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ELKO — Battle Mountain BLM District Manager Doug Furtado's order of July 23 that ranchers remove their cattle from Mount Lewis has spurred the ranchers and their supporters to carry
elkodaily.coml By Lee Enterprises http://elkodaily.com/news/cowboy-express-goes-nationwide/article_97cbf224-2101-11e4-9568-001a4bcf887a.html

Open Source Farming: A Renaissance Man Tackles the Food Crisis

Sunday, 10 August 2014 00:00 By [Dahr Jamail](#), [Truthout](#) | Report

Given Anthropogenic Climate Disruption and our dwindling capacities for producing enough healthy food, a cutting-edge farming technique that dramatically increases produce yields from a design engineer in Port Townsend, Washington, may well already be filling a critical void.

The news about our global food supply is not good.

Around the world - from the Middle East, across much of Africa, to California - wars over water and food are [already occurring](#).

Billions of people already lack adequate supplies of potable water on a daily basis, and by 2030, nearly half the world's population will live in "water-stressed" areas, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Environmental Outlook 2030 [Report](#).

As Lester Brown of the [Earth Policy Institute](#) and author of *World on the Edge*, has written, "Water is the new oil, and land is the new gold." These words underscore how overpopulation and Anthropogenic Climate Disruption (ACD) have combined to overstress our capacities for producing enough food.

These facts, along with ever-escalating food prices, highlight how serious our food crisis has already become.

The corporate answer to the food crisis has been to introduce genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in an effort to expand crop sizes and yields. The outcomes and implications of this, however, continue to prove [detrimental](#) to both the environment and human health.

However, on a local level, scientist Joe Breskin seems to have found a solution for dramatically increasing vegetable yields in greenhouses, doubling the length of growing seasons and feeding more people for less money - all while using cutting-edge energy efficiency techniques.

"Heated greenhouses are not new, but the way we are doing it is," said Breskin, who describes himself as a "senior generalist, engineering design consultant" who likes to "fix complex, interesting things that don't work."

It might sound too good to be true, except that the facts are speaking for themselves.

"This is an Invention"

Following Breskin's train of thought as he explained his new greenhouse technology sometimes felt like trying to keep up with a steam train. He is a man on a mission, excited about his work and thrilled to share his invention with anyone who wants to know about it.

Breskin looks like a cross between a mad scientist and a farmer, his eyes constantly alight with intellectual curiosity while he holds his complex schematic drawings in one hand and a tomato in

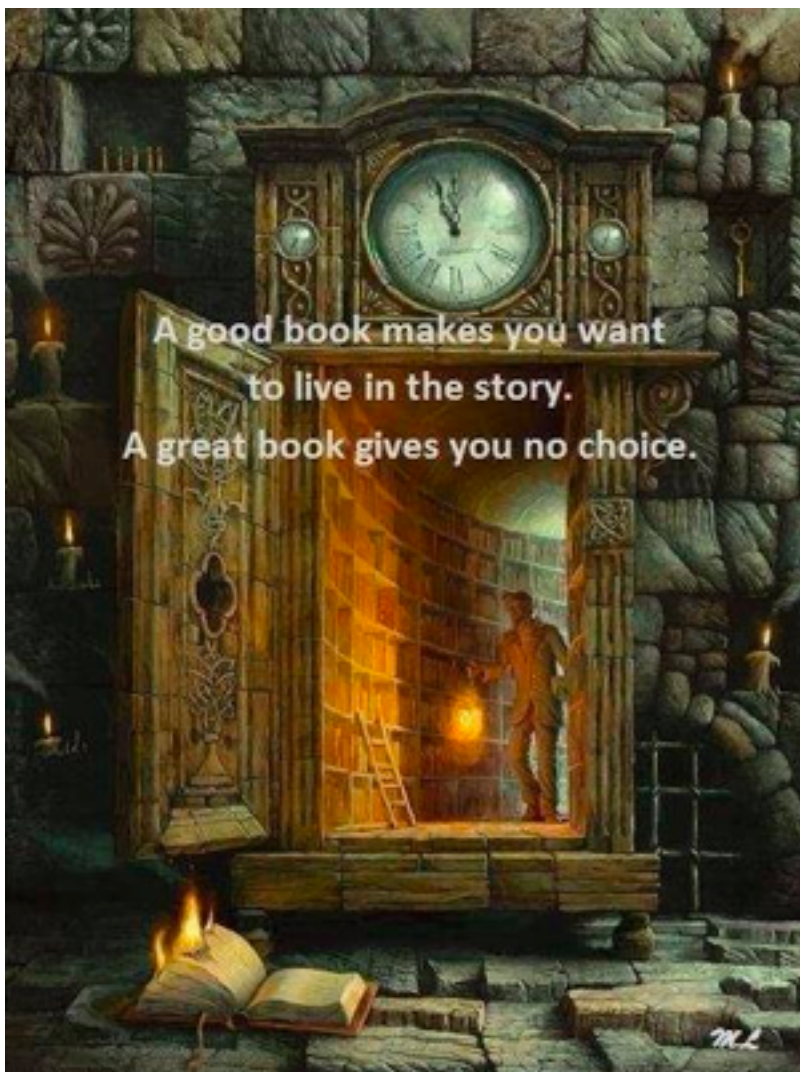
the other. His energy level is that of someone half his age. (When asked how old he really is, Breskin replied, "I am a 1947 model, so I am 67 now.")

