from Mrs. Hayes on the location of the projected mobile home park, Mr. Markovich said that 10 acres in Fallon is being proposed for a mobile home park.

Mr. Robinson asked for an explanation of the "Contractural Services" line item. Mr. Markovich said that according to the Attorney General's office the division could contract for anything related to housing and did not need to program such contracts through the budget. However, in working with the Budget Division, this budget reflects the 8 individuals who are under contracts for services with the division and actually handle the paperwork intake and inspections of units in rural Nevada. Individuals are paid \$15.00 for taking an application and inspecting a unit in rural Nevada.

State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee

Ms. Doris Palazzolo, Director of SOICC, told the committee that this program was created in 1976 through the Educational Amendments Act and all the funds in this budget are from the Federal Government. There are two staff members and the committee is composed of the heads of four major agencies (Employment Security, State School Superintendent, Rehabilitation Administrator of the Department of Human Resources and State Comprehensive Employment and Training Director). Ms. Palazzolo's additional comments are contained in EXHIBIT B.

Ms. Palazzolo additionally noted that this agency produced a report that includes information from all the vocational education programs both at the secondary and post-secondary level.

Mr. Glover asked what projections are being made on the federal funds being available for this program. Ms. Palazzolo said that at the present time nothing definite has been determined in regard to the federal funds. Ms. Palazzolo additionally noted that the Educational Amendments that created the SOICC indicated that each state that receives vocational education or CETA funds must have this coordinating committee.

In response to Mr. Hickey's question on the role of the SOICC in regard to the MX missile project, Ms. Palazzolo said the SOICC

will collect data and project what support systems will be necessary. Additionally, Mr. Hickey noted that the N.D.A. (an independent organization of businessmen) is making a survey of the casinos in an effort to locate the underemployed or skilled workers that could be utilized by contractors for the MX project and stressed the role that the SOICC could have in this regard. Ms. Palazzolo said that the State Comprehensive Employment and Training Office is handling the major focus in this area. Mr. Hickey said it was his opinion that if there were any state funds in this budget the agency would be in trouble.

Office of Community Services

Ms. Linda Ryan, Director of the State Office of Community Services, said that the role of this agency has changed significantly in the past biennium. Most of the programs deal with energy related funding statewide; however, much of the emphasis has been toward the rural areas which are consistently underserved. Ms. Ryan noted that the administration costs for this agency are drawn from support service charges from the other program budgets and no General Funds are being requested.

Mr. Glover asked for justification of the \$10,000 pay increase for the director. Ms. Ryan stated that the increase is an effort to bring the salary commensurate with other directors with the same responsibilities. Additionally, Mr. Glover asked how many staff Ms. Ryan supervises. She said that there are 20 people in the agency.

Chairman Bremner asked for an explanation of the increase in the Dues and Registration. Ms. Ryan said the dues cover the membership in two organizations, the State Economic Opportunity Office and the Council of Community Affairs Agency. Due to the increase in the dues, Ms. Ryan said consideration is being given to withdrawing from the SEOO.

Energy Programs

Ms. Ryan said that from this account the Solar Greenhouse at the gymnasium in Hawthorne was funded and is anticipated to provide 80% of the energy for that facility. Additionally, funding was provided for the conversion to natural gas at the Battle Mountain Indian Colony. However, it appears that at this time further funding will not be available.

Mr. Marvel asked if the Bureau of Indian Affairs helped to finance any energy measures. Ms. Ryan said she has not received any assistance from the B.I.A.

Community Development

Ms. Ryan noted that this account provides assistance upon request to rural Nevada communities. The past programs funded are a Day Care Center in Ely, a Community Action Center in Hawthorne and some assistance on the Gasohol project in Humboldt County.

Crisis Intervention

Ms. Ryan noted that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funds this statewide program which provides fuel assistance to low income families.

Mr. Marvel asked if the Farmers Home Administration has been providing money to Nevada. Ms. Ryan said that Nevada is the only state in the western region that does not have an FHA office and as a result does not receive the full benefits from this program.

