

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**United States Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge**



Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration

**Amount Requested: \$12,353,195**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Executive Summary:

Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR or ‘Refuge’), part of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex, is requesting funds to restore its largest spring system, Crystal Spring. Like most springs at AMNWR, Crystal Spring and its drainage were modified and developed for agricultural uses. Remaining irrigation infrastructure is no longer needed to support its original purpose, creating an opportunity to restore natural habitats for the benefit of rare fish, wildlife, and plants. This project includes a comprehensive restoration of the Crystal Spring system to restore ecological function and incorporates visitor access and interpretation enhancements to increase opportunities for outdoor education and recreation.

### Background:

AMNWR was established in 1984 to preserve the Mojave Desert’s largest remaining oasis and “conserve and recover listed endangered, proposed endangered, and candidate plant and animal species found in the area”. Approximately 50 seeps and springs generate 17,000 acre-feet of water per year, providing habitat for at least 26 plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world including 13 species listed as threatened or endangered. AMNWR is a true biodiversity hotspot, supporting the second highest density of endemic species in North America.

The availability of water in an otherwise arid region can be tied to a complex land use history at AMNWR including groundwater pumping, peat mining, irrigation water diversion for agriculture, livestock grazing, and recreational uses such as fishing and swimming. These uses and related modifications transformed many springs to differ from the conditions under which unique flora and fauna evolved. Given this history, the *Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Comprehensive Conservation Plan*, completed in 2009, identifies restoration of impacted spring systems as among the Refuge’s highest priorities.

The Refuge has made considerable progress in restoring its unique spring ecosystems, completing at least 16 comprehensive spring and outflow channel restoration projects. Two additional spring restorations at Cold Spring and Tubbs Spring are in progress. Crystal Spring, the largest spring on the Refuge both by discharge and area of inundation, is the next logical restoration target and the focus of the current proposal. An early restoration project in 1996 targeted the initial outflow reach of Crystal Spring. The current proposal builds on this success by restoring the remaining outflow system of Crystal Spring to the West of the previously restored upper reach.

Discharge from Crystal Spring supports a diverse array of habitat types including wet meadows, emergent marshes, alkali flats, and riparian areas. These habitats historically harbored eight species that are now listed as threatened or endangered, two more species that are now thought to be extinct, and many other rare endemic species (Table 2). Significant populations of the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish (*Cyprinodon nevadensis mionectes*) and Amargosa niterwort (*Nitrophila mohavensis*) currently inhabit the project area and would benefit from the restoration and expansion of available habitats. Other species such as the endangered Ash Meadows speckled

dace (*Rhinichthys osculus nevadensis*) that have been extirpated from the project area stand to benefit from reintroduction.

Like much of the Refuge, Crystal Spring and its associated outflow system were altered for agriculture and other uses starting in the late 1880's. Beginning in the 1950's and continuing into the 1970's, the discharge from Crystal Spring was diverted into a series of ditches to irrigate agricultural fields. Also during this period, Crystal Reservoir was constructed to store irrigation water and provide recreational opportunities such as swimming and fishing. Two other natural marshes were altered to increase water storage capacity, creating Horseshoe and Lower Crystal Reservoirs. Collectively, these changes moved the ecosystem away from the unique conditions that gave rise to AMNWR's unique biodiversity. Instead, invasive plants such as tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp) and non-native predatory fishes such as largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*) have thrived in the modified habitats, creating ongoing management and control challenges.

The *Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Comprehensive Conservation Plan* of 2009 identifies several specific restoration projects for the Crystal Spring system needed to meet conservation goals. Some of these projects have already been completed, helping inform the current proposal. The following plans and analyses were completed in 2012 to provide the foundation for a comprehensive restoration project:

- *Ash Meadows Biophysical Assessment and Restoration plan for the Upper Carson Slough and Crystal Spring Management Units*
- *Crystal Reservoir Rehabilitation Plan and Construction Sequence*
- *Fugitive Dust Hazard Analysis, Crystal Reservoir*
- *Upper Carson Slough and Crystal Management Unit Final Revegetation Plan*

The current project proposal leverages these planning investments and initial restoration successes to complete restoration of the Crystal Spring system. Restoration components include:

- 1) Returning the flow of Crystal Spring to natural outflow channels downstream of the previously restored upper reach.
- 2) Reclaiming historic irrigation infrastructure including Crystal Reservoir, irrigation ditches, and dikes to restore natural hydrology and eliminate a major source of invasive fish and plants.
- 3) Constructing new infrastructure to improve management of water and invasive fishes.
- 4) Incorporating visitor access and interpretation enhancements to increase opportunities for outdoor education and recreation.

By restoring natural system hydrology and native vegetation while facilitating the management of invasive species, the project will recreate a sustainable ecosystem that supports many rare and endemic species. Another major benefit of these investments will be reduced operations and maintenance obligations related to irrigation infrastructure and invasive species control.

Visitor access and interpretive upgrades including road improvements, a new trail, and overlooks will increase opportunities for recreation, cultural and ecological education, and exploration of

nature. The cultural heritage of indigenous peoples, in particular the Newe (Western Shoshone) and Nuwu (Southern Paiute) for whom AMNWR is an ancestral homeland, will be promoted during all phases of project design and implementation, with dedicated funds to facilitate tribal consultation and collaboration.

Lastly, the project incorporates elements to increase the rigor of restoration designs and enable adaptive management of habitats for threatened and endangered species. These elements include: 1) modeling and monitoring of system hydrology to inform restoration design alternatives and understand downstream effects, 2) monitoring and adaptive management of Amargosa niterwort and other rare plants that may be impacted by hydrological changes, 3) monitoring and adaptive management of nonnative fishes using genetic monitoring tools (i.e., eDNA) to improve the efficacy of control strategies.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

A comprehensive strategy for restoration of the Upper Carson Slough and Crystal Management Unit was developed under SNPLMA project PW01, including several component reports and plans.

A related SNPLMA project FW41 is being implemented to restore Cold Springs and create a backcountry trail system within Upper Carson Slough.

**2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

The current proposal has been designed as a stand-alone project, the deliverables of which do not require additional funding for completion.

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Table 1. Project timeframe and deliverables schedule.

Deliverable	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
(1) Contract, agreement, and budget management	X	X	X	X	X
(2) Project management	X	X	X	X	X
(3) Planning and conceptual design	X	X			
(4) Environmental compliance (NEPA, Section 106, ESA)	X	X			
(5) Permits		X			
(6) Hydrological analysis and monitoring	X	X	X	X	X
(7) Rare plant analysis and monitoring		X	X	X	X
(8) Invasive fish monitoring		X	X	X	X
(9) Engineering and construction of naturalized channel, reclamation of abandoned irrigation ditches and berms		X	X	X	
(10) Decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir, restoration of Horseshoe and Lower Crystal Marshes			X	X	
(11) Construction of road and trail improvements			X	X	
(12) Final Documentation and Closeout					X

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.

- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:

The unique biodiversity of AMNWR is being impacted by two primary threats – habitat alteration and invasive species. By removing unnecessary irrigation infrastructure and recreating natural spring outflows and wetlands, the project will restore the habitat conditions that gave rise to and sustain the unique assemblage of endemic species.

The project also positions the Refuge for sustained success in the control of invasive plants and fish. With decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir, the project will eliminate a primary source of tamarisk and predator fishes (largemouth bass and green sunfish). Control of tamarisk, bass, and sunfish currently take a great deal of effort, oftentimes with mixed results. The project also puts in place improved infrastructure and monitoring tools to facilitate control of invasive fish. Infrastructure including new water control structures and fish barriers will enable treatment of ongoing or new fish invasions as needed. Development of new genetic monitoring tools will allow for early detection and control of nonnative fish introductions, before they can become established.

The operations and maintenance burden of irrigation infrastructure will also be greatly reduced by the project, helping improve the sustainability of Refuge operations. Existing irrigation infrastructure requires a great deal of maintenance to prevent flooding and associated resource damage. Eliminating these responsibilities will spare staff time and funding for other priorities.

Table 2. Special status and rare endemic species that will benefit from the Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration Project area.

Species	Status
Ash Meadows speckled dace ( <i>Rhinichthys osculus nevadensis</i> )	Endangered, extirpated
Amargosa niterwort ( <i>Nitrophila mohavensis</i> )	Endangered
Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish ( <i>Cyprinodon nevadensis mionectes</i> )	Endangered
Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )	Endangered
Yuma Ridgways (clapper) rail ( <i>Rallus obsoletus yumanensis</i> )	Endangered
Ash Meadows gumplant ( <i>Grindelia fraxinipratensis</i> )	Threatened
Ash Meadows ivesia ( <i>Ivesia kingii</i> var. <i>eremica</i> )	Threatened
Spring-loving centaury ( <i>Centaurium namophilum</i> )	Threatened
Crystal Spring springsnail ( <i>Pyrgulopsis crystalis</i> )	Rare endemic
Sportingoods tryonia springsnail ( <i>Tryonia angulate</i> )	Rare endemic
Ash Meadows blazingstar ( <i>Mentzelia leucophylla</i> ),	Rare endemic
Ash Meadows lady's tresses ( <i>Spiranthes infernalis</i> )	Rare endemic
Ash Meadows sunray ( <i>Enceliopsis nudicaulis</i> var. <i>corrugate</i> )	Rare endemic
Alkali mariposa lily ( <i>Calochortus striatus</i> )	Rare endemic

- Connectivity:

The project will reconnect aquatic habitats in the Crystal Spring outflow system that have been fragmented and isolated during conversion of the area to support agriculture. At present, populations of the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish in the upper Crystal Spring outflow are isolated from those downstream by a series of irrigation ditches, diversions, and semi-permanent fish barriers. The project will address these impediments to fish movement by eliminating unnecessary infrastructure, recreating natural spring outflow stream channels, and installing *removable* fish barriers that can be used when needed, but removed to allow fish passage following eradication of nonnative fishes.

The project will also restore occasional surface water connections with adjacent Bradford Springs and Kings Spring outflow systems, enabling occasional exchange of genetic variation among populations of Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and Ash Meadows speckled dace, as would have occurred historically. Such metapopulation dynamics can be important in sustaining biodiversity over time, particularly when local populations experience dramatic declines or extirpation following catastrophic disturbances.

- Community:

AMNWR is within the ancestral homelands of Newe (Western Shoshone) and Nuwu (Southern Paiute). The project incorporates new opportunities to partner with Newe and Nuwu tribal members. Restoring hydrology, habitats, and native species will restore a significant cultural site for present and future generations of Newe and Nuwu people. Interpretation of the importance of the Crystal Spring area to the cultural heritage of indigenous peoples will be incorporated along the new trail system and at overlook locations. Tribal consultation and engagement is supported by line-item funding to ensure strong collaboration from the beginning of the project through design and implementation.

Several rural communities adjacent to the Refuge will also benefit from the project including Amargosa Valley, Beatty, Crystal, and Pahrump, Nevada as well as Shoshone and Tecopa, California. The project incorporates gravel road upgrades and a new trail to improve access to nature. Interpretive enhancements such as two new overlooks will provide unique educational opportunities, helping connect our neighbors with the Refuge's cultural heritage and ecology.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is requesting SNPLMA Round 19 funds to restore and enhance the Crystal Spring outflow system within AMNWR in Nye County, Nevada. The Crystal Spring outflow system has been impacted by prior land conversions for agriculture and this project would reclaim unnecessary irrigation infrastructure and recreate habitats that support a unique assemblage of threatened, endangered, and rare fish, plants, and wildlife, thereby restoring this unique environment and creating new opportunities for interpretation and education to connect visitors with nature.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Adaptive management framework
  - i. Hydrological analysis and monitoring, including final report of findings with restoration design recommendations
  - ii. Endangered plant (Amargosa niterwort) propagation and monitoring, including a comprehensive final report with adaptive management recommendations
  - iii. Genetic monitoring of primary non-native and native fishes, including a long-term monitoring protocol
- West Crystal Spring outflow restoration
  - i. Reconstruction of naturalized spring outflow channels (one mile minimum). Final channel design and routing will be informed by hydrological analysis.
  - ii. Revegetation and weed control along outflow channels (one mile minimum).
  - iii. Construction of a minimum of three fish barriers with removable panels at strategic locations to control the spread of nonnative species. Final number and placement to be informed by hydrological analysis.
  - iv. Salvage of native fish from artificial ditches (1.5 miles) and impoundments (100 acres)
  - v. Removal of nonnative green sunfish from the project area and upstream reaches (2 miles, 100 acres)
- Reclamation of irrigation infrastructure
  - i. Reclamation of approximately five miles of irrigation ditch and berm. Reclamation priorities to be informed by additional hydrological analysis.
  - ii. Decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir and associated spur roads and parking areas, (135 acres)
  - iii. Revegetation and weed control within current Crystal Reservoir footprint and adjacent developed areas (135 acres)
  - iv. Restoration of Horseshoe and Lower Crystal Reservoirs/Marshes to recreate historic wetland form and function (140 acres)
- Visitor access improvements and interpretive enhancements
  - i. New trail, approximately 2 miles in length, through restored outflow reaches, connecting existing Crystal Spring boardwalk with Horseshoe and Lower Crystal Marshes
  - ii. Two new overlooks with interpretive signage
  - iii. New parking lot adjacent to restoration area and downstream marshes
  - iv. Improvement up to 1.4 miles of gravel access road (Crystal Loop Road)



2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Three new water control structures at key channel branches, if required by final design alternative to enable adaptive habitat management
- Up to four additional removable fish barriers, if required by final design alternative
- Four bottomless culverts at road crossings, as necessary to provide fish passage
- Reintroduction of one new population of endangered Ash Meadows speckled dace into restored habitat

3. Standard Deliverables:

- Permitting still needed:
  - i. NEPA documentation
  - ii. Section 7/Biological Opinion compliance documentation
  - iii. Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Temporary Working in Waterways
  - iv. Nevada State Engineer Application for Decommission, Breach, or Removal of a Dam
  - v. Nevada Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
  - vi. Clean Water Act Sections 401 and 404 permits
  - vii. Nevada State Historic Preservation Office documentation
  - viii. National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 compliance documentation
- Requests for proposals for components of the restoration including design and construction of spring outflow channels, Crystal Reservoir decommissioning, and visitor access and interpretive enhancements
- Contracts or agreements for technical assistance with hydrological and botanical analysis
- SMART quarterly status updates
- SMART annual and final accomplishment reports
- Preparation of the SNPLMA close out package

**E. PROJECT LOCATION****Latitude and Longitude:**

36.419729, -116.336032

**Congressional District(s):**

NV 4

**F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

5 years

**G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**Is this a shovel-ready project:  Yes -or-  NoNEPA completed?  Yes -or-  No

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at AMNWR is prepared to initiate implementation of the nominated project upon notification of funds availability. Staff will complete the required Section 7 ESA consultations and NHPA Section 106 compliance. NEPA compliance

(Environmental Assessment), planning, and design will be contracted upon notification of funds availability. Technical assistance with hydrologic and botanical analysis will be completed by contractors and cooperating agency staff. The construction components of Crystal Spring outflow restoration, Crystal Reservoir decommissioning, and the visitor access and interpretation improvements will be completed by contractors. Revegetation of disturbed areas will be completed by contractors, cooperators, and refuge staff.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

It is the intention of the project to restore system hydrology and native vegetation to create self-sustaining natural habitats for native fishes and plants. In its current state, the system is confined to artificial reservoirs and irrigation ditches. These unnatural features require a great deal of maintenance to limit resource damage from flooding and invasive species.

Currently, the Refuge staff and volunteers spend a great deal of time managing invasive plants and fish in the Crystal Spring outflow system. Decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir and associated irrigation ditches will eliminate primary sources of predatory sport fish (largemouth bass and green sunfish) and invasive plants (tamarisk), greatly reducing the Refuge's ongoing invasive species control burden.

Reconstructed spring outflow channels will require a period of routine vegetation monitoring, invasive plant control, and native plant watering. As vegetation succession stabilizes the reconstructed channels, these needs should rapidly decline. It is expected that a period of 3-5 years will be sufficient to stabilize the newly constructed channels with native vegetation. Future monitoring and control of invasive plants within the project area will be undertaken as a routine function of Refuge staff.

Similarly, following decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir and reclamation of irrigation infrastructure such as ditches and dikes, annual weed surveys and treatments will be needed until native vegetation becomes established. It is estimated that it will take one crew of 3-5 three weeks each year for the first five years following reservoir decommissioning and infrastructure reclamation to survey sites and treat weeds. This level of effort will be less than currently required to control the spread of tamarisk from the site.

New water control structures and fish barriers will require routine maintenance to preserve their functionality. It is estimated that this will require one day per month for one individual. In a larger sense, these new structures will improve the Refuge's ability to control aquatic species invasions more efficiently and effectively. In combination with the use of new eDNA surveillance tools, the ability to isolate new fish invasions (using barriers) and desiccate stream reaches (water control structures) should greatly enhance the efficiency and efficacy of the Refuge's nonnative fish control efforts, enabling eradication of invasive species before they can become established.

Road and visitor access improvements will require ongoing maintenance, though these needs will be reduced from current levels. Currently, the Crystal Loop Road routinely floods from irrigation ditch seepage, requiring water control measures to divert flows and repairs to address

ruts and other flood-related damages. At present, the refuge spends approximately \$10,000 - \$15,000 per year (including salary, fuel, and materials) to maintain this small section of road. The proposed project would reduce refuge costs to less than \$1,000 per year for maintenance of this roadway.

These evaluations were made through consultation with agency staff and contractors.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration	<b>Date:</b>	11/5/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Michael Bower	<b>Agency:</b>	USFWS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 868,018	\$ 99,677
2. Travel		\$ -	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 11,462,752	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 21,600	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 825	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 12,353,195</b>	<b>\$ 99,677</b>

Notes:

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

The NDOW will contribute in-kind labor worth \$42,597 during the planning, design, and implementation phases of the project. Volunteer labor worth \$57,080 will be contributed by FWS volunteers during all phases of the project.

## **J. KEY CONTACTS**

Authorized Officer: Kevin DesRoberts, Project Leader, Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Email: kevin\_desroberts@fws.gov

Phone Number: 702-515-5451

Project Manager: Michael Bower, Refuge Manager, Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

Email: michael\_bower@fws.gov

Phone Number: 775-372-5435 x121

Budget Officer: Leanne Abel, Administrative Officer, Desert National Wildlife Complex

Email: leanne\_abel@fws.gov

Phone Number: 702-515-5463

## **K. RANKING CRITERIA**

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: Yes, the project will restore a natural ecosystem and the many ecological and social benefits associated with intact natural areas. AMNWR harbors the second highest density of endemic species in North America, thanks largely to its unique hydrogeological features (i.e., springs) in otherwise dry desert valley habitat. Primary threats to these species include habitat alteration and invasive species. The project will directly address these two main threats by restoring self-sustaining habitat conditions and eliminating primary sources of invasive plants and fish.

Habitat quality in Crystal Spring outflow system is strongly affected by artificial irrigation infrastructure. This infrastructure, including Crystal Reservoir and associated irrigation ditches, requires a great deal of time and funding to maintain. These efforts are needed to limit resource damage from flooding and the spread of invasive species that

have taken over the artificial habitats. By reclaiming this infrastructure and restoring the natural function of habitats, the project will recreate naturally self-sustaining habitats while reducing the amount of time and funding required for infrastructure maintenance.

***B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

Answer: Yes, improved roads will enhance the visitor experience by providing more reliable access to a portion of the refuge that is often closed due to poor road conditions. The project will restore natural processes within the project area. The restored spring channel will mimic the historic flow path which will create more hydrated soils, beneficial to native and rare plants, as well as create additional habitat for the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and the Ash Meadows speckled dace.

Reclamation of irrigation infrastructure throughout the project area will eliminate many impairments that interfere with the natural processes that create and sustain unique spring outflow channels and associated habitats at AMNWR. Decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir will restore the natural surface water hydrology of the system. Reclaiming concrete irrigation ditches and replacing them with naturalized outflow channels and wetlands will dramatically improve habitat quality for native riparian, wetland, and aquatic species.

The main access road to the area, Crystal Loop Road, will be improved as a component of the project, reducing the environmental impact of frequent road damage caused by flooding.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: Yes. AMNWR is within the ancestral homelands of Newe (Western Shoshone) and Nuwu (Southern Paiute). Restoring the hydrology, habitats, and native species will restore a significant cultural site for present and future generations of Newe and Nuwu people. Interpretation of the importance of these natural areas to the cultural heritage of indigenous peoples of the area will be incorporated along the new trail system and at overlook locations.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: Yes, this project includes several visitor access and interpretive enhancements including upgraded access roads, a new trail, and new overlook areas to interpret the restoration project and help educate visitors about the unique hydrogeology and biota found at AMNWR. The new overlook will incorporate interpretive signage that documents the succession of vegetation and habitats following restoration of the spring outflow system.

2. **CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).*

Answer: Yes, the project will provide new access to endangered fish and wetland viewing locations including a new trail and overlooks. Interpretive signage along the trail and at overlooks will help convey the purpose of the restoration project and help educate visitors about the unique hydrogeology and biota found at AMNWR. Primary interpretive themes will include the cultural significance of AMNWR to indigenous people as well as the succession of vegetation and habitats following restoration of the spring outflow system.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

Answer: Yes, the project will improve visitor access by modernizing roads and connecting existing trails to new areas for further exploration by visitors. The project will provide improved hunting quality and access. Improved roads will enable more reliable access to this portion of the refuge that is currently often closed due to road flooding.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: Yes, the project will provide youth from local schools new and enhanced opportunities for recreation and educational experiences on public lands close to their community. It will also provide new opportunities for families in the rural communities of Amargosa Valley and Pahrump to support conservation and understand natural resources at the refuge and surrounding public lands. A new trail and interpretive overlooks will connect to an existing boardwalk trail along upper Crystal Spring to expand opportunities for nature exploration.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer: Yes, new interpretive features along a new trail and overlook areas will be constructed to help educate visitors about the area's unique cultural and ecological significance. The overlook will incorporate signage that interprets the succession of

vegetation and habitats following restoration of the spring outflow system, connecting the importance of ecological integrity with the cultural significance of the area to indigenous peoples.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

**A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: Yes, the project will enrich the visitor experience at AMNWR by providing new and expanded outdoor recreation opportunities including a new trail and interpretive overlooks and improved hunting access. This will support local tourism and improve the public's connection with natural, cultural, and recreational resources on public lands.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: Yes, collaborating agencies have committed support to assist in design and implementation of the Crystal Spring outflow restoration project (see letters of support). AMNWR is fortunate to have many long-standing collaborators and partners in both state and federal agencies. The National Park Service has partnered with AMNWR in the management of endangered fishes and the larger groundwater aquifer since creation of the Refuge in the mid-1980's. The Nevada Department of Wildlife is a primary collaborator for fish and wildlife management at AMNWR, including ongoing efforts to monitor native fishes and control invasive species. The Bureau of Land Management collaborates with AMNWR across a breadth of issues ranging from road right-of-way management, to groundwater monitoring, to collaborative fish, wildlife, and rare plant management. Collectively, we expect our agency partners to support this project by contributing 3,400 person-hours over its five-year duration. In addition, AMNWR has many dedicated volunteers, many of which are certified heavy equipment operators and skilled education professionals. We anticipate volunteers will contribute to informing project design and interpretive components and will contribute 2,000 hours of time to the implementation of this projects.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: Yes, the project will provide infrastructure for conservation stewardship in the rural Amargosa Valley located in Nye County, NV. It will provide new opportunities for families in the rural communities of Amargosa Valley, Crystal, and Pahrump to support conservation and understand natural resources at the refuge and surrounding public lands, while also improving hunting opportunities and access for a community with limited access to quality hunting.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (*Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.*)

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Answer: Yes, current appropriations are sufficient for the operations and management of the project. Operational requirements for the restoration of Crystal Spring outflow primarily occur during the construction and creation processes. Requirements to maintain the Crystal Spring outflow system will be minimal and will decrease with time as the habitat is restored and native vegetation stabilizes the site to inhibit soil erosion and weed invasions. Trails and interpretive features will be designed to limit long-term maintenance to the maximum extent practical.

**B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: Yes, AMNWR is lucky to have the support of many dedicated volunteers. As an example, just two of these volunteers have contributed over 16,000 person-hours in the last ten years. These dedicated long-term volunteers are joined by new resident volunteers each year, many of whom are retired couples that spend up to four months assisting with a variety of projects, including the operation and maintenance of infrastructure. It is estimated that AMNWR volunteers will contribute 2,000 person-hours in the future operation and maintenance of restored habitats and visitor access enhancements.

Additional support for the project will be provided by agency and nonprofit partners including the National Park Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, and The Nature Conservancy. See enclosed letters of support that describe strong collaborations and partnerships that will help ensure project success. It is estimated that the NPS and NDOW will contribute an additional 1,400 person-hours to maintain the restored habitats in the future.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: Yes, the project will provide infrastructure for conservation stewardship in the rural Amargosa Valley located in Nye County, NV. It will provide new opportunities for families in the rural communities of Amargosa Valley, Crystal, and Pahrump to support conservation and understand natural resources at the refuge and surrounding public lands, while also improving hunting opportunities and access for a community with limited access to quality hunting.



**D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: Yes, the project will improve the efficiency of roadway maintenance. Deterioration of the existing concrete channels has led to numerous leaks, causing unexpected damage to roadways. Once this project is completed maintenance will, in comparison, be minimal, reducing fuel consumption by heavy machinery used for regular road grading and repairs.

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

**A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: Yes, elements of the existing Crystal Spring outflow irrigation system are 30-50 years old, requiring continual maintenance, reconstruction, or decommissioning to avoid road flooding and resource damage. Given the incompatibility of this artificial infrastructure with native species habitat requirements, decommissioning is the only alternative that aligns with the Refuge's mission.

**B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer: Yes, since construction of the AMNWR visitor center, visitation has increased significantly, leading to more traffic on Crystal Loop Road and a more frequent need for road maintenance. Improvements to this road will more than offset the increasing maintenance burden.

## **L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES**

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: No, the project does not address this EO.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: Yes, we will follow all current policy and guidance on contracting to fulfill this executive order. We will strive to hiring local and procuring American made products and materials where available.

## 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: Yes, this project's goal is conservation stewardship by restoring stream and wetland habitats for rare, threatened, and endangered fish and plant species. Further, this project will provide more opportunities for outdoor recreation by improving hunt access and creating a new trail segment and interpretive overlooks.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: Yes, this project will improve hunting opportunities and involve coordination with the Nevada Department of Wildlife for management of small game and migratory birds.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: Yes, while this project focuses on habitat restoration to benefit rare or endangered fish and endemic plants the habitat improvements will also benefit big game, including desert bighorn sheep, who use Refuge springs for water in the extremely hot summer months.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: Yes, this project will restore wildlife habitat and improve opportunities for wildlife viewing and hunting.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: No, the project does not address this SO.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: Yes, by restoring the Crystal Spring outflow habitat to a more natural state and ecological function risk of destructive wildfire will be reduced.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: No, the project does not address this SO.

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: No, the project does not address this SO.

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: No, the project does not address this SO.

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: No, the project does not address this DOI priority.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: Yes. Newe and Nuwuvi tribal members will be engaged with project planning and implementation processes.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: Yes, the restoration design and construction undertaken for this project will employ many contractors.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: Yes, restoring the functionality of ecosystems will result in meaningful contributions to the conservation of biodiversity, particularly given the high concentration of endemic species, many of which are listed as threatened or endangered.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: Yes, the ecological restoration and visitor enhancements will disproportionately benefit neighboring rural communities including Amargosa Valley and Crystal, Nevada.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

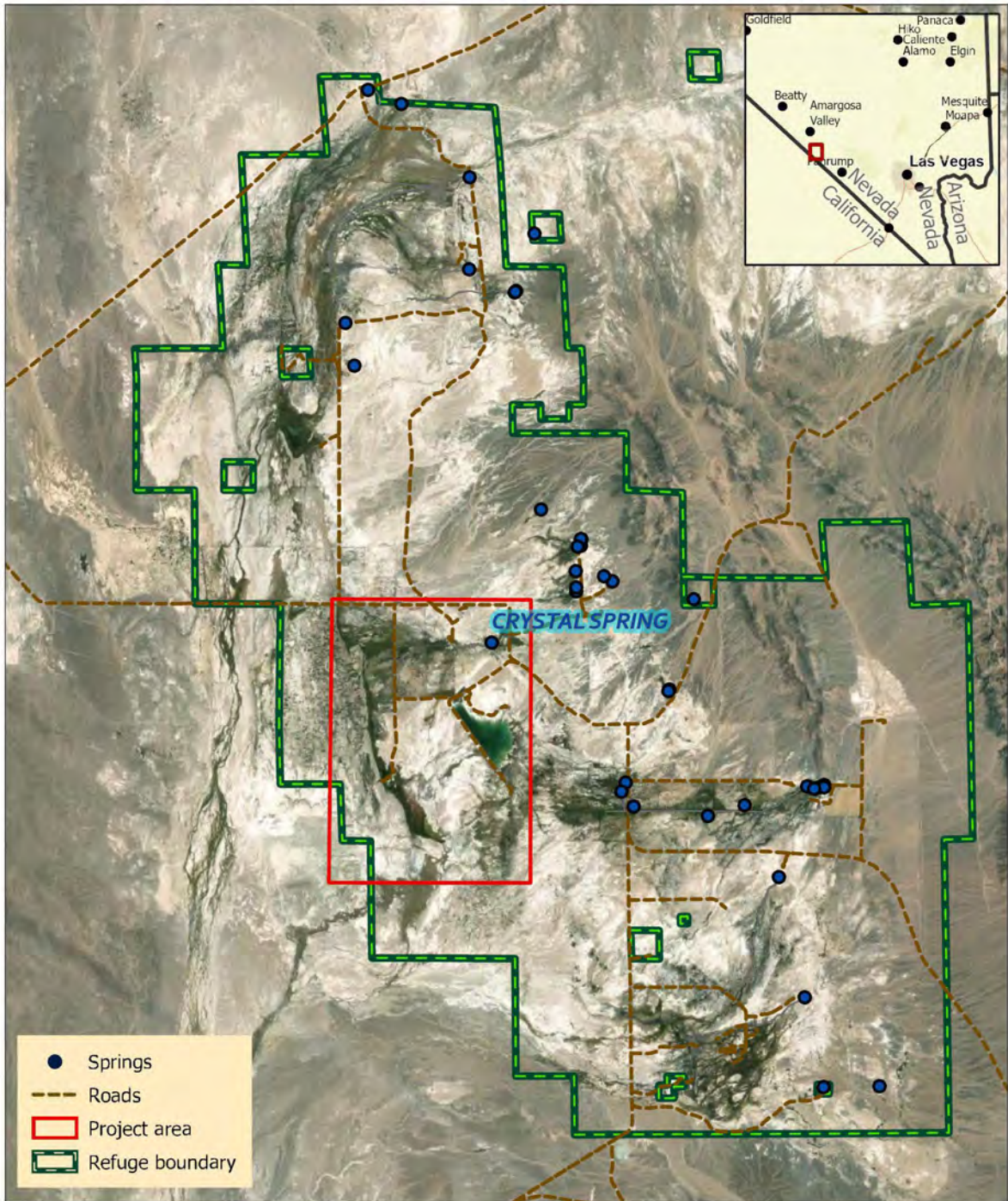
Answer: Not applicable.

# M. MAPS



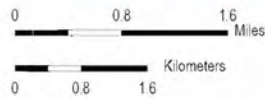
U.S Fish & Wildlife Service  
**Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge**  
 Nye County, Nevada

**Ash Meadows Overview Map**  
 Crystal Spring - Location



- Springs
- Roads
- ▭ Project area
- ▭ Refuge boundary

Produced in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Produced: 11/23/2021  
 Basemaps: Main Map-Esri World Imagery  
 Inset map-World Street Map  
 File: RestoMaps\_ProjAsh Overview Map



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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

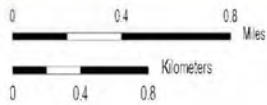
Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

Nye County, Nevada

Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration Project Area  
Management Area

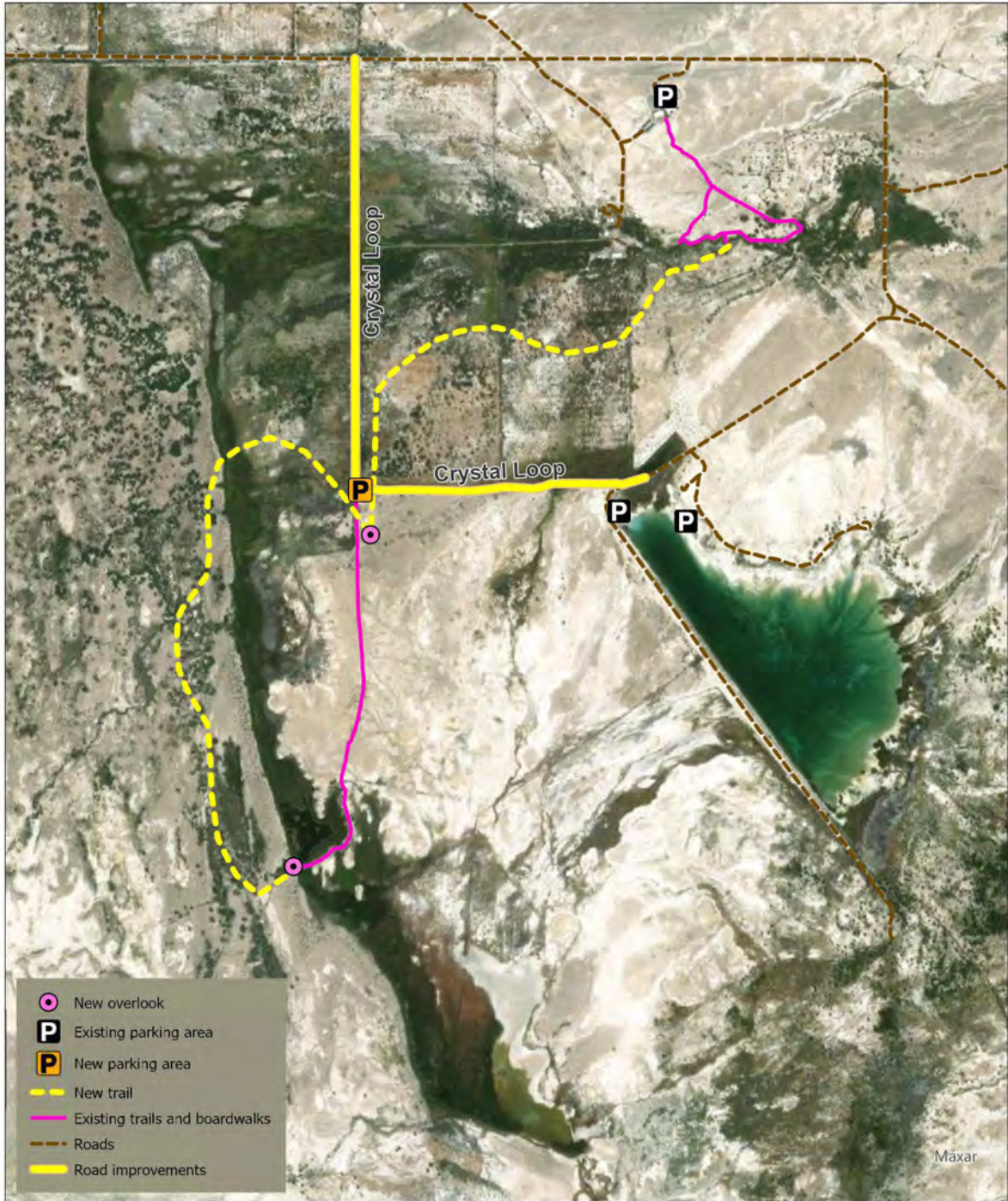


Produced Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Produced: 11/23/2021  
Basemap: ESRI World Imagery  
File: RestoMaps\_ProfLocation

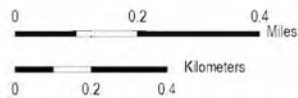


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Produced in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Produced: 11/5/2021  
 Basemap: Esri World Imagery  
 File: RestoMaps\_Pro/Visitor Access Improvements



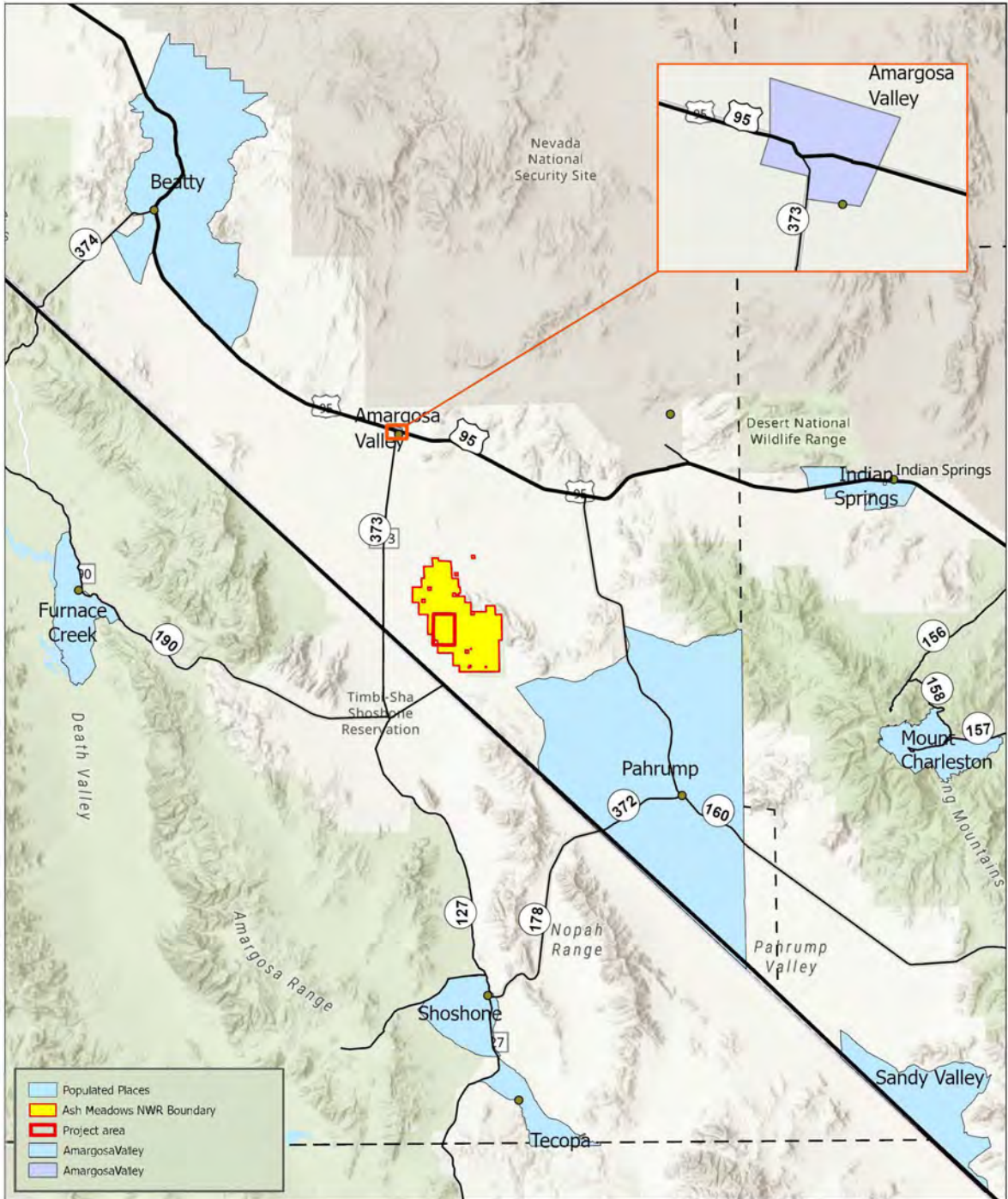
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**U.S Fish & Wildlife Service**  
**Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge**  
 Nye County, Nevada

Crystal Spring-Project Area Population Centers  
 EC Strategic Plan Value: Community



Produced in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Produced: 11/23/2021  
 Basomaps: Main Map: Esri World Imagery  
 Inset: map: World Street Map  
 File: RestoMaps\_Pro/Community



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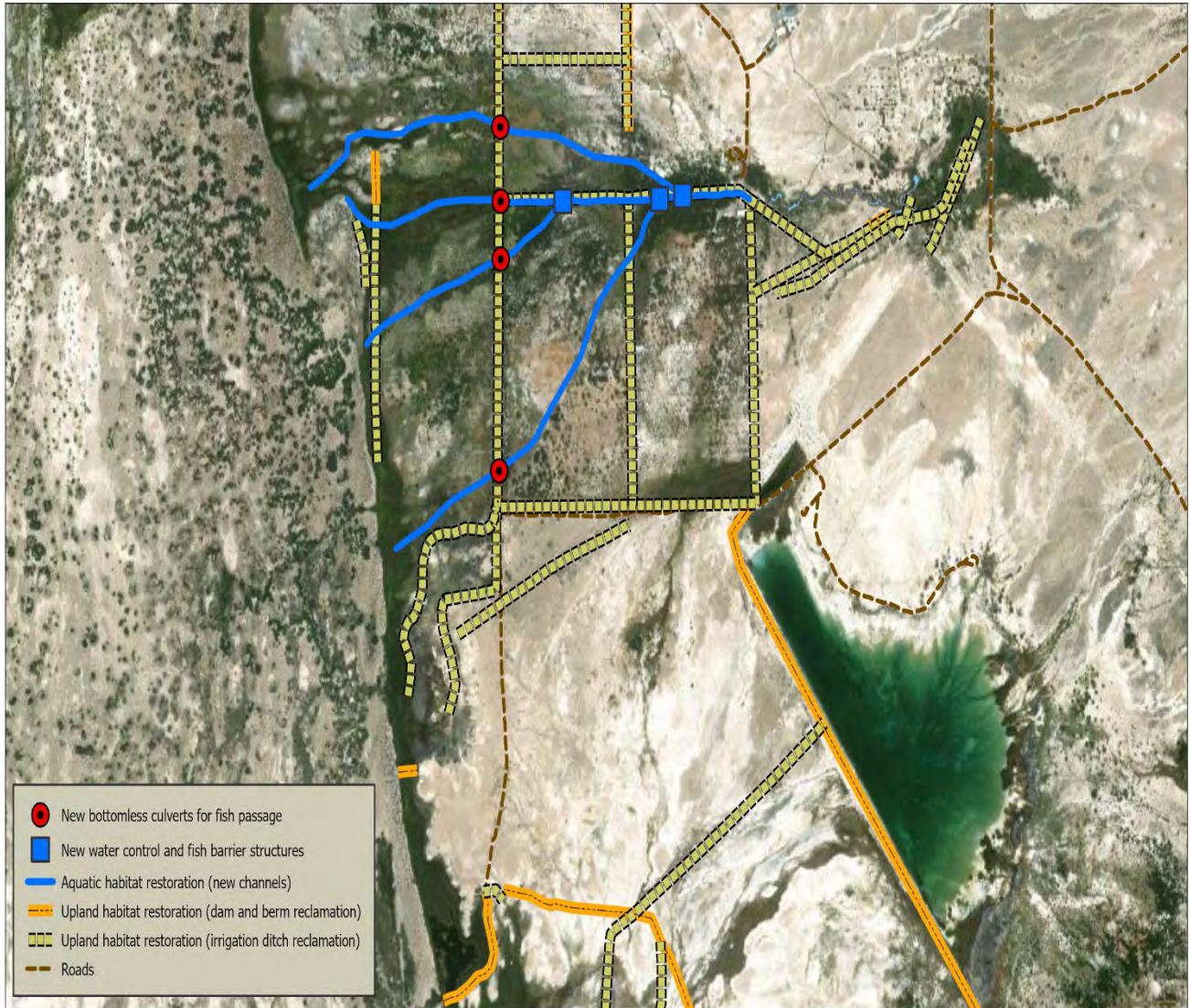


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

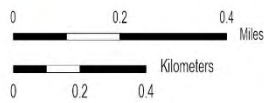
Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

Nye County, Nevada

Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration  
EC Strategic Plan Value: Sustainability



Produced Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Produced: 11/5/2021  
Basemap: ESRI World Imagery  
File: RestoMaps\_Pro/Crystal Water



The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) shall not be held liable for improper or incorrect use of the data and information described and/or contained herein. The GIS file, map products and the associated coordinates are not the definitive source for the data depicted. These data may be used for review, planning, and land management purposes.



## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H2 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the miles have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as those should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as those should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole mile.	3.1
H3 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat surveyed, inventoried, or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile.	3.1
H4 - Acres of Upland Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of acres of upland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the acres have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire rehabilitation projects or by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as these should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as these should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole acre.	130
H5 - Acres of Upland Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of upland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat surveyed, inventoried, or monitored. Report to the nearest whole acre.	130
H6 - Acres of Wetland / Riparian Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of acres of wetland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the acres have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire rehabilitation projects or by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as these should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as these should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole acre.	320
H7 - Acres of Wetland / Riparian Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of wetland vegetation and/or wildlife habitats inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole acre.	320

H8 - Number of Water Developments Constructed or Improved for Wildlife	Report the number of water developments for use by wildlife constructed or improved/repared within all habitat types. Existing projects may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements/repairs are made as defined in the project nomination. Report each development constructed or improved as one unit (e.g., one project may have three water developments).	2
H9 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Treated or Restored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation treated with chemical, mechanical, physical, or biological control agents for the purpose of weed control. Include acres treated by fire when fire is used as a physical control agent for weed control rather than as a hazardous fuels treatment. Each acre treated is counted only once during the life of the project, no matter how many re-treatments occurred during the project. Report to the nearest whole acre.	126
H10 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation inventoried or monitored. Include monitoring of weed treatment projects reported under performance measure H9. Report to the nearest whole acre.	126
H14 - Number of Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Actions Implemented	Report the number of individual recovery actions performed for threatened or endangered species recovery as identified in recovery plans, conservation management plans, or land use planning documents. Include surveys, inventories, and monitoring as recovery actions. Note: One distinct action repeated 5 times over the course of the project would report as 1 action, not 5. The same recovery action conducted at distinct sites can be counted once for each site (this does not apply to individual plots within one single project site). The number of acres over which the actions were taken are reported under either H4 or H6. Report each action as one unit.	12
H15- Number of Conservation Actions Implemented for Non-Listed Species	Report the number of individual conservation actions for species not listed under the Endangered Species Act. Note: One distinct action repeated 5 times over the course of the project would report as 1 action, not 5. The same conservation action conducted at distinct sites can be counted once for each site (this does not apply to individual plots within one single project site).The number of acres over which the actions were taken are reported under either H4 or H6. Report each action as one unit.	5
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	300

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:  
Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing  
Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment**

<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	2
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	4

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation  
of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	1
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	5
O10 – Number of Volunteers Used	Report the number of volunteers used in educational or interpretive programs and for surveying, monitoring, or restoration activities. Report each volunteer as one unit.	50
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	3

## O. PHOTOS



Figure 1. Example of restored stream channel with adjacent boardwalk overlook in the upperCrystal Spring outflow system. The project proposal would recreate similar conditions throughout the remaining outflow system to the West.



Figure 2. Existing concrete irrigation ditch (A) in contrast to restored spring outflow channel (B) from upper Crystal Spring outflow system. The current irrigation water delivery system has little habitat value for native species yet requires significant attention to limit road flooding and the spread of invasive species.



Figure 3. Example of road flooding caused by deteriorating concrete irrigation ditches in the Crystal Spring outflow system. Road improvements and reclamation of irrigation infrastructure will reduce these problems.



Figure 4. Example of deteriorating concrete irrigation ditch that is nearing the end of its lifespan. Breaches in these ditches cause road flooding and provide routes for movement of invasive species.





Figure 5. Example of removable fish barrier. Nonnative fish introductions have been common at Ash Meadows NWR. Barriers such as these will help manage current infestations and contain future introductions.



Figure 6. View from planned trail overlook location near Horseshoe Marsh.

## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Nevada Department of Wildlife
2. US Department of Interior, Death Valley National Park
3. The Nature Conservancy

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Steve Sisolak  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

## DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120

Reno, Nevada 89511

Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1495

TONY WASLEY  
Director

BONNIE LONG  
Deputy Director

JACK ROBB  
Deputy Director

November 4, 2021

SNPLMA Executive Committee  
BLM Southern Nevada District Office  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

RE: Letter of Support for the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge's Proposal Titled *Crystal Spring Outflow Restoration*

Dear Executive Committee:

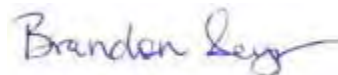
It is our understanding that the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) will be submitting a request for funding through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) to perform numerous restoration actions to the Crystal Spring outflow and associated infrastructure. This project will improve native fish habitat, stream morphology, and stream function within Crystal Spring's outflow; promote fish passage and flood management; eliminate a known source of problematic nonnative fish; and promote effective early detection and management of nonnative fish. The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) strongly supports the Refuge's SNPLMA proposal to perform these beneficial restoration actions to the Crystal Spring outflow.

Numerous aquatic spring systems, including Crystal Spring and its outflow, at Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge are natural habitats for a unique suite of endemic fishes and other aquatic species. Every native fish occurring at Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge is classified as protected by the State of Nevada (NAC 503.065). Restoring aquatic systems to a more naturally functioning condition and improving long-term channel stability is a key principle of native fish management. The introduction and establishment of nonnative fish populations has had severe and lasting negative impacts to native fishes in Nevada, including at Crystal Spring. Reclaiming the reservoirs and ditches in the outflow area of Crystal Spring will eliminate a known source of nonnative fish and provide broad ecological benefit for aquatic and terrestrial species. The proposed actions will allow for implementation of a strategic approach to eradicate, detect, and manage nonnative fish through eDNA monitoring, improved

water control infrastructure, and installation of multiple removable fish barriers. This approach has been successfully employed by NDOW elsewhere in Nevada to aid in eradication and prevention of upstream migration of nonnative fish; a series of removable fish barriers exist in the Muddy River, Clark County, Nevada which allowed us to break a 22-mile reach of river into three smaller treatment reaches during our rotenone treatment to eradicate nonnative fish from the lower Muddy River and provides the opportunity to remove the barriers after successful eradication or re-install the fish barriers if new nonnative fish introductions are detected. The Refuge's proposal to utilize eDNA to detect centrarchids will expedite early detection and allow for a rapid response to upstream movement or introductions of centrarchids.

The Refuge and NDOW have a long history of working collaboratively at Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge; we are committed to continuing that partnership and will provide field and technical assistance for this project in any way we can, including salvaging native fish and implementing rotenone treatments to eradicate nonnative fish within the Crystal Spring system, if needed. We anticipate NDOW staff time contributions towards this project to include 150 hours (30 hours/year) for a Supervising Fisheries Biologist, 650 hours (130 hours/year) for a Fisheries Biologist III, and 400 hours (80 hours/year) for a Conservation Aid. Again, NDOW strongly supports the Refuge's application for SNPLMA funding to perform restoration actions at the Crystal Spring outflow. We look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with the Refuge to implement conservation and recovery actions. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this letter of support, please contact me at (702) 668-3999 or at [bsenger@ndow.org](mailto:bsenger@ndow.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Brandon Senger  
Supervising Fisheries Biologist  
Nevada Department of Wildlife

cc:

Michael Bower, Refuge Manager, Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Amargosa Valley, NV

Kevin Guadalupe, Fisheries Biologist, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Las Vegas, NV



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Death Valley National Park  
PO Box 579  
Death Valley, California 92328



To: SNPLMA Executive Committee  
BLM Southern Nevada District Office  
SNPLMA Division  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

From: Superintendent, Death Valley National Park

Re: Letter of Support for Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge  
Date: 01 November 2021

Death Valley National Park (DVNP) understands that Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (AMNWR) will be submitting a proposal to fund the restoration of the Crystal Spring Outflow including the decommissioning of Crystal Reservoir. This funding request is being submitted to the 19 Southern Nevada Public Management Act (SNPLMA) call for proposals.

ANWR was established in 1984 to preserve the Mojave Desert's largest remaining oasis and to conserve threatened and endangered plant and animal species found in the area. Approximately 50 seeps and springs generate 17,000 acre-feet of water per year, providing habitat for at least 26 plant and animal species found nowhere else in the world. Of these, 5 species are listed as endangered, and 7 as threatened. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has completed numerous spring restoration projects over several decades to eradicate/reduce the negative impacts of introduced non-native fishes and other aquatic invasive species as part of their conservation and recovery efforts.

Devils Hole and the critically endangered Devils Hole pupfish are found adjacent to AMNWR and is managed by DVNP. The threat of the introduction of invasive fishes and other aquatic species to Devils Hole is high. **Death Valley National Park fully supports this proposal as it will reduce the probability of introduced/invasive species reaching Devils Hole, which would have dire impacts on the Devils Hole pupfish and its ecosystem.**

The FWS and DVNP have a long history of working together to conserve the Devils Hole pupfish as well as other species in AMNWR. Park staff will support this project through this collaboration by providing technical assistance with restoration efforts outlined in the AMNWR proposal. If you have any additional questions or need further information about this letter of support, please contact Kevin Wilson, Aquatic Ecologist, DVNP at [kevin\\_wilson@nps.gov](mailto:kevin_wilson@nps.gov) or at (775) 537-0787 Ext. 207.

Sincerely,

Mike Reynolds  
Superintendent



November 3, 2021

SNPLMA Executive Committee  
BLM Southern Nevada District Office  
SNPLMA Division  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas Nevada, 89130

Re: Crystal Springs Restoration Project at Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

Dear SNPLMA Executive Committee,

The Nevada Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is pleased to support the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) proposed project to restore Crystal Spring. Returning the flow of Crystal Spring to natural outflow channels, reclaiming historic irrigation infrastructure, including Crystal Reservoir, to restore natural hydrology, and developing an invasive fish management framework and associated water control infrastructure will eliminate major sources of invasive fish and plants and will allow for better management of current and future invasions. Limiting non-native species within the spring complex is important to maintaining viable populations of the native, endemic fishes, and planting screwbean mesquite, an important tree species that has declined over the past decade, in restored areas will provide needed habitat for many bird species.

TNC has worked on conservation issues in the Amargosa River region for over 45 years, including acquiring the original land that became the Refuge. After 45 years, the Amargosa River region remains a priority landscape for TNC. We have a strong desire to see the high biodiversity and important endemic species protected in this unique landscape and believe restoration of impacted springs, like Crystal Spring, should be among the highest priorities for retaining biodiversity and endemic species.

Overall, this proposed project is a wise investment for the long-term conservation of native fish and will provide important new screwbean mesquite habitat. The native species at Ash Meadows are unique to southern Nevada and increased protection from non-native species and the habitat restoration will increase the likelihood these species continue to persist.

Thank you for your consideration of the restoration project at Crystal Spring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mauricia M.M. Baca".

Mauricia M.M. Baca,  
Nevada State Director  
The Nature Conservancy

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area**



**Red Rock Canyon NCA Legacy Trail Phase II**

**Amount Requested: \$35,108,605**



## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

RRC has secured partial funding of \$34 million in October 2021 for Phase 1 of this project through SNPLMA Round 18. Funding is anticipated to be in hand in February 2022. This initial funding provides for the planning and design of segments 2a, 2b, 3, and 4. Round 18 also provides the funding to construct 2a and 2b. In addition, the funding will plan, redesign, and reconstruct two trailheads: Gene's Trail and the Moenkopi Road Recreation Trail area. Round 18 Phase 1 will provide important connections to adjacent trail networks as well as appropriate parking and facility infrastructure that will support capacity, safety, interpretation and education opportunities, and recreational use within the project area. Round 18 also includes the planning and design for a natural surface equestrian trail that parallels the Legacy Trail from the exit of the Scenic Drive to Blue Diamond which will be constructed with future funding. This equestrian trail currently exists as a socially created trail, but because it is not recognized as a designated trail it has not been maintained or brought to a condition that meets BLM trail standards. This plan and design would designate the trail and reconstruct areas to meet BLM trail standards.

The entire Legacy Trail project has been divided into five trail segments.

- **Segment 1** beginning in Summerlin, paralleling State Route (SR) 159, and ending at the entrance to the RRC Scenic Drive. The funding for planning, design, and construction for Segment 1 has been secured by Clark County, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), and the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP).
- **Segments 2, 3, and 4** are between segments 1 and 5. Segments 2a, 2b, 3, and 4 were funded through SNPLMA Round 18 for planning and design and will construct segments 2a and 2b. Two existing trailheads within sections of 2a and 2b will also be planned, redesigned, and reconstructed through the SNPLMA Round 18 proposal.
- **Segment 5** begins at the Southern end of Blue Diamond and ends in South Las Vegas also paralleling SR159 then SR160 as it goes into South Las Vegas. Funded by Clark County, NDOT, and the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP).

RRC Management opted to phase the construction of Segments 3 and 4 and the equestrian trail to SNPLMA Round 19 as a standalone project separate from Round 18. to allow for the funding of additional agency projects in SNPLMA Round 18. Given this concession, RRC assumed the risk of not funding the Legacy Trail in its entirety in Round 18, but with the potential to request the remaining funds in 2021 in Round 19. The original proposal that RRC submitted in Round 18 would have funded the entire trail. SNPLMA Round 19 is a critical opportunity to position this project for completion. If the full funding is not approved, this project would create an incomplete trail network resulting in a less safe environment for recreation activities that occur on the shoulder of SR159 and would result in an unsustainable, and less desirable recreation experience and would not support the area's management plans due to a partially completed trail network.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

RRC National Conservation Area (RRC) Scenic Drive and Nevada State Route 159 Corridors are recognized as world class outdoor recreation areas which offers exceptional motorized and non-motorized recreational experiences. The approximate 203,000-acre RRC is located just outside the rapidly expanding metropolis of Las Vegas, Nevada. RRC offers a 13-mile scenic drive, approximately 70 miles of hiking trails, rock climbing, horseback riding, mountain biking, road biking, picnic areas and many other recreational opportunities. RRC is conservatively projecting five million visitors by 2025 with most of the use occurring within the Core Area of RRC. This area resides between the communities of Summerlin and Blue Diamond and includes the RRC Scenic Loop Drive.

As Las Vegas' population increases and residential development creeps closer to the boundary that separates the NCA from the city, visitors are creating many social trails and access points; creating unmanaged recreation opportunities that are causing substantial resource impacts such as many miles of social trails and unmanaged access points.

Given the projected increase in Las Vegas and visitor use, RRC has proposed a non-motorized multi-use trail system of approximately 40 miles. Once completed, this community access trail is expected to be the most widely used recreation feature and attraction within RRC, potentially receiving more non-motorized traffic than the Scenic Drive. The Legacy Trail and supporting access points including trailheads provide manageable and planned recreation opportunities that will also provide additional protection of the NCA. The goals for managing recreational opportunities such as the Legacy Trail and trailheads will balance use, by supplying additional trails that have been thoroughly vetted and will be maintained by BLM staff and established partners.

RRC is submitting this project proposal in SNPLMA Round 19 as a standalone project to construct the two final remaining segments, 3 and 4 and plan, redesign and reconstruct six supporting trailheads located off SR159 that are currently located along SR159 and will provide direct support to the trail. These trailheads will improve and transform ingress and egress onto SR159; provide adequate developed, designated parking and facilities, such as restrooms, rest, and picnic areas; trash receptacles; and bicycle repair stations. These trailheads would provide important access to different sections of the Legacy Trail, but also serve as important connector access points to other trails. This improvement supports the objectives and goals of the entire project. By pulling the non-motorized traffic off SR159 the corridor is safer and a more enjoyable recreational environment for the ever-increasing use. Round 18 will also plan, design, and construct equestrian trail on an existing social trail created by visitors.

## 2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:

RRC acknowledges that the Legacy Trail, Segments 3 & 4 and the equestrian trail, are a stand-alone project and that there is no guarantee of funding for future phases. However, if this project is not funded entirely, it will leave the trail and/or supporting facilities unfinished and would require RRC to find other funding. If unfinished, the incomplete trail would not only create a major safety hazard but would be unsustainable and would undermine the goals of RRC.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

### Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- **Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.**

This project expands opportunities and increases public access in a high interest area. The Legacy Trail Project simultaneously conserves, preserves, and restores natural and cultural resources while fulfilling many purposes of RRC Implementation Strategy, including:

- Improve safety along the SR159 corridor for motorized and non-motorized users
  - Increase access to RRC from the greater Las Vegas Valley system of non-motorized trails
  - Improve circulation for non-motorized users between existing recreational amenities, key access points and trails and services within RRC and community trail networks in Clark County.
  - Provide visitors a high-quality recreational experience of RRC's unique Mojave Desert landscape
  - Continue to promote preservation of natural and cultural resources in RRC
  - Provide an opportunity to encourage positive human health benefits
  - Minimize additional operation & maintenance costs
- **Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.**

The Legacy Trail will not only assist with the conservation, protection, and enhancement of RRC, but will positively impact residents, visitors, and the communities within the region. The Legacy Trail and trailheads and corresponding access points will not only provide recreation opportunities but will positively impact economic and community development by expanding safe amenities for the area. In addition, this project will:

- increases the protection of the NCA and public lands for current and future generations

- creates opportunities that encourage physical fitness and healthy lifestyles
- creates new, sustainable, outdoor, non-motorized recreation opportunities
- strengthens local economies
- protects the environment of the NCA and its natural resources; and
- preserves cultural and historically valuable areas and resources

**Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.**

- **Sustainability:**  
Sustainability is at the core of the Legacy Trail Project and begins by creating a well-planned, designed, and constructed trail network that will be accessible for future generations. RRC will empower and rely on shared stewardship within the trails community to invest in this world-class and diverse trail system. RRC is in an agreement with Clark County who has partnered in the planning, design, and construction of the trail. Most importantly, Clark County is taking the lead role in the maintenance and operational management of the entire Legacy Trail system. RRC Park Ranger staff will also assist with operational management such as permit administration and routine patrols at trailheads. RRC recognizes that the Legacy Trail will inspire stewardship and invites and encourages people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to volunteer to care for the trail and its operations that will further connect them to their public lands. The planning of this trail system is relevant to a changing society and pressure from a growing mass of people, is ecologically viable, and can be sustained by current and potential partner, volunteer, and agency resources. The trails and trailheads would be planned, designed, and constructed to have as little impact on the environment as possible and will integrate the surrounding landscape within the canyon. It is also being built to make mitigating trail use and the ongoing maintenance as low-cost as possible.

The Legacy Trail will:

- Supports recreation today and tomorrow with minimal impact on the NCA.
  - Creates one defined trail leaving the surrounding soil intact, allowing vegetation to inhabit the area. In areas appropriate for the use type, creates opportunities for equestrian visitors.
  - May require pruning or removal of nearby plants to ensure proper trail construction and maintenance.
  - Allows for further protection of wildlife
  - Requires a minimal amount of trail maintenance and operational cost
- **Connectivity:**  
The Legacy Trail project establishes long-term trail connectivity and provides a roadmap for visitors wishing to engage in a diverse array of recreation opportunities to access and enjoy their public lands is planned to be a single trail system with complementary

sections of equestrian trail, but it will serve as a critical artery to many existing trails within Clark County, the City of Las Vegas, and the many miles of trails within the boundaries of RRC. The improved trailheads will serve as critical connecting points that offer restrooms, adequate parking and other facilities that provide a safer and enjoyable experience. In addition, this trail increases RRC's ability to protect natural and cultural resources by providing a well-planned, designed, and constructed trail network. The Legacy Trail develops a long-term trail connectivity plan and roadmap which further protects the NCA from unmanaged recreation opportunities and supports accessible and sustainable outdoor recreation in a fast-growing and heavily visited area near Las Vegas, Nevada.

- Community:  
The legacy trail project will provide the local community and visitors to RRC greater opportunities to safely access public lands and connect with the natural environment embraces its leadership role as a community member, collaborative steward, and is a key provider of access to public lands. The Legacy Trail would provide a link between people and the natural environment of the beloved RRC. It would provide the community with additional and sustainable, access to RRC NCA. The project further upholds the rural aspects of RRC but allows for additional opportunities for people to increase their quality of life and promotes healthy outdoor fitness. In addition, this project contributes positively to the local economy by allowing communities to increase commerce, support and create jobs, increase property values, reduce commuter costs, and provide low-cost healthy living options. Lastly, the Legacy Trail provides a safe corridor for non-motorized recreation; further keeping air clean through reduced carbon emissions.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Bureau of Land Management, Southern Nevada District – Red Rock/Sloan Field Office is proposing the construction of segments 3, and 4 of the Legacy Trail located at RRC. This proposal includes the construction of approximately 14 miles of non-motorized multi-use trail, the planning, design and construction of six trailheads, approximately 12-14 miles of equestrian trails, and additional enhancements such as 6 eBike charging stations and approximately 45 - 60 interpretive signs.

This Legacy Trail Project will serve as an important link for recreation along SR 159 providing, while addressing safety improvements, access to recreational opportunities, and capacity demands.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. Primary Deliverables:
  - Construct Legacy Trail Segment 3 from the exit of the Scenic Drive to Bonnie Springs Road. Segment 3 is approximately 6 miles in length.

- Construct Legacy Trail Segment 4 from Bonnie Springs Road to Blue Diamond. Segment 4 is approximately 8 miles.
- Construct Segment 3 Equestrian Trail from the exit of the Scenic Drive to Bonnie Springs Road. Segment 3 equestrian trail is approximately 6-8 miles in length.
- Construct Segment 4 Equestrian Trail from Bonnie Springs Road to Blue Diamond. Segment 4 Equestrian Trail is approximately 6-8 miles in length.
- Plan, design, and construct Red Rock Overlook Trailhead
- Plan, design, and construct Fossil Canyon Trailhead
- Plan, design, and construct Middle Oak Creek Trailhead
- Plan, design, and construct South Oak Creek Trailhead
- Plan, design, and construct First Creek Trailhead
- Plan, design, and construct Wheeler Camp Spring Trailhead
- Construct and install approximately 45-60 Informational, Educational, and Interpretative Signage along 28 miles of trail and key access points
- Develop and implement a revegetation plan for all temporarily disturbed areas.
  - Includes seed collection, container grow out, planting, watering, and monitoring and reporting of planted plants.
- Approximately one mile of realignment for a current (disturbed) hiking and equestrian trail (First Creek Trail)
- Three pedestrian underpasses and approximately 15 crossings and 3 overlooks/rest stops.

\*(Note: Trail lengths are approximate and based on programmatic planning level data. The Legacy Trail will not exceed a 5% grade ensuring ADA compliance)

## 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- If funding allows, construct the 5-mile Red Rock Scenic Drive Return Route
- If funding allows, RRC will install approximately 6-18 eBike charging stations at several redeveloped trailheads.

## 3. Standard Deliverables:

- NEPA process, and all required consultation and public involvement completed, for site specific trailhead plans for redevelopment completed.
- NEPA decision document for site specific trailhead plans for redevelopment.
- Writing request for bids
- Develop scopes of work for planning, design and construction contracts and award the contracts.
- Develop and implement a revegetation plan for all temporary disturbed areas
  - o Salvage impacted cactus and yucca
- Survey of existing and social trails proposed for use as well as new trail alignment.
- Submittal for obtaining management approval of project documents
- Specialist analysis of all projects

- Project close out with the SNPLMA Division
  - SMART quarterly status updates
  - SMART annual and final accomplishment reports
  - Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable.

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

36.1111800000 -115.4493500000 36.1111800000 -115.4493500000 36.1111800000 -  
115.4493500000 36.1111800000 -115.4493500000

### **Congressional District(s):**

Nevada Congressional Districts 3 and 4

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

5-year project

Year 1

- Complete work plans and funding authorization
- Initiate planning, design and NEPA to include:
  - Conceptual design
  - SHPO/Historic Properties Consultation (if required)
  - NEPA preparation

Year 2

- Decision document (EA and FONSI)
- Final Design development

Year 3

- Preconstruction and Contracting Development
- Site Restoration Plan
- Construction begins

Year 4

- Construction Completed

Year 5

- Project closeout

**G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- NoIs

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

Explain "Yes" above responses and project readiness.

**H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Clark County has committed to owning all maintenance of the Red Rock Legacy Trail and BLM will continue to maintain trailheads and their improvements through an existing Field Ranger Program. Contracted trailhead maintenance will include the collection of garbage from provided receptacles and the cleaning of restrooms. BLM Ranger staff, as they do now, will monitor, assess for hazards, make visitor contacts, inform visitors of regulation, and educate and inform on rules, ensure accurate signage is provided and will conduct annual inspections and condition assessments.

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## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF- 424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail Phase II	<b>Date:</b> 10/3/2021	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Joshua Travers	<b>Agency:</b> BLM	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 742,400.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 28,500.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 311,500.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 33,173,865.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 32,220.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 818,120.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 35,108,605.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Notes:			

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

Partnership has been the backbone of this project and in accordance with 40 CFR 1508.9(b), consultation and coordination efforts were made by BLM during the preparation and completion of the PEA in 2009. Some actions taken by the BLM were mandated by regulations, other actions were initiated by the BLM to further encourage participation in the NEPA process to ensure informed decision making. Meetings and briefings were conducted with federal, tribal, state, county, and local agencies and governments, as well as the public. Federal, state, and county agencies and tribes were sent invitations to participate as consulting agencies. Consulting agencies provided comments for the Draft PEA prior to its issuance, which have been addressed. Further public scoping will be sought with the more detailed NEPA process for this project.

### **J. KEY CONTACTS**

Authorized Officer: Catrina Williams  
 Email: cwilliams@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5370

Project Manager: Josh Travers  
 Email: jtravers@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5375

Budget Officer: Teresa Miskowic  
 Email: tmiskowic@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5103

### **K. RANKING CRITERIA**

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

This project will create new opportunities for both residents and visitors of Las Vegas and the surrounding areas through the development of a 10 ft wide asphalt path with 1 ft shoulders from Summerlin, through RRC and around into south Las Vegas following the State Route 159 and 160 corridors. It will provide multiple loop opportunities and will further enhance and expand the recreational opportunities for Las Vegas's premier outdoor recreation area, RRC National Conservation Area. In addition, this project will establish and improve trailheads along the trail

corridor which provides access to the multi-use path and other popular recreation trail areas as well as provide restrooms and other amenities that support further use of the recreation area. This area fosters preservation of natural and cultural resources in RRC and engages the community and visitors. The intent of this proposal is to uphold a community-driven and locally sustainable trail system model that encourages locals and visitors to engage with their public lands in a new way. Community leaders, BLM, local citizens, organizations, federal partners, volunteers, and trail users can use this trail to strengthen stewardship and dedication to improve a world-class, diverse trail system as one of Nevada's greatest legacy trails. This strategically targeted investment supports Las Vegas intent to foster economic health and growth.

The linear nature of the Legacy Trail and the complementary trails and the trailheads directly support the mission of the NCA by the conservation and further protection of cultural and natural resources. As tools for ecology and conservation, trails help preserve important natural landscapes, provide needed links between fragmented habitats, and offer tremendous opportunities for protecting plant and animal species. They also can be useful tools for improving air and water quality and allow visitors to experience nature with minimal environmental impact.

***B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

Due to the popularity of this multi-use trail, it will serve locals, regional visitors, and tourists from afar who are already referring to the Legacy Trail as the non-motorized version of the RRC Scenic Drive. The project would create a modern, multi-use trail that will provide scenic views of RRC and the Las Vegas Valley through non-motorized activities including the growing interest in use of eBikes. The proposed trail alignment would include trail loop opportunities and connections at each end and will provide amenities within the RRC. The existing corridor was selected after extensive field study, public input, and BLM staff input because it would safely provide all the needed connections and desired loops by using a substantial amount of existing disturbance, while providing a diverse and high-quality recreational experience and having the least impact to natural and cultural resources. The trail would provide a safe, high-quality, and diverse recreational experience to a broad range of non-motorized users, meeting the project purpose and relieves pressure from recreation sites and areas that are currently being impacted from overuse. In addition, trailheads will be upgraded to include vault toilets, benches, shade structures, bike repair stations and racks and other modern facilities. There are known cultural resources in the project area and will be avoided. Avoidance and/or appropriate mitigation would be a consideration of any proposed action. There will be critical opportunities to sensitively and integrate these resources into the design of the trail system through interpretation or other means. This project is complimentary to the City of Las Vegas named as a bicycle-friendly community and labeled as one of the best places to bicycle in the Southwest.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

The project will promote sustainable use of the trail and minimize future creation and use of social trails that currently have direct or indirect impacts to cultural and historic sites such as Oliver Ranch, Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, Blue Diamond and at strategically planned overlook points. The community of Blue Diamond is a listed historic community and Oliver Ranch, a registered historic site will be interpreted, and educational and identification signage will be placed along the trail that supports the conservation and protection of these structures. Signs and markers will be developed that will promote conservation, stabilization, and protection of these notable sites. The trails within this plan purposely avoid areas of cultural sensitivity, but enhance the nearby sites through provided information, education, and interpretation signage.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Currently there is a significant strain on parking along SR159 and the trailheads identified for improvements and reconstruction within this project. Year over year, a 20-40% increase in use at trailheads along SR159 during peak seasons. Existing parking areas have been documented at 300% over capacity. This has led to a consistent uptick in unauthorized road shoulder parking that continues to create new disturbances and requires additional maintenance and staff and law enforcement patrol. It also has made it very difficult and sometimes impossible to allow emergency vehicles to enter main access points. Trailhead improvements will include additional and designated parking outside the shoulder of SR159 and will feature improved restroom facilities, picnic tables, shade structures, and bicycle repair stations. Importantly, these facilities will improve visibility and allow for safer and easier access on and off SR159. See Appendix Design Criteria for Trailhead Design Standards.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.
  - A. ***Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

The Red Rock Legacy Trail will be utilized by local and regional visitors as well as tourists from afar as a non-motorized alternative to the RRC Scenic Drive. In addition, this project will open the door to additional commercial opportunities that provide a diversity of new recreational opportunities and methods to visit and access RRC. In addition, the project will improve trailheads and underdeveloped parking areas that will support access and use of the constructed trails. The proposed trails would provide connection to various key access points including RRC Campground, Kraft Mountain/Calico Basin, RRC Visitor Center and the Scenic Loop Drive, SMRSP, Bonnie Springs, Blue Diamond, and SR160 and Recreation Facilities in RRC. Subsequent phases of trail development are planned to expand the network of trails in RRC and to make connections to trail systems outside RRC.

The Red Rock Legacy Trail will also connect to City and County parks as well as locally managed trail networks.

***B. Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

A variety of trailheads and parking areas in the vicinity of SR159 are developed to various levels. None of the identified trailheads and facilities adequately meet the current needs of visitors; many are filled beyond capacity on high-use days in road shoulder parking SR159. On such days, there is heavy use of the shoulder use of SR159 for parking. Trailheads will be developed to improve parking capacity, and to relocate so traffic is off the shoulder of SR159 and SR160. These trailheads will improve access to the proposed multi-use trail as well as access to popular recreation areas within RRC. Site improvements will be made to increase the available parking and provide better management and control of how cars will park, install state of the art vault toilets, picnic tables and shade structures as well as increase visibility and allow for easier and safer access to and from each trailhead. All existing trailheads are undeveloped. This project enhances access to existing trails and will serve as staging areas for the new multi-use trail.

***C. Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

The trail developed through the SR159 corridor would serve as a connector to a larger network of trails and trailheads, some existing and some proposed and completes the final two sections of a larger approximate 40 mile trail system. The proposed trail would provide connection to

various key access points including RRC Scenic Loop Drive, SMRSP, Bonnie Springs, Blue Diamond, and SR160 and Recreation Facilities and trail networks in RRC. Subsequent phases of trail development are planned to expand the network of trails in RRC and to make connections to trail systems outside RRC. In addition, a series of trailheads are proposed to make it easier for a broader range of users to access a diversity of areas within RRC and different sections of this trail. The Red Rock Legacy Trail will serve as an alternative to the Red Rock Scenic Drive and will serve as a non-motorized trail system providing scenic access

***D. Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

A significant component of the visitor experience on the Legacy Trail will be provided through the sharing of information through informational, educational, and interpretive signage. Information will be shared and easy to understand for users. BLM will work with both premier partner organizations, Friends of RRC, and the Southern Nevada Conservancy, to coordinate public information about safety and sustainable use on the Trail. In addition, there will be information sharing through various outlets about how to get the best experience when using the facility. Interpretive and educational signage will offer information and educational messaging through stories designed to stimulate trail visitors' interest while challenging imaginations and perhaps present new perspectives on various topics related to trail use and recreation opportunities, as well as the natural, cultural, and historic resources.

- 3. COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

***A. Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

The Red Rock Legacy Trail will provide a low-cost and safe experience for diverse populations of locals and visitors to explore the rich landscapes and history of RRC through interpretive signage and exhilarating recreational opportunities and activities. By combining outdoor experiences with learning opportunities, the Las Vegas community, will learn to appreciate and properly utilize the outdoor treasures in their own backyard. The Trail will not only impart knowledge of the area but will share important safety and environmental best practices for users.

The Red Rock Legacy Trails will be a high-profile asset to Las Vegas that will increase commerce, support, and create jobs, increase property values, reduce commuter costs, provide low-cost benefits to a diversity of recreational interests and users. According to a recent analysis by the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable of the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's statistics it has been reported that Nevada's outdoor recreation industry contributes \$4.5 billion in value and has created about 56,940 jobs to the state's economy. With the addition of the Red Rock Legacy Trail, it can be expected that job creation, maintenance and use of this trail will positively impact economic growth.

***B. Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Both Clark County and NDOT have committed to continue their participation in the planning for the Red Rock Legacy Trail. Both agencies are currently involved in the Phase 1 and Phase 5 Legacy Trail planning efforts and have committed to assisting BLM with in-kind planning support stated in their provided Letters of Support. Segments 1 and 5 are being planned, designed, and constructed through a Federal Highways Grant program. Collectively the agencies have brought in approximately \$28 million of non-BLM funds to Segments 1 and 5 of the project. In addition, BLM will partner with organizations such as Southern Nevada Conservancy, Friends of Red Rock Canyon, Southern Nevada Climbing Coalition, Backcountry Horsemen, Save Red Rock and other organizations providing input and information to the planning for this project as well as providing assistance to trail and trailhead signage and the installation of signs. Other partners will also participate in the public scoping and planning of the Legacy Trail as well as the planning for improved trailheads that offer access to a variety of recreation user groups.

***C. Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

A main goal of this project is to break down barriers between participants and their public lands. Currently the RRC Field Office has a robust field trip program led by BLM Interpretive Rangers and partners. In 2019, 10,000 Clark County School District Title 1 school children visited RRC. The Red Rock Legacy Trail will allow for even more local and regional school children to engage with their public lands in a meaningful way. In addition, this trail will provide low-cost recreational access to RRC NCA and will allow for a variety of recreational activities and use types as well as exist as an accessible trail.

- 4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

- A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Clark County has committed to providing maintenance to the entire length of the Red Rock Legacy Trail including Phases 1 and Phase 5 that are already funded and currently in the planning phase for construction and not included in this project. BLM will ensure developed trailheads are designed and built with the most robust materials and designed for the lowest amount of maintenance required. BLM currently visits all proposed sites as they serve as undeveloped recreation trailheads and require a significant amount of maintenance due to the lack of amenities and developments that will improve how these trailheads are used.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Clark County has committed to the operations and maintenance of the Red Rock Legacy Trail. Volunteers currently provide trail support services through monitoring and maintaining existing trails within the corridor that will provide access to the Red Rock Legacy Trail. The Trail will provide new volunteer opportunities for trail monitoring and data collection as well as providing light maintenance to the trail network. Friends of Red Rock Canyon currently manages reoccurring volunteer group activities and is planning to develop a group specific to providing light maintenance to and along the Legacy Trail as well as providing volunteer visitor contact services.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

The Legacy Trail will become a source of community identity and pride. These effects will become magnified when communities use the Legacy Trail to highlight and provide access to RRC's natural, cultural and historic resources and will serve as a major non-motorized transportation corridor for locals and visitors – providing people of every age, ability, and socioeconomic background a safe and inexpensive space for outdoor physical activity, commuting and recreation that will also provide important social infrastructure where people can meet, interact, and build relationships.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

The trail and trailheads will provide access to the Canyon using non-motorized recreation activities. Facility improvements will be self-contained and will not require any connection to public utilities. Trailheads will be designed and constructed to provide easy and efficient access to RRC for non-motorized recreational activities that will reduce the number of motorized vehicles accessing the RRC Scenic Drive. RRC is considering installing

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED MAINTENANCE:**

Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

This project will significantly improve the quality of life for multiple communities by encouraging social connection, safety, and an accessible place for recreation and commuting. ADA compliance is of utmost



importance when designing and constructing the trail. The proposed trails will increase recreational opportunities for eBikes, equestrians and will providenew and improved bathroom facilities for historically high-use areas.

In addition, all the trailheads recommended for redesign and construction do not meet current accessibility standards, do not support the current visitation demand, has dangerous access on and off the highway, and do not have the facilities that can support the current visitor use.

