

RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building. **This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Date/Time Stamp

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS

2023 JUL 26 PM 1:31

Certification: In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:

Private Sponsor(s):
National Association of Counties

Travel Dates:
06/27/2023 to 06/30/2023

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$1,114.25	\$533.52	\$402.68	\$476.72

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- The final **Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

7/26/23

Date

Samuel Zelden

Printed Name of Traveler



Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

7/26/23

Date



Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Transportation	\$1,114.25	Charter bus estimate was lower than final invoice
Meals	\$402.68	Consumption-based estimates were lower than actual final invoices
Misc. Expenses	\$575.50	Room rental/OHV estimates were lower than final invoices

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will not be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Samuel Zelden

Employing Office/Committee:
CASSIDY, WILLIAM

Private Sponsor(s):
National Association of Counties

Destination(s):
Sedona, Arizona Flagstaff, Arizona

Travel Dates:
06/27/2023 to 06/30/2023

NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

This trip will help me better understand how leaders at each level of government can work together to achieve better outcomes for our constituents. More specifically, it will be helpful to learn about flood and wildfire response in another part of the country besides Louisiana, since I work on disaster relief and the NFIP and am always looking to build out support for my boss's priorities.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

5/24/23

Date



Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms,
Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

Bin Cassidy

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Sam Zelden

(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

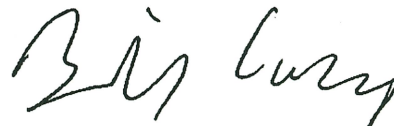
I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.



(signify "yes" by checking box)

5/24/23

Date



Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

National Association of Counties: NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Spring County Site Visit

 Samuel Zelden

Title:
Policy Advisor

Employing Office/Committee:
CASSIDY, WILLIAM

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON, DC

Destination(s):
Sedona, Arizona
Flagstaff, Arizona

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

This trip will help me better understand how leaders at each level of government can work together to achieve better outcomes for our constituents. More specifically, it will be helpful to learn about flood and wildfire response in another part of the country besides Louisiana, since I work on disaster relief and the NFIP and am always looking to build out support for my boss's priorities.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
National Association of Counties

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
☐ Yes ☒ No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
None

Address
660 N. Capitol Street NW

Address 2 (Optional)
None

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20001 United States

Phone Number
2029424224

Organization URL
www.naco.org

History of Congressional Travel

This is the second congressional trip that NACo will be sponsoring. NACo sponsored similar congressional travel through a county site visit trip in October 2022 to Miami-Dade County, Fla.

Educational Activities

NACo hosts two member-based events annually that provide congressional staff with an opportunity to engage with county leaders and strengthen the intergovernmental partnership. Congressional offices and staff are also invited to these events to speak and update county leaders on their work on Capitol Hill.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☒ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This trip fulfills NACo's mission of strengthening the intergovernmental partnership by educating congressional staff and federal officials on the roles and responsibilities of county governments.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

NACo is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit established to serve and strengthen America's counties. This trip will focus on the importance and structure of America's intergovernmental system and educate attendees on county roles, mandates, operations and policy priorities to help strengthen their communities.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☒ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☒ No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☐ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ☒ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- ☐ The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.

- ☒ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

- i** Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
06/27/2023 @ 09:17 AM



Trip End Date/Time:
06/30/2023 @ 10:44 AM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,074.70 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	\$887.58
Ground Transportation	N/A	\$187.12
Note Charter Bus Service		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$533.52)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
06/27/2023	06/28/2023	Poco Diablo Resort	Sedona	Arizona	United States	1	\$226.66	No
06/28/2023	06/30/2023	DoubleTree Flagstaff	Flagstaff	Arizona	United States	2	\$153.43	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$423.52)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
06/27/2023	\$0.00	\$29.43	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$119.43	Morristown/Sedona	Arizona	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Expenses over the per diem rate listed above are reasonable and necessary given the time restraints and rural nature of this trip. In order to maximize the programming, some meals must occur in the early morning or be co-located at educational sites which requires banquet-style catering that tends to be more expensive.