Chairman Bremner adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Department of Wildlife
Program Presentation to Assembly Ways & Means Committee
February 26, 1981

by
Joseph C. Greenley, Director

Senate Bill 333, which passed during the last session of this Legislature, was the most significant change in the fish and game statutes since the creation of the first seventeen-man fish and game commission in 1947. Although the basic fish and game laws were changed very little, significant changes were made in the number and composition of the commission, the manner of appointing the director, the responsibilities of the commission and the funding for wildlife programs. The commission was reduced in number from 9 to 7. Rather than all commissioners representing the hunting and fishing interests, the new commission has a representative from the livestock industry, a farmer, a conservationist, two representatives from the general public and two representing sportsmen. Their responsibilities are basically policy and rule making and are no longer involved in department administration to the extent of the previous commissions.

SB 333 reflected a significant change in the philosophy of the people of Nevada on what the role of their commission and Department of Wildlife should be. Rather than being, what was construed by many, purely hunting and fishing oriented, controlled by a commission made up entirely of sportsmen and independently funded; the people desired a broader role for the commission and department including concern and programs for non-hunted species, a broader funding base for all programs, and broader representation in the policy area.

The department has had no problem adjusting to its broader role with non-game species, in fact welcomed it along with the additional funds to cover this program as well as upgrade other projects.

EXHIBIT A

At the direction of the commission, the department is in the process of developing a comprehensive statewide wildlife policy plan and species management plans which will reflect the input from the various interests represented on the commission.

These plans will provide direction for all future programs and identify funding needs. The policies and plans will be taking into consideration the impacts of proposed management practices on other legitimate uses and users of public and private lands with the idea of minimizing conflicts and maximizing mutually beneficial practices and programs. This will be, perhaps, one of the most significant results of the changes brought about by SB 333.

The 1982-83 biennial budget before you is basically a maintenance of current operations budget with a few modifications and priority changes from the existing program. Even so, a significant fee increase is required if adequate funds are to be available to maintain those programs and fund this budget.

The budget is not adequate to meet the needs to properly manage this state's wildlife resources. There is a need to augment our law enforcement program, upgrade and expand our fish production facilities, expand and refine our game and furbearer data base and annual population survey data, expand our analysis and input into proposed land use plans of federal and other state agencies and private industries, and handle the increasing burden of providing data, analyzing documents and monitoring the activities related to the MX system development.

Nevada's growth is placing a greater demand for all forms of recreation related to wildlife and its habitat. The demand for deer hunting already exceeds the supply of tags available by a third. For other big game species the excess demand is substantially greater. It will not be possible to increase wildlife populations in proportion to the human population growth. Through proper management however, we hopefully

can maintain much of what we have, and in some instances increase populations such as we have with bighorn sheep, elk and striped bass.

Although not adequate to do the job as I see it, considering the economic conditions we face today, I am pleased with the Governor's budget however, again, this budget is contingent upon a license fee increase which is yet to be approved by this Legislature and also a deer tag fee increase which the Commission may establish.

Within this budget account are the budget groups of Administration, Game, Fisheries, Law Enforcement, Public Information (including Hunter Safety), Habitat and Commissioners and Boards. I would like to elaborate to some extent upon some of these budget groups:

Administration

This budget group includes the administration of the Department and all major support services for all programs. Program elements are:

License & Registration

Administer the statewide license agent accounts; administer boat titling and annual registration. Some 28,500 certificates of number and 7,000 certificates of ownership will be processed each year. (Two positions in this office are funded under boating safety.)

Automotive Equipment Operating Fund

Purchase, operation, repair and maintenance of all automotive vehicles not purchased by specific projects. Fleet of approximately 101 of 149 vehicles operated funded here.

Air Operation

Provide flight services to the divisions for wildlife surveys (90%), law enforcement, fish planting, telemetry, aerial photography in fixed wing and two helicopter aircraft. In 1980 we flew 1,745 hours at \$74.50/hr for the Cessna 206 and \$101.50/hr for the helicopters. This compares with \$80/hr and \$175/hr from charter services.

Indirect Cost Pool

Includes the offices of the Director, Administrative Services, Business Management, Data Entry, three Regional Offices and staff; and other specific expenses not direct costs to a project. This is an overhead account to comply with Federal requirements for charging Federal Aid programs.