Utilizing excess heat generated by fans circulating air through a greenhouse, Breskin's system uses hot metal coils within a massive water tank to heat water, which is then piped underneath vegetable beds, where more heat translates directly into larger, tastier, more abundant produce.

While Joe Breskin's engineering plans might appear rudimentary, he has yet to find a patented version in the EU or United States of anything he is doing. (Photo: Dahr Jamail)

"The idea is to capture high-value heat and use it for the plants, rather than throwing it into the atmosphere," Breskin told Truthout. "I had to figure out how to do all this. This is an invention."

The five-acre urban farm where he is implementing his plan is located within Port Townsend, Washington, and, he says, his work has led to new "problems" - like an overabundance of fresh produce.



A good book makes you want
to live in the story.
A great book gives you no choice.

"I really like it in these greenhouses," he said with a smile, picking a tomato off a vine and popping it in his mouth. "I've had to add metal supports to the greenhouse to keep the weight from all the tomatoes from collapsing it. We didn't anticipate the problem of the weight of the fruit knocking the building down."

The warm water flow rate from his heated tank has had to be reduced by half. "Otherwise the veggies grow faster than they can keep up with," Breskin says with a laugh.

In addition to producing "too much" food, his system produces very little waste: The excess heat generated in his primary greenhouse is then bled into nearby greenhouses, so that no energy is wasted.

"This greenhouse then becomes the hub for three others," said Breskin, who has named each greenhouse according to the atmosphere generated within.

"Bali" is the greenhouse where his heat project is working, and nearby structures have names like Cuba, Louisiana, Hawai'i, Galapagos, and Mississippi.

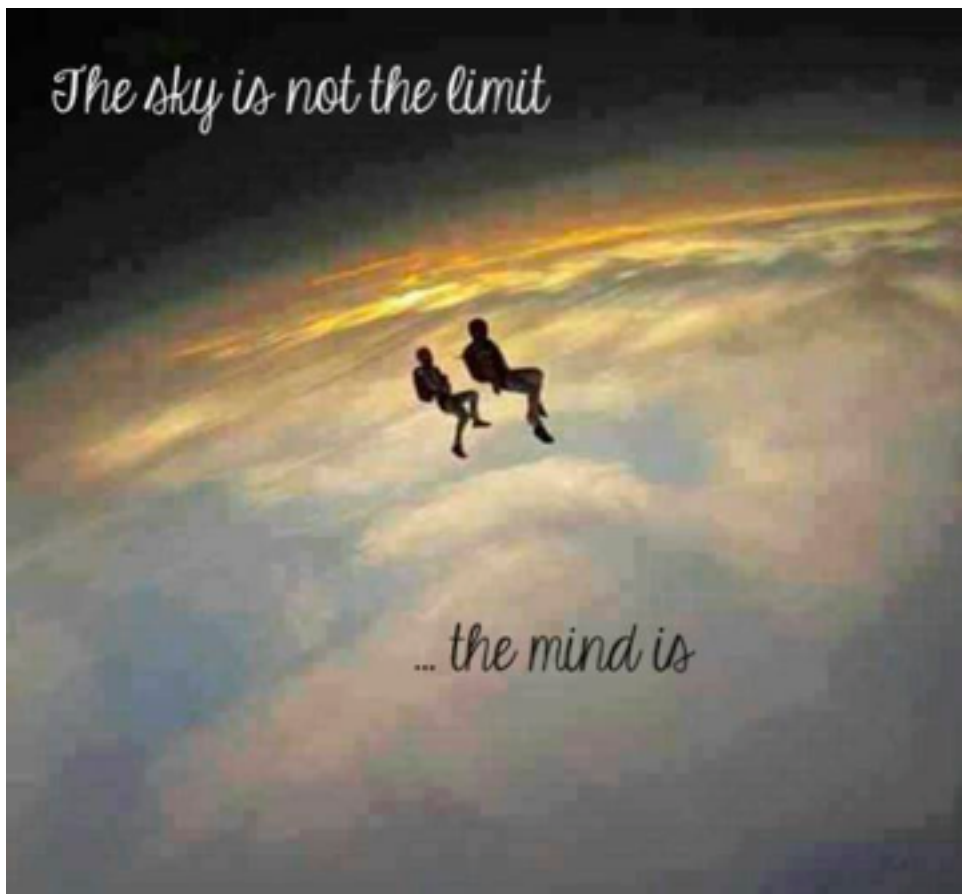
Acutely aware of our planet's precarious time, coupled with government's inability/unwillingness to change it, he knows all too well the poignancy of his project.