- B. Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Six trailheads have been identified in this project that are currently developed to various levels. None of these facilities adequately meet the current needs of visitors. Nine months out of the year these areas are filled beyond capacity on high-use days. On such days, there is heavy use of the shoulder of SR159 for parking causing congestion and dangerous ingress/egress to SR159. The reconstruction of the trailheads will improve safety, access to and from SR159, parking management and provide facilities to improve the visitor experience.

Due to the demand of recreational use on the shoulders of SR159, the corridor has become increasingly dangerous for both users and high-speed vehicles. This trail will move a large portion of the recreational use to the Legacy Trail.

In addition, visitation to the RRC Scenic Drive has increased substantially, especially over the last 5 years. The Red Rock Legacy Trail will be a highly attractive alternate route and access point for visiting RRC and will remove a percentage of the traffic and congestion issues.

## **L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES**

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Landsto Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Trail corridors can serve as a barrier to the spread of wildfire as fire breaks. The Legacy Trail and its complimentary trail networks will all serve as fire breaks reducing the risk of the spread of wildfire.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***  
The project will maximize the use of goods, products, and materials produced in, and services offered in, the United States. Red Rock Canyon will, whenever possible, procure goods, products, materials, and services from sources that will help American businesses in strategic industries and help America's workers thrive.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Red Rock Canyon / Sloan Field Office manages Red Rock Canyon to protect its natural and cultural resources and for providing sustainable access that supports a diversity of recreational

uses, and experiences. The RRC Legacy Trail enhances conservation stewardship, increases outdoor recreation opportunities, and improves the management of species and their habitats, consistent with applicable laws for the benefit of current and future generations.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Red Rock Canyon has and will continue to ensure all efforts in this project are centered around enhancing conservation initiatives and stewardship opportunities; and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans. This project ensures access and improves access into outstanding areas of public lands. Red Rock Canyon participates in ongoing and regular conversations with local and State government regarding this project and exists as a regular conversation in quarterly meetings with tribes.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

The Legacy Trails crosses a critical migration path for Big Horn Sheep. The project will address social trailing in the area and will ensure the trail routes recreation users away from this critical area. The Legacy Trail will enhance and improve the quality of big-game winter range and migration corridors in RRC and further protect habitat on the National Conservation Area.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

The Legacy Trail ensures the National Conservation Area is open and accessible for visitors by all Americans and visitors to the United States. The Legacy Trail develops new access, increases access, and expands existing, recreational opportunities that are consistent and comply with all applicable laws and regulations. It provides opportunities for a rapidly growing interest of recreation interest within the SR 159 corridor known as the Red Rock Canyon corridor. The trail supports improving and streamlining relevant permitting requirements for guides and outfitters and facilitated outdoor recreation providers, including E-bike rental companies; The trail also supports improving and streamlining relevant permitting requirements for guides and outfitters and facilitated outdoor recreation providers; and improves opportunities for contracting processes for recreation-specific concessioners.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

The Legacy Trail increases access and provides safe, welcoming, and inclusive environments for outdoor recreational opportunities focused on encouraging all Americans and visitors to the United States to visit and participate in activities on National Conservation Lands.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

The Legacy Trail will create a recreation corridor that further expands a fire break and promotes reducing the risk of spread of a wildfire, but also keeps many people in a corridor that better protects people, communities, wildlife habitat, and watersheds and supports Red Rocks efforts in actively managing lands to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire and will serve as infrastructure that supports the sustainable recovery of damaged lands from wildfire.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange***

*(acquisition).*

This project enhances Red Rock Canyon's efforts to support conservation stewardship; increase outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans and encourages the enjoyment of public lands. The project also emphasizes the core principles of being a good neighbor. The NCA's neighbors- whether they are Federal, State, county, or local landowners. The project also ensures that recreational public access is an important value now and into the future to all the NCA's neighbors- whether they are Federal, State, county, or local landowners.

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

The RRC Legacy Trail ensures activities that take place on the NCA create economic prosperity and opportunity, provide for recreation assists conserves one of Americas most treasures places.

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

The Legacy Trail will increase recreational opportunities for all Americans, especially those with physical limitations, and to encourage the enjoyment of lands and waters managed by the RRC. The Trail simplifies and unifies regulation of

electric bicycles (eBikes) on Federal lands managed by the Department and also decreases regulatory burden by providing many miles of accessibility for the use of electric bikes.

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

RRC is planning to design and build opportunities that support renewable energy. As an example, Trailheads will have solar panels that will support trailhead lighting.

RRC is also having conversations with both State and Local Governments about the potential for grant funding that could support building charging stations for both electric cars and bikes.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

RRC is committed to honoring Tribal sovereignty and including Tribal voices in policy development and with the planning, design, and construction of this project and how it affects Tribal communities. Rock Canyon holds regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy with its projects and will certainly do so with the project in its entirety and understands how honoring those commitments is particularly vital now, as our Nation faces crises related to health, the economy, racial justice, and climate change — all of which disproportionately harm Native Americans.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

This project is an investment to create many family-supporting and union jobs in its planning, design, construction and as it lives in its legacy serving many millions of Americans and Tourists for years to come.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America’s lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

RRC is prioritizing this project as a response to converging challenges of climate change, loss of natural areas and wildlife, and inequitable access to nature. The project supports sustaining access to every community possible: returning American wildlife to abundance; safeguarding the health and productivity of the nation’s working lands and waters; giving every child the chance to play and explore in a safe, close-to-home park setting; honoring and supporting the natural and cultural resource priorities of Tribal Nations; and far more. This project rises to meet the conservation challenge and improve our nation’s resilience against climate change and strengthen the foundation of America’s economy.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government’s trust responsibilities.*

RRC is incorporating principles of equity, environmental justice, and social vulnerability into the planning, designing, construction, and the use of this trail system.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: Enter text response here

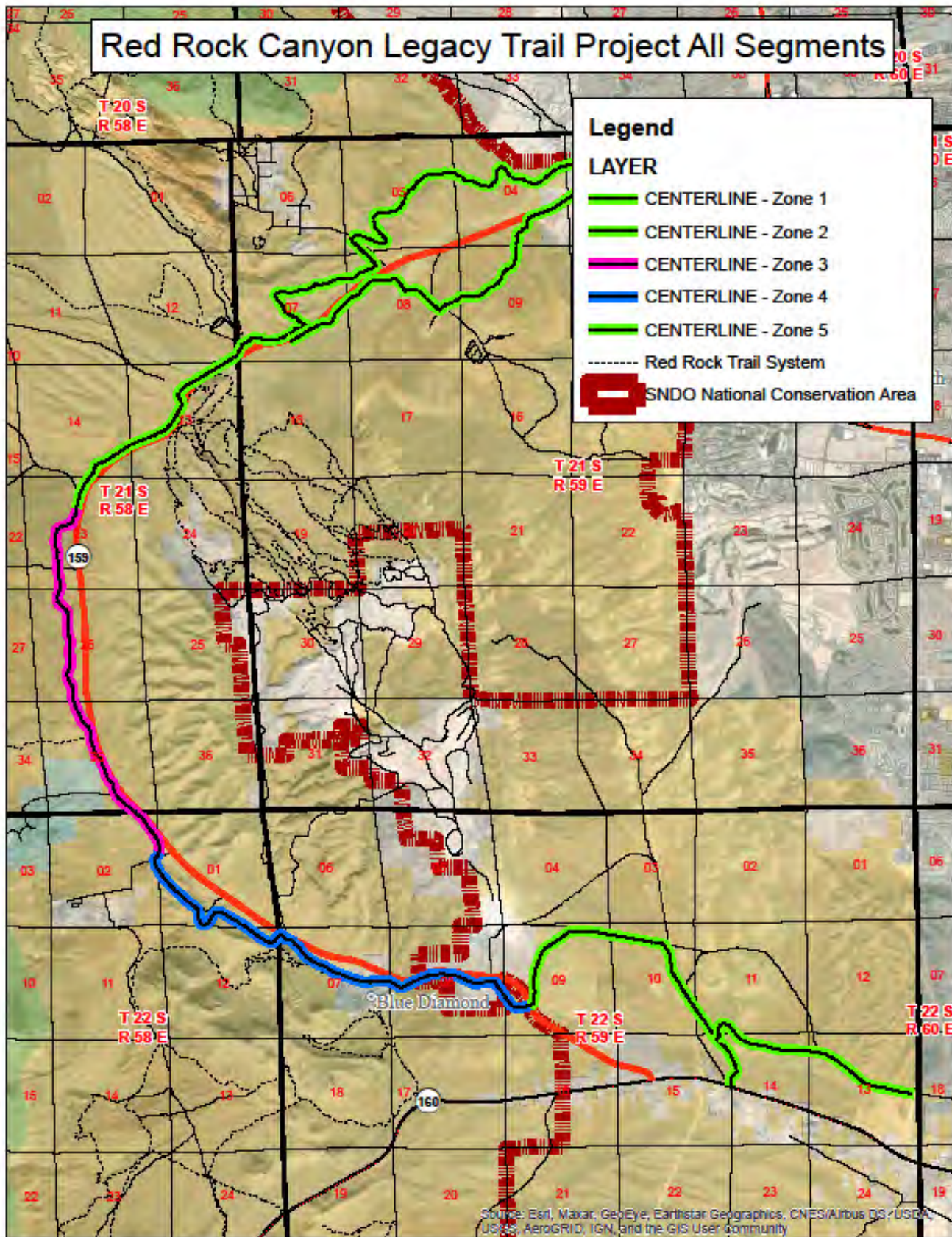
- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: Enter text response here

M. MAPS



# Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail Project All Segments

## Legend

**F** Trailheads to be reconstructed

### LAYER

 CENTERLINE - Zone 1


 CENTERLINE - Zone 2

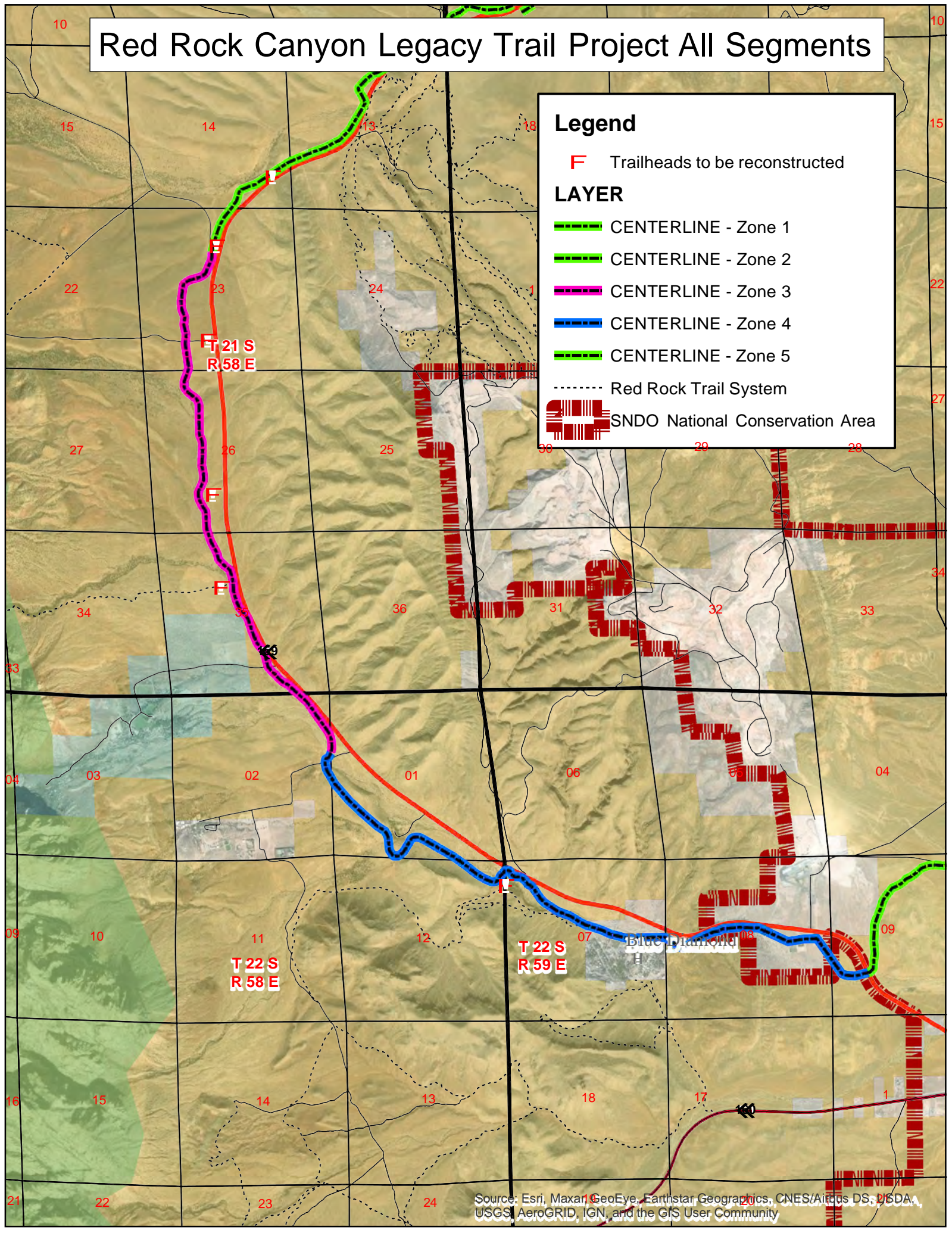
 CENTERLINE - Zone 3

 CENTERLINE - Zone 4

 CENTERLINE - Zone 5

 Red Rock Trail System

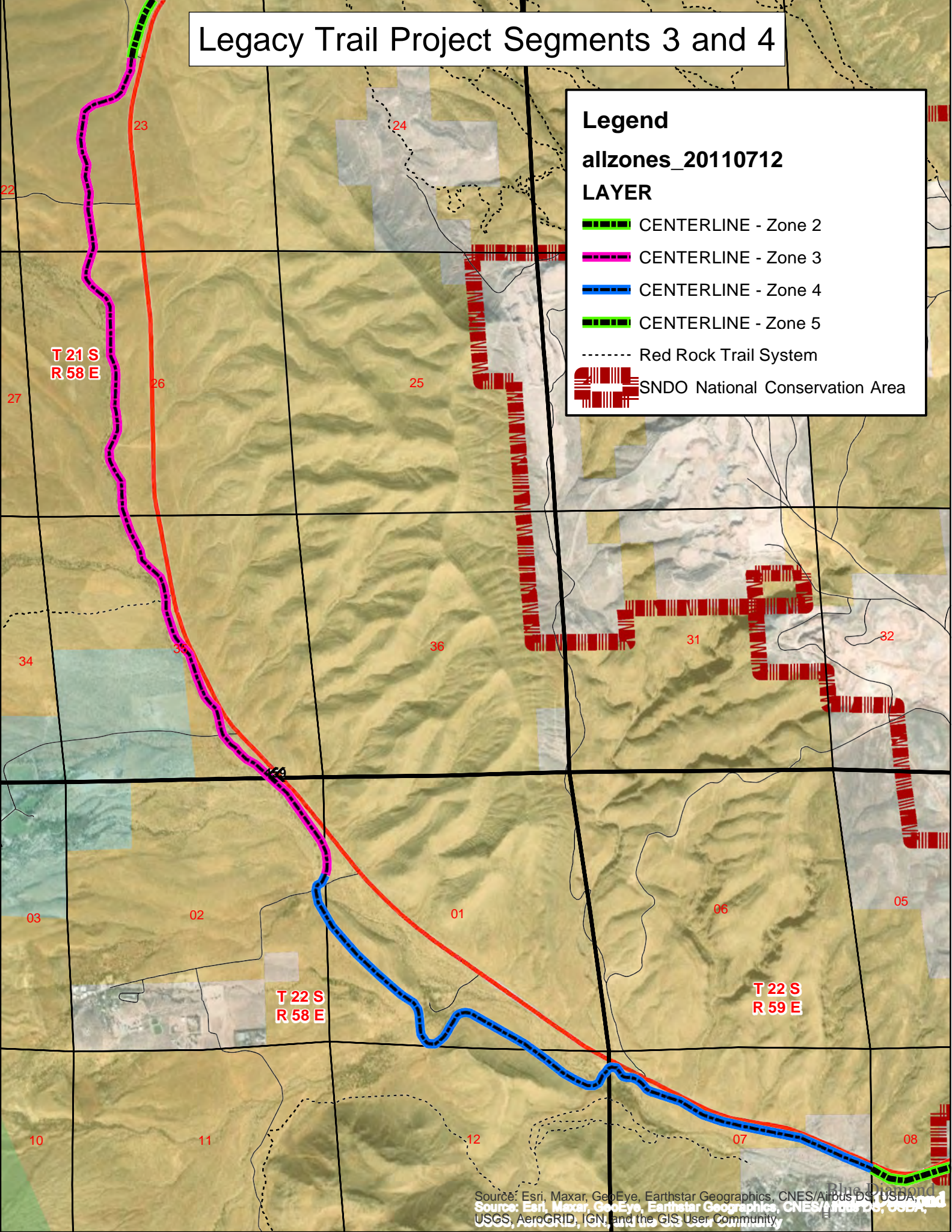
 SNDO National Conservation Area



# Legacy Trail Project Segments 3 and 4

**Legend**  
allzones\_20110712  
**LAYER**

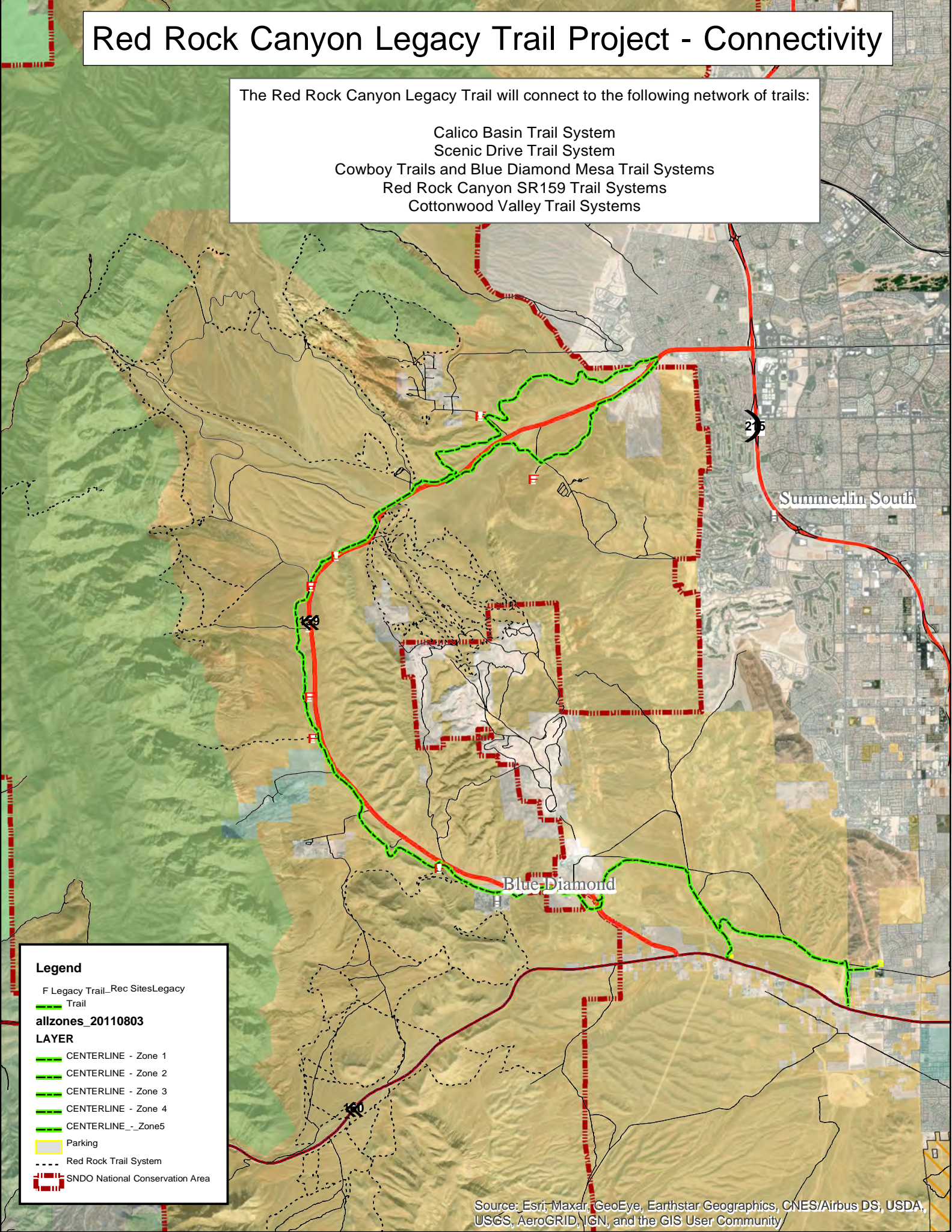
- CENTERLINE - Zone 2
- CENTERLINE - Zone 3
- CENTERLINE - Zone 4
- CENTERLINE - Zone 5
- Red Rock Trail System
- SNDO National Conservation Area



# Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail Project - Connectivity

The Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail will connect to the following network of trails:

- Calico Basin Trail System
- Scenic Drive Trail System
- Cowboy Trails and Blue Diamond Mesa Trail Systems
- Red Rock Canyon SR159 Trail Systems
- Cottonwood Valley Trail Systems



## Legend

F Legacy Trail\_Rec SitesLegacy

Trail

allzones\_20110803

LAYER

CENTERLINE - Zone 1

CENTERLINE - Zone 2

CENTERLINE - Zone 3

CENTERLINE - Zone 4

CENTERLINE - Zone5

Parking

Red Rock Trail System

SNDO National Conservation Area



# City of Las Vegas Trails



Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail is planned to provide connectivity to the western most trail networks in Las Vegas.



Gilmore/Cliff Shadows Trailhead



Angel Park Trail



Floyd Lamb Park Trails



Bonanza Trail

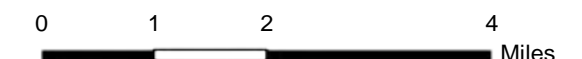


Las Vegas Wash Trail

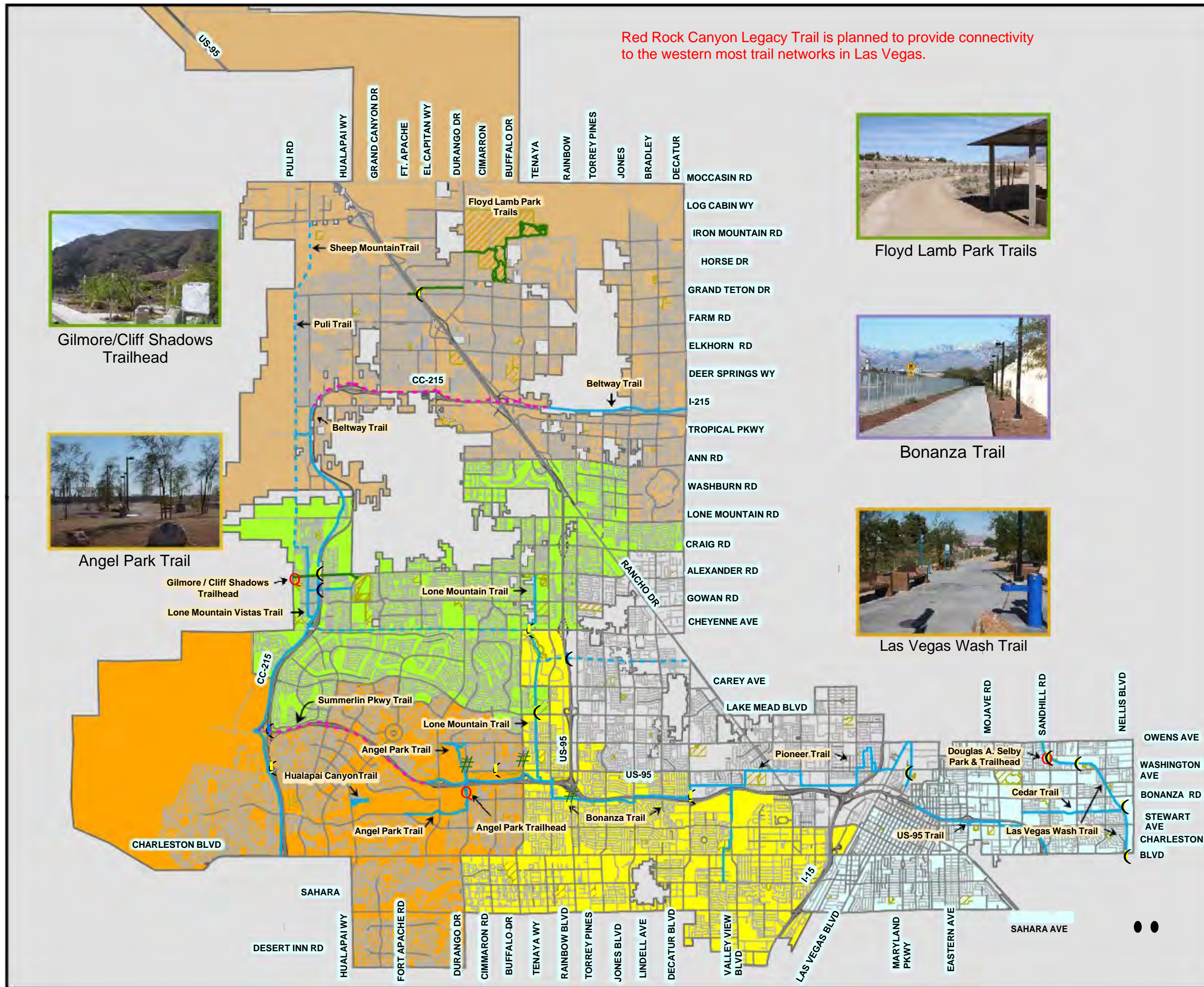
- | Planned | In Design | Completed |                                  |
|---------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|
|         |           |           | Shared Use Trail                 |
|         |           |           | Shared Use Trail with Equestrian |
|         |           |           | Trail Bridge                     |
|         |           |           | Undercrossing                    |
|         |           |           | Trailheads                       |
|         |           |           | City of Las Vegas Parks          |



Vegas Valley Rim Trail

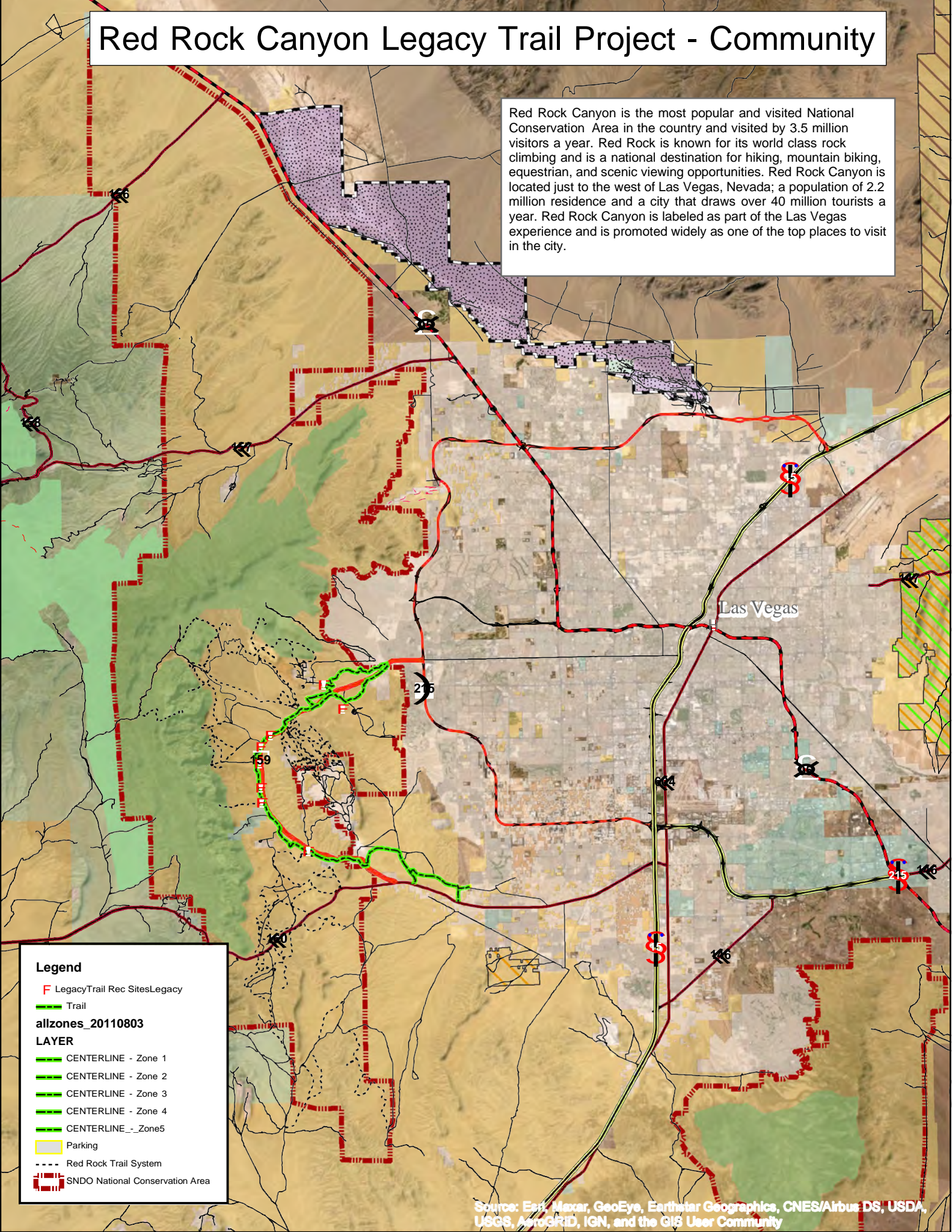


Printed on: 10/22/2020



# Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail Project - Community

Red Rock Canyon is the most popular and visited National Conservation Area in the country and visited by 3.5 million visitors a year. Red Rock is known for its world class rock climbing and is a national destination for hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, and scenic viewing opportunities. Red Rock Canyon is located just to the west of Las Vegas, Nevada; a population of 2.2 million residence and a city that draws over 40 million tourists a year. Red Rock Canyon is labeled as part of the Las Vegas experience and is promoted widely as one of the top places to visit in the city.



**Legend**

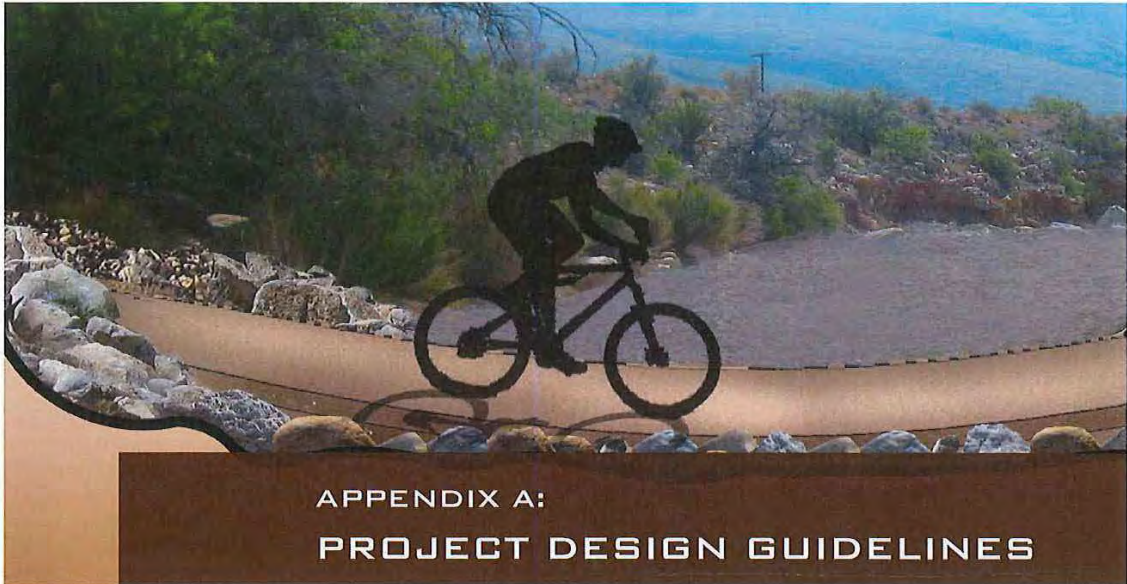
- F LegacyTrail Rec SitesLegacy
- Trail

**allzones\_20110803**

**LAYER**

- CENTERLINE - Zone 1
- CENTERLINE - Zone 2
- CENTERLINE - Zone 3
- CENTERLINE - Zone 4
- CENTERLINE\_-\_Zone5
- Parking
- Red Rock Trail System
- SNDO National Conservation Area

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

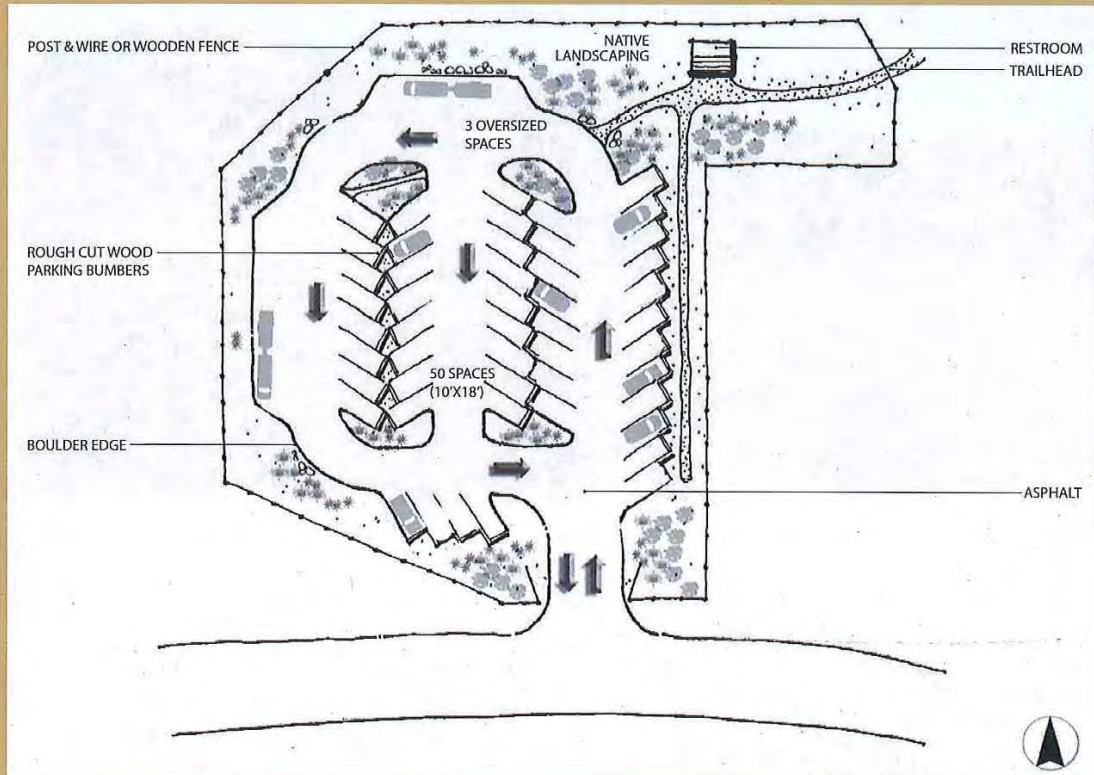


APPENDIX A:  
PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 1 TRAILHEAD - HIKER/BIKER PARKING

Safely accessed paved parking, with restrooms, is provided for recreational bikers and hikers at major trail entry points.



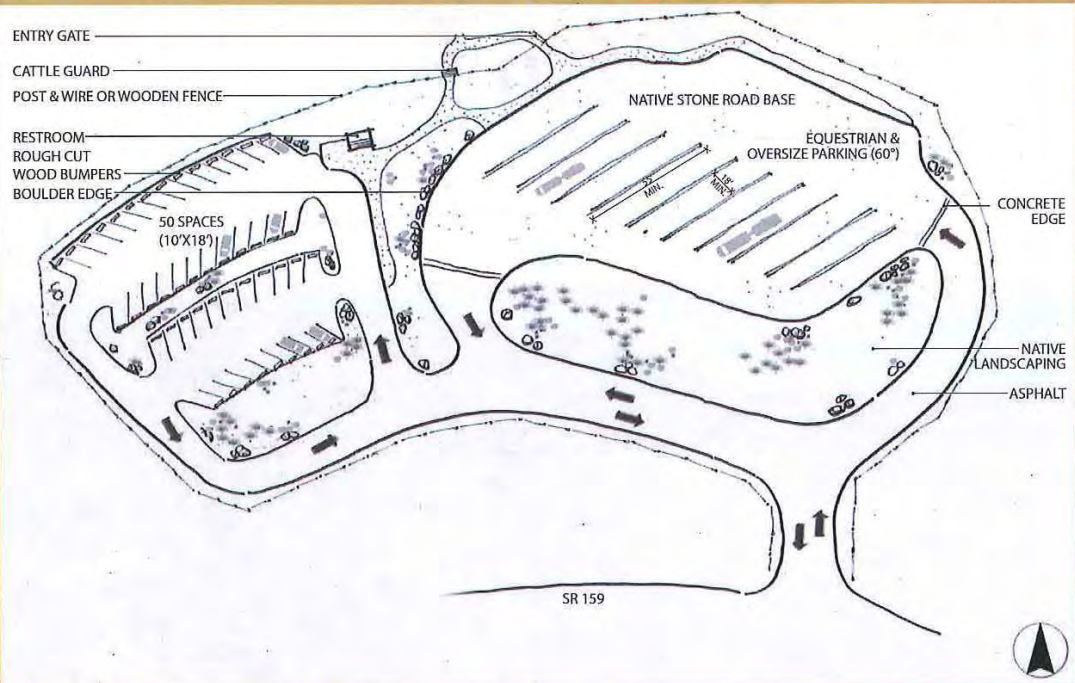
CURRENT STATE



# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 2 TRAILHEAD - HIKER/BIKER & EQUESTRIAN PARKING

CURRENT CONDITIONS



Clearly separated parking areas are provided for equestrians, bikers and hikers. To reduce airborne dust the auto parking is paved. The equestrian parking is unpaved to ensure safe footing for the horses.



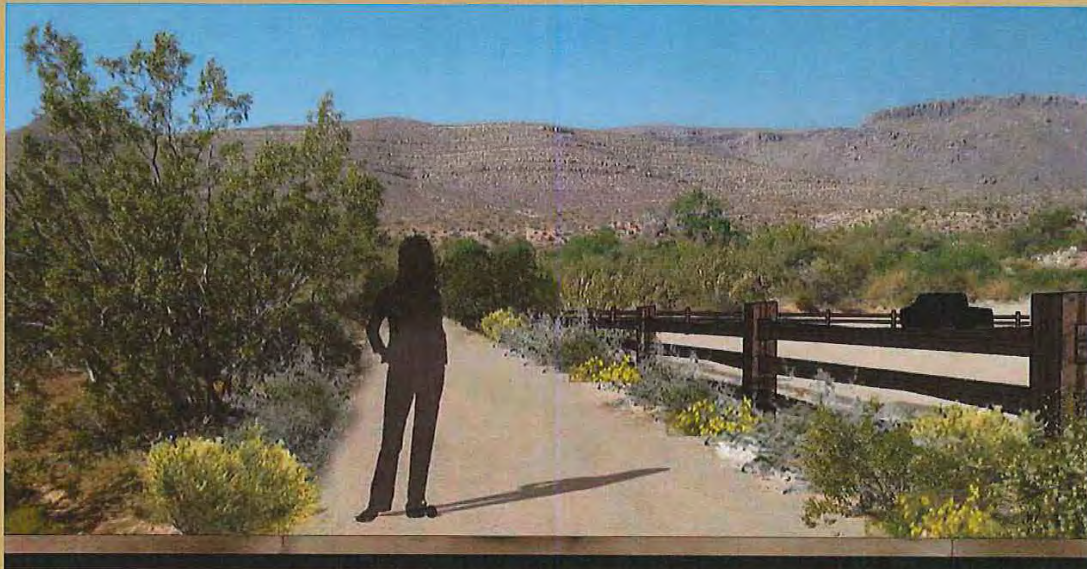
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 3 RANCH STYLE WOOD FENCE, WIRE FENCE, ENTRY GATE

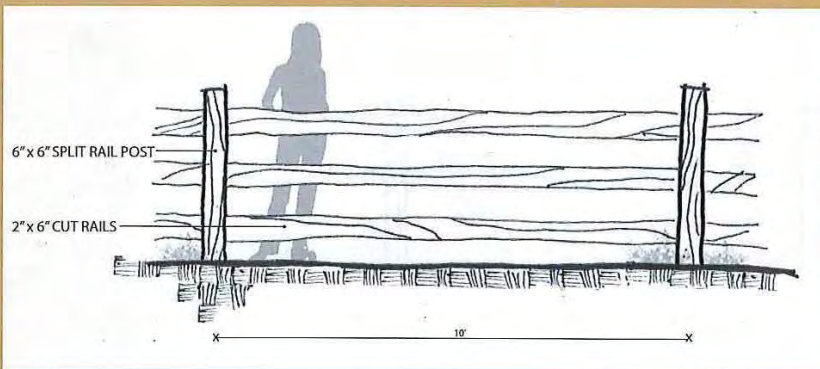


BEFORE

A simple, yet sturdy split rail or wire and post fence is provided to manage parking and burros. A brown entry gate that naturally springs shut provides access to recreational users while keeping burros in.



AFTER



PEDESTRIAN SPRING MOUNTED GATE



# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 4 TRAILHEAD REMOVABLE BOLLARD

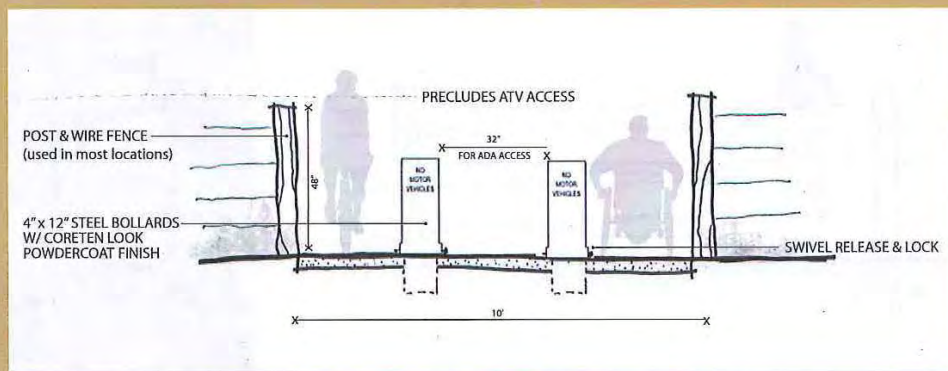


Trail entries are clearly designated, sturdy and designed for easy wheelchair access while keeping ATV's out. The bollards are removable to allow for maintenance vehicle access.

BEFORE



AFTER



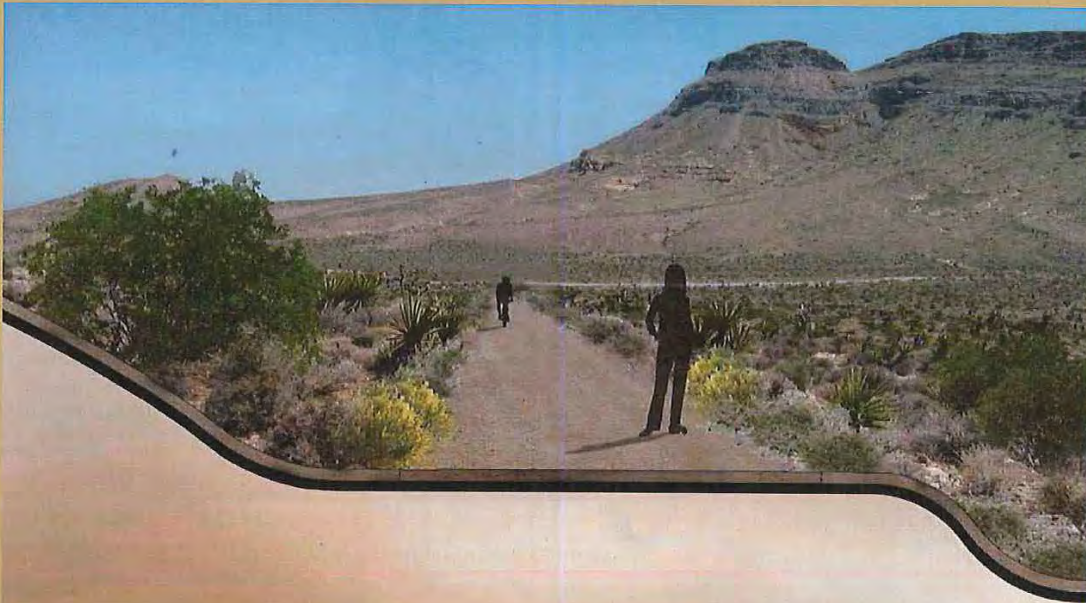
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 5 TYPICAL CROSS SLOPE

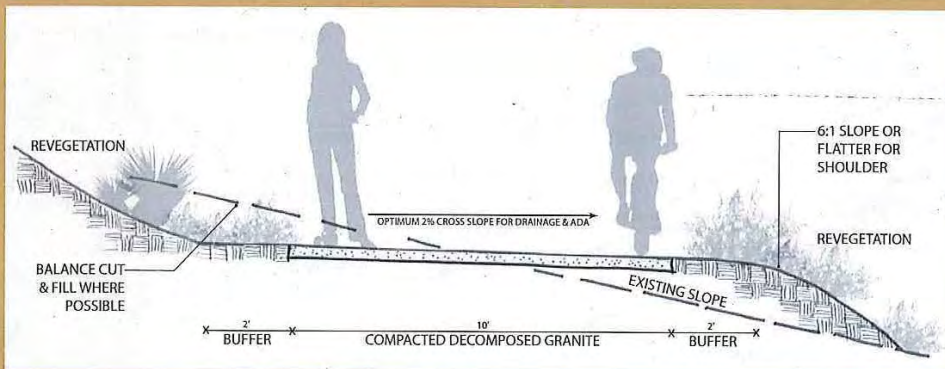


BEFORE

The trail is designed to have a gentle cross slope of 2% so it naturally drains yet is easy for bikers, hikers or people in wheelchairs to use.



AFTER



SECTION





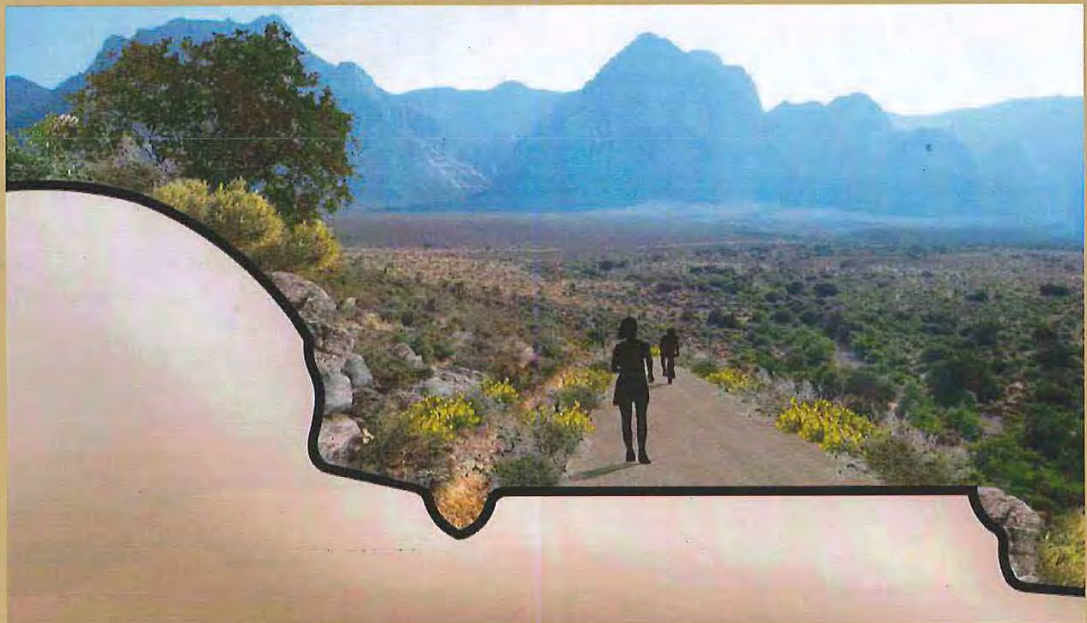
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 6 TRAIL SITING ON STEEP CROSS SLOPES

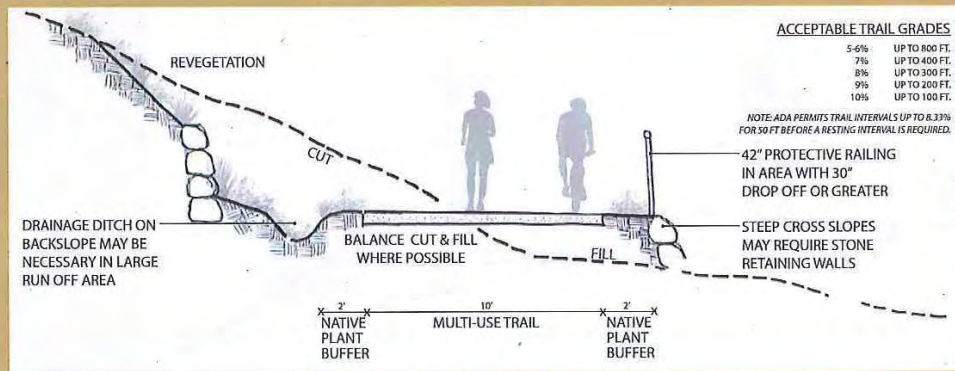


Trails in areas with steep slopes are designed to blend naturally into the environment and to minimize erosion and trail wash out.

BEFORE



AFTER

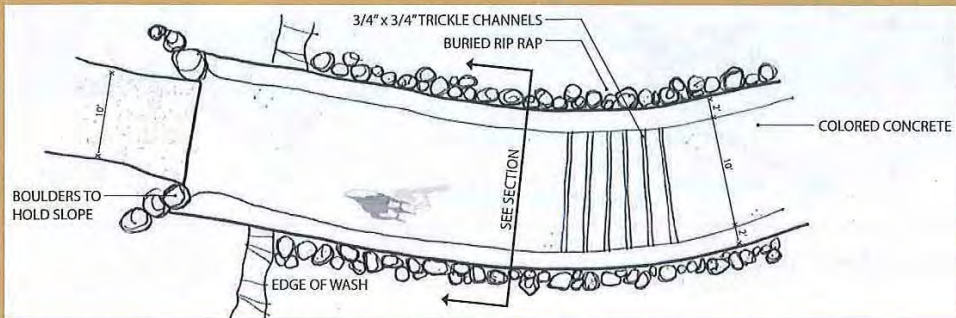
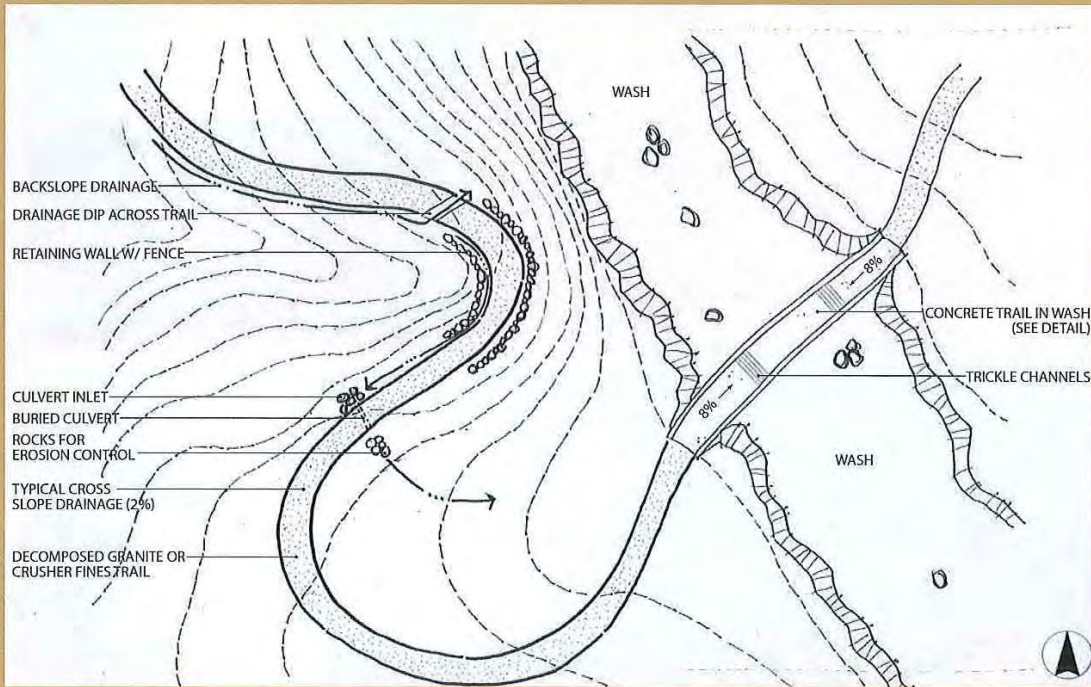


SECTION

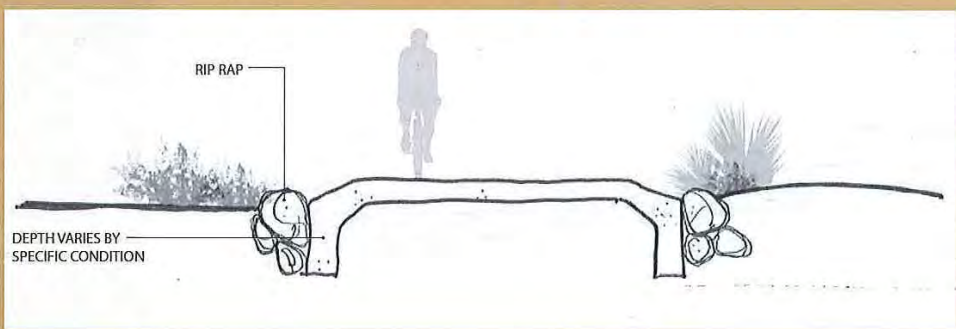


# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 7 TRAIL GOING UP HILL & ACROSS WASH



PLAN VIEW



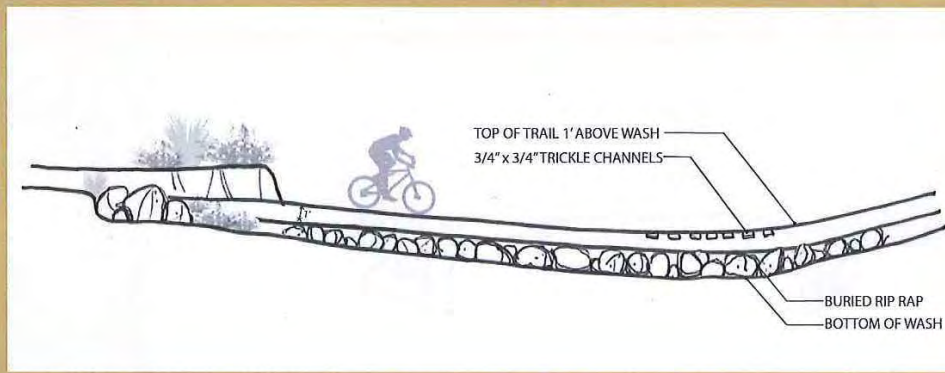
SECTION



APPENDIX A  
**PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES**

**8 CONCRETE TRAIL IN WASH**

The trail gently traverses across the hill with carefully designed drainages to manage runoff. A concrete wash crossing allows water to move over the trail during high flows so the trail does not wash out or seriously back-up the water.



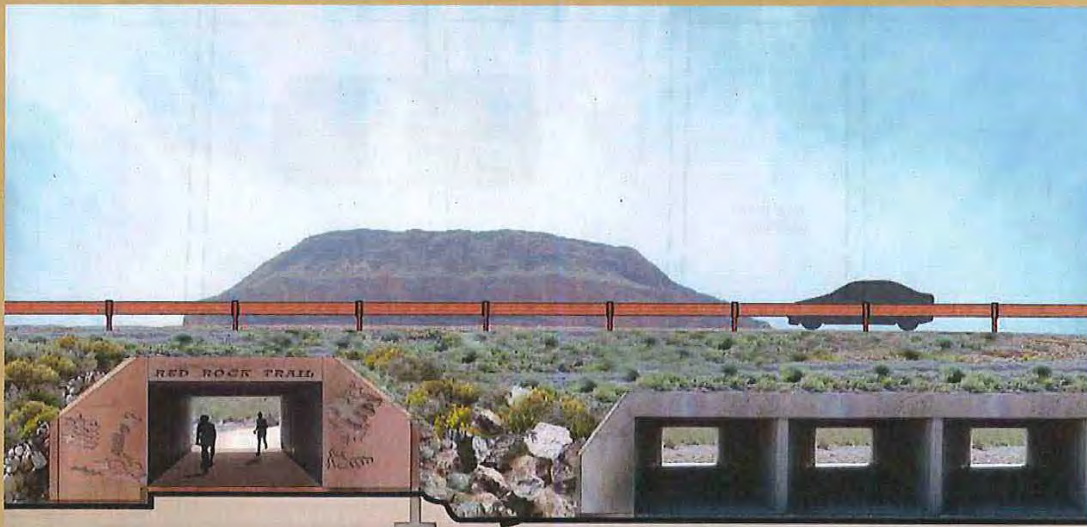
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 9 UNDERPASS AT BOX CULVERT ON HWY 159 (NEAR HWY 160)

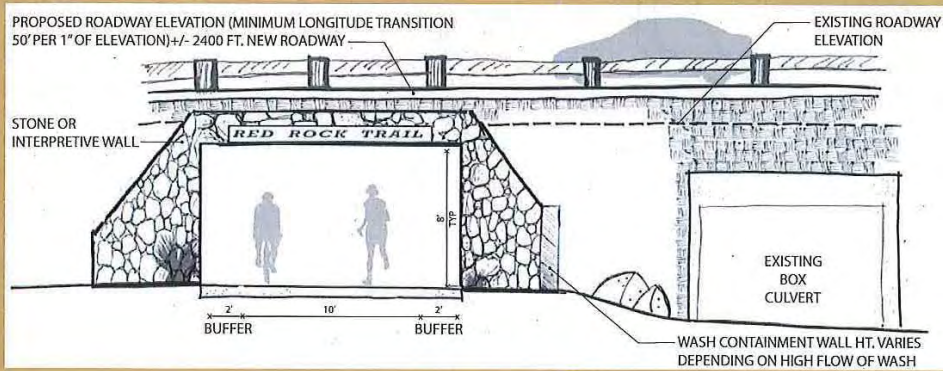


An attractive underpass is designed just beyond the major wash to provide a pleasant and safe trail connection for users coming or going to south Las Vegas and the Mountain's Edge Development.

BEFORE



AFTER



SECTION



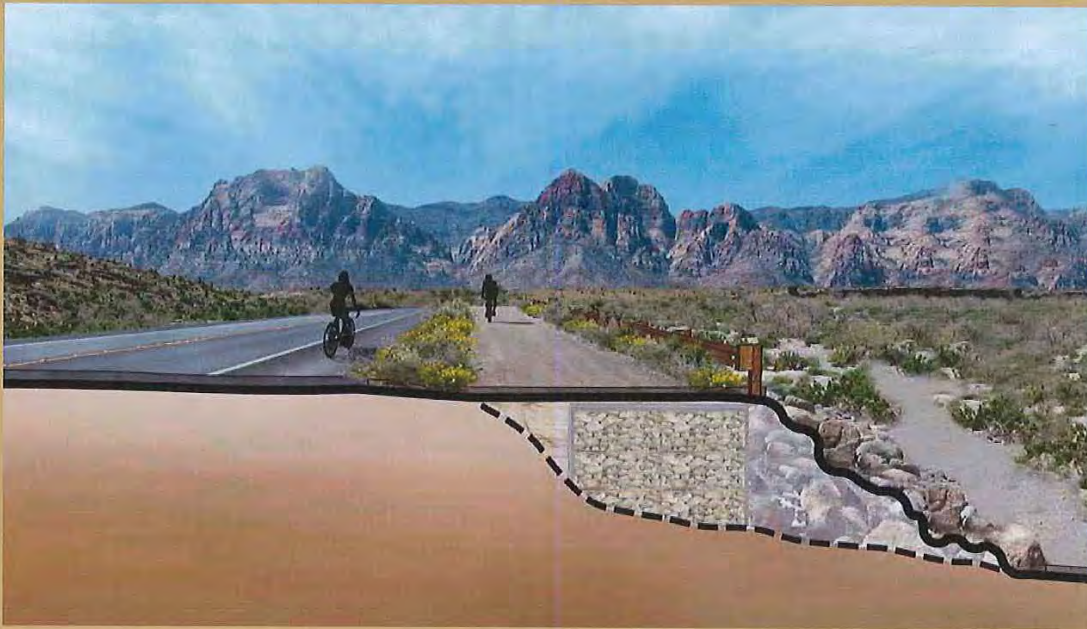
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 11 GABION REINFORCED TRAIL ALONG WASH

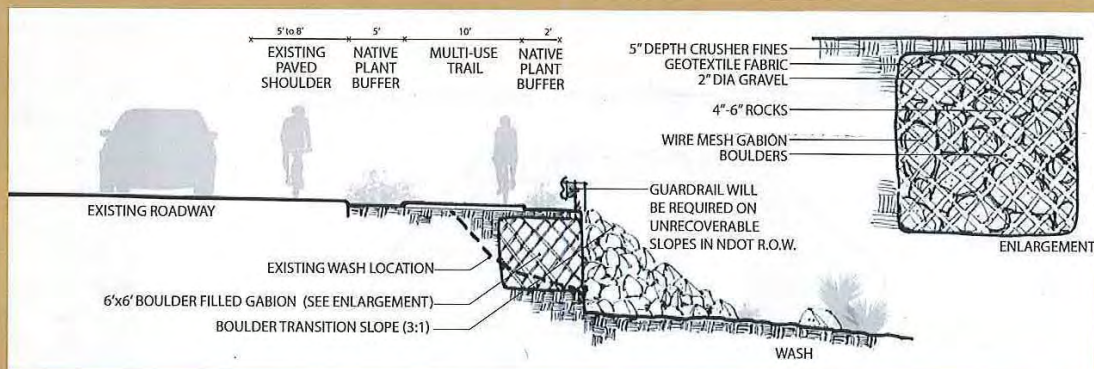


BEFORE

To minimize environmental impacts in areas where massive washes exist, the trail is placed near Highway 159 yet remains separated from the road by a landscaped buffer.



AFTER

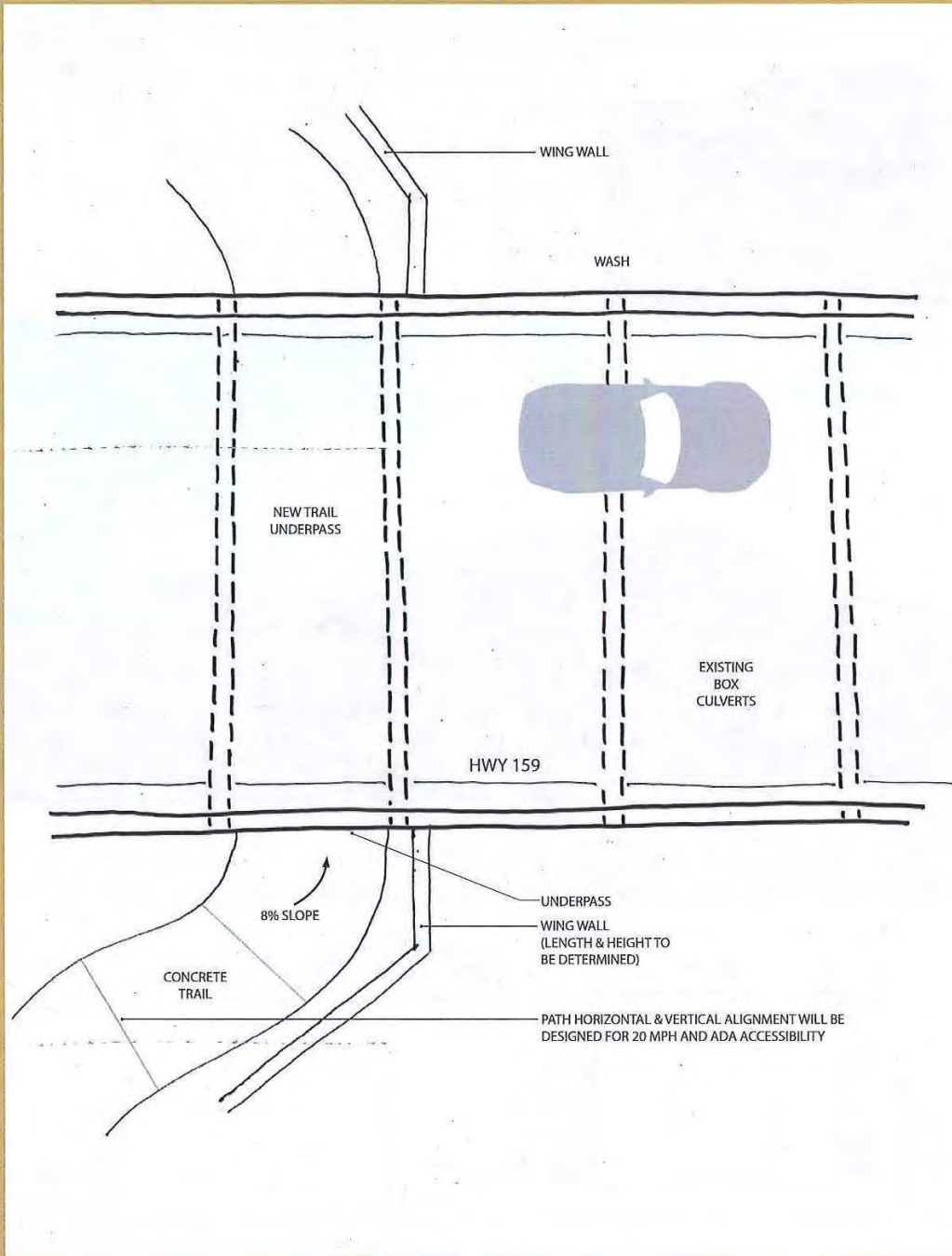


SECTION



APPENDIX A  
**PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES**

**10 UNDERPASS PLAN BOX CULVERT ON HWY 159  
(NEAR HWY 160)**



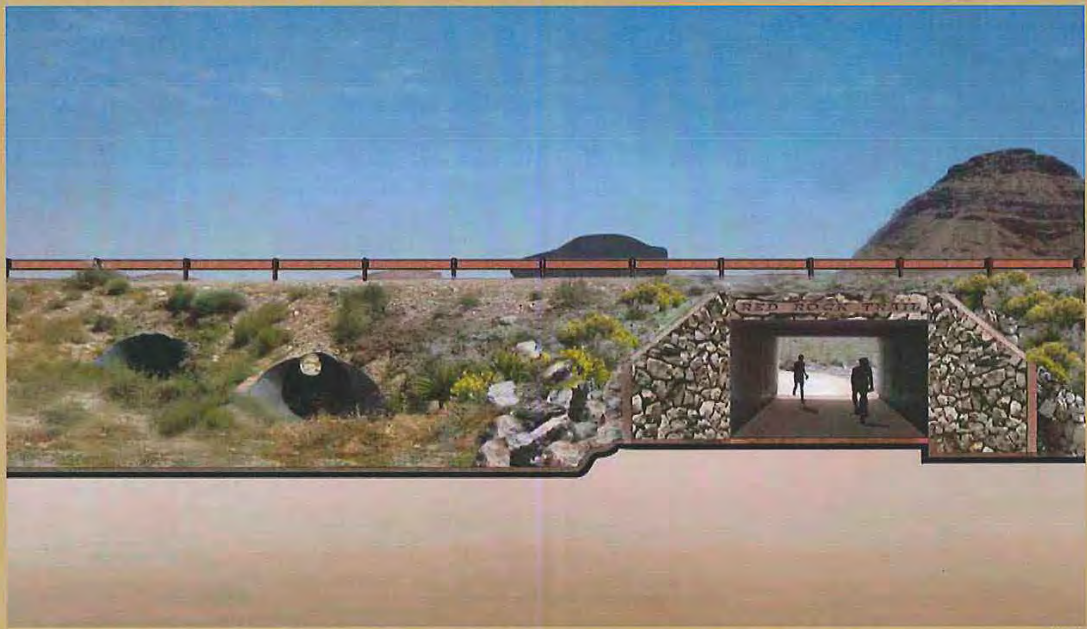
# APPENDIX A PROJECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

## 12 SOUTH TO NORTHSIDE UNDERPASS

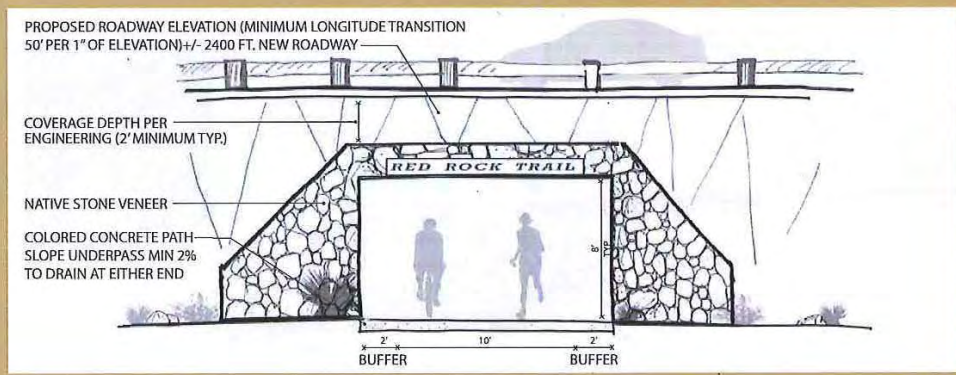


To safely connect the south side trail and campground to north side connections an attractive underpass is constructed in a location where impacts to Highway 159 can be minimized.

BEFORE



AFTER



SECTION



## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H9 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Treated or Restored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation treated with chemical, mechanical, physical, or biological control agents for the purpose of weed control. Include acres treated by fire when fire is used as a physical control agent for weed control rather than as a hazardous fuels treatment. Each acre treated is counted only once during the life of the project, no matter how many re-treatments occurred during the project. Report to the nearest whole acre.	25-30ac
H10 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation inventoried or monitored. Include monitoring of weed treatment projects reported under performance measure H9. Report to the nearest whole acre.	40-50ac
H16 - Miles of Roads or Trails Decommissioned and/or rehabilitated	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails decommissioned and/or rehabilitated within all habitats (urban, upland, riparian, stream, trails in caves, etc.). Closure may include designation, signing, blockage by physical means, obliteration, etc. Report to the nearest whole mile.	20-30
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	25-35mi

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2: Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	7
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	24-28 mi

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**



Other Performance Measures	Definition of Performance Measures	Quantity
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	75
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	60
O8 – Buildings or Facilities that Support Green Sustainable Design and Construction	Report the percent reduction in the carbon footprint accomplished through green design, water conservation, energy independence, etc. Report the Leed certification level (silver, gold, platinum), if applicable. Report each building or facility as one unit.	6
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	35
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	25
O12 – Number of Management Plans/Handbooks/Manuals/ Guides for Activity on Public Lands Completed (formerly under H11, F3, C4, and R1)*	Report the number of new or revised ecosystem restoration, hazardous fuels reduction, recreation, cultural, resource management, or other activity plans when the decision document for the plan is signed. Revisions include modification of a significant portion of the decisions in the activity plan. Do not report minor amendments or changes in these plans. Report each plan as one unit.	7

**O. PHOTOS**



**KOP 1 Existing View**



**KOP 1 Simulation**



KOP 2 Existing View



KOP 2 Simulation



KOP 3 Existing View



KOP 3 Simulation



KOP 4 Existing View



KOP 4  
Simulation

## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Friends of Red Rock Canyon
2. Scientific Games, Senior Executive Assistant
3. Scientific Games, Chief Executive Officer, Gaming
4. Juan Palma, Former BLM State Director
5. Southern Nevada Bicycle Coalition
6. The Conservation Fund
7. Clark County Commissioner
8. Get Outdoors Nevada
9. Rich Schneider
10. Mark R. Dunn
11. Mountains Edge Community, Manager
12. Nevada Department of Transportation
13. Mayo & Associates, CEO
14. Regional Transportation Commission
15. President, Save Red Rock
16. Form Letter

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*



November 1, 2021

Robert Wandel  
Assistance District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Legacy Trail

Dear Mr. Wandel;

Friends of Red Rock Canyon (Friends) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 1984, whose mission is the protection and enhancement of Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) and the public lands of Southern Nevada. Friends has actively assisted in and promoted the responsible usage of RRCNCA since our founding.

On behalf of the board, staff and 500 members of Friends, I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for \$34,000,000 in funding that will contract, plan, design and construct phases three and four and six trailheads of the 40 miles of multi-use trail system within the Conservation Area. The proposed trail and improvements will not only keep our community and visitors safe while recreating at Red Rock, but will also create a unique opportunity for users to interact with their Public Lands in an accessible way.

The Legacy Trail project will benefit the estimated 4,000,000 annual users of RRCNCA while upholding the guidelines defined by the approved Resource Management Plan. Safety on State Route 159 is of great concern to Friends and this Trail will greatly improve conditions for users traveling to this wonderful resource.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Erin J. McDermott  
Executive Director  
erin@friendsredrock.org  
702-515-5366

**From:** [Maisano, Barbie](#)  
**To:** [Travers, Joshua M](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bike Path Support  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 9:56:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Hello Catrina Williams and Josh Travers,

I am writing in support of the new bike path initiative that I would like to see turned into a reality. I heard of the project through Rich Schneider and he sent along your contact details. Safety for the riders is of the utmost importance and I am pleased to hear that this is top of mind. I have no doubt that the trail system would be an amazing asset for the entire Las Vegas community. You have my full support. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of further assistance. I look forward to seeing this into completion. Thank you for your hard work.

Best,

Barbie Maisano



**Barbie Maisano**

Senior Executive Assistant  
to Slobhan Lane & Matt Wilson

**Scientific Games**

**M:** 702-285-4066

[Visit SGGaming.com](http://www.SGGaming.com)





**From:** [Wilson, Matt](#)  
**To:** [Travers, Joshua M](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bike Path Support  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 8, 2020 9:53:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Hello Catrina Williams (Red Rock Field Manager) and Josh Travers (Assistant Field Manager),

I am writing in support of the new bike path initiative that I would like to see turned into a reality. With over 50 miles of trails and improved safety for riders, the trail system would be an amazing asset for the entire Las Vegas community. You have my full support. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of further assistance. I look forward to seeing this into fruition. Thank you for your hard work.

Best,

Matt Wilson



**Matt Wilson**

Chief Executive Officer, Gaming

**Scientific Games**

M: 702-686-8735

[Visit SGGaming.com](#)





*Juan Palma*

*Phone: (801) 885-1043*

*Email: [JuanMPalma@gmail.com](mailto:JuanMPalma@gmail.com)*

Catrina Williams,  
Red Rock Canyon/Sloan Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

RE: Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 18, Capital Improvement Category – Red Rock Legacy Trails

Dear Katrina:

This memo is to express support for the SNPLMA Round 18 Capital Improvement Project nomination to complete the loop for the Red Rock Legacy Trails.

My personal support for the completion of the Red Rock Legacy Trails system is focused on the benefit that our diverse and under served publics would receive by having access to our Public Lands through this trail system. Clark County is a mirror of the diversity of residents that reside in the western US for example the current Latino population is about 750,000 residents or 33 percent of Clark County population. This Latinx population demographically is younger and may not have the financial resources to access other public lands that are more distant from the city. Therefore, the Red Rock Legacy Trails will provide for easier access to our public lands for these diverse populations because of the proximity to the city.

Some segments (zone 1 and zone 5) of the trail system have already been funded by FLAP; however, there is a need to close the loop (gap) so that public land users can enjoy the full scope of this iconic place – Red Rock Canyon. The trail will be designed in keeping with the other zones, with a 12-foot paved trail with one-foot gravel sides. This trail system would be an important amenity for all residents and visitors, but a bonus will be to provide access to our diverse and underserved residents of Clark County.

I support this nomination and ask that it be given strong consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juan Palma". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Juan Palma,  
Former BLM State Director

cc: Joshua Travers  
Save Red Rock



SOUTHERN NEVADA  
BICYCLE COALITION

---

September 4, 2020

Southern Nevada Bicycle Coalition  
8420 Kawala Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89128

Dear Catrina Williams and Josh Travers:

The Southern Nevada Bicycle Coalition actively supports the effort to build zones 1a – 4 of the Red Rock Legacy Bike Path. It is our understanding that the Bureau of Land Management is submitting these zones for SNPLMA funding. Constructing this trail would be a huge benefit to Las Vegas residents and visitors connecting them from residential areas through the Red Rock Conservation Area via a car-free bicycle/pedestrian path.

Residents need transportation alternatives to go to work, shop, exercise, pray and play. State Route 159 at W. Charleston Blvd. to State Route 160 south to Forte Apache is a heavily traveled biway for bikes, runners and walkers. It is also heavily travelled by tourists and even large 18-wheelers in some sections making this a very dangerous section for recreationalists. Once the Red Rock Legacy Bike Path is constructed, residents and visitors from all over metropolitan Las Vegas region will be able to ride an entire loop around this region, safely. This is a critical need for the residents of Las Vegas and southern Nevada in general.

The Southern Nevada Bicycle Coalition is the VOICE of the biking community in the region. We represent non-motorized, on and off-road user needs on issues of bicycle safety, infrastructure, education, and law enforcement. We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit in the State of Nevada and are administered entirely by concerned volunteers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Keely Brooks*

Keely Brooks  
President  
Southern Nevada Bicycle Coalition

[keely@snvbc.org](mailto:keely@snvbc.org)  
702-250-0032

THE  
CONSERVATION FUND

Southwest Regional Office  
5055 W. Patrick, Suite 101-A  
Las Vegas, NV 89118  
(702) 655-8167

August 17, 2020

Catrina Williams  
Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
Red Rock/Sloan Field Office  
1000 Scenic Lp Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89161

**RE: Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act – Round 18 nomination**

Dear Katrina:

On behalf of The Conservation Fund I am writing in support and the nomination of two (2) longstanding Infrastructure and Capital Improvement needs within and adjacent to the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA). Specifically, the **“Red Rock NCA Legacy Trail”** and the **“Sandstone Quarry Return Road”**. These import projects are vital to the future of RRCNCA and will help address critical recreation and public access needs that are, arguably, among the highest in the state. Given current and historic visitor use and enjoyment of one of BLM’s “Crown Jewels”, and the lack of recent funding for projects within RRCNCA, now is the time to move forward aggressively.

For 35 years, The Conservation Fund has delivered bold conservation solutions that are good for both people and the environment. We have worked together with BLM, and the other federal land management agencies, to conserve and protect over 1,240,257 acres in Nevada since 1985. Much of that work has been done under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA). We have been directly involved in over 50 previous SNPLMA projects balancing economic development with environmental objectives by partnering with local communities, business, government, and private landowners to find collaborative and innovative solutions.

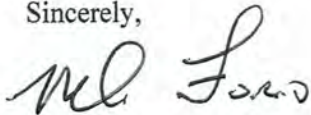
Management of the RRCNCA is tied to the “Las Vegas experience” and the unique nature of the RRCNCA is like nothing else is all of BLM. However, historical limitations under the SNPLMA process, and other considerations, have not allowed project funding to keep pace. We believe the subject projects are the highest current priorities in the state designed to meet critical recreational access and resource protection needs vital to the future well being of RRCNCA, and the public.

Even before the current pandemic, southern Nevada and RRCNCA faced complex challenges such as air quality, transportation, recreational access, climate change, flooding, and fire just to name a few. Now, more than ever, we need smart solutions and important capital improvements in the southwest valley that prove we can have a healthy environment while meeting the diverse social and cultural needs of the public. We believe making this investment now will help address critical infrastructure needs consistent with local and regional planning and management, while ensuring compatible public access resulting in responsible visitor use and enjoyment.

Please know The Conservation Fund remains ready to work with BLM, Clark County, and other stakeholders to make permanent protection and enhanced visitor use and management a reality for our community, and the public at large. With the recent passage of the Great America Outdoors Act (which emphasizes similar goals and objectives), and the legacy of past Capital Improvements funded under the SNPLMA throughout Clark County, now is the time to double down at RRCNCA. We strongly support this nomination and, when funded, these projects will substantially preserve the unique character and resource values of RRCNCA and the surrounding landscape.