Game

This budget group includes all game and terrestrial nongame activities of the Department.

Wildlife Management and Research

Game management in Nevada has, by necessity, become much more sophisticated in recent years. The growing demand on limited populations of big game animals has necessitated the implementation of quotas on the states most popular big game animal -mule deer. A total statewide quota system on mule deer was not only unthinkable fifteen years ago, but was not feasible due to our lack of ability to accurately determine population numbers and composition of the various herds. Due to a decline in the herds, some drastic action was necessary to perpetuate hunting. Our ability to census deer populations improved considerably with the acquisition of helicopters and as our knowledge increased, the feasibility of a quota system improved and was initiated in 1976. From the standpoint of the deer herds, the system has been a success. The drawing system still has its problems; however, we are improving this system each year.

It should be understood that to initiate the current quota system for the benefit of the deer herds, our tag and license sales were severely impacted and likewise our revenue from the reduced sales of these documents (\$500,000+). With the quota system we now sell 41,576 (-21,812) licenses and 21,650 (-25,181) tags and 3,077 (-2,326) nonresident licenses and 2,300 (-2,050) tags.

Although our management program for small game and furbearers has not reached the degree of sophistication of the big game program and hopefully will never have to, we must still provide more accurate population data to support hunting and trapping seasons and management than was ever the case before. This is particularly true with certain furbearers and waterfowl where protectionist groups are attempting to stop or severely restrict hunting and trapping.

The basic biological data needed to support hunting and trapping is also necessary to support and justify this agency's input into habitat protection and management. Wildlife must coexist with other land users in the state whether on public or private lands. As I stated earlier, this agency's thrust is to minimize conflicts with other land uses and users and maximize mutually beneficial practices and programs. Good, sound population and habitat data will enhance this possibility and the collection of this data is a major element in the game program. This element also includes the evaluation and selection of sites for the introduction or reintroduction of wildlife into suitable habitats. This has been a highly successful project with bighorn sheep.

Wildlife Management Areas

The state owns or controls by lease or withdrawal, ten Wildlife Management Areas totaling 350,085 acres. The largest, Stillwater WMA, (232,820) is managed under a triparty agreement with TCID and the USF&WS.

All areas were acquired primarily for their waterfowl values; however, they also provide a major fishery, nongame habitat and some small game hunting.

Waterfowl hunter numbers have fluctuated between 5,698 and 16,906 during the past 20 years, primarily in response to available wetland habitat. However, the trend (average of the fluctuations) is up and correlates very well with the upward growth trend of the state's overall population, therefore, waterfowl hunter demand can be expected to continue to increase if habitat is available to accommodate the hunter interest.

During this biennium, two major capital projects were completed on two WMA's using Park & Recreation Bond funds matched with PR funds. The Cold Springs Dam spanning the White River channel on the Kirch WMA will provide a 305 acre pond which will provide excellent waterfowl and nongame benefits and create a new fishery on that area.

The Toulon-Humboldt canal was completed on the Humboldt WMA which provides improved water control for marsh management on that area.

Approval has been granted by the Interim Finance Committee to use duck stamp funds and Park & Recreation Bond funds matched with PR funds to construct the North Pond Dike on the MVWMA for the benefit of waterfowl, nongame and improve the fishing on that area.

I believe that one of the major accomplishments of this agency during the 33 years of its existence has been the acquisition and development of most of the prime blocks of waterfowl habitat in the state. They will be maintained in perpetuity for the benefit of the waterfowl resources and the people of the state.

Except for the construction of the North Pond Dike at the MVWMA, the budget for these areas are for maintenance only with no major construction planned.

Wildlife Control

(Trapping, transplant or removal of game animals and furbearers.) Alleviate damage to private property and public resources.

Predator Control

Transfer of funds to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which administers state predator and rodent control program.

Fisheries

This budget group includes all game fisheries and aquatic nongame fish activities of the department.

