

1-15-69

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS, 474TH COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (TAC)
NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, NEVADA 89110
15 January 1969



COOPERATIVE PLAN FOR THE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
RESOURCES ON NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE RANGES

1. In accordance with the authority contained in 10 USC 2671 and in 16 USC 670, the Department of the Interior and the State of Nevada, through their duly designated representatives whose signature appear below, approved the following cooperative plan for the management, development and protection of fish and wildlife resources (see note below) on the Nellis Air Force Base Range Annex and the On-Base Disposal Plant Area.

2. No water areas are present in the Range Annex area; therefore aquatic life is not applicable to the provisions of this plan, except paragraph 3j which pertains to the On-Base Disposal Plant Area only.

3. Wildlife areas within the Nellis Air Force Base Range Annex, designated as Category I areas in accordance with AFR 126-2, are the Pintwater, Spotted, Desert and Belted Ranges, the Wild Horse Range, Goldflat and Kawitch Valleys, and Timber and Stonewall Mountains (see atch #1). The Base Disposal Plant Area is designated as Category I. All other land areas are considered as the base proper and are designated as Category III.

a. The Pintwater Range is approximately 30X15 miles and lies in the Central portion of R4806.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Bighorn Sheep: condition of range is good to excellent. Population: permanent - 200; seasonal - approximately 300.

b. The Spotted Range is approximately 12X27 miles and lies in the western portion of R4806.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Sheep: condition of range, fair to good. Seasonal population - 50.

c. The Desert Range is approximately 6X40 miles and is in the eastern portion of R4806.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Sheep: condition of range, good to excellent. Seasonal population - 100.

d. The Belted Range is approximately 10X25 miles and lies in the eastern portion of R4807.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Deer: small permanent herd; moderate wintering herd. Condition of range, fair to good.

e. The Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse Range covers an area under Air Force control of 394,500 acres and lies in the north central portion of R4807.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are: wild horses, burros, deer, and antelope. Condition of range is poor to good varying on the accessibility of water. Population: permanent horse population is approximately 400; deer population - 200; antelope population - 100.

f. Goldflat and Kawitch Valley areas consist of approximately 38 sections located in the north and northeast portion of R4807.

NOTE: The term "wildlife," as used in this cooperative plan includes wild horses and burros.

(1) Principal species in wildlife are Antelope. Range condition; poor to fair. Antelope population is approximately 100.

g. Timber Mountain is approximately 100 square miles and lies in the southern portion of R4807 and western portion of R4808.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Deer: Condition of range is fair to good. Permanent population 100; seasonal - 200.

h. Stonewall Mountain is approximately 6X8 miles and is in the western portion of R4807.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are Deer: Condition of range is fair to good. Permanent population; 50.

i. Limited small game populations including Chukar Partridge, Gambels Quail and Cottontail Rabbits occur generally throughout the foothill areas of the mountain ranges listed above, wherever water is available. Small game numbers fluctuate from year to year directly with range and weather conditions.

j. The Base Disposal Plant Area consists of approximately ten (10) acres of land in the south portion of the base proper.

(1) Principal species of wildlife are federal migratory waterfowl. Range condition is excellent.

k. Under existing conditions, there are no public use areas in the boundaries of the Range Annex, except managed hunting for Bighorn Sheep on portions of the Desert National Wildlife Range.

l. Development for wildlife will include minor improvement of small springs to provide a more permanent water supply for the animal population residing in the area.

4. Programs for research and further development and management of fish and wildlife resources will be prepared as separate Management Plans for the various Category I areas previously described, when such programs are feasible. Management plans will be prepared by the wildlife or land management agency or agencies primarily concerned. When complete, such plans shall be considered as a part of the overall cooperative conservation plan. Such plans shall include, but are not limited to: animal and bird population inventories; range and water evaluation and development; and determination of harvestable surpluses of animals or birds with recommendations for harvesting (animal or bird surpluses) by hunting or other methods determined appropriate by the agencies concerned.

5. It is agreed that classification of areas as Category I serves only to classify the wildlife and natural resources potential of these areas and is not authority for public or unauthorized access to any portion of either Nellis Air Force Base or the Range Annex without prior coordination and approval by the Nellis Air Force Base Liaison Officer for the Range Annex, or the Base Commander for the Base Disposal Plant Area. The Air Force Liaison Officer will be the Director of Operations and Training.

a. Access to the Range Annex areas for hunting and census purposes will be coordinated annually by agencies concerned. Such factors as military programs and objectives and animal population numbers will determine degree and times for access.

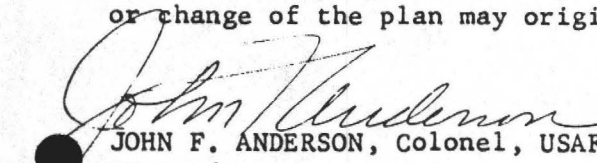
b. Access to the Base Disposal Plant Area will be permitted under the auspices and sponsorship of the Nellis Rod & Gun Club, and controlled in coordination with the Chief, Security Police. A base regulation has been established to insure enforcement of Federal, State and Air Force directives as pertains to conservation, security and safety.

6. The responsibility for posting signs in the Range Annex Areas, denoting open access hunting areas and patrol of these areas shall lie with the Nevada Fish and Game Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the period such hunting access has been granted by the Commander, Nellis Air Force Base. To supplement this controlled access, hunting areas shall be listed in the Nevada Big Game Seasons and Regulations pamphlet for each year. A clearly understood statement will be included with area maps to warn all persons during periods of hunting access not to handle any ordnance that is found and to stay within the limits of the hunting area.

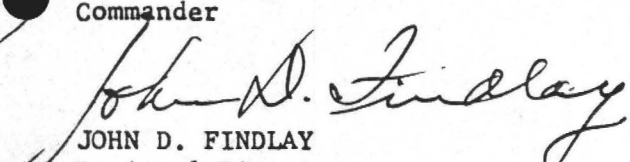
7. Management, Development and Protection of Wildlife Resources shall be subject to and come under the control of laws and regulations of the State of Nevada Fish and Game Commission, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Bureau of Land Management.

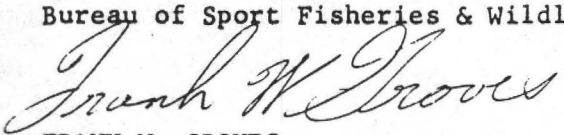
8. Agencies concerned for advice and technical assistance are: Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Game Department; and the Bureau of Land Management. In most cases, any such aid will be rendered by the separate agency most responsible; however, coordinated aid will be made available when necessary.

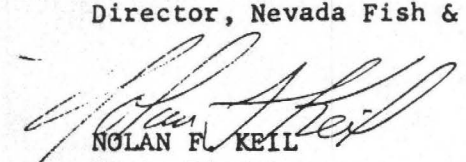
9. This plan shall be in full force upon final adoption by agencies whose representatives have signed below and will be subject to later amendment or revision as agreed upon by all parties represented. Request for amendment or change of the plan may originate with any of the agencies concerned.


JOHN F. ANDERSON, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Atch:
NAFB Master Plan Range Map (R-2)


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Regional Director
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FRANK W. GROVES
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NOLAN F. KEIL
State Director
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