We appreciate your consideration, support, and leadership for this proposal. If you have any questions concerning this letter of support, please feel free to contact me at (702) 499-1535 or by email at [mford@conservationfund.org](mailto:mford@conservationfund.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Ford  
Nevada and Southwest Director



JUSTIN C. JONES  
Commissioner

*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
500 S GRAND CENTRAL PKY  
BOX 551601  
LAS VEGAS NV 89155-1601  
(702) 455-3500 FAX: (702) 383-6041

August 13, 2020

Catrina Williams, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management, Red Rock Field Office  
1000 Scenic Loop Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89161

**Re: SNPLMA Round 18 Red Rock Proposed Projects**

Ms. Williams:

As the County Commissioner for much of the Red Rock Canyon area, I write on behalf of the Clark County Commission in support of the Bureau of Land Management's proposal to seek funding for the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail – Phases 2, 3, and 4 in connection with the recently-opened SNPLMA Round 18. Clark County has actively supported the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail, including providing matching funds for Phase 1, a commitment to matching funds for Phase 5, and agreeing to maintenance of the completed trails for Phase 1 and Phase 5. Clark County hereby also commits to participate as appropriate and needed in the planning for Phases 2, 3, and 4. Clark County further commits to enter into a maintenance agreement for all five phases of the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail. Equitable access to parks and trails is a priority for Clark County, and finishing this trail would allow both Nevadans and our visitors to better access and enjoy the beauty of Red Rock Canyon.

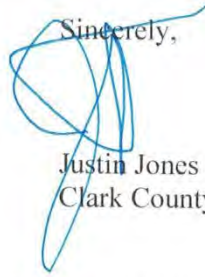
In addition to the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail, we want to express our support for the Red Rock Return Loop Project. The shortened loop will decrease traffic and allow for a safer experience for all Red Rock Canyon visitors.

August 13, 2020

p. 2

Clark County looks forward to a continuing partnership with the Bureau of Land Management to ensure these important projects come to fruition. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Justin Jones

Clark County Commissioner, District F

cc: Joshua Travers, Assistant Field Manager, BLM Red Rock Field Office  
Denis Cederburg, Director of Public Works, Clark County



September 2, 2020

Catrina Williams – Field Manager - Red Rock / Sloan Field Office  
Josh Travers – Assistant Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Subject: Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 18, Capital Improvement Category - Red Rock Loop

Dear Ms. Williams and Mr. Travers:

On behalf of Get Outdoors Nevada, I write to express my support for the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 18 Capital Improvement project nomination to complete the Red Rock Loop.

Get Outdoors Nevada is a non-profit organization whose mission is to connect Nevadans and visitors from all backgrounds and ages to the state's diverse outdoor places. Many of our efforts and programs focus on the needs and lives of families and school children, especially those who are at-risk and often have limited opportunity to experience the great outdoors. We empower residents and visitors alike by promoting options for healthy and happy lifestyles through outdoor adventures. Completion of the Red Rock Loop would provide residents and visitors with a safe way to travel by foot and bicycle from the communities adjacent to Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (NCA).

Currently, the only way to get to Red Rock Canyon NCA is by car or alongside the road. Confident cyclists are able to bicycle along the road. Unfortunately, this excludes those uncomfortable with cycling along a road as well as those with younger children, etc. In addition, there has been a long and sad history of accidents involving motorists who critically or fatally injure cyclists. Thus, there is a strong need for an alternative to cycling on the road. The Red Rock Loop provides that alternative. Funds for a segment of this trail have been secured through the Federal Lands Access Program. These funds allow for the construction of a trail connecting Summerlin to the NCA visitor center and then from the Mountains Edge community to a point near Blue Diamond Village. This leaves a large gap of about 30 miles that would be a good candidate for funding through SNPLMA Round 18 capital improvement funds. The path will be designed in keeping with the other zones, with a 12-foot paved path with one-foot gravel sides. This will create an important amenity that will keep visitors and residents safe.

I strongly support the nomination of this worthwhile project. Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (702) 997-3350 or by email at [mbaca@getoutdoorsnevada.org](mailto:mbaca@getoutdoorsnevada.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,





Executive Director  
Outside Las Vegas Foundation,  
DBA Get Outdoors Nevada

**From:** [Rich Schneider](#)  
**To:** [Travers, Joshua M](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter to Catrina Williams, Red Rock Field Manager and Josh Travers, Assistant Field Manager  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 1:31:52 PM

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**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Dear Catrina, and Josh,

My name is Richard Schneider. I am a 58 year resident of the Las Vegas Valley. I am writing in support of the proposed Red Rock Legacy Trail System. I see this as a much needed asset for the entire community which will provide a new and exciting way for people to enjoy Red Rock Canyon. Given the crowds at current parking areas, heavy traffic on the roads, and long lines at the Scenic Loop entry this is a much needed investment in infrastructure.

It is really a pleasure to see the BLM, SaveRedRock and other stakeholders all working to make this happen. Not since the scenic loop was built in the 1970's has there been a proposal of this magnitude. Given the growth in the community since then, I believe such investments are long overdue.

Thank you both for your efforts to make this exciting project come to fruition.

Kind Regards,

Rich Schneider  
61 Arroyo Rd  
Blue Diamond NV 89004

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Mark R. Dunn  
1905 Alcovia Ridge Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89135

VIA EMAIL – JTravers@blm.gov

September 7, 2020

Ms. Catrina Williams, Field Manager  
Mr. Josh Travers, Assistant Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Re: Red Rock Legacy Trails

Dear Josh:

I write to you to express my support for the Red Rock Legacy Trails Project. For many reasons, I believe that this proposed project is one that is seminal to the continued growth and enhancement of the Las Vegas community for present and future residents and visitors.

For the past 18 years, I have had the privilege of calling Las Vegas my home. When I left St. Louis in 2002, many people I knew questioned my decision to uproot my young family by leaving a community known for its “Midwestern values” and moving to “Sin City”. While I only visited the Las Vegas on a couple of occasions prior to my move, I had a nagging feeling that Las Vegas held great potential for growth, that there was much more to it than The Strip, and that what surrounded it would be a great platform for my kids to learn to appreciate the great outdoors.

As it turned out, I was right. My family has thrived here, and much of that has come from the ability to take advantage of all that surrounds Las Vegas. In order for Las Vegas to continue its growth and maintain its position as a “top tier” metropolitan area, it must embrace projects like this one in order to attract a business base that Las Vegas sorely needs to diversify an economy that has proven challenging in the world of COVID-19. In addition to rewarding those who have already chosen to make Las Vegas their home, projects like this will help springboard the growth and livability of the community and differentiate Las Vegas from others that will aid future growth, as well as further entice potential tourists in viewing Las Vegas as a well-round destination location.

For the foregoing reasons, I emphatically and respectfully suggest that the Las Vegas Office of the BLM should undertake all effort necessary to obtain the financing necessary to make this project a reality. Should you desire to discuss this matter further with me, please feel free to reach out to me at (242)424-0950. Thanks for your consideration in this matter in trying to make the Las Vegas community a better place for all of us in which to live.

Sincerely,

*Mark R. Dunn*

Mark R. Dunn



**MOUNTAIN'S EDGE™**  
MASTER PLANNED COMMUNITY

September 3, 2020

Red Rock Trail Partnership  
10575 Discovery Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89135

To Whom It May Concern,

The Mountain's Edge Marketing Co Op, on behalf of the Mountain's Edge Master Planned Community, supports the Red Rock Trail Partnership in their application to the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) for planning and construction of a shared use path project through Red Rock Canyon.

From the very initial days of planning and design of the community, Mountain's Edge has worked to connect the community and its resident with the surrounding open spaces. Outdoor adventure, exploration and discovery are the basic tenets of our brand, and we invest heavily in promoting outdoor activities as part of a high quality of life.

This proposed trail will significantly improve the safety of our residents, and the entire community, as they seek to access the rich natural assets our valley has to offer. Additionally, we believe this project will have a positive environmental impact through improved air quality

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ DeVore'.

Thomas J. DeVore  
Manager



STEVE SISOLAK  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
1263 S. Stewart Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89712

KRISTINA L. SWALLOW, P.E., *Director*

In Reply Refer to:

August 21, 2020

JOSHUA TRAVERS  
SUPERVISORY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNER  
RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
1000 SCENIC LOOP DRIVE  
LAS VEGAS NV 89161

**RE: Proposed Shared-Use Path paralleling State Highway Route (SR) 159 Corridor**

Dear Mr. Travers:

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) strives to provide mobility access for all federally recognized modes of transportation. The SR159 corridor, a recognized Nevada Scenic Byway, is a very popular route for both vehicles and non-motorized users to escape the hectic urban environment and enjoy the natural wonders Southern Nevada has to offer. Small communities, State Park facilities and the National Conservation Area, are all situated along this route. The SR159 also provides a vital regional network connection linking the west side of the Las Vegas Valley to Nye County and destinations north such as Death Valley National Park.

A steady increase in traffic volumes has been observed along this route over the years, as well as an increase in bicycles and other recreationalists. Unfortunately, crashes involving non-motorized users, vehicles, burros and wildlife have occurred on this corridor.

The NDOT supports and would be happy to participate in exploring opportunities to provide additional safe non-motorized user accommodation, such as a shared-use path or other infrastructure, through the corridor. Ideally, this planning should be done as a collaboration of stakeholders including State agencies, Clark County, the RTC of Southern Nevada, land management agencies, advocates and adjoining private property interests.

Please contact Bill Story, Assistant Chief of Multimodal Program Development at (775) 888-7765 or [wstory@dot.nv.gov](mailto:wstory@dot.nv.gov) if you have additional questions or to discuss coordination on this effort.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*Sondra Rosenberg*  
895F72355AF94F2...

Sondra Rosenberg  
Assistant Director - Planning

DocuSign Envelope ID: 814A3671-3223-4D7C-B5EA-4F4E927315FB

September 11, 2020

Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Attention: Catrina Williams, Red Rock Field Manager  
Josh Travers, Assistant Field Manager

Subject: Red Rock Legacy Trails

Dear Ms. Williams,

I am writing you today to support the request for SNPLMA funds from round 18 in the amount of \$61 million to complete the 30-mile loop on the Red Rock Legacy Trails project.

My company works to bring new businesses, large and small to Las Vegas. As you might expect, we are often competing with another state or locations for the projects. When I was involved in the World Market Center, it was the quality of life and the access to open space that attracted the developers. Their employees need to be content in the location, and their families look for affordability, schools, and recreation. As we know, we score very high in two of those categories. As a result, the higher we can score in the recreational and outdoor opportunities, the better.

Red Rock Legacy Trails is a unique, scenic, and family oriented project. Cyclists, equestrians and those who enjoy a simple walk, will benefit from this amazing project.

The most unique aspect of the project is the "loop" configuration. As a result, it is imperative to "close the loop". The \$61 million will be an investment well spent on a project that appeals to a very broad audience.

If the pandemic has taught us a few things, it would be that we need the outdoors to be happy, and we need to get and stay healthy. The Red Rock Legacy Trails with offer both of these opportunities to Southern Nevadans and the tourist who visit us.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mayo-DeRiso  
CEO  
Mayo & Associates



Regional Transportation  
Commission of  
Southern Nevada

600 S. Grand Central Pkwy., Suite 350, Las Vegas, NV 89106-4512

September 10, 2020

Catrina Williams  
Field Manager, Red Rock/Sloan Field Office  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Subject: Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 18  
Capital Improvements Nomination  
Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trails and Trailhead Improvements

Dear Ms. Williams:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) to express support for the *Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trails and Trailhead Improvements* project. As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, we share the region's vision for a "safe, connected, and convenient walking and bicycling system that serves as a viable transportation and recreation asset while advancing the region's economic, educational, health, and environmental goals."

The Red Rock Legacy Trails connect to the urban active transportation network included in the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, which identifies a proposed shared use path along Charleston Boulevard (State Route 159). After reviewing the project description, we also believe that the proposed improvements align with the regional plan's goal to "prioritize access to parks, trails, open space, recreation, and opportunities for physical exercise."

The nomination includes 30 miles of the Legacy Trail, 8 miles of equestrian trail, First Creek Trail relocation and improvements, and the design and construction of seven trailheads along State Route 159. Due to the scope and cost, the RTC also supports any project phasing that may be necessary due to SNPLMA funding availability. We also understand that the project is located on public land and/or within existing public right-of-way.

RTC staff have participated in the Red Rock Legacy Trail Partnership, including collaboration on the group's charter and action plan, supporting the Phase 1 Trail project, and providing other technical assistance. We look forward to continued work with the Bureau of Land Management to expand trails and outdoor recreation opportunities at Red Rock Canyon.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (702) 676-1500 or by email at [MaynardM@rtcsonv.com](mailto:MaynardM@rtcsonv.com).

Sincerely,

M.J. Maynard  
Chief Executive Officer  
Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada

Cc: Josh Travers, Bureau of Land Management (via email)





August 21, 2020

Bureau of Land Management  
1000 Scenic Loop Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89161

To Whom it May Concern:

As the Chair of the Red Rock Legacy Trail Partnership and President of Save Red Rock, I write this letter in full support of the Bureau of Land Management's application to the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act for planning and construction of phases 1b and 2-4 of the Red Rock Legacy Trail multi-use shared path project through Red Rock Canyon.

By connecting the already approved and funded phases 1a and 5, this trail would provide responsible, dispersed recreation opportunities and traffic alternatives to release some of the pressure off of the Red Rock Scenic Loop and 159 Scenic Byway.

In 2005, Save Red Rock was founded with a series of NDOT safety Charettes on the principals of safer recreation in Red Rock, from which the number one public alternative emerged as this separated multi-use path concept. Federal support was garnered, a \$2 million study was conducted, and in 2009, an Environmental Assessment was completed on this trail system. Then in 2017 we formed a committee to support this project through public private partnerships. The Red Rock Legacy Trail Partnership (RRLTP) and friends consists of representatives from local, state and federal agencies including, BLM, NDOT, RTC, FHA, FLAP, Clark County, Red Rock Citizen's Advisory Council, IMBA, SNVBC, Get Outdoors Nevada, and Save Red Rock. We can ask for letters of support from any of these organizations as well as the 6 federal delegates we have been working with on issues in Red Rock Canyon, many of whom have toured with us on site for this very issue, Senators Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen, and Representatives Dina Titus, Mark Amodei, Susie Lee, and Steven Horsford.

The RRLTP believes that each biker or walker or runner on the trail is one less car on the road, providing relief for overcrowded parking and congestion. This also provides safer, more comfortable opportunities for user groups previously not accommodated. The public need for this was clearly made evident during the pandemic shut down of the scenic loop in March and April, when families, kids, minority groups, teenagers, and dog walkers enjoyed the scenic loop safely and legally from the exit in the absence of automobile traffic.

We also understand that BLM resources are limited, so we work to facilitate support from the community, such as the maintenance agreement by Clark County and Get Outdoors Nevada and the initial construction by the Federal Highway Administration.

As this project is primarily on BLM land, the RRLTP has been working to ensure that it can serve to further the BLM's mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

We feel that it does, and so we write this letter to support the BLM's application to SNPLMA for the continuation and continuity of the Red Rock Legacy Trail. We feel that the future generations especially, can benefit from and appreciate the legacy that this SNPLMA application for connectivity could attain.

Sincerely,

Heather Fisher  
President, Save Red Rock  
Chair, Red Rock Legacy Trail Partnership

November 4, 2021

Robert Wandel  
Assistant District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Legacy Trail

Dear Mr. Wandel;

I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for \$34,000,000 in funding that will contract, plan, design and construct phases three and four and six trailheads of the 40 miles of multi-use trail system within the Conservation Area. The proposed trail and improvements will not only keep our community and visitors safe while recreating at Red Rock, but will also create a unique opportunity for users to interact with their Public Lands in an accessible way.

The Legacy Trail project will benefit the estimated 4,000,000 annual users of RRCNCA while upholding the guidelines defined by the approved Resource Management Plan. Safety on State Route 159 is of great concern to the community and this Trail will greatly improve conditions for users traveling to this wonderful resource.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Inventive Dental Solutions, LLC – Steve & Dianne Sperry  
Trail Access Project – Ed Price, Lynn Price and Shelley Price  
Cowboy Trail Rides & Backcountry Horsemen – James Sage  
Takedown Piracy Inc – Nate Glass  
Get Outdoors Nevada – Rachel Bergren  
Conservation Lands Foundation – Bertha Gutierrez  
Save Red Rock – Sheila B.  
Friends of Red Rock Canyon – Erin J. McDermott

Edith Cardiff
Rebecca Dukes
Shannon Pawlak
Steve & Dianne Sperry
Gregory L. Darrow, M.D.
Ed Price
Marcia Henderson

Georgette Charles
Phil Bevins
Virgil Packett
James Sage
Nate Glass
Dwight Hempel
Patricia Potter
Shari Young
Kelly Sell
William Li
Barnett Sturm
Clemens and Anette Heske
PAT WILLIAMS
Edwina LaBrecque
Ellen Brown
Cassi Novratil
Christine McBride
Christine Vogt
Richard Wimmer
Patricia Herrin
Patricia Wheeler
Terry Royder
Julia D Thomas
Barbara Maddox
Patrick Carlton
Ron Zanoni
Richard Walker
John Rinaldo
Ricardo Rosenbusch
Judi Hempel
Charles Williams
Charles Wang
Rachel Bush

Rachel Bergren
Kenneth Osgood
Bertha Gutierrez
Jim Klotz
Brandie Smith
Karen B. McDermott
Daniel P. McDermott
Alissa Loew
Jake Newman
Sheila B
David Herpers
Ed Price
Lynn Price
Suzanne Esber

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**National Park Service  
Great Basin National Park**



**Lehman Caves Electrical System Phase II**

**Amount Requested: \$5,846,630**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Lehman Caves is regarded as one of the most beautiful caves in the nation. Since the cave's discovery in 1885, over a million visitors have toured the cave to see the highly decorated chambers. Along with mineral-stained stalactites and stalagmites, the cave also has unique cave shields, cave biota that live nowhere else on earth, and a plethora of historic cave signatures.

Lehman Caves has long been an important part of the local community. Newspaper articles about the cave's discovery and development started in 1885, and visitors traveled long distances over poor roads to see the wonders underground. Lehman Caves National Monument was designated in 1922, creating even more interest in the local area. Visitation climbed slowly until the creation of Great Basin National Park in 1986, when visitation to the area doubled. Today, over 30,000 people visit the caves each year.

The first electrical lighting system was installed in the cave in 1941 and the cave was rewired in 1977. Since that time, no systemic updates to the electrical system have been done. The current system is failing, with crumbling grout barely holding wires to formations and the abandoned systems rusting in place. The current lighting system supports non-native vegetation (algae) with unnatural heat and light levels. This algae changes the chemical composition of the formations, causing them to become pitted. Dead algae can be incorporated into the formation itself, causing permanent discoloration. The current system also poorly lights the existing cave trail, reducing safety and increasing cave impacts as visitors touch the cave walls to navigate the cave. Heating elements in the four transformers in the cave cause localized cave temperature to increase from 52°F to 68°F and humidity to decrease from 100% to 65%. This is a major disruption to the natural cave climate.

Currently, communications within and to the outside of the cave is done with a patchy radio system, with numerous radio dead spots in the cave. If someone gets sick or injured on a tour, the guide may not be able to contact someone outside of the cave for help. This project would install hard-wired phones in the four main rooms of the cave so that reliable communications are always within a couple minutes of any tour location.

### **1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

This project is phase 2 of the R17 SNPLMA Conservation Initiatives project: Protecting Lehman Caves Through Improved Infrastructure and Outreach. The electrical system design and installation was a part of that project but, due to escalating construction costs, installation was not feasible. Under consultation with the SNPLMA office, a change of scope was made for the R17 NP-85 project, and the installation of the cave electrical system was moved to this R19 Capital Improvements project. Other components of the R17 project are being completed, including the full design and construction documents. No additional SNPLMA funds are expected after this R19 project for Lehman Caves infrastructure.

## 2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:

The NPS acknowledges this is a stand-alone project and that there is no guarantee of funding for future phases.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:  
A new, low impact electrical system for Lehman Caves has already gone through the Schematic Design Phase, with full construction documents completed by summer of 2022. This system has been designed to last for the next 50 years. Elements such as LED lights with integrated drivers will provide long-lived lights, which then reduce maintenance needs and associated impacts on the cave. The cave wiring has been designed to go through conduits in areas so when new wiring is needed decades down the line, it will be easy to change out and thus further protect the cave. Putting in a new cave lighting system will impact the cave, so throughout the entire design process we have emphasized that we need to do it right, because if it is sustainable and long-lived, that will be better for the delicate cave environment.
- Connectivity:  
This project helps restore the underground landscape by reducing the amount of algae growth near lights and reducing the unnatural temperature and humidity fluctuations due to using new technology and a better-designed system. This restoration in turn helps local cave biota to survive and thrive. In addition, cultural resources, such as historic signatures, will be less susceptible to faster erosion and thus helps us to connect with earlier history in the cave. This entire project is being completed in the tourist section of Lehman Caves, connecting the cave with the public so that they can better understand and appreciate this amazing cave system.
- Community:  
The key point of this project is to provide a better outdoor (or shall we say in this case, underground) recreation opportunity by enhancing the cave lighting system in Lehman Caves to highlight important cave features while providing a safer experience. In addition, the public learns about the side benefits of restoring habitat and cave climate for the animals that call the

cave their home. In addition, volunteers will be solicited to help with removal of the old electrical system and disguising wires of the new one, further enhancing community involvement.

### **C. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The National Park Service, Great Basin National Park, proposes to install a new electrical system in Lehman Caves to provide lighting and communications. The new cave lighting system will highlight important cave features, help restore the natural cave climate, and reduce harmful algae growing near cave lights. In addition, a new communication system will help make the cave safer for staff and visitor.

### **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

#### 1. Primary Deliverables:

##### A. Cave electrical system replacement

- Remove one old system as feasible
- Install one new cave electrical system to provide lighting along tour route
- Install up to 20 outlets for safety and cleaning
- Install four hard-wired telephones for safety

##### B. Education/interpretive component

- Write at least 5 social media posts and 2 resource management articles to keep public informed of progress.

#### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Make trail improvements for up to ½ mile of cave trail to hide conduits, wiring, and fixtures related to the electrical system
- Reduce algae by at least 20% near cave lights due to a better switching system that reduces the amount of time that lights are on in the cave.
- Install 4 timer switches, one at each of the relay panels, as a backup system to turn off all cave lights at night.
- Eliminate heating elements at 4 relay panels.

#### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Develop work plan and enter into SNPLMA database
- NEPA and Section 106
- Quarterly budget request and budget tracking
- Project administration and oversight
- Contract preparation and oversight
- Quarterly and annual reporting
- Final project report



## E. PROJECT LOCATION

**Latitude and Longitude:**

39.005479 by -114.220686

**Congressional District(s):**

NV04

## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

This is a five-year long project, with work planned as follows:

**Year 1:**

- Project awarded.
- Complete work plan and submit initial funds transfer.
- Finish any NEPA and Section 106 that is still needed.
- Develop contracting documents and Scope(s) of Work. Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

**Year 2:**

- Select contractor and begin site work.
- Remove old electrical system, install new electrical system.
- Work on trail improvements to hide cables, conduit, and fixtures.
- Write social media posts about project.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

**Year 3:**

- Complete any additional installation not done in Year 2.
- Fine tune trail improvements to make cave lighting blend in even better.
- Ensure that lighting and communication systems are working as planned.
- Monitor algae growth and cave temperature/humidity next to relay panels to assess results following new system.
- Write social media posts and newsletter articles about project.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

**Year 4:**

- Complete any additional installation not done in Year 3.
- Do any necessary trouble-shooting on electrical system and/or trail improvements to hide conduit and wires.
- Monitor algae growth and cave temperature/humidity next to relay panels to assess results following new system.
- Analyze algae and cave temperature/humidity data.
- Write social media posts about project.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

**Year 5:**

- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.
- Complete project closeout and final report.

## **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

Is NEPA completed? Yes -or- No, but it is in process.

The park level of readiness to implement the project within one year of notification of funds availability (NOFA) is very high. The park and its partners have much of the staff, training, and resources necessary to implement this project.

Section 106 is in progress for this project, and NEPA is expected to be completed under the R17 project by the time installation begins.

The project will be a combination of contracts and in-house work. The park, in cooperation with the NPS Denver Service Center (DSC) and contractors, has completed the class B cost estimate for the project. Additional design is ongoing under the R17 Lehman Caves Infrastructure project, with Construction Documents expected during the summer of 2022. These designs will allow this project to move forward smoothly right into the installation period following that.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The park's base budget already includes operating and maintenance costs for operating electrical systems in Lehman Caves. Due to this new system being more sustainable, future operation and maintenance costs are actually expected to decrease.

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## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Lehman Caves Electrical System Phase II	<b>Date:</b>	10/22/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Gretchen Baker	<b>Agency:</b>	NPS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 540,800.00	\$ 28,540.00
2. Travel		\$ 7,400.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 5,230,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 32,130.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 23,800.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 5,846,630.00</b>	<b>\$ 28,540.00</b>

Notes: Over 1,000 volunteer hours are expected, at a rate of \$28.54 for an estimated \$28,540 of in-kind contributions.

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

Partnerships with local grottos (caving clubs) are expected for removal of the old electrical system and disguising wiring of the new one. Over 1,000 volunteer hours are expected, at a rate of \$28.54 for an estimated \$28,540 of in-kind contributions.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: James Woolsey, Superintendent  
 Email: James\_Woolsey@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-234-7302

Project Manager: Gretchen Baker, Cave Specialist  
 Email: Gretchen\_Baker@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 435-406-1041

Budget Officer: Anita Hansen  
 Email: Anita\_Hansen@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-234-7301

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

This new cave lighting system will help to engender conservation stewardship by reducing unnatural algae that grows near lights and harms the cave system and can destroy historic signatures. The new cave lights will be more focused on cave features so there will be less light spillage and thus less algae. This protects both the natural and cultural resources of the cave and makes it more ecologically sustainable. The current cave electrical system was installed in 1977 and will turn 50 years old in 2027, thus requiring further evaluation. Completing this project before then will help to avoid additional complexity with compliance. The new cave lighting system will use less energy than the old one and thus be more economically sustainable for present and future generations. In addition, the new cave lighting system provides more flexibility in how cave tours are provided, allowing for more social sustainability.

- B. *Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

This project would modernize the aging electrical system in Lehman Caves. This would enhance the visitor experience by showing the cave in better light, making it safer, and reduce user impacts for when visitors can't see the trail adequately and have to touch

cave walls. The new lighting system is designed to highlight natural and cultural resources while also protecting them. For example, historic inscriptions from the 1800s are lit up from a distance in the Inscription Room so that visitors can see and appreciate them, but not so close that they will be impacted by non-native algae growing on them and causing them to disappear.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Lehman Caves is a significant cultural site and has an application pending for consideration as a National Historic Site. A new cave lighting system will help to illuminate this valuable resource. In addition, the corroding existing system will be removed, which will help to ensure the longevity of this site for future generations to enjoy.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

The communication system will be new and help improve management of public lands by making a faster, safer way for cave guides to communicate out of the cave. The new lighting system will allow for visitors to have an enhanced view of the cave and allow for additional educational programming.

**2. CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

***A. Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

The new cave lighting system will provide new opportunities for visitors to appreciate their public lands. For example, the lighting system has been designed to highlight features that make Lehman Caves special, such as cave shields, turnip stalactites, and cupolas. These features are found in very few caves. After a tour with the new cave lighting system, visitors will be able to identify these as unique features.

***B. Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to***

*trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

The new lighting system uses technology that has greatly been improved from the 1977 system. Integrated LED lights with long-life drivers, switches able to function in the high humidity environment, conduit so electrical wires can be changed out easily decades from now are examples of the careful thought that have gone into this cave lighting project.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

User demand for cave tours continues to rise, and this new cave lighting system will allow more flexibility in cave operations and improved recreational experience. For example, cave tours can be started from either the entrance or exit tunnels, potentially allowing additional use of the cave at the same time and providing the ability for a variety of cave experiences.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

This project contains an outreach and education component that will help improve public awareness of the new cave lighting system. Before and after photographs will be shared on social media and the park's website to engage the public and to highlight how the cave is being conserved and protected. Cave tours will also focus on educating the public about this new improvement to the cave.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.*

Lehman Cave is a primary driver of recreational visitation in both the local community of Baker and White Pine County. Enabling ongoing cave tours for the next 50 years will ensure that visitors continue to come and stay in the area. The Park has partnered with the Northern Nevada Grotto and Southern Nevada Grotto on several cave-related projects, and they have agreed to help with this one. Volunteers from these groups will help with the demolition of the old cave lighting system and helping to disguise wiring of the new one.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Partnerships with local grottos (caving clubs) are expected for removal of the old electrical system and disguising wiring of the new one. Over 1,000 volunteer hours are expected, at a rate of \$28.54 for an estimated \$28,540 of in-kind contributions.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

White Pine County is a historically underserved area, and the park is located in a very rural community. This cave lighting project will improve management of the cave, add enhanced appreciation to public lands, and provide a new component to education programming about cave resources.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).***

The new cave lighting system will be more sustainable and require less maintenance than the old cave lighting system. Lehman Caves is one of the premier attractions at Great Basin National Park, with tours occurring over the past 136 years. It is expected that tours will last at least that long into the future. Operation and maintenance will be partly funded out of the rec fee program, which collects cave tour fees. Cave tour fees range from \$6 to \$15 depending on length of tour, with a discount for students and seniors. The annual collection of cave fees totals approximately \$300,000.

**B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Volunteers from local grottos (caving club) will help with annual trips to evaluate and treat lampenflora growth next to lights.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.*

White Pine County is a historically underserved area, and the park is located in a very rural community. This project will improve management and conservation stewardship of Lehman Caves, educational programming, and access to the public.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

This project uses all LED lights, which are more efficient than old-school incandescent lightbulbs. In addition, the lighting design has timers so that in case park staff forget to turn off lights, they will be turned off automatically.

## 5. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Tours have been conducted in Lehman Caves for over 130 years and are expected to continue into the future. The current cave lighting system is from 1977 and new technology has since been developed. The old system has severe problems, including lighting circuits that go out for months, random lights that suddenly turn on, electrical cables that are routed through cave pools, and crumbling grout around wires that were attached to cave walls. It is time for a new, sustainable cave lighting system using the latest technology that is environmentally friendly. If the project is deferred, the cave lighting system soon will become unusable.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*



Using long-life LEDs will reduce maintenance cost and time for replacing lightbulbs. Using a design with conduits so when wires need to be changed out decades into the future will allow for future savings. This project is planned with the long-term in mind, as doing a major cave project will create some impacts on the cave environment. We want to do this project right so it will last a very long time; that is the best not only for the budget, but also for the natural and cultural resources in the cave.

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: Not applicable

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Yes, as much as practical, the goods, products, materials, and services for installing the new cave electrical system will be from sources that will help American business compete in strategic industries and help America's workers thrive.

2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Yes. This project will enhance conservation stewardship of and enhance outdoor recreation on DOI lands. The improvement to the cave lighting system will allow for much better viewing in the cave, highlighting the most important features of the cave. At the same time, the lighting will be done in such a way as to reduce non-native algae growth near cave lights and temperature and humidity fluctuations due to electrical components in the cave.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Yes. This project will help conserve wildlife, particularly bats and cave invertebrates, by incorporating timers so that lights are left on in the cave only when necessary. In addition, the design of the cave lighting system will minimize excess heat produced in the cave, which will keep the cave climate closer to its normal condition. Coordination with tribes has been ongoing throughout the design portion of this project in R17 and will continue through this R19 project.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Yes. This project will potentially increase recreational opportunities at Lehman Caves by allowing for more flexibility in how tours are provided. Tours will be able to enter by either the entrance or exit tunnels.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: Not applicable.

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Yes. The demolition of the old cave lighting system will include volunteers, with engagement of youth, young adults, and veterans. The installation of the new cave electrical system will enhance the conservation of the cave, improve recreation opportunities, and allow for better management.

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: Not applicable.

3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Not applicable.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Yes. The Park has worked closely with local sovereign Tribal nations on this cave project. Visits to tribes, site visits to the cave, letters about progress have already been done. The Park will continue to work closely with the local sovereign Tribal nations throughout this project.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Yes. This project helps protect biodiversity of cave species, improves access to recreation, and helps promote a better cave climate. The installation of the new cave electrical system will support jobs while making the cave a better place into the future.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Yes. This new cave lighting system will help make a more natural cave environment, which will benefit the cave species that lives in Lehman Caves and protect its biodiversity. Using modern technology in the electrical system will help preserve the natural cave climate by reducing the amount of artificial heating in the cave that is currently occurring with some incandescent bulbs and with heating elements in relay stations.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-*

*income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Yes. Lehman Caves is located in a very rural area that is generally considered low-income. (White Pine County is ranked #13 of 16 counties for per capita income in the state of Nevada). Providing jobs to improve the cave electrical system will benefit the local economy. In addition, the Park has conducted formal consultation with local Tribes on this project and will continue to do so.

4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: Enter text response here

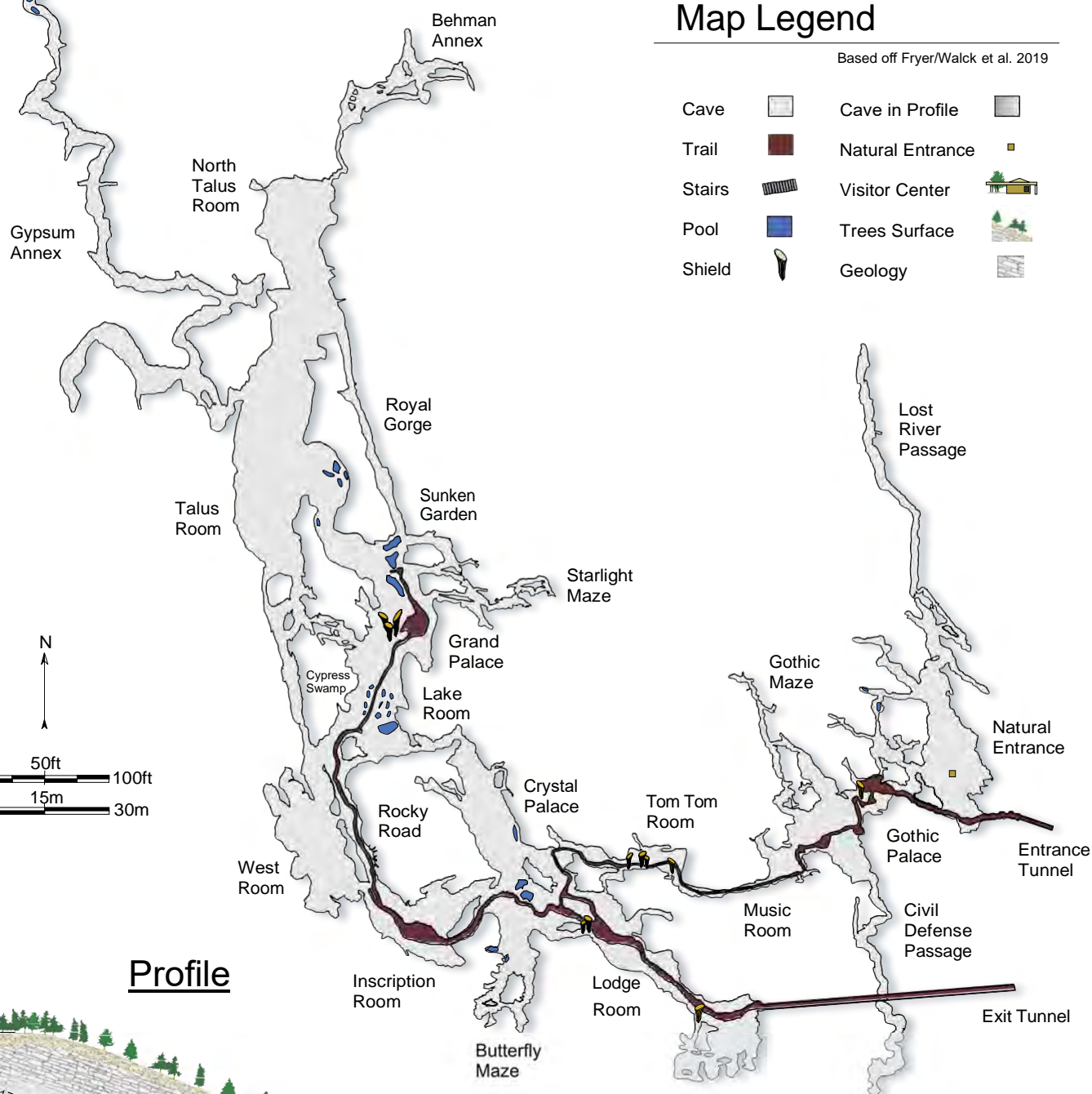
- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: Enter text response here

# Lehman Caves Electrical System

## Great Basin National Park

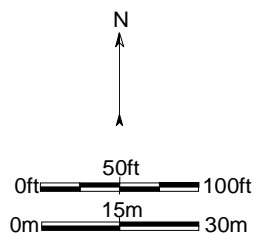
### Plan



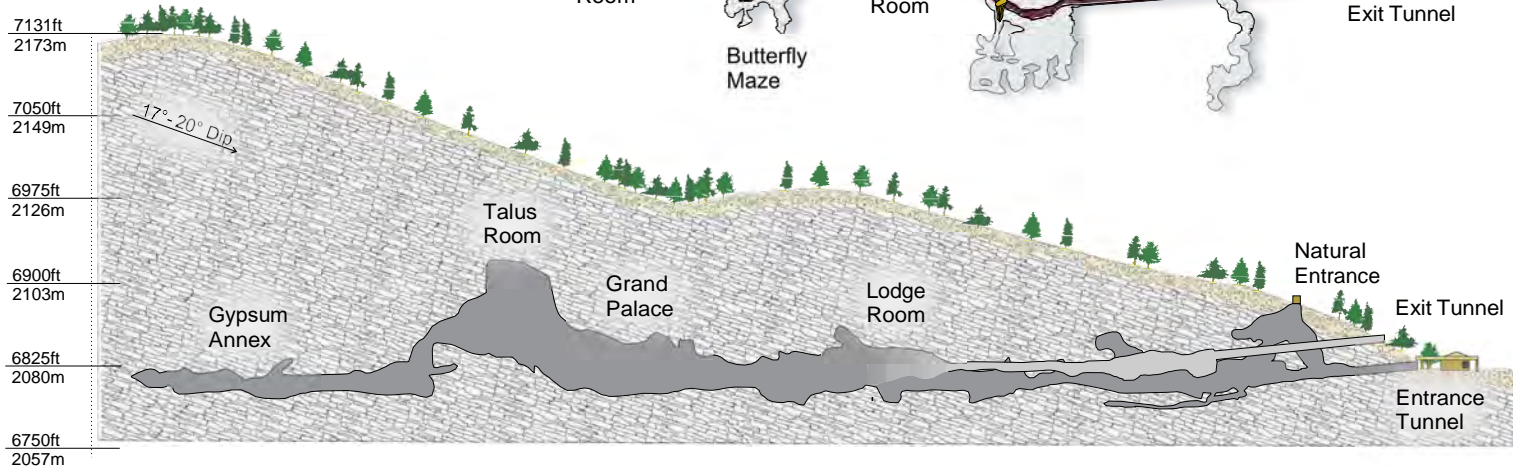
### Map Legend

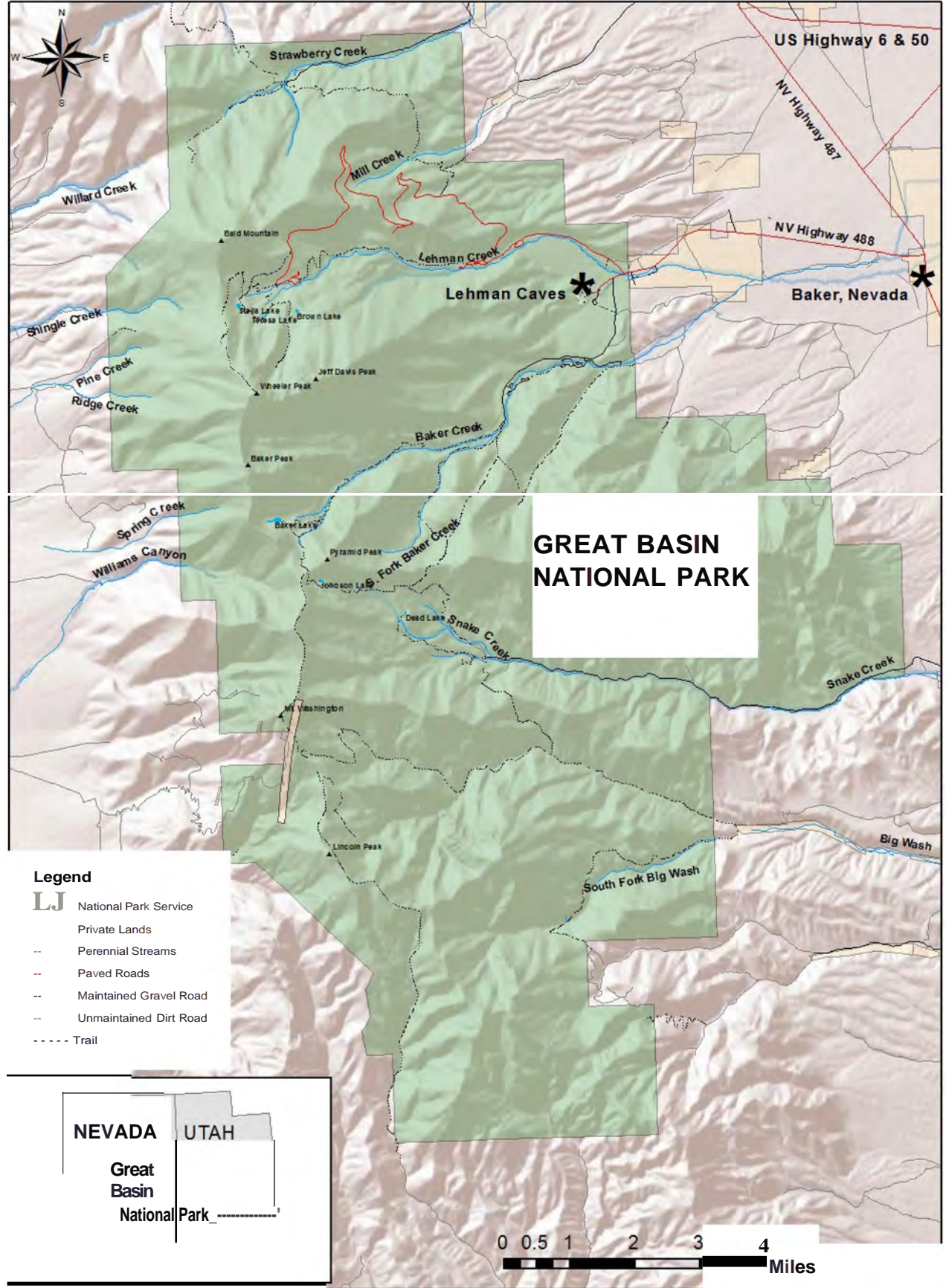
Based off Fryer/Walck et al. 2019

Cave		Cave in Profile	
Trail		Natural Entrance	
Stairs		Visitor Center	
Pool		Trees Surface	
Shield		Geology	



### Profile





US Highway 6 & 50

NV Highway 487

NV Highway 488

Baker, Nevada

Lehman Caves

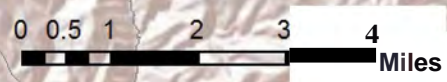
**GREAT BASIN  
NATIONAL PARK**

**Legend**

- National Park Service
- Private Lands
- Perennial Streams
- Paved Roads
- Maintained Gravel Road
- Unmaintained Dirt Road
- Trail

NEVADA UTAH

Great  
Basin  
National Park



## SNPLMA Rd 19 – Lehman Caves Electrical System Strategic Plan Values Map



**Sustainability:** This project will install a new, low impact electrical system for Lehman Caves (details in the Schematic Design map). It will be long-lasting, using LED lights and reducing heat to the delicate cave environment. The cave wiring has been designed to go through conduits in areas so when new wiring is needed decades down the line, it will be easy to change out and thus further protect the cave. The new lighting system will enhance the beautiful cave features, therefore improving long-term relevancy of protected areas through appreciation of nature.

**Connectivity:** This project takes place in Lehman Caves, connecting the cave with the public so that they can better understand and appreciate the amazing cave system. The cave is accessed just behind the Lehman Caves Visitor Center, so can be visited in any the weather. The project will reduce non-native algae growth in the cave, which impacts cave biota and grows over historic signatures. The reduction in algae will help restore cave biota and also helps to connect people to their history, by protecting these historic signatures.

**Community:** The key point of this project is to provide a better outdoor (or shall we say in this case, underground) recreation opportunity by enhancing the cave lighting system in Lehman Caves to highlight important cave features while providing a safer experience. This improves community connections with the oldest show cave in Nevada.

Gateway communities like Baker, Ely, and Delta will feel more connection with the cave. Those traveling from farther away, such as Las Vegas, Reno, and Salt Lake City, will appreciate the attention to detail to make the location they are going to great length to see look its best. In addition, the public will learn about the side benefits of restoring habitat and cave climate for the animals that call the cave their home. In addition, volunteers will be solicited to help with removal of the old electrical system and disguising wires of the new one, further enhancing community involvement.

## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H15- Number of Conservation Actions Implemented for Non-Listed Species	Report the number of individual conservation actions for species not listed under the Endangered Species Act. Note: One distinct action repeated 5 times over the course of the project would report as 1 action, not 5. The same conservation action conducted at distinct sites can be counted once for each site (this does not apply to individual plots within one single project site). The number of acres over which the actions were taken are reported under either H4 or H6. Report each action as one unit.	1
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	1
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C1 - Number of Cultural or Historic Sites or Structures Stabilized or Protected	Report the number (one unit for each site or each structure) where work is completed to protect, stabilize, restore, excavate, and/or manage cultural features. For sites receiving multiple treatments, count each site only once, but if multiple structures are on a site, count each structure separately. For example, an archeological dig site would be counted as one although multiple excavations may take place on the site, whereas a site having remnants of three separate dwellings would be counted as three. Report installation of interpretive signs and structures (e.g., kiosk displays) under O6. Report administrative actions such as mineral withdrawals, closures, or special designations under H1. Report each site or structure as one unit.	1
C2 - Number of Cultural or Paleontological Artifacts Protected	Report the number of cultural and/or paleontological artifacts protected, stabilized, or catalogued. Report one unit for each repatriation or transfer of custody of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and/or objects of cultural patrimony (cultural items) held in collections, pursuant to Title 43 CFR Part 10.10.; each instance in which all requirements of Title 43 CFR Part 10.10 have been met but where actual repatriation has not been completed because of decisions made by lineal descendants or Indian tribes or lack of a valid claim; and reburial of repatriated cultural items on BLM public lands. Report the number of accessions catalogued, inventoried, rehoused and/or otherwise upgraded. Materials from several sites or localities that are accessioned and cataloged under a single accession number should be considered one unit. An accession for which any one or more of the tasks of cataloging, inventorying or upgrading has been completed should be reported as one unit. Report each artifact as one unit.	10
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	1



**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:  
Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment**

<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	1
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	1

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	1
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	1
O8 – Buildings or Facilities that Support Green Sustainable Design and Construction	Report the percent reduction in the carbon footprint accomplished through green design, water conservation, energy independence, etc. Report the Leed certification level (silver, gold, platinum), if applicable. Report each building or facility as one unit.	1
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	1
O10 – Number of Volunteers Used	Report the number of volunteers used in educational or interpretive programs and for surveying, monitoring, or restoration activities. Report each volunteer as one unit.	30
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	1

## O. PHOTOS



### Lehman Caves Electrical System

Photo 1. Old wiring from previous lighting systems is corroding in the cave. This will be removed before a new lighting system is installed.



Photo 2. Currently wires and conduit run rather haphazardly through the cave. The new electrical system will make it easier to replace wire so that the system can last for decades.



Photo 3. The current lights allow for a lot of non-native cave algae to grow nearby. The algae is an artificial food source for cave life, can harm historic cave signatures, and is unsightly. The new system will direct light to specific locations and be 2700 Kelvin, which causes less algae growth.



Photo 4. Switchboxes currently are corroding in the cave, and some do not even work anymore, causing sections of the lights to stay on all the time, which causes extra algae growth and heat. The new system will have easy toggle switches that are placed more frequently throughout the cave so that fewer lights are on at one time.

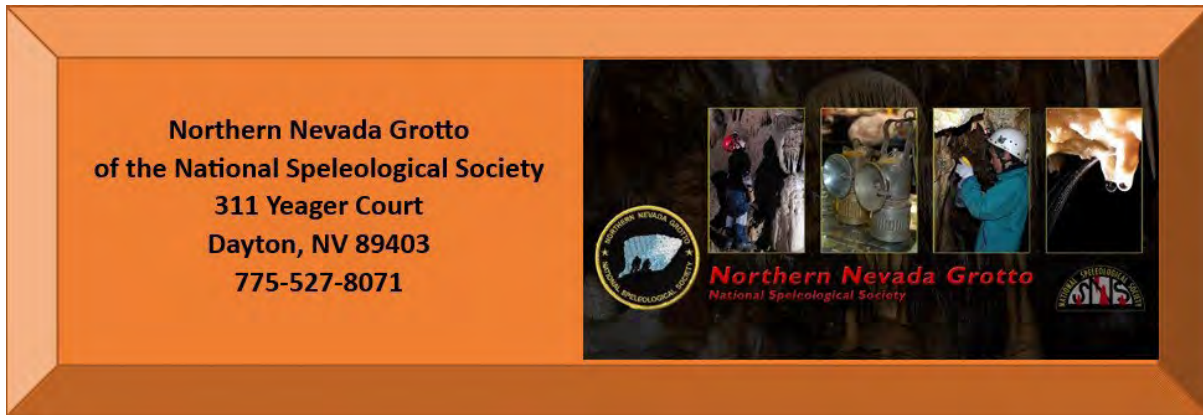


Photo 5. The four relay stations in the cave have heaters to help keep electrical components dry. They also add heat to the cave microclimate, causing the temperature to elevate about 8 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity to drop about 20% when the lights are on. The new system will eliminate the need for these heaters and help restore the cave climate to a more natural state.

## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Northern Nevada Grotto of the National Speleological Society
2. Timpanogos Grotto
3. Great Basin National Park Foundation
4. Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board
5. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board

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**Northern Nevada Grotto  
of the National Speleological Society  
311 Yeager Court  
Dayton, NV 89403  
775-527-8071**

James Woolsey, Superintendent  
Great Basin National Park  
100 Great Basin National Park  
Baker, NV 89311

Dear Mr. Woolsey,

The Northern Nevada Grotto (NNG) of the National Speleological Society (NSS) actively supports the GRBA's Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act proposal, *Protecting Lehman Caves through Improved Infrastructure*. In addition, the NNG offers a minimum 500 volunteer hours over the extent of the project. We have dedicated cave enthusiasts who will eagerly provide volunteer labor under the direction of the agency representatives. We bring specialized expertise and equipment for vertical rope climbing, rock climbing, and significantly confined space crawling, all of which may prove useful during the safe removal of the old electrical system and while installing discreetly the new system's wiring. We are all well-trained in moving within caves in a manner to minimize disturbance of the natural cave during installation.

Lehman Caves is truly a world-class site displaying important geologic and historic features as well as greatly informing our understanding of some geologic processes. The cave is also home to numerous invertebrates and a refuge for many vertebrate species. The LED system reduces dramatically the heating and drying effects compared to the legacy system which minimizes change to the relatively closed environment of the cave and minimizes algae growth to return the cave environment to a more natural state and protect historic resources while also enhancing the visitor experience. This change should result in lower maintenance and restoration costs in the future.

Cave lighting has become more efficient, less expensive, and safer over the last couple of decades due to improvements in lighting technology. As we all have learned in our homes, investing in the new lighting technologies ultimately saves energy, money, and maintenance/replacement costs. It is one of the simplest steps towards improving sustainability. Allowing more flexibility so guides can light up smaller areas to focus the discussion will not only improve energy efficiency but give visitors a much better experience. All around, this proposal is important and well-thought out. The Northern Nevada Grotto looks forward to assisting the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Zoran V. Kosa".

Louise D. Hose, PhD

President of the Northern Nevada Grotto

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# TIMPANOGOS GROTTTO

A UTAH CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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October 21, 2021

James Woosley  
Superintendent, Great Basin National Park  
100 Great Basin National Park  
Baker, NV 89311

Dear James Woosley:

I am writing you in support of the SNPLMA Round 19 project "Install New Lehman Caves Electrical System". This project will be a valuable investment for Lehman Caves. We believe in the importance of cave conservation and education. This lighting project will fulfill those values while also meeting SNPLMA's three core goals of sustainability, connectivity, and community.

LED lighting will be more sustainable, longer lasting, and energy efficient. Less heat emitting from the lights will mean less algae growth, allowing the cave to remain in a natural ecological state.

The new lighting will promote connectivity to the cave environment, by focusing light on hypogenic cave features unique to Lehman Caves and Great Basin cave development. Detail oriented lighting will help visitors understand not all caves are the same.

As future generations continue to push for sustainable energy and protection of natural habitat, the new lighting will help create a sense of community in making the cave a more sustainable and conservation minded place to be.

To help promote that sense of community the Timpanogos Grotto would be happy to donate 500 hours of service to help with this project. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt Paulson – Grotto Chair





September 20, 2021

James Woolsey, Superintendent  
Great Basin National Park  
100 Great Basin National Park  
Baker, NV 89311

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Bonnie Bryan (1939-2016)

Senator Harry Reid,  
Honorary Director

Dave Tilford, Board  
Emeritus

Mary Simmons, Board  
Emeritus

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Re: Letter of Support for Great Basin National Park's Project titled:  
Install New Lehman Caves Electrical System  
SNPLMA Round 19

Dear James,

We support the new Lehman Caves Electrical System SNPLMA project which will enhance the Park visitor cave tour experience, increase cave visitor's safety, expand cave interpretive opportunities, and do all this in a sustainable fashion that is beneficial to the cave biota.

The new Lehman Caves Electrical System will last for decades. It is designed to use state-of-the art technology that focuses light only where needed and to highlight to Park visitors interesting cave formations. It will reduce unnatural algae growth near lights and will eliminate heating elements in transformers that unnaturally heat and dry the cave environment. Restoring the natural cave biota will allow Park visitors to better connect with the cave's natural and cultural history, as historic cave signatures will be better protected, and the natural cave ecosystem will be allowed to thrive. This project is not only beneficial to thousands of Park visitors each year, but it will utilize community volunteers to demolish the old cave lighting system- promoting community support and understanding of this signature cave.

2022 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lehman Caves National Monument, what a wonderful project to promote, enhance, and maintain this precious and well loved cultural and natural resource well into the future, using sustainable technology to promote the cave ecosystem, and allow for a better and safer Park visitor experience.

Sincerely,

*Briget Eastep*

Dr. Briget Eastep

Chair, Great Basin National Park Foundation

James Woolsey, Superintendent  
Great Basin National Park  
100 Great Basin National Park  
Baker, NV 89311

October 7, 2021

Dear Superintendent Woolsey,

On behalf of the Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board, I am writing this letter of support for the SNPLMA Round 19 project that Great Basin National Park will be submitting titled, "Install New Lehman Caves Electrical System." This project will continue the work of the SNPLMA Round 19 project "Protecting Lehman Caves through Improved Infrastructure" and cover the cost of installing a new cave lighting and communication system.

The town of Baker is the gateway to Great Basin National Park and is 5 miles from Lehman Caves. We welcome visitors from across the country and around the globe who have come to experience cave tours and outdoor recreation opportunities that the park and the area have to offer. It is also a priority for our town to encourage local participation in these activities and involvement in projects that enhance and protect our resources. Baker residents will benefit from this project by getting a better experience in the cave with the new lighting and communication system. In addition, local volunteers will help remove the old cave lighting system.

This new cave lighting system will increase visitor enjoyment of the cave by focusing light on some of the most important features in the cave, such as cave shields, turnip stalactites, and evidence of its hypogenic origin such as cupolas and bubble trails. In the bigger rooms of the cave, guides will be able to light up features one by one, making for a more memorable tour. Better lighting will also make the cave tour safer. In addition, the new cave lighting system has been designed with flexibility so additional tour emphases can be added, such as running tours in reverse to show off different aspects of the cave.

The new cave lighting system will meet SNPLMA's three core goals. It will be sustainable by using state-of-the art technology, including LED lightbulbs with built-in drivers that are long lasting, focusing light just where it is needed to reduce unnatural algae growth near lights, and being designed to last for decades.

The project will encourage connectivity by eliminating heating elements in transformers that heat and dry the cave environment. so that the cave biota will live in a more natural environment and people will be able to appreciate them. The reduction of algae helps protect historic cave signatures so that current and future visitors can better connect with the human history found in the cave.

Lehman Caves has long been a part of the Baker community. Protecting and improving it will ensure that future generations will be able to learn from it and enjoy it.

Sincerely,

The Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board  
Elizabeth Woolsey, Chair  
Craig Baker  
David Kuiper  
Mary Sullivan  
Heather Brennan



## WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM AND RECREATION BOARD

*Bristlecone Convention Center & Visitors Bureau*

Bureau of Land Management  
SNPLMA Division  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr  
Las Vegas, NV 89301

My name is Kyle Horvath. I am the Director of Tourism for White Pine County, Nevada. I am writing you in support for a SNPLMA Round 19 project submitted by Great Basin National Park, called "Install New Lehman Caves Electrical System." This project will continue the work of the SNPLMA Round 18 project "Protecting Lehman Caves through Improved Infrastructure" and cover the cost of installing a new cave lighting and communication system.

Lehman Caves is the most sought-after attraction in White Pine County. This new cave lighting system is very important on a tourism as well as biological level. It will increase visitor enjoyment of the cave by focusing light on some of the most important features in the cave, such as cave shields, turnip stalactites, and evidence of its hypogenic origin such as cupolas and bubble trails. In the bigger rooms of the cave, guides will be able to light up features one by one, making for a more memorable tour. Better lighting will also make the cave tour safer. In addition, the new cave lighting system has been designed with flexibility so additional tour emphases can be added, such as running tours in reverse to show off different aspects of the cave.

The project will eliminate heating elements in transformers that heat and dry the cave environment so that the cave biota will live in a more natural environment and people will be able to appreciate them. The reduction of algae helps protect historic cave signatures so that current and future visitors can better connect with the human history found in the cave.

The new cave lighting system is sustainable thanks to a state-of-the art technology, including LED lightbulbs with built-in drivers that are long lasting, focusing light just where it is needed to reduce unnatural algae growth near lights, and being designed to last for decades.

My Board and our community fully support the National Park as an economic driver and a partner on so many projects. Great Basin National Park and Lehman Caves have long been a part of the White Pine County community, and we hope it will be far into the future. Thank you for your consideration of this very important project.

Sincerely,

Kyle Horvath, Director

150 6th Street • Ely, Nevada 89301  
775 289-3720 • 800 496-9350 • Fax 775 289-6757

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**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area**



**Red Rock Canyon Campground Expansion**

**Amount Requested: \$15,393,085**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This project would improve the quality of life for the local community and visitors to RRCNCA by providing safe access and diverse opportunities to experience public lands. Community is at the core of this proposal because the current campground and proposed expansion is a hub for visitors to experience Red Rock Canyon NCA in a unique way with others. The BLM is prioritizing this project to plan, design, and construct a brand-new loop that shifts from its current early 1990s design to build amenities that will promote camping to a diversity of user groups. This project is not just for the users today, but for those who will visit in the future. There is substantial demand for camping at Red Rock Canyon. Currently the NCA has just under four million visitors per year and is trending to see five million visitors by 2025. Currently, the campground is open September – May and closes during the hot summer season. The campground typically fills the first weekend it opens and stays full for the entire open season. As soon as reservations are available, they are immediately sold, leaving many visitors without options. This has created a struggle for the nearby community because campers are homesteading near a catch basin in town just before you enter Red Rock Canyon, which is unsafe, unsightly, and leaves major environmental impacts. Many visitors without a place to stay are finding places in the NCA where camping is not allowed such as trailheads and day use parking lots. Both situations are less than ideal as resource impacts continue to grow and waste and trash issues are on the rise. Campground amenities are few and far between in Las Vegas, and Red Rock Canyon would be providing a much-needed resource for the visitation demand at the NCA, but also for the community of Las Vegas.

### 1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:

There are no prior approved phases related to this SNPLMA project and an anticipated future phase (Phase II) for the Red Rock Canyon Campground project is being planned.

### 2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:

Phase I is a stand-alone project and Red Rock Management understands that there is no guarantee of funding for future phases. Please find the project components below.

#### **Phase 1 includes:**

- A feasibility study to ensure that water will support Phase II of the project. Currently, BLM has sufficient water rights, but there is a need to test the current well and its ability to run adequate water for what is being proposed or drill for a new well.
- The planning and design of both Phase I and Phase II of the campground expansion.
- Construction of Phase 1 expansion includes:
  - An entrance station that will be managed by volunteer hosts who currently manage entry into the campground including navigating visitor reservations and fee collection.

- Installation of two large roadside maps of the entire campground. One map would be placed at the entry station, and another would be placed further into the campground.
- An amphitheater with capacity for approximately 100 people which includes seating and a stage. The platform will be used for educational talks and can be used for other community outreach events.
- A 12 X 32 square foot building located at the base of the amphitheater to store education supplies and materials that will also have a screen for campground resource education, movie nights and public outreach with a weatherproof projector and storage area.
- Solar Powered lighting at restroom facilities and trail intersections accessing restrooms.
- Various kiosks, message boards, and signs for public outreach and campground information
- The creation of an additional paved loop creating 50- 65 tent/van camp sites that will each have a shade structure, picnic table, site marker, tent pad and fire ring.
- A septic tank and fee-based RV dump station for RV waste management.
- 27 shade structures for remaining tent sites that currently do not have shade.
- Installation of campsite vegetation screening and road improvements that are safe for visitors such as pavement markings, one-way arrows, and crosswalks.
- 4 Additional camp host stations with electricity and water.
- The paving of approximately 1.5 miles of existing and 1.5 miles of new road construction and pavement. Currently, all existing roads are aggregate, dirt roads which Phase 1 will pave.
- Installation of 4 vault toilets.
- 10 walk up bike packing sites with tent pads, picnic tables, shade structures, and bike racks.
- A group use area for 100 visitors which includes 2 large shelters with picnic tables, 10 single picnic table shelters, pedestal grills, bike racks, and a 20-car parking lot.

If the water feasibility study determines that water sources are adequate to support flush toilets, showers, irrigation, and water to all sites in the additional RV loop, then Phase I will also include planning and design for Phase II with expanded water amenities in the campground. If the feasibility study does not support expanded water amenities the Phase I project will plan and design a dry RV camping loop where all sites will be dependent on water accessible at several spigots located throughout the loop. A Phase II project would be proposed at a future date to develop the following:

- Expanding the existing well or drilling a new well.
- Approximately 1.5 miles of loop road(s) with water and electricity hookups for approximately 41 RV sites.

- 4 shower / toilet facilities to the campground which are made up of six shower stalls and four toilets each.
- Drip irrigation to provide water to site vegetation screening and other plants.

If the water feasibility study shows that water is not available to support the Phase II expansion, then RV sites will be designed to be waterless. The project will not include hook-ups, flushing toilets and showers. In this case, visitors will need to collect water from spigots designed into the loop. Red Rock Canyon understands future funding may not be available to support Phase II when submitting a proposal to SNPLMA Round 20.

## **B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES**

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

### 3. Sustainability:

Design standards for this project will be sustainable and incorporate measures to reduce the impact to the natural environment. Planning and design of this facility will include environmental planners, engineers, designers, Field Managers, maintenance staff, community stakeholders, partners and public interest groups. Considerations for current and future visitor needs and expectations would be considered throughout the entire planning and design process and all groups will be consulted.

In addition to the intentional planning effort, this project includes sustainable features. Those include: charging stations for eBikes, solar lighting, energy efficient vegetation irrigation and bathroom facilities. All of these features minimize impacts on the natural environment. The existing campground currently has a small solar field that is underutilized and will be used more in the future as the facilities expand.

Sustainability will continue to be upheld at the campground and incorporated into every aspect of the proposed expansion.

### 4. Connectivity:

This project connects people to nature and recreational opportunities by increasing access to public lands in Southern Nevada. The Red Rock Canyon Resource Management Plan

identifies the Red Rock Campground as the only authorized location for designated and developed camping opportunities in the NCA. As a record number of people flock to Red Rock Canyon, there is a well-established need for campground modernization and expansion to address outdated campground infrastructure and to ensure the need for camping opportunities for all.

The current capacity at the Red Rock Canyon Campground is inadequate for the recreational demand for camping. It does not offer sites that can accommodate large vehicles, such as oversized camper vans, which is a vehicle the campground attempts to accommodate. Vans overfill designated parking spaces and often cause conflicts with vehicles passing by due to their size. Offering additional camping opportunities directly connects visitors with the natural resources and the landscape Red Rock Canyon provides. Opportunities for developed camping areas in and around Las Vegas are limited and this expansion project will bring more camping opportunities to the Las Vegas Valley, but specifically address a need to those who are wanting to visit and stay at Red Rock Canyon. There are no campgrounds located on the west side of the City of Las Vegas and for some visitors, given the notoriety of Las Vegas, they cannot afford lodging and camping is the best option for their visit.

Ongoing research shows the consistent demand for camping and people's desire to connect with the great outdoors. According to KOA's 2021 Camping Report, more families are camping more often because it is safe, economical, fun, and environmentally friendly due to a focus on less consumption. The industry is robust, and growth is driven primarily through the increase in annual camping households and their higher frequency to camp.

As Red Rock grows, accommodations need to adapt for users. As younger generations continue to be introduced to camping, the industry is positioning for change. Glamping, luxury platform tent camping, is a gateway to attract new campers to more traditional camping experiences like what Red Rock Canyon offers. This new approach to recreating suggests that the current distribution of overnight accommodations may shift with an increase in "cabin" and "other" and decrease in "rustic tent" in the foreseeable future. An example of "other" accommodations that will heavily influence this project at Red Rock Canyon is van camping. Van camping, especially in the rock-climbing community is growing exponentially. Changes are being driven by younger campers, social media and online technology which are promoting public lands. This promotion is driving interest which leads to agencies needing to adapt and change campground amenities. Overall, the research shows that there is a growing desire for recreationists to have an experience that is "close to nature." Fortunately, Red Rock Canyon's mission as stated in the original authorizing legislation – "...enhance, protect and conserve the natural and cultural resources and values of the of the NCA for current and future generations." Guarantees a close to nature experience that is sustainable and well thought out. Red Rock Canyon is proposing to add a tent site loop with all sites accommodating van camping. In addition, Red Rock Canyon in a future funding request is proposing to add an additional RV loop to the campground, but the supporting amenity, water, to the sites would need to be studied first.



In addition, this project complements the Legacy Trail Project. Red Rock Canyon NCA is currently working on the design and construction of a 40-mile multi-use paved path, that parallels SR 159. This path is for cyclists, walkers, joggers, and equestrian users and connects to trail networks including, the Moenkopi Road access point of the multi-use path. This connector point will allow for families and individuals on bike and foot to access the campground and its amenities for programming and camping. To accommodate bike packers, the campground expansion will include ten bike friendly tent sites that have a tent pad, shade structure, a picnic table and bike rack. These sites will be available on a first come, first serve basis. To accommodate cyclists, there will be two permanent bike repair stations.

#### Community:

This project would improve the quality of life for the local community and visitors to RRCNCA by providing safe access and diverse opportunities to experience public lands. Community is at the core of this proposal because the current campground and proposed expansion is a hub for visitors to experience Red Rock Canyon NCA in a unique way with others. The BLM is prioritizing this project to plan, design, and construct a brand-new loop that shifts from its current early 1990s design to build amenities that will promote camping to a diversity of user groups. This project is not just for the users today, but for those who will visit in the future.

There is substantial demand for camping at Red Rock Canyon. Currently the NCA has just under four million visitors per year and is trending to see five million visitors by 2025. Currently, the campground is open September – May and closes during the hot summer season. The campground typically fills the first weekend it opens and stays full for the entire open season. As soon as reservations are available, they are immediately sold, leaving many visitors without options. This has created a struggle for the nearby community because campers are homesteading near a catch basin in town just before you enter Red Rock Canyon, which is unsafe, unsightly, and leaves major environmental impacts. Many visitors without a place to stay are finding places in the NCA where camping is not allowed such as trailheads and day use parking lots. Both situations are less than ideal as resource impacts continue to grow and waste and trash issues are on the rise. Campground amenities are few and far between in Las Vegas, and Red Rock Canyon would be providing a much-needed resource for the visitation demand at the NCA, but also for the community of Las Vegas.

The Campground expansion project would also provide a facility that further supports hosted worker registration, check-in/check-out processes and virtual fee collection. It would also provide gate access that would further enhance the check-in process as well as provide a high level of safety for all camper's afterhours.

The project also proposes an amphitheater that will seat approximately 100 people and host nightly ranger programs on various subjects that focus on the NCA and its resources. Special events, such as guest speakers and small community events may also take place

here. Management of the amphitheater would also provide opportunities to rent for events e.g., weddings, film festival, etc. It is expected that one of the biggest draws to the Amphitheater is a BLM initiated Night Sky program for campground guests. Examples of amphitheater designs that would be sufficient for the needs at the Red Rock Campground are below.

Lastly, this project proposal includes the addition of a day use area to accommodate 100 visitors. This area would include two large group shade structures with picnic tables, ten single shade structures with picnic tables, pedestal grills, a 20-car parking area, and bike racks. This area could be used by reservation or by first come first serve if available. This addition would encourage Legacy Trail users to visit the Red Rock Campground to enjoy a picnic and possibly an amphitheater program. Research from Science Daily has shown that spending time outdoors “has a positive effect on the brain which can impact concentration, working memory, and the psyche as a whole” and Red Rock Canyon is thrilled to offer that experience to visitors. The campground expansion offers unique opportunities that support a sense of community.

### **C. PURPOSE STATEMENT: 1-2 SENTENCE ONLY**

The purpose of the Red Rock Canyon Campground Expansion project is to add more campsites and amenities that will enhance the camping experience for a more diverse visitor base. Red Rock Canyon's Campground improvements will provide a more family-friendly environment that will include: a small amphitheater and stage, vegetation and screening between campsites, a nature trail, shade structures, RV sites for summer camping (constructed in a future phase), paved access roads, an entry booth into the campground, and possibly water for all visitors.

### **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

#### **1. Primary Deliverables:**

Enter itemized deliverables here. Primary Deliverables are those items that must be completed in order to accomplish the project purpose.

- 65 Shade shelters at all new sites and 27 existing camp sites that do not have shade shelters.
- 1 Pay-to-use waste dump station for RVs
- 1 Amphitheater with small stage
- 1 Small education building also used as a screen for outdoor movie nights.
- 7 Kiosks, 50 informational signage, and 15 outreach displays
- 4 vault toilets
- 1.5 gravel road upgrades
- 1.5 mile of new road development
- Approximately 3 miles of designated trail that loops around the campground and connects with nearby existing trail opportunities.

- A day use area to accommodate 100 which includes 12 shade structures with picnic tables, pedestal grills, and a 20-car parking area.

## 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

Enter itemized deliverables here. Anticipated Deliverables are those items that are desirable and beneficial, but not minimally necessary to completion of the project and its purpose.

- Plant native vegetation at approximately 600 plants to cover all campsite screening requirements for single site vegetation screening and restoration
- 1 Day use parking and 1 picnic area
- 1 Access trail at approximately 1.5 miles as a connecting to other non-motorized trails
- 4 Solar panels to power camp host stations
- 2 Solar powered EV stations for vehicles and e-bikes

## 3. Standard Deliverables:

Enter itemized deliverables here. Standard Deliverables are those items that are generally accepted by the industry standards as necessary to complete the deliverables.

- NEPA process, and all required consultation and public involvement completed, for site specific trailhead plans for redevelopment completed.
- NEPA decision document for site specific trailhead plans for redevelopment.
- Writing request for bids
- Develop partner agreements for treatment of noxious weeds; Initiate noxious weed treatments
- Equipment and supply purchases
- Recreational Experience Improvements
  - 65 tent/van sites
  - 3-5 water spigots
  - 2 Host Sites with power and water hookups
  - Campsite amenities (picnic tables, fire ring, tent pads, site markers)
- Develop scopes of work for planning, design and construction contracts and award the contracts.
- Develop and implement a revegetation plan for all temporary disturbed areas
  - Salvage impacted cactus and yucca
- Submittal for obtaining management approval of project documents
- Specialist analysis of all projects
- Project close out with the SNPLMA Division
  - SMART quarterly status updates
  - SMART annual and final accomplishment reports
  - Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable.

## E. PROJECT LOCATION

**Latitude and Longitude:**

36.13.133 -115.38312

**Congressional District(s):**

Congressional District 3 and 4

## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

5 Years

This project will take five (5) years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned to be as follows:

Year 1 - 2

- Complete work plans and funding authorization
- Security review
- Design considerations
- Complete planning, design and NEPA to include:
  - Conceptual design
  - SHPO/Historic Properties Consultation (if required)
  - NEPA preparation
  - Preliminary plan design

Year 3

- Decision document (EA and FONSI)
- Finalize design
- Preconstruction and Contracting Development
- Site Restoration Plan
- Construction begins

Year 4

- Construction Completed

Year 5

- Project Closeout

## G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- NoIs

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

Explain "Yes" above responses and project readiness.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The BLM currently maintains the campground through a hosted worker program where volunteers live at the campground year-round providing all operations and maintenance of the area. The BLM recently got approved the position for a permanent full time Park Ranger to oversee the hosted worker program with the anticipation that the campground would expand. The BLM also plans to expand the hosted worker program that would provide 4 additional hosted worker sites for management of the loop providing new opportunities for volunteers and partners.

In addition, the current fee collection program at the campground covers approximately half of the operations and maintenance of the campground. The campground expansion project will increase fee revenue substantially allowing for an increase in support for operations and the cost for maintenance.

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## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).			
PROJECT BUDGET			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Red Rock Campground	<b>Date:</b> 10/3/2021	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Joshua Travers	<b>Agency:</b> BLM	
Cost Categories		SNPLMA	Non-Federal Contribution
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 237,600.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 22,000.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 1,476,055.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 12,986,265	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 48,845.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 619,320.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 15,393,085</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Notes:			

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

The BLM is not receiving any partnership or contributed funds for this project.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Catrina Williams  
 Email: cwilliams@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5351

Project Manager: Joshua Travers  
 Email: jtravers@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5370

Budget Officer: Teresa Miskowic  
 Email: tmiskowic@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5103

## **K. RANKING CRITERIA**

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated designlife of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

*A. A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: The Red Rock Canyon Campground has had only minor improvements since its original development in early 1990s. Visitor use of the campground has increased 418 percent since 1998 and the BLM now has the opportunity to enhance the campground for all visitors. The expanded campground design would include an amphitheater that seats approximately 100 people that includes a small stage with an education building that will provide space for storage of education supplies and materials for the Red Rock Canyon interpretive staff to use as a platform for giving educational talks and host other community outreach events. The amphitheater would also be open for public events that meet the resource protection mission and goals of Red Rock Canyon NCA. The campground will include resource education and public outreach on various kiosks, message boards, and signs placed throughout the grounds and at common areas such as near bathrooms and water filling stations. In addition, all the roads in the campground are dirt aggregate roads and this project would pave the roads to reduce the large amount of dust that fills the air when vehicles drive through, and past occupied sites cause great impact to the visitor experience.

Even with the anticipated fee increase in 2023, Red Rock Canyon Campground will continue to be an affordable, safe, and sustainable lodging option for visitors that wish to utilize the facilities and enjoy Red Rock Canyon NCA.

*B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer: The existing Red Rock Canyon campground was constructed in the early 1990s and has been used at or near its capacity consistently for the last 8 years. This project would add shade structures to all the existing 27 tent sites and new tent/van sites, add vegetation barriers between each site to replace denuded vegetation and provide privacy screening between spaces, and improve the road at the campground to reduce dust. Depending on the results of a water use feasibility study, in Phase II, the entire campground could get shower and flushing toilet facilities. The expansion proposed in this project would be designed for consistency with the improved spaces, each including its own shade shelter and vegetation screen. Flushing toilets and water stations would be planned for as well. Access roads at the campground addition would be paved to reduce dust.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: While the existing campground is not a historic structure or facility, it is approaching 30 years of heavy use and is in need of upgrades and renovations. This project would improve the campground road, campsites, restrooms, and visitor outreach by renovating the existing facilities and replanting vegetation at the existing facilities. Red Rock Canyon's cultural and historic features would be represented throughout the existing campground and new kiosks, message boards, and informational signs would be created and placed alerting visitors to the area's rich history. Additionally, the new amphitheater and stage would provide a venue for interpretive talks, educational displays, and community gatherings.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: This project incorporates the following criterion from D including contact stations, campgrounds, programs for improved conservation, and educational programming. The new campground would accommodate twice as many visitors, effectively doubling opportunities for contact and visitor education. Up to four new campground host stations would be included, as well as a permanent office space for on-site hosts. New kiosks, message boards, and informational signs would be installed throughout the grounds. With the addition of an amphitheater and stage, the new campground would host interpretive talks, movies, educational events, and displays curated toward informing visitors of the natural and cultural resources of Red Rock Canyon NCA. This new venue would offer a unique experience at Red Rock Canyon by making education and outreach even easier to access by the camping public. The addition of shade structures and other amenities would create a safe and family friendly atmosphere which encourages a new diverse audience and younger generation of public land users to learn about Red Rock Canyon NCA.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to



the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. ***Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: This proposal would provide up to 65 new tent / van camping sites, 41 new RV camping spaces in Phase II there would be four bathrooms, four new camp host sites, informational kiosks, signs, and displays informing visitors of the recreational and natural viewing opportunities in Red Rock Canyon. The campground expansion would allow for more than twice as many visitors to enjoy camping in the NCA, leading to more than twice as many visitor contacts and opportunities to educate the public. Access to the campground addition would be paved, therefore providing a more user-friendly camping experience. The new campground additions would also include an amphitheater and stage designed to host educational talks, outreach events, and displays. The existing campground facilities would all be upgraded with shade structures, toilets, new visitor displays and kiosks with maps and general resource information. There will also be new vegetation which will act as a privacy screen between tent sites. The existing campground is typically closed in the summer months due to extreme heat and lack of shade, so providing shade at each new and existing tent site may create a new season of use otherwise not available to visitors.

Lastly, this expansion would include a day use area for 100 visitors. It would include 12 shade structures with picnic tables, pedestal grills, and parking for 20. This area would allow locals and tourists to picnic and enjoy Red Rock's beauty from the expanded campground.

- B. ***Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer: The existing campground contains kiosks and displays that will be updated with the latest information and maps of Red Rock Canyon. Climbing displays at the existing group sites would provide better directions to the NCA's most popular climbing areas and contain an updated map showing the access paths to those areas. The existing tent sites would all be upgraded with their own shade structures, and natural areas would be replanted with vegetation to provide privacy screening between the sites. Paths leading to the restrooms would be redefined and user created paths would be rehabilitated to maintain the natural feel between tent spaces.

The new campground addition would also be designed to provide another access point to the non-motorized trails leading to and from the Moenkopi Trailhead. Having direct access to these trails from the campground would provide visitors the opportunity for non-motorized recreation without having to drive or bike/hike on the paved Moenkopi Road.

- C. ***Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

Answer: This proposal includes the construction of approximately 3 miles of new access trail that would provide direct access to existing non-motorized trails without having to drive, ride, or hike/walk to the Moenkopi Trailhead on the existing, paved Moenkopi Road.

Red Rock Canyon NCA is currently working on the design and construction of a Legacy Trail, a 40-mile multi-use paved path, that will parallel SR 159. This path is for cyclists, walkers, joggers, and equestrian users and connects to local, state, and federal trail networks at Red Rock Canyon NCA. This project proposal is nearly completely driven by user demand for more camping opportunities at Red Rock Canyon and improving the visitor experience. The existing campground operates at full capacity during its season which is the fall and spring months. Historically, visitation slows in December and January. The campground is typically closed in the summer months due to extreme heat and lack of shade.

***D. Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

Answer: New kiosks containing maps, wayfinding, and interpretation would be installed throughout the campground expansion. Information signage and displays would also be included in the campground addition. The kiosks, signage, and displays at the existing campground would be updated with new information and replaced if sun fading has occurred. The campground addition would also include an amphitheater and stage designed to provide a platform for outreach and interpretation events, talks, and community events. It also would provide opportunities for movie nights. The space would also be used to house temporary and changing displays highlighting a number of natural or cultural resource topics including, but not limited to, Leave No Trace, Wild Horse and Burro information, and hiking best practices. Red Rock will consider offering the amphitheater and stage space for reservation by public or private groups if the purpose of reservation meets the resource protection, enhancement, or education goals of the NCA.