Fish Production

The major element in the fisheries program is fish production. It includes the costs for the operation of five production stations and three redistribution facilities associated with the rearing, handling and planting of trout (potentially 410,000 pounds). Also experimental hatching and rearing of other species of fish.

A new hatchery was proposed for the western part of the state in our initial project submission to the Public Works Board. The original proposal was for this new hatchery to replace two existing facilities (Washoe Ponds and Spring Creek) with the personnel from those facilities manning the new hatchery. This proposal was turned down by the Board but they did recommend planning funds for the biennium and consideration for construction in the next biennium.

Currently fish are being transported from Lake Mead hatchery in Clark County and Gallagher hatchery in Elko County to areas that should be serviced from the western facilities. Both western facilities (Washoe and Verdi) are having water problems and it is very unlikely that production from these stations can be increased or even maintain current maximum production levels.

There is \$337,000 for a filtration system at the Verdi hatchery and this raised the question by the Governor whether we should continue to invest in this facility or pursue a new hatchery with funds we may generate by selling Verdi since we have a good site and an excellent water source at the MVWMA.

An appraisal is being made of the hatchery property to determine its value and we have prepared a draft of legislation authorizing the sale of those properties if the value is high enough for a replacement hatchery and if all other problems related to the disposal of the Verdi facility and construction of a Mason Valley facility can be worked out.

Surveys, Inventories and Research

This is another major element of the fisheries program budget. It is the counterpart to the game program management and research element and basically is

the field work required to provide the biological and statistical information necessary to manage the fisheries resources, including the effective distribution of our fish production, introduction of new species, investigations into new reservoir sites, regulation changes, maintenance of fisheries habitat and etc.

A major priority is being given to the striped bass fishery on Lake Mead. This is fantastic fishery that has developed over the past ten years and which there has been little work on by this department. It is a fishery resource which has contributed immeasurably to the economic value of the fishery of Lake Mead. That value has been placed at 56 million dollars annually by a recent economic study by Jones and Stokes Associates under contract with the Water and Power Resources Service.

The major object of this project will be to determine how, if possible, to maintain this most valuable fishery.

At this point, the executive budget for the department was reviewed and questions answered.

My thoughts are on the Department of Interior's new predator control policy, which comes from President Carter's 1977 policy, which states:

"Interior's Aminimal Damage Control Program will recognize the importance of predators to natural ecosystems, will strive to reduce conflicts between predators and livestock as far as possible, will direct lethal controls at offending animals, not the species as a whole, will prohibit the routine use of poisons on public lands except as provided in Executive Order 11643 as amended by Executive Orders 11870 and 11917, and will maintain public land use and wildlife resources values as a public trust. This general policy must be applied to operations and research of the ADC Program.

Now what is Predator Control and why should we have it? Many people do not realize that predators are wild animals such as coyotes, lions, bobcats, and eagles, that kill at random domestic animals which produce the red meat to feed the people of our nation. In our Sheep Operation today, we are losing about 1500 lambs and 400 sheep to these killers. Each year that is about 150,000 pounds of live lamb and \$40,000 of breeding stock. In the days of 1080, we lost about 180 lambs and 50 ewes.

To put it clearer, we have a farming and livestock community who fear and truly understand the high loss of animals to these killers and they also realize that there are these so called environmentalist today, in strategic places trying to stop the predator programs by using untrue statements, and large budgets.

ATTACHMENT A

One local example: the printing of material such as Donald A. Molde and Jean Molde's malicious attack on the livestock industry, may certainly be a conspiracy against the Livestock Industry and our country. These are very clearly written articles attacking the emotions of man, woman, and child. This is an insult to the men and women in the farming and livestock business which goes far beyond the attack of a coyote on our lambs and calves. They say nothing of the savage and malicious destruction that the Wild Killer Animals create upon domestic meat and fiber producing animals, let alone ten of thousands of deer, ducks, quail, pheasants and others which they entrap and kill.

If the coyotes are not controlled they will increase dramatically in numbers and their destruction will increase greatly the cost of meat and fiber, as well as reducing, the wild life population. The livestock people are looking for a controlled balance so that the numbers of the coyotes do not increase to a point where they are creating heavy damage.