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
06/28/2023	\$50.31	\$29.43	\$53.39	\$0.00	\$133.13	Sedona/Flagstaff	Arizona	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Expenses over the per diem rate listed above are reasonable and necessary given the time restraints and rural nature of this trip. In order to maximize the programming, some meals must occur in the early morning or be co-located at educational sites which requires banquet-style catering that tends to be more expensive.

06/29/2023	\$33.82	\$29.43	\$73.89	\$0.00	\$137.14	Flagstaff	Arizona	United States	Yes
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Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason

Expenses over the per diem rate listed above are reasonable and necessary given the time restraints and rural nature of this trip. In order to maximize the programming, some meals must occur in the early morning or be co-located at educational sites which requires banquet-style catering that tends to be more expensive.

06/30/2023	\$33.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33.82	Flagstaff	Arizona	United States	No
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Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$476.72)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Other (Room Rentals)	\$40.70	The cost of renting rooms at hotels and event venues for meetings and meals
Other (All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) Rental)	\$215.92	The cost of renting all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) for tour of public lands and forests in Yavapai County, Ariz., including vehicle, gas, helmets, goggles, coolers with water bottles and ice, map/GPS tablets and tips. ATVs are necessary due to the educational role they will play in demonstrating the impact of off highway vehicles (OHVs) and recreation tourism on public lands management. It will also help reduce travel time across Coconino National Forest to incorporate more content into the trip.
Other (Catering Service Fees)	\$117.68	The cost of service fees for meal set up and attendants.
Other (Audio/Video Costs)	\$2.42	The cost of wi-fi and audio/visual components for breakfast briefings.
Other (Printing, Shipping, Daily Refreshments and Tips)	\$100.00	

Additional Attachments All additional attachments are below.**Document Name**

NACo Release and Waiver of Liability Form



LIST OF INVITEES

National Association of Counties (NACo)

2023 Federal Fellowship Program – Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, Ariz.

June 27-30, 2023

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a 501(c)(4) national nonprofit that was formed in 1935 to serve and strengthen America's counties. As an association of public elected officials, NACo is not a specific interest group but a major partner in our nation's Federalism system of intergovernmental entities. The participants listed below play a critical role in this system, working for elected officials, congressional committees and federal agencies that appropriate funds or develop federal policy and regulations that affect counties. For many of these individuals, this trip will complement NACo's inaugural site visit to Miami-Dade County, Fla. in 2022 by showcasing the critical programs and services that rural counties provide to our residents. For others, this trip will serve as the first opportunity to enhance their understanding of county government by witnessing the role they play in their residents' lives every day.

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Professional Staff Member, Republican	Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works	Baxter	Carr
Legislative Correspondent	Senator Mike Crapo	Erika	Ose
Policy Advisor	Senator Kyrsten Sinema	Chris	Phalen
Legislative Aide	Senator Chuck Schumer	Leeann	Sinpatanasakul
Staff Director, Democratic	Senate Committee on Finance	Joshua	Sheinkman
Constituent Services Coordinator	Senator Mark Kelly	Judy	Sulltrop
Economic Policy Advisor	Senator Bill Cassidy	Samuel	Zelden

**Attendees subject to change based on participant's availability*



April 26, 2023

Dear Mr. Zelden,

As the Executive Director and CEO of National Association of Counties (NACo), it is my pleasure to extend an invitation to you as a leader in federal policymaking to participate in NACo's 2023 Federal Fellowship Initiative. This is an invitation-only cohort that will be comprised of congressional staff, White House officials and other federal agency representatives. County governments play a critical role as public service providers for America's citizens. Since 1935, NACo has represented the interests of all of America's 3,069 counties and assisted them in the pursuit of excellence in public service.

NACo's Federal Fellowship Initiative focuses on the importance and structure of America's intergovernmental system, with a specific emphasis on the roles, responsibilities, operations and policy priorities of county governments across the country. As part of the initiative, NACo aims to educate members of Congress, Congressional staff and federal policy officials about the roles and responsibilities of counties across the country.