Breskin has worked and continues to work as an engineering design consultant and architect, yet describes his greenhouse project as "the most important thing I've ever done in my life."

Breskin's tagline is, "I can fix anything but your broken heart or your organization that is falling apart." (Photo: Dahr Jamail)

Open Source

Breskin's project has already increased the overall profitability of the farm where it is implemented. It has reduced total energy costs by 50 percent by running on around \$2 per day; appears likely to have generated a 10-month growing season; has caused productivity increases per square foot and per plant - and appears likely to be expanding soon.



The entire project was built for \$10,000, and it has already produced more than that amount in food alone.

But rather than aiming to make money on it, Breskin is more concerned about improving the system and getting it into the hands of more local farmers as quickly as possible.

"I'm open

source," he said. "The only reason to patent this is to keep someone else from patenting it in order to monetize it."

Breskin did weather analytics for the exact location of his project to find out exactly how much energy he needed to maximize efficiency. (Photo: Dahr Jamail)

As the dual crisis of the destabilized global economy and ACD intensifies with time, world governments' ability to mitigate disasters, let alone respond to them, is waning dramatically.

As a large segment of the population in New Orleans knows from being essentially abandoned by the US government during and after Hurricane Katrina, a move to a more efficient and sustainable life support system of food, housing and energy is critical.

Breskin is acutely aware of this, and it drives his work and ideas, as it has been doing for decades.

He lists as his "bragging rights":

- Saved and protected the watersheds of two rivers on the Olympic Peninsula from logging, and saved a community from having to spend \$15 million on a water treatment plant they did not need.
- Directed a bunch of federal money into watershed storm proofing, the first projects on the Olympic Peninsula to do prevention instead of post-disaster repairs.
- Did a lot of "swords-into-ploughshares" work - finding socially useful commercial applications for technologies developed at the federal labs before the Bush coup turned us back into a war-based economy.

As for future plans, Breskin said he will continue to refine and expand his greenhouse work, in addition to building hyper-energy-efficient homes for people in need.

"I am designing a low-cost, easy-to-manufacture, permanently affordable 'zero energy house' that actually works in this challenging climate," he has written in his blog. "It is unabashedly low-tech but is based on several highly detailed computer models of airflow and heatflux and leverages work done decades, and in some cases, centuries ago. Design integrates cheap, relatively low temperature heat storage, multiple loop thermosiphons, trickle-down open loop SDHW collectors, air heaters and multistage heat recovery at every exit point, avoiding PV, wind, and other high cost and high embodied energy technologies entirely. I'm also working on a compost-powered, 'living machine' aquaponics system based on black soldier flies."

When asked to clarify these housing plans in laypersons terms, Breskin laughed and said this means he is "designing zero-energy houses for single moms, as opposed to for rich people."

Given the destructiveness and poisonous consequences of GMO foods and agribusiness's ever-expanding global agenda, Breskin's work may well already be filling a critical void. Every day, he is building a new, free-thinking, sustainable path to feeding the planet - and having fun along

the way.

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2013/09/04/6-places-look-native-scholarships-dont-stop-there-151140>

[Federal Water Tap, August 11: Army Corps of Engineers Agrees to Dam Pollution Settlement](#)

The Army Corps of Engineers will for the first time [track and disclose oil pollution and oil spills](#) from the machinery used in eight dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers, the *Associated Press* reports.