In 1931 Congress passed legislation directing the Secretary of the Interior to control predators injurious to livestock. So through the years Congress has spent millions of dollars in yearly controlled programs to minimize the killing of domestic livestock. These programs have been fairly successful up through the years, but during the past several years the government has done a poor job in carrying out its obligations under the Mandate of 1931.

The first big blow to our Predator Program came in 1972 when President Nixon's order discontinued the use of 1080. This was the wonder drug for the control of the coyote.

During the years from 1972 the government predator program has been ineffective due to so many restrictions. The private trappers have saved us from total destruction the last three or four years due to the high price of hides. Now the environmentalists have stopped the exporting of hides to Europe which has greatly reduced the price of the hide. Consequently, there will be less control of the coyote.

Now we are here in 1980 with Secretary Andrus' new policy which even goes further to restrict the program. This new policy, among other things, eliminates denning, stops any further research or development of compound 1080, and limits preventative control such as, (aerial hunting, trapping, etc.) only to areas where unacceptably high losses have been documented the previous year. This new program seems to be aimed at protecting predators from control instead of controlling predators from destroying livestock.

The National Wool Growers Association has made every effort to contact the necessary persons to insure the best possible solutions can be reached. Numerous activities are under way to repudiate the announced policy statement and to establish an affirmative action towards the restoration of a workable program. In the meantime, the National Wool Growers Association is moving forward on plans for oversight hearings early this year, a face-to-face meeting with Andrus and members of the Congress, behind the scene attempts to persuade President Carter to transfer the program to the United States Department of Agriculture, and further research into seeking a court ordered injunction against the program's implementation.

The bottom line of this whole problem is---Urbanization and industrialization of our country has caused a change in our Social, Political and Economical System, which greatly effects our environmental climate. A great number of people with time and money have awakeded to find a free land with water, trees and wildlife. So new environmental programs which we forse in the near future are going to greatly affect the well being and everyday workings of agriculture and livestock. Since these two basic industries are so vital to the public welfare, I feel it very important that we proceed with much greater foresight than as forse in Andrus' policy. Depredation problems cause acute, but often unrecognized social and cultural impacts on rural families and communities and greatly decrease the quality of rural life.

The Secretary claims his restructure is designed to assist the sheep industry in reducing losses in an environmentally acceptable manner. To date, there are virtually no proven methods or techniques that will reduce losses on a broad geographic scale that are effective and acceptable to all the environmental community. Until they are developed and tested, protection must be provided to the Sheepmen. The variety of geographic locations and ranch operations mandates a mix of techniques, both lethal and non-lethal. The farming and livestock community have protected the western environment, and our way of life for many years, many years are now being destroyed by so-called environmentalists, who care only for self power, and by some politicians who are looking only for voting power. They care little of what will happen to the environment that the farming and

livestock industry has protected through the past century. One only has to go to some of our urban areas to see what has happened to their environment. The Environmentalist and politicians have done an effective job of destroying rangelands with their wild horse and burro policies, and we must not let this happen to our sheep ranges.

Andrus' proposal is a virtual death sentence for the western range operators and as such it is totally unacceptable. The potential loss of the range industry will force the smaller producers and breeders into an untenable position of reduced management supplies and services, research programs, markets, packing facilities, mills, and more. The flood of imports to fill the void created would wreck economic havoc on the remaining domestic industry.

Fred Lubstone Jr.
Box 2, Smith, Nev.
Director, Nev. Wool Growers.

The Protected Coyote

It's fun to watch a bunch of lambs
As they play around a bank —
They act like little children
Doing every childish prank.

Then later find them lying
Dead or dying on the ground
Because environmentalists
Want the covotes kept around.

They don't believe the coyotes
Are killing those we lose
And won't allow 1080
Cuz it's not humane to use.

They also tell that coyotes
Are becoming few and rare,
They wouldn't think that very long
If they could see their lair.

Too bad the 'mentalists
Didn't own a band of sheep
and have a pack of coyotes come
Amongst them havoc reap.

To hear the ewes a bleating
And the shrill cry of the lamb
While they're torn and eaten
By the sly old coyote clan.