- 3. COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

***A. Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: The Red Rock/Sloan Field Office has an approved, full-time campground manager position whose responsibility is to oversee the existing campground. This person's role

would transition into managing the expanded campground. The education and outreach materials presented on the signage, kiosks, and displays would be managed jointly by Red Rock Canyon interpretive staff, the Southern Nevada Conservancy, and the Friends of Red Rock Canyon. Increased interest in RV camping at Red Rock Canyon would be met by developing 41 RV sites, in Phase II, at the new addition, and paving the campground roads, installing vault toilets, and shade structures would create a more family friendly atmosphere. This atmosphere would also appeal to new campers, or those looking for a less rustic experience, thereby getting more people outdoors. These improvements would be appreciated by the growing and expanding Las Vegas population.

***B. Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: This project will complete the planning and the design of the campground expansion.

***C. Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: Red Rock Canyon has prioritized the need to provide access for recreation opportunities for those without access to parks, trails, or outdoor recreation opportunities and is committed to continuously finding creative ways that ensures access for everyone (elderly, minorities, disabled) and will be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, Red Rock Canyon will encourage stakeholders and partners to provide feedback and opportunities on how to connect underserved populations to their public lands. The campground is being re-designed and modernized to meet the needs of all those interested in outdoor recreation and has the supporting amenities for access needs.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

***A. The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).***

Answer: BLM's Red Rock Canyon / Sloan Field Office is the responsible office for operating, managing, and maintenance of this facility as part of its annual operation and maintenance program. Currently, BLM has a fee program in place at the existing campground that covers 100 percent of the operations and maintenance needs. The Red Rock Canyon Business Plan for 2018 – 2028 includes an increase of fees at the

campground. This increase ranges from 20 -33 percent based on the current accommodations. This revenue in conjunction with the potential expansion would increase revenue continuing to have the campground self-sufficient for operational and maintenance needs.

The campground currently has two hosted workers that provide operational support for reservations and provide general maintenance such as minor repairs, janitorial services, and miscellaneous visitor use tasks. The expanded campground would require four additional hosted workers totaling six. These volunteers would continue to provide general maintenance and operations support. This model keeps labor costs low and supports full self-sufficiency of the campground.

**B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: Red Rock Canyon has strong partnerships with two organizations who assist with operations, maintenance, interpretation, and education.

Friends of Red Rock Canyon (Friends) has the distinction of being the oldest partner of the Bureau of Land Management in the country and supports the BLM with the management of the volunteer program and partnership and project work. On average, volunteers contribute over 20,000 hours annually valued at \$500,000. Work varies from staffing the Visitor Center Information Desk, to monitoring cultural sites, to maintaining native plants, to helping with maintenance projects. Friends will continue to support the BLM by mobilizing volunteers to help with light maintenance, native plant work, and volunteer visitor contact services at the expanded campground.

Southern Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is a 501 (c)(3) that has operated the fee booth, gift shop, and has provided interpretation at Red Rock Canyon for many decades. SNC will support the campground by providing interpretation to visitors which includes information tabletops, lectures, hikes, and content creation for the upgraded and new signage.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: The campground expansion project will not only model sustainability through its design and low impact performance but will provide a safe and inviting space for locals and tourists to use as a base while exploring Red Rock Canyon NCA. This low-cost lodging option is available to the public, providing people of every age, ability, and socioeconomic background a safe and inexpensive space for outdoor enjoyment, recreation, and education. This space will also provide important social spaces where people can meet, interact, and build relationships.

In addition, the campground will have a number of educational opportunities for visitors through signage, kiosks, and programming. Visitors will learn about Red Rock Canyon in an enjoyable, relaxing, and easy way. Programs will be hosted by BLM and partners in the amphitheater that will cover basic Leave No Trace, historical, cultural, and biological information about Red Rock Canyon NCA and other public lands.

**D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: This project will include a number of energy efficient components. The six camp host sites will continue to run on the local power grid, however there are solar panels to offset their consumption. The amphitheater will have solar lighting which will be useful and safe for evening programming and events. In addition, there will be two solar powered electric vehicle and one E-bike charging stations that will encourage environmentally friendly behaviors for users.

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

**A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: Many of the kiosks and displays at the existing campground are in need of upgrades due to either sun bleaching, fading and changing information. It is critical to keep the public safe and informed about the changes at Red Rock Canyon NCA such as information about rock climbing, non-motorized recreation, and newly discovered endemic plant species. These are examples of updates that need to be included on the current kiosks and displays. In addition, the existing camp sites do not meet accessibility standards (i.e. wheelchair friendly picnic tables and fire rings) and need to be upgraded. Wheelchair accessible camp sites would be included in the expanded campground design. All 65 new sites will meet Americans with Disabilities Act Standards.

**B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer: The existing campground was constructed in the early 1990s at a time when visitation to Red Rock Canyon NCA was a fraction of its current volume. Because of the exponential increase in use and visitation, the current 86 tent spaces are typically fully reserved through the spring and fall peak seasons and are near capacity during December and January. This leaves a significant number of visitors to find lodging in less desirable accommodations that are unaffordable which can lead to seeking unauthorized camping opportunities in other areas of the NCA.

With the addition of the Legacy Trail and the infrastructure improvements and increased access that the project offers, there will be even more interest in the NCA and the campground will help to accommodate the 5 million visitors that are expected to visit Red Rock by 2025. The campground expansion is an easy solution to offer continued opportunities for visitors that are safe, sustainable, and affordable and upholds conservation messaging.

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

By providing expanded camping, this project would help reduce the amount of unauthorized dispersed camping throughout the NCA. The impacts from unauthorized dispersed camping are becoming more prevalent in otherwise pristine locations like Cottonwood Valley. Trash, human waste, and trampled vegetation impacts would be mitigated by building more camping facilities. In addition, the campground offers a controlled environment for users, if allowed, to have fires as opposed to illegally having them in unsafe spaces around the NCA which jeopardizes the entire area.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

The project will maximize the use of goods, products, and materials produced in, and services offered in, the United States. Red Rock Canyon will, whenever possible, procure goods, products, materials, and services from sources that will help American businesses compete in strategic industries and help America's workers thrive.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

- The BLM, specifically Red Rock Canyon / Sloan Field Office is entrusted with managing Red Rock Canyon with protecting its natural and cultural resources and for providing sustainable access that supports a diversity of recreational uses, experiences, and for the benefit of current and future generations. The Red Rock Canyon campground expansion seeks to improve the recreational experience by making more camping available to a wider audience, including RVs, vans, bikes, E- bikes and car camping. This project also seeks to make the existing campground more family friendly by installing shade structures at every campsite and will replant denuded vegetation between campsites. An access trail leading directly to nearby non-motorized trails, including the multi-use Legacy Trail, would provide a safe and convenient recreation opportunity directly from the campground setting for the benefit of current and future generations.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: Red Rock Canyon will continue to ensure all efforts in this project are centered around enhancing conservation initiatives, stewardship; increasing outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans, including opportunities; and improves the management of game species and their habitats for this generation and beyond. This project seeks to reduce impacts on wildlife by mitigating the proliferation of unauthorized dispersed camping in the NCA.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Unauthorized camping has increased in an area of the NCA known to be a migration corridor for bighorn sheep. Expanding the campground to accommodate more visitors would help draw camping away from this migration corridor and improve habitat conditions for the species. Given the NCA's mission of conservation, this critical campground enhancement would be invaluable to this population of bighorn sheep.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

The expanded campground project would allow for more than twice as many visitors and because of the upgraded accommodations would be more inviting to a wider audience including families, RV users, and new campers/campers looking for a more developed outdoor experience. Education and outreach efforts would encourage these new users to explore the different areas of Red Rock Canyon safely and sustainably.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

A critical benefit to the public with the proposed campground expansion would be the increased opportunities to share messaging about conservation, stewardship and other public lands to access. This would be done through educational talks, outreach, and engagement at the amphitheater and stage. A visit to Red Rock Canyon's Campground would break down barriers to public land access and not only inspire, but encourage users to explore additional

public lands, including urban national wildlife refuges, and to be stewards for years to come on those lands.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

By drawing more visitors to the established campground, this project will help reduce the risk of wildfire starts caused by dispersed vehicle camping to other areas of the NCA. By providing a safe and controlled environment such as an improved campground, the BLM is actively managing lands to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire. Please note that by expanding the capacity of the campground this will allow for the continued support and possible expansion of training opportunities for BLM Fire Suppression Staff. This work is critical because of the increasing fire activity at Red Rock Canyon.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: This project does not address SO No. 3373. This project does not address SO No. 3373.

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

This project would help implement the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act by supporting recreation and outdoor access in Red Rock Canyon and improving the visitor experience to public lands adjacent to Las Vegas. Most importantly, Red Rock Canyon will continue to host Every Kids Outdoors Program (EKO) and the Campground facility, particularly the proposed amphitheater will allow for additional interpretive programming in another NCA location. One of the goals of EKO is to empower children to continue to use, enjoy and interact with their public lands and the campground is the perfect backdrop to make this possible.

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes- bike use is responsibly encouraged at Red Rock Canyon NCA. With the creation of the Legacy Trail more cyclists will be accessing Red Rock Canyon. Because of this increased use and traffic and the interest in the campground these charging stations are a critical addition to the expansion. In addition, the almost 40-mile multi-use path, the Legacy Trail, will attract bikepackers looking to safely cycle and have an affordable and convenient location to camp on their trip.***

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- ***Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters. We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future***



*generations.*

This project will include solar-powered lighting at the amphitheater that incorporates the BLM's look and feel for design and most importantly, will support safe evening programming for the public and campground guests. This low impact lighting is environmentally friendly and safe for visitors. With the energy consumption of the camp hosts being carbon neutral, the BLM is using renewable energy to support the operations of this campground.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Red Rock Canyon would conduct a thorough consultation with the Tribal Nations during the design of the expanded campground. This consultation would include the review of educational materials and information regarding the Indigenous Peoples' history in Red Rock Canyon and the greater Las Vegas area.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

This project is an investment to create many family-supporting and union jobs in its planning, design, construction and as it lives in its legacy serving many millions of Americans and Tourists for years to come. The design and construction of the expanded campground would, when possible, employ local firms and construction businesses to invest back in the community and encourage the growth of Las Vegas' local economy. **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Education and outreach materials installed at the campground would inform the visiting public of the purpose and overarching goals of the NCA, foster a new generation of land stewards, and encourage visitors to engage in volunteer conservation efforts in Red Rock Canyon and for other public lands. Red Rock Canyon is prioritizing this project as a response to converging challenges of climate change, loss of natural areas and wildlife, and inequitable access to nature. The project supports sustaining access to every community possible: returning American wildlife to abundance; safeguarding the health and productivity of the nation's working lands and waters; giving families the chance to recreate and explore in a safe, close-to-home park setting and campground; honoring and supporting the natural and cultural resource priorities of Tribal Nations; and far more. This project rises to meet the conservation challenge and improve our nation's resilience against climate change and strengthen the foundation of America's economy.

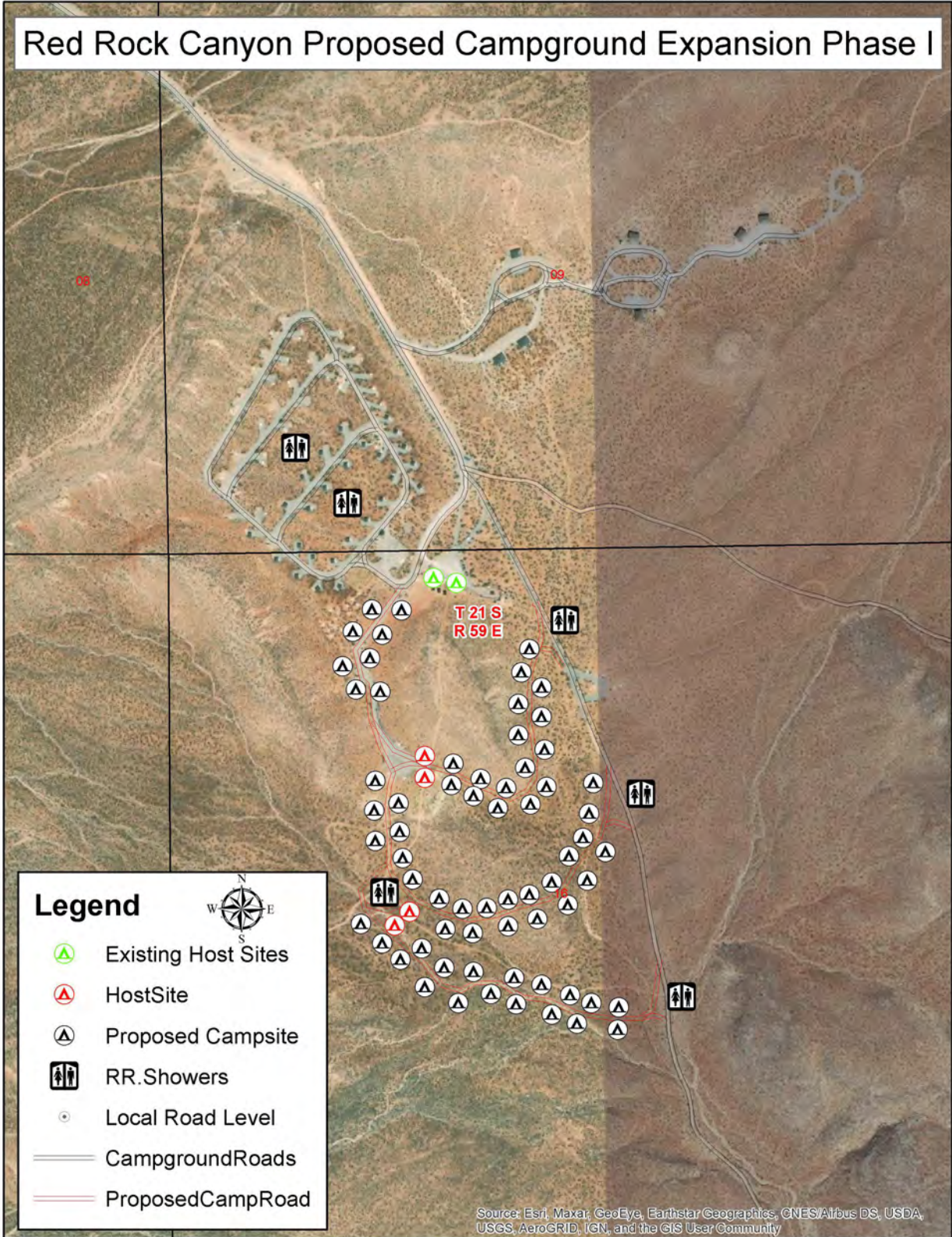
- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and*

*rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

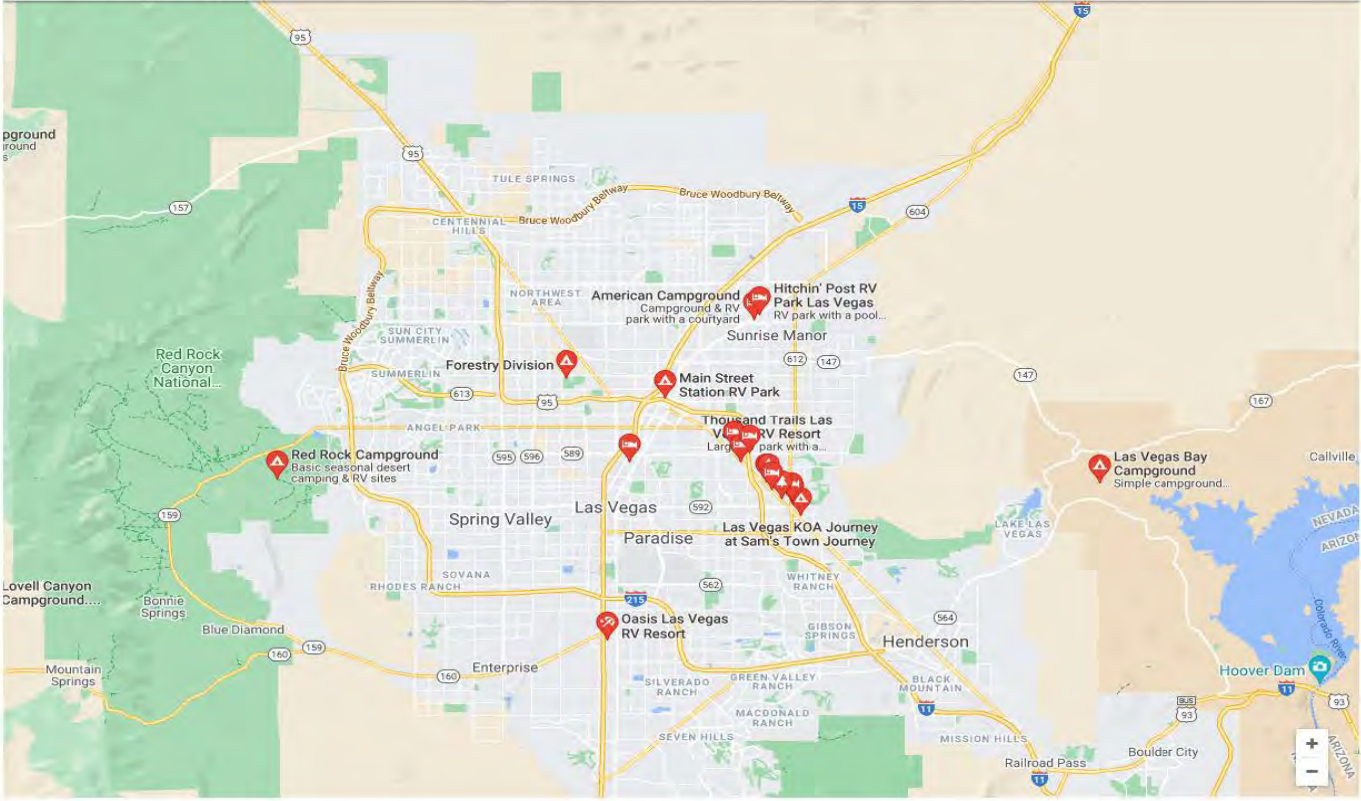
Red Rock Canyon is incorporating principles of equity, environmental justice, and social vulnerability into the planning, designing, construction, and the use of this trailsystem. In addition, tribal consultation would be at the center of public outreach regarding this project. The COVID-19 pandemic has taught all of us that having access to the outdoors is vital to maintaining a high quality of life. The new campground facilities would provide a much-needed space for families from diverse backgrounds to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life, connect with nature and each other, and enjoy the natural environment.

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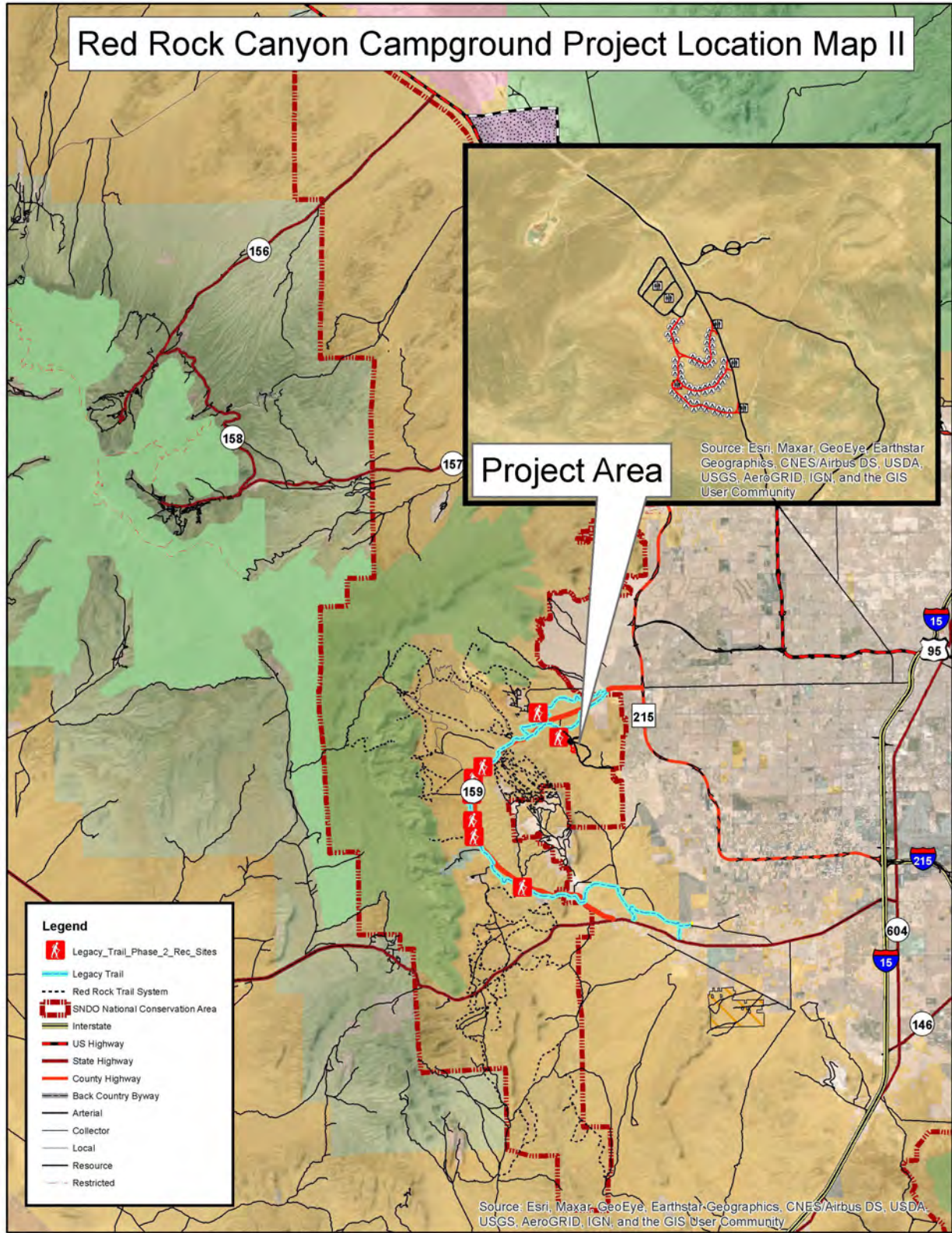
# M. MAPS



Community Strategic Values Map: Camping Opportunities in Las Vegas. Many visitors come to Las Vegas to visit Red Rock Canyon where there is a shortage of camping and economical lodging for recreation users visiting Red Rock Canyon. This population and demand increase every year.



# Red Rock Canyon Campground Project Location Map II



## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H4 - Acres of Upland Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of acres of upland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the acres have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire rehabilitation projects or by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as these should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as these should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole acre.	50-60 ac
H9 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Treated or Restored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation treated with chemical, mechanical, physical, or biological control agents for the purpose of weed control. Include acres treated by fire when fire is used as a physical control agent for weed control rather than as a hazardous fuels treatment. Each acre treated is counted only once during the life of the project, no matter how many re-treatments occurred during the project. Report to the nearest whole acre.	10 ac
H10 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation inventoried or monitored. Include monitoring of weed treatment projects reported under performance measure H9. Report to the nearest whole acre.	10 ac
H16 - Miles of Roads or Trails Decommissioned and/or rehabilitated	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails decommissioned and/or rehabilitated within all habitats (urban, upland, riparian, stream, trails in caves, etc.). Closure may include designation, signing, blockage by physical means, obliteration, etc. Report to the nearest whole mile.	1
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	5-8 mi
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	50-60 ac

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:  
Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing  
Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment**

<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	60-80
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	3 mi

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of  
Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	60-80
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	8-12
O8 – Buildings or Facilities that Support Green Sustainable Design and Construction	Report the percent reduction in the carbon footprint accomplished through green design, water conservation, energy independence, etc. Report the Leed certification level (silver, gold, platinum), if applicable. Report each building or facility as one unit.	6 – 10
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	1-5
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	10
O12 – Number of Management Plans/Handbooks/Manuals/ Guides for Activity on Public Lands Completed (formerly under H11, F3, C4, and R1)*	Report the number of new or revised ecosystem restoration, hazardous fuels reduction, recreation, cultural, resource management, or other activity plans when the decision document for the plan is signed. Revisions include modification of a significant portion of the decisions in the activity plan. Do not report minor amendments or changes in these plans. Report each plan as one unit.	1

O. PHOTOS



Photos 1 And 2 display existing sites. One with Shelter and the sites missing shelter. In addition, this project will improve the road to a paved surface



Photo on the left is current host site and the temporary office that will be replaced with the proposed entrance station. The photo on the right is 51 vehicles lined up across from the last residential community leaving Summerlin, Las Vegas as you enter Red Rock Canyon. This area will have 30-60 campers a day lined on the side of the highway that serves as overflow from Red Rock Campground being full. Note: Summerlin is preparing to bring this issue to County, which will force this camping to add to the growing problem of illegal camping on the National Conservation Area.



## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Friends of Red Rock Canyon
2. Form Letter

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November 1, 2021

Robert Wandel  
Assistance District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Campground Expansion

Dear Mr. Wandel;

Friends of Red Rock Canyon (Friends) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 1984, whose mission is the protection and enhancement of Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) and the public lands of Southern Nevada. Friends has actively assisted in and promoted the responsible usage of RRCNCA since our founding.

On behalf of the board, staff and 500 members of Friends, I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for \$16,000,000 in funding that will contract, plan, design and construct the expansion of the Red Rock Canyon Campground. The proposed expansion and improvements will create a unique opportunity for users to interact with each other and their Public Lands in an accessible and affordable way.

The addition of more campsites and amenities will benefit the estimated 4,000,000 annual users of Red Rock Canyon NCA while upholding the guidelines defined by the approved Resource Management Plan. The campground currently operates at full capacity during its open season. These additions will allow for year round use and will not only model sustainability through its design and low impact performance, but will also provide a safe and inviting space for locals and visitors/guests to use as base while exploring Red Rock Canyon NCA.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Erin J. McDermott  
Executive Director  
erin@friendsredrock.org  
702-515-5366

November 4, 2021

Robert Wandel  
Assistant District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Campground Expansion

Dear Mr. Wandel;

I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for \$16,000,000 in funding that will contract, plan, design and construct the expansion of the Red Rock Canyon Campground. The proposed expansion and improvements will create a unique opportunity for users to interact with each other and their Public Lands in an accessible and affordable way.

The addition of more campsites and amenities will benefit the estimated 4,000,000 annual users of Red Rock Canyon NCA while upholding the guidelines defined by the approved Resource Management Plan. The campground currently operates at full capacity during its open season. These additions will allow for year round use and will not only model sustainability through its design and low impact performance, but will also provide a safe and inviting space for locals and visitors/guests to use as base while exploring Red Rock Canyon NCA.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Inventive Dental Solutions, LLC – Steve & Dianne Sperry  
Cowboy Trail Rides& Back Country Horsemen – James Sage  
Takedown Piracy Inc – Nate Glass  
Get Outdoors Nevada – Rachel Bergren  
Conservation Lands Foundation – Bertha Gutierrez  
Save Red Rock – Sheila B.  
Friends of Red Rock Canyon – Erin J. McDermott  
Trail Access Project – Ed Price & Lynn Price  
Edith Cardiff  
Rebecca Dukes  
Shannon Pawlak  
Gregory L. Darrow,  
M.D.  
Phil Bevins  
Dwight Hempel  
Patricia Potter

Shari Young  
Kelly Sell  
William Li  
PAT WILLIAMS  
Edwina LaBrecque  
Cassi Novratil  
Christine McBride  
Elizabeth Carmer  
Christine Vogt  
Patricia Wheeler  
Terry Royder  
Julia D Thomas  
Barbara Maddox  
Richard Walker  
John Rinaldo  
Judi Hempel  
Charles Williams  
Charles Wang  
Rachel Bush  
Kenneth Osgood  
Jim Klotz  
Brandie Smith  
Karen B.  
McDermott  
Daniel P.  
McDermott  
Alissa Loew  
Jake Newman

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S.D.A. Forest Service  
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
Ely Ranger District**



**Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project**

**Amount Requested: \$1,978,180**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The trail system on Mount Moriah was first established in the early 1900s. In 1989 Congress established the Mount Moriah Wilderness and expanded the wilderness area in 2006. The Mount Moriah Wilderness area is very remote; attracting hikers and horseback riders. Over the years the trail system, trailheads, and access roads have deteriorated making recreational access difficult.

In 2014, the Hampton Creek Fire burned over 12,500 acres on the eastern slopes of Mount Moriah within the Hampton Creek, Horse Canyon, and Smith Creek drainages. Immediately following the fire, multiple significant flood events occurred on the mountain range. Those floods combined with the fire resulted in the complete destruction of the trail system, trailheads and access roads within the Hampton Creek and Horse Canyon drainages (See enclosed photos). Significant damage occurred to the Smith Canyon infrastructure. Other trails, access roads, and trailheads are also in poor condition due to age and environmental factors such as floods.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

The Ely Ranger District has recognized the need to plan long term for the needs of our public and improve recreational opportunities. A long-term plan has been developed to upgrade and improve our developed recreational facilities, trail systems, and improve access to recreational opportunities. There are no future phases planned for this project.

**2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

This project is a stand-alone project with no future phases.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:

The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project.

- Reduce recreational impacts on resources such as a reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage.
  - Redesign sections of trail to reduce potential resource impacts.
  - Anticipated design life of this project is approximately 30-40 years.
  - Reestablish and upgrade a popular non-motorized trail system and expand non-motorized recreational opportunities in White Pine County.
  - Educate visitors regarding recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area through the use of kiosks, maps, social media sites and the Forest Service website.
- Connectivity:  
The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.
    - Restore and reestablish a popular non-motorized trail system to expand recreational opportunities on Mount Moriah and White Pine County.
    - Educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities and natural resources through the use of kiosks, maps, social media sites and the Forest Service website.
    - Provide an upgraded non-motorized trail system for visitors in a remote and rural setting to increase access and recreational opportunities for visitors.
    - Provides interpretive opportunities about the History and Culture of the area.
  - Community:  
This project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community.
    - Reconstruct and restore a popular non-motorized trail system to provide recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
    - Restore a large non-motorized trail system at a landscape scale. This trail system has been adversely impacted by wildfires and floods.
    - Restore drainage on the trails and redesign sections of trail to reduce adverse impacts on resources.
    - The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Great Basin Trails Alliance, Back-county Horsemen, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County, White Pine County Tourism and Recreation and the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District will improve the outdoor recreation experience, significantly improve visitor safety, and improve and restore visitor access to the Mount Moriah Wilderness Area.



The Ely Ranger District will:

- Reconstruct the Mount Moriah Trail System.
- Reconstruct 5-6 trailheads to include but not limited to parking areas, kiosks, reforestation with native Ponderosa Pine and directional signing.
- Install road and trail directional signing as needed.
- Reconstruct the access roads to the trailheads.
- GPS and map the trail system, trailheads, and access roads.
- Produce a quality recreational trail map for the public.
- Update the Forest Service web and social media sites.

## **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

### 1. Primary Deliverables

- Reconstruct and improve approximately 25-35 miles of trail within and adjacent to the Mount Moriah Wilderness.
- Reconstruct 5-6 trailheads to include but not limited to parking areas, kiosks, reforestation with native Ponderosa Pine and directional signing.
- Reconstruct and improve approximately 18-20 miles of access roads.
- GPS and map the trail system, trailheads, and access roads.
- Produce a quality recreational trail map for the public.
- Update the Forest Service web and social media sites.

### 2. Anticipated Deliverables

- Construct between 5-15 equestrian trail miles within Silver Creek that will connect to BLM equestrian trails near the BLM Sacramento Pass Recreation Area.

### 3. Standard Deliverables

- Complete required inventories, site assessments, and cultural assessment within the project area as required.
- Complete environmental planning process including: NEPA analysis and decision, SHPO consultation, coordination, etc.
- Coordination with the SNPLMA Program Managers.
- Development of the project workplan, site inspection and project initiation.
- SMART quarterly status updates
- SMART quarterly expenditures/obligations updates
- SMART annual and final accomplishment reports.
- Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

39.25855139360031, -114.13910195809018

### **Congressional District(s):**

Nevada Congressional District NV-4

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

The Project Lead will coordinate the overall implementation of the project, track accomplishments and report out on those accomplishments. Forest engineers will provide assistance in planning and design as well as construction activities. The following is an outline of activities and timeframe for completion:

### **Year 1**

- Complete planning, design, and compliance documentation.
- Complete survey work.
- Prepare news releases notifying the public about plans for the road and trail systems.
- Coordination with the County, Tribal Governments and other interested groups.
- Preparation of contract(s) and/or agreements.

### **Year 2**

- Solicitation and award of contract(s) for trail reconstruction.
- Solicitation and award of contract to collect native ponderosa seed in Henry's Creek for shipment to Lucky Peak to grow and reforest around trailheads
- Begin road reconstruction activities.
- Continue to prepare news releases notifying the public about road and trail system construction activities.
- Purchase trailhead kiosks and directional signs and materials
- Coordination meetings with the County, Tribal Governments and other interested groups throughout the project, as required.

### **Year 3**

- Continue to implement trail reconstruction contracts
- Continue to implement and complete access road reconstruction activities.
- Begin construction of trailheads and installation of kiosks and directional signing.
- Continue to prepare news releases notifying the public about road and trail system construction activities.
- Coordination meetings with the County, Tribal Governments and other interested groups throughout the project, as required.

### **Year 4**

- Complete trail reconstruction contracts
- Complete access road reconstruction activities.
- Solicitation and award of contract to plant seedlings grown at Lucky Peak at trailheads.
- Complete construction of trailheads and installation of kiosks and directional signing.
- Continue to prepare news releases notifying the public about road and trail system construction activities.
- Coordination meetings with the County, Tribal Governments and other interested groups throughout the project, as required.
- GPS and map all trails, trailheads and access roads.
- Begin the process to print trail maps.

**Year 5**

- Complete the process to print trail maps.
- Update the Forest web and social media sites with details, maps, photos and descriptions of the Mount Moriah trails, trailheads and access roads.
- Complete final accomplishments/close-out reports and the public news releases prepared.

**G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

Those portions of the trails, roads and trailheads reconstructed in their current locations are shovel ready and will not require additional NEPA. Trails that need to be rerouted to a different location for resource reasons will require NEPA approval.

**H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

- The anticipated lifecycle of the project will be approximately 30-40 years.
- This project will result in no change in the annual operations and maintenance costs, however, it will result in a significant decrease in the deferred maintenance costs for this trail system. Without this project, access will be reduced significantly to important recreational trails in the Mount Moriah Wilderness. Trail system operations and maintenance are completed by volunteers and partnerships. Deferred maintenance costs will be reduced significantly upon completion of this project.
- Operations and maintenance costs will involve some appropriated dollars with significant contributions from volunteers and partnerships to maintain this trail system.

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project	<b>Date:</b>	10/29/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Bill Panagopoulos	<b>Agency:</b>	USFS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 623,250.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 89,100.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ 110,000.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 121,500.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 932,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 87,430.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 14,900.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 1,978,180.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes: See the project timelines and deliverables outlines in the associated Project Narrative document

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

There are no partnership or contributed funds committed at this time for this project.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Jose Noriega, Ely District Ranger  
 Email: jose.noriega@usda.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-289-0176

Project Manager: William Panagopoulos, Zone Fire Management Officer  
 Email: william.panagopoulos@usda.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-289-5131

Budget Officer: Petersam (Sam) Le, Forest Budget Officer  
 Email: petersam.le@usda.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-300-1739

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

*A. A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: NA

*B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer: This project seeks to enhance the wilderness experience for generations to come. by reestablishing routes for users to access the Mount Moriah Wilderness. By providing access to the wilderness, the Forest is optimistic this effort will live on for generations. Modernization of trailheads with kiosks and recreational sites will help with the maintenance aspect, while enhancing the overall visitor experience.

- This project will reduce recreational impacts on resources. This will include a reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage and updated designs on the trails.
- The anticipated design life of this project is approximately 30-40 years.
- The reconstructed trail system will provide a significant and safe non-motorized

recreational opportunity across a large landscape.

- This project will upgrade an existing trail system and expand recreational opportunities in the area.
- Information provided at kiosks, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: This project will provide educational and interpretive information at kiosks at each trailhead regarding the History and Culture of the area.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer:

- Install new kiosks to educate visitors about the local recreational opportunities and natural resources.
- Update maps, websites and social media information with recreational opportunities and natural and cultural resources in the area.

**2. CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

***A. Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: This project reconstructs trails and trailheads providing access into the Mt. Moriah Wilderness. It also enhances the connectivity to the west side of the wilderness.

- Reconstruct the existing trail system and expand recreational opportunities in a remote area of White Pine County.
- The current trail system is a safety concern resulting in adverse impacts to natural and cultural resources.

- Upgrade recreational facilities for visitors in a remote and rural setting, while increasing access and opportunities for visitors from urban areas to visit and recreate in rural Nevada.
- Reconstruct the existing trail system, install kiosks, update maps and websites, create parking at trailheads, and update and install wayfinding and informational signing.

B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

Answer: NA

C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: NA

D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer:

- Information provided at new kiosks, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities, natural and cultural resources.
- Upgrade maps, websites and social media sites to inform visitors about recreational opportunities and educate the public about natural and cultural resources in the area.
- Provide educational and interpretive information at kiosks regarding the history and culture of the area.
- The Forest Service will continue to work closely with various partners regarding cultural and natural resource issues to educate visitors about potential issues or concerns.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

**A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer:

- For the past 5 years, the Ely Ranger District has worked closely with White Pine County Tourism and Recreation to identify and plan recreational project opportunities in White Pine County. This project is just one of those projects in the long-term plan.
- Implementation of this project will significantly increase non-motorized recreation opportunities in White Pine County and increase tourism opportunities.
- Recreational use has increased significantly over the past 2 years and this project will provide increased recreational opportunities in a remote setting in Nevada.
- The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Great Basin Trails Alliance, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County and White Pine County Tourism and Recreation.
- The Ely Ranger District has worked closely for many years with the Friends of Nevada Wilderness on the management of this Trail System. We intend to continue to work closely with partners on the management of this trail system and the Mount Moriah Wilderness Area.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: NA

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer:

- Reconstruct and upgrade a popular non-motorized trail system to provide and expand recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
- Reconstruction of over 25 miles of non-motorized trails, new kiosks and parking areas, improved signing, and updated maps to improve recreational opportunities in a rural and remote area of Nevada.
- This trail system is just north of Great Basin National Park and provides visitors expanded recreational opportunities in the area.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**



- A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).*

Answer: The Agency will utilize a mix of appropriated funds, volunteers and partners to operate and maintain the trail system. For many years, the Ely Ranger District has worked with Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Back-Country Horsemen completing maintenance on trails on Mount Moriah.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.*

Answer: The Agency will utilize a mix of appropriated funds, volunteers and partners to operate and maintain the trail system. For many years, the Ely Ranger District has worked with Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Back-Country Horsemen completing maintenance on trails on Mount Moriah.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.*

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with very few amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This trail system offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. This trail system will provide extensive recreational opportunities at a landscape scale. The kiosks, maps, website, and social media sites will provide educational and access information to the visiting publics.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

Answer: NA

#### **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Answer:

- As a result of fires, floods and age of the facilities, significant portions of this trail system, trailheads, and access roads are no longer safe for recreational users. This project is crucial if we want to maintain these recreational opportunities into the future.
- These facilities have exceeded their design life and reconstruction will extend the useful life of the facilities an additional 30-40 years or more, with routine maintenance.

***B. Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer: NA

## **L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES**

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: The trail system will be reconstructed. Sections of the trail will be relocated to avoid impacts to resources and improve watershed conditions. The informational kiosks will provide fire prevention information which will educate visitors and help prevent wildfires.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: This trail will provide increased recreational opportunities in rural Nevada, which will improve living conditions and satisfaction of workers and residents in Rural White Pine County.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: This trail system will provide an upgraded non-motorized recreational opportunity. The new trailheads and parking areas will provide increased access to recreational opportunities as well. The new kiosks, maps and web sites updates will provide educational information on natural and cultural resources as well as recreational opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: As mentioned above, reconstructing this trail system as mentioned above will provide access to areas within the wilderness that had been previously difficult to access. This in turn will provide a greater opportunity for those who desire to recreate, hunt and fish in the area.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: NA

3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: NA

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: NA

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: The various aspects of this project and associated contracts will create jobs and stimulate portions of the economy.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: NA

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: NA

4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This project will restore safe access to a remote area of White Pine County. By providing recreational opportunities in this remote setting, it allows visitors to enjoy and recreate in our public lands while self-distancing and avoiding crowded urban environments.

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: The various aspects of this project and associated contracts will create jobs and stimulate portions of the economy.

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: NA

- ***Advancing racial equity***

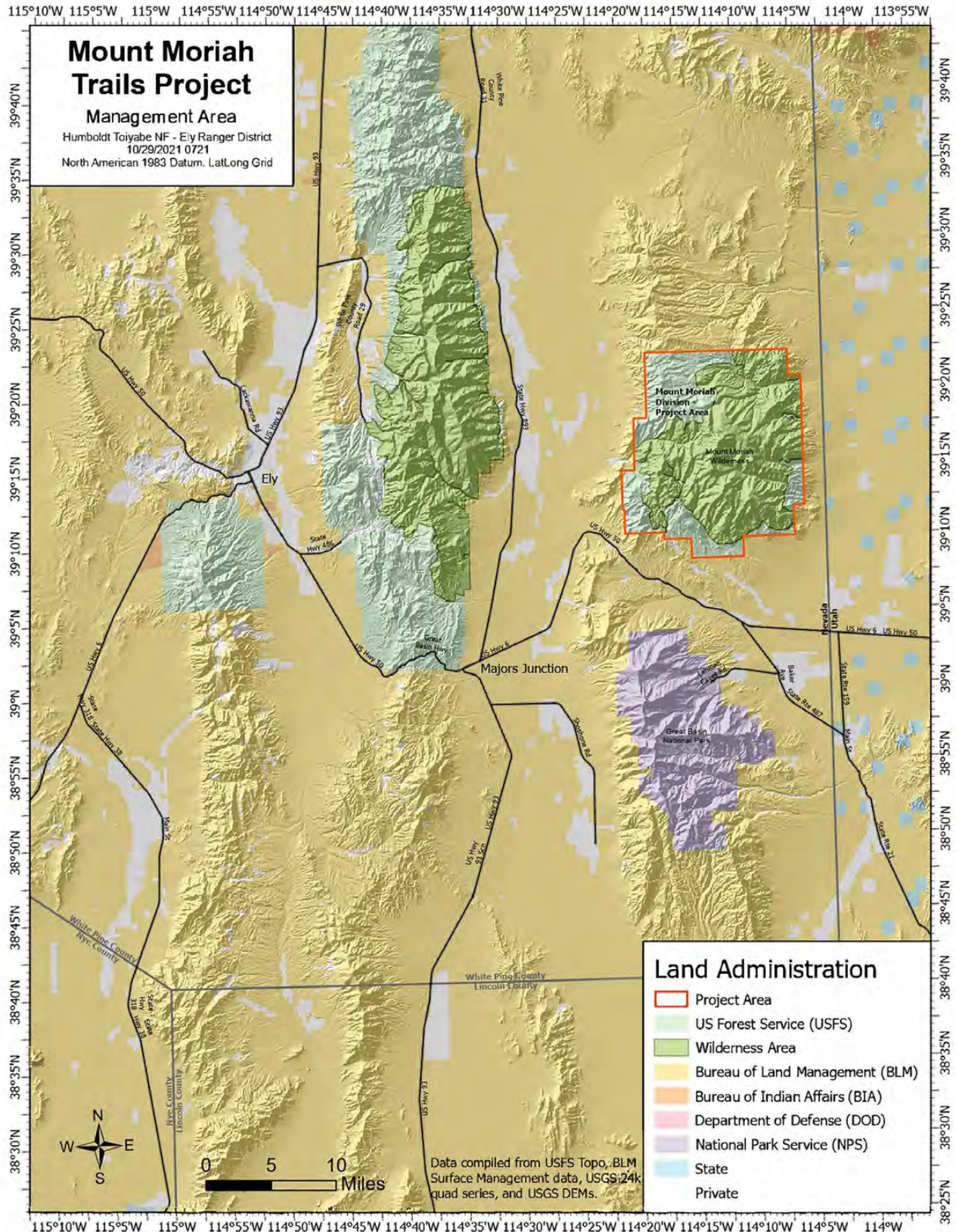
Answer: NA

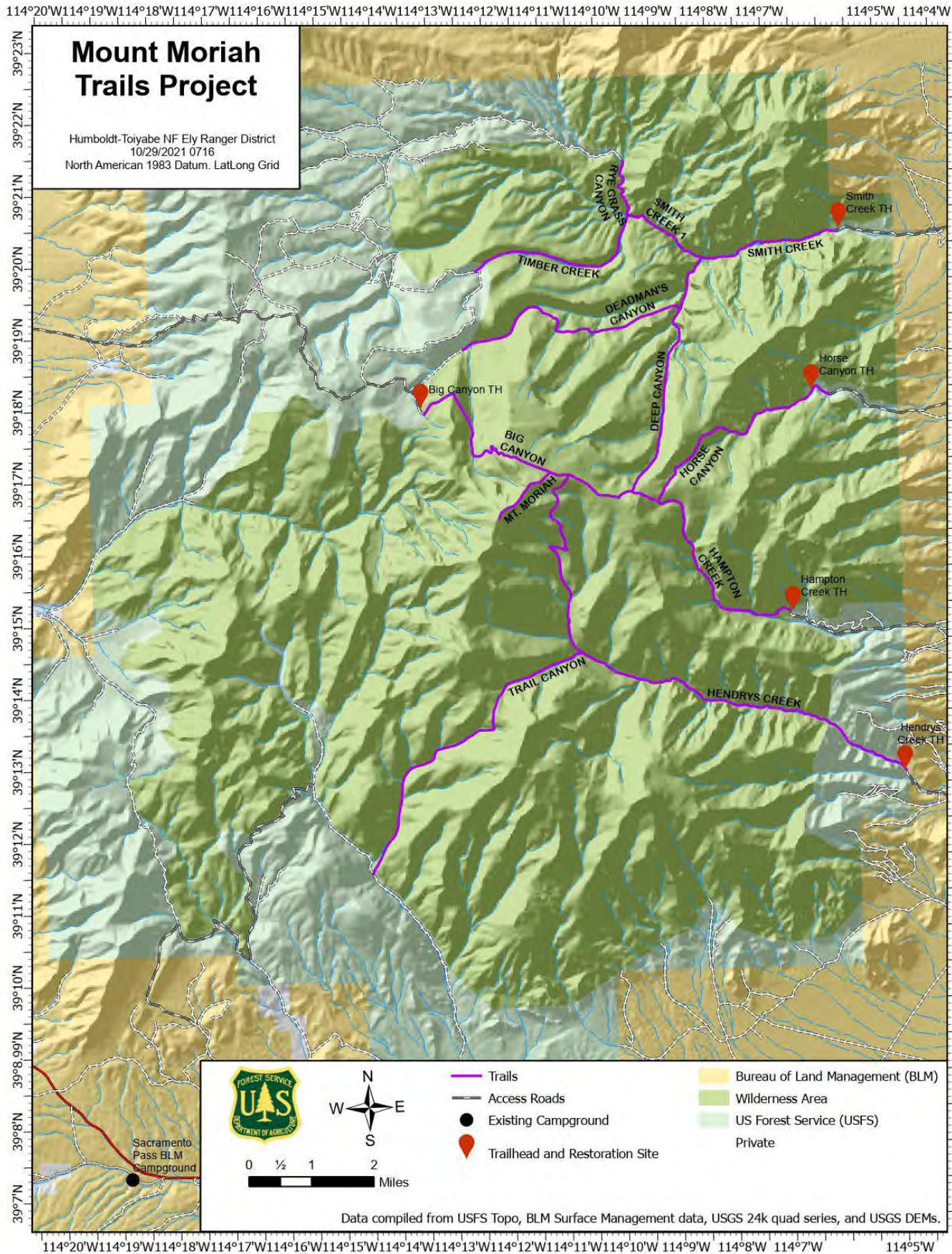
- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: NA

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# M. MAPS



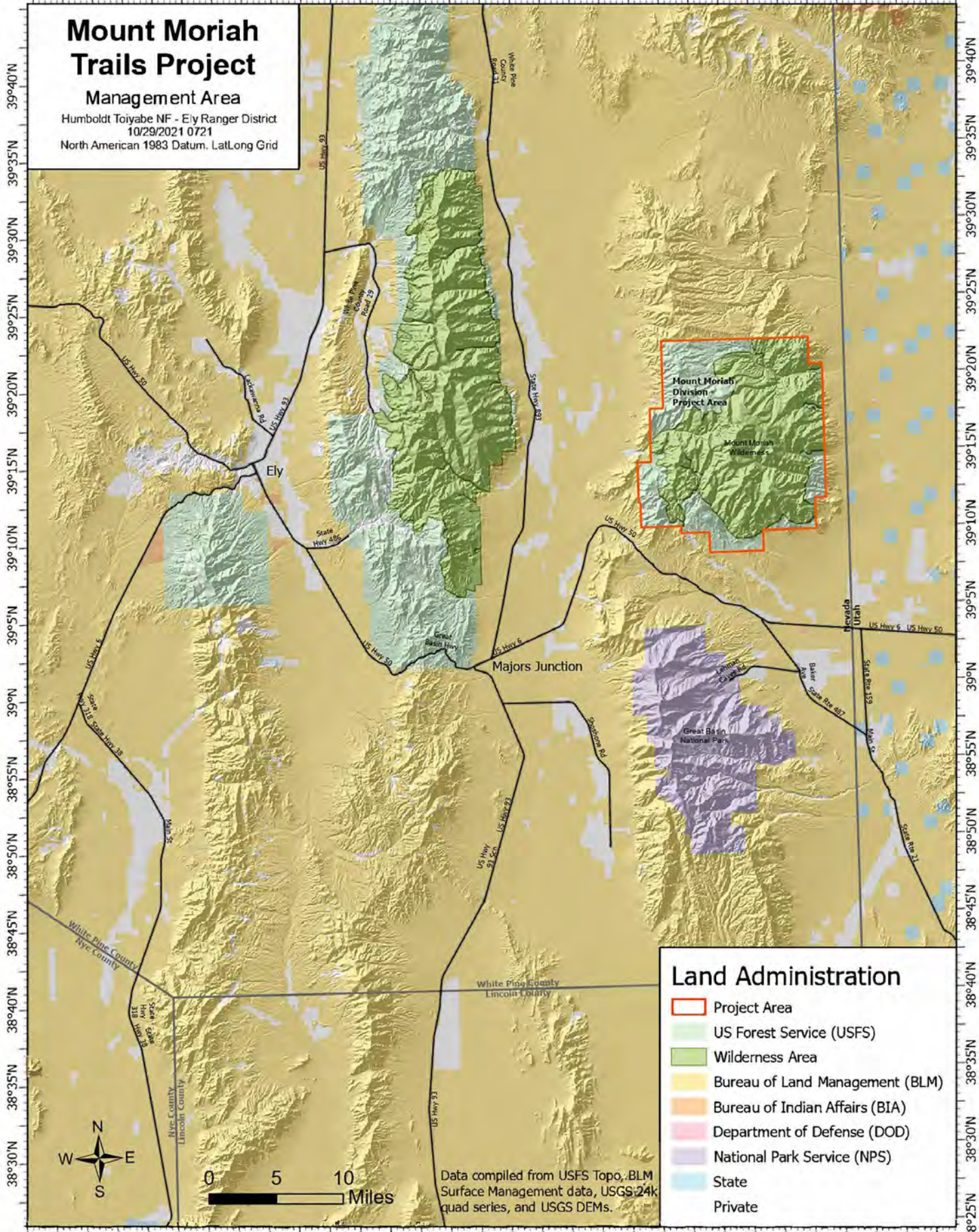


115°10'W 115°5'W 115°W 114°55'W 114°50'W 114°45'W 114°40'W 114°35'W 114°30'W 114°25'W 114°20'W 114°15'W 114°10'W 114°5'W 114°W 113°55'W

# Mount Moriah Trails Project

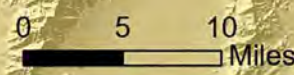
## Management Area

Humboldt Toiyabe NF - Ely Ranger District  
10/29/2021 0721  
North American 1983 Datum, LatLong Grid



### Land Administration

- Project Area
- US Forest Service (USFS)
- Wilderness Area
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- State
- Private



Data compiled from USFS Topo, BLM Surface Management data, USGS 24k quad series, and USGS DEMs.

115°10'W 115°5'W 115°W 114°55'W 114°50'W 114°45'W 114°40'W 114°35'W 114°30'W 114°25'W 114°20'W 114°15'W 114°10'W 114°5'W 114°W

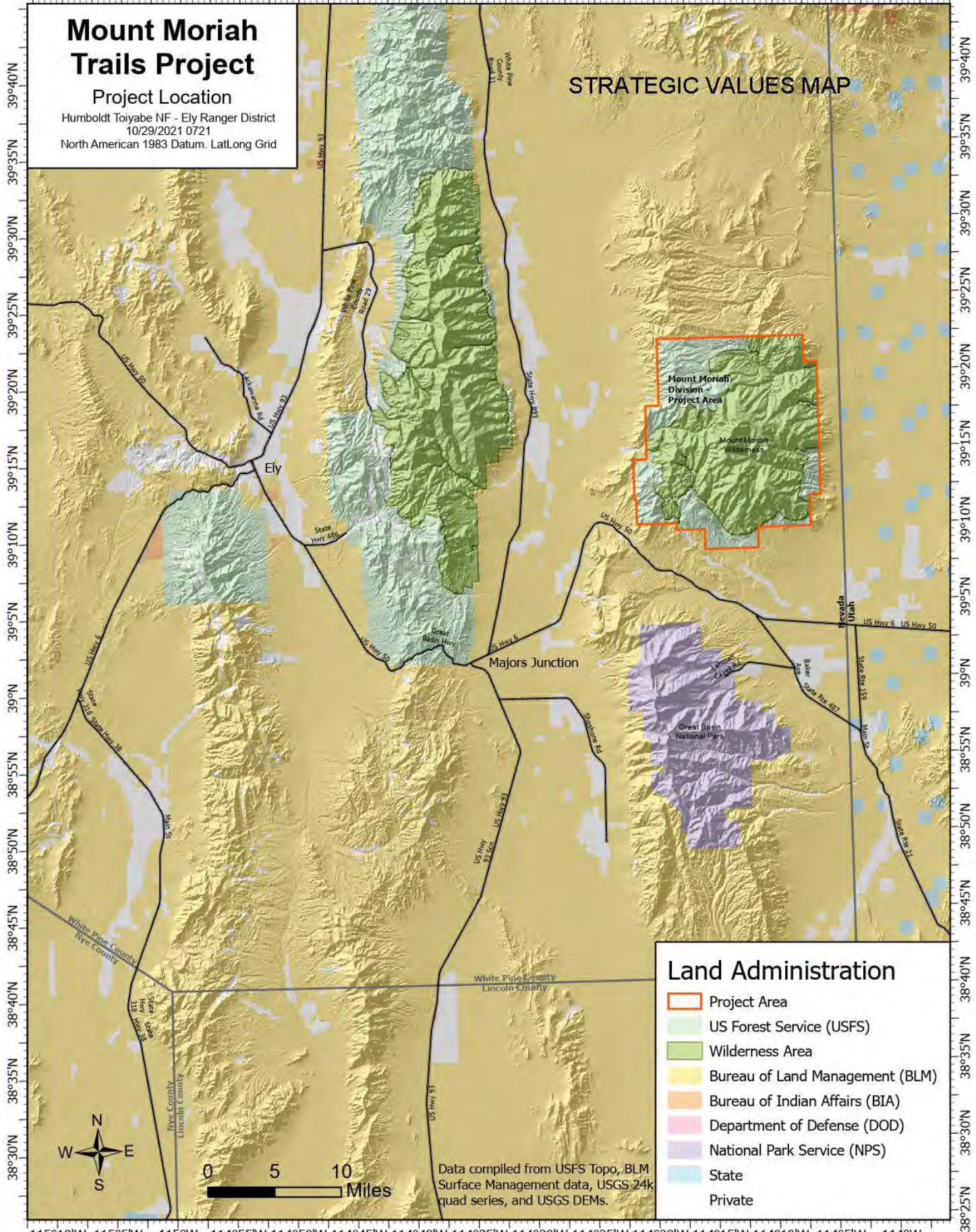


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# Mount Moriah Trails Project

**Project Location**  
Humboldt Toiyabe NF - Ely Ranger District  
10/29/2021 0721  
North American 1983 Datum. LatLong Grid

## STRATEGIC VALUES MAP



**Land Administration**

- Project Area
- US Forest Service (USFS)
- Wilderness Area
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- State
- Private

Data compiled from USFS Topo, BLM Surface Management data, USGS 24k quad series, and USGS DEMs.

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## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H4 - Acres of Upland Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of acres of upland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the acres have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire rehabilitation projects or by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as these should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as these should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole acre.	<b>20</b>
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>55</b>
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	<b>500</b>

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2: Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	<b>5</b>
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>55</b>

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:            Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation            of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance            Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	<b>6</b>
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	<b>1</b>
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	<b>1</b>

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*

**O. PHOTOS**



Hampton Creek Trail following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah



Hampton Creek Trail following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah



Hampton Creek Trail following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah



Hampton Creek Trail following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah



Hampton Creek Access Road following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah



Hampton Creek Access Road following the Hampton Fire on Mount Moriah

## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Nevada State Department of Wildlife
2. White Pine County Board of Commissioners
3. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board

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STATE OF NEVADA  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

8880 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120  
Reno, Nevada 89511  
Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 698-1585

TONY WASHBY  
Governor

BONNIE LORC  
Nevada Secretary

JACK ROBE  
Nevada Director

October 29, 2021

Re: SNPLMA Round 19 Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Noriega,

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is pleased to support the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 SNPLMA Proposal "Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project". This project will allow infrastructure improvements to recreational facilities on the Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in White Pine County, which are needed as the more people seek outdoor recreational opportunities. Adequate recreational facilities can decrease the impacts on the landscape, including areas that are important to Nevada's wildlife.

We feel this project will expand upon existing management tools, and we are pleased to be a partner in this joint effort. We look forward to providing support through technical advising, feedback and review, and development of the framework.

If we can provide any additional support, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Moira Kolada  
Eastern Region Habitat Biologist  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
(775)289-1655 ext 5  
mkolada@ndow.org



Richard Howe, Chairman  
Travis Godon, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Shane Bybee  
Commissioner Ian Bullis  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson

801 Clark Street, Suite 4  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
(775) 293-6509  
Fax (775) 289-2544

Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

WPClerk@whitepinecountynv.gov

October 27, 2021

Erin Rajala, District Ranger (Acting)  
Ely Ranger District, US Forest Service  
825 Avenue E.  
Ely, Nevada 89301

Via Email: [erin.rajala@usda.gov](mailto:erin.rajala@usda.gov)

RE: White Pine County Support for the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 Project Proposals for funding from the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA)

Mrs. Rajala,

White Pine County, Nevada (County) has reviewed the Ely Ranger District's Summary of SNPLMA Round 19 Projects and wishes to convey its strong support for all of them. If funded and implemented, these projects would be of great benefit to the County's customs, culture and economy as well as serving to improve ecological health, enhance outdoor recreation and benefit the County's citizens and visitors.

The below listed projects are all consistent with advancing the goals and objectives the County's Public Lands Policy Plan within both critical geographic and key socioeconomic areas:

- South Schells Restoration Project
- Illipah Watershed Restoration Project
- Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project
- Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project
- Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project
- Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management
- Phase II: Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration & Education

The County appreciates the hard work that you and your staff have put forward in development of these projects. The County also appreciates the open coordination and communications you have had with the County and key stakeholders in doing so. Once again, the County enthusiastically supports the above listed projects, offers its continued partnership and wishes you the best in terms of funding and implementation.

Respectfully,



Richard Howe, Chair  
White Pine County Board of Commissioners

RH/jd/nb

CC: Jose Noriega, District Ranger



## WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM AND RECREATION BOARD

*Bristlecone Convention Center & Visitors Bureau*

Erin Rajala  
Acting District Ranger  
Ely Ranger District  
825 Ave E  
Ely, NV 89301

Mrs. Rajala,


My name is Kyle Horvath. I am the Director of Tourism for White Pine County Nevada. I am writing in support of the Forest Service Ely Ranger Districts Round 19 SNPLMA Proposals. The citizens and communities in White Pine County rely on outdoor recreation as a staple quality of life asset as well as a main economic driver in the county. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation has set outdoor recreation as central to its branding and marketing of tourism. The relationships with our land managers have been integral to past success in expanding the outdoor recreation industry and assets. The Forest Service Ely Ranger District has been a steadfast partner of tourism and has proven success in all of their past projects. After reviewing the proposals set forth by the NFS for the Round 19 SNPLMA Grant Program, I am writing in support of the multiple conservation and recreation projects proposed by NFS Ely District.

We have all seen the devastating effects of wildfires in the west. Preserving the natural environment to benefit native vegetation and wildlife while protecting those environments from the effects of wildfires should be a top priority. Because of that I support full funding of the conservation-based projects: The South Schells Restoration Projects, The Illipah Watershed Restoration Project, and The Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weed Inventory, Treatment, and Restoration Project.

Outdoor Recreation is a major economic driver of the state and has offered an economic security net around communities traditionally based in resource extraction. Outdoor recreation is also a cultural element to what makes us Nevadans. White Pine County has seen major economic returns since defining itself as one of the best outdoor destinations in the state by developing its trail-based recreation opportunities. The recreation-based projects proposed by NFS Ely District will be integral in expanding access to recreation for local citizens and visitors. I support fully funding: The Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project, The Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project, The Ranger OHV Trail Reconstruction Project, and The Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management Project.

Our rural communities rely heavily on the work that our land managers do. The SNPLMA Grant Program has been integral to so many necessary and impactful projects in the past. I am excited about the potential return on these proposals. Thank you for your past support and your consideration in fully funding these important upcoming projects.

Sincerely,



Kyle Horvath, Director

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S.D.A. Forest Service  
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
Ely Ranger District**



**Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction**

**Amount Requested: \$1,158,980**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Kalamazoo Campground is a small rural campground in White Pine County located within Spring Valley and adjacent to the High Schells Wilderness Area. The Mount Moriah Wilderness Area and Great Basin National Park are a short drive away. Traditionally this campground is popular amongst the locals and during hunting season, however, there was a significant increase of recreational use prompted by the pandemic. Recreational users are seeking remote locations like Kalamazoo Campground to escape the congested areas. The tables, grills and other features within the campground are old and have outlived their life-cycle. The access roads do not provide appropriate access for most trailers and RV's.

This campground provides an excellent jumping-off point for off-highway vehicles (OHV) users looking to utilize the OHV routes within the Schell Creek Range. Roads and OHV routes link the Kalamazoo Campground to the East Creek, Bird Creek, and Timber Creek Campgrounds.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

This project is linked by roads and OHV routes to the East Creek, Bird Creek, and Timber Creek Campgrounds, which were all reconstructed using SNPLMA funds. There will not be any future phases for this project.

**2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

This project is a stand-alone project with no future phases.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvement (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:

The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project.

- ❖ This project will reduce recreational impacts on resources. This will include a reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage, improved riparian conditions by focusing recreational uses as well as other resource benefits.
  - ❖ The anticipated design life of this project is approximately 30-40 years and involves the reconstruction of access roads.
  - ❖ This project will upgrade an existing campground and expand recreational opportunities in the area. Information provided at the kiosk, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area.
  - ❖ The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure that will improve and protect the riparian corridor and improve fisheries habitats.
- Connectivity:  
The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.
    - ❖ This project will upgrade an existing campground and expand recreational opportunities in the area. Information provided at the kiosk, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities and natural resources.
    - ❖ This project will provide upgraded recreational facilities for visitors in a remote and rural setting. These upgrades will provide increased access and opportunities for visitors from urban areas to visit and recreate in rural Nevada.
    - ❖ The Kalamazoo Campground is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
  - Community:  
This project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community.
    - ❖ This project will reconstruct and upgrade a small campground to provide recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
    - ❖ This project will allow OHV users to the Kalamazoo Campground to have direct access to a broad OHV trail system right from their campsites.
    - ❖ The Kalamazoo Campground is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
    - ❖ The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like the Great Basin Trails Alliance, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County and White Pine County Tourism and Recreation, Nevada Department of Wildlife, and others.
    - ❖ For the past 5 years the Ely Ranger District has been working with the community and partners to identify projects and opportunities to improve and upgrade

recreational opportunities in the area. As part of that coordination the District has developed a long-term recreational plan. This Project is a key component of that plan.

- ❖ The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure that will improve and protect the riparian corridor and improve fisheries habitats.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District proposes to implement the Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction project. This project will reconstruct the existing campground, improve the access road, and establish an OHV trailhead. The project will improve the outdoor recreation experience, improve visitor safety, contribute to the tourism economy, and contribute significantly to the availability of recreational opportunities in White Pine County, Nevada.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Reconstruct the Kalamazoo Campground to provide between 6 and 10 individual campsites depending upon the final designs.
- Construct an OHV trailhead with parking.
- Reconstruct and upgrade between 5-10 miles of primary access roads to the campground and Install road and trail directional signing as needed.
- Update the Forest Service web and social media sites to reflect the upgraded facilities and provide educational opportunities.
- Construct a campground enclosure fence (Approximately 1 mile in length or less) and two cattleguards to exclude livestock from the campground.

### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- None

### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Complete required inventories, site assessments, and cultural assessment within the project area as required.
- Complete site surveys and contract prep activities
- Complete environmental planning process including: NEPA analysis and decision, SHPO consultation, coordination, etc.
- Coordination with the SNPLMA Program Managers.
- Development of the project workplan, site inspection and project initiation.
- SMART quarterly status updates
- SMART quarterly expenditures/obligations updates
- SMART annual and final accomplishment reports.
- Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

**Latitude and Longitude:**

39.566500333474856, -114.58770942215259

**Congressional District(s):**

Nevada Congressional District NV-4

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

The project timeframe will be 5 years.

## **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

This project has little or no controversy and the NEPA and planning will be very streamlined.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

- The anticipated lifecycle of the project will be approximately 30-40 years.
- This project will result in a slight increase in the annual operations and maintenance costs for this campground. The Forest is implementing a use fee at this site to assist in covering the costs of operations and maintenance of the site.
- The daily fee at this site will be \$5 per day to ensure the site is affordable to underserved and low-income visitors and communities.

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction	<b>Date:</b>	10/29/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Erin Rajala	<b>Agency:</b>	USFS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 308,850.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 30,600.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 770,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 22,530.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 12,000.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 1,158,980.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes: Reconstruction of the Campground costs have been displayed as Contracts. If funded, a review/Comparison will be conducted to determine the lowest cost/best outcome options between contracts vsreconstruction using Agency Personnel and equipment and their availability. That review will determine howto proceed with implementation of the Project.

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

There are no partnership or contributed funds for this project.



## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Jose Noriega, District Ranger

Email: jose.noriega@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-289-0176

Project Manager: Erin Rajala, Zone Recreation Staff

Email: erin.rajala@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-289-5129

Budget Officer: Petersam (Sam) Le, Forest Budget Officer

Email: petersam.le@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-300-1739

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

*A. A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: NA

*B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer:

- This project will reduce recreational impacts on resources. This will include a reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage, improved riparian conditions by focusing recreational uses as well as other resource benefits.
- The anticipated design life of this project is approximately 30-40 years and involves the reconstruction of access roads.
- The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure. This riparian enclosure will protect a section of Kalamazoo Creek and improve riparian conditions and fisheries habitats.
- This project will upgrade an existing campground and expand recreational opportunities in the area. Information provided at the kiosk, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the

recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area.

- C. *Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage***

Answer: NA

- D. *New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: Kiosks will be installed to provide educational information to visitors about the local area's recreational opportunities and natural resources. This project will also provide a new OHV trailhead to improve recreational opportunities and educate riders about recreational opportunities, natural and cultural resources.

- 2. CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: NA

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer: This project will provide the following:

- This project will upgrade an existing campground and expand recreational opportunities in a remote area of White Pine County, Nevada.
- This project will provide upgraded recreational facilities for visitors in a remote and rural setting. These upgrades will provide increased access and opportunities for visitors from urban areas to visit and recreate in rural Nevada.
- This Project will create a new OHV Trailhead as part of the Campground to improve access to trails.
- The primary access roads will be reconstructed to allow improved access for low clearance vehicles and recreational vehicles (RVs).
- This project will improve signing for visitors.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: NA

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer:

- Information provided at the new kiosk, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities, natural and cultural resources.
  - Maps, websites and social media sites will be upgraded to inform visitors about recreational opportunities and educate the public about natural and cultural resources in the area.
  - For the past 5 years the Ely Ranger District has been working with the community and partners to identify projects and opportunities to improve and upgrade recreational opportunities in the area.
  - The Kalamazoo Campground is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*
- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.*

Answer:

- This project will reconstruct and upgrade a small campground to provide recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
- This project will allow OHV users to the Kalamazoo Campground to have direct access to a broad OHV trail system right from their campsites.
- Upgrades to this campground and the access roads will ensure this area is accessible to a broader group of visitors including RV's and lower clearance vehicles.
- Recreational use has increased significantly over the past 2 years and this project will provide increased recreational opportunities in a remote setting in Nevada.

- The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like the Great Basin Trails Alliance, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County and White Pine County Tourism and Recreation.
- The Ely Ranger District has worked closely with White Pine County Tourism and Recreation to significantly increase recreational opportunities and promote tourism opportunities in the County.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: NA

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer:

- This project will reconstruct and upgrade a small campground to provide recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
- This project involves a new OHV Trailhead, improved signing, and updated maps to improve recreational opportunities in a rural and remote area of Nevada.
- The Kalamazoo Campground is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Answer: Currently this campground has limited operations and maintenance costs. Under this proposed project and increased visitor use, operations and maintenance costs are likely to increase. The Forest Service is currently in the process of implementing campground fees for this campground which should cover most of the operations and maintenance costs for this site.

**B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: The Forest Service plans to utilize volunteers at this site for various operations and maintenance activities. Volunteers will assist with vegetation maintenance, cleaning, trailhead maintenance, and other activities. In the past volunteers moved and placed

refurbished site furniture, fire rings, and grills from the Ward Mountain Campground to this site.

- C. ***Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with very few amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This campground offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. The campground will provide basic amenities at a very affordable price providing low-income visitors the opportunity to camp in a developed campground in a beautiful setting. Updates to the access roads will provide improved access for a wider range of visitors. The kiosks, maps, website, and social media sites will provide educational and access information to the visiting publics.

- D. ***Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: This campground will have no sewer systems, no water systems, and no electrical service. The campground will have basic features including a low maintenance vault toilet, low maintenance expanded metal tables, and other low maintenance features. This campground will provide basic developed recreation opportunities in a remote and rural setting in White Pine County Nevada.

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. ***The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: This campground provides basic developed recreation opportunities in a remote and rural setting in White Pine County, Nevada. Under this project this campground will continue to provide that rural and remote recreational opportunity. The current challenge is that most of the features in the campground have exceeded their useful life. The wood tables were recycled from the Ward Mountain Campground over 8 years ago and are over 40 years old. The fire rings and grills were also salvaged from Ward Mountain Campground and are also over 40 years old. The current site does not meet accessibility standard. This project will create sites that meet Federal accessibility standards.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*

Answer: NA

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: The campground will be redesigned and reconstructed. Sites will be upgraded, and new and improved fire rings and grills will be installed. The redesigned campground will help reduce fire risks from potential escaped campfires, vehicles parking in tall grass, and other upgrades. The informational kiosks will provide fire prevention information, which will educate visitors and help prevent wildfires. The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure to improve and protect the riparian corridor and improve fisheries habitats.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: This project will stimulate the economy by providing job opportunities during construction. Furthermore, this campground will provide increased recreational opportunities in rural America, which will improve living conditions and satisfaction of workers and residents in rural White Pine County.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: This campground will provide an upgraded developed recreational opportunity. The new trailhead will provide increased access to OHV recreational opportunities as well. The new kiosks, maps and web sites updates will provide educational information on natural and cultural resources as well as recreational opportunities. The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure that will improve and protect the riparian corridor and improve fisheries habitats.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: The Kalamazoo Campground is desirable for hunters. This project will provide upgraded facilities to enhance the hunting experience in the area. The campground enclosure fence will create a riparian enclosure to improve and protect the riparian corridor and improve fisheries habitats.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: NA

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental*

*innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: NA

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: The Ely Ranger District plans to work with and consult with Tribal Governments on this proposed project.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: This project will improve recreational opportunities in a rural area of Nevada. This project will also improve access to those recreational opportunities for a wider range of visitors.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: NA

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with very few amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This campground offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. The campground will provide basic amenities at a very affordable price providing low-income visitors the opportunity to camp in a developed campground in a beautiful setting. The kiosks, maps, website, and social



media sites will provide educational and access information to the public. The Ely Ranger District plans to work with and consult with Tribal Governments on this proposed project.

4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with very few amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This campground offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. This campground provides extensive opportunities to self-distance in a remote setting away from crowded urban environments.

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: This campground offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. The campground will provide basic amenities at a very affordable price providing low-income visitors the opportunity to camp in a developed campground in a beautiful setting.

- ***Tackling climate change***

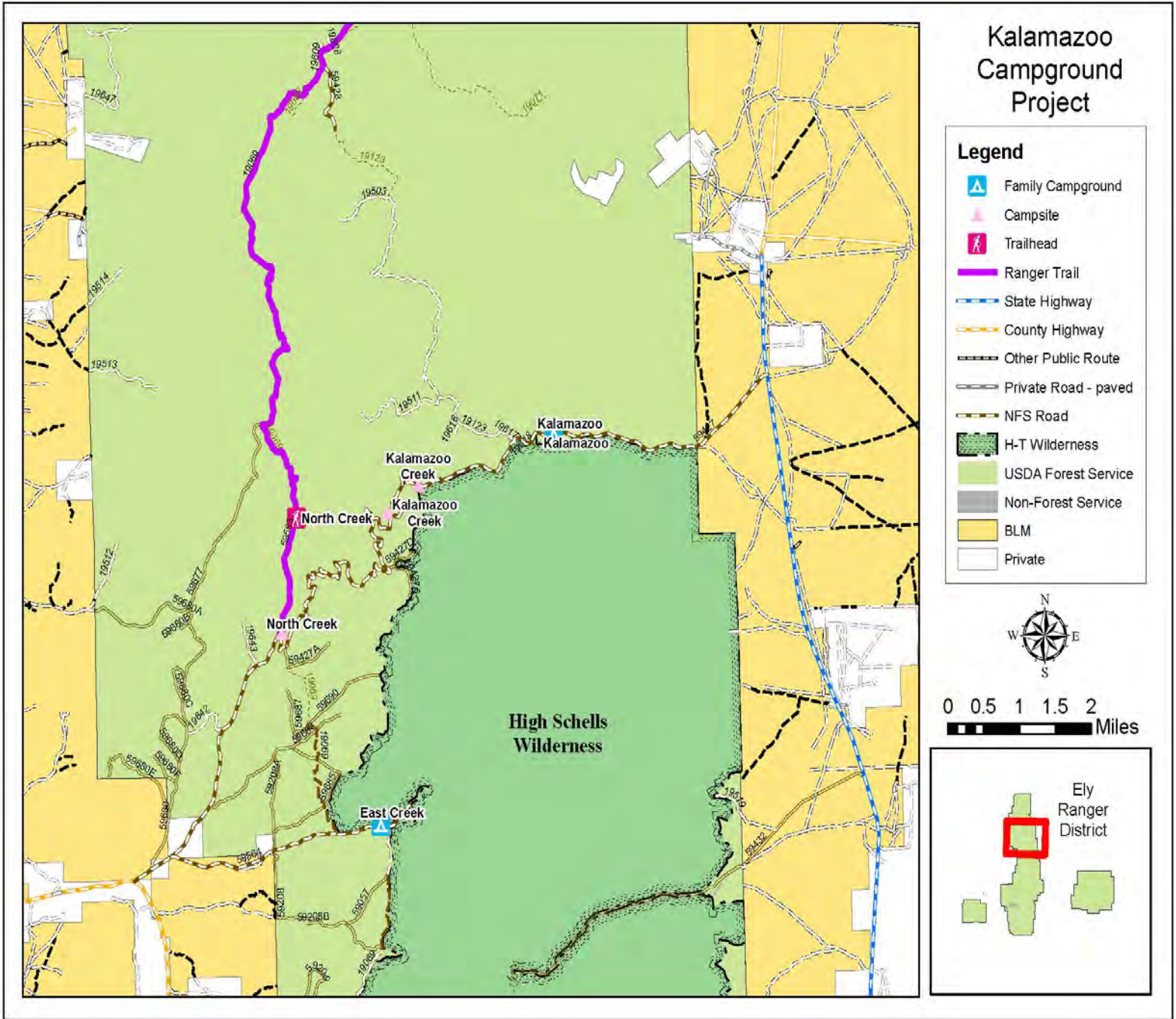
Answer: NA

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: NA

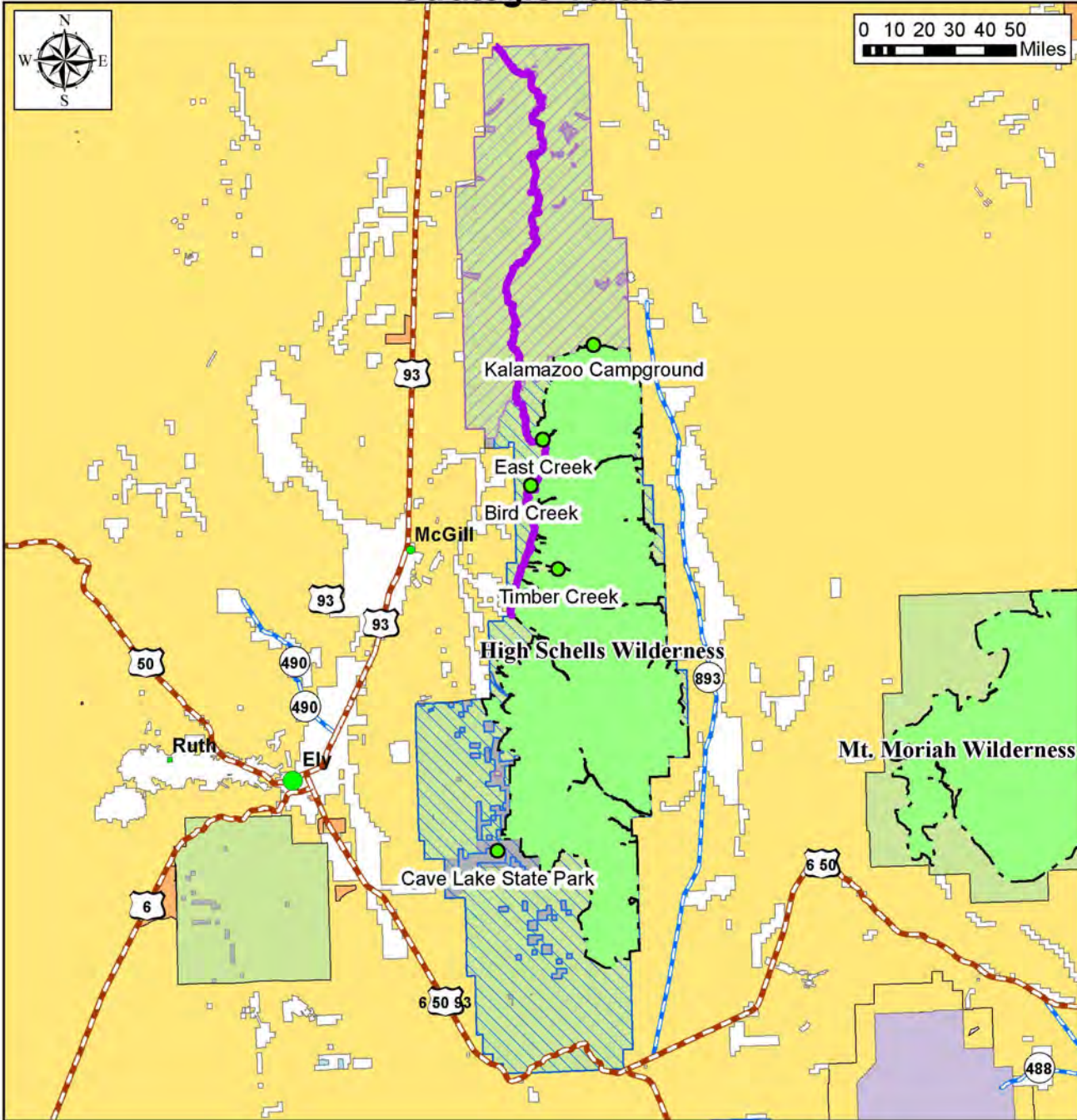
- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: This project will upgrade the existing campground and create a site that is easier to manage and maintain. At the completion of this project our employees will be able to manage an updated and well-organized developed site.