As important partners in our nation's intergovernmental system, county governments employ one out of every 50 workers, invest more than \$660 billion each year in our local communities and provide vital public services that are the foundation of our society. To provide a clearer picture of the full county landscape and the essential role counties play in fostering safe, vibrant and health communities across the nation, NACo recently released a County Landscape Report and accompanying Executive Summary.

Members of the cohort will meet several times throughout the year-long Initiative:

- **NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Pre-Trip Event:** Thursday, May 25, 2023, at NACo's Headquarters located at 660 North Capitol Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20001
- **Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, Ariz. Site Visit:** Tuesday, June 27 – Friday, June 30, 2023
- **Urban County Site Visit:** Fall 2023 – *Dates and Location Forthcoming*
- **NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Conclusion:** Late 2023/Early 2024 – *Dates and Location Forthcoming*

During the first in-person, field-based tour located in Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, participants will engage with federal, state and local leaders, and visit tour sites including the include Coconino National Forest, the Schultz/Pipeline Flood District, the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology, Babbitt Ranches and Maricopa County's Tabulation and Election Center. **NACo will cover all costs for participant travel, lodging and meals for this site visit and other events associated with the Fellowship Initiative.**

Enclosed in this packet, please review the full agenda for the Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties site visit and related Ethics Committee documents. NACo Director of Government Affairs Eryn Hurley is available to assist you in any way possible to coordinate your participation. Please contact Ms. Hurley at ehurley@naco.org or 571.262.9015 with any specific questions.



We hope you will be able to accept our invitation and look forward to your participation in our Federal Fellowship Initiative.

Sincerely,

Matthew Chase
Executive Director/CEO
National Association of Counties

National Association of Counties
2023 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

MARICOPA/YAVAPAI/COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZ. | JUNE 27-30, 2023

TUESDAY, JUNE 27 – ARRIVAL & MARICOPA/YAVAPAI COUNTY

- 7:26 AM – 9:17 AM** **FLIGHT FROM DCA TO PHX (AMERICAN AIRLINES, FLIGHT NO. 713)**
- 9:17 AM** **ATTENDEES ARRIVE & ARE GREETED AT PHOENIX AIRPORT**
- 10:00 AM – 11:45AM** **TOUR OF MARICOPA COUNTY TABULATION AND ELECTION CENTER**
The nation's 3,069 counties traditionally administer and fund elections at the local level, including overseeing polling places and coordinating poll workers for federal, state and local elections. Counties are responsible for funding and managing over 100,000 polling places staffed with over 630,000 poll workers each election cycle. Maricopa County is widely recognized as a national leader in elections. Throughout the 2020 General Election and 2022 Midterm Elections, the county provided voters with the option to vote by mail, by dropping of their mail ballot at any secure drop box located throughout the County, or in-person early or on Election Day at any one of the vote anywhere vote centers. At the same time, the county has been required to conduct lengthy audits, testify in front of Congress and respond to public inquiries about election administration activities. Participants will hear from the Maricopa County Recorder and other election officials about how the county has responded to these criticisms and ultimately demonstrated they have continuously run safe and secure election.
- **Hon. Bill Gates**, Supervisor, Maricopa County
 - **Hon. Stephen Richer**, Recorder, Maricopa County
 - **Scott Jarrett**, Elections Director, Maricopa County
- 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM** **LUNCH BRIEFING & TOUR OF LAKE PLEASANT**
Scorpion Bay Grill
Maricopa County has one of the largest regional park systems in the United States at more than 120,000 acres of Sonoran Desert open space. The system includes hundreds of miles of trails, campgrounds, and nature centers. The park system has grown from 400 acres in the early 1950's to its current size in large part due to partnerships with several federal agencies. As the county continues to grow at an exponential rate, these federal partnerships will be critical in providing adequate recreation opportunities in the future. Lake Pleasant Regional Park is a 23,000-acre outdoor recreation area straddling the Maricopa and Yavapai county border and serves as a major recreation hub for the northwest Phoenix metropolitan area. Lake Pleasant is used as a major water sports recreation center, as well as serving as an important storage reservoir for the rapidly growing region. Maricopa County has a 50-year management agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to attract certain recreational financial and development opportunities around the Lake. Scorpion Bay Marina is a third-party concessionaire that not only

provides visitors with a unique experience, but also has a focus on conservation and provides the county with diversified revenue streams to offset park operating and development costs. Participants will hear from Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Director while enjoying lunch on the water.