To see if they'd believe it
I don't think they'd still
Refuse to sell 1080
When they see the gruesome kill.

They all like woolen clothes to wear
And a sumptuous leg o' lamb
Ten thousand sheep the coyotes eat
Would feed a lot of them.

—G. K. Hinnaland
Broadway, Montana





Photo 1. In our tests, any sheep which ran from coyotes usually were pursued and attacked. Coyotes generally select lambs over ewes if they have a choice.



Photo 2. Our coyotes usually attacked by running alongside fleeing sheep and biting them behind and below the ear. Then they braced their feet to stop the sheep from running. In this picture two 2-year-old coyotes are attacking a 90 lb. ewe.

Cover story

How Coyotes Kill Sheep

By Robert M. Timm and
Guy F. Connolly

COYOTE PREDATION is a serious problem for many sheep ranchers in North America, but the act of predation is seldom witnessed under range conditions. Therefore, the sheep-killing behavior of wild coyotes has received little study. In experiments with captive animals, we

obtained photographs which illustrate what was believed to be the usual mode of coyote attack on sheep. The resulting wounds are characteristic of coyote predation, even though dogs or other predators may sometimes inflict similar wounds.

The 12 coyotes used in this study were all the offspring of pups or born in captivity. At the time of these tests eight of the animals were 2 years old, and four were yearlings. One of the previous hunters or prey killers was a male. Nevertheless, five of these coyotes killed and fed upon lambs at the first opportunity. Three of the coyotes, which did not attack sheep



Photo 5. The throat attack pattern of coyotes leaves characteristic lesions which may or may not be externally visible. This coyote-killed ewe showed few external wounds, but sub-cutaneous examination revealed extensive tissue damage and hemorrhaging in the larynx region. Tooth punctures can often be found in the overlying skin.

Robert M. Timm is currently Extension wildlife specialist, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Guy E. Connolly is wildlife research biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife Research Station, Twin Falls, Idaho. The research was done when both authors were at the University of California, Davis. The report is a contribution of Western Regional Research Project W-123, "Evaluating Management of Predators in Relation to Domestic Animals". The work was supported in part by the USDA Agricultural Research Service, Western Regional Laboratory. The authors thank D. A. Wade, W. F. Howard, W. M. Longhurst, R. Teranishi, and F. Murphy for advice and support; A. H. Murphy, D. T. Torell, and A. Hulbert for sheep; M. Vonn and C. Berry for coyote pups; J. Fammatre for assistance; and M. Beaucage for photograph number 4. Reprinted from RANGEMAN'S JOURNAL, August 1977, by permission of the Society of Range Management.



Photo 3. As soon as the coyotes arrested the flight of the sheep, they shifted their bite toward the sheep's throat. Once a firm grip was secured in the larynx region, the coyote simply held on and waited for the sheep to succumb. This manner of attack appeared to cause death primarily by suffocation, although blood loss and severe tissue damage also occurred. The time from onset of attack to death of the sheep or beginning of feeding, whichever occurred first, averaged 13 minutes. In 24 of the 25 fatal attacks, the neck and throat region was the main point of attack.

