

Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife

P. O. Box 70143
Reno, Nevada 89570

Washoe County Commission

1001 E. 9th Street

Reno, NV 89512

Re: Iveson Ranch, SUPWSUP25-0018

Commissioners:

The Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife hereby expresses our concerns over the proposed drone testing project covered by this Special Use Permit. The Coalition is the issue, policy, and lobbying arm of sportsmen in northern Nevada dedicated to the protection and enhancement of our wildlife resources. We represent tens of thousands of northern Nevada sportsmen and represent big game, fishing, upland game, waterfowl, trapping, sporting dog, and predator hunting interests.

We have met with the project proponent, Mr. Mike Arth, to more clearly understand the scope of the proposed drone testing project. Their assurance that the great majority of the drone flights will take place over the playa and at heights of 1000 to 5000 feet above ground level alleviates much of our concern of noise. The noise from drones at these levels above the ground surface may not be audible, however any lower-level flights as well as the noise from any chase aircraft could be detrimental in wildlife areas. Flights during sage grouse mating and fawning of deer, antelope and bighorn sheep should not occur in the critical wild life habitat that lies southwest, west and north of the Iveson Ranch.

Drones do crash and can start fires. This is the greatest threat to wildlife from the project. In hot, dry summer months, our rangelands are a tinderbox just waiting for ignition. Wildfire has been the greatest impact to our wildlife for several decades. Response time in rural Nevada is often insufficient to prevent small spot fires from exploding into huge burns. We ask that flights into the mountainous areas referenced above be reduced and preferably eliminated during hot, dry months. We are encouraged that the proponent has committed to having trained firefighting personnel and equipped UTVs onsite. We request that their personnel respond to any wildfire start immediately regardless of cause as do sportsmen, ranchers, miners and all of us that love our outdoors. Quick

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response is often the difference between a spot fire and one that we lose hundreds of thousands of acres that will never be the same within our lifetime.

We fully recognize that we can never eliminate all threats to our wildlife from projects such as this, however, we strive to identify these potential impacts and work to minimize and mitigate to the extent possible and practical. We wish to thank Mr. Mike Arth of BRDR Properties, LLC for his willingness to listen to and consider our concerns.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for Nevada's Wildlife

Larry J. Johnson – President (also Director of Nevada Outdoorsmen in Wheelchairs, and 30 years past director, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited)
Tom Smith – Vice President (also Director & past President, Truckee River Flyfishers)
Joel Blakeslee – Director (also Director and past President, Nevada Trapper's Association)
Bob Brunner - Director
Willie Molini – Director (also President, Nevada Waterfowl Association)
Karen Boeger – Director (also Director, Back Country Hunters and Anglers)
Judi Caron – Director (also past President, Northern Nevada SCI)
Linda Linton, Esq. - Director
Sean Shea - Director (also member Nevada Outfitters and Guide Association)
Jim Puryear -- Director (also Director, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited–Reno)
Bryce Pollock, (also Director, Back Country Hunters and Anglers)
Tyler Nall – Director
Kris Coston – Director (also President Muley Fanatics)
George Forbush – Director (President Nevada Predator Hunting Association)
Jenny Lesieutre – Director (also Director Reno Rodeo Association and President Rangeland, Wildlife and Wild Horse LLC)
Ashton Caselli – Director (also Director Northern Nevada Safari Club International)

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From: [Cindy Adams](#)
To: [Bronczyk, Christopher](#)
Subject: Special use permit in Gerlach
Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025 3:14:02 PM

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Dear Mr. Bronczyk,

I would like to attend the Special use permit public meeting held on Jan. 13th 2026 at 10am however I am not in town that day. I am an adjoining land owner. Will there be a zoom link? Also I would like to go on record that I have concerns about hazardous materials and explosions in our farming and Rural area.

Cynthia Adams
775-233-6531
Apn#06603062 &06603061

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device