- **Hon. Clint Hickman**, Chairman, Maricopa County
- **R.J. Cardin**, Parks & Recreation Director, Maricopa County

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM**TOUR OF ANTHEM TEST BED DEMONSTRATION**

Several years ago, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), in concert with the University of Arizona and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), established a test bed for connected vehicle (CV) technologies in Anthem, Arizona to field test dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) deployments. The goal of the Program is to identify how new technology applications could enhance traffic signal operations, incident management and traveler information. Participants will tour the Anthem test-bed site and see how these new technologies are working to solve transportation challenges and integrate CV technologies to reduce crashes, improve vehicle prioritization and much more.

- **Hon. Jack Sellers**, Vice Chairman, Maricopa County
- **Jesse Gutierrez**, Director, Maricopa County Department of Transportation
- **David Lucas**, Traffic Technology Branch Manager, Maricopa County Department of Transportation
- **Dr. Larry Head**, Professor, University of Arizona

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM**TOUR OF YAVAPAI COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT**

Broadband development and connectivity is a key priority for Yavapai County, as its Board of Supervisors committing nearly half of its American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds towards bridging the digital divide. Through its Broadband Final Mile Initiative, Yavapai County has partnered with the Yavapai County Education Service Agency to become the first county in the state to connect all of its schools to high-speed broadband internet. The county is also working with internet service provider Cox Communications to connect unserved and underserved residents and businesses in unincorporated communities. Participants will be joined by county officials and representatives from Cox Communications who will provide an overview of this initiative before attending the county's broadband ground-breaking event in the rural community of Black Canyon City.

- **Hon. James Gregory**, Chairman, Yavapai County
- **Hon. Tim Carter**, School Superintendent, Yavapai County Education Service Agency
- **Corey Christians**, County Librarian, Yavapai County Free Library District
- **Joe Huot**, Special Projects Manager, Yavapai County
- **Frank Vander Horst**, E-Rate Manager, Yavapai County Education Service Agency

- **Susan Anable**, Phoenix Market Vice President, Cox Communications

6:00 PM

ATTENDEES ARRIVE AT YAVAPAI COUNTY

7:00 PM

PARTICIPANT DINNER (OPTIONAL)**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 – YAVAPAI/COCONINO COUNTY**

6:00 AM – 7:00 AM

BREAKFAST

7:30 AM – 12:30 PM

OHV RIDE & FEDERAL LANDS MANAGEMENT BRIEFING

Sixty-one percent of counties have federal lands within their boundaries. Even though they are not able to collect property taxes on federal land, county governments must still provide essential services for our residents and those who visit public lands each year. Such services include road and bridge maintenance, law enforcement, search and rescue operations, fire protection, solid waste disposal and environmental compliance. To gain a better understanding of the types of services Yavapai County (74 percent federally owned) provides, participants will take part in an OHV ride through the Coconino National Forest and hear from county law enforcement and search and rescue officials about the need for a long-term, sustainable revenue-sharing solution such as dedicated and full funding for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs. Participants will also hear from officials from the U.S. Forest Service about how federal and local partners work together to achieve the shared goal for responsible forest management. Please note that there will be a short hike during the day to Devils Bridge –hiking shoes are required.

- **Hon. Donna Michaels**, Supervisor, Yavapai County
- **Hon. David Rhodes**, Sheriff, Yavapai County
- **John Johnson**, Sergeant, Yavapai County
- **Aaron Mayville**, Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest
- **Becki Ross**, Owner, Windmill Mountain Ranch

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

LUNCH BRIEFING

After the OHV tour, participants will hear from local experts about the challenges in the administration of Yavapai County's grazing program, highlight opportunities for the county, state and U.S. Forest Service to collaborate on expand rangeland monitoring and how the county is creating a framework for drought resiliency through ranching.