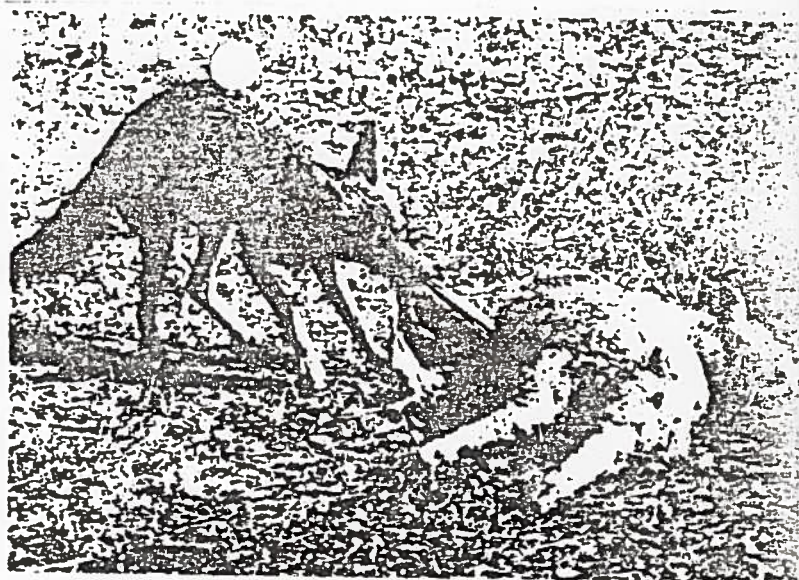


Photo 4. As soon as the sheep stopped struggling, the coyote(s) began feeding. On 9 of 21 kills where feeding was observed, the coyotes entered the body cavity and ate intestines and other viscera. They also fed upon the rump or hind leg (10 cases), the neck (7), front leg and shoulder (7), head (6), and other sites. On the average, each coyote fed for 25 minutes and ate about 4 pounds. Coyotes fed just before tests killed sheep but did not feed on them.

at first, did so in later tests. Of the 11 coyotes which were tested singly against individual 30 to 70-lb. lambs, eight killed the lambs.

In our tests, one to four coyotes were released into a 0.4-acre pen with 1 to 6 sheep, usually for 2 to 5 hours. The coyotes killed one or more sheep in 22 of the 46 tests. For the tests in which a fatal attack occurred, the time from release of coyotes to onset of attack varied from 1 to 154 minutes, with an average of 47 minutes. Of the coyotes tested individually with single lambs, the dominant animals (2-year-old males and the females paired with them) attacked most frequently. Yearling males attacked less frequently, and the two unpaired females did not attack sheep.

While we cannot be sure that wild coyotes will sheep in exactly the manner we observed with captive animals, the wounds resulting from our tests resembled those reported by many workers who studied coyote predation under range conditions. Therefore, we believe that the killing patterns we saw are generally representative of coyote predation on sheep.

On ranges where mountain lion, black bear, and bobcat predation is improbable, tissue damage, tooth marks, and hemorrhage in the larynx

region on sheep carcasses is commonly indicative of coyote predation. However, coyotes sometimes attack the hindquarters of sheep. Dog-inflicted wounds seem to be more variable than those caused by coyotes. It is reported that dogs tend to attack the hindquarters, flanks, head, and/or abdomen of

the sheep and seldom kill as cleanly as do coyotes. Wounds caused by dogs can usually be recognized as such, but at times they are indistinguishable from those made by coyotes. In such cases, tracks and other evidence at the scene often indicate which species of predator caused the damage.



Photo 6. A coyote consumed about 5 pounds from the rump of this 70 lb. lamb without killing it. We have seen range sheep with similar wounds. Of 25 coyote kills we observed, this was the only case in which the attack was not directed primarily to the neck and throat area of the sheep. Extensive feeding on the rump and hind leg, as shown here, also occurred on about half of the sheep killed with the customary throat hold.

FACT SHEET

For The

STATE OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Federal Public Law 94-482, the Educational Amendments of 1976, created the National Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (NOICC) and stipulated that "each State receiving assistance under this Act and under the CETA Act of 1973 shall establish a State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee..." (SOICC). SOICCs are funded with annual Basic Assistance Grants through the NOICC. NOICC funds come equally from the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor. There are no State funds in SOICC's budget. There has been no increase in the staff of two since the program's initial authorization in 1977. There is a Director (Unclassified) and a Management Assistant III (Classified). There has been no turnover in staff since the creation of the two positions in 1978.

The four-member Nevada SOICC Committee includes the agency heads of the:

Department of Education
Employment Security Department
Rehabilitation Division, Department of Human Resources
State Comprehensive Employment and Training Office

MAJOR GOALS:

- I. To improve coordination between and communication among producers and users of occupational information (not a data collection agency);
- II. To develop and implement an Occupational Information System (OIS); and
- III. To give special attention to the labor market information needs of youth.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

Sponsored a statewide "GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING -- For Users of Occupational Data". Developed Conference Proceedings and disseminated to over 100 attendees. Proceedings continue to be used as a resource tool by the SOICC. At NOICC's request, prepared and disseminated to other State SOICCs a packet of materials on the mechanics of putting together a statewide data conference. Nevada was one of the first to sponsor such an activity.

