



togetherforbetter

Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife

Application Description Placeholder

Full Name: Aaron Lynn Leifheit

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: [REDACTED]

Employer: National Park Service

Occupation: Park Ranger

Affiliations: I am not serving on any other official committees for Clark County.

Skills & Experience:

I have received both a bachelors and a master's degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign. Since 2005, I have lived in Southern Nevada and worked and recreated in the outdoors.

I have worked for the Forest Service, the National Park Service, and as a partner of the Bureau of Land Management. I have also worked for the non-profit Get Outdoors Nevada for 9 years, which partners with many Nevada organizations, including the Nevada Division of Wildlife.

These experiences, working both for government and private enterprise, have given me a valuable perspective of the strengths and weaknesses of various types of systems and allowed me to effectively work with diverse constituencies.

Also in these capacities, I have provided extensive education to the public on wildlife, including managing the Mojave Max program at Get Outdoors Nevada as a partner of the Desert Conservation Program, from 2017 to 2020.

In my free time, I enjoy hiking, backpacking, and camping, and have visited many beautiful Nevada locations.

Skills that I consider particular strengths include: Facility Management, Concessions Management, Project Management, Curriculum Development, Grant Writing and Budgeting, Interpretive and Strategic Planning, Interpretive Program Design, Development, and Delivery, Meeting/Group Facilitation, Natural Resources and Conservation Management, Partnership Development, Professional Development and Training, Staff and Project Management, Volunteer Recruitment and Management, Data Analysis and GIS.

Note: This document and accompanying materials become public record once received by Clark County.

Application Questions:

What values and characteristics do you think board members must possess?

Integrity, especially concerning decisions and communications about partners or constituents.

Honesty and transparency, especially with difficult decisions.

Accessibility, concerning access and responsiveness.

Communication

Openminded, especially to different and opposing views.

Holistic thinking, especially concerning the state as a whole.

Strategic thinking, related to long term planning and consequences of decisions.

Knowledgeable and passionate about wildlife and state resources.

Maintaining core personal values, especially in conflict.

What excites you about the CCABMW and what are you passionate about regarding wildlife?

The ability to learn more about the state and its resources, and the opportunity foster relationships between communities in different parts of the state.

The ability to actively participate in citizen government, and help give back to the community.

The opportunity to encourage the public to participate in the outdoors and outdoor resources and activities.

Regarding wildlife, the ability to protect species and landscape habitats, while still encouraging responsible use and access.

Regarding wildlife, I am passionate about restoration and volunteer projects, especially for endangered species and keystone species like Desert Bighorn Sheep and Desert Tortoises.

How do you interact with a difficult personality or deal with differences of opinion?

Interacting with difficult people or with those with different opinions has been a learned skill that I use frequently with my work. My current work requires me to negotiate difficult and often costly projects and decisions with respect, in such a way that leaves working relationships intact. Some specific tools include:

Be patient, kind, and listen respectfully.

Identify and communicate personal boundaries.

Focus on issues, not on personalities.

Keep and maintain accurate notes and descriptions.

Communicate decisions or consequences clearly and professionally and in a timely fashion.

And while doing this, remember that you don't always represent only yourself, you may be asked to represent the board or the County.

In your opinion, what are the core responsibilities of board members?

Represent the interests of the constituency, state, or public, and not my personal interests.

Actively listening and incorporating ideas and feedback from diverse perspectives and opinions.

Advocate strongly for wildlife or topics we are charged with managing or advising on.

Speak up with alternate or opposing viewpoints, even if this is difficult.

Embody the values and characteristics shared above.

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the scheduled meeting dates and will be available to attend meetings on a regular basis.

Yes

I certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I am a citizen of Nevada and a resident of Clark County, Nevada as required by NRS Section 501.265 and 501.270. The board vacancy for which this appointment will be made is for a person who represents the interests of general public of Clark County (NRS Subsection 501.265 (2)). I understand that an electronic signature has the same weight and effect as a handwritten signature. This document and accompanying materials become public record once received by Clark County.

Yes

Signature

Aaron Leifheit

Date

01/05/2025



AARON LYNN
LEIFHEIT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK GS-9, STEP 1

JANUARY 2025-PRESENT, (GS-7 STEP 5, 10/2022-1/2025)

Special Use Permits and Commercial Use Authorizations: Drafted, issued, and managed approximately 75 permits, including 13 weddings, 20 ash scatterings, 24 film shoots, and 11 sporting events. Enforced regulations diplomatically and professionally and gained permit compliance while providing high quality customer service. Reviewed, improved, and maintained Special Use and Commercial Use systems, operating procedures, documents trackers, and annual reports, conditions, and maps.

Concessions Management: Assisted in management of 3 concession contracts, including a contract transition at Stovepipe Wells. Conducted approximately 60 periodic evaluations, including accessibility evaluations, and 3 AOR's, evaluated facilities and projects against established standards, and gained compliance. Helped manage approximately 30 CRR or LSI projects to completion, reviewing plans to identify requirements. Led biweekly partner meetings, created and maintained systems and SOPs to track required reports, project files, and plans. Improved service and facility performance while communicating professionally.

Park Leadership, Trainings, and Committees: Independently created and conducted 19 parkwide trainings on park strategic goals, set up and facilitated 2 Safety Standdowns, offer team agreement and conflict resolution trainings to divisions, serve as member of Dark Sky Festival and New Employee Orientation committees. Served as planning chief in park incidents.