# Strategic Values Map Kalamazoo Campground Project

## Strategic Values



### Legend

#### highways for Nevada

US Highway

State Highway

North & South Ranger Trail

H-T Wilderness

North Schell Fuels

South Schell Fuels

USDA Forest Service

Non-Forest Service

#### Ownership

BIA

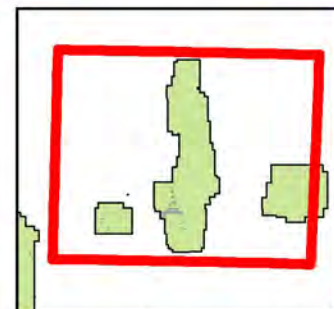
BLM

DOD

NPS

PVT

ST



November 30, 2021

## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H2 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the miles have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as those should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as those should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>1</b>
H3 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat surveyed, inventoried, or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>1</b>
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>25</b>
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	<b>20</b>

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2: Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	<b>2</b>
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>25</b>

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation  
of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	<b>4</b>
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	<b>1</b>
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	<b>1</b>

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*

## O. PHOTOS



Kalamazoo Campground access looking west (the entrance sign has since been broken due to age and is no longer there)





Entrance into the  
campground

Campsite north side





Additional campsite north side



Campsite west end



## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Nevada State Department of Wildlife
2. White Pine County Board of Commissioners
3. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board

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STEVE SISOLAK  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120  
Reno, Nevada 89511  
Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY  
*Director*

BONNIE LONG  
*Deputy Director*

JACK ROBB  
*Deputy Director*

October 29, 2021

Re: SNPLMA Round 19 Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Noriega,

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is pleased to support the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 SNPLMA Proposal "Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project". This project will allow infrastructure improvements to recreational facilities on the Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in White Pine County, which are needed as the more people seek outdoor recreational opportunities. Adequate recreational facilities can decrease the impacts on the landscape, including areas that are important to Nevada's wildlife.

We feel this project will expand upon existing management tools, and we are pleased to be a partner in this joint effort. We look forward to providing support through technical advising, feedback and review, and development of the framework.

If we can provide any additional support, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Moira Kolada".

Moira Kolada  
Eastern Region Habitat Biologist  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
(775)289-1655 ext 5  
mkolada@ndow.org

Richard Howe, Chairman  
Travis Godon, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Shane Bybee  
Commissioner Ian Bullis  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson

801 Clark Street, Suite 4  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
(775) 293-6509  
Fax (775) 289-2544

Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

WPClerk@whitepinecountynv.gov

October 27, 2021

Erin Rajala, District Ranger (Acting)  
Ely Ranger District, US Forest Service  
825 Avenue E.  
Ely, Nevada 89301

Via Email: [erin.rajala@usda.gov](mailto:erin.rajala@usda.gov)

RE: White Pine County Support for the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 Project Proposals for funding from the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA)

Mrs. Rajala,

White Pine County, Nevada (County) has reviewed the Ely Ranger District's Summary of SNPLMA Round 19 Projects and wishes to convey its strong support for all of them. If funded and implemented, these projects would be of great benefit to the County's customs, culture and economy as well as serving to improve ecological health, enhance outdoor recreation and benefit the County's citizens and visitors.

The below listed projects are all consistent with advancing the goals and objectives the County's Public Lands Policy Plan within both critical geographic and key socioeconomic areas:

- South Schells Restoration Project
- Illipah Watershed Restoration Project
- Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project
- Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project
- Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project
- Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management
- Phase II: Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration & Education

The County appreciates the hard work that you and your staff have put forward in development of these projects. The County also appreciates the open coordination and communications you have had with the County and key stakeholders in doing so. Once again, the County enthusiastically supports the above listed projects, offers its continued partnership and wishes you the best in terms of funding and implementation.

Respectfully,



Richard Howe, Chair  
White Pine County Board of Commissioners

RH/jd/nb

CC: Jose Noriega, District Ranger



## WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM AND RECREATION BOARD

*Bristlecone Convention Center & Visitors Bureau*

Erin Rajala  
Acting District Ranger  
Ely Ranger District  
825 Ave E  
Ely, NV 89301

Mrs. Rajala,

My name is Kyle Horvath. I am the Director of Tourism for White Pine County Nevada. I am writing in support of the Forest Service Ely Ranger Districts Round 19 SNPLMA Proposals. The citizens and communities in White Pine County rely on outdoor recreation as a staple quality of life asset as well as a main economic driver in the county. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation has set outdoor recreation as central to its branding and marketing of tourism. The relationships with our land managers have been integral to past success in expanding the outdoor recreation industry and assets. The Forest Service Ely Ranger District has been a steadfast partner of tourism and has proven success in all of their past projects. After reviewing the proposals set forth by the NFS for the Round 19 SNPLMA Grant Program, I am writing in support of the multiple conservation and recreation projects proposed by NFS Ely District.

We have all seen the devastating effects of wildfires in the west. Preserving the natural environment to benefit native vegetation and wildlife while protecting those environments from the effects of wildfires should be a top priority. Because of that I support full funding of the conservation-based projects: The South Schells Restoration Projects, The Illipah Watershed Restoration Project, and The Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weed Inventory, Treatment, and Restoration Project.

Outdoor Recreation is a major economic driver of the state and has offered an economic security net around communities traditionally based in resource extraction. Outdoor recreation is also a cultural element to what makes us Nevadans. White Pine County has seen major economic returns since defining itself as one of the best outdoor destinations in the state by developing its trail-based recreation opportunities. The recreation-based projects proposed by NFS Ely District will be integral in expanding access to recreation for local citizens and visitors. I support fully funding: The Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project, The Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project, The Ranger OHV Trail Reconstruction Project, and The Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management Project.

Our rural communities rely heavily on the work that our land managers do. The SNPLMA Grant Program has been integral to so many necessary and impactful projects in the past. I am excited about the potential return on these proposals. Thank you for your past support and your consideration in fully funding these important upcoming projects.

Sincerely,



Kyle Horvath, Director

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management  
Act Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

**Lower Colorado Basin Region**

**Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theaters  
Renovation**

Amount Requested: \$5,934,420

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has a requirement to develop updated and enhanced interpretive film content and presentation, and to renovate the interiors of its three film theaters, connecting corridor, and storage located on the Theater Level (TL) inside the Hoover Dam Visitor Center (VC). These areas are collectively referred to in this document as the Theater Space.

When visitors enter the VC, they traverse the area that was modernized under BR 11- Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theater Level Refurbishment, then enter one of Hoover Dam's three theaters to watch a 10-minute educational film about the Dam, its mission, and functions. Depending on which theater they use, they may enter directly from the Theater Level queuing area or walk down a corridor to reach a theater. Each theater seats about 100 people. The theater experience is included with all the paid tour experiences, and is an integral part of the visitor experience, providing general information that is supplemented through the guided tour and self-guided exhibits.

The fixtures and finishes inside the Theater Space have exceeded their useful life. The building was opened to the public in 1995 and the theater finishes are largely original. Over the past 26 years and after use by about 18.2 million visitors, the interior finishes of the theaters have deteriorated to the point that the visitor experience is negatively impacted by worn carpet, discolored ceiling tiles and damaged seat fabric and mechanisms despite continued maintenance.

The Hoover Dam interpretive film was last updated 16 years ago in 2005. It contains outdated images and is not consistent with the types of interpretive information and messaging relevant to today's visitors concerning the Reclamation mission and water and power operations. In response, this project proposes to develop a new interpretive film for general public use and at least one additional film targeting a youth audience, specifically the approximately 9,000 third and fourth grade students visiting on school field trips annually.

This project will also achieve compliance with the most recent federal Guiding Principles (GP), International Building Code (IBC) and Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act (ADA/ABA) facility code requirements.

**1. Agency approved land use plan and approval date:**

Not applicable for this Reclamation project because this is a renovation of an existing space without a change in use.

**2. Describe if project is an interagency project:**

This project is not an interagency project.

**3. Describe project implementation process and how to determine completion:**

Reclamation has performed scoping meetings and held on-site visits with internal team members to gather requirements and develop an initial project scope. Upon Secretarial approval and funding authorization, Reclamation will determine the most appropriate procurement method for the solicitation. Potential determinations to be made include soliciting a design-build contract or design-bid-build contracts.

Project completion will be determined by verification that all performance elements identified in the design and construction statement of work have been satisfied, all punch list deficiencies identified during the pre-final inspection are corrected, and financial closeout including contractor release of claims are finalized.

#### 4. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:

SNPLMA funded past projects related to the Hoover Dam VC Theater Level: Project BR11 – Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theater Level Refurbishment. Past project deliverables included the refurbishment of the theater level of the VC, **excluding** the three film theaters and the corridor connecting the theaters. Deliverables also included the design, fabrication, and installation of new interpretive exhibits on the theater level.

None of the work proposed in this nomination was included in the scope of the BR11 Theater Level Refurbishment project. This project will enhance previous SNPLMA project deliverables by providing fixtures and finishes complimentary to the finishes installed as part of the BR11 project.

The VC remodel work has been envisioned as a phased project from the beginning. Reclamation did not include the theater renovations as part of BR11 because we prioritized the spaces in most desperate need of repair. The theaters were constructed (1995) to rotate around a central axis like attractions at Disney World built in this same time period. Due to a design flaw, the rotation ability failed soon after the VC opened to the public. Reclamation has determined that to repair and maintain this feature would not add value consistent with the high cost. As this feature is no longer desirable the planned renovations will allow Reclamation to reconfigure the theaters to optimize the use of these spaces.

#### 5. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:

Reclamation acknowledges this is a stand-alone project and there is no guarantee of funding for any future phases. This stand-alone project intends to address the following needs:

- 1) Develop new visitor interpretive materials and modern films
- 2) Renovations to improve visitor amenities
- 3) Renovations to improve visitor accessibility
- 4) Renovations to replace outdated Audio/Visual (A/V) hardware and software

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

This project meets these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values of connectivity, sustainability, and community:

- Sustainability:  
The project, powered by clean hydroelectric energy, will promote sustainability through the use of energy efficient fixtures and durable and sustainable materials. Factors such as low volatile organic compound emissions, recycled and recyclable materials, durable and cleanable fixtures and finishes will be utilized to the greatest extent possible. Relevancy and social sustainability will be addressed by making updated information available in contemporary presentation methods, in multiple languages and accessible formats. Interpretive material and film updates will relay critical information regarding the impacts of

user behaviors on our natural resources in addition to relevant historical background on Hoover Dam. Shared support is incorporated by Reclamation's commitment to regular operation and maintenance of the finished project.

- Connectivity:

This project provides recreational opportunities that improve the overall experience and connectivity of the visiting public to the cultural significance of Hoover Dam. Proximity to the Las Vegas metro area provides easy access for short term visitors to the area.

Improvements proposed in this project will provide updated and enhanced interpretive information to connect the visitors to the development of the site from its natural state through modern day and the critical role Hoover Dam plays in the desert southwest. STEAM students will be inspired through age-appropriate interpretive film(s) and guided experiences.

Interpretive content will highlight the technological efforts and innovations required to build the dam, its role in supplying water to the West, and the role hydropower plays in securing reliable western power supplies.

- Community:

This project will communicate relevant messages on conservation and preservation of natural and cultural resources that will be seen by millions of recreationists. Optimizing the use of the theater space to provide modern interpretative experiences to a variety of audiences will allow for greater community connectivity. Some interpretive themes will include water storage and power production provided by the construction of Hoover Dam, associated recreation opportunities it provides, and the responsible use of these resources.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

Reclamation proposes to renovate the Theater Space to optimize space utilization for enhanced presentation of interpretive information. This project will include renovation of fixtures and finishes, improved accessibility and sustainability, and development of modern, relevant films and interpretive film experience.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. Primary Deliverables:

- a. Develop Architectural and Engineering (A&E) construction documents for the Theater Space renovation to optimize space utilization, maintainability, aesthetic appearance and address accessibility deficiencies identified in the *Hoover Dam Accessibility Assessment Final Report - May 2013*. Design will comply with ABA/ADA requirements.
- b. Contract for Interpretive design services for replacement of A/V systems, interpretive film(s) and other interpretive materials. This will include accessibility features to address accessibility deficiencies identified in the *Hoover Dam Accessibility Assessment Final Report - May 2013*. Design will be in compliance with ABA/ADA requirements.
- c. Contract for full scope of construction work developed in the A&E construction documents.
- d. Contract for supply and installation of new A/V systems in each of the three (3) theaters, a minimum of two (2) interpretive film(s) and other interpretive materials.

2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- a. None

3. Standard Deliverables:

- a. SMART database quarterly status updates.



- b. SMART database annual and final accomplishment reports.
- c. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance including Cultural compliance (section 106) based upon the statement of work and associated documents with Nevada SHPO, National Landmarks Program and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation for construction (if required).
- d. Value Engineering study and final report
- e. SNPLMA closeout package

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

36.01623° / -114.737118°

### **Congressional District(s):**

AZ-4, NV-3

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

The project will take five (5) years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned as follows:

### Year 1

- Obtain work plan approval and funding authorization
- Begin planning and local compliance
- Solicit A/E design and Interpretive design services and award contract(s)
- Begin design
- Begin Value Engineering study
- NEPA coordination
- SHPO/Historic Properties consultation

### Year 2

- Complete Value Engineering study
- Continue design
- Develop construction and interpretive contract procurement packages

### Year 3

- Complete contract procurements
- Begin contract construction
- Begin contract interpretive development

### Year 4

- Complete construction
- Complete interpretive supply and install
- Commissioning

### Year 5

- Request for closeout to SNPLMA
- SNPLMA Final site inspection
- Final review of project file and expenditures
- SMART data inputs

5 years total anticipated period of performance for completion

## **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project:  Yes -or-  No/Is

NEPA completed?  Yes -or-  No

Initial discussions have been held with the NEPA and SHPO coordinators and due to the facility not being a historical facility and being an interior renovation, SHPO coordination is not required. Due to there not being a need for SHPO consultation, an Environmental Assessment is not required. Most of the work (design, construction, A/V and interpretive content development, film production and installation) will be contracted and some of the work will be done in-house. Reclamation has conducted extensive market research and has a solid understanding of the scope of work and level of effort required. Once funded, the work to solicit a contract(s) will begin immediately.

Reclamation is staffed with a full-time, experienced federal workforce dedicated to the success of this project. A Project Manager (PM) and Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) have been tentatively identified who are familiar with the work to be performed in this project. Civil, electrical, and mechanical engineers and skilled craftsmen are available for consultation and review of technical requirements. No additional staffing is required for the completion of this project.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The anticipated renovations will have a projected life of 15-20 years and will reduce operations and maintenance costs. Providing durable wall, seating and flooring materials in high use areas will reduce the materials and labor hours needed to clean and maintain the building. Maintenance is currently performed by in-house Reclamation employees. Ongoing operations and maintenance costs will be budgeted through future Boulder Canyon Project Operating Work Plans. Reclamation has a full-time staff capable of completing all upkeep and maintenance of the refurbished spaces and exhibits. Current staff includes but is not limited to janitorial services, general maintenance, electricians, mechanics, information technology specialists, and engineers.

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## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theaters Renovation	<b>Date:</b> 10/19/21	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Brian Quiroga	<b>Agency: Reclamation</b>	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 895,920	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ -	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 1,200	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 5,022,000	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ -	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 15,300	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 5,934,420</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Notes:			

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

Reclamation will contribute \$80,000 of agency materials to this project. The materials will consist of supplying clean hydroelectric power and dedicated land use for an office trailer and vehicle parking for the prospective vendor and a potential office space on Hoover Dam property.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Theresa Saumier, Manager, Facility Services  
 Email: tsaumier@usbr.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 494-2822

Project Manager: Brian Quiroga, Project Manager  
 Email: bquiroga@usbr.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 494-2317

Budget Officer: Alton Blalock  
 Email: ablalock@usbr.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 293-8437

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: This project does not meet this criteria/factor

- B. *Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer: This project will enhance the experience of the 700,000 Visitor Center tour participants annually by renovating or replacing existing deteriorated fixtures, furnishings, and finishes, modernizing interpretive information, improving accessibility, and upgrading A/V equipment. The planned renovations will allow Reclamation to reconfigure the layout of the Theater Space which will improve unit operations through more efficient and flexible use of the space. Project will also reduce facility operation and maintenance costs through the use of durable easily maintainable materials, and reduce the overall operational costs through use of energy efficiency fixtures. This will lengthen the theater's overall useful life by 20-25 years.

- C. *Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.*

Answer: While not a historic building, the Visitor Center is the hub of our public tours providing educational information and experiences regarding Hoover Dam, which is a National Historical Landmark. The VC is critical to providing information on the historic, current and future role of Hoover Dam in the settlement and development of the southwest, its relevancy today and in the future.

- D. *New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved*

E. *conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.*

Answer: This project will provide interpretive information through a variety of media intended to reach a wide range of learning styles and background knowledge. This project intends to specifically excite STEAM students through development of age-appropriate interpretive film(s) and guided experiences. Improvements proposed in this project will provide updated and enhanced interpretive information to connect development of the site from its natural state through modern day and explore the ever-changing critical role Hoover Dam plays in the desert southwest. Main topics will include water, hydropower and environmental issues and concerns to improve public understanding of the Dam's cultural significance.

2. **CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).*

Answer: This project does not meet this criteria/factor.

B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

Answer: This project does not meet this criteria/factor.

C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: This project will provide upgraded, more accessible amenities by renovating the furnishings, fixtures and finishes of the Theater Space, optimizing space use to offer a wider variety of educational opportunities, and updating interpretive information to better address common visitor questions and concerns. This work will connect with and be complimentary to the updated interpretive exhibits completed under BR11 – Theater Level renovation, BR12 – Exhibit Level renovation, BR14 – Observation Level and Areas, and BR87- Fostering Stewardship through Community Engagement.

D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer: Information regarding the responsible use of water resources, the impacts of water scarcity on native habitats, agriculture and domestic use will be incorporated into the interpretive content. A variety of interpretive materials will be utilized, targeting message, locations and appropriate medium where content will provide greatest potential impact.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. (*Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources*)

- A. ***Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: Hoover Dam is a major tourist attraction in the Las Vegas Valley, serving approximately six million visitors annually, with ~700,000 of them using the Visitor Center each year. Hoover Dam's primary visitation is national and international travelers. To be a viable part of the Las Vegas valley tourism industry, Reclamation needs to maintain the visitor facilities; and provide relevant and engaging interpretive and educational experiences. This project supports that mission. Hoover Dam hosts approximately 9,000 third and fourth grade students annually and this project will allow for development of an age-appropriate more engaging educational experience. Reclamation works with several outreach groups that coordinate tour opportunities for underserved students that would benefit from this upgrade, complementing work performed under BR87- Fostering Stewardship through Community Engagement. Updated interpretive information included in all media will be responsive to feedback from present-day visitors and provide a greater variety of ways for visitors to interact with this information.

- B. ***Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: Reclamation will contribute \$80,000 of agency materials to this project. The materials will consist of supplying power, water, dedicated land use for an office trailer or an onsite office space for contractor use, and vehicle parking.

- C. ***Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: This project will enhance agency support of educational programming and access to public lands. Among the annual visitors to Hoover Dam are approximately 9,000 local students participating in organized field trips. Reclamation coordinates with programs providing field trip opportunities to youth in underserved communities, complementing work performed under BR87. Amenities improved by this project will enhance the relevancy of the educational experience in addition to providing access to public lands that may not be otherwise available to them.

- 4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

- A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).*

Answer: Hoover Dam Visitor Center is funded within the 46 power customer contracts responsible for all Hoover Dam operations and maintenance costs. Reclamation has identified that funds for O&M are sufficient to cover future operations and maintenance costs. Moreover, once renovation and production are complete, Reclamation staff responsible for Visitor Center O&M are fully funded within our budget.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.*

Answer: Hoover Dam power customers will be responsible for the O&M of the project as stated in previous response.

- C. *The agency has included the current O&M costs, if any, and how this project will reduce current O&M costs. The entity has clearly shown what the anticipated savings will be, and/or how the project will reduce water use or energy costs for utilities.*

Answer: New seating will reduce labor costs as worn-out mechanical components of theater seating require constant maintenance. Easily cleanable finishes will reduce janitorial labor. There are no water fixtures in this work, therefore there are no savings to be realized.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

Answer: Energy efficiency will be realized through the use of energy efficient lighting fixtures and energy star rated A/V equipment.

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED MAINTENANCE:**

Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Answer: The theaters, put into service in 1995, have exceeded their useful life. The cost to repair theater seating would exceed the cost to replace. Without renovation, deficiencies

identified in ADA report cannot be mitigated. The renovation plans will include compliance with current ADA/ABA accessibility standards.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*

Answer: Responded to Factor A.

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- *EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk*

Answer: This is not applicable

- *EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers*

Answer: Reclamation will include the Buy American Act in all contracts and ensure compliance through review of material submittals by the contractors to the Government.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- *SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.*

Answer: Reclamation will enhance conservation stewardship and support improved management of game species and their habitat through incorporation of stewardship principles in development of the new interpretive materials.

- *SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.*

Answer: This is not applicable

- *SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.*

Answer: This is not applicable

- *SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior*

Answer: This project increases recreational opportunities for STEAM students through development of age-appropriate interpretive film(s) and guided experiences.

- *SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.*



Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: This is not applicable

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: Hydropower is renewable; we support responsible development by maintaining and upgrading the generating units to produce the maximum amount of energy possible with available water.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: In the current 50-year contract implemented in 2018, the opportunity for sovereign Tribal nations to contract directly with Reclamation to buy Hoover Dam power was opened. Twenty-three tribal nations are among the forty-six customers that currently hold Hoover Dam power contracts.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving*

*and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: Design and Construction work for this project will be contracted out, creating jobs for unionized workers at government-mandated wage levels, which can be used to support families. We estimate approximately 60 workers will be employed over the project timeframe.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: This project, through the interpretive and educational programming, will provide information about water use and management issues related to the Colorado River and Hoover Dam. This information will help people understand how use affects available supply, the benefits of water management, and the value of conservation to ensuring a sustainable future.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: Hoover Dam provides water to 22 million people and enough power to serve 1.3 million people in Southwestern United States, including residents of sovereign Tribal nations, communities of color and low-income families. Power operations at Hoover Dam generate virtually no water or air pollution to degrade the environment and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: This is not applicable

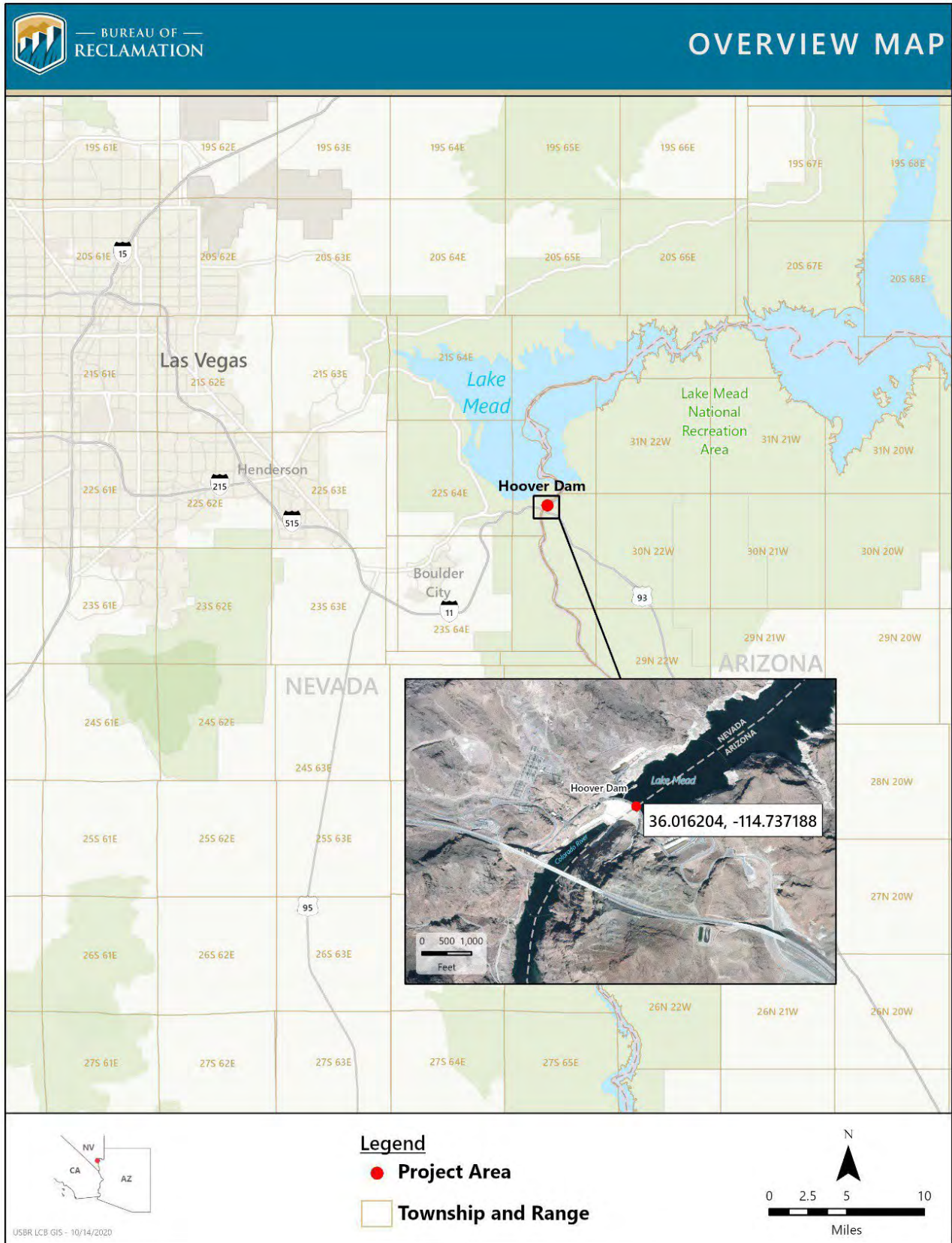
- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: This is not applicable

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# Hoover Dam Visitor Center Theater Renovation

## Map 1. Hoover Dam Location Map



# Map 2. Hoover Dam Management Area Map



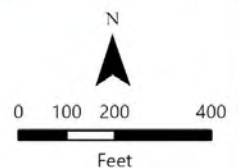
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

## Hoover Dam Management Area



### Legend

★ Project Location



# Map 3c. EC Strategic Plan Values Map - Community



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

## Community Map

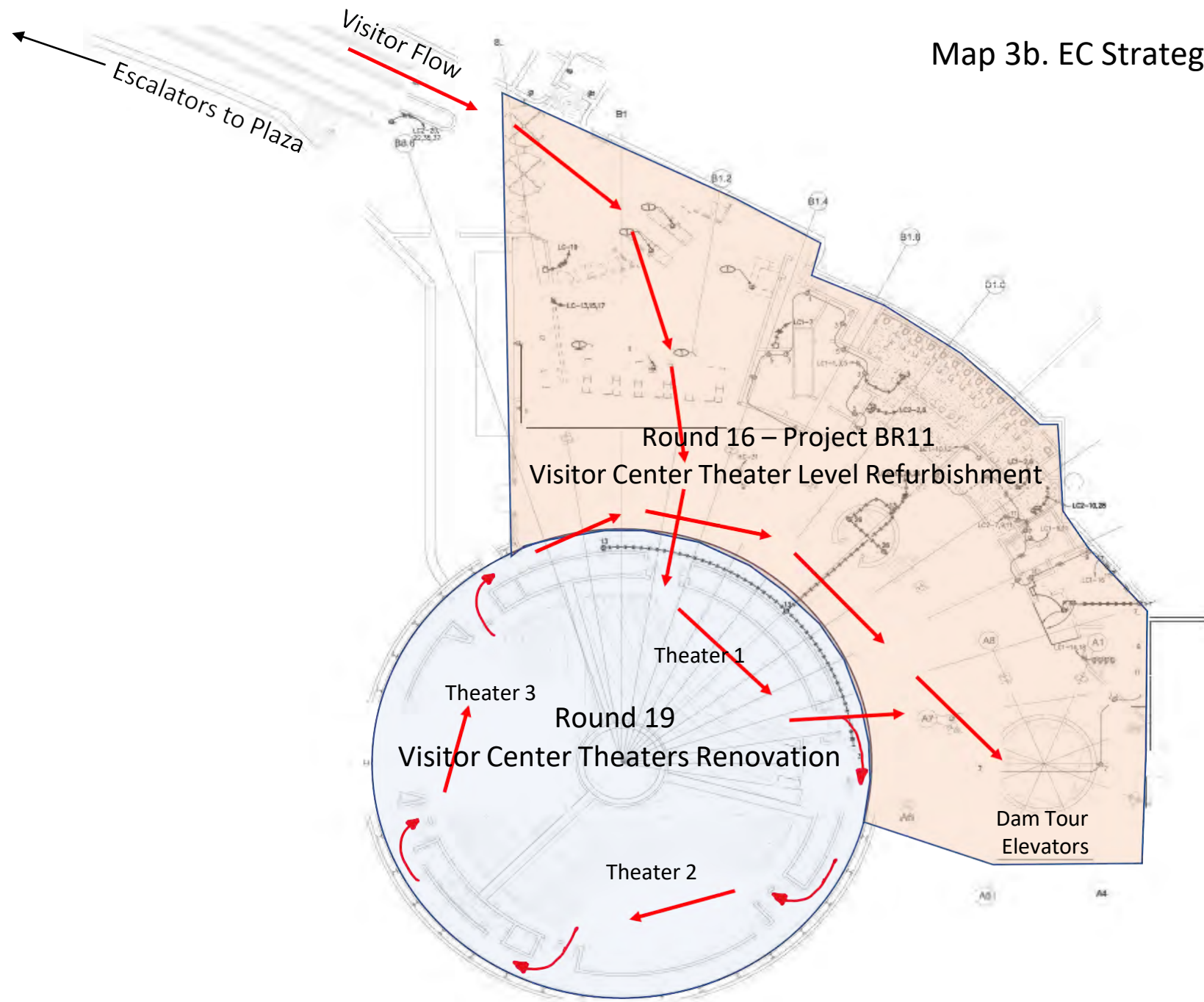


### Legend

- Project Location
- ★ City Locations



Map 3b. EC Strategic Plan Values Map - Connectivity

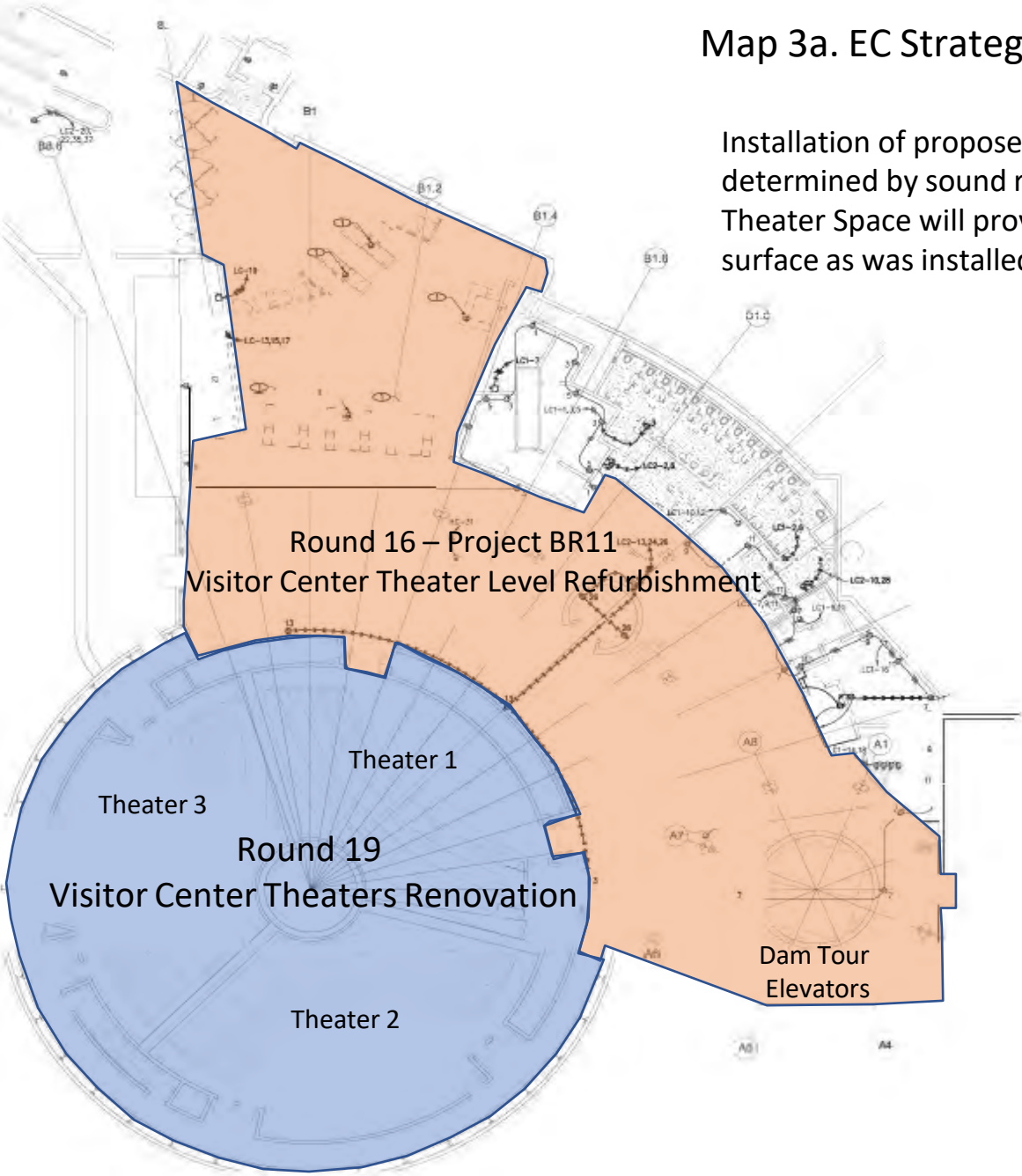


# Map 3a. EC Strategic Plan Values Map - Sustainability

Installation of proposed terrazzo or other durable flooring as determined by sound requirements in the design phase in the Theater Space will provide a sustainable, long lasting flooring surface as was installed as part of the R16 – BR11 project.

**Legend:**

- R19 Proposed Sustainable Flooring
- R16 Installed Terrazzo Flooring





## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:                      Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6.  Report each facility or structure as one unit.	1

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:                      Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	1
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	2

## O. PHOTOS



Photo 1. View of seating and movie screen from rear of theater



Photo 2. Photo of worn and torn theater seating fabric



Photo 3. Photo of torn theater seating fabric and cushioning exposed



Photo 4. Photo of worn and torn carpeting at stair riser



Photo 5. Photo of ceiling tile damage resulting from leaking fire sprinkler line above ceiling



Photo 6. Photo of existing A/V equipment in projector room

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S.D.A. Forest Service  
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest  
Ely Ranger District**



**Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction**

**Amount Requested: \$1,016,730**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The demand for recreational activities and opportunities in White Pine County increases annually. When the Covid Pandemic hit the Country, we saw a significant increase in the demand for recreational opportunities on public lands. The public is looking for areas to escape the urban environment and get away from the crowds in the Las Vegas Valley, Sierra Front and the Wasatch Front in Utah.

The Ely Ranger District recognizes the long-term needs to upgrade and improve our develop recreational facilities, improve and expand our trail systems, and improve access to those recreational opportunities. To meet those needs the Ely Ranger District has developed a long-term plan related to campgrounds, trails, and other recreational opportunities. The long-term plan will meet the current and future needs of the public and improve recreational opportunities on the Ely Ranger District.

To accomplish the goals in our long-term plan the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District proposes to reconstruct the Ranger OHV Trails. This project will reconstruct the existing trail and establish OHV trailheads, where needed. The project area is located approximately 20 air miles northeast of Ely, Nevada.

The current Ranger Trail has significant safety issues, passes through wet meadows, and has drainage and erosion issues.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

This project is linked directly to the East Creek, Bird Creek, and Timber Creek Campgrounds, which were all reconstructed using SNPLMA funds. This trail allows riders to access and utilize those sites, which are along the OHV Route. The southern section of the Ranger OHV Trail was reconstructed in 2018 through funding from the Nevada OHV Commission. There will not be any future phases for this project.

**2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

This project is a stand-alone project with no future phases.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

1. Sustainability:

The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to recreation users over the anticipated life of the project.

- Reduce recreational impacts on resources (i.e. reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage).
- Re-route sections of the trail from meadows and riparian areas, which will result in other resource benefits through trail design.
- Anticipated design life of this project is approximately 20-25 years.
- Reconstruct the Ranger OHV Trail and expand recreational opportunities in the area.
- Install kiosks, update maps and inform visitors through the Forest Service website and social media sites regarding the recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area.

2. Connectivity:

The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural aspects of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- Upgrade the existing OHV trail system and expand recreational opportunities in the area.
- Educate visitors through kiosks, maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites regarding the recreational opportunities and natural resources.
- Provide upgraded motorized trail systems for visitors in a remote and rural setting. These upgrades will provide increased access and opportunities for visitors from urban areas to visit and recreate in rural Nevada.
- The Ranger OHV Trail is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
- The Ranger OHV Trail passes near multiple historic sites including the Ruby Hill Mine and sites associated with the early development of the Kennecott Copper Water Diversion System. These sites provide interpretive opportunities about the history and culture of the area.

3. Community:

This project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community.



- Reconstruct and upgrade a popular OHV Trail System to provide recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
- Provide OHV users direct access to a broad OHV trail system accessible right from campsites at numerous campgrounds.
- The Ranger OHV Trail is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
- Re-route sections of trail and improve drainage to improve riparian areas, meadows, and watersheds.
- The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like the Great Basin Trails Alliance, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County and White Pine County Tourism and Recreation.

### C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District proposes to reconstruct the Ranger OHV Trails. This project will reconstruct the existing trail and establish OHV trailheads, where needed. The project will improve the outdoor recreation experience, improve visitor safety, contribute to the tourism economy, and contribute significantly to the availability of recreational opportunities in White Pine County, Nevada.

### D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

#### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Reconstruct approximately 24 miles of the Ranger OHV Trail System including installation of road and trail directional signing.
- Construct between 3-5 basic OHV trailheads with parking.
- Update the Forest Service web and social media sites to reflect the upgraded facilities and provide educational opportunities.
- Design and print an OHV Map for the Ranger Trail.

#### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Reconstruct and reroute approximately 8 miles of the Faun Trail System, which links the Ranger Trail to the Kalamazoo Campground.

#### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Complete required inventories, site assessments, and cultural assessment within the project area as required.
- Complete environmental planning process including: NEPA analysis and decision, SHPO consultation, coordination, etc.
- Coordination with the SNPLMA Program Managers.
- Development of the project workplan, site inspection and project initiation.
- SMART quarterly status updates
- SMART quarterly expenditures/obligations updates
- SMART annual and final accomplishment reports.
- Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable

## E. PROJECT LOCATION

### Latitude and Longitude:

39.621655 – 114.664855

### Congressional District(s):

Nevada Congressional District NV-4

## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

This project will take five (5) years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned to be as follows:

### Year 1:

- Complete work plans and funding authorization.
- Begin planning, design and NEPA Process.
- Begin Archeological and Resource Surveys.
- Begin SHPO 106 Consultation.

### Year 2:

- Complete planning, design and NEPA Process.
- Complete Archeological and Resource Surveys.
- Complete SHPO 106 Consultation.
- Begin Reconstruction of the Trail System.
- Begin Construction of OHV Trailheads.

### Year 3:

- Continue with Reconstruction of the Trail System.
- Continue with Construction of OHV Trailheads.

### Year 4:

- Complete Reconstruction of the Trail System.
- Complete Construction of OHV Trailheads.
- GPS the updated trail and trailheads.

### Year 5:

- Update the Forest Service web and social media sites to reflect the upgraded facilities and provide educational opportunities.
- Design and print an OHV Map for the Ranger Trail.
- SMART final accomplishment report.
- Preparation of the close out package.

## G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

This project has little or no controversy, meanwhile streamlining the NEPA and Planning by utilizing a Categorical Exclusion.

## H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- The anticipated lifecycle of the project will be approximately 20-25 years.
- This project will result in a slight increase in the annual operations and maintenance costs.
- The District plans to use a combination of Appropriated Funding, Grants, Partners and Volunteers to maintain the Trail System.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project	<b>Date:</b>	10/29/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Jose Noriega	<b>Agency:</b>	USFS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 596,950.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 73,800.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ 85,000.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 144,250.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ -	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 74,730.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 42,000.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 1,016,730.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes:

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

There are no partnership or contributed funds currently committed for this project.

## **J. KEY CONTACTS**

Authorized Officer: Jose Noriega, District Ranger

Email: jose.noriega@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-289-0176

Project Manager: Jose Noriega, District Ranger

Email: jose.noriega@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-289-0176

Budget Officer: Petersam (Sam) Le, Forest Budget Officer

Email: petersam.le@usda.gov

Phone Number: 775-300-1739

## **K. RANKING CRITERIA**

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated designlife of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

**A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.***

Answer: NA

**B. *Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

Answer:

- Reduce recreational impacts on resources. This will include a reduction of soil erosion through improved drainage on the trail, and improved riparian conditions by relocating sections of the trail out of meadows and riparian areas.
- Anticipated design life of this project is approximately 20-25 years.
- Reconstruction of the trail system will provide significant and safe motorized

recreational opportunities across a large landscape and links numerous developed campgrounds.

- Upgrade an existing trail system and expand recreational opportunities in the area.
- Information provided at kiosks, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities and the natural resources in the area.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer:

This project will provide educational and interpretive information at kiosks along the Ranger Trail regarding the history and culture of the area. Key sites may include Ruby Hill Mine, the Kennecott Copper water delivery system, and the Ranger Trail itself.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer:

Installation of new kiosks will provide educational information to visitors about the local area's recreational opportunities and natural resources. Update maps, websites and social media information about recreational opportunities and natural and cultural resources in the area.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

***A. Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer:

- Reconstruct the existing trail system and expand recreational opportunities in a remote area of White Pine County.
- Address trail system safety concerns to provide a safe recreational experience for the public.
- Mitigate recreational uses that are impacting riparian and meadows areas.
- Provide upgraded recreational facilities for visitors in a remote and rural setting to increase access and opportunities for visitors from urban areas to visit and recreate in rural Nevada.

- Reconstruct the existing trail system, install kiosks, update maps and websites, create parking at trailheads, and update and install wayfinding and informational signing.

**B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer: NA

**C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

Answer: NA

**D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

Answer:

- Information provided at new kiosks, on maps and on the Forest Service website and social media sites will educate visitors regarding the recreational opportunities, natural and cultural resources.
- The Ranger OHV Trail is located within the Great Basin Heritage Area, which is committed to maintaining the history and culture of the area.
- This project will provide educational and interpretive information along the Ranger Trail regarding the History and Culture of the area. Key sites may include Ruby Hill Mine, the Kennecott water delivery system, and the Ranger Trail itself.
- The Forest Service will continue to work closely with the High Desert Trailblazers, the local OHV group, regarding cultural and natural resource issues to educate OHV users about potential issues or concerns.

**3. COMMUNITY: The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. (*Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources*)**

**A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer:

- For the past 5 years, the Ely Ranger District has worked closely with High Desert Trailblazers to identify, and plan motorized recreational opportunities in White Pine County.
- Recreating publics have shown a significant shift from ATVs to the safer and more popular UTVs. The Ely Ranger District has been working closely with our users to adapt to changes in user demographics. The updated trail system will accommodate UTVs and provide a safe recreational opportunity.
- Recreational use has increased significantly over the past 2 years and this project will provide increased recreational opportunities in a remote setting in Nevada.
- The Ely Ranger District currently is building strong partnerships with groups like the Great Basin Trails Alliance, High Desert Trailblazers, City of Ely, White Pine County and White Pine County Tourism and Recreation.
- The Ely Ranger District has worked closely with White Pine County Tourism and Recreation to increase recreational opportunities and promote tourism opportunities in the County. This project is a key component and piece of our long-term plan.

***B. Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: NA

***C. Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer:

- Reconstruct and upgrade a popular OHV trail system to provide and expand recreational opportunities in a rural and remote setting.
- Reconstruction of approximately 24 miles of OHV Trail, new kiosks and parking areas, improved signing, and updated maps to improve recreational opportunities in a rural and remote area of Nevada.
- The District will continue to work with the High Desert Trailblazers regarding project management and OHV management.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

***A. The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).***

Answer: The Agency will utilize a mix of appropriated funds, volunteers and partners to operate and maintain the trail system. The Forest Service acquired a trail dozer and a

mini excavator through Nevada OHV Commission grants. These pieces of equipment are available for trail maintenance.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: The Forest Service plans to work closely with the High Desert Trailblazers on management of this trail system. Volunteers will assist with trail and trailhead maintenance, and other activities.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with very few amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This trail system offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. This trail system connects four developed campgrounds and will provide extensive recreational opportunities. The kiosks, maps, website, and social media sites will provide educational and access information to the visiting publics.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: NA

**5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: Currently, the Ranger OHV Trail system does not meet the user needs for motorized recreation. This trail project will respond to changing motorized recreational uses by providing opportunities for a wider range of uses that include UTV's. By relocating sections of the trail, the following will be reduced: maintenance costs, riparian and meadow areas impacts, and safety concerns.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***



Answer: NA

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: Under this Project the trail system will be reconstructed. Sections of the trail will be relocated to avoid impacts to meadows and riparian areas leading to improve watershed conditions. The informational kiosks will provide fire prevention information, which will educate visitors and help prevent wildfires.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: This trail will provide increased recreational opportunities in rural Nevada, which will improve living conditions and satisfaction of workers and residents in Rural White Pine County.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: This trail system will provide an upgraded developed recreational opportunity. Sections of the trail will be relocated to protect meadows and riparian areas. The new trailheads and parking areas will increase access to OHV recreational opportunities. The new kiosks, maps and web sites updates will provide educational information on natural and cultural resources as well as recreational opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: The Ranger OHV Trail System is very popular for hunters. This project will provide an improved and safe trail system and improve the hunting experience in the area.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: NA

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban***

***National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: *NASO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.*

Answer: *NA*

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: *NA*

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: *NA*

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: This OHV Trail system is open for use by Electric Bikes and will provide an excellent opportunity for E-Bike users.

3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: *NA*

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: The Ely Ranger District plans to collaborate and consult with Tribal Governments on this proposed project.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation,*

*increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: This project will improve recreational opportunities in a rural area of Nevada. This project will also improve access to those recreational opportunities for a wider range of visitors.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: NA

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with limited amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This trail system offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. The kiosks, maps, website, and social media sites will provide educational and access information to the visiting publics. The Ely Ranger District plans to collaborate and consult with Tribal Governments on this proposed project.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This area of White Pine County is very rural and remote with limited amenities and developed recreational opportunities. This trail system offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting. This campground provides extensive opportunities to self-distance in a remote setting away from crowded urban environments.

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: This trail system offers an excellent opportunity for residents and visitors to the area to experience the outdoors in a rural Nevada setting.

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: NA

- ***Advancing racial equity***

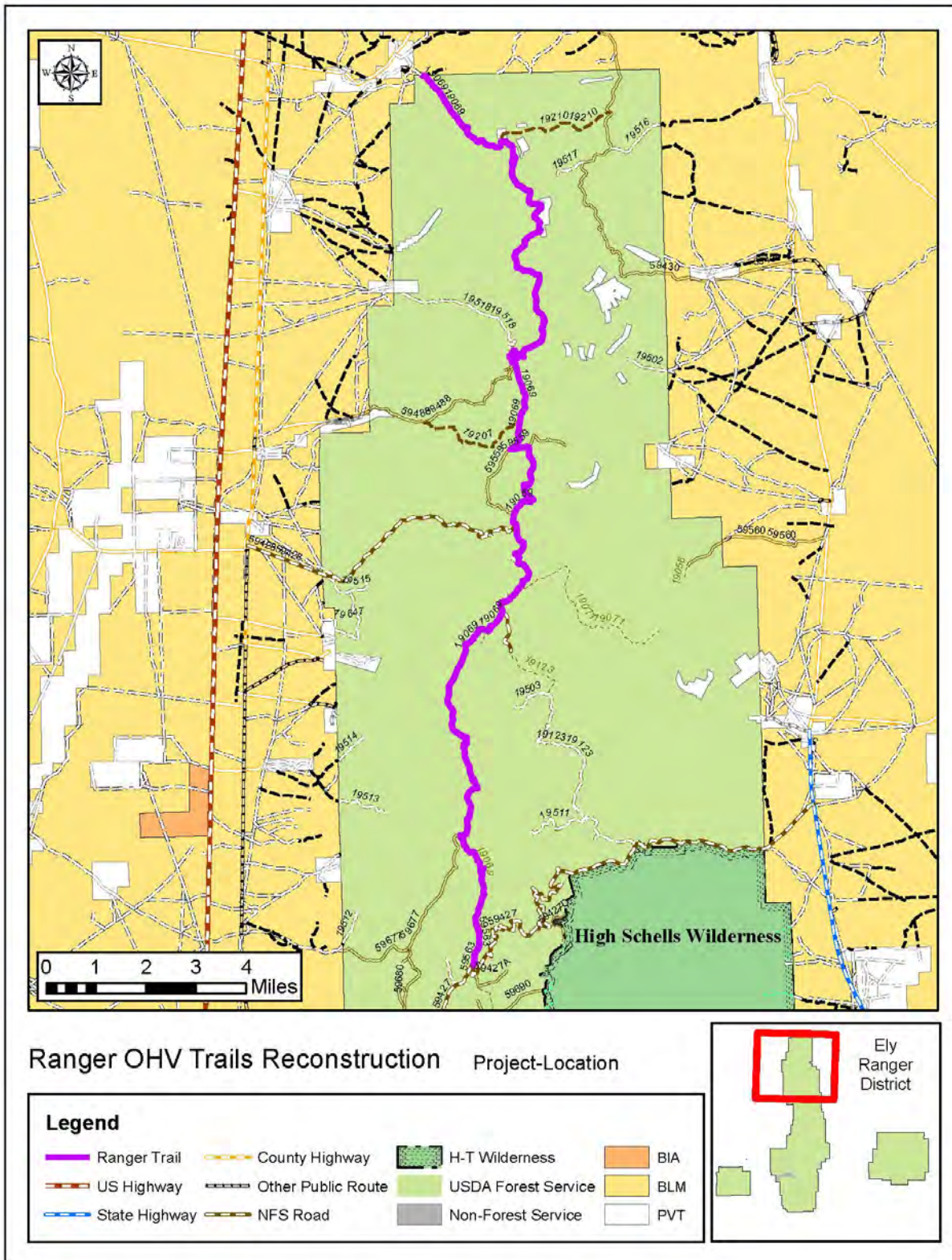
Answer: NA

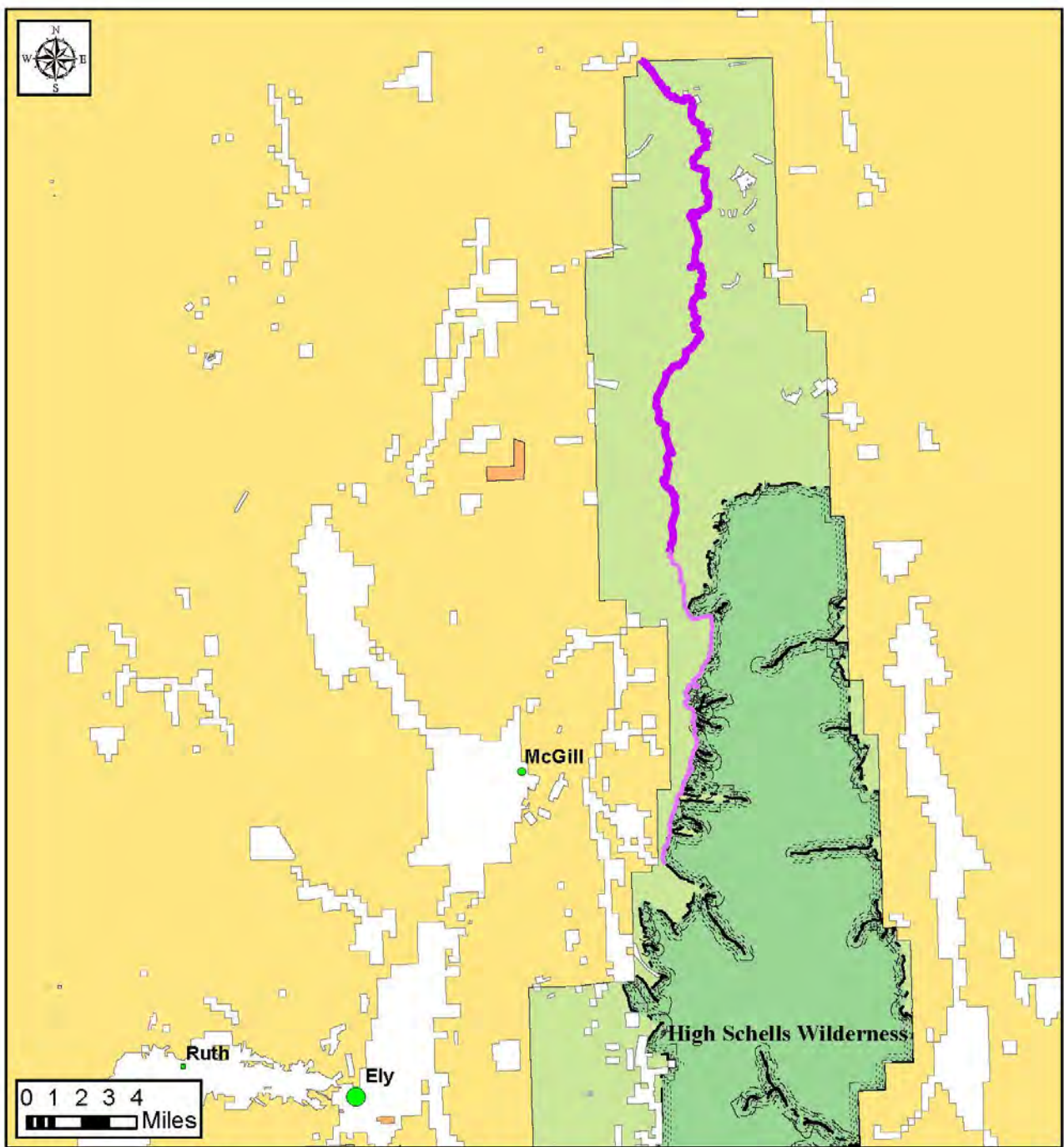
- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: NA

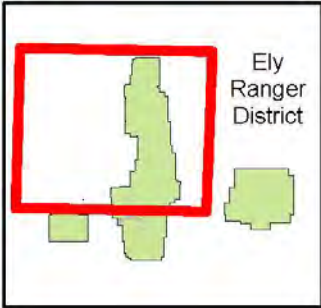
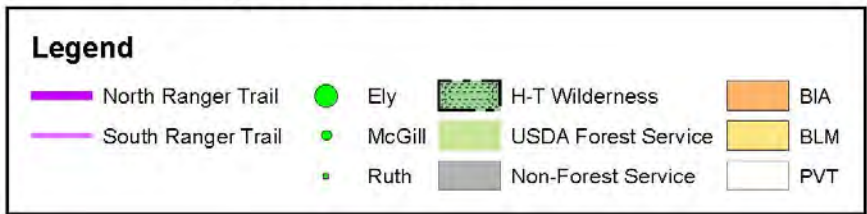
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M. MAPS

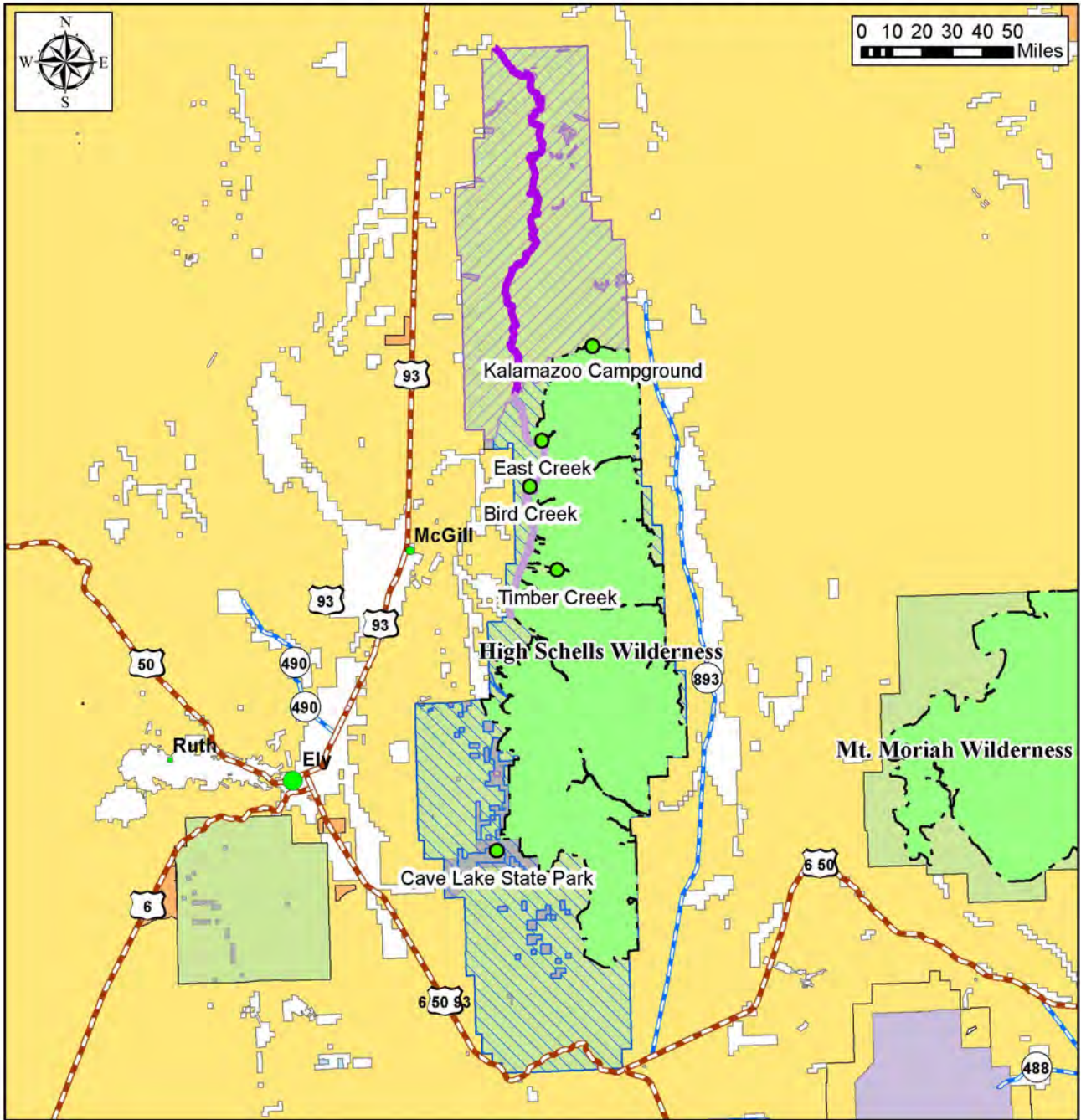




### Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project Overview



# Strategic Values Map Ranger Trail Project



## Legend

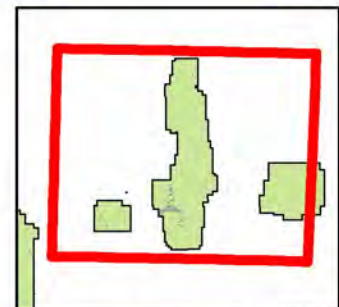
### highways for Nevada

- US Highway (dashed red line)
- State Highway (dashed blue line)
- North Ranger Trail (solid purple line)
- South Ranger Trail (dashed purple line)

- H-T Wilderness (green)
- North Schell Fuels (diagonal hatching)
- South Schell Fuels (diagonal hatching)
- USDA Forest Service (light green)
- Non-Forest Service (grey)

### Ownership

- BIA (orange)
- BLM (yellow)
- DOD (pink)
- NPS (purple)
- PVT (white)
- ST (light blue)



December 1, 2021

**N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H2 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat treated, enhanced, or restored. This can include retreatment and/or maintenance treatments only if the initial treatment was not funded through SNPLMA and the miles have not been accounted for in the performance measures for another SNPLMA project. Include acres treated by fire for resource benefits, but not other types of wildland fire. Do not report treatments targeting invasive vegetation, as those should be reported under the H9 performance measure. Do not report hazardous fuels reduction projects, as those should be reported under either the F1 or F2 performance measures. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>1</b>
H3 - Miles of Riparian Stream or Shoreline Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of riparian stream and/or shoreline vegetation and/or wildlife habitat surveyed, inventoried, or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>1</b>
H5 - Acres of Upland Habitat Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of upland vegetation and/or wildlife habitat surveyed, inventoried, or monitored. Report to the nearest whole acre.	<b>500</b>
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>24</b>
<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	<b>500</b>

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2: Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	<b>5</b>



R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	<b>24</b>
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**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	<b>5</b>
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	<b>1</b>
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	<b>1</b>

**O. PHOTOS**

Ranger Trail south from Kinsey Canyon, connection from Kalamazoo Road



Ranger Trail looking north from Kinsey Canyon



Ranger Trail looking north towards Third Creek  
(both photos)



Ranger Trail north in the aspens towards Third Creek, trees down not accessible (both photos)

**P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Nevada State Department of Wildlife
2. High Desert Trail Blazers
3. White Pine County Board of Commissioners
4. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation Board

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STATE OF NEVADA  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120  
Reno, Nevada 89511  
Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY  
*Director*

BONNIE LONG  
*Deputy Director*

JACK ROBB  
*Deputy Director*

October 29, 2021

Re: SNPLMA Round 19 Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Noriega,

The Nevada Department of Wildlife is pleased to support the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 SNPLMA Proposal "Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project". This project will allow infrastructure improvements to recreational facilities on the Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in White Pine County, which are needed as the more people seek outdoor recreational opportunities. Adequate recreational facilities can decrease the impacts on the landscape, including areas that are important to Nevada's wildlife.

We feel this project will expand upon existing management tools, and we are pleased to be a partner in this joint effort. We look forward to providing support through technical advising, feedback and review, and development of the framework.

If we can provide any additional support, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Moira Kolada".

Moira Kolada  
Eastern Region Habitat Biologist  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
(775)289-1655 ext 5  
mkolada@ndow.org



To: Jose Noriega, FS [jose.noriega@usda.gov](mailto:jose.noriega@usda.gov)

From: High Desert Trail Blazers  
Terry McIntosh, [tmcintosh95@yahoo.com](mailto:tmcintosh95@yahoo.com)

Subject: SNPMA Ranger Trail Project

Dear Mr. Noriega,

This letter is to show support for the U.S.F.S. nomination for SNPLMA GRANT FUNDS for the restoration of the Ranger Trail in the Schell Creek Range of White Pine County, Nevada.

This trail has long been a goal of the High Desert Trail Blazers (OHV Club). It would be a very significant improvement to the trail system of White Pine County.

We have given support to other project grants on behalf of the U.S.F.S. and they have all been successful and worth while additions to our area. We feel this will be another one of these successful projects.

This trail would produce a great trail system in the Schell Range, creating a loop for almost the whole range. In addition, it would certainly serve as a central hub providing greater access to the valleys and mountains to the east and west of the Schell Range. Which would be Spring Valley, Snake Valley, Antelope Valley plus the Snake, Kern, and Antelope Ranges to the East. Also, Steptoe and Butte Valleys plus the Egan and Cherry Creek Ranges to the west.

Please give this nomination your full and serious attention.

High Desert Trail Blazers,  
Steve Campbell, President  
Robert Sedlecek, Vice President  
Carol Carr, Secretary  
Board Members:  
Carl Jackson  
Mike Scheel  
Sid Beckwith  
Terry Mc Intosh

Richard Howe, Chairman  
Travis Godon, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Shane Bybee  
Commissioner Ian Bullis  
Commissioner Laurie L. Carson

801 Clark Street, Suite 4  
Ely, Nevada 89301  
(775) 293-6509  
Fax (775) 289-2544

Nichole Baldwin, Ex-officio Clerk of the Board

White Pine County  
Board of County Commissioners

WPClerk@whitepinecountynv.gov

October 27, 2021

Erin Rajala, District Ranger (Acting)  
Ely Ranger District, US Forest Service  
825 Avenue E.  
Ely, Nevada 89301

Via Email: [erin.rajala@usda.gov](mailto:erin.rajala@usda.gov)

**RE:** White Pine County Support for the Ely Ranger District's Round 19 Project Proposals for funding from the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA)

Mrs. Rajala,

White Pine County, Nevada (County) has reviewed the Ely Ranger District's Summary of SNPLMA Round 19 Projects and wishes to convey its strong support for all of them. If funded and implemented, these projects would be of great benefit to the County's customs, culture and economy as well as serving to improve ecological health, enhance outdoor recreation and benefit the County's citizens and visitors.

The below listed projects are all consistent with advancing the goals and objectives the County's Public Lands Policy Plan within both critical geographic and key socioeconomic areas:

- South Schells Restoration Project
- Illipah Watershed Restoration Project
- Ranger OHV Trails Reconstruction Project
- Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project
- Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project
- Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management
- Phase II: Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration & Education

The County appreciates the hard work that you and your staff have put forward in development of these projects. The County also appreciates the open coordination and communications you have had with the County and key stakeholders in doing so. Once again, the County enthusiastically supports the above listed projects, offers its continued partnership and wishes you the best in terms of funding and implementation.

Respectfully,



Richard Howe, Chair  
White Pine County Board of Commissioners

RH/jd/nb

CC: Jose Noriega, District Ranger





## WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM AND RECREATION BOARD

*Bristlecone Convention Center & Visitors Bureau*

Erin Rajala  
Acting District Ranger  
Ely Ranger District  
825 Ave E  
Ely, NV 89301

Mrs. Rajala,

My name is Kyle Horvath. I am the Director of Tourism for White Pine County Nevada. I am writing in support of the Forest Service Ely Ranger Districts Round 19 SNPLMA Proposals. The citizens and communities in White Pine County rely on outdoor recreation as a staple quality of life asset as well as a main economic driver in the county. White Pine County Tourism and Recreation has set outdoor recreation as central to its branding and marketing of tourism. The relationships with our land managers have been integral to past success in expanding the outdoor recreation industry and assets. The Forest Service Ely Ranger District has been a steadfast partner of tourism and has proven success in all of their past projects. After reviewing the proposals set forth by the NFS for the Round 19 SNPLMA Grant Program, I am writing in support of the multiple conservation and recreation projects proposed by NFS Ely District.

We have all seen the devastating effects of wildfires in the west. Preserving the natural environment to benefit native vegetation and wildlife while protecting those environments from the effects of wildfires should be a top priority. Because of that I support full funding of the conservation-based projects: The South Schells Restoration Projects, The Illipah Watershed Restoration Project, and The Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weed Inventory, Treatment, and Restoration Project.

Outdoor Recreation is a major economic driver of the state and has offered an economic security net around communities traditionally based in resource extraction. Outdoor recreation is also a cultural element to what makes us Nevadans. White Pine County has seen major economic returns since defining itself as one of the best outdoor destinations in the state by developing its trail-based recreation opportunities. The recreation-based projects proposed by NFS Ely District will be integral in expanding access to recreation for local citizens and visitors. I support fully funding: The Kalamazoo Campground Reconstruction Project, The Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project, The Ranger OHV Trail Reconstruction Project, and The Youth Engagement in Natural Resource Management Project.

Our rural communities rely heavily on the work that our land managers do. The SNPLMA Grant Program has been integral to so many necessary and impactful projects in the past. I am excited about the potential return on these proposals. Thank you for your past support and your consideration in fully funding these important upcoming projects.

Sincerely,



Kyle Horvath, Director

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Interior Region 8  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area**



**Improve and Modernize Recreational Opportunities  
at Callville Bay**

**Amount Requested: \$17,021,300**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA) encompasses 142 miles of the Colorado River in northwestern Arizona (Mohave County) and southern Nevada (Clark County). Lake Mead, created by Hoover Dam, is 76 miles long and consists of four large sub-basins, the Boulder, Virgin, Temple, and Gregg Basins. Portions of the recreation area, including a 300-foot zone around the shoreline of the lake, are jointly administered by the National Park Service (NPS) and US Bureau of Reclamation. The National Park Service manages the lake for recreation and resource protection and the Bureau of Reclamation manages water operations. Lake Mead National Recreation Area hosts approximately eight million visitors annually and provides \$336 million to the regional economy, supporting nearly 4,200 jobs. Lake Mead provides plentiful opportunities for water-based recreation, with millions of visitors arriving at the national recreation area to enjoy boating, swimming, sailing, kayaking, fishing, and other activities. These abundant recreational opportunities are one of the recreation area's fundamental values (National Park Service, 2015). As identified in the park's enabling legislation, Lake Mead National Recreation Area was established for the general purposes of public recreation, benefit, and use, including bathing (swimming), boating, camping, and picnicking. However, access to the lake is limited due to the rugged topography of the area. On Lake Mead, marinas and boat ramps are present at Callville Bay (Nevada), Hemenway Harbor (Nevada), and Temple Bar (Arizona); a boat ramp is available at Echo Bay (Nevada) and South Cove (Arizona). On Lake Mead, in Nevada, developed campgrounds are available to visitors at Boulder Beach Las Vegas Bay, Callville Bay and Echo Bay and in Arizona at Temple Bar. These facilities enable visitors to enjoy the recreation area, support commercial operators, and contribute to the economy of the region.

In the early 2000s, lake levels began to drop rapidly. Park staff successfully extended launch ramps to keep the lake accessible to its 35,000 annual boaters, adjusted marinas for the 3,000 boats that were slipped on the lake, cleared beach areas and shifted land-based amenities in developed areas. The Park has successfully moved and/or reconfigured marina facilities for many years and is proposing to continue to do so at Callville Bay as the lake elevation drops below 1,065' to approximately 1025' water elevation over the next few years.

Persistent drought has rapidly lowered the water elevation of Lake Mead significantly over the last year and will continue to a projected elevation of 1025' by 2025 (per Bureau of Reclamation's Probabilistic Projections, October 13, 2021). The Park has been operating under a Low Water Amendment to its General Management Plan (GMP) since 2005 and a second Low Water Plan amendment in 2019 to manage boat ramps and marina facilities down to an elevation of 950'.

More recently, the park underwent a Rapid Assessment and Response (RAR) exercise to analyze the faster paced receding water elevation impacts to the existing operations within the park. Bureau of Reclamation's latest 5-year hydraulic model projections indicate that there will be a continued decrease in water levels at a more rapid rate down to a stabilized elevation of around 1025'. The RAR included analysis and documentation to align near-

term decision making with fiscal constraints, constructability, topography, visitation patterns, commercial services, and economic considerations based on existing best available data. The RAR has been completed to help inform an adaptive strategic investment plan for NPS Management in fiscal year (FY) 2023 and beyond. The Callville Bay site has been determined to be one of the most important sites needing relocation, extensions, and reconfigurations as the lake elevation continues to decline.

In addition to the marina and boat ramp facilities, Callville Bay provides the Loop A Campground which has 52 campsites that are utilized throughout the year by visitors. Constructed during the mission 66 era, the campground has received little modernization since its original construction. As a result, the Callville Bay Campground is severely deteriorated, functionally obsolete and has significant accessibility deficiencies. Visitors of all ages and abilities desire modern overnight accommodations and the current degraded state of Callville Bay Campgrounds has a negative impact on visitor experience. To address modernization needs, and improve visitor experience and accessibility, this project will also modernize and reconstruct Callville Bay Loop A Campground.

In past few years the park has dedicated park funding and undergone multiple successful projects to extend the boat ramps and marina utility infrastructure. As the lake recedes to a stabilized elevation, the park is committed to providing continued access to recreation activities in a safe and fiscally responsible manner. The Park will continue to educate the public on reasons why all access points will not be available due to the physical and fiscal constraints of those sites.

As the lake level recedes some sites within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area will not be able to be extended due to the topographical nature of the sites. Some of the concrete boat ramp sites that have been closed are Boulder Harbor, South Cove, Government Wash, Stewarts Point, and Overton Bay. Marinas that have been closed are Overton and Echo Bay. As boat ramps are closed, the visitation of the open boat ramps and marinas will increase. The Park will continue to manage and focus NPS funds to address the higher visitation impacts to those areas that have been determined to remain open.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

Previous SNPLMA funds afforded Lake Mead the ability to extend a portion of boat ramps in the past as the lake level receded. Those projects were very successful and have allowed Lake Mead to provide continued recreation access and visitor enjoyment during the last 20 years.

Bureau of Reclamation has projected a stabilized lake elevation of 1025' in the next 3-5 years. This project nomination will fund the boat launch relocation and subsequent extensions as well as infrastructure extensions for Callville Bay to the 1025' water surface elevation (boat ramp elevation of 1015'). NPS is continuing to devote its on-going internal funding to other boat ramps and lake access points for all recreation activities to the extent possible.

The Callville Bay Campground has not previously received SNPLMA funds.

## 2. **Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

The Park acknowledges that this nomination for the boat ramp relocation and extension of marina utility/road infrastructure is a stand-alone project that will finalize the last expected extensions per the Bureau of Reclamation's 5-year projection to the water surface elevation of approximately 1025'.

Modernization of the Callville Bay Loop A Campground is a stand-alone project, and the park will not pursue future SNPLMA funding for Loop A.

## **B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES**

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:  
Relocating the boat ramp and marina and modernizing the Callville Bay Campground will sustainably improve the overall recreation experience at Callville Bay allowing it to remain a lake recreation access point for the benefit of the public and protection of the resources in the area. As the lake level recedes and stabilizes at approximately 1025', only certain developed areas will be prioritized for extension and/or reconfiguration and campground modernizations. This decrease in lake access points will place an increased recreational demand on the remaining developed areas. Callville Bay is one of the most visited developed areas on Lake Mead and is utilized by visitors of all abilities for boating, camping, fishing, swimming, and many other recreation opportunities. This project will allow this area to continue to sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by limiting the visitor to a permanent point of access to lake and land-based park recreation.
- Connectivity:  
Callville Bay is an urban adjacent recreation area that allows visitors to experience diverse recreation opportunities in a responsible manner. Thousands of local visitors have been coming to Callville Bay for many years and share a deep connection to this special place. This project will connect visitors utilizing the modernized campground to the exceptional water and land based recreational opportunities the area is known for. The site has a committed maintenance group dedicated to the constant oversight and care of the area.

- Community:  
Callville Bay at Lake Mead Recreation Area is an integral part of the adjacent Las Vegas, Henderson, Boulder City, and other local southern Nevada communities. The local economies are dependent on the visitation and businesses related to recreating, boating and lake activities. As the first and largest national recreation area, Lake Mead plays an important role in the local, state, and national recreation industry by providing recreation potential to nearly eight million visitors per year within the park's boundary and approximately 400,000 visitors per year to the local Callville Bay area and surrounding communities.

By continuing to maintain the Callville Bay area as a lake and land-based recreation access point, the public will continue to have safe access to interact with nature and discover the diverse natural and cultural resources that the area has to offer.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

National Park Service Lake Mead staff will execute the project described in this nomination at the Callville Bay Area located within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Clark County, Nevada.

This project proposes to improve recreational opportunities at Callville Bay by modernizing and reconfiguring public amenities. This project will design, construct and provide continued boater and marina access from approximately 1,065' down to a lake elevation of 1,025'. This project will also modernize and reconfigure the Callville Bay Loop A Campground.

This project will relocate the existing Callville Bay boat launch access and construct associated infrastructure to support the marina. Relocation includes construction of a concrete launch ramp; approximately 6,000 linear feet of road and utilities (water, sewer, power and fuel) within the road corridor; sewage lift station and up to approximately 350 spaces of parking area that accommodates boat trailers. Additionally, marina anchor systems and breakwater necessary for continued marina operations will be installed to protect and secure the marinas.

The Loop A modernization efforts include replacement of campground loop roads, Recreational Vehicle (RV) fill and dump stations, campsite parking pads, parking areas, irrigation system and renovation of campsites to include the appropriate number of accessible sites. The exterior and interior of the campground comfort stations will be remodeled, and exterior paths and interior spaces will be modified to conform to current accessibility code. This project will also convert approximately 60% of campsites to full RV hook-ups (water, sewer and electrical) to address visitor desires for modern accommodations. This project will reconfigure the existing 54 campsites to 34 upgraded and modernized camping opportunities. Of the 34 campsites, 22 will be sized for modern RV's and spaced for a more enjoyable camping experience. The remaining 12 campsites will be tent sites that will be spaced and arranged for a more secluded camping encounter. The site will be designed to accommodate the required number of accessible sites. This project is scale-able utilizing priorities for the visitor's most important recreation needs in the following order:

1. Construction of the Boat Launch and Marina Relocation.
2. Modernizing Loop-A Campground.

If partial funding is considered due to cost, the Park would request that the first priority be funded.

This project ensures that visitors to the park will continue to have safe recreation access to the lake by means of boat ramp and marina services in one of the most visited sites within the park.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Construct approximately 750 linear feet of concrete boat ramp.
- Construct approximately 6,000 linear feet of access road.
- Construct approximately 6,000 linear feet of utility (water, sewer and power) extensions.
- Construct a parking lot with a capacity of approximately 350 vehicle spaces.
- Informational Kiosk
- Construct approximately 6,000 linear feet of underwater marina break water and anchoring systems.
- Construct Campground reconfigured loop roads -approximately 0.3 miles.
- Construct Recreational Vehicle (RV) fill and dump station – 1 each.
- Construct Modernized RV campsites – approximately 22 each.
- Construct Modernized Tent sites – approximately 12 each.
- Remodel and modernize campground comfort stations – approximately 2 each.
- Construct utility infrastructure system (water, sewer and power) within campground – 1 each.

### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- 1 Campground Informational Kiosk
- 3 Shade Structures within the campground
- 1 Fish Cleaning Station

### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Design and contract documents of boat ramp relocation
- Design and contract documents of second phase of utility/road extensions
- Design and contract Final documents of Loop A modernization
- Project close out

## E. PROJECT LOCATION

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

36.1347°, -114.7114°

### **Congressional District(s):**

NV District 3

## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

This project will take (5) five years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned to be as follows:

### Year1

- Complete work plans and funding authorization.
- Conduct additional surveys for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as new shorelines are exposed.

- Contract for Construction – Boat Ramp Relocation Portion
- Contract for Construction – Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road Portion
- Contract for Construction – Breakwater and anchoring systems.
- Complete Contract for A&E to finalize Re-design of Loop A Campground
- Contract A&E portion of Boat Ramp Relocation, Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road

#### Year 2

- Continued Construction of:
  - Boat Ramp Relocation Portion
  - Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road Portion
  - Breakwater and anchoring systems.
- Contract for Construction –Loop A Campground and RV Fill and Dump Station
- Conduct additional surveys for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as new shorelines are exposed.

#### Year 3

- Continued Construction of Loop A Campground and RV Fill and Dump Station
- Final Inspection and Close out Construction Contracts:
  - Boat Ramp Relocation Portion
  - Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road Portion
  - Breakwater and anchoring systems
- Contract for Construction portion of Boat Ramp Relocation, Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road

#### Year 4

- Continued Construction of Second Phase of Boat Ramp Relocation, Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road
- Final Inspection and Close out Construction Contract for Loop A Campground and RV Fill and Dump Station

#### Year 5

- Final Inspection and Close out Construction Contract for Boat Ramp Relocation, Parking Lot, Utility Extensions and Access Road
- Final Site Inspection with SNPLMA Program Manager
- Final review of project file and expenditures
- Request Close out
- SNPLMA close out of the funding authorization

### **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

The relocation phase for the launch ramp and marina of this project are currently under design using park funding in order to be positioned to start construction as the lake levels recedes, and funding is secured. This phase of the project will be ready to start construction in FY 2023.



The campground rehabilitation has been partially designed at 75%. If funding is secured through this nomination, design for Loop A will be expedited to finalize the design phase. This phase of the project will be ready to start construction in FY 2024.

If funding is secured through this nomination, the park will implement the second phase of design for the boat ramp extensions and marina relocation with construction occurring in FY's 2024-2025.

The General Management Plan Amendment / Low Water Plan / Environmental Assessment was completed in January of 2019. This amendment addresses operational needs to maintain lake access and provide safe and diverse recreational opportunities at lake elevations above 950 feet.

The Park will conduct additional surveys for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as new shorelines are exposed with the declining lake levels.

Compliance for the campground is complete.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The Park will continue to operate and maintain the new and/or rebuilt areas and facilities with existing maintenance staff funded through non-SNPLMA sources and a robust volunteer program. The estimated annual increase in operational costs for new facilities is \$16,500 and is a result of increased operational needs associated with the additional utility and road extensions for the boat ramp and marina relocations. The annual operational and maintenance costs for the existing campground is \$37,000 and will be reduced to \$15,000 by replacing outdated infrastructure and reconfiguring the campground. The park plans to absorb these additional operational costs with revenue generated from fee collection. Maintenance costs for the new facilities will be minimal to begin with and increase over time as the facilities age. Anticipated maintenance needs include: preventative maintenance for the parking areas, preventative maintenance of the utilities, preventative maintenance of the campground amenities, re-grading of the roads, cyclic replacement of interpretive media and replacement of signs. Increased fees obtained after the modernization of Loop A will be reinvested to support ongoing operational and maintenance needs. Additional cyclic maintenance and component renewal costs necessary to maintain these new facilities will be covered through various existing project fund sources that the park has the ability to leverage. These fund sources include cyclic maintenance, repair/rehabilitation, pavement preservation program and fee revenue.

