

EVENT MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

MEETING WITH UTAH GOVERNOR GARY HERBERT

DATE: December 6, 2014
LOCATION: Four Seasons, Sierra Boardroom, 39th Floor
TIME: 5:30PM - 6:00PM PST
FROM: Sarah Greenberger, Counselor; John Blair, Director OIEA

I. PURPOSE

You will be meeting with Governor Herbert to:

- Note that you understand that we are very close on BLM plans.
- Secure commitment from the Governor to share what and when he plans to act on state and private lands.
- Share your plans to develop a rangeland fire strategy.
- Governor would also like to discuss Oil & Gas permitting issues with you.

II. ATTENDEES

- Governor Gary Herbert
- Justin Harding, Chief of Staff, Governor Herbert's Office
- Alan Matheson, State Planning Coordinator, Governor Herbert's Office
- Sarah Greenberger, Counselor
- John Blair, Director OIEA

III. TALKING POINTS

Completing BLM Plans

- I understand we are very close to strong BLM plans that we can both be proud of and support.
- I want to applaud your team for the work that it's taken to get there.
- I understand the last issue on the table is that you are seeking more flexibility on one management area in exchange for more certain protection of habitat on state and private lands through an Executive Order?
- Is that the case? If so, we could support that but we need to know where you are going.
- When are you planning to act and are you planning to share your plans with the Service?

Fire

- FWS has identified the downward spiral of invasive grasses and fire in the Great Basin as one of the greatest threats to Greater sage-grouse.
- Our team, led by Assistant Secretary Janice Schneider, is engaged in an effort to develop an enhanced approach to combatting rangeland fire that will give the Service something to consider in their listing process.

- I will be directing my Department to develop this approach focusing on research, efficient resource allocation, seed banking, and streamlined administrative processes, among other things.
- We will want to work closely with you and your office to be sure this effort builds off of the work you have done and has no unintended consequences.

IV. KEY FACTS

State Plan

- To date the state has had a voluntary state plan.
- The Governor's representative (Kathleen Clarke) has indicated that the Governor has drafted an Executive Order but will not share contents.

BLM Plans

- The BLM, FWS and State have resolved almost all differences on the BLM plans with one exception.
- There is one conservation area in the BLM plans that was not included in the COT report as priority habitat, but the Service had asked BLM to protect as priority.
- The State would like that area treated as General.
- There is a tentative agreement on the table, that FWS could be comfortable with that concession if the Governor acts to protect habitat on state and private land through regulatory mechanisms.
- The state has said they are prepared to do that, but will not share what they plan to do so or timing.

Oil & Gas Permitting

BLM Utah will be sending information. We will update the memo with this when it becomes available.

V. BACKGROUND



Governor Gary Herbert (R) is the 17th and current Governor of Utah. A member of the Republican Party, Herbert has served as Governor since August 2009. Born in American Fork, Utah, Herbert attended Brigham Young University and served as a Staff Sergeant in the Utah Army National Guard. After serving in the National Guard, Herbert began a career in real estate and opened his own firm. Herbert won a seat on the Utah County Commission in 1990, where he served one term until 1994. Herbert also served as the President of the Utah Association of Realtors. After initially running for the Republican nomination for Governor in 2004, Herbert teamed up with ambassador and businessman Jon Huntsman as his running mate in the general election. Herbert was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor of Utah in 2005, serving one term until he assumed the governorship on August 11, 2009, following the resignation of Governor Huntsman, who was appointed to serve as the United States Ambassador to China by President Barack

Obama. Herbert was elected to serve out the remainder of the term in a special election in 2010, defeating Democratic nominee Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon with 64% of the vote. He won election to a full four-year term in 2012, defeating Democratic Businessman Peter Cooke with 68% of the vote.