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS, GET OUTDOORS NEVADA

NOVEMBER 2020-2022, (EDUCATION DIRECTOR 2013-2020)

Department Management: Led Education or Volunteer department from 2013 to 2022, developed classroom programs, field trips, assemblies, summer camps, teacher trainings, habitat restorations and service events. Conducted over 3500 programs, including 606 programs in 2019, reaching 170,000 people. Supervised staff and volunteers, created work, evaluation, and social media plans, wrote/administered grants, prepared budgets and reports, and assisted organization strategic and annual reporting and planning.

Regional Facilitation: Lead and facilitated regional groups, including CHOLLA- a coalition of over 50 Nevada education organizations (2014-2019), STEM Learning Environments Subcommittee of the Governor's Office (2017-2019), Lake Mead Institute (2017-2019), the Healing Garden Committee (2018-2021), and the Nevada Outdoor Business Coalition (2020). Developed and maintained relationships with diverse constituents.

Program Management: Created, implemented, and supervised grants and projects, including the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden, Mojave Max, Meet your Mojave, Next Generation Science Standards, Lifetime Adventures, Families in Nature, STEM Camp, Nevada History Field Trips, Get Outdoors Nevada Microgrants, Nature Ambassadors, and teacher trainings Project Wet, Discover a Watershed, and Certified Interpretive Guide and Host. Led over 700 education programs and events in schools, community centers, and parks between 2013 and present, and trained 118 Certified Interpretive Guides.

SKILLS

Project Management
Concessions Management
Facility Evaluation
Grant Writing
Strategic Planning
Curriculum Development
Program Delivery
Partnership Development
Budgeting
Coalition Building
Meeting Facilitation
Evaluation
Interpretive Training
Community Engagement
Permit Compliance
Customer Service
GIS



AARON LYNN LEIFHEIT

PROFESSIONAL PRIORITIES

Increasing outdoor access

Creating program
sustainability/replicability

Achieving goals among
diverse constituents

Collecting data to improve
programs and facilities

Advocate for program and
organizational best
practices

Leading staff growth and
professional development

Providing responsive and
flexible customer service

Improving facility and
service performance

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Backpacking • Hiking •
Night Sky Photography •
Reading • Cooking •
Recording Music •

EDUCATION SPECIALIST, RED ROCK CANYON INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION, RED ROCK CANYON NCA

JANUARY 2007-JUNE 2013

Environmental Education: In partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, created and lead environmental education programs, including Mojave in Motion, which reached 4000 Clark County School District students per year, a Back on Track gang prevention program, a night sky astronomy program, and an interpretive tabletop program. Managed program reports, data, and budgets, and sustained diverse partnerships.

Planning and Training: Wrote strategic plans and curriculum, including for the proposed BLM Mojave Discovery Center. Conducted Certified Interpretive Guide, hike leader trainings, and teacher trainings for staff, volunteers, and the public.

INTERPRETIVE PARK RANGER, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, GS-5

MAY 2012-OCTOBER 2012, NOV 2005-NOV 2006 (SCA INTERN)

Interpretation: Created and led education, safety, and volunteer programs for schools and community groups. Created and led a park wide Astronomy Weekend that met NPS "A Call to Action" goals and delivered 12 programs over three days. Opened, closed, and staffed visitor center, interacted with diverse multilingual audiences. Stocked and inventoried gift shop supplies, operated and settled cash register.

EDUCATION

**MASTERS IN SCIENCE COURSEWORK IN NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE** UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHAMPAIGN URBANA,
ILLINOIS, SEPT 2023-MAY 2025.

Focus on GIS and Joshua Tree ecology and restoration.

**BACHELORS OF SCIENCE IN NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE** UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHAMPAIGN URBANA,
SEPT 1999-MAY 2003.

Focus on human dimensions of the environment.

AFFILIATIONS/AWARDS

Ambulance Driver Certification 2025 • Trail Access Project Board Member (2024-present) • Anti-Defamation League Associate Board Member (2021-present) • Incident Qualification Card (2024) • University of South Florida MUMA College of Business Certificate 2021 • Anti-Defamation League Glass Leadership Institute, 2021 • Jameson Fellow, 2018 • Clark County Wetlands Park Maintenance and Feeder Watch volunteer (2018-2022) • Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance Political Advocacy volunteer (2018-2022) • Certified Interpretive Trainer, Host, and Guide (2010-present) • Leave No Trace Trainer 2013 • Tread Lightly Trainer 2013 • Wilderness First Aid Responder 2010 • CPR/First Aid Certified 2021 • University of Illinois List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent (12/03, 12/04, and 5/05) •

Sunday, January 4th, 2026

Darlene Kretunski
Clark County Board to Manage Wildlife
Government Center
500 S. Grand Central Parkway (Pueblo Room)
Las Vegas, NV 89155

Ms. Kretunski,

Please accept this package as my application to represent the Clark County Board to Manage Wildlife as a board member. I have lived, worked, and recreated in Nevada's outdoors for the last two decades, and my experiences would make me a valuable advocate and manager of the state's resources.

Feel free to contact me through email (aleifhei@gmail.com) or by phone (cell: 630-253-1244) with any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Leifheit', with a stylized, flowing script.

Aaron Leifheit