The Park is committed to operating and maintaining our primary assets as a priority. Callville Bay is one of the few key gateways for diverse recreation opportunities, including large and small vessel access, boat docking, and other marina related activities.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Improve and Modernize Recreational Opportunities at Callville Bay	<b>Date: 10/27/21</b>	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Audrey Asselin	<b>Agency: NPS-LAKE</b>	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 359,300.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ -	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 16,638,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 24,000.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 17,021,300.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Notes:			

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

The Park has contributed funds for the first phase of the launch ramp and marina relocations; and the first 75% of the design for the Loop A campground modernization. The parks contribution to on-going design is \$522,000.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Justin Pattison  
 Email: justin\_pattison@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 293-8669

Project Manager: Audrey Asselin  
 Email: Audrey\_Asselin@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 293-8925

Budget Officer: Scott Briggs  
 Email: scott\_briggs@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: (702) 293-8687

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: This project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, and modernization to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. With the receding lake level limiting the number of lake access points, this project ensures that Callville Bay area will continue to be one of the primary gateways to a diverse recreation experience for the local and tourist visitor. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to present and future recreation users over the anticipated life of the project. The life cycle of this project's amenities extends into the foreseeable future by facilitating continued lake access, land-based recreation opportunities and marina services to the public. The relocations will preserve portions of the existing infrastructure for the best possible solution to maintaining the access and marina services.

- B. *Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer: This project will continue to allow for large and small vessel lake access and storage, marina services and a modernized campground that the local and tourist visitors have come to rely on in the surrounding communities. By modernizing the campground and relocating lake access at this location, the operations of the area can continue in a

safe and sustainable manner. The surrounding natural, cultural, and historic resources will continue to intrigue and inspire visitors while allowing park staff to continue to manage safe access to controlled areas and protect sensitive natural, cultural, and historic resources. This project will also continue to provide park staff access to the lake for the purposes of maintenance, emergency response and resource protection. This project will discourage impromptu launch sites and the creation of non-approved access roads as the lake recedes.

This project is the most cost-effective method of maintaining the Callville Bay area and maintaining continuity for the public.

The local lake community consists of campgrounds, concessions provided amenities and a trailer village, along with beaches, bike and hiking trails and historic sites. The existing close communities are directly affected by camping, boat access and marina services.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: This project will allow for the continued public interest and interaction with nature and the historic sites in and around the area. Callville Bay is one of the gateways to the many historic areas within the park and the northern end of the lake for recreation and marina services.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: This project will allow for continued enjoyment of lake related recreation opportunities and allow for the visitor to maintain a local connectivity to lake features and the surrounding landscapes. This project will be designed with efficiencies and modernized amenities to minimize operation and maintenance costs. It will enhance and improve management of public lands by allowing visitors to have a safe and accessible campground, boat launch ramp and marina facilities.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: This project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the historic and/or cultural resources of the area and engages the user in conservation of public lands by providing dedicated permanent facilities.

***A. Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: This project will modernize camping; recreation access; and marina access and utility infrastructure as the lake level recedes, as well as continue to provide the quality

visitor experience opportunities that Lake Mead has provided for generations. This project will provide modernized camping facilities, improved roads and close marina parking that will continue to provide new recreation opportunities within the park. New kiosks and signs will be provided to ensure that the public is directed to the new areas and recreation opportunities, as well as natural and cultural resource protection information.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer: This project will improve the access and marina facilities by allowing for the infrastructure connectivity to be uninterrupted as the lake levels recede. The visitor experience and the surrounding natural and cultural resources would be greatly impacted if continuity of services and access was not provided in a timely and permanent manner.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

Answer: By completing this project, the visitor will be able to explore and discover all the sites in and around the lake that are only accessible by boat. It is imperative to the Lake Mead National Recreation Area and local businesses supporting the lake that lake access and marina services are maintained for the 400,000 million visitors per year who use Callville Bay. As visitation patterns shift with changing lake levels, visitation is only expected to increase at this location making this a critical location that will impact the public's experience of recreation in the park. Also, this project will continue to provide a significant positive economic contribution to the local communities.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

Answer: The Park maintains a website and social media sites for the purposes of educating the public on awareness of differing site conditions with the goal of providing a quality visitor experience. Our staff at our entrance stations along with other park staff interact with the public to deliver any messaging that is crucial to the visitor's expectations as the park conditions change. The Park is also discussing and investing in other pilot programs that could be useful in communicating site conditions and wait times for access points in and around the lake.

New boating and resource information signage will be provided with the relocation to help educate the visitors of the site amenities and the natural/cultural sites.

Park management, at the highest levels, is dedicated to ensuring that the visitor has every possible opportunity to utilize the park and its amenities with the most positive experience possible.

3. **COMMUNITY**: The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

**A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: This project sits at the gateway to the surrounding local Southern Nevada communities and provides easy access to many underserved populations. Due to the proximity to Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson and Boulder City, local communities have quick access to Lake Mead water-based recreation, as well as many other diverse recreation activities within the park.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: The Park has invested in project scoping analysis to understand the phasing and required relocation trigger elevations. Designs for the first phase of the road and utility extension will be completed by end of FY 2022. Additionally, the park has previously committed funds to develop 75% construction documents for modernization of Loop A.

To plan and implement this project, a team of NPS engineering, recreation, human resource, contracting, facility management, interpretation, visitor and resource protection /management staff will be involved to guide the strategy, public outreach and support the implementation within the five-year period. The Park stands well positioned to execute this project quickly once funds become available.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: This project will continue to encourage the responsible use of the park's amenities and recreation sites in and around the lake. With the continued access, marina services and modern camping options, the park will maintain revenue that in turn funds other activities that encourage conservation stewardship, educational opportunities, and the public's access to public lands.

4. **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual*

*O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

- A. ***The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Answer: The Park will continue to provide operations and maintenance with funding provided by a variety of NPS fund sources. The Park can maintain the boat ramp and the utility/road infrastructure extensions with a full Facility Management staff as well as a robust volunteer program. Additionally, increased fees obtained after the modernization of Loop A will be reinvested to support ongoing operational and maintenance needs.

- B. ***Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: Yes, the park has many partners and a large group of volunteers that are committed to providing the best care, management, and maintenance services for the preservation of the amenities and protection of the surrounding resources.

- C. ***Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: The Park is in close proximity of underserved communities and will encourage responsible use in areas developed for recreation. This project will position the park to be able to engage with the public to educate and encourage the implementation of the park's mission and conservation initiatives.

- D. ***Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: This project will provide updated, efficient utility infrastructure that would provide services at the marina and campground.

5. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. ***The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: This project includes a reconstruction of the deteriorated Loop A campground that has seen little modernization over the years and has exceeded its life cycle. Additionally, Loop A does not meet current accessibility standards. The launch ramp and marina relocation project are new construction that extends the existing access point to the lake and the marina amenities.

- B. ***Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer: The campground rehabilitation has outdated and failing amenities. This project will reconfigure the existing 54 campsites to 34 upgraded and modernized camping opportunities. Of the 34 campsites, 22 will be sized for modern RV's and spaced for a more enjoyable camping experience. The remaining 12 campsites will be tent sites that will be spaced and arranged for a more secluded camping encounter. The site will be designed to accommodate the required number of accessible sites.

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: This project will be contracted to a U.S. Contractor. The NPS contracting group will ensure that solicitations for Small Business Companies will be afforded opportunities to be awarded contracts within the provisions and regulations of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR).

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***



Answer: This project will advance conservation stewardship and increase outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing, for all Americans. This will be accomplished by maintaining access to the lake and marina services for visitors of all abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: This project serves to ensure the parks' remote fishing areas are open and accessible for recreational pursuits by all Americans and visitors to the United States. Many of the designated roads no longer reach the lake so this project will enable access to entire lake shoreline.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: This project implements the guidance of the Dingell Act by maintaining a way forward to encourage activities that take place within the park, create economic prosperity, and provide opportunities for concessionaires and small

businesses. This project will also allow for the continued opportunities for recreation, hunting and fishing; as well as foster the preservation of the parks natural landscapes and historic sites. This project directly addresses the goal of the Federal Government being in position to anticipate and respond to the climate change issues in the southwest and the 20-year drought conditions along the Colorado River by the park engaging in extensive priority management exercises and preparing shelf ready designs. As impacts arise in the region that affect all activities of life in the southwest, this project minimizes the financial investment of the federal government by focusing its efforts on the most critical access points to continue the mission of the park of providing access to the public for recreation within the park.

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: Not Applicable

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: Not Applicable

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: Not Applicable

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: This project funds AmeriCorps initiatives that allows the park to hire intern positions through Great Basin Institute. These positions will be engaged in archeological / biological surveys and construction inspection duties. This facilitates entry level positions that encourages interest in career development within the mission of the National Park Service and public land conservation.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: Not Applicable

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: Not Applicable

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities: Not Applicable

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Advancing racial equity***

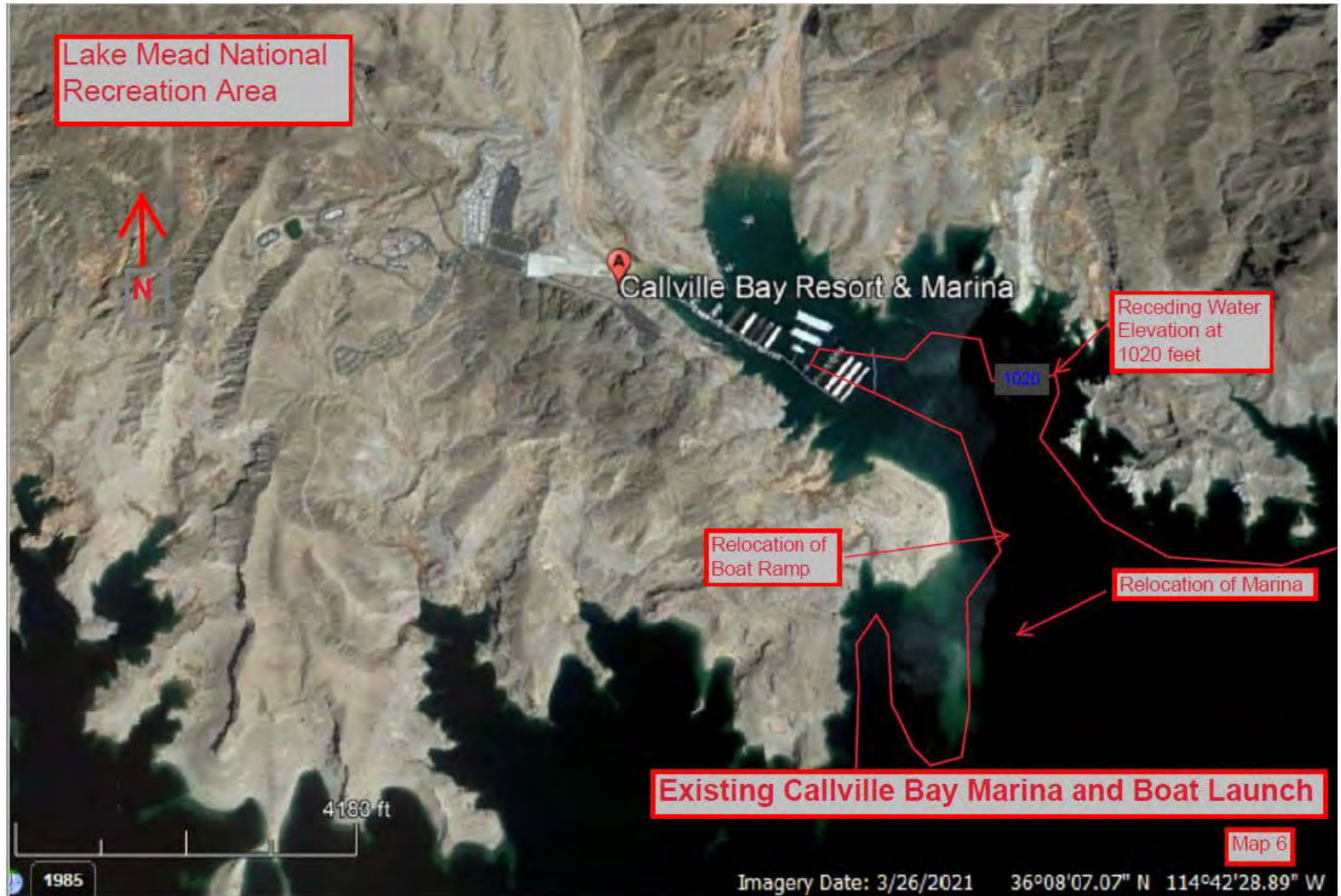
Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: Enter text response here

## M. MAPS





# Callville Bay Recreation - Management Area

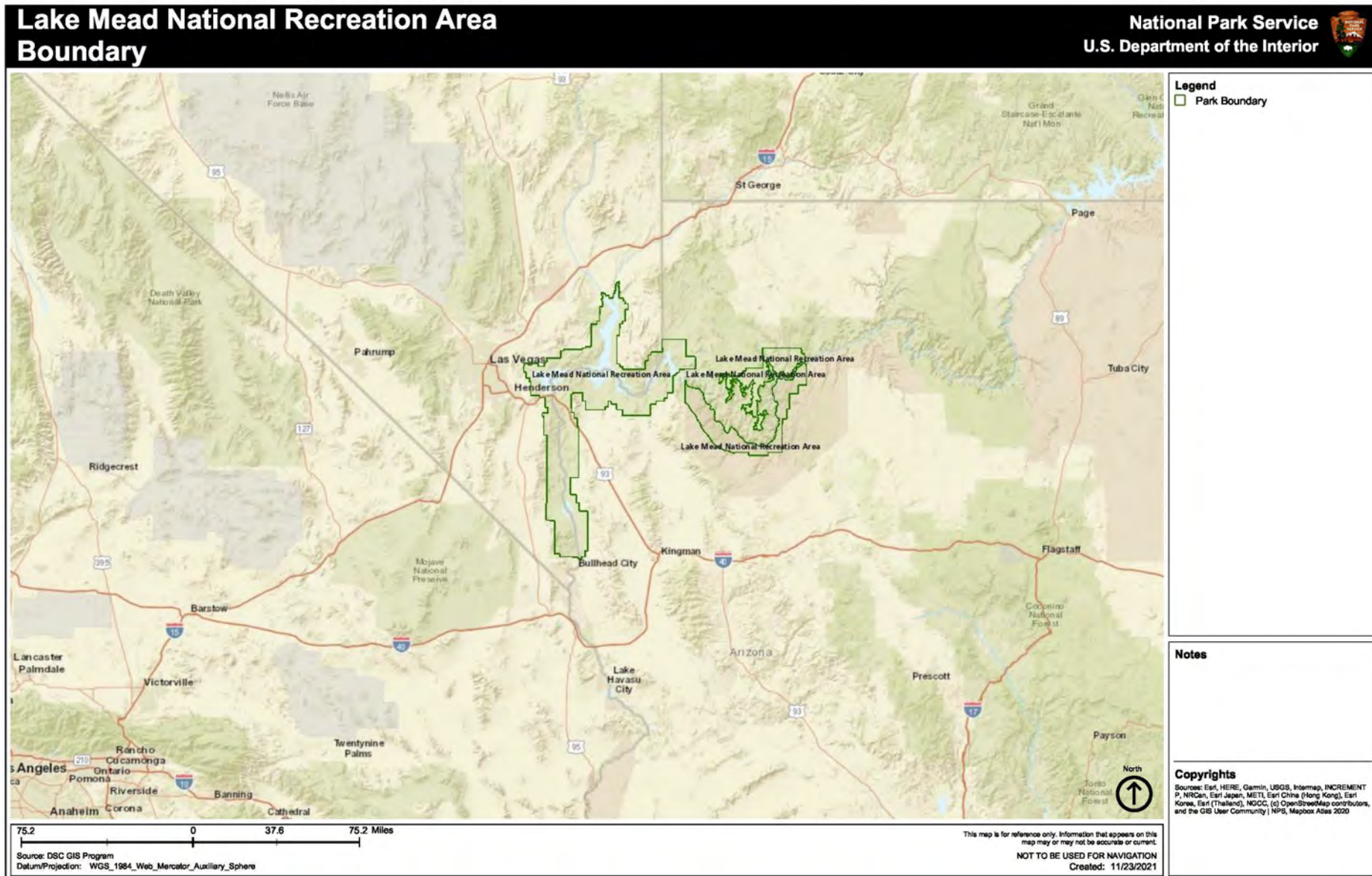
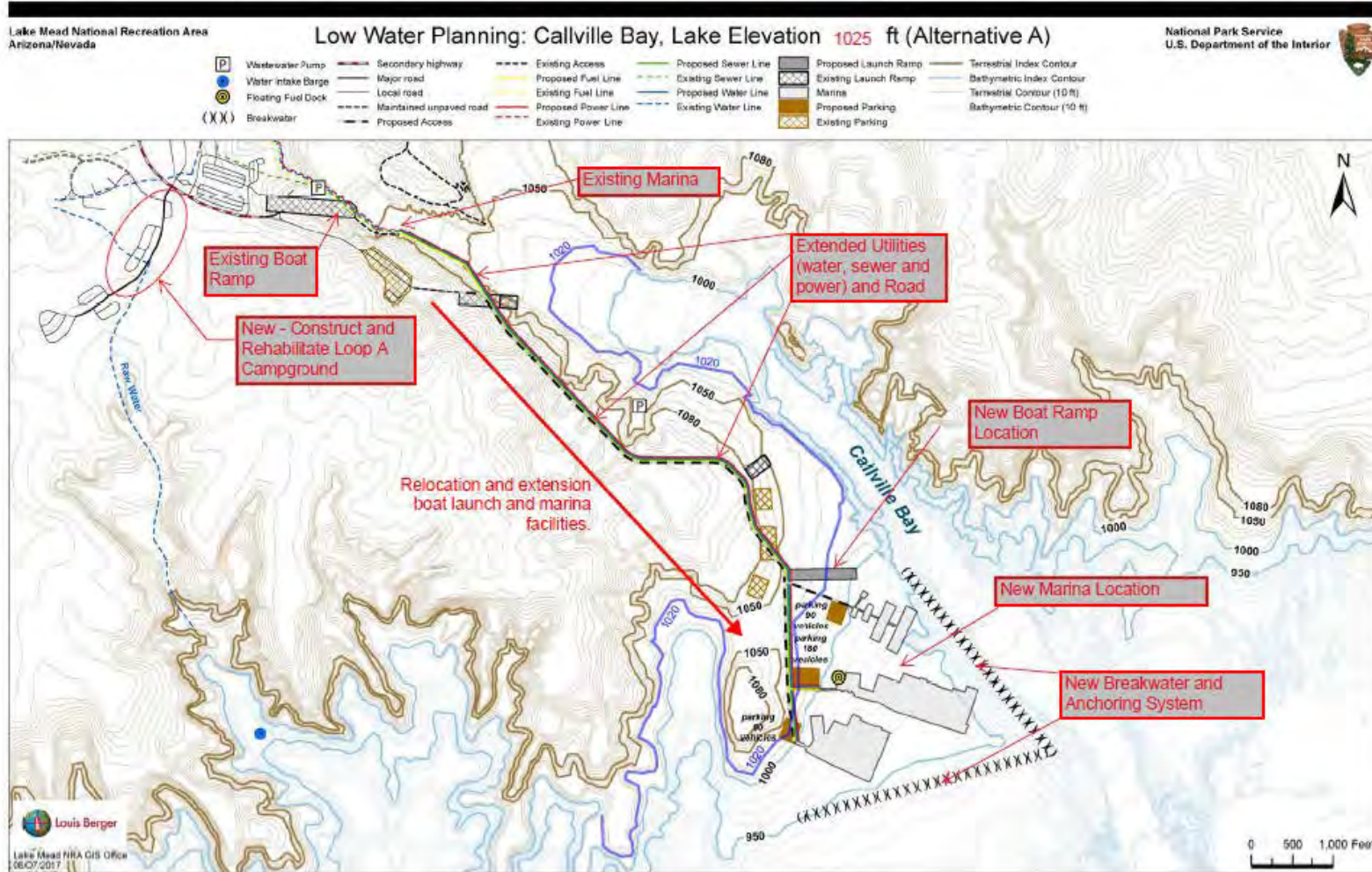




Figure 3-5 Callville Bay Water Level Elevation 1025 feet Alternative A

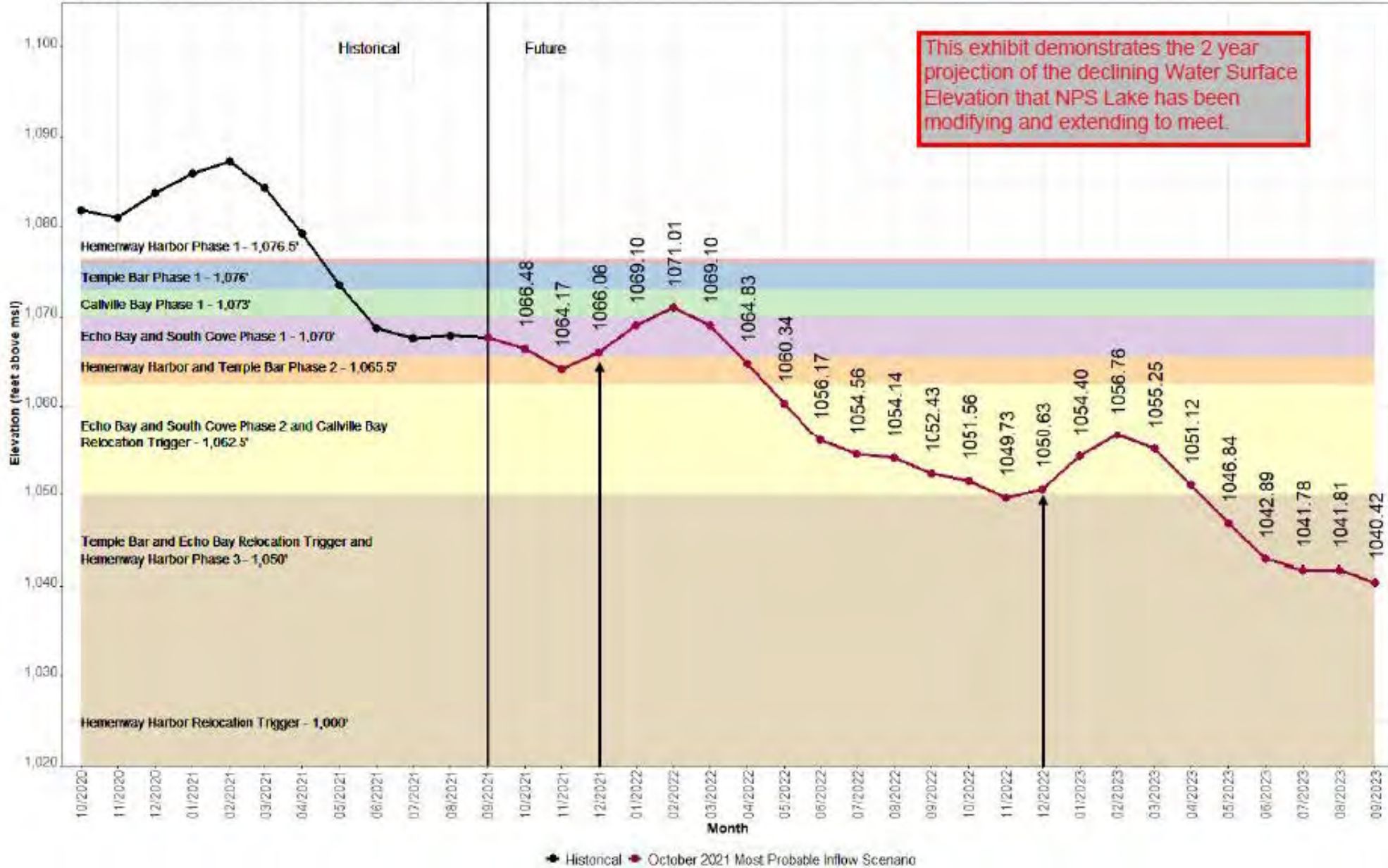
Title 1 Design Concept Selected for Callville Bay





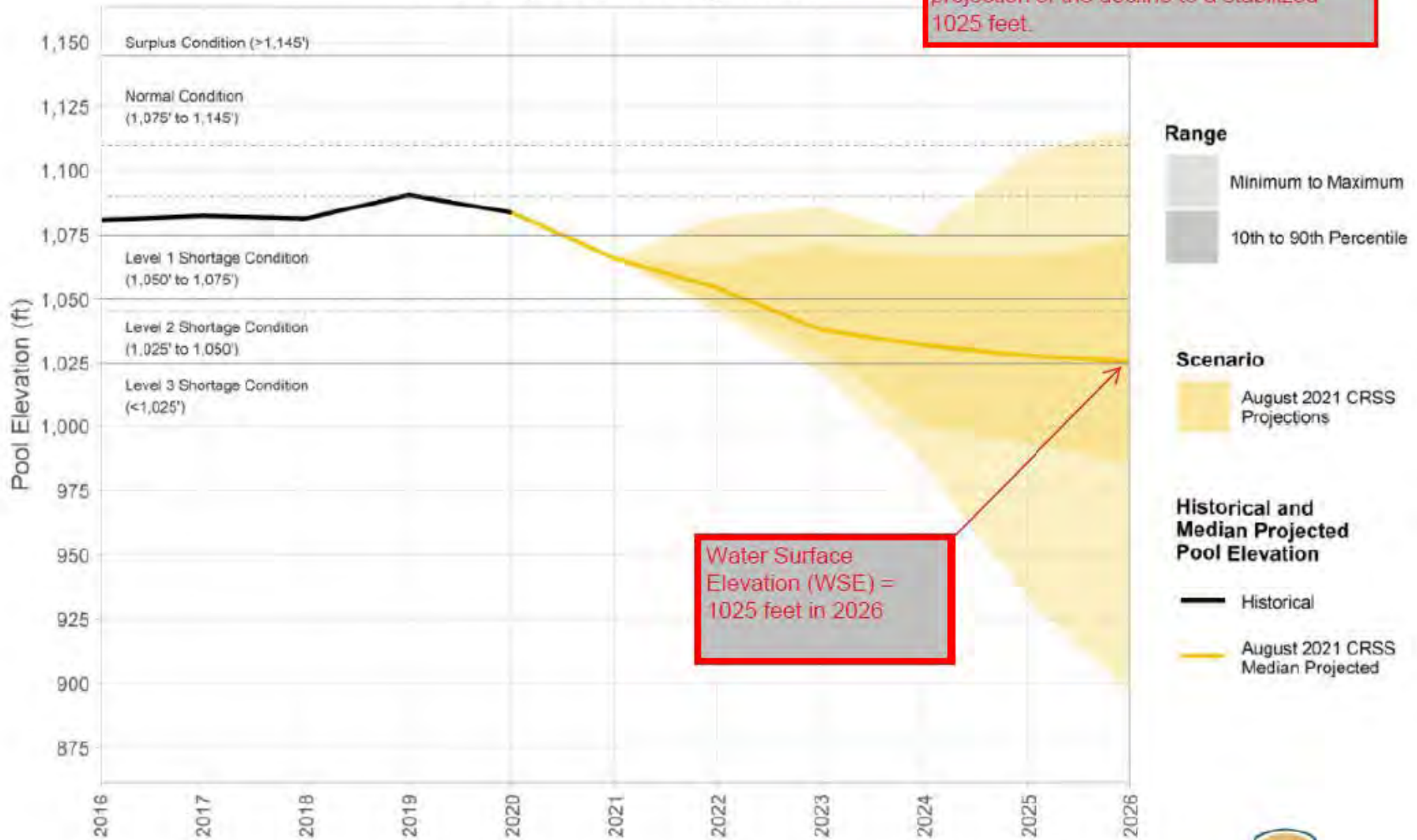
# Lake Mead End of Month Elevations

Projections from the October 2021 Most Probable 24-Month Study



## Lake Mead End-of-December Elevations CRSS Projections from August 2021

This exhibit shows the most probable projection of the decline to a stabilized 1025 feet.



Water Surface Elevation (WSE) = 1025 feet in 2026

\*Projections assume 1988-2019 resampled natural flows (Stress Test Hydrology). In contrast to the June 2021 projections, these results do not include Upper Basin Drought Response Operations beyond 2021. The range shown in this figure may not be representative of the full range of possible conditions that could occur with different modeling assumptions.



# New Reconfigured Callville Bay Campground Site Plan

C3.1 - SITE PLAN

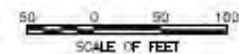
RV Sanitary Dump Station and Water Fill Station

C3.2 - SITE PLAN

20' Buffer

C3.3 - SITE PLAN

12 Terraces



PRELIMINARY  
NOT FOR  
CONSTRUCTION

A/E/FIRM HONEY INC. 10000 N. 10000 E.	DESIGNED BY M.D.	SUB SHEET NO. <b>C3.0</b>	TITLE OF SHEET <b>OVERALL SITE PLAN</b> <b>CAMPGROUND LOOP 'A'</b> CALLVILLE BAY CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA	DRAWING NO. <b>802</b> <b>157598</b> PAGES/PKG NO. <b>1/22</b> <b>XX of 44</b>
CHECKED BY J.C.	TECH. REVIEW J.C.	DATE 04/03/2020		

DATE PLOTTED: 04/03/2020 10:00:00 AM

## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:                      Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing                      Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures                      for Recreation                      Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	6000 Feet Utility/Road Extensions and 750 Feet of Boat Ramp Relocation/34 campsites/ 2 comfort stations
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	1.1 Miles Access Road Extension and 0.14 Miles of Boat Ramp Relocation

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:                      Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation                      of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance                      Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	6000 Feet Utility/Road Extensions and 750 Feet of Boat Ramp Relocation/34 campsites/ 2 comfort stations
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	2 Each

## O. PHOTOS



Existing Callville Bay Marina and Boat Launch at 1068 Foot Water Surface Elevation



Existing Boat Launch with receding lake elevation. NPS uses pipe mat to connect the existing concretelaunch to the launch-able elevation. This launch will become unusable and dry at 1063-foot water surface elevation.



Existing Condition at Callville Bay – Reduced lanes at the Boat Launch using pipe mat as a temporary connection to a launch-able elevation.



Relocation of Callville Bay Marina needed as the lake elevation recedes.



Marina Storage that will require relocation once the Lake Water Level recedes. Utilities and Road Extensions will be required to provide services and access.



Existing Condition at Callville Bay Campground

## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Boulder City Chamber of Commerce
2. City of Boulder City
3. Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region
4. Latin Chamber of Commerce
5. Get Outdoors Nevada

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*





October 27, 2021

Randy Lavoisier, Superintendent  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
601 Nevada Way  
Boulder City, NV 89005

Dear Mr. Lavoisier,

On behalf of the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express our complete support of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 19 Capital Improvement project submitted by the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. We are fully in favor of America's first and largest National Recreation Area's efforts to maintain and enhance recreation access through changing lake elevations. This project ensures continued recreational opportunities for the millions of visitors who enjoy the recreation area and plays an important role in our local and regional economy by supporting thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars in revenue to local businesses:

- **Relocate Callville Bay Launch Ramp/Marina and Construct Marina Infrastructure on Lake Mead**
  - Relocates the Callville Bay launch ramp and constructs associated marina infrastructure in new location. Constructs road to new launch ramp location, routes supporting utilities along road corridor, and constructs new parking area to support the new location and anticipated increase in visitor use of this area.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce are integral partners serving visitors and Southern Nevada residents who explore the outdoor recreation offered by Lake Mead NRA and the amenities and history of Boulder City. We believe that this project aligns with each organization's mission and facilitates continuity of access to recreational opportunities, ensuring even more Southern Nevada residents and visitors make a lasting connection to the outdoors and our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support of this project, the benefits of which will go far beyond the park to improve the lives of so many. We wish Lake Mead NRA the best of luck in seeing this project succeed. If you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jill@bouldercitychamber.com](mailto:jill@bouldercitychamber.com).

Sincerely,

Jill Rowland-Lagan, CEO  
Boulder City Chamber of Commerce

100 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89005-2643 • 702.293.2034

[WWW.BOULDERCITYCHAMBER.COM](http://WWW.BOULDERCITYCHAMBER.COM)



## CITY OF BOULDER CITY

Mayor Kiernan J. McManus  
401 California Avenue  
Boulder City, NV 89005  
(702) 466-0785  
kmcmanus@bcnv.org

October 29, 2021

Randy Lavasseur, Superintendent  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
601 Nevada Way  
Boulder City, NV 89005

Dear Mr. Lavasseur,

As Mayor of the City of Boulder City, I would like to express my complete support of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 19 Capital Improvement project submitted by the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. I am fully in favor of the efforts of staff for America's first and largest National Recreation Area to maintain and enhance recreation access through changing lake elevations. This project ensures continued recreational opportunities for the millions of visitors who enjoy the recreation area and plays an important role in our local and regional economy by supporting thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars in revenue to local businesses:

- **Relocate Callville Bay Launch Ramp/Marina and Construct Marina Infrastructure on Lake Mead**
  - Relocates the Callville Bay launch ramp and constructs associated marina infrastructure in new location. Constructs road to new launch ramp location, routes supporting utilities along road corridor, and constructs new parking area to support the new location and anticipated increase in visitor use of this area.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the City of Boulder City are integral partners serving visitors and Southern Nevada residents who explore the outdoor recreation offered by Lake Mead NRA and the amenities and history of Boulder City. I believe that this project aligns with each organization's mission and facilitates continuity of access to recreational opportunities, ensuring even more Southern Nevada residents and visitors make a lasting connection to the outdoors and our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice support of this project, the benefits of which will go far beyond the park to improve the lives of so many. We wish Lake Mead NRA the best of luck in seeing this project succeed. If you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me at [kmcmanus@bcnv.org](mailto:kmcmanus@bcnv.org) or by telephone at (702) 466-0785.

Sincerely,

Kiernan J. McManus, Mayor  
City of Boulder City



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
LCB-1000

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Randy Lavasseur, Superintendent  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
601 Nevada Way  
Boulder City, NV 89005

Dear Mr. Lavasseur:

On behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Basin Regional Office, I would like to express our complete support of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 19 Capital Improvement project submitted by the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. We are fully in favor of America's first and largest National Recreation Area's efforts to maintain and enhance recreation access through changing lake elevations. This project ensures continued recreational opportunities for the millions of visitors who enjoy the recreation area and plays an important role in our local and regional economy by supporting thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars in revenue to the local economy:

- **Relocate Callville Bay Launch Ramp/Marina and Construct Marina Infrastructure on Lake Mead**
  - Relocates the Callville Bay launch ramp and constructs associated marina infrastructure in new location. Constructs road to new launch ramp location, routes supporting utilities along road corridor, and constructs new parking area to support the new location and anticipated increase in visitor use of this area.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Basin Regional Office are integral partners serving visitors and Southern Nevada residents who explore the outdoor recreation offered by Lake Mead NRA and rely on the infrastructure and resource management provided by the Bureau of Reclamation. We believe that this project aligns with each organization's mission and facilitates continuity of access to recreational opportunities, ensuring even more Southern Nevada residents and visitors make a lasting connection to the outdoors, and the history and necessity of Hoover Dam.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support of this project, the benefits of which will go far beyond the park to improve the lives of so many. We wish Lake Mead NRA the best of luck in seeing this project succeed. If you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me at (702) 293-8409 or [jgould@usbr.gov](mailto:jgould@usbr.gov). For the hearing impaired, please call the Federal Relay System at (800) 877-8339 (TTY).

Sincerely,

JACKLYNN GOULD Digitally signed by JACKLYNN GOULD  
Date: 2021.11.01 11:09:02 -0400

Jacklynn L. Gould, P.E.  
Regional Director

INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA\*, NEVADA\*

\* PARTIAL



**LATIN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE NEVADA, INC.**  
300 North 13th Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
T (702) 385-7367  
info@lvcc.com  
www.lvcc.com

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**Otto Mérida**  
President Emeritus

October 27, 2021

Randy Lavasseur, Superintendent  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
601 Nevada Way  
Boulder City, NV 89005

Dear Mr. Lavasseur,

On behalf of the Latin Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express our complete support of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 19 Capital Improvement project submitted by the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. We are fully in favor of America's first and largest National Recreation Area's efforts to maintain and enhance recreation access through changing lake elevations. This project ensures continued recreational opportunities for the millions of visitors who enjoy the recreation area and plays an important role in our local and regional economy by supporting thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars in revenue to local small businesses:

- **Relocate Callville Bay Launch Ramp/Marina and Construct Marina Infrastructure on Lake Mead**
  - Relocates the Callville Bay launch ramp and constructs associated marina infrastructure in new location. Constructs road to new launch ramp location, routes supporting utilities along road corridor, and constructs new parking area to support the new location and anticipated increase in visitor use of this area.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the Latin Chamber of Commerce are both integral organizations supporting our local economy and serving visitors and Southern Nevada residents. We believe that this project aligns with each organization's mission and facilitates continuity of access to recreational opportunities, ensuring even more Southern Nevada residents and visitors make a lasting connection to the outdoors and the rich amenities offered throughout the Las Vegas valley.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support of this project, the benefits of which will go far beyond the park to improve the lives of so many. We wish Lake Mead NRA the best of luck in seeing this project succeed. If you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me at [peter@lvcc.com](mailto:peter@lvcc.com)

Sincerely,

Peter Guzman  
President and CEO  
Latin Chamber of Commerce Nevada



October 27, 2021

Randy Lavasseur, Superintendent  
Lake Mead National Recreation Area  
601 Nevada Way  
Boulder City, NV 89005

Dear Mr. Lavasseur,

On behalf of Get Outdoors Nevada, I am writing in support of the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 19 Capital Improvement project submitted by the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. We are fully in favor of America's first and largest National Recreation Area's efforts to maintain and improve recreation access through changing lake elevations. This project ensures continued recreational opportunities for the millions of visitors who enjoy the recreation area and plays an important role in our local and regional economy by supporting thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars in revenue to local businesses:

- **Relocate Callville Bay Launch Ramp/Marina and Construct Marina Infrastructure on Lake Mead**
  - Relocates the Callville Bay launch ramp and constructs associated marina infrastructure in a new location. Constructs road to new launch ramp location, routes supporting utilities along road corridor, and constructs new parking area to support the new location and anticipated increase in visitor use of this area.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area and Get Outdoors Nevada have been, and continue to be, strong partners in our shared mission of identifying and providing outdoor recreation to the residents and visitors of Southern Nevada. We believe that this project aligns with that mission and facilitates continuity of access to recreational opportunities, ensuring even more Southern Nevada residents and visitors make a lasting connection to the outdoors.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support of this project, the benefits of which will reach beyond the park to improve the lives of so many. If you have any questions, please contact me at (702) 997-3350 or [rbergren@getoutdoorsnevada.org](mailto:rbergren@getoutdoorsnevada.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Bergren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Rachel Bergren  
Executive Director

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

**Interior Region 8, Lower Colorado Basin  
Lower Colorado Dams Office - Davis Dam**

**Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam**

**Amount Requested: \$8,101,000**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:

The proposed Colorado River Heritage Trail project at Davis Dam will complete the loop trail and allow Reclamation to manage its land and corresponding cultural and natural resources more safely and effectively. It will provide additional public recreation opportunities – especially for the underserved communities of Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada. This is a low-income area with a high senior citizen population, with very limited affordable public recreation trail opportunities. The project will connect the local communities of Laughlin City, Bullhead City, and the Colorado River Heritage Trail System to Federal lands, completing the loop trail. The additional trail allows for enhanced use of the Federal lands in partnership with the National Park Service, Bullhead City, the town of Laughlin, Nevada, Mohave County, Arizona, and Clark County, Nevada.

This project connects to round 5 and 6 Clark County parks, trails, and natural areas (PTNA) funded project on the Nevada side of the Colorado River and 3 million dollars of local and Reclamation funding that has been used to further develop the original project, connect the trail to the community, and the Arizona side (Round 17 funded the design and construction of the Arizona side of the Colorado River Heritage Trail) that is projected to be completed in December of 2021. This project will enhance the usability of the existing project and make it a facility that can provide for numerous special events and community functions.

This project is the final planned link to complete the approximately 6-mile-long Colorado River Heritage Trail System. It will result in a fully accessible public trail system across the crest of Davis Dam, connecting the existing Arizona and Nevada portions of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System.

In addition, the project will provide a new accessible fishing point in a popular fishing area and an observation point on top of Davis Dam. The new fishing access point will mitigate the current hazardous access that requires visitors to climb over a 3-foot concrete wall, then dropping down on and traversing hazardous riprap (See Figure 5. 3-foot concrete with large, uneven rocks drop off). The access point will make fishing universally accessible to the public and reduce liability to the Federal government. This project will also construct a 1-mile trail to facilitate the safe portage of personal watercraft safely across Davis Dam, enhancing the ability of the public to easily navigate down the Colorado River.

### 2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:

Reclamation acknowledges that this is a stand-alone project, although it connects the existing Colorado River Heritage Trails in Arizona and Nevada. SNPLMA Rounds 5 and 6 funded the design and construction of the Nevada portion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail Systems, and Round 17 funded the design and construction of the Arizona portion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System. The project is not dependent on any other projects.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:  
This proposed completion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System will provide a fully accessible, approximately 6-mile-long overall mileage loop of recreational trail to the public (combining existing and proposed trails), while preserving and enhancing the surrounding ecosystem and cultural resources.
- Connectivity:  
This proposed completion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System will provide a fully accessible, approximately 6-mile-long overall mileage loop of recreational trail to the public (combining existing and proposed trails), linking two existing trails on either side of the Colorado River – the Laughlin Heritage Trail (a.k.a North Reach Trail) and the Arizona Heritage Trail.
- Community:  
This proposed completion of the fully accessible, approximately 6-mile-long overall mileage loop of recreational trail to the public (combining existing and proposed trails), accessible fishing area, observation point, and parking area will serve this low-income, high senior citizen population, as well as tourists.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

**Who:** Bureau of Reclamation will carry out the project.

**What:** Construct an accessible public trail on top of Davis Dam located within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. This trail will connect to the existing Colorado River Heritage Trail System in both Arizona and Nevada side. Reconstruct the adjacent parking lot at Davis Dam. Construct an accessible public fishing access point. Construct an overlook atop of Davis Dam on the Lake Mohave face of the dam. Establish and construct a public trail to portage kayaks and canoes.

**Where:** Davis Dam is located on the Colorado River about 70 miles downstream of Hoover Dam. Davis Dam stretches across the border between Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada.

**Why:** The project will connect the Colorado River Heritage Trail systems in Arizona and Nevada to make the route safer and improve the public fishing access point on top of Davis Dam. The project will establish a public trail to safely portage kayaks and canoes around Davis Dam.



The project will provide local communities with enhanced access to Federal lands and Lake Mohave, as well as a whole new opportunity for the Laughlin, Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona communities, which currently have limited accessible trail opportunities, limited access to Federal lands, and are economically challenged communities with a high population of Senior Citizens. The outcome of this project will protect natural resources and cultural resources, improve public access to this highly visited area, and hopefully change visitor behaviors that will further protect the resources.

## **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Design and build approximately one mile of accessible trail on top of Davis Dam
- Design and build one fishing access point and overlook on Davis Dam
- Design and build approximately one mile of trail to portage kayaks and canoes around Davis Dam
- Create and install up to twelve interpretive and wayfinding panels
- Design and build one or two crosswalks for public safety
- Design and reconstruct approximately 120,000 square feet of parking lot to address accessibility and to better accommodate boat trailers and RVs

### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Install up to two shade shelters with picnic tables
- Plant approximately one acre of native vegetation and seeds
- Design and build approximately 1,400 linear feet of Adventure Trail

### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Scoping meetings
- Architectural and engineering design
- SHPO Consultation and coordination with Arizona and Nevada Environmental Compliance, such as: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Value Engineering
- Permitting, such as: 404 permit, and environmental permits from ADEQ, and NDEP
- SMART quarterly status updates; annual and final accomplishment reports; and close out package

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

35.199592° / -114.571883°

### **Congressional District(s):**

Arizona Congressional District No. 4

Nevada Congressional District No. 3

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

This project will take five (5) years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned to be as follows:

### Year 1

- Complete work plans and funding authorization
- Security review

- Dam Safety review, complete planning, design and NEPA to include:
  - Conceptual design
  - Scoping meetings
  - FWS consultation (if required)
  - SHPO/Historic Properties Consultation (if required)
  - NEPA preparation

#### Year 2

- Decision document (EA and FONSI)
- Design deliverables at 30% design (survey data, drawings, specifications, and cost estimate)
  - Conduct Value Engineering study and perform constructability review
- Design deliverables at 60% and 90% (drawings, specifications, and cost estimate)
  - Update design drawings incorporating 30% design review comments, specifications, and Basis-of-Design Report
  - Complete all geological testing
  - Complete draft Geological Design Report
- Final design and engineering

#### Year 3

- Contracting for construction through build-out includes:
  - Preparation of contract documents/specifications
  - Drafting the SOW and contract
  - Contract solicitation
- Contract award

#### Year 4

- Construction includes:
  - Mobilization
  - Construction through full build-out
  - Agency acceptance as complete
  - Payment of final invoice, contract closeout actions
  - Release of lien

#### Year 5

- Project close out with SNPLMA:
  - Final site inspection
  - Final review of project file and expenditures
  - Request for close out
- SNPLMA close out of the funding authorization
- Contract and SNPLMA Closeout

## G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No?Is

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

This project would not be shovel-ready, but Reclamation has an Interdisciplinary (ID) team identified that are ready to start working on the design and subsequent NEPA compliance coordination when funds become available. Below is Reclamation's goal for project development and implementation process:

- Reclamation will use experienced staff to manage and oversee the project.
- Reclamation will procure professional services to complete a topographical survey, geotechnical investigation, and design, and will contract out the construction phase of the project.
- Major milestone deliverables include the following:
  - Complete the design development and value engineering
  - Complete environmental analysis and documentation as required by NEPA and SHPO
  - Complete Plans, Specifications, and Cost Estimate
  - Award construction contract
  - Complete construction
- This project will be considered complete when it is open to the public

### **Level of Readiness for Project Implementation**

Once SNPLMA funding is awarded, the EA, BO, FONSI will be completed. Reclamation has experienced Engineers, Contracting Officer Representatives(COR), and resource staff to manage and oversee the project. Project management and environmental compliance will be done in-house. Design and construction will be contracted out. Reclamation does not anticipate any issues completing this project withing the 5-year timeline.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Reclamation staff already maintain the area and this project is not expected to increase or require additional maintenance personnel or increase Reclamation's O&M cost. Having trails that are more accessible will make it easier to keep the area neat and clean.

Many visitors and fishermen use Davis Dam to access the shoreline of Lake Mohave. Over time this has created a lot of social trails on the land adjacent to the Dam. The Desert soil in these areas is very thin and fragile. When you step on the soil it breaks the soils crust and then the soil is easily blown or washed away. A new trail with wayfinding and interpretive panels will help visitors and fisherman safely access the shoreline of Lake Mohave and help prevent unknowing visitors from trampling the native soil and vegetation further. A new trail would also support future projects to enhance the area with more native desert vegetation.

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank.*

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

### PROJECT BUDGET

<b>Project Name:</b>	Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Marrisa C. Luke	<b>Agency:</b>	Reclamation
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 1,569,348.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 78,000.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 6,415,200.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 34,200.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 4,252.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 8,101,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes: Agency contributions are valued at an estimated \$95,000.00  
- Agency contributed plants and labor hours \$15,000  
- Agency contributed materials/utilities (water, power, trailer spaces) \$80,000

#### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

Because the project is in a secure area at Davis Dam, Reclamation does not anticipate developing partnerships to maintain the project. This project anticipates using our Reclamation's own labor to plant native vegetation. Construction power, water, and trailer spaces for staging will also be made available to the contractor at no cost. Agency contributions are valued at an estimated \$95,000. (The detailed cost breakdown can be found on the Project Budget tab, under "Notes" in the excel document submitted with this nomination).

Attached are the letters of support from Thomas Thurman, President - Sun Corridor Trail Alliance, Toby Cotter, City Manager of Bullhead City, AZ, Kristin R Zimmerman, Parks

Administrator Mohave County Parks, Justin Pattison, LMNRA Acting Deputy Superintendent, and Jackie Wallin, President/CEO Laughlin Chamber of Commerce.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Vince P. Lammers, Davis Dam Manager.  
 Email: vlammers@usbr.gov.  
 Phone Number: 928-754-3628 x3626.

Project Manager: MARRISA C. LUKE, Civil Engineer.  
 Email: mluke@usbr.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-293-8144

Budget Officer: Alton D. Blalock, Budget Analyst.  
 Email: ablalock@usbr.gov.  
 Phone Number: 702-293-8437.

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

**SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION:** The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

**Answer:** The project will be designed to be low maintenance and durable and is anticipated to have a service life of 30 years. The asset's life would be extended another 15 years or more with routine maintenance.

Davis Dam is used by many visitors and fisherman to access the Lake Mohave shoreline. This has resulted in many social trails around the area near to the Dam. In some areas, the desert soil is incredibly thin and fragile. Stepping on the soil cracks the crust, allowing the soil to be readily blown or washed away. Visitors and fishermen will be able to safely navigate the Dam area and access the Lake Mohave shoreline with the help of a new trail with navigation and informational panels, which will help prevent visitors unfamiliar in the area from trampling the native soil and vegetation further. An improved trail would help to prevent soil erosion and enable future work to add more native desert vegetation to the area.

The project's interpretive panels will help explain the growing invasive species issues, demonstrate how the area can be improved, and provide enhanced habitat with the planting of proper native vegetation.

***B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

**Answer:** The project will provide local communities with safer and additional recreational access points to Federal lands such as Lake Mohave. It will open new opportunities to the economically disadvantaged communities of Laughlin and Bullhead City that currently have limited trail opportunities and have a high population of senior citizens, as well as the visiting public who want to walk, bird watch, kayak, and canoe which are some of the fastest growing recreation activities in the area.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

**Answer:** The project has an existing trail users' group who are willing to participate in revegetation and community trail projects. The partnership plans to provide outdoor education opportunities in partnership with National Park Service (NPS), Reclamation, Bullhead City, Mohave County, and Clark County. Several of the interpretive panels will deal with invasive species, erosion, native vegetation, and the development of the Colorado River.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

**Answer:** This project will provide more opportunities for the public to enjoy and be educated by installing new, modern, and safe facilities. These features will enhance the recreation experience and conservation stewardship by reducing the number of resources needed for maintenance. This can be achieved by using green construction techniques (e.g., provide easy to clean trail surfaces that require less maintenance), recycled construction materials, and apply best management practices. Moreover, native vegetation will be used throughout the project, with all vegetation obtained from the NPS nursery.

This project will provide safer kayak access points than what is currently available at the site. The project will provide shade structures that will protect the public from heat exhaustion and sunburn while enjoying the natural environment and open space.

Additionally, interpretative panels will be installed in the shade structures to educate the public about the wildlife and fish species present in Lake Mohave. These proposed features will provide a unique educational opportunity for the public in Laughlin, NV, Bullhead City, AZ, and surrounding communities. The project will be designed to improve habitats and resources while ensuring conservation of natural and cultural resources

**CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).*

**Answer:** A component of this project is public outreach and education to engage the public to help in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment by installing interpretive panels and wayfinding signs that will help create a narrative, provide a positive user experience. These interpretive panels and wayfinding signs will create a positive and long-lasting impression for visitors and residents for years to come.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

**Answer:** This project connects the existing Colorado River Heritage Trail Systems in Arizona and Nevada (SNPLMA Rounds 5 and 6 funded the design and construction of the Nevada portion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System, and Round 17 funded the design and construction of the Arizona portion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System). This project will improve public access to areas that used to be unsafe and inaccessible.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

**Answer:** The trail will connect the Nevada and Arizona Heritage portions of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System (Arizona portion under construction) creating a loop that will provide for enhanced public use and provide an area for special events like

community walks, runs, and marathons. This project provides recreational opportunities that connect to the surrounding communities (Bullhead City, Arizona, Laughlin, Nevada, Mohave County, Clark County), recreation facilities nearby (i.e., Davis Camp, Katherine's Landing, Davis Dam, Heritage Greenway Park and Trails, and Horseshoe Trail) and user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. The project will encourage people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them value and care for the environment.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

**Answer:** The project will also connect the user to the history and cultural significance of the site which will help visitors better appreciate the area. With the use of interpretive panels, it will captivate and enhance the visitors' perception of the surrounding areas and gain a deeper understanding of the land including Davis Dam.

**COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

**Answer:** Reclamation has existing partnerships with NPS, Bullhead City, Mohave County, Arizona, the town of Laughlin, Nevada, and Clark County, Nevada will be maintained and strengthened through the shared benefit of this project providing the public with an improved and safer connection to the previously awarded and constructed Colorado River Heritage Trail System projects. This project will be planned and designed to allow activities which add the most value to the outdoor economy (i.e., fishing, launch kayak, and sightseeing).

- B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

**Answer:** Reclamation anticipates using our own labor to plant native vegetation in support of the project. In addition, construction power and water will also be made available to the contractor at no cost. Agency contributions are valued at an estimated \$95,000 (cost breakdown listed in Project Budget spreadsheet under notes).



**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

**Answer:** The Colorado River Heritage Trail project at Davis Dam will allow Reclamation to manage the land and its corresponding cultural and natural resources more effectively and will provide additional public recreation opportunities especially for the underserved communities of Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada. This is a low-income area with a high senior citizen population, with very limited affordable public recreation trail opportunities. The project will connect the local communities to and allow for enhanced use of the Federal lands in partnership with the National Park Service, Bullhead City, the town of Laughlin, Mohave County, Arizona, and Clark County, Nevada. In addition, the location of the project facilitates cooperative events with Arizona and Nevada, such as a cancer walks, fun runs, and marathons. This project will open new opportunities for the public to learn more about the natural resources around Davis Dam.

**OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. *(Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)*

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

**Answer:** Reclamation has dedicated maintenance employees that currently maintain the existing trail and pick up trash in the surrounding area. This project will not require additional maintenance personnel, nor will it increase Reclamation's current O&M costs.

The new trail will make it much easier and safer for maintenance staff to maintain. The area where the trail will be constructed already has some waste receptacles located in easily accessible areas for maintenance crews. However, the unimproved fishing and kayak access points visitors are using are difficult for maintenance staff to access, do not have trash receptacles nearby, and take extra time for maintenance crews to clean because they must pick up trash by hand. This project will make it possible for Reclamation to place additional trash receptacles nearer to the fishing and kayak access points and make it safer and easier to pick up trash and keep the area clean. This project will reduce the labor hours needed to keep the area clean and will lower Reclamations O&M costs.

Security for this area is also the responsibility of Reclamation, and one of the biggest problem's security has in the area is when drivers block traffic by stopping on the dam's narrow road near an access point to unload passengers or gear. They do this to avoid having to walk or haul gear from the parking area to the access point. Over the years, this

has caused countless confrontations between the dam's security personnel and the public. Most interactions are resolved amicably, but there have been occasions where situations have escalated, needing the involvement of local law enforcement. This project would provide a safe designated loading area for the public that was out of the traffic lanes and a crosswalk to improve visitor wayfinding. These measures will reduce user conflicts and make it easier for security to do their job.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.*

**Answer:** The area encompassed by the proposed one mile of accessible trail and lake access points, O&M maintenance program and security costs are included in the Davis Dam annual budget. The proposed project will not increase maintenance program costs and is expected to reduce maintenance labor costs. Security costs will not be affected by this proposed project but will reduce the incidents of interaction between security and the public.

- C. *The agency has included the current O&M costs, if any, and how this project will reduce current O&M costs. The entity has clearly shown what the anticipated savings will be, and/or how the project will reduce water use or energy costs for utilities.*

**Answer:** Reclamation cannot delegate the security or maintenance of this area. This project will not increase O&M costs, it will reduce labor cost due to availability and accessibility of waste receptacles. The proposed project does not require water use, and energy cost will remain the same.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

**Answer:** The proposed project is currently illuminated with street lighting that runs the entire length of the proposed trail. The lighting is needed for security of the facility and will remain the responsibility of Reclamation. These lights are scheduled to be replaced with LED lights as part Reclamation's energy savings program, the cost burden of this upgrade will remain with Reclamation. Any lighting that is installed in the access areas will be solar powered LED lights.

1. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

**Answer:** This proposed completion of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System will provide a fully accessible, approximately 6-mile-long overall mileage loop of recreational trail to the public (combining existing and proposed trails), linking two existing trails on either side of the Colorado River – the Laughlin Heritage Trail and the Arizona Heritage Trail. The current trail across the top of Davis Dam is not developed enough for public use and does not meet current federal accessibility standards, but the public are accessing the area for fishing, and other water activities unsafely (e.g., people climbing over a 3-foot concrete wall with large rocks and uneven terrain drop off for lake access). The project will design and construct the trail and other amenities to meet ADA and safety standards (e.g., construct a retaining wall or trail with switchbacks to safely access the water while carrying a canoe/kayak). The project will provide recreational opportunities including universally accessible trails and safer kayak access points for enhance hiking experience.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*

**Answer:** Currently, Davis Dam’s roads and parking lots has exceeded the original planned use that impacted its traffic flow because it lacks loading, unloading zone, and pedestrian crossing from the parking lot to the Nevada and Arizona side of the trail. The current situation poses increase in vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The public interferes against the incoming lanes when trying to unload their vehicles before they park in the parking lot due to the distance of the parking lot from the visitor access area. The proposed project will provide appropriate crossing points for people to use which will include an unloading and loading zone areas, crosswalk across traffic lanes from the parking lot and visitor access area providing a safer environment for the public (see attached Figure 1, Site Overview A, B, & C).

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

1. Executive Orders (EO):

- *EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America’s Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk*

**Answer:** This is not applicable.

- ***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

**Answer:** Reclamation will ensure that the construction contract will comply with the "Made in America Laws" statutes, regulations, rules, and Executive Orders relating to Federal procurement, including those that refer to "Buy America" or "Buy American," that require, or provide a preference for, the purchase or acquisition of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States, including iron, steel, and manufactured goods offered in the United States. These requirements will be written in the design and construction specifications, and procurement contract documents.

## 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

**Answer:** The Department of the Interior is entrusted with overseeing Federal lands for the benefit of current and future generations. This includes advancing conservation stewardship and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing for all Americans. This project will enhance recreational fishing, specifically regarding efforts to enhance and expand recreational fishing access by providing a safe fishing access point atop of Davis Dam, and to the shoreline of Lake Mohave.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

**Answer:** This project will provide improvements, expansion, and safer access to public lands and waters administered by Reclamation (Davis Dam) within the National Recreation Area (NRA) for fishing and other forms of outdoor recreation. These improvements will provide new opportunities for the underserved communities of Bullhead City, Arizona and Laughlin, Nevada. This is a low-income area with a high senior citizen population, with very limited affordable recreation opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

**Answer:** The Mohave National Water Trail runs the Colorado River from Eldorado Canyon south to the Laughlin Bridge. Currently, this National Water Trail is encumbered at Davis Dam with no way to traverse the last approximately 2 miles.

This project will construct a new trail to facilitate the portage of kayaks and canoes safely around Davis Dam allowing paddle craft users to experience the entire trail.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

**Answer:** This project will facilitate the process to allow the use of electric bikes on the trails, which expands recreational opportunities for visitors, most especially those who have physical limitations. With the use of electric bikes, it will help make the sites accessible with less effort, providing opportunities to enjoy and explore the Colorado River Trail System, Davis Dam, and surrounding public lands.

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

**Answer:** This project will install interpretive panels that educate about the renewable energy generation at Davis Dam to familiarize visitors of its benefits and the effects of responsible clean energy development on the US public lands and waters.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

**Answer:** Reclamation will work with our local tribes through consultation and public outreach during planning and environmental phases of the project. The report resulting from the Environmental Assessment will become Reclamation's basis of design.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

**Answer:** The project will create jobs that construct and maintain the trail, as well as safeguard the environment, and help ensure that our public lands are ready to meet the expected increase in visitations. The new trail will also provide opportunities for physical activity and recreation in a safe, inclusive environment by ensuring reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities to participate in recreation.

The project will have an opportunity to protect biodiversity by planting native vegetation, protecting fish and wildlife through education about the species (i.e., information provided in interpretive panels), and protecting the environment by allowing e-bikes on the trails.

The project supports the framework for better access, hiking experiences, and partnerships that not only promote recreation, but also protect America's public lands while creating jobs and opportunities in rural communities.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

**Answer:** Reclamation is committed to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by:

- Pursuing a collaborative and inclusive approach to conservation by using green materials. This will be part of the SEMS (Sustainability and Environmental Management System) process to ensure our design calls for green materials and clean energy (i.e., solar lights to illuminate the trails). Reference: WBR 1423.403-1 Green Procurement form.

- Conserve America’s lands and waters for the benefit of all people by constructing a new trail to facilitate safe access to the portage kayaks and canoes around Davis Dam.
- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government’s trust responsibilities.*

**Answer:** During the conceptual, scoping, planning, and design, Reclamation will conduct formal consultation with Tribes through the NEPA process. A report will be used as a decision document (i.e., EA and FONSI) to proceed with design. A component of this project is public outreach and education to engage the public to help in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment.

4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***Providing economic relief***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***Tackling climate change***

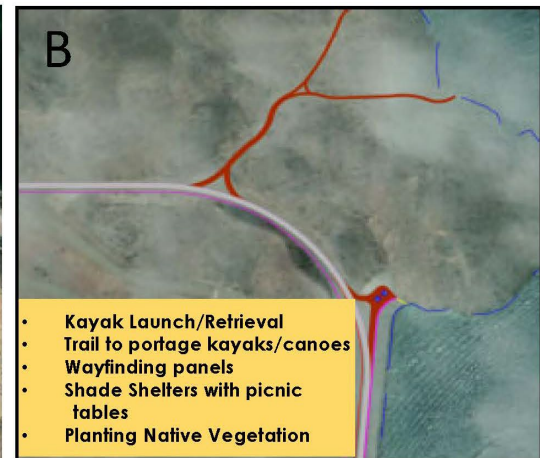
**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***Advancing racial equity***

**Answer:** This is not applicable

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

**Answer:** This is not applicable



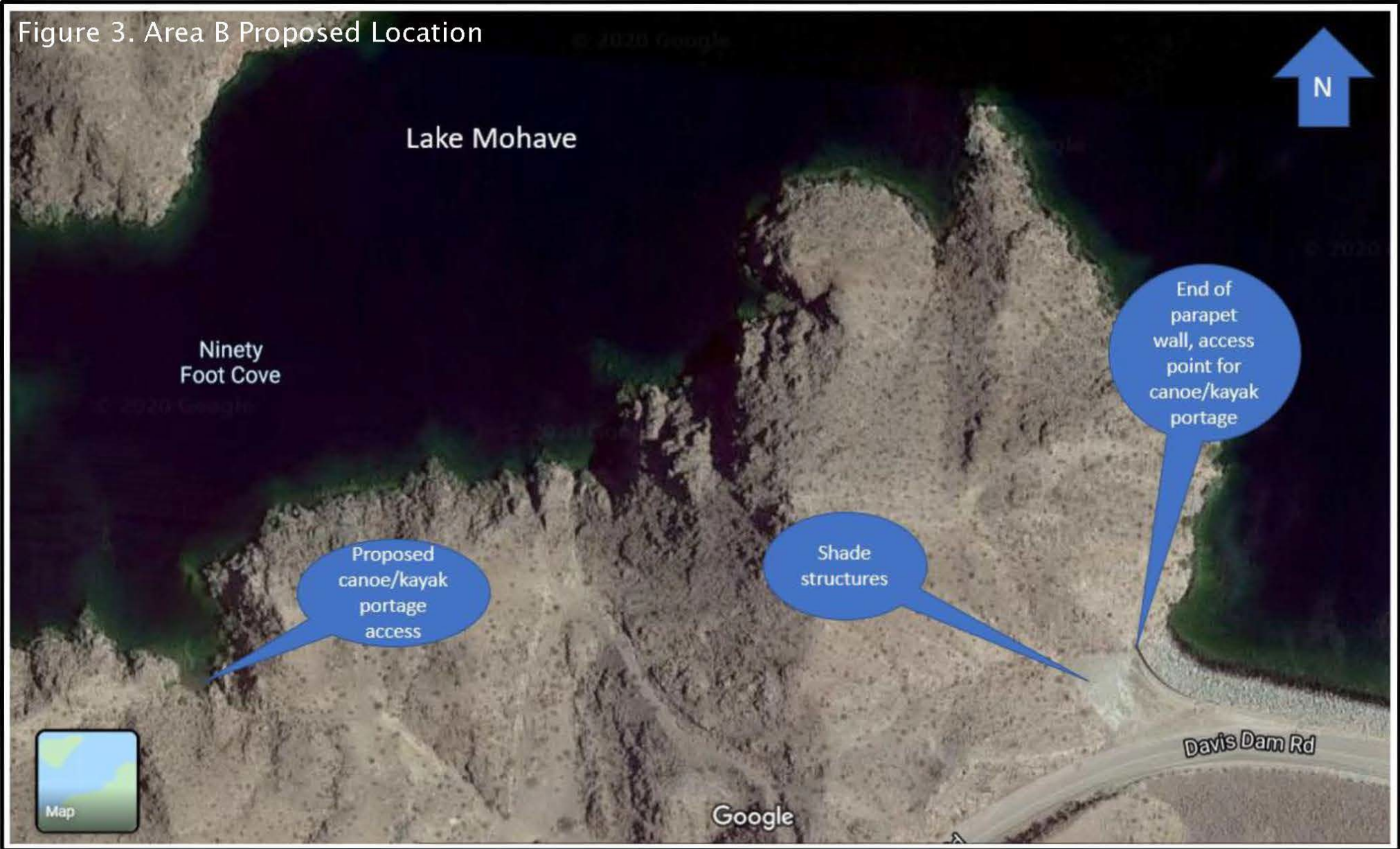
Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam - Locations



Figure 2. Area A Proposed Location



Figure 3. Area B Proposed Location



Lake Mohave

Ninety Foot Cove

Proposed canoe/kayak portage access

Shade structures

End of parapet wall, access point for canoe/kayak portage

Davis Dam Rd

Google

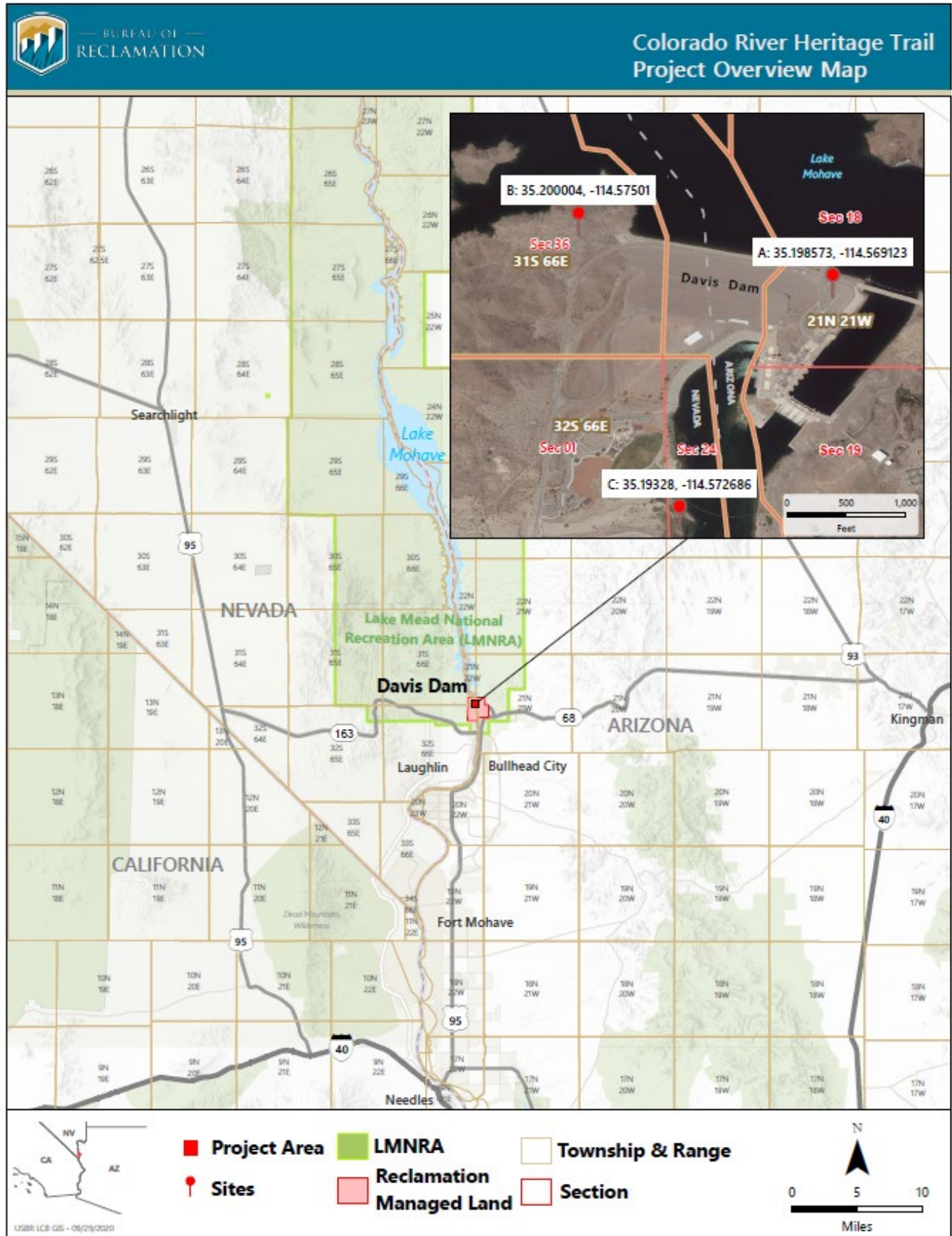
Map

N

Figure 4. Area C Proposed Location



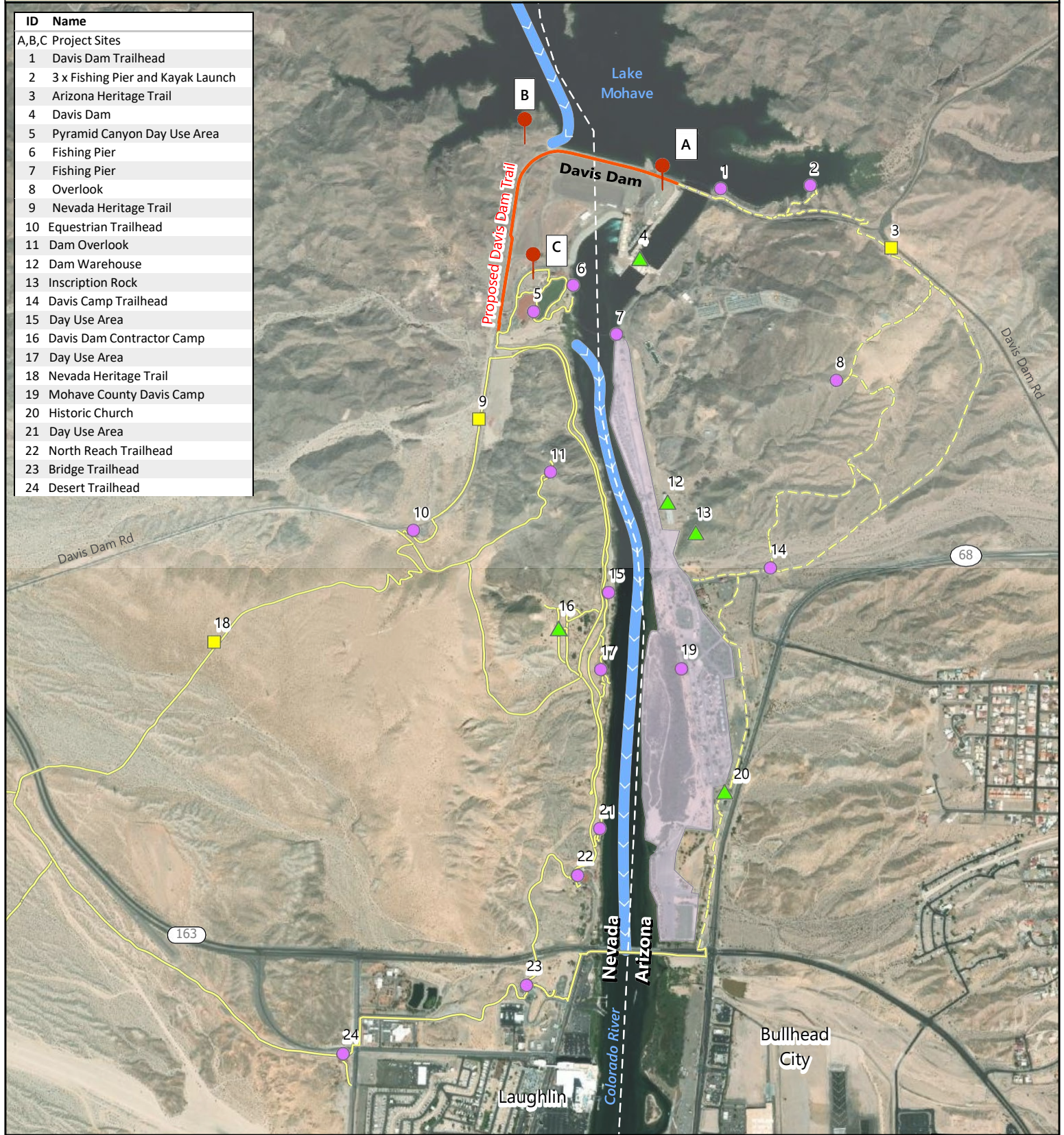
# Colorado River Heritage Trail Project Overview Map





# Colorado River Heritage Trail System Site Strategic Values Map

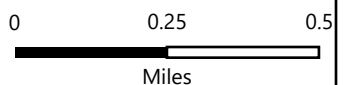
ID	Name
A,B,C	Project Sites
1	Davis Dam Trailhead
2	3 x Fishing Pier and Kayak Launch
3	Arizona Heritage Trail
4	Davis Dam
5	Pyramid Canyon Day Use Area
6	Fishing Pier
7	Fishing Pier
8	Overlook
9	Nevada Heritage Trail
10	Equestrian Trailhead
11	Dam Overlook
12	Dam Warehouse
13	Inscription Rock
14	Davis Camp Trailhead
15	Day Use Area
16	Davis Dam Contractor Camp
17	Day Use Area
18	Nevada Heritage Trail
19	Mohave County Davis Camp
20	Historic Church
21	Day Use Area
22	North Reach Trailhead
23	Bridge Trailhead
24	Desert Trailhead



- Project Site
- Davis Camp
- Mohave Water Trail

- Element**
- Community
- Connectivity
- Sustainability

- Colorado River Heritage Trail System**
- Proposed Davis Dam Trail
- Arizona (under construction BR10)
- Nevada



**Addendum: EC Strategic Plan Values Map -Colorado River Heritage Trail System Site Map**

**SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION:** The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project.

The Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources listed below (Reference: EC Strategic Plan Values Map, represented with ▲).

4. Davis Dam
12. Dam Warehouse
13. Inscription Rock
16. Davis Dam Contractor Camp
20. Historic Church

**CONNECTIVITY:** The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment.

The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

The Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes of the new and old trails. (Reference: EC Strategic Plan Values Map, represented with ■).

3. Arizona Heritage Trail (Under Construction)
9. Nevada Heritage Trail

**COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community.

The Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. The following structures provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the Bullhead, Laughlin, and neighboring communities (e.g. tourists that camp at Davis Camp). (Reference: EC Strategic Plan Values Map, represented with ●).

1. Davis Dam Trailhead
2. 3 x Fishing Pier and Kayak Launch
5. Pyramid Canyon Day Use Area
6. Fishing Pier
7. Fishing Pier
8. Overlook
10. Equestrian Trailhead
11. Dam Overlook
14. Davis Camp Trailhead
15. Day Use Area

19. Mohave County Davis Camp
22. North Reach Trailhead
23. Bridge Trailhead
24. Desert Trailhead

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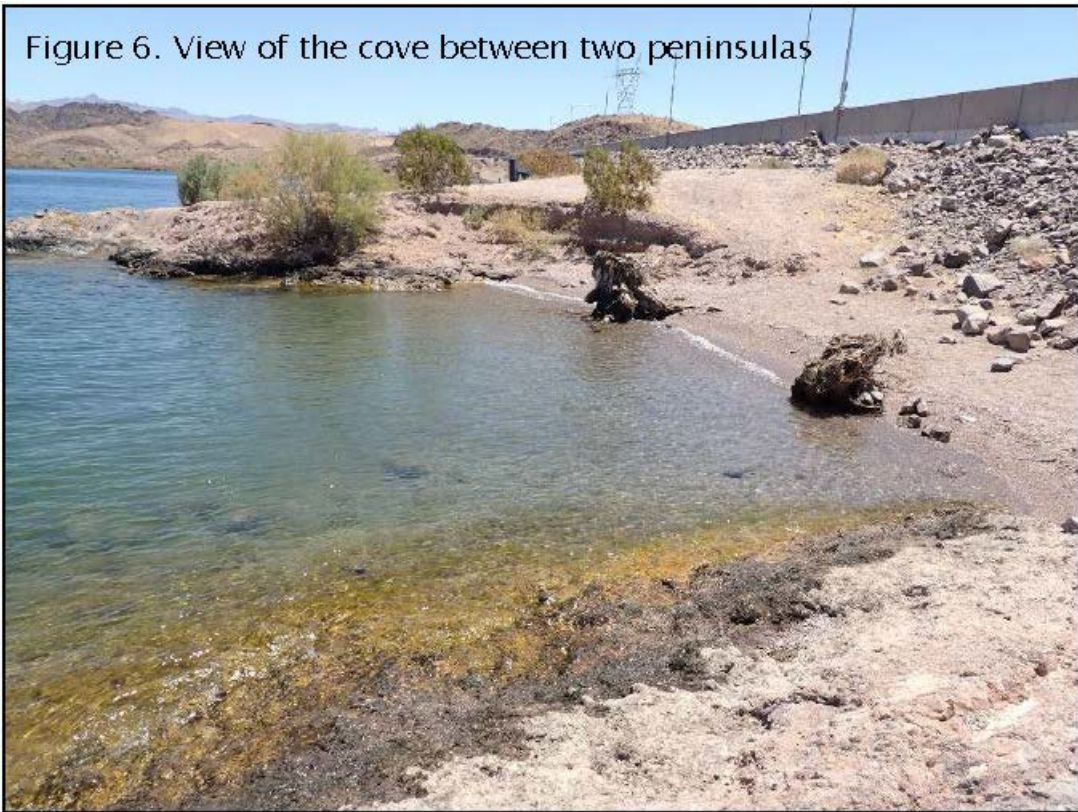
## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:                      Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	1-5
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	1-2

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:                      Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	6-10
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	6-10
O10 – Number of Volunteers Used	Report the number of volunteers used in educational or interpretive programs and for surveying, monitoring, or restoration activities. Report each volunteer as one unit.	10-20



**O. PHOTOS**



## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Sun Corridor Trail Alliance
2. City of Bullhead City
3. Mohave County Parks Department
4. National Park Service, Lake Mead
5. Laughlin Chamber of Commerce

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October 6, 2021

Attn: Christopher P. Linehan, Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Regional Office  
500 Date Street, Building 1400  
Boulder City, NV 89006

**Re: Letter of Support for the Final Segment of the Colorado River Heritage Trail - Davis Top of Dam Project**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The [Sun Corridor Trail Alliance \(SCTA\)](#) is pleased to provide an enthusiastic letter of support for the Colorado River Heritage Trail System's project's funding application through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act to construct the final phase of the trail.

We strongly support this application for the Davis Top of Dam project, which would construct a universally accessible public trail system across the summit of Davis Dam that would connect the Laughlin Heritage Trail to the Arizona Heritage Trail and would be the final planned link of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System. Many features are very important to the Sun Corridor Trail Alliance which includes enhanced safety measures improved accessibility for the public along the trail.

In particular, we are very excited that project will result in an accessible public trail across the Davis Dam and will connect the Colorado River Heritage Trails from Laughlin to Bullhead City. This project will also construct a new trail to facilitate the movement of kayaks and canoes safely around the Davis Dam and provide a safer fishing access point and an overlook at the top of Davis Dam. The observation point is another wonderful benefit to the public from this project.

This exciting trail project will provide the local communities and visitors with safer access points to Federal lands along the Colorado River and Lake Mohave and will create new opportunities for the economically disadvantaged communities of Laughlin and Bullhead City that currently have limited trail opportunities and have a high population of senior citizens.