- **Hon. Harry Oberg**, Vice Chairman, Yavapai County
- **Maury Thompson**, County Administrator, Yavapai County
- **Andy Groseta**, Past President, Arizona Cattle Growers Association
- **Becki & Dustin Ross**, Owner, Windmill Mountain Ranch

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

DEPART & DRIVE TO COCONINO COUNTY VIA OAK CREEK CANYON

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Lowell Observatory

DINNER BRIEFING ON COCONINO COUNTY DARK SKY ORDINANCE

The Lowell Observatory was established in 1894, placing it among the oldest observatories in the United States. Since its inception, the Observatory has been home to many discoveries, including the first detection of the expanding

nature of the universe; the discovery of Pluto and its atmosphere; moon mapping for the Apollo moon mission; the rings of Uranus and many more. The Observatory also plays a major role in one of Coconino County's key efforts – reducing light pollution through education and best practices. Participants will hear about the County's Dark Sky Ordinance which aims to protect the region's skies and have the opportunity to stargaze through the Observatory's telescopes from the Giovale Open Deck Observatory.

- **Hon. Patrice Horstman**, Chair, Coconino County
- **Hon. Lena Fowler**, Supervisor, Coconino County
- **Dr. Jeff Hall**, Executive Director, Lowell Observatory

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 – COCONINO COUNTY

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM

BREAKFAST

9:30 AM – 11:15 AM

BRIEFING AT NORTHERN ARIZONA CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY

With 18,661 square miles and a population of just under 145,000 residents, Coconino County is the second-largest county in the United States and the largest in Arizona, but is one of the most sparsely populated. Given Coconino County's geography, the county has implemented unique programs, practices and services to support its communities and residents from economic and workforce development to behavioral health and flood mitigation.

During this briefing, participants will hear from Coconino County elected officials and department directors about the county's day-to-day operations and how its working to support the county's residents and communities.

- **Hon. Patrice Horstman**, Chair, Coconino County
- **Hon. Lena Fowler**, Supervisor, Coconino County
- **Hon. Jim Driscoll**, Sheriff, Coconino County
- **Kim Musselman**, Health and Human Services Director, Coconino County
- **Matt Fowler**, Chief Information Officer and IT Director, Coconino County
- **Chris Pasterz**, Economic Development Manager, Coconino County

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

LUNCH AT BUFFALO PARK

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

TOUR OF COCONINO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND CITY OF FLAGSTAFF STORMWATER PROJECTS

The Coconino County Flood Control District (FCD) is charged with reducing the risk of flood loss, minimizing the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare and restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Over the last year, Coconino County has experienced over 45 post-wildfire flood events that have impacted neighborhoods as a result of catastrophic wildfire occurring in unhealthy forests on steep slopes on federal lands. Although the District has secured significant federal funding to assist with addressing these disasters, the District and the County have still had to invest significant funding in disaster response and flood mitigation,

which results in other priorities not being funded. Participants will see the importance of NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWPP) funding by touring the Flood Control District's Park Way Sediment Basins Project and the City of Flagstaff's Stormwater Schultz Creek Detention Basins Project funded by NRCS Exigency funding after the 2022 Pipeline Fire.

- **Jay Smith**, Forest Restoration Director, Coconino County Flood Control District
- **Aaron Mayville**, Forest Service, Coconino National Forest
- **Julie Leid**, Principal, Peak Engineering, Inc.
- **Ed Schenk**, Stormwater Manager, City of Flagstaff

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM**BRIEFING OF BABBITT RANCHES ENERGY CENTER**

Babbitt Ranch Energy Center is a new 161-megawatt (MW) wind facility consisting of 50 GE wind turbines that will produce enough energy to power nearly 40,000 homes. Approved by the Coconino County Planning and Zoning Commission in August 2021, construction began in January 2023 and is set to be completed in early 2024. It is estimated that the wind energy project will generate low-cost, homegrown energy and provide millions of dollars in additional tax revenue to Coconino County over the life of the project. Participants will hear a general overview of the Coconino County renewable energy ordinance, the Babbitt Ranch Energy Center project layout, design and general workings of the components to produce green energy.