The agreement, covering dams in Oregon and Washington, is part of a legal settlement with Columbia Riverkeeper, an environmental group, which filed a lawsuit in 2013. The corps will also apply for pollution permits from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In response, Doc Hastings, a Republican congressman from Washington whose district includes several of the dams in question, sent [a letter to the commander of the corps](#) asking for an explanation of the settlement's rationale.

Columbia River

Two Oregon congressional representatives introduced the [Columbia River Restoration Act](#), which would provide \$US 50 million per year through 2020 for environmental projects in the second largest river in the United States, as measured by flow.

Billion-Dollar Disasters

Nine, not seven. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration updated its registry of [U.S. weather disasters in 2013 that exceed \\$US 1 billion in damages](#). NOAA now puts the number at nine after adding floods in Illinois and a series of severe storms in the Midwest. The new analysis also added to the list 17 disasters dating as far back as 1980.

Flood Hazard Maps for Energy Assets

The U.S. Energy Information Administration has put together a jewel of a resource: [a visual catalog of the nation's energy infrastructure](#), the pipelines and power plants, transmission lines and oil fields.

Now, a new layer has been added: [a map showing flood risks](#), with data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Water Resources Reform and Development Act

President Obama signed the \$12.3 billion bill in June to authorize dozens of water projects overseen by the Army Corps of Engineers. Starting this week the corps will gather public comments via teleconference and webinar about how to implement the law.

Sept. 5 NCAIED Scholarship Opportunity

Eligible Entities: Must be majoring in a business-related field, must be a junior, senior, or graduate student, must be enrolled as a full-time student, must be enrolled at an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) is providing scholarship opportunities to students seeking higher education. Applicants must complete the application, write a personal essay, send official transcripts, have a letter of admission or enrollment for the 2014–2015 academic year, and send a copy of their fall semester class schedule. For more, see the funding opportunity description.

Sept. 9 Senior Corp RSVP Program

The Corporation for National & Community Service RSVP grants support volunteers age 55 years and older in activities that serve community needs and respond to the National Performance Measures in the following focus areas: disaster; education; economic opportunity; environment; healthy futures; and veterans & military families. ELIGIBILITY: Public agencies; private nonprofits; institutions of higher education; and Indian tribes.

<http://www.nationalservice.gov/sites/default/files/upload/RSVP%202015%20FINAL%20for%20508.508.pdf>

Sept. 22 FY 2015 Brownfields Area- Wide Planning (BF AWP) Grant Guidelines

EPA's funding for eligible entities (including Indian Housing entities) who wish to develop an area-wide plan for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse. This funding is for research, technical assistance, and/or training activities directed to one or more brownfield site(s) located in a specific area (such as a neighborhood, district, local commercial corridor, community waterfront or city block). Each project funded under this grant must result in an area-wide plan which includes specific plan implementation strategies for assessing, cleaning up, and reusing the brownfields site(s) as well as related brownfields and project area revitalization strategies. For more, visit [FY2015 Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant Guidelines \(PDF\)](#) or [Frequently Asked Questions \(PDF\)](#). EPA will provide two guidelines outreach webinars. July 30 and Aug. 14.

The same info. will be presented at each webinar. For information on how to join each webinar click [here](#).

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) BPHC is hosting a webinar for organizations that are considering applying for HRSA funding for health centers.

“Navigating the Health Center Program: An Introduction for American Indian/Alaska Native Communities Webinar” – Thurs., Aug. 14, 1:00pm – 2:30pm, ET (10:00am-11:30pm PT). This webinar is intended to provide information to American Indian/Alaska Native communities about the advantages and responsibilities of being a Health Center Program grantee. Two recently awarded Tribal health centers will be featured. To participate in the session use the following link: [American Indian/Alaska Native Communities](#). Connect using 1-888-795-3252; passcode: 9649057. View more information on this webinar).

The HRSA Health Center Program “New Access Points” (NAP) grant is currently open to applications. Apply to HRSA-15-016 at [Grants.gov](#) by August 20, Submit supplemental information to HRSA EHB by October 7. Watch the Instant replay of the NAP Applicant Technical Assistance Call (that was held July 17, 2014). General and specific information, technical assistance, and forms related to the NAP can be accessed here: <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/apply/assistance/nap/> (especially note the Frequently Asked Questions).