In sum, this is undoubtedly a terrific project, and one that we enthusiastically support. Please contact us at [hancockjan@aol.com](mailto:hancockjan@aol.com) or (602) 252-8387 if we can provide any additional information to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Thurman", is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

Thomas Thurman, President

cc: Jan Hancock, Secretary

**CITY OF BULLHEAD CITY**  
**2355 Trane Road**  
**Bullhead City, Arizona 86442-5966**  
**(928) 763-9400            TDD (928) 763-9400**

September 30, 2021

Dear Mr. Lammers,

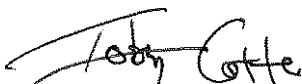
The City of Bullhead City would like to offer strong support to the Davis Dam SNPLMA funding request.

The Davis Top of Dam project is the final planned link of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System. This project will result in a universally accessible public trail system across the crest of Davis Dam that connects the Laughlin Heritage Trail to the Arizona Heritage Trail. The project will provide an observation point and new fishing access point on top of Davis Dam. The new fishing access point will mitigate the current hazardous access that requires visitors to climb over a 3-foot concrete wall dropping down on and traversing hazardous riprap. The access point will make fishing universally available to the public. This project will also construct a trail to facilitate the passage of personal watercraft safely across Davis Dam enhancing the ability of the public to easily navigate down the Colorado River. The city looks forward to this project's completion.

The Colorado River Heritage Trail will be such a benefit to the residents of Laughlin and Bullhead City as well as the millions of visitors who will use this wonderful new addition and all the amenities it offers when visiting our area. Additionally, Davis Dam is the most historic structure in our region providing water to millions of people downstream along with providing jobs locally.

Please support this funding request.

Sincerely,



Toby Cotter  
City Manager



## MOHAVE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

3715 Sunshine Drive  
P.O. Box 7000 Kingman  
Arizona 86402,7000

Administration: (928) 757-0915 FAX (928) 757-0916  
Davis Camp Park: (928) 754-7250 FAX (928) 754-7253  
Hualapai Mountain Park: (928) 681-5700 FAX (928) 757-5662

Friday October 22, 2021

Christopher Linehan  
Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Regional Office  
500 Date Street, Building 1400  
Boulder City, Nevada 89006

Dear Mr. Linehan,

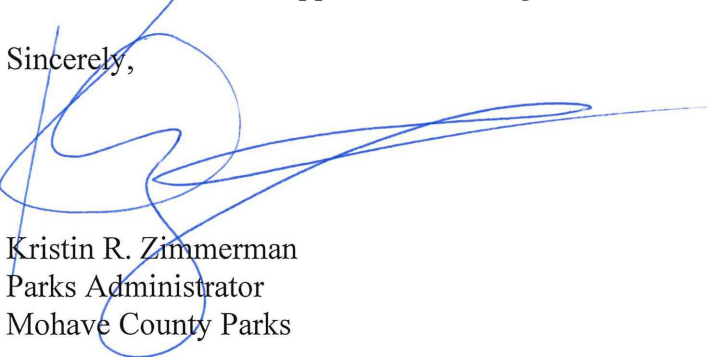
Re: Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam Project- Letter of Support

On Behalf of Mohave County Parks, please accept this letter of support for the Bureau of Reclamation's application for funding of the Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam Project.

This project will enhance to recreational opportunities in Bullhead City and the surrounding areas thus increase the traffic to all our public lands. The addition of the accessible trail across the dam will ensure that all persons have access to recreational opportunities regardless of their ability level. In the winter, out park guests are retired older adults who recreate. The accessible trail will be a tremendous asset to those individuals and many more annual park visitors. This is a much-needed addition to ensure the continued support for our public and park lands.

In conclusion, we fully support the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation as they seek funding to construct and enhance recreational opportunities along the Davis Dam, Lake Mohave, and Colorado River.

Sincerely,



Kristin R. Zimmerman  
Parks Administrator  
Mohave County Parks

# United States Department of the Interior



## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA  
INTERIOR REGION 8  
601 NEVADA HIGHWAY  
BOULDER CITY, NEVADA 89005



IN REPLY REFER TO:

October 29, 2021

Attn: Christopher P. Linehan, Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Regional Office  
500 Date Street, Building 1400  
Boulder City, NV 89006

Dear Mr. Linehan,

Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LAKE) pleased to provide a letter of support for the Colorado River Heritage Trail System's project's funding application through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act to construct the final phase of the trail. LAKE supports this application for the Davis Top of Dam project, which would construct a much needed universally accessible public trail system across the summit of Davis Dam that would connect the Laughlin Heritage Trail to the Arizona Heritage Trail and would be the final planned link of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System.

LAKE is excited to hear that this project will result in an accessible public trail across the Davis Dam and will connect the Colorado River Heritage Trails from Laughlin to Bullhead City. This project will also construct a new trail to facilitate the movement of kayaks and canoes safely around the Davis Dam and provide a safer fishing access point and an overlook at the top of Davis Dam. This exciting trail project will provide the local communities and visitors with safer access points to Federal lands along the Colorado River and Lake Mohave and will create new opportunities for the economically disadvantaged communities of Laughlin and Bullhead City that currently have limited trail opportunities and have a high population of senior citizens.

Please contact me at [justin\\_pattison@nps.gov](mailto:justin_pattison@nps.gov) or (702)275-9094 if I can provide any additional information to you.

Sincerely,

**JUSTIN  
PATTISON**

Justin Pattison  
Acting Deputy Superintendent

Digitally signed by  
JUSTIN PATTISON  
Date: 2021.10.29  
11:48:10 -0700'



1585 S. Casino Dr.  
Laughlin, NV 89029  
P: (702) 298-2214  
F: (702) 298-5708  
[www.laughlinchamber.com](http://www.laughlinchamber.com)



August 15, 2021

**RE: Support for the Colorado River Heritage Trail at Davis Dam Project**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We strongly support this application for the Davis Top of Dam project, which would construct a universally accessible public trail system across the summit of Davis Dam that would connect the Laughlin Heritage Trail to the Arizona Heritage Trail and would be the final planned link of the Colorado River Heritage Trail System. Many features are very important to the Laughlin Community which includes enhanced safety measures improved accessibility for the public along the trail.

In particular, we are very excited that project will result in an accessible public trail across the Davis Dam and will connect the Colorado River Heritage Trails from Laughlin to Bullhead City. This project will also construct a new trail to facilitate the movement of kayaks and canoes safely around the Davis Dam and provide a safer fishing access point and an overlook at the top of Davis Dam. The observation point is another wonderful benefit to the public from this project.

This exciting trail project will provide our community and visitors with safer access points to Federal lands along the Colorado River and Lake Mohave and will create new opportunities for the economically disadvantaged communities of Laughlin and Bullhead City that currently have limited trail opportunities and have a high population of senior citizens.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jacalyn Rae Wallin  
President/CEO Laughlin Chamber of Commerce  
Executive Director Laughlin Tourism Commission  
Host to the LVCVA Visitors Center

**Building A Better Community Together**

Our mission is to support our members and community by identifying and addressing the changing needs of our region - focusing on building a vibrant and prosperous resort town, increasing tourism, promoting recreation, educating our youth and business owners, and giving back to those in need.



**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**Great Basin National Park**



**Construct Campground and Improve Recreational Access  
in Strawberry Creek**

**Amount Requested: \$3,421,350**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Strawberry Creek area suffered a catastrophic fire in August 2016. The fire and following environmental impacts (flooding, soil movement, etc.) destroyed the then five-year-old SNPLMA funded campground along with almost all of the recreational infrastructure (bridges, trails, trailheads, corral, signage, etc.). Before the fire, the drainage received estimated 6,000 day use visitors and 2,000 campers each season and is a highly sought out camping location because of the year round wildlife viewing opportunities, hiking, aspen stands, and relative solitude.

The Strawberry Creek area is one of the park's most accessible watersheds, full of both natural and cultural wonders. The area shelters the largest elk herd in the park which is a major attraction during the fall rut. Strawberry Creek itself supports a population of Bonneville cutthroat trout, which are fishable following State of Nevada regulations. The area, pre and post fire, contains large aspen stands, mixed conifer groves, large sage and meadow areas, and an attractive riparian corridor. An extensive trail system, usable by hikers and equestrians, leads to the upper reaches of the drainage, south via the Osceola Ditch trail to the Scenic Drive, or north to BLM lands in the Weaver Creek area. Extensive archeological and historic resources exist in the area, although only the historic ranching and mining features are currently interpreted.

As recreational visits to the park continue to increase, both in total numbers and in an expanding season of use, areas such as Strawberry Creek are seeing greater use each year. The former campground was used extensively in the spring, summer, and fall seasons. After the fire, the entire burned area was closed to public use for safety reasons. The park re-opened the road and all but one trail in 2019 as a day use only area. The Osceola Ditch Trail is still partially closed due to significant washouts and hazard trees. The park receives constant requests from both visitors and the local business community to rebuild the campground and improve the trails. Without adequate camping infrastructure though (bathrooms, tables, fire rings, etc.) the area is likely to be damaged by out of bounds campers, unsanitary conditions, and runaway fires. Since the fire, an increase in trespass cattle has also occurred, likely due to poor range conditions outside the park and easy access into the park without the previous tree and shrub densities.

Re-construction of an appropriate campground, improved signage, improved road and trail access, a prevention of trespass cattle is critical to connect visitors to the outdoors and to provide a safe and enjoyable visitor experience.

**1. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

Rd 8 Capital Improvements – Provide Interpretive Exhibits for understanding the Great Basin and Enhance Visitor Access to Great Basin National Park

Rd 9 Capital Improvements – Phase 2 Enhance Visitor Access to Great Basin NP

Rd 12 Capital Improvements – Sacramento Pass Recreation Area

Rd 17 Eastern Nevada Landscape restoration - Strawberry Creek Restoration Project

**2. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

This project is a one-time, stand-alone action with no guarantee of funding for any future phase.

## B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:  
This project will construct durable and long-lasting infrastructure to improve the long term relevancy of protected areas through appreciation of nature. These benefits are supported by both the local community, which depends upon recreation and visitors, as well as agency partners, insuring benefits for both the near and long term. This area will remain relevant for decades to come.
- Connectivity:  
This project will protect the Strawberry Creek drainage by providing needed camping and restroom facilities, preventing out of bounds camping and sanitation issues. The road and trail system will link to both other parts of the park and to Sacramento Pass Recreation Area, managed by the BLM to the north. Fencing will protect healthy and resilient landscapes that protect biological communities.
- Community:  
This project will create new outdoor recreation opportunities that improve the quality of life for the public and encourage interaction with nature by increasing the amount of available camping, improving roads and trails, and protect critical cultural and natural resources.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The NPS proposes to construct a new campground with appropriate site amenities, including shade structures, ADA accessible sites, bathrooms, and an equestrian corral within the Strawberry Creek drainage. New signage will be developed and placed at the park entrance, campground, and trailhead to inform and interpret the area. Roads and trails within the drainage will be rehabilitated to restore full access and the park boundary fence will be extended to prevent trespass cattle from damaging infrastructure and park resources.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

### 1. Primary Deliverables:

- Construct one campground of at least 10 sites with low maintenance/long life picnic tables, shade structures, fire rings, and free-standing grills. At least one of the campsites will be ADA compliant.
- Install one new ADA compliant CXT toilet.
- Construct one new equestrian corral in the former location.
- Rehabilitate up to 10 miles of trail within the drainage.
- Rehabilitate up to 5 miles of access road to campground and trailhead.
- Remove up to 5 acres of hazard trees from developed areas (campground, trailhead, and parking lots).
- Design and install at least one new entry sign.
- Design and install at least one new wayfinding sign to provide information about the recreation opportunities in the drainage.
- Design and install at least one new wayside on the Sage Steppe Loop Trail.

### 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Install one new fee station to offset maintenance and operations costs.
- Construct up to two new parking areas.
- Construct up to four miles of boundary fence to protect infrastructure and resources.
- Conduct up to 10 acres of fuel reductions to protect infrastructure and improve resources (around campground, trailhead, parking lots, and roads).
- Perform up to 20 acres of restoration actions and invasive plant treatments resulting from site disturbance from construction activities (around campground, trailhead, parking lots, roads, and trails).
- Reevaluate the historic Osceola Ditch through resource surveys, redocumentation efforts, historic research, and an updated Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for listing status in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

### 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Complete NEPA compliance.
- Complete NHPA Section 106 compliance.
- Develop work plan and enter into SNPLMA database.
- Quarterly budget request and budget tracking.
- Project administration and oversight.
- Contract preparation and oversight.
- Quarterly and annual reporting will be completed.
- Final project report will be prepared and submitted.

## E. PROJECT LOCATION

### Latitude and Longitude:

39.061000°, -114.273318°

**Congressional District(s):**

NV04

**F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

Five Years

Year 1:

- Project awarded.
- Complete work plan and submit initial funds transfer.
- Finalize campsite design plan.
- Complete NEPA and NHPA Section 106 compliance.
- Develop Scope(s) of Work and timelines for contracted components.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

Year 2:

- Inventory and remove hazard trees.
- Install new restroom and parking areas.
- Begin trail and road work.
- Begin educational and interpretive sign design.
- Begin restoration and invasive plant treatments as needed.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

Year 3:

- Install campground entry sign.
- Complete at least half of the campsites.
- Continue trail and road work.
- Complete educational and interpretive sign design.
- Contract sign production.
- Continue restoration and invasive plant treatments as needed.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.
- Begin fence right of way clearing.

Year 4:

- Install all educational and interpretive signs.
- Complete remaining campsites.
- Install new fee station.
- Continue trail and road work.
- Complete fence right of way clearing.
- Begin fence construction.
- Continue restoration and invasive plant treatments.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.

Year 5:

- Complete trail and road work.
- Construct one new equestrian corral.
- Complete restoration and invasive plant treatments.
- Complete fence construction.
- Complete quarterly and annual reporting.
- Complete project closeout and final report.

## **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

Is NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

The National Park Service has the capability to plan, design, engineer, initiate and complete the project within the period of performance. Upon project approval and release of funds, park staff is ready to implement the action as proposed. All primary deliverables can be covered under a Categorical Exclusion or under existing NEPA. Park has to capacity to complete all compliance as needed for the anticipated deliverables. The park has a project management team which meets every other week to review and manage SNPLMA projects. The park has COR's on staff. Maintenance staff is ready and available to supply oversight and oversee seasonal staff to complete any non-contracted work. Resource staff is available to complete and/or guide any restoration work and assure all work is completed in an environmentally sensitive manner.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

With the construction the campground utilizing long life/low maintenance amenities, it is anticipated that annual maintenance costs will be low. The campground was a highly sought out camping location because of the year-round wildlife viewing opportunities, hiking, aspen stands, and relative solitude. An estimated 6,000-day use visitors and 2,000 campers enjoy the area each season prior to the 2016 fire. Use is only expected to increase. Through the RecFee program, \$18,000 of revenue could be collected annually from this site (average of \$100 day for 180 days). If this proposal is funded, the park is committed to: daily maintenance and cleaning during the visitor season; performing yearly preopening seasonal inspections and infrastructure maintenance; and implementation of a scheduled cyclic maintenance program utilizing RecFee revenues under the definition of deferred maintenance and other NPS cyclic maintenance fund sources. By doing so, it is our intention to keep the Strawberry Creek Campground and all its features well maintained during its life.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Strawberry Creek Recreation Site Improvements	<b>Date:</b> 11/01/21	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Glen Dearden	<b>Agency:</b> NPS, <b>Great Basin</b>	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 2,044,650.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 9,900.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ 248,400.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 251,350.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 749,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 118,050.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 3,421,350.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes:

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

None

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: James Woolsey, Superintendent  
 Email: james\_woolsey@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-234-7502

Project Manager: Glen Dearden, Maintenance Chief  
 Email: glen\_dearden@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-234-7530

Budget Officer: Anita Hansen, Administrative Officer  
 Email: anita\_hansen@nps.gov  
 Phone Number: 775-234-7501

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the PTNA subgroup.

**1. SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION:** The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

*A. A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: Six of nine primary deliverables (a new campground, new trailhead toilet, new corral, three new signs) and three of six anticipated deliverables (new parking areas, new fee station, and a new fence) will construct new facilities that will enhance conservation stewardship and provide new recreational opportunities within the Strawberry Creek area. These facilities will help protect natural and cultural resources and be both economically and socially sustainable for both the park and the local area by encouraging people to stay in the area longer.



***B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

Answer: Three of the nine primary deliverables (rehabilitate up to 10 miles of trail, rehabilitate up to 5 miles of access road to campground and trailhead, and remove any hazard trees from developed areas) and three of the six anticipated deliverables (conduct fuel reductions to protect infrastructure, perform restoration actions and invasive plant treatments resulting from site disturbance from construction activities, and conduct a historic resource survey of Osceola Ditch and a re-evaluation of the Determination of Eligibility) modernize or rehabilitate existing facilities. These actions will improve the visitor experience by increasing accessibility, improving safety, reduce impacts that visitation has on the area (invasive weeds), and will protect cultural resources.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: Based upon the anticipated deliverable "Reevaluate the historic Osceola Ditch through resource surveys, redocumentation efforts, historic research, and an updated Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for listing status in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)", the park will be able to implement stabilization and rehabilitation efforts that will preserve the historic Osceola Ditch for current and future generations to enjoy and appreciate.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: Six of nine primary deliverables (a new campground, new trailhead toilet, new corral, three new signs) and three of six anticipated deliverables (new parking areas, new fee station, and a new fence) will construct new facilities that will enhance and improve management of public lands. Infrastructure will reduce or eliminate out of bounds camping and parking, improve sanitation, allow the park to recover costs, and prevent damage to infrastructure from trespass cattle.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).*

Answer: The campground sits in the north end of the park, an hour from the more developed areas of the park. The campground, corral, and new interpretive displays will connect visitors to the natural resource and environmental processes surrounding them, allowing for increased recreation in a previously underdeveloped area. Rehabilitated roads and trails will also improve the recreational experience.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

Answer: The project improves access both to the front country (road rehabilitation) and the backcountry (trail rehabilitation) as well as for Americans with disabilities at the campground, parking lots, and restrooms. It also provides educational signing, which will be ADA compliant as well.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: The campground and corral will create a new recreational opportunity and the improved roads and trails will help connect this area of the park to other park areas as well as the BLM road and trail system to the north. These facilities will meet rising user demands for both camping and backcountry access.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer: Improved educational signage is a primary deliverable to increase public knowledge of both the Strawberry Creek drainage and resources as well as fire as an ecosystem driver.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the*

*public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: The addition of an extra campground with improved access will enable more visitors to stay longer in the area, providing economic benefits as these visitors use local businesses. The park has existing agreements to utilize our Denver Service Center for planning and design of the project. The park will conduct most of the implementation and management.

- B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: We do not have non-SNPLMA sources of funding for this project

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: Prior to the 2016 Strawberry fire, the area had a lot of visitor use. Since then the area has been day use only since no overnight facilities (campground and restrooms) exist. This project will add critical infrastructure to an underserved area, both within the park and in the local area. Facilities and new signage will improve management and access to public lands and increase stewardship and education.

- 4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**

- A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).***

Answer: The park has sufficient appropriations for ongoing O&M costs. This will be supplemented by fee collection at the campground.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: No volunteers or partners are expected or needed to maintain the facilities.

- C. ***Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.***

Answer: Prior to the 2016 Strawberry fire, the area had a lot of visitor use. Since then the area has been day use only since no overnight facilities (campground and restrooms) exist. This project will add critical infrastructure to an underserved area, both within the park and in the local area. Facilities and new signage will improve management and access to public lands and increase stewardship and education.

- D. ***Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.***

Answer: Project will not be connected to any utilities and will neither improve nor negatively impact energy usage.

5. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. ***The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.***

Answer: Existing roads and trails are passable but do not meet current standards. Rehabilitation will ensure that they remain in good condition for the next 15-20 years.

- B. ***Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer: Current use far exceeds the parks original planned visitation for the area. This level of use can be accommodated by the construction of a new campground, corral, restrooms, and parking areas. Budget shows our anticipated annual maintenance costs which the park can cover with existing appropriations. Fee revenue, while not required, will help with any unexpected costs.

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: Yes - This project will remove hazard trees within developed areas (primary deliverable) and conduct thinning operations (anticipated deliverable) to protect infrastructure from wildfire and to improve resource condition.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: Yes - All materials will be as American made as possible.

### 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: Yes – this project will enhance stewardship and improve access to outdoor recreation.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: Yes – this project will enhance access to fishing within Strawberry Creek as well as improve wildlife conservation opportunities by fencing out trespass cattle.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: Yes - This project will conduct thinning operations (anticipated deliverable) to protect infrastructure from wildfire and to improve resource condition for both deer and elk winter range.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: Yes - This project will increase recreational opportunities on both NPS and BLM managed lands

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: Yes – this project will improve wildlife conservation opportunities by fencing out trespass cattle but not to urban National Wildlife Refuges.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: Yes - This project will conduct thinning operations (anticipated deliverable) to protect infrastructure from wildfire and to improve resource condition for both deer and elk winter range.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: N/A

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: N/A

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: No – will remain the same.

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: N/A

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: Yes - The park has begun informal consultation on this project and will initiate formal consultation if funded.

- **Making investments to support the Administration’s goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: Yes - The park expects that this project will generate new jobs, conserve and restore public lands, protect biodiversity, and improve recreational access.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America’s lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: Yes – this project will help conserve America’s lands and waters.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government’s trust responsibilities.*

Answer: Yes – Great Basin National Park is within White Pine County, a historically underserved area. We will engage all local communities and Tribes both formally and informally.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Advancing racial equity***

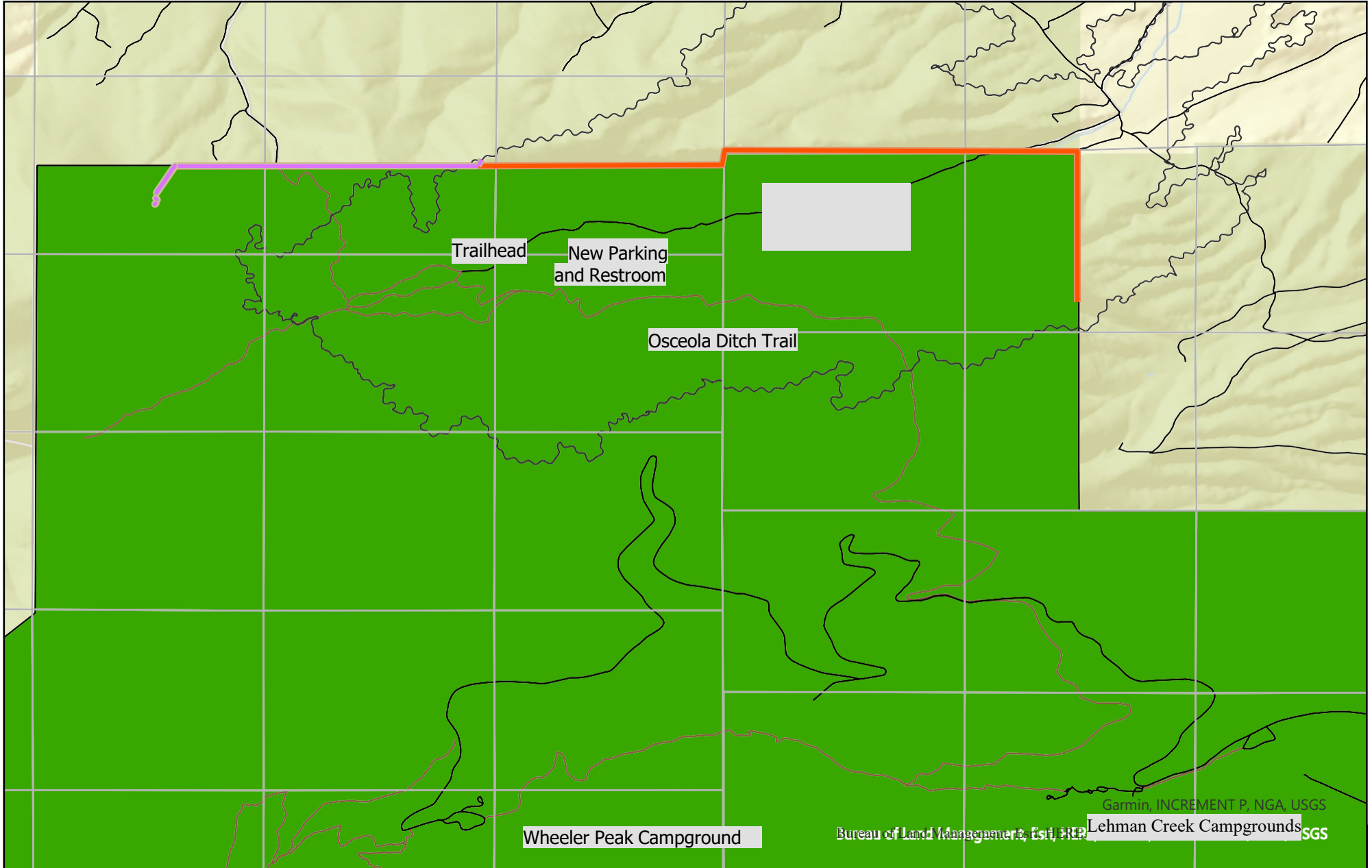
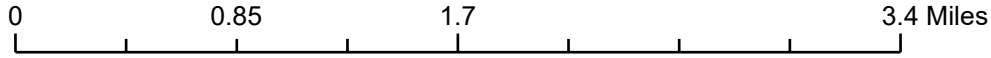
Answer: Enter text response here

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer: Enter text response here

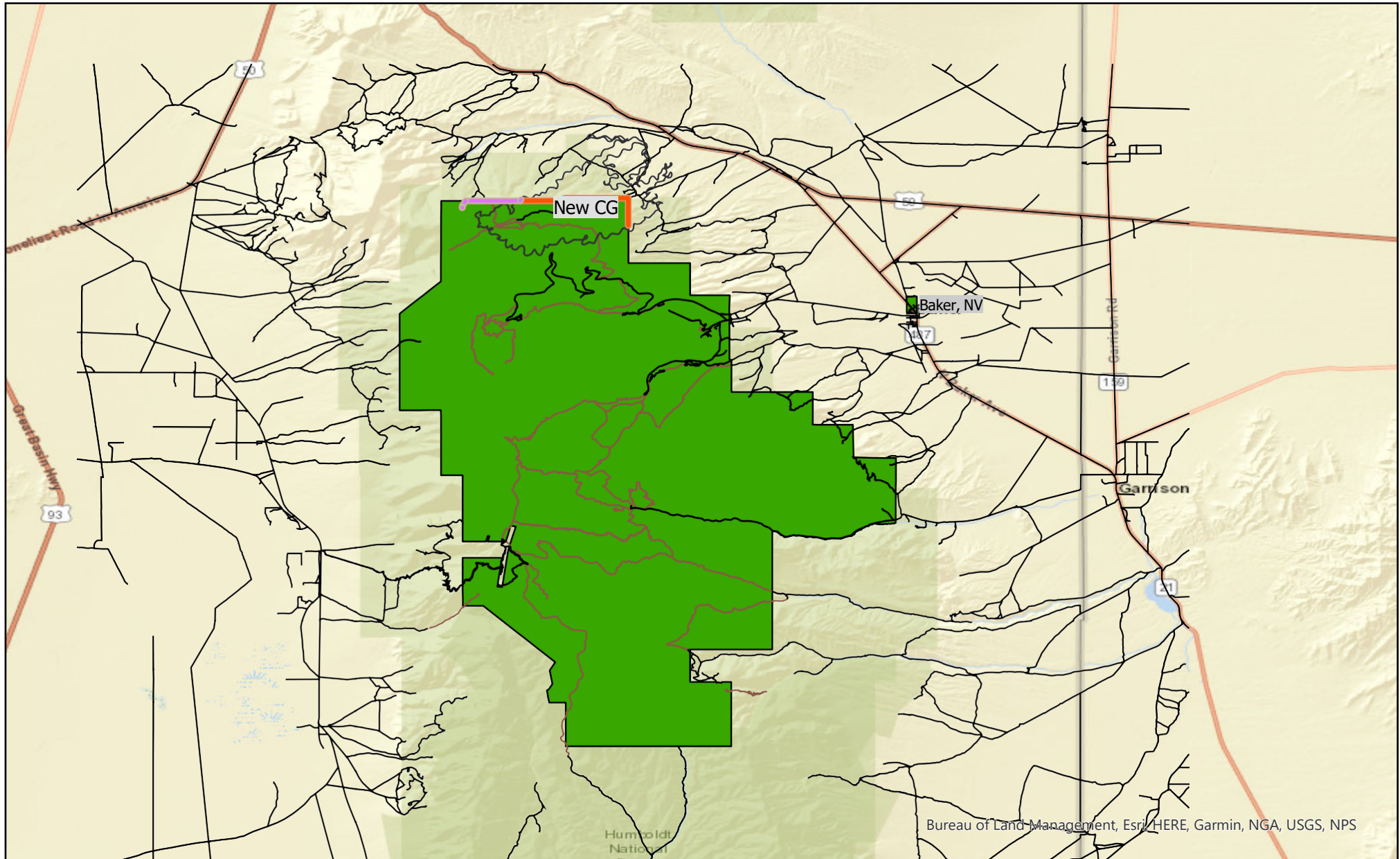
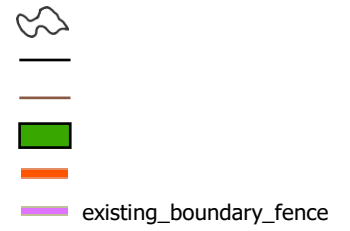
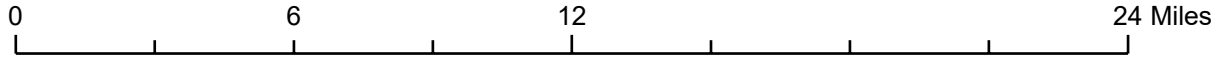
# SNPLMA Rd 19 - Construct Campground and Improve Recreational Access in Strawberry Creek - Location Map.

- Strawberry\_2016\_Fire\_Final\_Perimeter
- GRBA area roads
- GRBA\_trails
- Great Basin NP
- new\_boundary\_fence
- existing\_boundary\_fence
- Township-Range-Section Grid

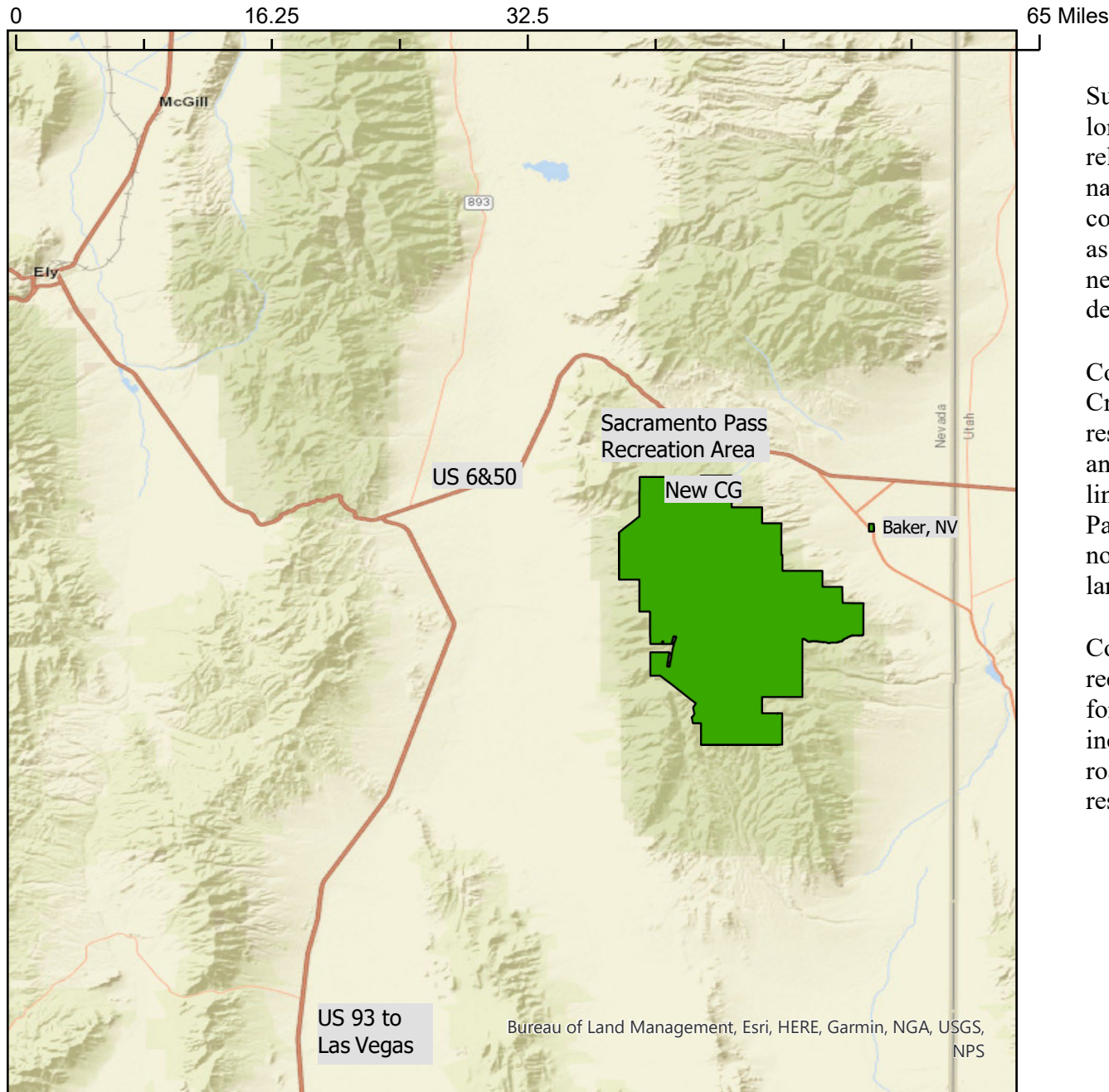




# SNPLMA Rd 19 - Construct Campground and Improve Recreational Access In Strawberry Creek - Agency Management Area



# SNPLMA Rd 19 - Construct Campground and Improve Recreational Access In Strawberry Creek - Strategic Plan Values Map



**Sustainability:** This project will construct durable and long-lasting infrastructure to improve the long term relevancy of protected areas through appreciation of nature. These benefits are supported by both the local community, which depends upon recreation and visitors, as well as agency partners, insuring benefits for both the near and long term. This area will remain relevant for decades to come.

**Connectivity:** This project will protect the Strawberry Creek drainage by providing needed camping and restroom facilities, preventing out of bounds camping and sanitation issues. The road and trail system will link to both other parts of the park and to Sacramento Pass Recreation Area, managed by the BLM to the north. Fencing will protect healthy and resilient landscapes that protect biological communities.

**Community:** This project will create new outdoor recreation opportunities that improve the quality of life for the public and encourage interaction with nature by increasing the amount of available camping, improving roads and trails, and protect critical cultural and natural resources.

## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources</b>		
<b>Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measure</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
H9 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Treated or Restored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation treated with chemical, mechanical, physical, or biological control agents for the purpose of weed control. Include acres treated by fire when fire is used as a physical control agent for weed control rather than as a hazardous fuels treatment. Each acre treated is counted only once during the life of the project, no matter how many re-treatments occurred during the project. Report to the nearest whole acre.	5
H10 - Acres of Invasive Plant Species Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of acres of weed infestation inventoried or monitored. Include monitoring of weed treatment projects reported under performance measure H9. Report to the nearest whole acre.	20
H17 – Miles of Roads or Trails Surveyed, Inventoried, or Monitored	Report the number of miles of roads and/or trails inventoried or monitored. Report to the nearest whole mile or linear foot. Report to the nearest whole mile.	15

<b>Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
C1 - Number of Cultural or Historic Sites or Structures Stabilized or Protected	Report the number (one unit for each site or each structure) where work is completed to protect, stabilize, restore, excavate, and/or manage cultural features. For sites receiving multiple treatments, count each site only once, but if multiple structures are on a site, count each structure separately. For example an archeological dig site would be counted as one although multiple excavations may take place on the site, whereas a site having remnants of three separate dwellings would be counted as three. Report installation of interpretive signs and structures (e.g., kiosk displays) under O6. Report administrative actions such as mineral withdrawals, closures, or special designations under H1. Report each site or structure as one unit.	1
C3 - Acres of Cultural / Paleontological Resources Surveyed, Inventoried or Monitored	Report the number of acres of land surveyed, inventoried, or monitored for cultural and/or paleontological resources. Include acres surveyed using Class I study of existing information inventory, Class II probabilistic field survey, or Class III intensive field survey and resultant inventory as required by Section 14 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) or Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Report to the nearest whole acre.	50

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:  
Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing  
Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment**

<b>Performance Measures for Recreation Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6. Report each facility or structure as one unit.	5
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Report to the nearest whole mile.	15

**SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:  
Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation  
of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community**

<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	5
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	4
O8 – Buildings or Facilities that Support Green Sustainable Design and Construction	Report the percent reduction in the carbon footprint accomplished through green design, water conservation, energy independence, etc. Report the Leed certification level (silver, gold, platinum), if applicable. Report each building or facility as one unit.	5
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs. Report each database or map layer as one unit.	1
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	1

## O. PHOTOS



Strawberry Creek, NPS entrance, 2021.



Strawberry Creek, above proposed campground, looking south towards historic Osceola Ditch, 2021.



Previous corral.



Rock wall that needs repair.



Road needing vegetation removal, regrading, and some base material added.



Road needing vegetation removal, regrading, and some base material added.

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**



**NEVADA ZONE FIRE COMPLEX**

**Amount Requested: \$8,596,499**



## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This nomination requests funding to construct a fire station that will serve all National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) across Nevada, including two refuge complexes and one stand-alone refuge, totaling eight refuges (Table 1) and approximately 1.7 million acres of land managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

The Service's Nevada Fire Zone serves all these refuges and partner land management agencies by supporting their wildfire suppression, vegetation control and other preventative measures to reduce wildfire risk, and habitat management through burn plans and associated prescribed burns. The Nevada fire program was first established in 2000, however staffing was only recently built up and the construction of designated fire facilities is now urgently needed for successful and efficient operation of the Nevada Fire Zone. Currently, staff and operations are within the Desert Complex, but decentralized among various locations. The proposed facilities would concentrate all Nevada Fire Zone facilities and base operations at the Corn Creek administrative area within Desert NWR. This project will be utilizing standardized BLM structural plans for the fire station and bunkhouse, saving considerable cost in engineering, design, and construction.

The Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex includes all four refuges in southern Nevada (Ash Meadows NWR, Desert NWR, Moapa Valley NWR and Pahrangat NWR and the Ash Meadows Fish Conservation Facility). The headquarters are located in Las Vegas, the largest city in Nevada, with a population of over 2 million within the Las Vegas metropolitan area.

Desert NWR was established to preserve habitat for the desert bighorn sheep and other wildlife. The refuge encompasses six major mountain ranges separated by relatively narrow, flat valleys that lie in the transition zone or ecotone between the Mojave and the Great Basin Deserts. At low elevations, typical Mojave species are found. At upper elevations, typical Great Basin species are common. Mountainous terrain is an essential habitat component for desert bighorn sheep, and valleys without barriers are important as movement corridors. Valley habitat in the Mojave Desert gained importance with listing of the desert tortoise as an endangered species in 1990. Elevations range from about 2,450 feet on the southern boundary to 9,912 feet at the top of Hayford Peak in the central Sheep Mountains. Over 90% of the entire refuge is proposed wilderness. Roads through the refuge are primitive and public use is relatively moderate (approximately 57,000 visitors per year) for public lands near Las Vegas but has been increasing in recent years. From 1940 to the present, a military land withdrawal for the Nevada Test and Training Range has been superimposed on the western portion of the Desert NWR, the Air Force use of approximately 845,787 acres of the refuge. This area is closed to public entry.

The Ash Meadows NWR is located approximately 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas in the Amargosa Valley of southern Nye County, Nevada. Within the refuge boundary of approximately 23,000 acres, the 40 acres surrounding Devils Hole are managed by the National Park Service and six private property tracts, mostly in the southern portion of the refuge, encompass approximately 155 acres. Refuge lands, ranging from 2,100 to 3,150 feet in elevation, consist of spring-fed wetlands, riparian woodlands, saltbush areas, and alkaline desert uplands. Ash Meadows NWR is managed to conserve fish, wildlife and plants which are listed as endangered or threatened species,

or endemic to the area. At least 24 plants and animals found nowhere else in the world occur at Ash Meadows.

The Moapa Valley NWR is located in the Moapa Valley, approximately 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Moapa Valley NWR was established with the primary purpose of protecting and securing habitat for the endangered Moapa dace (*Moapa coriacea*) and the sensitive Moapa White River springfish (*Crenichtys baileyi moapae*).

The Pahrnagat NWR is located at the southern end of the Pahrnagat Valley, 90 miles north of Las Vegas in Lincoln County, Nevada. The valley is 44 miles long and part of an ancient well-preserved river course and topography varies from open water and cattail marshes to cliffs and rocky outcrops on the adjacent upland deserts. Elevations range from 3,300 feet in the valley bottom to 3,800 feet on the desert slopes and rock outcrops. The refuge is surrounded by federal lands that are either owned or managed by the BLM and private lands and was established on under authority of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929 for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose for migratory birds.

The Ruby Lake NWR is located in northeast Nevada in Elko and White Pine counties. The refuge headquarters is 100 miles northwest of Ely. The refuge is located at the south end of Ruby Valley in a narrow valley between the rugged and scenic Ruby Mountains and the Maverick Springs mountain range, situated mostly on the valley floor and the elevation ranges from 5,962 feet at marsh level to 6,900 feet. The refuge includes a large pristine shallow marsh surrounded by meadows, grasslands, shrub-steppe uplands, and alkali playa. The refuge is bordered by National Forest System, Bureau of Land Management, and private land. Refuge management goals and objectives include providing a diversity of high-quality habitats for breeding and migrating birds with an emphasis on waterfowl, Sandhill cranes, colonial nesting birds, songbird species, and species of special concern.

The Stillwater NWR Complex includes Stillwater NWR, Fallon NWR and Anaho Island NWR and is headquartered in Fallon, NV, about 40 miles west of Reno. The three refuges included focus on waterfowl and shorebird conservation. Stillwater NWR is located in Churchill County within the Lahontan Valley of north-central Nevada, near the community of Fallon, sixty miles east of Reno and was established for the purposes of conserving and managing wildlife and plants their habitat, with a focus on migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. The refuge includes marshes, wetland and is a critical migratory stopover site for many bird species. Adjacent to the public hunting area located in Stillwater WMA, Stillwater NWR was established as a wildlife sanctuary (closed to hunting). It encompassed about 24,200 acres of Federal land and comprises the southern end of the existing boundary of Stillwater NWR.

Anaho Island NWR is an island in Pyramid Lake about 30 miles northwest of Reno in Washoe County and was established to preserve and provide a breeding ground for native birds and for the benefit and protection of colonial-nesting species and other migratory birds. The refuge. Anaho Island is part of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, but it is managed and administered by the Service as a component of the Refuge System under a memorandum of understanding.

Fallon NWR lies in the Lahontan Valley 60 miles northwest of Reno within Churchill County and was established as a sanctuary and breeding ground for birds and other wild animals. The habitat at the terminus of the Carson River is mainly comprised of playa and wetland areas.

**Table 1:** National Wildlife Refuges served by the Nevada Fire Zone.

<b>Management Unit</b>	<b>Size (acres)</b>	<b>Established</b>	<b>Significant Values</b>
Desert National Wildlife Refuge	1,588,000	1936	Desert bighorn sheep, desert tortoise, wilderness
Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge	23,000	1984	Migratory birds, T&E and endemic species
Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge	106	1979	T&E species
Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge	5,380	1964	Migratory birds
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge	24,200	1948	Conserving and managing wildlife and habitat
Fallon National Wildlife Refuge	17,850	1931	Breeding ground for birds and wild animals
Anaho National Wildlife Refuge	634.4	1913	Breeding grounds, migratory birds
Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge	37,632	1938	Migratory birds

**Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

No previously funded or additional phases to this project.

**1. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

This is a stand-alone project with no guarantee of funding for future phases.

## **B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES**

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
  - Output O2 Number of buildings, facilities and/or amenities constructed or refurbished: This project will provide 2 buildings, which will be constructed to provide: A Fire Complex consisting of one Fire Station and one 10 person Barracks.
  - Output O6 Number of new interpretive or education presentations signs and or kiosks displays produced – One informational kiosk will be constructed outside of the fenced in complex for sharing information when personnel are not on

station. When personnel are on station there will be personnel to share information with visitors on site. This will provide more in-depth information than a standalone kiosk. There will also be a meeting/training room used for informative and training purposes for fire personnel and when appropriate, the community as well.

- Output O8 Buildings or facilities that support green sustainable design and construction – The two buildings will be constructed with all available sustainable design and construction elements allowed by the agency and design needs. If approved, the additional solar panel/shaded parking cover will provide additional efficiency with the use of electricity.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:

Currently, there is no fire station for the USFWS in Nevada. This project will provide a facility for a more rapid and effective response to wildland fires in the Northern portion of the Las Vegas Interagency Response area. This will result in increased safety for residents, public land users, and firefighters in this area. This facility will also enhance the efficiency of current and future agency and SNPLMA funded Fuels Reduction Projects. Incorporating the fire management facilities, resources, and staff at this location will increase our presence on the Desert NWR to better manage and protect the natural and cultural resources. This project will incorporate options for sustainable/renewable energy sources. Solar and wind power are both being researched and considered for this facility. Working with Nevada Energy, we have determined that electricity that will be produced, but not used can be put back into the power grid for a credit to the USFWS.

The fire program, staffing and equipment numbers grew slowly over a period of 15 years. The growth of the program was due to a need for more direct management of human caused fires, natural start wildfire management, and an increase in prescribed fire and mechanical treatments throughout the Zone on FWS refuges. The location will put the station, employees, and visitors in an area off the highway and away from traffic. The new facilities, including fencing and exterior lighting, will also enhance the security and safety of equipment, employees, and the public. The proposed facility will provide integrated operational ability for FWS personnel to work with the Clark County Fire Department, USFS, NPS BLM, and the U.S. Air force to manage incidents on the Desert NWR and the surrounding community. The ability to provide a work center for staging other FWS project operations creates a more efficient and effective strategy for all integrated programs and enables volunteers and partners to better serve the public and care for the land. It often takes over 2 hours to reach some of the interior areas of the Desert NWR, which only leaves 4 hours in a normal day to perform work. When crews are able to begin their workday at this facility, they are able to increase productivity and create a more sustainable operation. The proposed facility will provide integrated operational ability for

FWS personnel to work with our interagency partners to manage incidents along the north highway 95 corridor and will support the Corn Creek and Cold Creek communities. This proposed facility will help to decrease FWS response times for critical incidents and would be a focal point for Public Contact and future Natural Resource and Recreation Programs on the north side of the Vegas Valley and adjacent NPS and BLM-managed lands.

The new facility would have individual bedrooms for ten employees, this would provide space for our personnel and out-of-town resources and a conference room for up to twenty-five people. The new fire station also would provide a safer, improved, and strategically located facility from which to conduct:

- *Fire Operations* (fire suppression, prevention, prescribed fire, hazardous fuels removal, and helicopter support) across the Desert NWRC and as an interagency partner. This facility will also provide a facility for Wildland Fire Incident Management Teams of any size, to work from or to use as an Incident Command Post, staging area, spike camp and/or briefing location during incidents on Federal Lands on and adjacent to the Desert NWR.
- *Work Center* from which other FWS staff and partners can stage recreation and resource projects to better maintain, restore and protect the quality and quantity of the environment.
- Connectivity:  
This facility would increase FWS employee presence in the community of Corn Creek. Having this presence and involvement within the community is important to both the agency and the community. The facility will improve the FWS's ability to outreach to the community and public land users regarding recreation, natural resources, fire/law enforcement issues, as well as promote the agency's goals of ecological restoration. The inclusion of sustainable building design features will also provide for an educational opportunity and demonstrate that the agency is a leader in sustainable facilities. The ability for staff, partners, and volunteers to work out of this facility enables a more concentrated effort to maintain and sustain the recreation areas on and near the refuge. Crews will be more efficient and successful in supporting trails, public interaction, and natural resource protection because of this facility location. There are numerous cultural, historical, and natural resource values (e.g. historical structures, archeological sites, wildlife habitat, endemic species, recreational sites, etc.), which we will be better able to protect and manage because of this project. It will enhance our abilities to respond to fires and illegal activities that can have significant impacts on these resources. Additionally, the increase in public outreach and engagement will allow us to better disseminate information about land management/stewardship, and the conference room for employee trainings/meetings will promote information exchange regarding the natural resource protection, recreation and create an ownership opportunity for the local population to be engaged in these management approaches.

The facility would increase our ability to manage current recreation activities and future development of recreation programs on the Desert NWR and assist on the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. Additionally, fire and law enforcement response capabilities would be improved, which could increase our ability to control fires with initial attack and to respond to illegal activities that could have impacts on recreation activities, and natural and cultural resources. The increased employee presence would increase public

outreach regarding recreation, natural resources, information, federal land rules/regulations and land stewardship. The current situation in this area is that there are numerous shooting caused fires and illegal campfires in the area on and adjacent to the Desert NWR visitor center. In the Tule Springs and Frozen Toe areas the NPS and BLM are experiencing a large number of shooting, fireworks, and illegal campfire related fires that pose a direct threat to FWS lands adjacent to those areas. The increased Fire presence should help in managing that activity and increase the effectiveness of Inter-agency fire response to those incidents.

This facility would increase our ability to respond to activities that could have impacts on resources and recreation sites. Also, in anticipation of increased population growth in Las Vegas and surrounding communities, we are seeking to strategically locate our resources to meet public demand.

The facility will include recreation and natural resource kiosks to provide public education and information for recreation and cultural sites in the proximity to this area and the whole of the Desert NWR. The kiosks could be placed outside of the compound and will be accessible by the public when the station is not staffed and would be maintained by the fire personnel assigned to the station. The facility will also provide for public meetings and education presentations on the unique characteristics of the Desert NWRC and opportunities for recreation and volunteer involvement.

- Community:

The development of a facility that enables outreach activities to surrounding communities to be locally based and available for community meetings and activities to better educate the public and enable local citizens to take ownership of public lands in their area. The side benefit of the desired location will be that it borders proposed wilderness in an area where there are numerous user-created trails, thus allowing us to assist in managing the use of the wilderness in that area and potentially even rehab and monitor those user-created trails. As the population growth of Las Vegas and surrounding communities will continue to increase, we seek to plan for this growth. Additionally, the increased use of the surrounding areas (by user such as OHV riders, horse riders, mountain biking, hikers, etc.) requires that we analyze our current management strategy and place our resources in strategically located sites to maximize management effectiveness. The management challenges of increased public land use are two-fold. For one, increased public land use in and around this part of the Desert NWR has put more people on the ground, and with this comes the potential for an increase in events that require the response of fire and law personnel (e.g. human caused fires, medical emergencies, law violations, etc.). Response to such events not only benefits the public but can significantly reduce the costs by expediting response times. Secondly, increased use of the land places a greater demand on resources. Unique plants, animals, and cultural sites exist on this part of the Desert NWR and will require a strong FWS presence in the area to promote our land stewardship message.

The current buildings that the fire program is using does not meet visitor or community needs. Because there will be an increase in the number of personnel stationed at the facility, and additional personnel living on site, we will achieve more efficient and effective response to events and request for information such as recreation, trails, allowable activities, fire, medical

emergencies, cultural areas, and law enforcement issues, which provide immeasurable benefits to the public. Additionally, the increased presence of the FWS Fire Management organization at this location provides a better opportunity to do public outreach, which increases the knowledge base of our public land users in areas such as federal rules/regulations, natural resources, recreation, Firewise communities, and land stewardship. This shared stewardship approach has generated increased interest by our partners and stakeholders who have committed to working with us to create a sustainable and long-term approach to management of this facility and the services that it will provide to the public, employees, and the land.

### **C. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex will construct a new primary fire station complex to develop a permanent fire and public safety presence at the Headquarters area of the Desert NWR; this fire station complex, approximately 10 miles north of Las Vegas, will improve safety, operational effectiveness, and increase protection of the public and natural resources. The increased population and visitation, changes in vegetation communities due to climate change, drought, and invasive species, and a newly displaced public due to the economic burden of the Covid-19 Pandemic have increased the threat of wildfires and other hazardous conditions on the Desert NWRC, Stillwater NWRC and Ruby Lake NWR.

### **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

#### 1. Primary Deliverables:

Design and construct a primary fire station complex near the community of Corn Creek on the Desert NWR to house the FWS Nevada Zone Fire Management Program, consisting of a Fire Management Officer (FMO), an Assistant Fire Management Officer (AFMO), a Fire Operations Specialist (FOS) and a wildland fire module and two light engines, and any additional resources on temporary assignment to the area. This includes:

1. Four secure/private workspaces (~100 sq. ft. each) for the FMO, AFMO, FOS and Module leaders.
2. One shared workspace (~500 sq. ft.) for crewmembers.
3. Four Fire engine bays to provide an indoor, secure, and environmentally controlled parking structure to accommodate two fire engines, a water tender and utility vehicles.
4. Security fence (~4,000 ft. in length depending on topography and design) around the entire complex with a motorized electric gate (with manual override).
5. Electrical power connection to the local power grid. This requires addition of 2-3 power poles or underground installation and distribution lines inside fire complex, along with power distributed to the fire station, and barracks.
6. Installation of septic system to support fire station, and barracks.
7. Connection to the existing water system on site, includes infrastructure extension, plumbing, and a hydrant or standpipe for filling fire engines and water tenders consistent with current design standards.
8. Construction of asphalt road system or comparable road surface (~3 acres, contingent on final design) to connect the fire station, barracks, and parking areas.
9. One training/meeting/conference room (~ 25'x20' or 500 sq. ft.) to accommodate 25 agency representatives and the public when appropriate.
10. One secure-equipment storage (fire cache) for a fire/fuels warehouse (~25'x20'

or 500 sq. ft.).

11. Indoor workshop areas along the sides of the engine bays using work benches on casters that can be positioned anywhere in the engine bays. This area can be incorporated into the proposed engine bays and safely accommodate two-wheeled workbenches per side.
12. Covered outdoor work area for cleaning chainsaws and other equipment. This workarea will be an addition off the side of the fire station, running the length of the building.
13. Kitchen with sufficient space (~200 sq. ft.) for refrigerator, stove, microwave, etc. (equipment/appliances to be funded by USFWS, not SNPLMA).
14. A workout room (~210 sq. ft.) for indoor physical training, weights, benches, and cardio machines (equipment will be provided by the USFWS, not SNPLMA).
15. Barracks facilities to accommodate 10 fire station crews or resource personnel assigned to the area including at least one ADA compliant room.
16. Parking lot to accommodate 5-7 visitor vehicles.
17. Parking lot to accommodate 15-20 agency/employee vehicles.
18. Connections for Internet and Wi-Fi for fire station, and a cell phone booster for fire station and barracks.

2. Anticipated Deliverables:

Parking shade structures with solar panels to accommodate 15-20 agency/employee vehicles.

3. Standard Deliverables:

1. NEPA compliance for construction activities.
2. Scoping meetings.
3. Section 106 Consultation (SHPO and Tribal consultation and coordination) and Section 7 Consultation.
4. Nevada Division of Water Resources application and permitting process, as appropriate.
5. NDOT application and permitting process, as appropriate.
6. SMART quarterly/annual updates; final accomplishment and performance reporting.
7. Preparation of the close out package is a required standard deliverable.

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

**Latitude and Longitude:**

36.43827, -115.36368

**Congressional District(s):**

NV-4



## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

### Year 1

- Design initiative, planning and permitting, including the following
  - a. Engineering design
  - b. Preparation of contract documents/specifications
  - c. Contract solicitation and award

### Year 2

- Finalize build design with contractor
- Begin staggered construction of buildings
- Extend utilities from maintenance facilities

### Year 3

- Continue construction of buildings
- Contour site for drainage and complete landscaping
- Install parking shade structures with solar panels

### Year 4

- Pave parking area
- Finalize building construction
- Final site inspection and agency acceptance
- Payment of final invoice, close out of contracts
- Release of lien
- Final review of project file and expenditures
- Request for close out

### Year 5

- Project close out with SNPLMA

## G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No

This project will be completed through a combination of in-house and contract resources. The Desert NWRC has the necessary staff expertise, and/or resources to initiate the project once funding is available. NEPA will be managed in-house by a local team. SHPO documents will be prepared in-house with assistance from the Regional Office (due to our vacant Cultural Resources Specialist position on the Desert NWRC) and provided to SHPO to meet consultation/documentation requirements. Initial planning is being worked on in house now by a local team. Responsibility for operations and maintenance is being planned with the Nevada Zone Fire Management Staff and the Regional Fire Office.

Is NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

The NEPA was completed on the proposed building site when the Maintenance buildings and Equipment yard were constructed in 2010. The entire site is previously disturbed. No additional analysis will need to be completed.

## **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The anticipated lifecycle of the project is 3-5 years depending on construction timelines. The anticipated use of the facility is indefinite.

- General operation and maintenance costs are managed at the Regional Office.
- The operation and maintenance of the facility would be the responsibility of the Desert NWRC (primarily, the Nevada Zone Fire & Aviation program and with support as needed from other natural resource programs utilizing the facility).
- Operation and Maintenance of the Fire facility will be managed and funded by FWS Regions 8 and 10 Fire budgets.
- Operation and maintenance of the barracks will be managed and funded by FWS Regions 8 and 10, Quarters Maintenance budgets.
- Operations and maintenance costs will increase, but the project will improve the existing situation by providing a safe, secure, and comfortable working and living environment for FWS employees.
- The ability to connect with the local community and the public that accesses this part of the Refuge will assist to offset the increase in costs. The efficiencies and cost savings by other program areas will enable the Refuges to support the costs of operation and not just depend on the fire budget.
- The development of the facility as an integrated public contact and natural resource protection operation enables additional resources from other Natural Resource Programs and projects, Clark County Operations, Metro Police, partners, and stakeholders to contribute to long-term facility sustainability.
- This project is not a phase of a prior approved project, and as proposed would not require any additional phases.

*Reminder of this page left intentionally blank*

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

### PROJECT BUDGET

<b>Project Name:</b>	Nevada Zone Fire Complex	<b>Date:</b>	11/5/2021
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Ross Wise	<b>Agency:</b>	USFWS
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 574,499	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 10,000	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 8,012,000	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ -	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 8,596,499</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Notes:

#### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

No in-kind contributions are anticipated.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Kevin DesRoberts, Project Leader, Desert NWRC  
 Email: kevin\_desroberts@fws.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5451

Project Manager: Ross Wise, FMO, Nevada Zone  
 Email: ross\_wise@fws.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5465

Budget Officer: Leanne Abel, Administrative Officer, Desert NWRC  
 Email: Leanne\_abel@fws.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5463

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

*A. A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer:

Yes. This project will provide a facility for a more rapid and effective response to wildland fires in the Northern portion of the Las Vegas Interagency Response area. This will result in increased safety for residents, public land users, and firefighters in this area.

This project will also enhance the efficiency of current and future agency and SNPLMA funded Fuels Reduction Projects. Incorporating the Fire management facilities, resources, and staff at this location will increase our presence on the Desert NWR to better manage and protect the natural and cultural resources. This project will incorporate options for sustainable/renewable energy sources. Solar and wind power are both being researched and considered for this facility. Working with Nevada Energy, we have determined that electricity that will be produced, but not used can be put back into the power grid for a credit to the USFWS.

*B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer:

Yes. This project meets the criteria factor- there is no current fire station. The fire program, staffing and equipment numbers grew slowly over a period of 15 years. The growth of the program was due to a need for more direct management of human caused fires, natural start wildfire management, and an increase in prescribed fire and mechanical treatments throughout the Zone on FWS refuges. The location will put the station, employees, and visitors in an area off the highway and away from traffic. The new facilities, including fencing and exterior lighting, will also enhance the security and safety of equipment, employees, and the public. The proposed facility will provide integrated operational ability for FWS personnel to work with the Clark County Fire Department, USFS, NPS BLM, and the U.S. Air force to manage incidents on the Desert NWR and the surrounding community. The ability to provide a work center for staging other FWS project operations creates a more efficient and effective strategy for all integrated programs and enables volunteers and partners to better serve the public and care for the land. It often takes over 2 hours to reach some of the interior areas of the Desert NWR, which only leaves 4 hours in a normal day to perform work. When crews are able to begin their workday at this facility, they are able to increase productivity and create a more sustainable operation.

***C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor and will provide a facility for a more rapid and effective response to wildland fires in the southern portion of the Desert NWR, including the registered Corn Creek historical site as well as the northern portion of the Las Vegas Interagency Response area. This will result in increased protection of natural and cultural resources and historic buildings and safety for residents, public land users, and firefighters in this area.

***D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor – the current situation is that the fire program has no dedicated facilities. The equipment and staff are spread out throughout the valley wherever there is space. The fire program currently does not have dedicated housing for fire personnel and thus greatly reducing the applicant pool for seasonal and permanent positions. The new facilities, including fencing and exterior lighting, will enhance the security and safety of equipment, employees, and the public. With limited space and connectivity at the current facility, it provides for less than efficient and effective response by FWS fire resources to interagency fires. The proposed facility will provide integrated operational ability for FWS personnel to work with our interagency partners to manage incidents along the north highway 95 corridor and will support the Corn Creek and Cold

Creek communities. This proposed facility will help to decrease FWS response times for critical incidents and would be a focal point for Public Contact and future Natural Resource and Recreation Programs on the north side of the Vegas Valley and adjacent NPS and BLM-managed lands. The new facility would have individual bedrooms for ten employees, this would provide space for our personnel and out-of-town resources and a conference room for up to twenty-five people. The new fire station also would provide a safer, improved, and strategically located facility from which to conduct:

Fire Operations (fire suppression, prevention, prescribed fire, hazardous fuels removal, and helicopter support) across the Desert NWRC and as an interagency partner. This facility will also provide a facility for Wildland Fire Incident Management Teams of any size, to work from or to use as an Incident Command Post, staging area, spike camp and/or briefing location during incidents on Federal Lands on and adjacent to the Desert NWR. Work Center from which other FWS staff and partners can stage recreation and resource projects to better maintain, restore and protect the quality and quantity of the environment.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.
  - A. *Provides new, upgraded, or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day, or overnight camping).*

Answer: Yes. This project meets this criteria factor – this facility would increase FWS employee presence in the community of Corn Creek. Having this presence and involvement within the community is important to both the agency and the community. The facility will improve the FWS's ability to outreach to the community and public land users regarding recreation, natural resources, fire/law enforcement issues, as well as promote the agency's goals of ecological restoration. The inclusion of sustainable building design features will also provide for an educational opportunity and demonstrate that the agency is a leader in sustainable facilities. The ability for staff, partners, and volunteers to work out of this facility enables a more concentrated effort to maintain and sustain the recreation areas on and near the refuge. Crews will be more efficient and successful in supporting trails, public interaction, and natural resource protection because of this facility location. There are numerous cultural, historical, and natural resource values (e.g. historical structures, archeological sites, wildlife habitat, endemic species, recreational sites, etc.) which we will be better able to protect and manage because of this project. It will enhance our abilities to respond to fires and illegal activities that can have significant impacts on these resources. Additionally, the increase in public outreach and engagement will allow us to better disseminate information about land management/stewardship, and the conference room for employee trainings/meetings will promote information exchange regarding the natural resource protection, recreation and create an ownership opportunity for the local population to be engaged in these management approaches.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades, or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor - the facility would increase our ability to manage current recreation activities and future development of recreation programs on the Desert NWR and assist on the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. Additionally, fire and law enforcement response capabilities would be improved, which could increase our ability to control fires with initial attack and to respond to illegal activities that could have impacts on recreation activities, and natural and cultural resources. The increased employee presence would increase public outreach regarding recreation, natural resources, information, federal land rules/regulations and land stewardship. The current situation in this area is that there are numerous shooting caused fires and illegal campfires in the area on and adjacent to the Desert NWR visitor center. In the Tule Springs and Frozen Toe areas the NPS and BLM are experiencing a large number of shooting, fireworks, and illegal campfire related fires that pose a direct threat to FWS lands adjacent to those areas. The increased Fire presence should help in managing that activity and increase the effectiveness of Inter-agency fire response to those incidents. This facility would increase our ability to respond to activities that could have impacts on resources and recreation sites. Also, in anticipation of increased population growth in Las Vegas and surrounding communities, we are seeking to strategically locate our resources to meet public demand.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor – the facility would increase our ability to manage future recreation activities and future development of recreation programs on the north side of the Las Vegas Valley. Additionally, fire and law enforcement response capabilities would be improved, which could increase our ability to control fires with initial attack and to respond to illegal activities that could have impacts on recreation activities, natural and cultural resources. The increased employee presence would increase public outreach regarding recreation, natural resources, information, federal land rules/regulations and land stewardship.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, and educational programs).***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor – the facility will include recreation and natural resource kiosks to provide public education and information for recreation and cultural sites in the proximity to this area and the whole of the Desert NWR. The kiosks will be placed outside of the compound and be accessible by the public when the

station is not staffed and would be maintained by the fire personnel assigned to the station. The facility will also provide for public meetings and education presentations on the unique characteristics of the Desert NWRC and opportunities for recreation and volunteer involvement.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. (*Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources*)

**A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor. The development of a facility that enables outreach activities to surrounding communities to be locally based and available for community meetings and activities to better educate the public and enable local citizens to take ownership of public lands in their area. The side benefit of the desired location will be that it borders proposed wilderness in an area where there are numerous user-created trails, thus allowing us to assist in managing the use of the wilderness in that area and potentially even rehab and monitor those user-created trails. As the population growth of Las Vegas and surrounding communities will continue to increase, we are planning for this growth. Additionally, the increased use of the surrounding areas (by user such as OHV riders, horse riders, mountain biking, hikers, etc.) requires that we analyze our current management strategy and place our resources in strategically located sites to maximize management effectiveness. The management challenges of increased public land use are two-fold. For one, increased public land use in and around this part of the Desert NWR has put more people on the ground, and with this comes the potential for an increase in events that require the response of fire and law personnel (e.g. human caused fires, medical emergencies, law violations, etc.). Response to such events not only benefits the public but can significantly reduce the costs by expediting response times. Secondly, increased use of the land places a greater demand on resources. Unique plants, animals, and cultural sites exist on this part of the Desert NWR and will require a strong FWS presence in the area to promote our land stewardship message.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer:

No, this project does not meet this criteria factor- current funding is extremely limited within the FWS legacy Region 8, therefore creating a new fire complex using FWS funds is not supported by the Region.



**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer:

Yes, this project meets this criteria factor – The current buildings that the fire program is using does not meet visitor or community needs. Because there will be an increase in the number of personnel stationed at the facility, and additional personnel living on site, we will achieve more efficient and effective response to events and request for information such as recreation, trails, allowable activities, fire, medical emergencies, cultural areas, and law enforcement issues which provide immeasurable benefits to the public.

Additionally, the increased presence of the FWS Fire Management organization at this location provides a better opportunity to do public outreach, which increases the knowledge base of our public land users in areas such as federal rules/regulations, natural resources, recreation, Firewise communities, and land stewardship. This shared stewardship approach has generated increased interest by our partners and stakeholders who have committed to working with us to create a sustainable and long-term approach to management of this facility and the services that it will provide to the public, employees, and the land.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Answer:

Yes. This project meets this criteria factor. Current appropriations are sufficient for the operation and maintenance of this facility. Funding for operating and maintaining facilities is managed at the Regional level. The Zone Fire Management Staff and Regional Fire Management Staff will manage these costs. It should be considered that the lack of secure facilities to store vehicles/equipment and the lack of a proper, indoor facility to maintain vehicles/equipment creates a situation of increased, indirect costs. As identified previously, the new facility with secure storage for equipment and vehicles will reduce issues environmental and rodent damage, theft, and vandalism. By providing facilities to secure and maintain fire engines, vehicles, and equipment, operations and maintenance costs should decrease by having the majority of equipment in a central location where regular preventative maintenance can be provided and improve the existing situation. The ability to connect with the local community and the public that accesses the entrance to the Desert NWR offset the increase in costs. The efficiencies and cost savings by other program areas will enable the Complex to support the costs of operations and not just depend on the fire budget.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.*

Answer:

No. This project does not meet this criteria factor. Only FWS Fire personnel will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of this facility using agency funds.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.*

Answer:

Yes, this project meets this criteria factor – The current buildings that the fire program is using does not meet visitor or community needs. Because there will be an increase in the number of personnel stationed at the facility, and additional personnel living on site, we will achieve more efficient and effective response to events and request for information such as recreation, trails, allowable activities, fire, medical emergencies, cultural areas, and law enforcement issues which provide immeasurable benefits to the public. Additionally, the increased presence of the FWS Fire Management organization at this location provides a better opportunity to do public outreach, which increases the knowledge base of our public land users in areas such as federal rules/regulations, natural resources, recreation, Firewise communities, and land stewardship.

This shared stewardship approach has generated increased interest by our partners and stakeholders who have committed to working with us to create a sustainable and long-term approach to management of this facility and the services that it will provide to the public, employees, and the land.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

Answer:

Yes, this project meets this criteria factor – We intend to incorporate solar and wind power elements to the facility reducing the need for power and when possible, sending surplus electricity back to the power grid.

5. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Answer:

This factor is not applicable to this project – The current facility does not meet agency definitions of a fire facility and has been a long-term stop gap with the hopes that at some point a funding source would become available to build an appropriate facility.

- B. Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete***

Answer:

This factor is not directly applicable to this project - Having said that, in the COVID-19 environment we are seeing significantly more visitation in the areas managed by the resources assigned to the Desert NWRC, this includes day visitors, hunters, campers and displaced homeowners living on public lands due to the loss of their homes.

## **L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES**

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

### 1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: This project will create a fire station and barracks facility. Currently, employees work out of multiple locations, none of which are designed or suited as firefighting facilities and currently do not have barracks for their seasonal employees. This project will increase the preparedness of the one engine crew stationed at the proposed fire station location and allow us to relocate our Fire Management overhead staff to the new facilities so the entire fire zone can be co-located.

This project will give us the additional space to move another Engine Module to help in covering the north side of the Southern Nevada dispatch area, effectively doubling our resources available at that location.

This project will increase the efficiency of fuels reduction projects in the area by providing a location closer to the worksites where briefings and work can begin, and equipment can be cleaned and managed at the end of shift without returning to multiple locations to drop equipment or the Complex Office. This project will increase the preparedness of the one engine crew stationed at the new facilities.

- ***EO No. 14004: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: We will follow all current policy and guidance on contracting to ensure this executive order is adhered to, hiring local and procuring American made products and materials where available.

## 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer:

This project will support and enhance the protection and stewardship of natural and cultural resources, especially in areas used for outdoor recreation within the Desert NWRC and surrounding area by enhancing the preparedness of responders to wildfires in the area.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer:

This project will significantly support recreational opportunities within the Desert NWR, providing better response to shooting caused fires and enhancing the educational opportunity, sharing the message about the dangers of shooting caused fires in the area.

Proper wildfire management will reduce impacts to wildlife from dispersed recreation and campfires.

The FWS has been working closely with Local and State governments, non-profit organizations, other federal agencies, the communities to plan and develop a comprehensive interagency plan for wildfire response in this area. All partners have been working across boundaries to improve fire response and recreational opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer:

This project will significantly increase the ability of the fire management staff to initiate more habitat protection and improvement projects that support maintaining migration corridors for bighorn sheep and other wildlife throughout the FWS Nevada zone, from guzzler improvements to habitat restorations. Having the ability to house surge staff for projects in the field where otherwise hotels would be cost prohibitive or drive times would reduce the windows of opportunity to complete tasks in remote areas where the Big-Game congregate.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer:

This project will support and enhance the safety for increasing recreational opportunities within the Desert NWRC and surrounding area by increasing the preparedness of responders to wildfires in the area.

- The FWS has been working closely with Local and State governments, non-profit organizations, other federal agencies, the communities to plan and develop a comprehensive interagency plan for wildfire response in this area. All of these partners have been working across boundaries to improve fire response and recreational opportunities.
- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer:

This project will support and enhance the safety for increasing recreational opportunities and help to educate the public about the largest Urban National Wildlife Refuge in the lower 48 states, the Desert NWR and surrounding area by increasing the preparedness of responders to wildfires and providing Prevention messaging in person and through Interpretive signs.

The FWS has been working closely with Local and State governments, non-profit organizations, other federal agencies, the communities to plan and develop a comprehensive interagency plan for wildfire response in this area. All of these partners have been working across boundaries to improve fire response and recreational opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer:

This project will significantly increase the ability of the fire management staff to reduce the number and size of wildfires in the surrounding DOI lands including NPS, BLM and FWS, which are all adjacent to the project site. The FWS has been working closely with Local and State governments, non-profit organizations, other federal agencies, the communities to plan and develop a comprehensive interagency plan for wildfire response in this area.

All of these partners have been working across boundaries to improve fire response, education programs, and recreational opportunities.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition).***

Answer: Not Applicable

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: Not Applicable

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- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.******Answer: Not Applicable***

3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer:

This facility will be built with energy efficiency as one of the tenets and utilizing solar and wind energy for power production wherever possible. As added bonus of centralizing the equipment storage to where the personnel are, we reduce our overall carbon footprint by reducing the driving times and distances to gather equipment scattered between multiple refuges for projects.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer:

The Desert NWRC has been coordinating with Nuwu/Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute/Chemehuevi) Tribes for the past several years, building our relationships. As part of that coordination, we are working with Tribes to identify opportunities for integrating traditional ecological knowledge and management practices, which will benefit tribal interests regarding fire in the area.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer:

This facility allows the FWS fire management program to hire a more diverse and inclusive workforce by providing cost-effective living quarters during the fire season. In addition, because the housing is located adjacent to the fire station, this reduces or eliminates drive times.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer:

The National Wildlife Refuge System protects millions of acres of habitat and plays a critical role in achieving 30 X 30 goals. This project will significantly increase the ability of the fire management staff to protect habitat and initiate more habitat improvement projects throughout the FWS Nevada zone, from guzzler improvements to habitat restorations. Having the ability to house surge staff for projects in the field where otherwise hotels would be cost prohibitive or drive times would reduce the windows of opportunity to complete tasks in remote areas where the Big-Game congregate.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer:

This facility allows the FWS fire management program to hire a more diverse and inclusive workforce by providing cost-effective living quarters during the fire season. In addition, because the housing is located adjacent to the fire station, this reduces or eliminates drive times.

#### 4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This facility increases the ability of the FWS fire management program to embrace the Module of One practice. If there is a need to seclude the crew due to an increase in Covid-19 transmissions, the barracks and adjacent fire station is suited for just such a situation.

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: This facility allows the FWS fire management program to hire a more diverse and inclusive workforce by providing cost-effective living quarters during the fire season. This allows the entire fire program to experience different cultures, practices, and world views. Having onsite housing available drastically increases the outreach capabilities of the hiring officials for the program.

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: This facility will be built with energy efficiency as one of the tenets and utilizing Solar and Wind energy for power production wherever possible. The added bonus of centralizing the equipment storage to where the personnel are, we reduce our overall carbon footprint by reducing the driving times and distances to gather equipment for projects.

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer:

This facility allows the FWS fire management program to hire a more diverse and inclusive workforce by providing cost-effective living quarters during the fire season. In addition, because the housing is located adjacent to the fire station, this reduces or eliminates drive times.

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

Answer:

This facility allows the FWS fire management program to hire a more diverse and inclusive workforce by providing cost-effective living quarters during the fire season. This allows the entire fire program to experience different cultures, practices, and world views. Having onsite housing available drastically increases the outreach capabilities of the hiring officials for the program

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# M. MAPS



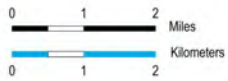
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Nevada Zone Fire Management

## Proposed Site of Fire Station at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge

Corn Creek, NV (Clark County)



Produced in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Produced: 10/28/2021 10/28/2021



The USFWS shall not be held liable for improper or incorrect use of the data and information described and/or contained herein. The GIS file, map products and the associated coordinates are not the definitive source for the data depicted. These data may be used for review, planning, and land management purposes.





# U.S Fish & Wildlife Service Nevada Zone Fire Management

## Proposed Fire Station Layout at Desert National Wildlife Refuge

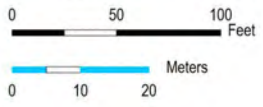


**Legend**

- Open Parking
- Covered Parking
- Fire Station
- Barrack Space
- Disturbed Area

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Produced in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Produced: 11/1/2021



The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) shall not be held liable for improper or incorrect use of the data and information described and/or contained herein. The GIS file, map products and the associated coordinates are not the definitive source for the data depicted. These data may be used for review, planning, and land management purposes.

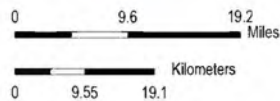
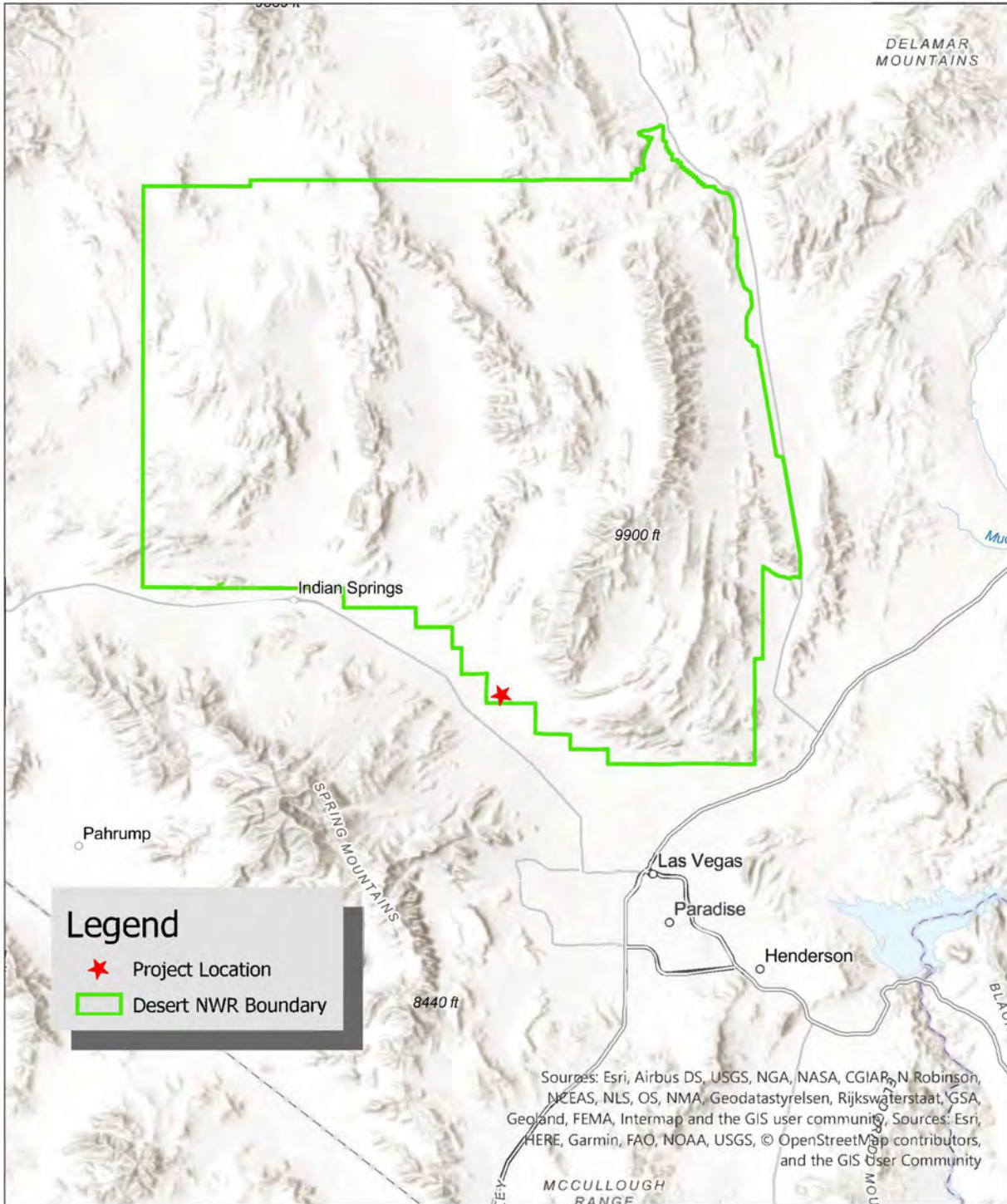




U.S Fish & Wildlife Service Nevada Zone Fire Management

### Project Location Within the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Management Area

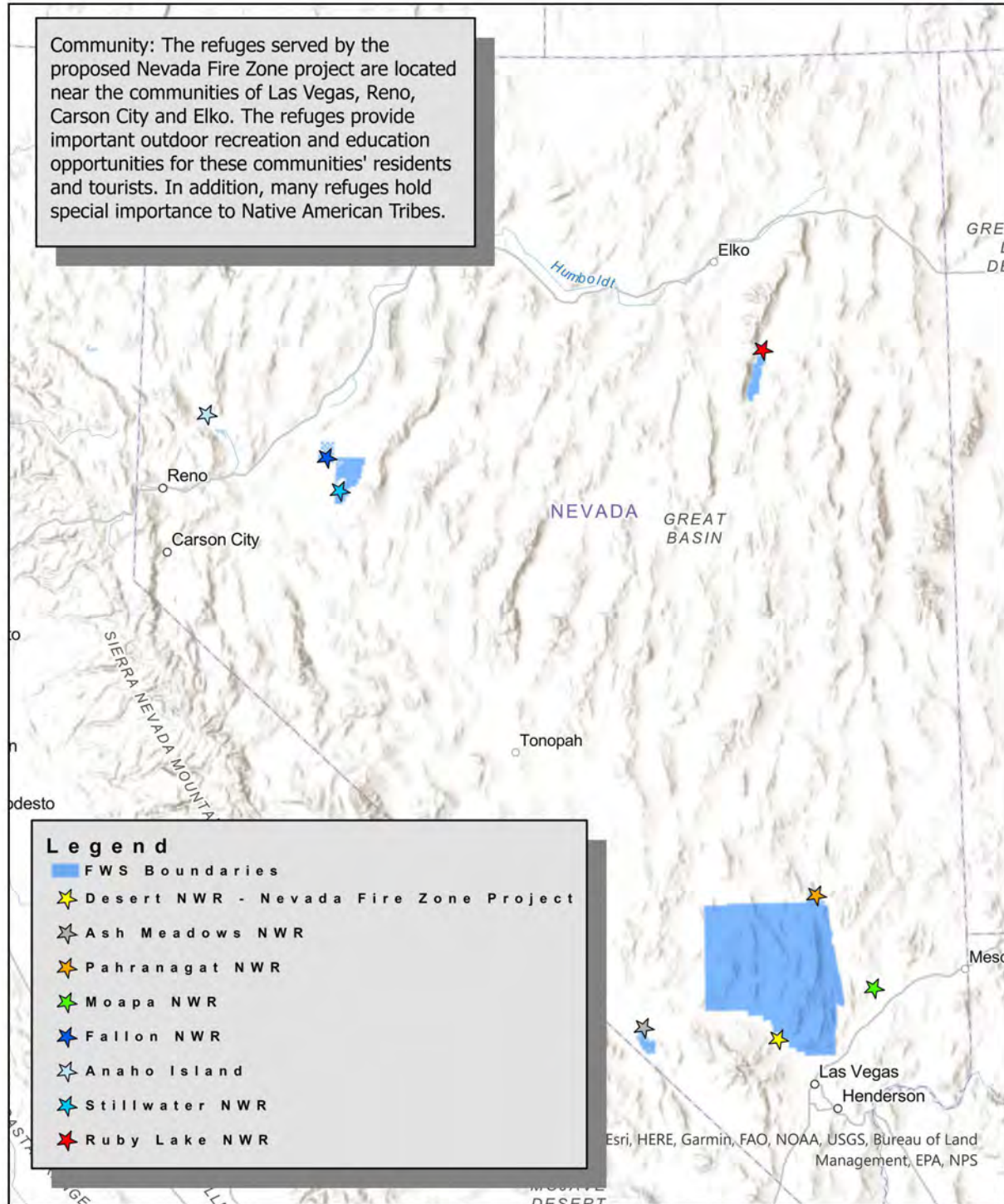
Clark County, NV





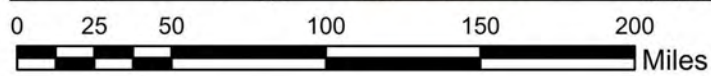
# Nevada Zone Refuges and EC Strategic Values Community

Community: The refuges served by the proposed Nevada Fire Zone project are located near the communities of Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City and Elko. The refuges provide important outdoor recreation and education opportunities for these communities' residents and tourists. In addition, many refuges hold special importance to Native American Tribes.