- **Jess McNeely**, Assistant Director and Planning Manager, Community Development, Coconino County
- **Billy Cordasco**, President/CEO, Babbitt Ranches

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM**TOUR OF BABBITT RANCHES & RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS**

Established in 1886, Babbitt Ranches is one of Arizona's largest and most historic ranches, raising calves with approximately 8,000 head of grass-fed, open range, hereford cattle grazing on 700,000 acres of private, federal and state land. Babbitt Ranches, a family business and pioneering land company, raises livestock, manages natural resources, promotes science and participates in the broader community. Participants will tour Babbitt Ranches to see the construction site associated with the Babbitt Ranch Energy Center wind project that will have a 161MW capacity powered by 50 GE wind turbines. The group will see general road construction and site preparation for the arrivals of the wind turbines this summer.

- **Billy Cordasco**, President/CEO, Babbitt Ranches
- **Prairie Handyside**, Site Manager, Blattner Energy
- **Jess McNeely**, Assistant Director and Planning Manager, Community Development, Coconino County
- **Clinton Spencer**, Senior Project Manager, NextEra Energy

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**DINNER AT ARIZONA NORDIC VILLAGE**

Owned and operated by Babbitt Ranches and located in the Coconino National Forest, the Nordic Village is northern Arizona's premier outdoor

recreation area. Participants will have dinner and hear from local leaders about tourism in Coconino County.

- **Hon. Patrice Horstman**, Chair, Coconino County
- **Hon. Lena Fowler**, Supervisor, Coconino County

FRIDAY, JUNE 30 – COCONINO COUNTY & DEPARTURE

6:00 AM – 6:30 AM

BREAKFAST

6:30 AM – 9:30 AM

HELICOPTER TOUR OF WATERSHED WITH SALT RIVER PROJECT

Arizona's forests are unhealthy and overgrown, and catastrophic fires are almost a certainty without action — putting the state's physical beauty, economic vitality and water supplies at risk. Since 2002, more than 2.9 million acres of forests in or around the Salt, Verde and East Clear Creek watersheds have been burned by wildfires, including megafires such as the Rodeo-Chediski and Wallow fires. Participants will take a helicopter tour with the Salt River Project (SRP) to view the current state of the watershed and forests and hear how SRP is working with Coconino County to prevent future catastrophic wildfires.

- **Buchanan Davis**, Director of Local Relations, Salt River Project
- **Kristen Hutchcraft**, Senior Administrative Technician, Salt River Project

9:30 AM

END OF OFFICIAL PROGRAMMING

10:44 AM – 8:40 PM

PARTICIPANTS DEPART: FLIGHT FROM FLAGSTAFF PULLIAM AIRPORT TO RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT (AMERICAN AIRLINES, FLIGHT 2929 | 2006)

**Includes a 1 hour, 30-minute layover at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport*

NACO RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT

I, _____
("Participant") Acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the following activities.

(Description of activities, which Participant will engage)

I AM AWARE THAT THESE ACTIVITIES MAY BE HAZARDOUS AND THAT I COULD BE INJURED. I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED AND AGREE TO ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY, WHETHER THOSE RISKS ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN.

I verify this statement by placing my initials here: _____

I forever release the National Association of Counties, and their respective board of directors, officers, employees, volunteers, and affiliate organizations from any and all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives now have, or may have in the future, for injury or property damage, related to my participation in these activities, the negligence or other acts, whether directly connected to these activities.

I also agree that I, my assignees, heirs, guardians, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the property of any Release in connection with any of the matters covered by the foregoing release.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES, AND SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

PARTICIPANT/RELEASOR

DATE