USDA PROVIDES AID TO 73000 RURAL CALIFORNIANS IMPACTED BY DROUGHT--

USDA is providing \$9.7 million in emergency water assistance to 73,000 residents in 11 California counties experiencing the driest year on record. Read more at.

<http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/california-news/9954-usda-provides-aid-to-73-000-rural-californians-impacted-by-drought.html>.

CALIFORNIA MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION NOW IN EFFECT - - Read more at:

<http://www.news10.net/story/news/local/2014/07/29/california-mandatory-water-conservation-regulations-take-effect/13338927/>

Unprecedented California Drought Restrictions Go Into Effect - <http://time.com/3048600/california-drought-fines-water-rules/>

DOE DEVELOPING AND FINANCING RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS IN INDIAN COUNTRY: This insightful and widely applicable presentation by Robert Springer of NREL concisely explains project development framework and development common pitfalls. To view, click here.

IRS's Indian Tribal Governments office is offering the TRIBAL BONDS FINANCING: THE BASICS phone forum recording. The 40-minute presentation covers Tribal bonds fundamentals, the benefits of Tribal Economic Development Bonds, & clean renewable energy bonds.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA) CREATES NEW OFFICE OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND POLICY (OTAP): SAMHSA is creating an Office of Tribal Affairs and Policy (OTAP) to bring together in one office several of the tribal functions within SAMHSA. OTAP will serve as SAMHSA's primary point of contact for tribal governments, tribal organizations, federal departments and agencies, and other governments and agencies on behavioral health issues facing American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States. OTAP will bring together SAMHSA's work on tribal affairs, tribal policy, tribal consultation, tribal advisory councils, and Tribal Law and Order Act responsibilities to improve agency coordination and meaningful progress. Mirtha Beadle, M.P.A., will lead this new office and she will be joined in OTAP by Sheila Cooper who serves as Senior Advisor for Tribal Affairs and the staff of the Office of Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse (OIASA).

NV Energy opens its popular RenewableGenerations incentive program Wednesday to help its customers reduce the cost of installing solar panels, solar space heaters, solar pool heaters, wind systems, or hydro power systems at their home or business. Call 866-786-3823 or visit www.nvenergy.com/renewablesenvironment/renewablegenerations to learn more.

Utah Tar Sands Resistance

Land defenders calling themselves Colorado Plateau Resistance shut down construction at US Oil Sands mine recently. <http://www.tarsandsresist.org/cpr/>

Watch the video to see how a small band of everyday people can exact justice from the system. Do what you can! It's time to action!

August Calendar Reminders

Aug. 19-21 NLC's Indian Housing Training Conference Tulsa Catoosa, Oklahoma Conference provides housing professionals with the resources to maintain quality homes, build drug-free housing developments, and create safe and prosperous communities for Native families by expanding affordable housing opportunities into the heart of Indian Country. This 3-day conference offers critical sessions related to Tribal housing programs and HUD's Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program. Sessions incl: HUD Grants Management; Water & Environmental Review: How to Promote Sustainable Practices; Incorporating Traditional Values in Housing Development; HUD Monitoring: Environmental, Maintenance; Inspection &

Occupancy; New Market Tax Credits. View agenda & register at <http://nativelearningcenter.com/2annualindianhousingtrainingconference/>

Aug. 19-21 (NIJC) Solid Waste Management ISWMP Workshop & Training Reno, NV

Aug. 20-22 *Summit: A Place for Housing 2014* Albuquerque, NM

Registration is now open at <http://local.housingnm.org/housingsummit/2014/>. TDHEs/IHAs should register as governmental agencies/non-profits. MFA and the NM Tribal Homeownership Coalition have created a Tribal Housing Track of 6 full workshops including Green Building, Tenant Relations, Mortgage Lending, Real Estate Transactions many of which will be on interest and use. Make your plans now to attend. Realtors, Developers, Lenders, Asset Managers, Financiers, Builders and Affordable Housing experts will come together for this Summit. For info., contact Eric Schmieder at (505) 767-2233 or visit www.housingnm.org/housingsummit.

August 21: 10 Social Media Best Practices for NGOs

9 am SGT
(Singapore). 11
am AEST
(Sydney). 1 pm
NZST
(Wellington)

August 23

Annual
Basketweaver
Gathering

The Gatekeepers Museum, 130 West Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA United States Basketweavers from across sell their baskets directly to the public. \$5 (all proceeds support the operation of the non-profit museum).

