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### **Stanley Ranch Landholdings Transferred to Walker River Paiute Tribe**

YERINGTON, NEVADA – JUNE 15, 2017 -- The Walker Basin Restoration Program (Program) completed the transfer of 158 acres of land and related interests at the former Stanley Ranch property to the Walker River Paiute Tribe (Tribe). Reconveyance of this land for ongoing Program purposes will help to protect the riparian corridor through this reach of the main Walker River, and will resolve a longstanding title cloud associated with the property's encroachment upon adjacent Tribal lands near its downstream end.

In 2013, the Program, administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, acquired the Stanley Ranch property in a willing-seller transaction. The acquisition included water rights, land, on-site improvements, and federal grazing permits. Since 2015 the Walker Basin Conservancy (WBC) has been managing the property, including noxious weed treatment. The Program will retain all acquired water rights for the long-term benefit of the Walker River and Walker Lake.

A 40-acre parcel at the upstream end of the property includes the USGS Wabuska gage, a key measurement point for the administration of natural flow water rights under the Walker River Decree. This parcel was subdivided from the ranch in 2015 and will continue to be held by the Program under WBC management.

#### **ABOUT WBC**

The Walker Basin Conservancy (WBC) was established in 2014 to support development and implementation of the Walker Basin Restoration Program through land and water stewardship activities on properties associated with the Program's mission. WBC, a non-profit with offices in Reno and Yerington, Nevada, is currently responsible for stewardship on thousands of acres of land and related interests in the Walker River Basin. Land planning and implementation activities are underway on all acquired properties. Planning efforts focus on assessing public access opportunities, conservation values, long-term land ownership and stewardship, and active and passive revegetation and restoration activities.

In addition, WBC is actively involved in managing the water assets acquired by the Program, further developing conservation opportunities in the Walker Basin, and overall outreach and education related to the long-term objectives of the Program.

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