The Conference served as a kick-off to a statewide "OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION USE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT" to determine priority needs of those who use occupational and labor market information. The number one priority was *comprehensive supply and demand data*, requested by planners and administrators of employment and training programs.

The SOICC contracted with the Employment Security Department (ESD) for technical expertise and computer facilities to produce the complex supply and demand projections model. Several different classification coding systems complicated the process of making the data compatible. In March, 1980, the first OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (OIS) Supply and Demand Report was distributed to SOICC member-agencies. For the first time, supply data from the following sources was available in one report: the Insured Unemployed files of ESD; the Vocational Education Data System (secondary, postsecondary and adult); the CETA Prime Sponsors; the Vocational Rehabilitation program; and the private proprietary schools. Data collection was coordinated through SOICC member-agencies, with the Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education providing the input from the private sector. The ESD Occupational Employment Statistics program provided the one and five year demand projections. As a result of this initial effort, administrators and planners focused greater attention on the total impact of the various programs. The Nevada Advisory Council for Vocational-Technical Education and the State Comprehensive Employment and Training Council signed an agreement to use the data developed by this model in future planning activities in an effort to eliminate duplication and more effectively utilize the resources available to them. Computerization of these various data also assisted in the speed and accuracy in responding to requests for data, whether at the Federal, State or local level. Work continues to improve the data previously mentioned as well as to expand the sources to include those completing the following employment and training programs: WIN; Job Corps; Higher Education; and the State Apprenticeship programs. With these additions, the reports will be more complete and the data will be used by even greater numbers of planners and administrators responsible for preparing Nevada's future labor force while better meeting the needs of those preparing themselves with skills and activities to secure and maintain active employment in the labor force.

NEVADA STATE OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

(Fiscal Years represent Federal time frame - October 1 to September 30)

Budget Category	FY '78		FY '79		FY '80		FY '81	
	Authorized	Actual Expenditure	Authorized	Actual Expenditure	Authorized	Actual Expenditure	Authorized	Actual Expenditure
01	\$23,807.00	\$14,909.25	\$43,449.00	\$37,936.54	\$43,030.00	\$44,273.85	\$47,450.00	
02	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 321.95	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 1,587.88	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 2,437.78	\$ 3,000.00	
03		\$ 7.00		\$ 796.89		\$ 747.81		\$ 2,000.00
04	\$ 5,080.00	\$ 1,701.27	\$ 5,612.00	\$ 4,000.01	\$ 6,208.00	\$ 5,190.48	\$ 8,000.00	
05	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,656.61	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,446.23	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,048.09	\$ 500.00	
10	- 0 -	- 0 -	\$14,000.00	\$13,047.71	\$25,500.00	\$25,358.87	\$26,267.00	
TOTALS	<u>\$33,687.00</u>	<u>\$18,596.08</u>	\$68,311.00	\$58,815.26	<u>\$79,288.00</u>	<u>\$79,056.88</u>	\$87,217.00	
NOTE: The above figures represent the NOICC Basic Assistance Grant. The SOICC has also had SCETO Contracts - Category 08			<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>			\$20,000.00	
			<u>\$93,311.00</u>	<u>\$83,815.26</u>			<u>\$107,217.00</u>	

EXPLANATION:

(Budgets are broken down by State categories.)

- 01 - Salaries and Fringe Benefits
- 02 - Out-Of-State Travel > (Federal Budget lumps all travel.)
- 03 - In-State Travel
- 04 - Supplies and Operating Expenses
- 05 - Equipment
- 10 - Program Implementation and Training (Federal Part "B")

Total Receipts
From NOICC

FY '78	\$33,020.00
FY '79	\$48,359.00
FY '80	\$75,320.00

Total NOICC
Expenditures

Receipts	\$156,699.00	\$156,468.22
Expenditures	-\$156,468.22	
Reimbursement	230.78 - \$231	

(Three year glossary 2/1/78 - 9/20)