****The Great Vermont Corn**



Maze of North Danville sent this along. It's the farm's 16th season. The corn is already 10 feet tall!

42nd

Friday,



Annual Ethnic
Concerns
Conference

October 10 at
3:00pm Zephyr Point
Presbyterian
Conference Center in
Kingsbury, Nevada

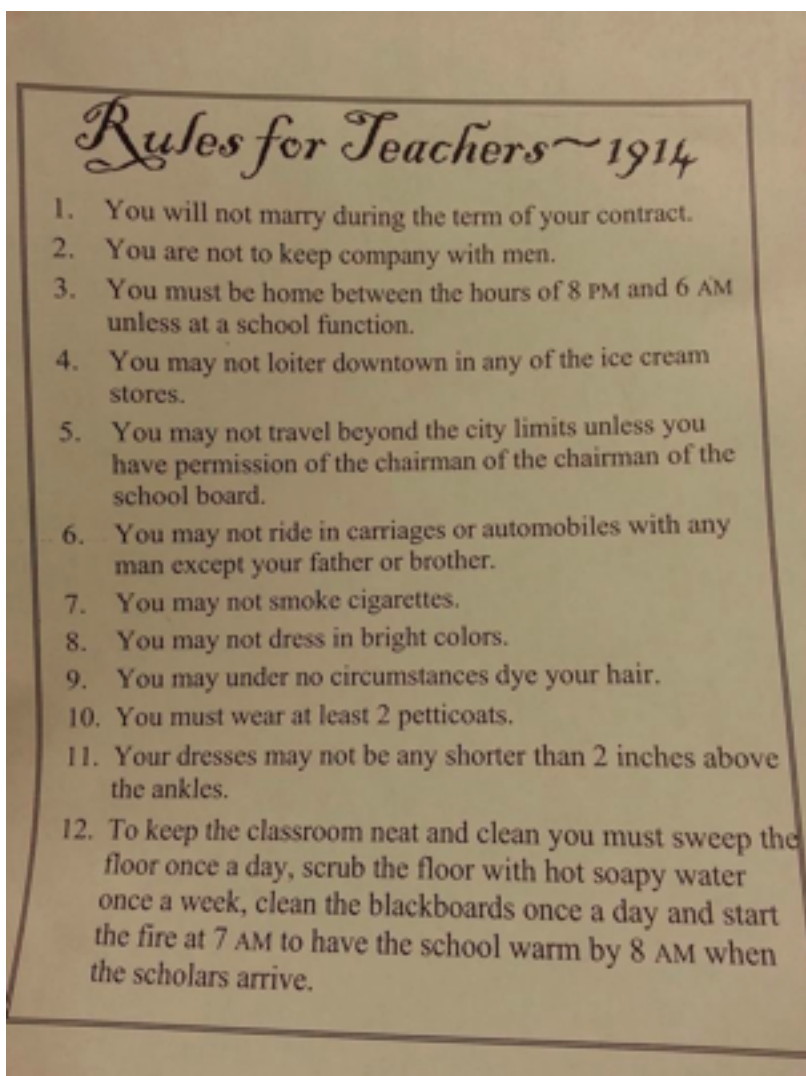
[A look at Lake Mead's water levels, impact](#) [KFMB News 8](#)

At 900 feet, hydroelectric turbine generators at Hoover Dam would be idled by lack of water pressure. Most of the electricity goes to Southern California. Nevada

Government agencies to poison Alpine creek

Lake tahoe news

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to chemically treat Silver King Creek in Alpine County in an attempt to restore native Paiute cutthroat trout.



[Eddie Floyd Northern Nevada](#)
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[6 hrs](#) ·

PLEASE READ and "SHARE" to other Advocates. We need your article, photos and links to rushk@mail.com, Kelly Rush, Editor Attention Wild Horse and Burro Advocates; Mustang Matters the talk show has a new quarterly publication that will be published again August 15th, 2014 and when approved YOU will have a FREE FULL PAGE for articles, photos, links and advertising! Please contact the Publisher, Steve Finlayson, the Editor, Kelly Rush or the Associate Editor, Kelly Hyatt. For additional details, tune into the talk show Wednesdays at 11 am till noon with Lacy J. Dalton, Shannon Windle, Eddie Floyd & Spottedbear Mato Gleska brought to you

by Shari Floyd's Wynema Ranch, home of the movie, Final Breath www.WynemaRanch.com
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