**Legend**

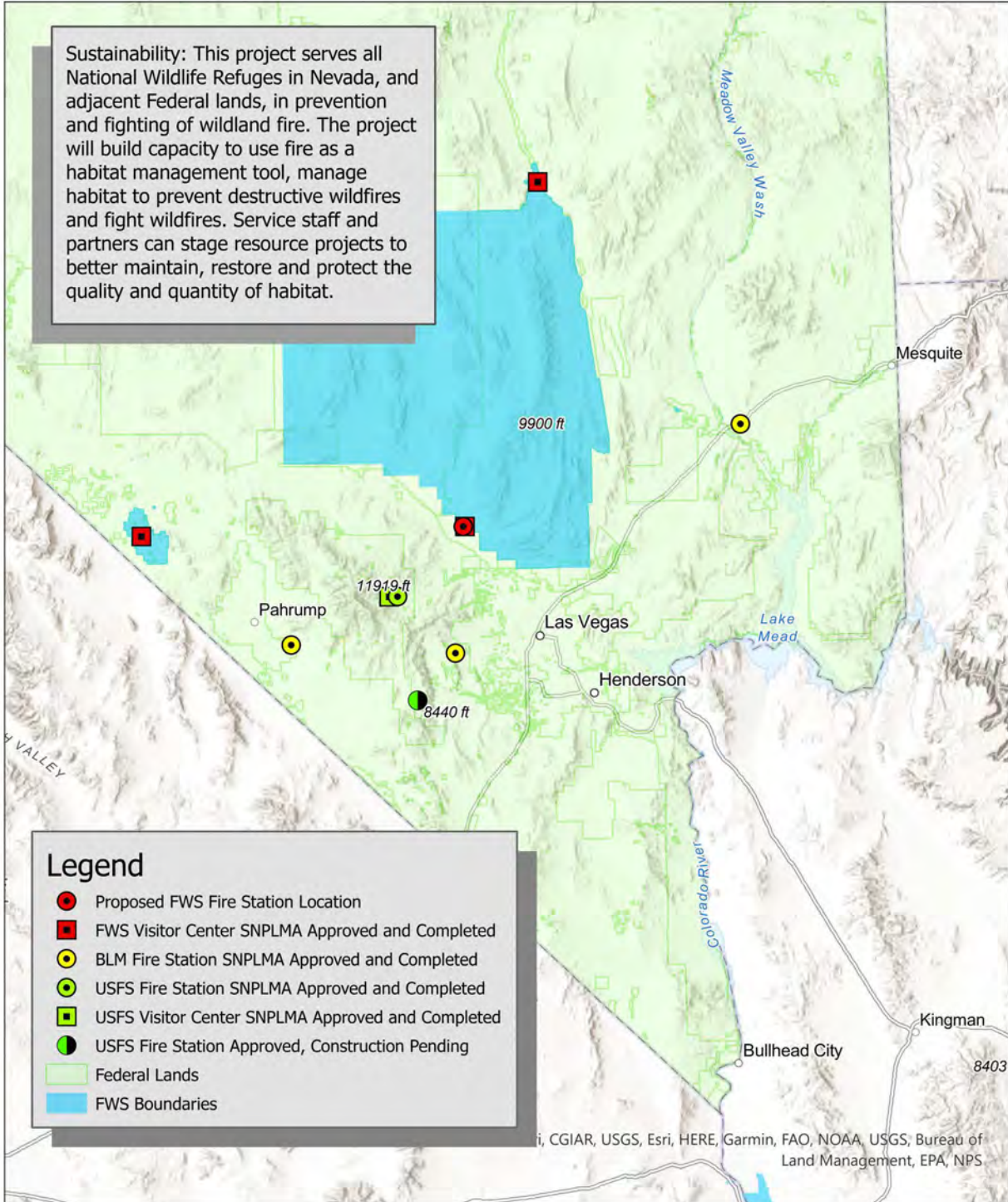
- FWS Boundaries
- Desert NWR - Nevada Fire Zone Project
- Ash Meadows NWR
- Pahrnagat NWR
- Moapa NWR
- Fallon NWR
- Anaho Island
- Stillwater NWR
- Ruby Lake NWR





**U.S Fish & Wildlife Service Fire Management  
EC Strategic Values Sustainability and Connectivity**

**Sustainability:** This project serves all National Wildlife Refuges in Nevada, and adjacent Federal lands, in prevention and fighting of wildland fire. The project will build capacity to use fire as a habitat management tool, manage habitat to prevent destructive wildfires and fight wildfires. Service staff and partners can stage resource projects to better maintain, restore and protect the quality and quantity of habitat.



**Legend**

- Proposed FWS Fire Station Location
- FWS Visitor Center SNPLMA Approved and Completed
- BLM Fire Station SNPLMA Approved and Completed
- USFS Fire Station SNPLMA Approved and Completed
- USFS Visitor Center SNPLMA Approved and Completed
- USFS Fire Station Approved, Construction Pending
- Federal Lands
- FWS Boundaries

CGIAR, USGS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS



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## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:            Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation            of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance            Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O2 – Number of Buildings, Facilities and/or Amenities Constructed or Refurbished	Report the number of buildings, facilities, or amenities constructed or refurbished to improve access, functionality and/or health and safety for employees and the public, or to facilitate the integrity of resource values. Include cross walks, park/trail lighting, fencing, barriers, retaining walls, weirs, signing, security cameras, etc. Report each building, facility or amenity as one unit.	2
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed. Report each item produced as one unit.	1
O8 – Buildings or Facilities that Support Green Sustainable Design and Construction	Report the percent reduction in the carbon footprint accomplished through green design, water conservation, energy independence, etc. Report the Leed certification level (silver, gold, platinum), if applicable. Report each building or facility as one unit.	2

*Reminder of this page left intentionally blank*

**O. PHOTOS**

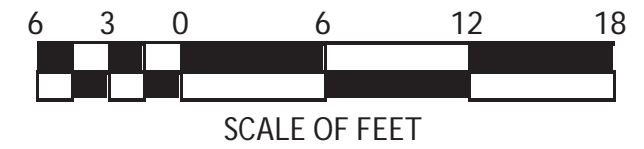
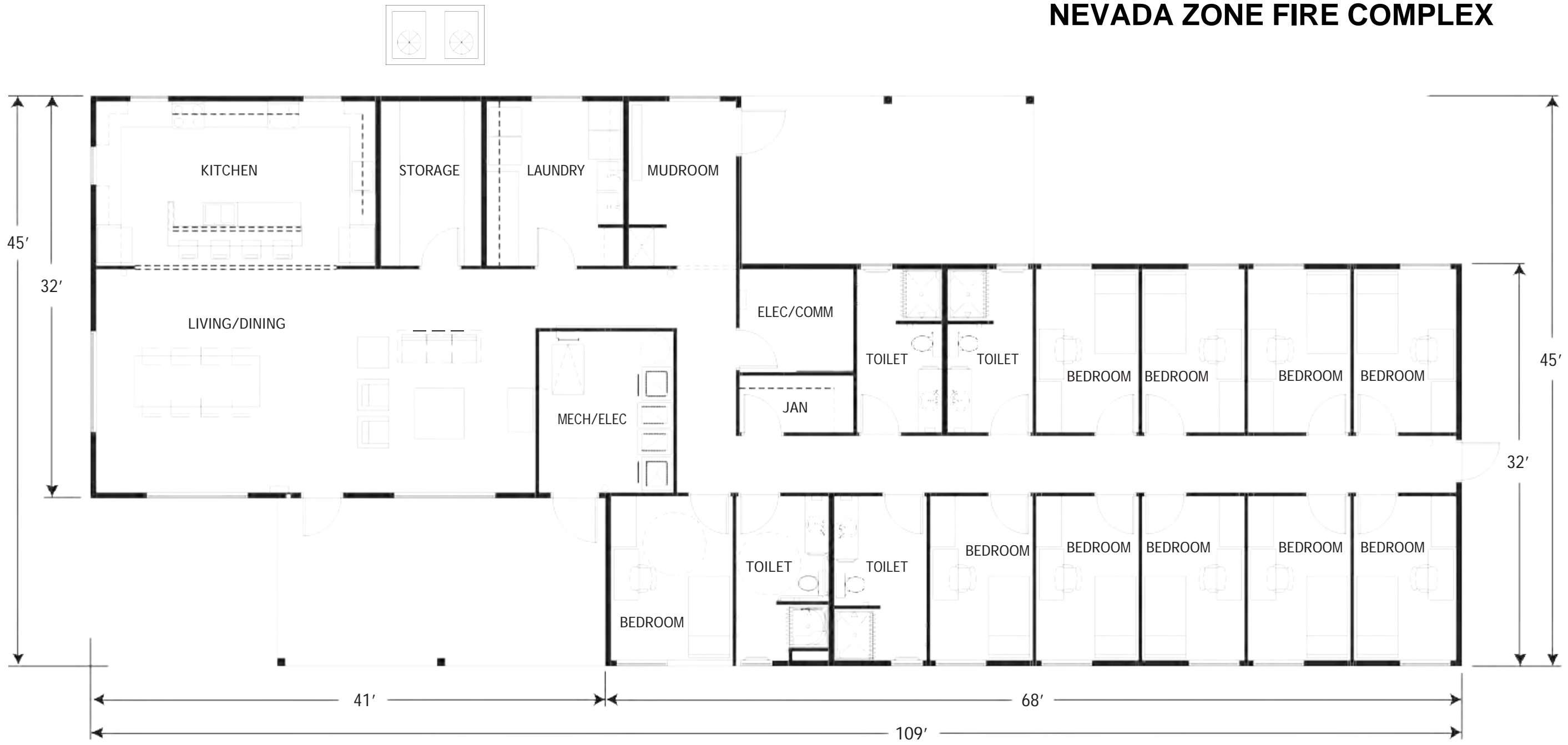


Nevada Zone Fire Zone Site Photo View East



Nevada Zone Fire Complex Site Photo View North

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 NEVADA ZONE FIRE COMPLEX

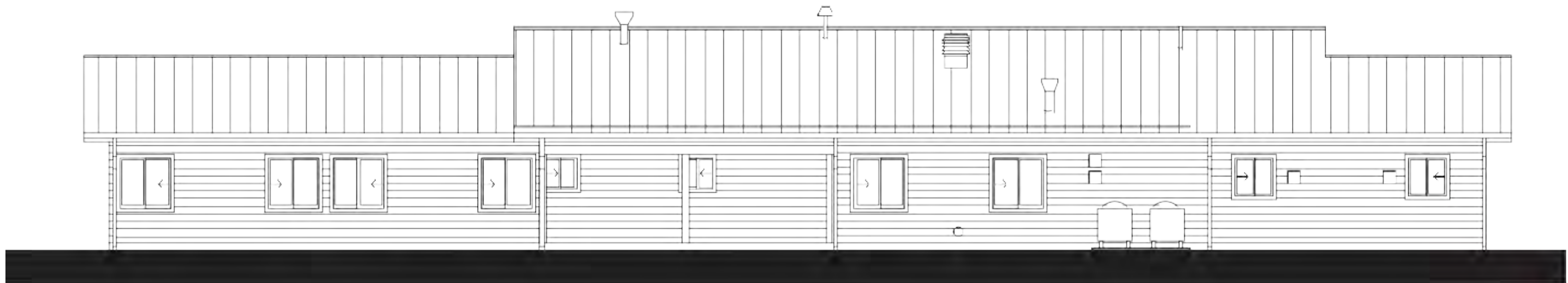
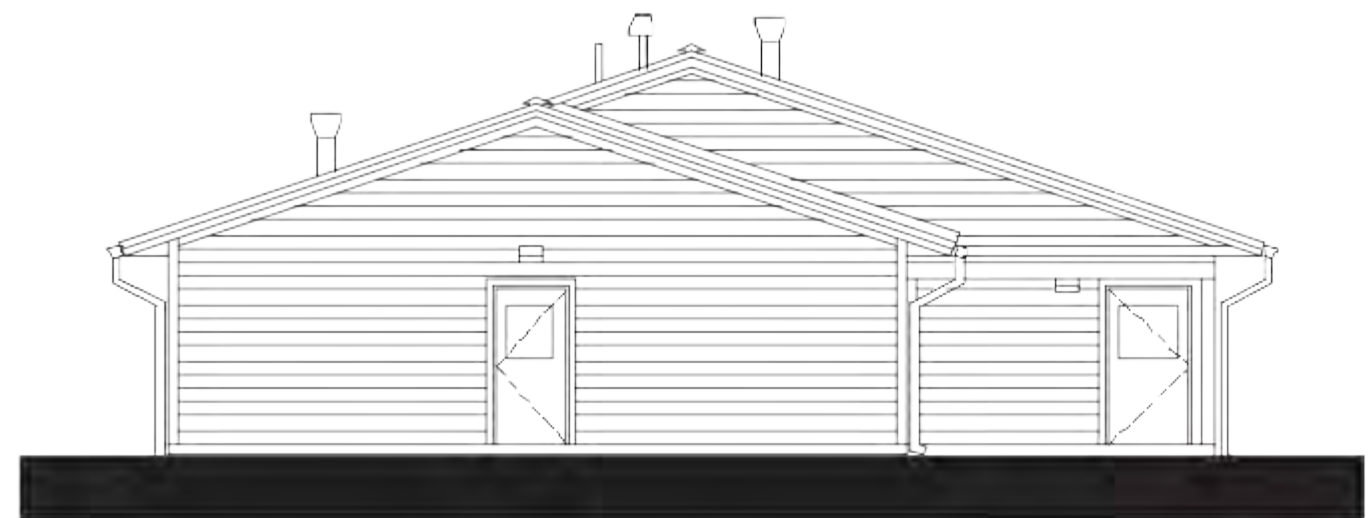
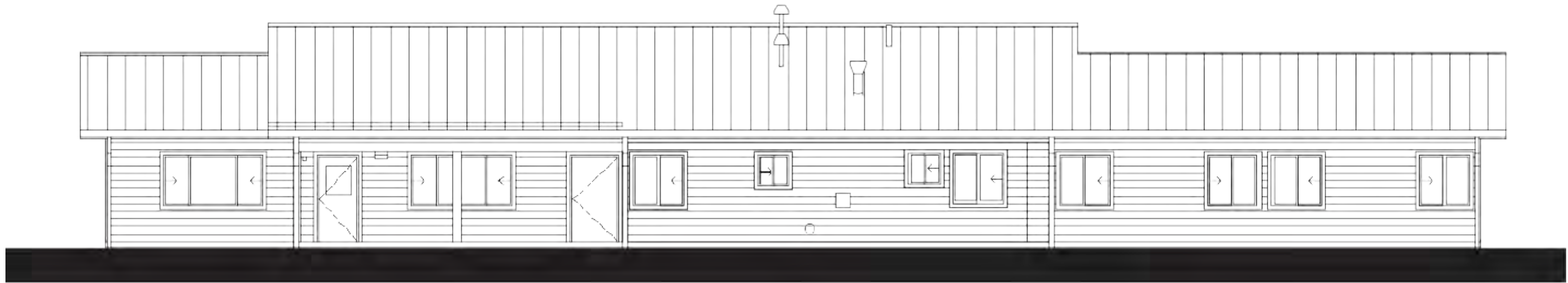


NOTE: ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE, FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Standard Crew Quarters (10 room // 3,632 GSF)

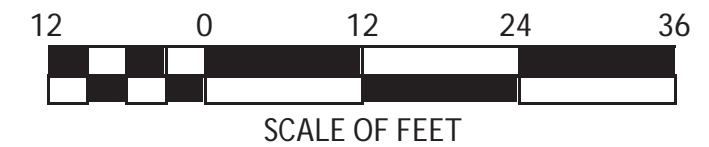
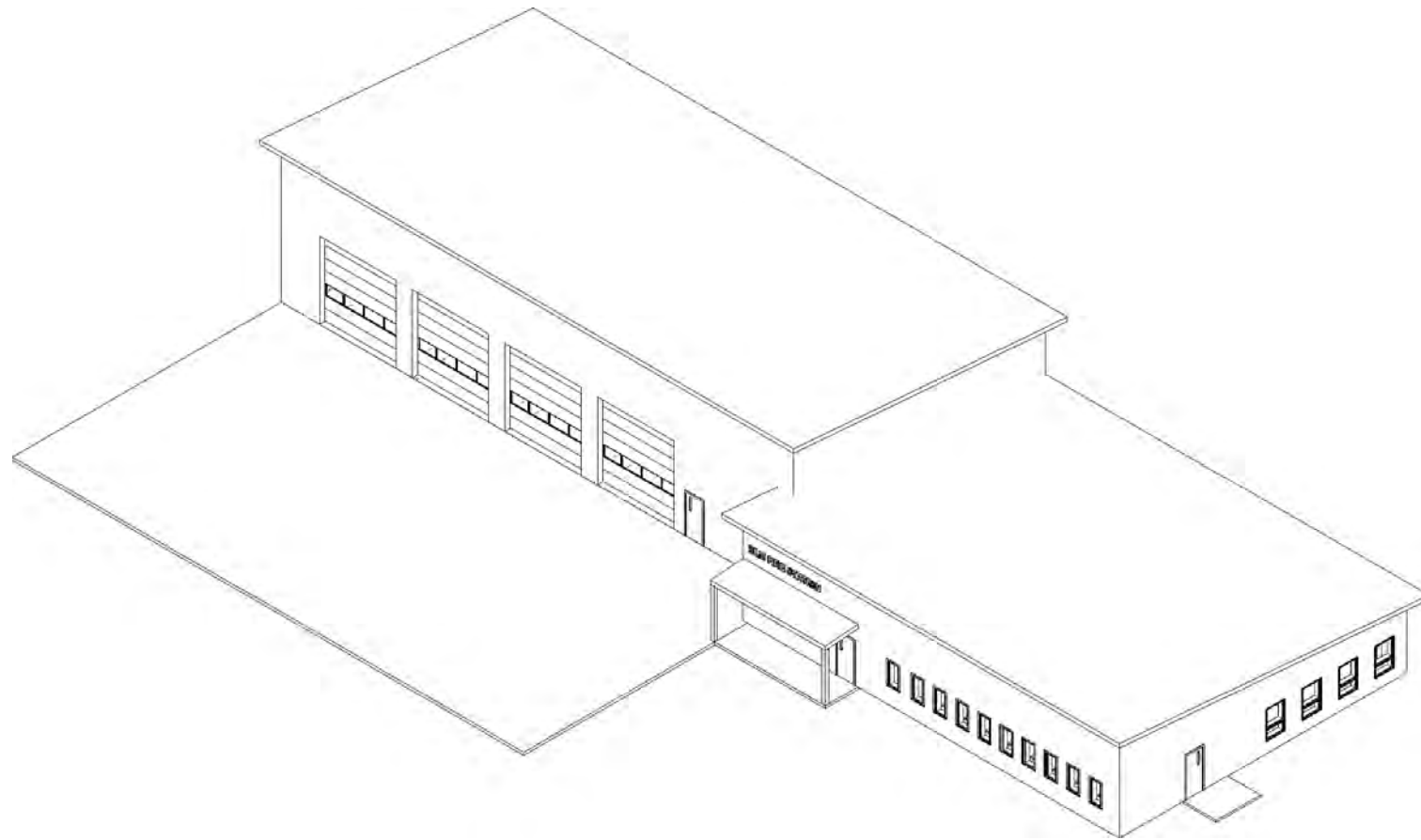
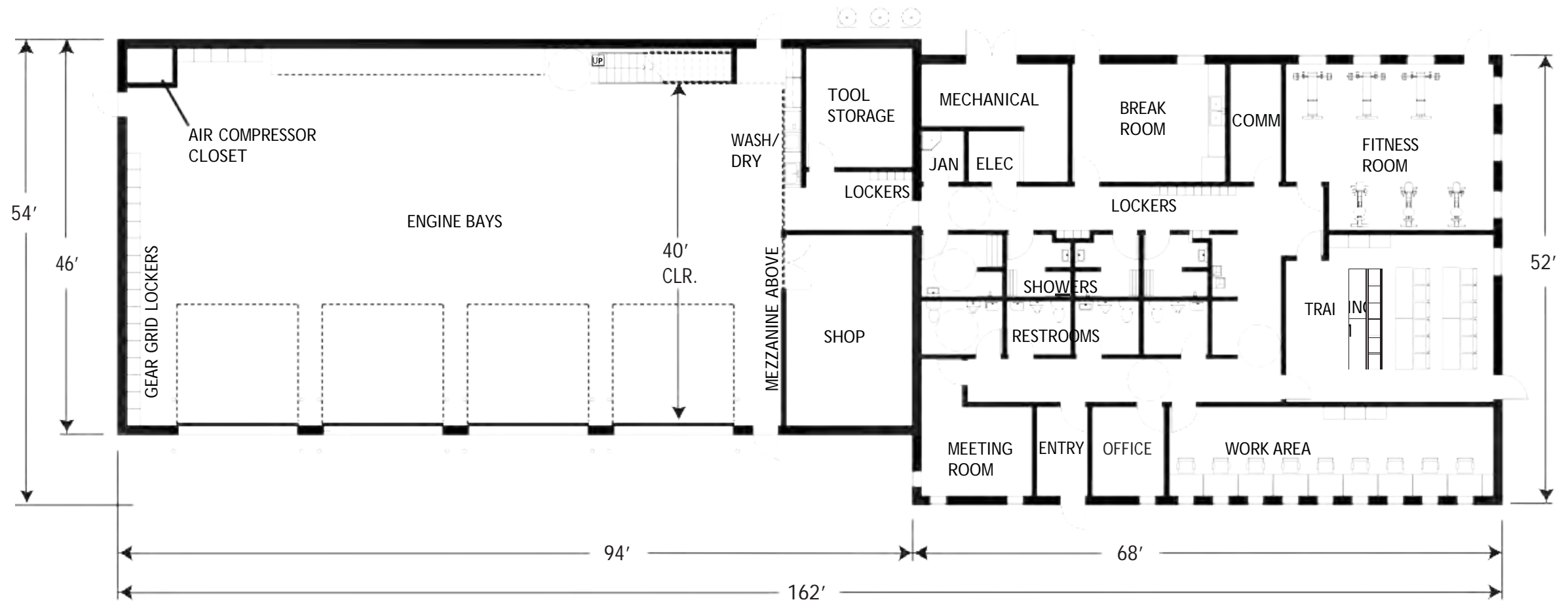






Standard Crew Quarters (10 room)

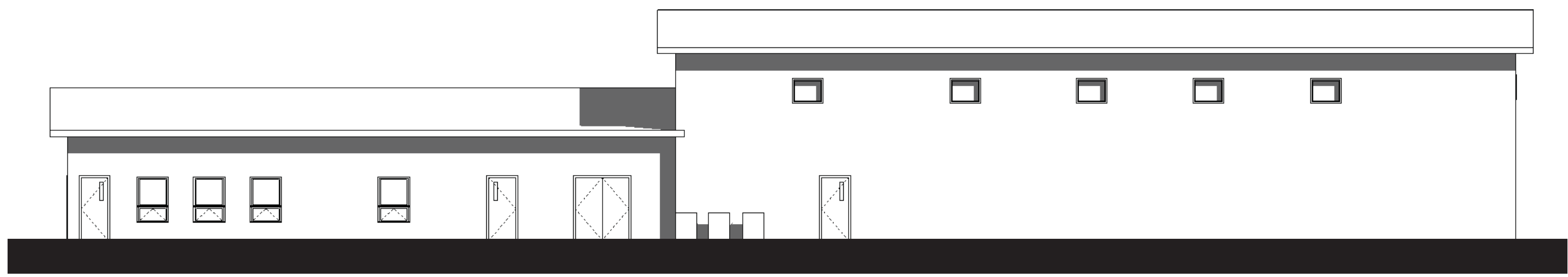
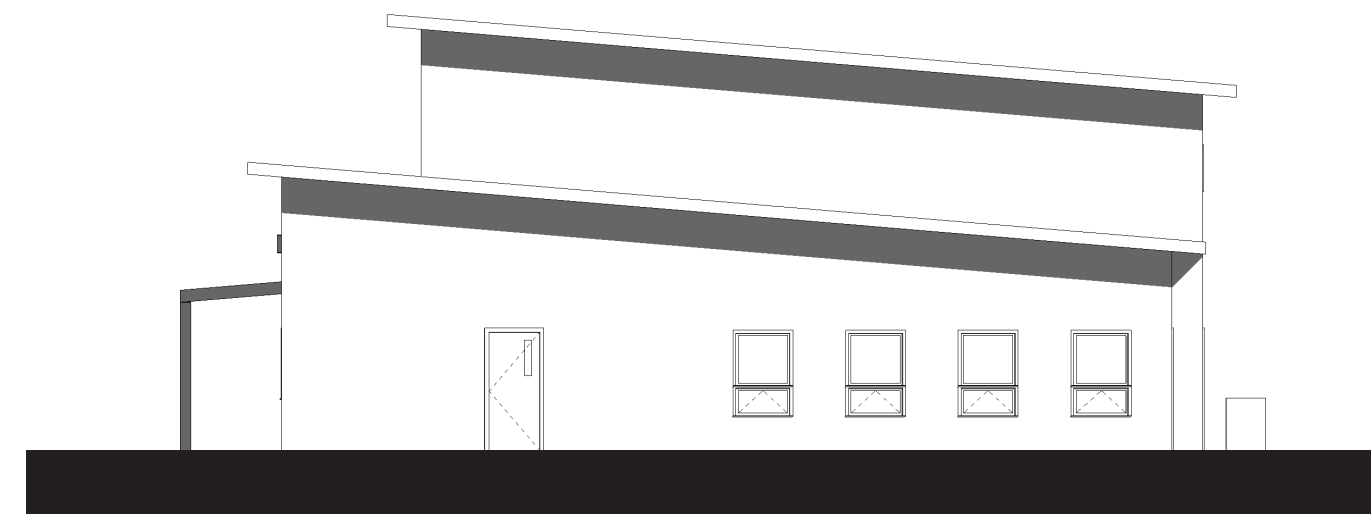
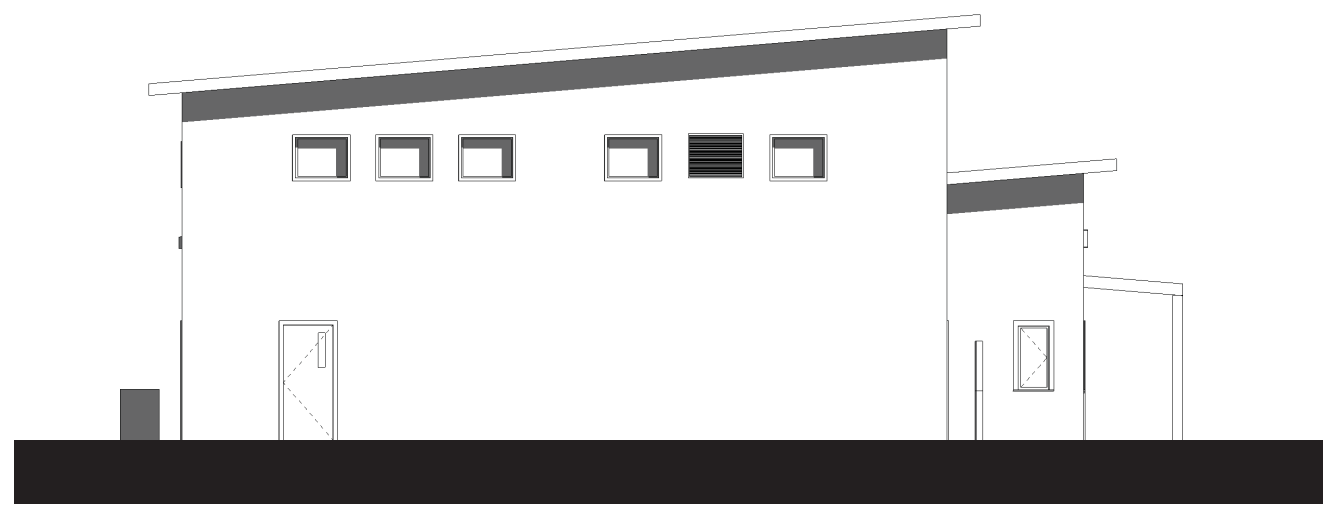




NOTE: ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE, FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

# Standard Fire Station (4 bays // 7,860 GSF)





Standard Fire Station (4 bays)



## **P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Bureau of Land Management, Southern NV District Office, Fire Management Officer
2. Clark County Fire Department
3. The US Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe, District Zone Fire Management Officer
4. National Park Service, Lake Mead NRA, Fire Management Officer

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## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Southern Nevada District Office  
4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130  
<http://www.blm.gov/nevada>

In Reply Refer To:

November 02, 2021

Ross Wise  
Fire Management Officer  
U.S Fish and Wildlife Service  
Nevada Zone  
Interior Regions 8 and 10  
4701. North Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Dear Mr. Wise:

The Southern Nevada Bureau of Land Management and the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) rely heavily on each other to suppress and manage wildfires across our jurisdictional boundaries. The USFWS suppression resources that are stationed out of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Hub (Corn Creek) have been critical to minimizing desert tortious habit loss from wildfires along the U.S 95, the Hwy 93, and Interstate 15 corridors. They also have quick access to fires located in the Red Rock National Conservation Area, which has an average annual visitor rate of 3.5 million people.

The Southern Nevada Bureau of Land Management supports USFWS's SNPLMA grant application to build a new fire station and crew quarters at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Hub. This new facility will not only benefit the USFWS fire staff, but it will also benefit all the interagency partners by providing another location to hold interagency meetings and trainings. We are excited about the prospect of this new facility and look forward to its completion.

Sincerely,

Tyler Hecht  
Fire Management Officer  
Southern Nevada Bureau of Land Management



# Fire Department

575 East Flamingo Road • Las Vegas NV 89119  
(702) 455-7311 • Fax (702) 734-6111



**John Steinbeck, Fire Chief**

Kelly Blackmon, Sr. Deputy Fire Chief • Thomas Touchstone, Deputy Fire Chief  
Jennifer Wyatt, Deputy Fire Chief • Billy Samuels, Deputy Fire Chief • Warren Whitney, Deputy Fire Chief  
*"Responding with Integrity – Serving with Compassion"*



November 2, 2021

Attention: Michelle Leiber  
Capital Improvements Program Manager  
Bureau of Land Management, SNPLMA Division  
4701 N Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130

RE: SNPLMA Round 19 Project- USFWS-Nevada Zone Fire Complex

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clark County Fire Department would like to go on record in support of the proposed building of a BLM standard design 4-bay fire station and 10 room crew quarters at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters at Corn Creek.

The proposed fire station would not only serve as the primary fire offices and station for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (FWS), but would support all the Southern Nevada fire agencies, including the Clark County Fire Department.

This station would improve the ability of the FWS to house their crews during the fire season in addition to housing additional out-of-area resources during periods of high fire danger and large fire events.

Respectfully,

JOHN STEINBECK  
Fire Chief



Forest  
Service

Region 4/Humboldt-Toiyabe  
NF/Spring Mountains Natl. Rec.  
Area

4701 N. Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130  
702-872-5486

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November 03, 2021

Bureau of Land Management  
SNPLMA Division  
4701 N Torrey Pines Dr.  
Las Vegas, NV 89130  
Attention Michelle Leiber – Capital Improvements Program Manager  
RE: SNPLMA Round 19 Project- USFWS-Nevada Zone Fire Complex

To Whom It May Concern:

The US Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe NF Spring Mountain National Recreation Area and the US Fish and Wildlife Service work together to suppress and manage wildland fires in Southern Nevada. The fire management crews that are assigned to the Desert National Wildlife Refuge at Corn Creek station have been essential to reduce the loss of desert tortoise habitat through wildland fires along several Hwy corridors including U.S. 95, U.S. 93 and I-15. From their station fire suppression crews can quickly access fires on the Spring Mountain NRA which has the communities of Mount Charleston and Mountain Spring within our response area.

The U.S. Forest Service Humboldt-Toiyabe NF Spring Mountain National Recreation Area supports the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's SNPLMA grant application to build a new fire station and crew quarters at the Desert National Wildlife Refuge workcenter. This new facility will not only benefit the USFWS fire staff, but it will benefit all the Southern Nevada interagency partners. The Spring Mountain NRA is excited about the prospect of this new facility and look forward to its approval and completion.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ray Dombroski'.

Ray Dombroski  
District Zone Fire Management Officer  
U.S.F.S. Humboldt-Toiyabe N.F. SMNRA

# United States Department of the Interior



## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

LAKE MEAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA  
INTERIOR REGION 8  
601 NEVADA HIGHWAY  
BOULDER CITY, NEVADA 89005



IN REPLY REFER TO:

November 3, 2021

To: Ross Wise  
Fire Management Officer  
U.S Fish and Wildlife Service  
Nevada Zone  
Interior Regions 8 and 10  
4701. North Torrey Pines Dr.  
Lase Vegas, NV 89130

Dear Mr. Wise

The National Park Service (NPS) at Lake Mead NRA and U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have a very codependent relationship in the areas of wildland fire suppression and prescribed fire and fuels. The USFWS has played a critical role in the suppression of wildland fires on NPS managed Lands on the Tule Springs National Monument. The strategic location of USFWS fire resources on the Desert National Wildlife Refuge (Corn Creek) has played a mostly primary role in the fire suppression, and protection of the NPS Lands on Tule Springs. Their ability to provide the NPS with quick response to this area of lands have directly minimized the impact/loss of critical desert tortoise habitat, damage to prehistoric soils and fossils, and spread of invasive plant species such as cheat grass.

Additionally, the USFWS has provided instrumental support and technical knowledge on numerous prescribed fire and fuels projects within the NPS lands. The USFWS has played a key role in the NPS success and accomplishment in the manner of such projects. Without this strong partnership there would be a loss of critical wildland fire response to NPS protected lands, and expert knowledge and assisted leadership.

The National Park Service at Lake Mead NRA supports the U.S Fish and Wildlife's service SNPLMA grant application to build a new fire station and crew quarters at the location of the Desert Wildlife Refuge in Southern Nevada. The addition of this new facility will have an enhanced benefit to the interagency partnership.

Sincerely

**JOHN FOLEY** Digitally signed by JOHN FOLEY  
Date: 2021.11.03 15:26:00  
-07'00

John Foley  
Fire Management Officer  
National Park Service Lake Mead NRA,



**Southern Nevada Public Land Management  
Act Capital Improvements  
Round 19**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

**Lower Colorado Basin Region**

**Hoover Dam Water System Alternatives  
Analysis and Design**

Amount Requested: \$10,564,000

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Hoover Dam is a National Historic Landmark hosting approximately six million visitors annually. There are an insufficient number of public restrooms and the existing restrooms are not in locations that most visitors would logically use them. All plumbed restrooms are located on or directly adjacent to the dam itself. There are two locations away from the dam proper with vault toilets; these facilities are not intended for high volume/long term use. The vault toilets are not ADA/ABA compliant and produce excessive foul odors. Due to the inconvenience of accessing restrooms, visitors frequently urinate and defecate in parking lots or behind structures creating an unsightly and unsafe environmental condition for other visitors and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) staff that clean and maintain the site.

Hoover Dam produces potable water and treats wastewater onsite, and these treatment plants have outlived their useful lives. At issue is that the existing wastewater treatment system operates at or near capacity and the current location and configuration cannot accommodate expansion. Providing sufficient public restroom facilities would necessitate expanding the water treatment systems, adding significant plumbing infrastructure and restroom facilities.

Our solution is to develop a Water System that will meet the needs of Hoover Dam and its visitors. The Water System will include restroom and drinking water facilities, distribution and return flow lines, and water and wastewater treatment plants. The System would be constructed in phases and when completely built out is estimated to cost \$40-\$70 million.

To accomplish this, upon Secretarial approval and funding authorization, Reclamation will utilize the *Preliminary Analysis of the Hoover Dam Water System* report completed by Reclamation Technical Services Center (TSC) in March 2021 to complete an *Appraisal Level Design Review* report to determine the most cost-effective design that meets the current and anticipated future Water System needs of Hoover Dam. A comprehensive set of shovel ready construction documents will be developed. The extremely rugged terrain and the lack of existing plumbing infrastructure will make construction of appropriately located public restrooms costly and challenging. To accomplish construction, a phased approach will be necessary so the Water System can be constructed as incremental funding is available. Construction documents will be developed in a manner to support this construction approach.

All work to be performed is within Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) facilities or on Reclamation managed lands. In addition, the design will achieve compliance with the most recent federal Guiding Principles (GP), International Building Code (IBC) and Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act (ADA/ABA) facility code requirements.

Project completion will be determined by Reclamation acceptance of the *Appraisal Level Design Review* final report and 100% construction drawings.

**1. Agency approved land use plan and approval date:**

Not applicable for this Reclamation project because this is a study of proposed alternatives, not a construction project.

**2. Describe if project is an interagency project:**

This project is not an interagency project.

**3. Describe project implementation process and how to determine completion:**

Reclamation has performed scoping meetings and held on-site visits with internal team members to gather requirements and develop an initial project scope. Upon Secretarial

approval and funding authorization, Reclamation will commence actions to initiate the *Appraisal Level Design*.

Project completion will be determined by completion and acceptance of the *Appraisal Level Design Review* final report and 100% construction drawings.

**4. Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

This project has no relationship to any prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects. The final construction documents will provide a road map for future phased construction. Design will be developed such that each follow-on construction phase will be a stand-alone project providing a fully functional section of the Water System integrated into the main water treatment systems.

**5. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

Reclamation acknowledges this is a stand-alone project with a discreet deliverable of 100% construction drawings and there is no guarantee of funding for any future construction phases.

## **B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES**

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

This project meets these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values of connectivity, sustainability, and community:

- Sustainability:  
This project will produce an *Appraisal Level Design Review* report of the Water System options and a set of construction-ready documents for a modernized sustainable Water System with a life span of 25-50 years. The Water System, once constructed, would allow for expansion to meet anticipated future restroom and potable water needs to provide benefit to recreation users over the anticipated lifespan.
- Connectivity:  
This project will provide a master plan design for drinking water and restrooms facilities connecting all previously developed recreation areas of the Hoover Dam site. Upon construction, the hazardous environmental condition created by lack of public restroom access will be eliminated by the addition of public restrooms and drinking water facilities available to the public throughout the site.
- Community:  
Having readily accessible restrooms and drinking water will enhance outdoor recreational opportunities by improving the quality of public interaction with the remote areas of the Hoover Dam site.

## C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

Reclamation proposes to develop a complete set of construction documents for a Water System that incorporates existing facilities and infrastructure, and up to four additional public restroom facility locations. Construction documents are required to seek incremental funding for construction of Water System enhancements to provide ADA/ABA accessible restrooms and drinking water throughout the site for improved public access and enjoyment of all public Hoover Dam areas.

## D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. Primary Deliverables:
  - a. *Appraisal Level Design Review* report including lifecycle cost analysis of Water System options.
  - b. 100% construction documents, including cost estimates for each phase of construction.
2. Anticipated Deliverables:  
None anticipated
3. Standard Deliverables:
  - a. SMART database quarterly status updates.
  - b. SMART database annual and final accomplishment reports.
  - c. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance including Cultural compliance (section 106)
  - d. Value Planning Study
  - e. Design, Estimating and Construction Review
  - f. Value Engineering Study
  - g. SNPLMA closeout package

## E. PROJECT LOCATION

### Latitude and Longitude:

36.01623° / -114.737118°

### Congressional District(s):

AZ-4, NV-3

## F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

This project will take five (5) years to complete. Tentative milestones are planned to be as follows:

### Year 1

- Complete work plans and funding authorization
- Develop service agreement with TSC for *Appraisal Level Design Review* of alternatives
- Appraisal Level Design review of alternatives identified in the *Preliminary Analysis of the Hoover Dam Water System* report

### Year 2

- Complete *Appraisal Level Design Review* report on alternatives evaluated and selection of preferred Water System alternatives
- Develop service agreement with TSC for Feasibility Level Design

- Initiate Geologic Investigation
- Initiate Topographic Survey
- Initiate Feasibility Level Design

#### Year 3

- Complete Geologic Investigation
- Complete Topographic Survey
- Complete Feasibility Level Design
- Perform Value Planning Study
- Perform Design, Estimating and Construction Review
- Develop service agreement with TSC for Final design

#### Year 4

- Initiate work on Final Design
- Perform Value Engineering Study

#### Year 5

- Complete Final Design – 100% phased construction documents
- Request for closeout to SNPLMA
- SNPLMA Final inspection
- Final review of project file and expenditures
- SMART data inputs

5 years total anticipated period of performance for completion

### **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project:  Yes -or-  No

NEPA completed?  Yes -or-  No

Reclamation will ensure NEPA is addressed throughout design development and incorporated into any future phased construction contracts. The majority of the work (*Appraisal Level Design Review* report and final construction documents) will be completed through an advanced funding agreement with the Reclamation Technical Services Center or contracted A/E design services.

Reclamation is staffed with a full time experienced federal workforce with a variety of experiences dedicated to the success of this project. A Project Manager (PM) and Contract Officer's Representative (COR) have been tentatively identified and are familiar with the required characteristics of this project. Civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering staff are available for consultation and review of technical requirements. No additional staffing is required for the completion of this project.

### **H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

This is a planning project that will produce 100% final construction documents for upgrades to the Hoover Dam Water System. Reclamation has the technical expertise and labor force for operation and maintenance of future phases of construction. All costs associated with upgraded Water System will be incorporated into the Boulder Canyon Project Ten Year operating budget.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).

<b>PROJECT BUDGET</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hoover Dam Water System Alternatives Analysis and Design	<b>Date:</b> 10/13/21	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Brian Quiroga	<b>Agency:</b> Reclamation	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 1,440,450	\$
2. Travel		\$ 110,000	\$ -
3. Training		\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ -	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 8,684,350	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 6,500	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 322,700	\$
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 10,564,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Notes:</b>			

### Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

Reclamation will contribute \$155,000 of non-SNPLMA labor and materials to this project. Labor will be in support of the *Appraisal Level Design Review* report and development of 100% construction documents. There will be no in-kind contributions as this is a planning project.

## J. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Theresa Saumier, Manager, Facility Services

Email: tsaumier@usbr.gov

Phone Number: (702) 494-2822

Project Manager: Brian Quiroga, Project Manager

Email: bquiroga@usbr.gov

Phone Number: (702) 494-2317

Budget Officer: Alton Blalock

Email: ablalock@usbr.gov

Phone Number: (702) 293-8437

## K. RANKING CRITERIA

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to a recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. *A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.*

Answer: This planning project will produce an *Appraisal Level Design Review* report with a preferred Water System development option and a complete set of 100% construction documents for phased construction of improvements. The updated and new portions of the project will be designed to provide new opportunities for public enjoyment of remote areas of the Hoover Dam site with the addition of accessible restrooms and drinking water. Updated water treatment systems will reduce the risk of accidental discharge through appropriately sized potable water and wastewater treatment systems, reduced biological hazards through construction of public restrooms throughout accessed areas. Will allow for elimination of bottled water vending through the installation of water bottle filling stations. The Water System will be designed to meet all current needs and be expandable to meet anticipated future needs.

- B. *Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the*

*natural or cultural resources or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.*

Answer: Responded to Factor A.

**C. *Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: Hoover Dam is a National Historical Landmark and many of the areas throughout the site do not have the basic infrastructure necessary for the public to enjoy this culturally significant site. This planning project is for design of Water System improvements that will provide a road map for future phased construction of all necessary critical infrastructure to support installation of restrooms and drinking water throughout the site. This project will provide present and future generations more opportunities to fully enjoy and appreciate Hoover Dam's cultural and historic significance.

**D. *New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming.***

Answer: New restroom facilities would enhance management of Hoover Dam's public lands by eliminating the hazardous environmental condition resulting from public urination and defecation in parking lots and behind structures where restrooms are not available. New restroom facility site offers opportunities for additional interpretative information relevant to these remote areas. Having potable water accessible throughout the site would eliminate the need for the existing water bottle vending machines in these remote areas and reduce our solid waste.

**2. CONNECTIVITY: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.**

**A. *Provides new, upgraded or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: This planning project will provide the road map necessary for future construction of site improvements that will allow people to better engage and appreciate remote locations by providing necessary comfort amenities to allow visitors to take their time to fully engage with the history associated with these areas. From these remote locations, visitors can gain a broader appreciation of how Hoover Dam fits into its natural surrounding including geology, flora and fauna, Lake Mead and other natural features.

**B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or***



*site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).*

Answer: Responded to Factor A.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.*

Answer: Responded to Factor A.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).*

Answer: This project will incorporate in the design site wayfinding maps and access to other interpretive materials relevant to the natural environment. Restrooms are a logical and convenient location for visitor to seek this kind of information. Interpretive materials will convey information on the role everyone can play in conservation stewardship of natural areas around Hoover Dam.

3. **COMMUNITY:** The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. *(Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources)*

- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics. The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.*

Answer: Hoover Dam is a major tourist attraction in the Las Vegas Valley with approximately six million visitors annually and is listed as one of the top 5 Las Vegas valley visitor attractions. Hoover Dam's primary visitation is national and international travelers rather than local residents. To be a valuable part of the Las Vegas valley tourism industry, Reclamation needs to provide infrastructure for visitor comfort amenities that provide an experience visitors would expect to find when visiting a National Historic Landmark. Once construction is completed this project will provide modern ADA/ABA accessible restrooms and drinking water facilities throughout the site. Reclamation has the staff and funds available for oversight and review of the design development process and all required NEPA consultations.

- B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.*

Answer: Reclamation will contribute \$155,000 of non-SNPLMA labor and materials to this

project. Labor will be in support of the *Appraisal Level Design Review* report and development of 100% construction documents. There will be no in-kind contributions as this is a planning project.

- C. ***Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: This planning project will provide the road map necessary for future phased construction of site improvements that will allow people to better engage and appreciate remote locations by providing necessary comfort amenities to allow visitors to take their time to fully engage with the history associated with these areas. Future construction of this project will improve Reclamation's administration of water and wastewater treatment and distribution systems through modernized systems that will serve all public access areas of the site for the next 25-50 years.

4. **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:** The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (*Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.*)

- A. ***The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue.***

Answer: Hoover Dam Water System is funded within the 46 power customer contracts responsible for all Hoover Dam operations and maintenance costs. Reclamation has identified that funds for O&M are sufficient to cover future operations and maintenance costs. Moreover, once construction phases are completed, Reclamation staff responsible for Water System operations and maintenance are fully funded within our budget.

- B. ***Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.***

Answer: Hoover Dam power customers will be responsible for the O&M of the project as stated in previous response.

- C. ***The agency has included the current O&M costs, if any, and how this project will reduce current O&M costs. The entity has clearly shown what the anticipated savings will be, and/or how the project will reduce water use or energy costs for utilities.***

Answer: Reclamation's existing Water System maintenance staff will be sufficient to operate and maintain all planned expansions of the Water System. Without an increase in O&M costs, Reclamation would realize greater benefit from these expenditures through expanded services across the Hoover Dam site. Hoover Dam produces its own house power, so there is no savings to be realized on energy, however the Water System will include water and energy efficient fixtures and treatment methods with water conservation as a priority.

D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

Answer: The project will incorporate energy efficient fixtures. Hoover Dam produces its own house power and is therefore already 100% energy independent.

5. **LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Answer: This project does not meet this criteria/factor.

B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*

Answer: The water and wastewater treatment plants are at the end of their useful life. They are not sized to accommodate the additional water treatments and cannot be expanded for the planned additional restrooms that would be part of the phased construction. Reclamation would realize savings with replacement of existing end of life water treatment systems equipment through reduced annual maintenance costs.

## L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

1. Executive Orders (EO):

- *EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk*

Answer: This is not applicable

- *EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers*

Answer: Reclamation will include the Buy American Act in all contracts and ensure compliance through review of material submittals by the contractors to the Government.

2. Secretarial Orders

- *SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.*

Answer: Reclamation will enhance conservation stewardship through interpretive materials at the new restroom locations and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities by providing ADA/ABA accessible restrooms and drinking water throughout the Hoover Dam site.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition)).***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.***

Answer: This is not applicable

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing*

*existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: This planning project does not meet this priority.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: This project ensures future compliance with Clean Water Act regulations consistent with priorities of Tribal nations. In the current 50-year contract implemented in 2018, the opportunity for sovereign Tribal nations to contract directly with Reclamation to buy Hoover Dam power was opened. Twenty-three tribal nations are among the forty-six customers that currently hold Hoover Dam power contracts.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: The design effort includes site investigation work required to complete this planning project will be contracted out, creating jobs for unionized workers at government-mandated wage levels supporting families. We estimate approximately 45-60 workers will be employed over the project design timeframe.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

Answer: The design will ensure there are no adverse impacts to wildlife by the installation of new water lines and restroom facilities.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: Hoover Dam provides water to 22 million people and enough power to serve 1.3 million people in Southwestern United States, including residents of sovereign Tribal nations, communities of color and low-income families. This project supports Hoover Dam's ability to provide return flows to the Colorado River fully compliant with federal and state Clean Water regulations and would eliminate the environmental hazards caused by inadequate restroom facilities across the Hoover Dam site.

4. Forest Service Priorities:

- ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Providing economic relief***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Tackling climate change***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Advancing racial equity***

Answer: This is not applicable

- ***Improving our workforce and work environment***

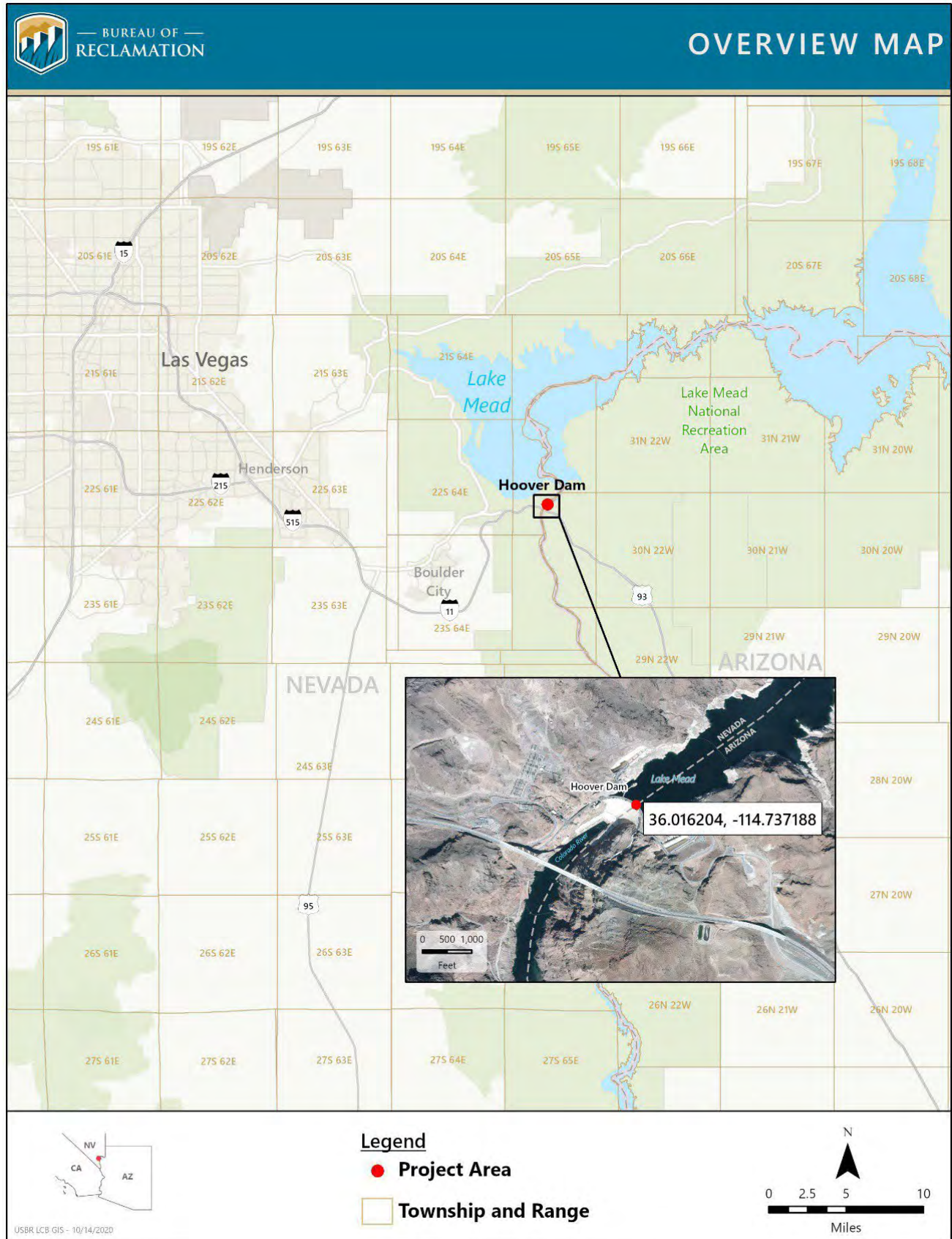
Answer: This is not applicable

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# M. MAPS

## Hoover Dam Water System Alternative

### Map 1. Hoover Dam Location Map



## 2. Agency Management Area Map



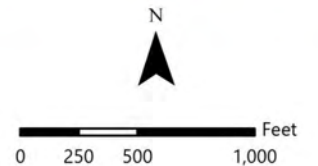
# Hoover Dam Management Area Map



USBR LCB GIS - 10/21/2021

### LEGEND

- Current Water System Location
- ★ Hoover Dam Points of Interest





# Map 3c. EC Strategic Plan Values Map - Community



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

## Community Map



### Legend

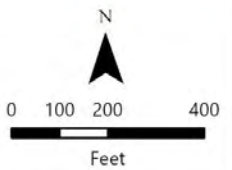
- Project Location
- City Locations





**Legend (Placeholder)**

- Project Area (placeholder)
- Project Area (placeholder)
- Project Area (placeholder)



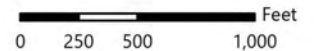


# Hoover Dam Restroom Locations Map



### LEGEND

 Plumbed Restroom Locations



## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:            Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation            of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work. Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	2

*Remainder of this page left intentionally blank*

**O. PHOTOS**

Photo 1. Tunnel in Arizona canyon wall where wastewater treatment system is located. Water treatment system is located in the upper Arizona valve house.



Photo 2. Wastewater tank currently in place



Photo 3. Photo of Wastewater treatment system from inside tunnel



Photo 4. Water Treatment Plant Clarifier/Filter unit inside Arizona Valve House



Photo 5. Porta-potties located at Arizona Overlook



Photo 6. Crowded Vault Toilets at Memorial Bridge Plaza



**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act  
Capital Improvements  
Round 19  
Southern Nevada District**

**Bureau of Land Management**



**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area  
Proposed Fiber Optic Line**

**Amount Requested: \$3,083,425**

## A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (Red Rock Canyon) is one of the premier outdoor public lands in the greater Las Vegas Valley. This popular site is the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) most visited National Conservation Area, with upwards of 4 million annual visitors. Red Rock Canyon is also a popular location for public recreation and leisure due to the unique geological and ecological characteristics occurring in a natural setting that is close to a major population and proximity to the tourist destination on the Las Vegas Strip.

The BLM operates and maintains several facilities within the core area of Red Rock Canyon, including a Visitor Center, Administrative Building, Fee Station, Campground, and Fire Station/Law Enforcement Offices. These facilities were built 15-20 years ago, and still rely on the early forms of data connectivity that were available at the time of construction (T-1 line). Presently, the outdated transmission service is creating issues for BLM staff and visitors as the internet speed and transmission of data has become slow, unreliable, and undependable. Upgrading the outdated communication service is critically important for BLM Law Enforcement and Fire Personnel who require a reliable communications system that will provide greater access to the visitors and local communities during emergency situations. Since 2015, there has been an increase in search and rescues, public assistance, wildfires, threats, and other incidents within the service area and BLM anticipates this will only increase as tourism and populations in the greater Las Vegas Valley increase.

### *BLM Search and Rescue and Wildland Fires in Red Rock Canyon*

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Public Assists	136	247	191	97	115
Rescues	7	11	13	24	10
Medical Aid	16	34	25	32	37
Lost Person(s)	17	17	21	21	18
Aircraft	1	0	0	0	0
Local Disaster	2	1	0	0	0
Other	2	8	2	12	10
<b>Wildland Fires</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>201</b>

In addition, reporting has shown that Red Rock Canyon visitors often have limited access or no ability to contact someone during an emergency. Despite BLM staff, and local fire and law enforcement services stationed being nearby, the communication is unreliable given the current low speed of the internet. The current internet speed near the core area of Red Rock Canyon is primitive and needs to be modernized to ensure the health and safety of Red Rock Canyon staff and visitors. This upgrade is also needed to meet the technology and infrastructure needs of the National Conservation Area over the next 5-20 years. This BLM Fiber Optic Line proposal is an allowable use that conforms with the Red Rock Canyon Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision dated May 20, 2005, and will meet the needs and benefit Red Rock Canyon and contribute to the visitor experience through enhanced and modernized communications.

Communications Improvements is also noted as future proposals approved in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Business Plan 2018-2028.

Current network and internet capacity is a limited capacity copper line, as follows:

- Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center/Administrative Building/Fee Booth, 1000 Scenic Loop Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89161– 20mps
- Red Rock Canyon Fire Station/Law Enforcement Office, 2020 Moreno Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89161 – 45mps
- Red Rock Canyon Campground – no internet

Red Rock Canyon is submitting a project proposal in SNPLMA Round 19 that include the design, plan, and construction of a Fiber Optic Line to service the BLM-Red Rock Canyon core area, including the Red Rock Fire Station/Law Enforcement Offices, Red Rock Visitor Center, Red Rock Administrative Office, and visitors.

Installation will include 12,500 linear feet (ft) of trench, conduit, and pull boxes; 27,500 ft of fiber optic cable; tie into any existing Fiber Optic Lines at Summerlin and to any termination points already established near BLM facilities within Red Rock Canyon.

Implementation of this project would be completed through contracts for the design, plans, and construction and for development and completion of an Environmental Assessment and Decision Record and will be based on possible BLM land use actions with a certified fiber optics utility company.

**Describe relationship to prior approved phases or related SNPLMA projects and anticipated future phases:**

This project is not related to any other SNPLMA projects and/or anticipated future phases.

**1. Acknowledgement of stand-alone project and no guarantee of funding for future phases:**

The BLM acknowledges that this Fiber Optic Line is a stand-alone project and there are no guarantees of funding for future phases.

## **B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES**

Capital Improvements (CIP) projects have two goals identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1: Sustain the quality of the outdoor environment by conserving, preserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for all publics in urban and rural communities by enhancing recreational opportunities that connect people with the outdoor environment.

Nominated projects should meet these goals by focusing on the three SNPLMA core values, connectivity, sustainability, and community. Every nomination must explain how the three values are promoted by the project.

- Sustainability:  
The Fiber Optic Line will provide improved, long-term internet bandwidth for current and future infrastructure and technology needs in the area. The trench and Fiber Optic Line will provide enough space and capacity to increase megahertz (MHz) and gigabyte capacity as needed. Any additional speed increase could be acquired through an administrative action and no new disturbance or installation affecting Red Rock Canyon would be necessary.
- Connectivity:  
This project meets connectivity through seeking to improve and modernize communications with improved internet bandwidth, improvement to transmission distance, and would enhance the visitor experience for the 4 million people who come out to Red Rock Canyon annually to recreate and enjoy the natural resources and wildlife found in the area. The project will also enable the BLM to enhance public access to Red Rock Canyon, through digital technology, mobile access, and onsite and interactive exhibits and applications. The proposed fiber optic line would connect to the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail project - segment 1 in Round 18 and Round 19, as well as the Round 19 proposals for the campground expansion and 2-4 Legacy Trails.
- Community:  
This project will serve local communities and the visiting public by providing reliable connectivity to emergency services offered by local Law Enforcement, Fire Districts, and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department's search and rescue. This project will improve and benefit the health and safety of the public, local community, and BLM staff at Red Rock Canyon.

## **C. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The Bureau of Land Management, Southern Nevada District, Red Rock/Sloan Field Office proposes to contract services for the planning, design, and construction of a Fiber Optic Line that will enhance, modernize, and broaden the current and unreliable internet communications in the core area of Red Rock Canyon. It will also ensure high speed communication access to BLM Fire, Law Enforcement, and local first responders for improvements to the safety of everyone in the core area.

## **D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

1. Primary Deliverables:
  - Design and plan a Fiber Optic Line to service the BLM-Red Rock Canyon core area, including the Red Rock Fire Station/Law Enforcement Offices, Red Rock Visitor Center, Red Rock Administrative Office, and visitors.
  - Install and construct fiber optics for maximum capacity to provide long-term internet speed to current and future BLM facilities in Red Rock Canyon. Installation will include 12,500 linear feet (ft) of trench, conduit, and pull boxes; 27,500 ft of fiber optic cable; tie

into any existing Fiber Optic Lines at Summerlin and to any termination points already established near BLM facilities within Red Rock Canyon.

- Install kiosks/exhibits

## 2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Design and plan for a fiber option line for the future Red Rock Canyon campground expansion.

## 3. Standard Deliverables:

- Develop scope of work for the planning, design, and construction contract for Fiber Optic Line trench.
- Fiber Optic Line schematic developed by contractor
- Develop and implement a restoration and revegetation plan for all temporarily disturbed areas.
- Complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for the project
  - Pursuant to BLM Manual 6220 and the Red Rock Canyon Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision dated May 20, 2005, the proposed Fiber Optic Line is a type of need and rare instance which would improve the BLM services and facilities and would benefit the RRCNCA and improve public health and safety for the visitors, BLM staff, and local communities.
- Conduct Public Meetings for Draft Environmental Assessment
- Initiate Cultural Surveys (include Section 106, cultural compliance)
- Initiate Plant Survey
- Process a BLM right-of-way and/or assignment to a local utility company for the Fiber Optic Line
- Project close out with the SNPMLA Division
  - SMART quarterly status updates
  - SMART annual and final accomplishments report
  - Preparation of the close out package

## **E. PROJECT LOCATION**

### **Latitude and Longitude:**

36.1111800000 -115.4493500000

### **Congressional District(s):**

3 and 4

## **F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME**

5 Years

### **YEAR 1**

- Complete work plans and funding authorization
- Security Review
- Set up contract and recruitment for Project Team
  - Recruitment – Engineer, Project Manager, Realty Specialist
  - Contract for A&E and NEPA
- Complete planning, design and NEPA to include:

- Conceptual design
- SHPO
- Tribal Consultation
- Public meetings
- NEPA preparation
- Utility Fiber Optic Line company Right-of-way application submitted and processed
- BLM Legal Land Description initiated with the State Office surveyors
- 30% design completed

#### YEAR 2

- Complete NEPA decision documents (EA and FONSI)
- Complete Utility Right-of-way authorization
- BLM Legal Land Description completed
- 70% design completed

#### YEAR 3

- 100% design completed
- Work with volunteers on plant surveys/removal
- Solicit Contract for construction
- Start construction
- Resource Specialists to monitor before/during/after construction
- Work with volunteers on plant surveys/removal
- Work with partners on the planning and design for indoor/outdoor exhibits and interpretative and education signs and products

#### YEAR 4

- Work with volunteers on restoration for plants
- Complete final construction inspection
- Assign Utility right-of-way to the BLM
- Project completion, reporting and closeout process and SNPLMA closeout of the funding instrument
- Partner organizations to start construction on indoor/outdoor exhibit areas and interpretation/educational products.

#### YEAR 5

- Close out

### **G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Is this a shovel-ready project: Yes -or- No?Is

NEPA completed? Yes -or- No

Explain “Yes” above responses and project readiness.

## H. FUTURE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The Fiber Optic Line trenching and laying of the Fiber Optic Lines would be installed by a contractor, and the Fiber Optic Line service would be provided by the local internet provider in the area. Future operations and maintenance would be included and covered in a right-of-way and fiber optic lease agreement with the local internet provider. The BLM would be responsible for the monthly utility charges and service fees and would be based on current rates and paid through the BLM National Operations Center. The BLM would be responsible for long-term patrols and monitoring and ensuring of the restoration of the resources along the fiber optic line areas.

## I. PROJECT BUDGET

Instructions: Put project cost estimates in Tabs 1-8. The values from those tabs will roll-up to this summary worksheet. The Non-Federal Contribution can be entered in Tabs 1-8 as a whole amount, it does not need to be broken out by unit cost. Non-Federal entities must use the standard form for an assistance agreement SF-424A Budget Non-Construction (PDF) and Budget Detail (Word document).			
PROJECT BUDGET			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Red Rock Canyon Fiber Optic Line	<b>Date:</b> 10/4/2021	
<b>Project Manager:</b>	Shedra Rakestraw	<b>Agency:</b> BLM	
<b>Cost Categories</b>		<b>SNPLMA</b>	<b>Non-Federal Contribution</b>
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)		\$ 284,960.00	\$ -
2. Travel		\$ 23,500.00	\$ -
3. Training		\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
4. Equipment		\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials		\$ 526,870	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements		\$ 1,602,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use		\$ 60,785.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses		\$ 578,810.00	\$ -
<b>9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>		<b>\$ 3,083,425.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Notes:			

Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

None

**J. KEY CONTACTS**

Authorized Officer: Catrina  
 WilliamsEmail: cwilliams@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-5351

Project Manager: Shedra Rakestraw, Project  
 ManagerEmail: srakestraw@blm.gov  
 Phone Number: 702-515-4375

Budget Officer: Alyssa Castaneda-  
 PadillaEmail:  
 acastanedapadilla@blm.gov Phone  
 Number: 702-515-5148

**K. RANKING CRITERIA**

The Ranking Criteria are used to evaluate the nomination against the goals for the CIP category. Nominating entities are not to include either the total point value or the point values by criteria in their responses. Nominations will be reviewed and scored by the CIP subgroup.

1. **SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION**: The project supports conservation, preservation, restoration, or modernization of natural, cultural, or historic resources (which includes infrastructure) to ensure availability of those resources for future generations. The project will remain relevant and continue to provide benefit to recreation user over the anticipated life of the project. Explain what the anticipated design life of the project is and identify what and how the natural resources will be sustained.

- A. ***A new project or facility designed specifically to engender conservation stewardship and provide new opportunities within the management area that is ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable for present and future generations and restore or preserve natural resources or cultural resources of the area.***

Answer: This project will ensure reliable internet communication and access to emergency services at Red Rock Canyon. It will expand and enhance network speed, reliability, and capacity to meet demand from the 4 million annual visitors to Red Rock Canyon and support BLM staff, Law Enforcement, and Fire Services that provide public safety to the area. The new Fiber Optic Line will also extend the life cycle out 30-50 years beyond that of the current copper line, which has a shelf life of 5 years. Increasing the speed and reliability of the internet will also enable the BLM to respond to new, future technology needs planned in the area. The project will also modernize the infrastructure in Red Rock Canyon and enable the BLM to introduce digital technology including interactive exhibits, web, and mobile applications that would provide greater and faster access to public lands.



- B. Modernization or rehabilitation of an existing project, facility and/or amenities to enhance the visitor experience, improve unit operations, and reduce or eliminate user impacts to the natural or cultural resources, or restore natural processes within the immediate project area.***

Answer: This project will provide modernized and advanced communications infrastructure in Red Rock Canyon which will enable the BLM to introduce digital technology including interactive exhibits and web and mobile applications that would provide greater and faster access to public lands

- C. Conservation and stabilization, restoration, or rehabilitation of significant historic buildings, cultural sites, and other significant historic facilities for the present and future generations to enjoy and appreciate the areas cultural heritage.***

Answer: The new Fiber Optic Line will provide for the stabilization of the BLM offices network and increase the internet speed to all the BLM facilities within the core area at Red Rock Canyon. The current lines were installed during different periods of times and are older internet lines. The lines consist of T-1 lines at the Visitor Center, limited copperlines at the Red Rock Administrative and Fire Station/Law Enforcement Offices. Copper lines are more susceptible to various environmental factors including temperature and electro-magnetic fluctuations.

- D. New facilities that enhance or improve management of public lands. These might include visitor centers, contact stations, and campgrounds to improve public access; housing for staff, interns, and volunteers to carry out programs for improved conservation, education; and curation facilities and workspace to improve conservation of natural and cultural resources and opportunity for educational programming***

Answer: The new Fiber Optic Line will improve internet bandwidth to the visitor center and enhance public access to wi-fi to provide modernized programs and infrastructure to the facilities and visitor center. In addition, faster internet service will allow the Red Rock fire station/law enforcement to have a quicker response time to emergency incidents and expand safety messaging and communication to the public through the use of digital and mobile applications.

2. **CONNECTIVITY**: The project provides recreational opportunities that link population centers, recreation facilities, and the user to the outdoors and natural landscapes. It encourages people to meaningfully connect with their natural environment, thus helping them appreciate and care for the environment. The project will also connect the user to the history and/or cultural of the site and engages the user in appreciation of the site/area.

- A. Provides new, upgraded, or modernized access and/or amenities or infrastructure to previously under-developed areas and/or new opportunities to enjoy/appreciate public lands (e.g., trails, kiosks with location maps and site information, roads, parking, wayfinding, restrooms, day or overnight camping).***

Answer: The project will connect communities and local visitors by broadening access to public lands through digital technology and onsite and interactive exhibits and applications. This project will also serve local communities and the visiting public by

providing reliable connectivity to emergency services offered by local Law Enforcement, Fire Districts, and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department's search and rescue. This project will improve and benefit the health and safety of the public, community, and staff at Red Rock Canyon.

- B. *Improves access to previously developed recreation areas and sites on public lands and/or rehabilitates, upgrades, or modernizes site amenities (e.g., improves access to trails, area or site information and wayfinding, 4-wheel access roads to passenger vehicle accessible roads, parking).***

Answer: This project will improve and modernize infrastructure to increase internet bandwidth and speed. This will allow BLM to provide the public with a variety of options for access to the public lands at Red Rock Canyon through the use of mobile applications for making scenic drive and/or campground reservations and obtaining daily or annual passes.

- C. *Provides new or additional recreation opportunities by connecting two or more existing facilities and increased access to primitive or developed outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to meet increased user demand, improves the recreation experience by constructing new facilities or expanded amenities that will connect to existing recreation facilities.***

Answer: This Fiber Optic Line Project will improve and modernize infrastructure to increase internet bandwidth and speed. The new Fiber Optic Line will connect multiple BLM facilities within Red Rock Canyon, including the Fire Station/Law Enforcement Offices, Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center, Administrative Offices, Fee Booth, and any future campground expansions and other infrastructure projects planned for the area.

- D. *Contains an outreach and education component to improve public awareness and engage the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through the use of resource interpretation (e.g., kiosks, information signage, educational programs).***

Answer: This Fiber Optic Line project would improve and modernize infrastructure to increase internet bandwidth and speed at Red Rock Canyon. This modernization will enable the BLM and its partners to improve the visitor experience by providing the public with new, technologically advanced options for interactive exhibits and digital interpretative and educational programs on the natural resources and public lands of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

3. **COMMUNITY**: The project provides or improves outdoor recreation opportunities to improve the quality of life, especially for underserved communities. It conserves or restores the functionality, resiliency, and integrity of biological communities. The project encourages partnerships, which in turn builds community. (*Encourages and engages the public in the conservation and protection of the surrounding natural environment through use of volunteer/stewardship resources*)

- A. *Outdoor recreation projects that provide economic benefits to local communities and social benefit to the recreationist and are responsive to changing demographics.***

***The project has agreements or partnerships in place for the planning, design, implementation, and management of the project.***

Answer: This Fiber Optic Line Project will improve and modernize infrastructure to increase internet bandwidth and speed at Red Rock Canyon. This would also broaden access to digital media for current and future recreational projects planned for Red Rock Canyon, including the Legacy Multi-use trail and ancillary parking lots, which could incorporate modern technology like wi-fi hotspots. Our partnership agreements with Southern Nevada Conservancy and Friends of Red Rock Canyon will allow for the economical and volunteer support to accomplish the indirect interpretative and educational component for broad and future public engagement.

**B. *Project has identified committed non-SNPLMA sources of funding or in-kind contribution for the planning, design, and development of the project.***

Answer: The BLM currently has an active Assistance Agreement with Southern Nevada Conservancy who works collaboratively with the BLM to provide interpretative and educational support to the BLM for the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation area. Special Project funds generated from the Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center retail store upwards of \$150,000 will be reinvested back into Red Rock Canyon, including providing funds for re-wiring and switching from the T-1 line to fiber optic throughout the Visitor Center, upgrading the wi-fi, adding new technology and interactive interpretative and educational products to the indoor/outdoor exhibits of the Visitor Center.

**C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public lands.***

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project will improve the internet bandwidth and speed and provide access to recreational opportunities outside of the Red Rock Canyon fee site areas.

**4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: The agency has clearly demonstrated that the anticipated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for the project and resources necessary to operate the project are within existing appropriations or demonstrated how they will secure the necessary O&M funds. (Agency has detailed the estimated annual O&M cost and estimated use or permit fees to be collected.)**

**A. *The agency has demonstrated that current appropriations are sufficient for the O&M of the project or is available for new projects or that O&M costs will be reduced after reconstruction and will be offset by non-appropriated funds (e.g., fee collection or concession revenue).***

Answer: Following installation of the Fiber Optic Line, the operations and maintenance costs and responsibility would be transferred to the local internet provider in the area, through a future right-of-way grant and/or assignment or a fiber optic lease agreement. The BLM would also enter into a utility agreement and would pay monthly usage and service fees for the line.

- B. *Volunteers or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project and agency funds for O&M will be reduced overall.*

Answer: No volunteer or partners will contribute to the O&M of the project.

- C. *Project provides agency or unit support/administrative infrastructure in underserved areas to improve management of and conservation stewardship, educational programming, and access to public.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project will improve the internet bandwidth and speed and provide access to recreational opportunities outside of the Red Rock Canyon fee site areas.

- D. *Project would improve energy efficiency and/or independence.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project would improve energy efficiency because signals in optical fibers degrade less. Also, lower-power transmitters can be used instead of the high-voltage electrical transmitters needed for copper wires.

## **5. LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT/RECONSTRUCTION AND DEFERRED**

**MAINTENANCE:** Any existing project or facility that has met or exceeded its useful life, design life, or life cycle that requires major restoration or reconstruction to restore the historic fabric of the facility or meet standard new Federal accessibility guidelines. *(Does not include reconstruction, changes, or new amenities for previously approved SNPLMA capital improvement projects. Excludes projects that were identified as phased construction, each phase must be a stand-alone project, fully operational and serve the intended purpose upon completion.)*

- A. *The project remains relevant, but has exceeded its useful design life, does not meet current federal accessibility standards, or deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction.*

Answer: This is a new project and therefore this question is not applicable.

- B. *Current use has exceeded the original planned visitation/use and impacts have created a need to replace or reconstruct the facility earlier than originally planned and increased deferred maintenance costs exceed the cost of replacement or reconstruction. The project proposal shows the current annual maintenance costs and the anticipated savings after construction or reconstruction is complete*

Answer: This is a new project and therefore this question is not applicable.

## **L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES**

Respond to the Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, Department of the Interior Priorities, and USDA Forest Service Priorities as they apply to the purpose of the nomination.

1. Executive Orders (EO):

- ***EO No. 13855: Promoting Active Management of America's Forests, Range Landsto Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk***

Answer: not applicable

- ***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***

Answer: not applicable

***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers*** Answer: Any contracts that go out for bid, will align with the appropriate Executive Orders.

This proposed Fiber Optic Line project would support America's workforce by providing long-term work and pay for the duration of the 5-year project and provide in-direct support and economic benefits to the nearby business and communities in the area.

## 2. Secretarial Orders

- ***SO No. 3347: Conservation Stewardship and Outdoor Recreation.***

Answer: The BLM manages Red Rock Canyon with the primary mission to conserve, protect, and enhance. As a secondary mission the BLM focuses on providing opportunities and access to the outdoor and recreational uses for the 4 million people that come out to visit the Red Rock Canyon. This includes protecting its natural and cultural resources and for providing sustainable access that supports a diversity of recreational uses, experiences, and settings for the benefit of current and future generations. The Fiber Optic Line Project will expand the internet bandwidth and speed and allow the BLM to enhance the interpretative and educational information on the natural and significant resources and critical habitat within Red Rock Canyon digital access and modernized programs and products.

The BLM manages Red Rock Canyon with the primary mission to conserve, protect, and enhance for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations and the unique and nationally important geologic, archaeological, ecological, cultural, scenic, scientific, wildlife, riparian, wilderness, endangered species, and recreation resources of the public lands within the RRCNCA. As a secondary mission the BLM focuses on providing opportunities and access to the outdoor and recreational uses for the 4 million people that come out to visit the Red Rock Canyon. This includes protecting its natural and cultural resources and for providing sustainable access that supports a diversity of recreational uses, experiences, and settings for the benefit of current and future generations. The Fiber Optic Line Project will expand the internet bandwidth and speed and allow the BLM to enhance the interpretative and educational information on the natural and significant resources and critical habitat within Red Rock Canyon and provide digital access and modernized programs and products.

- ***SO No. 3356: Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes and Territories.***

Answer:

The Fiber Optic Line Project will continue to ensure all efforts in this project are centered around expanding and enhancing digital access to outdoor recreation opportunities for everyone and improves the management of game species and their habitats for this generation and beyond within Red Rock Canyon.

- ***SO No. 3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big-Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors.***

Answer:

The Fiber Optic Line Project will enhance and expand digital access to provide interpretation and education opportunities for everyone on the conservation, management and protection of wildlife habitat and migration corridors within Red Rock Canyon.

- ***SO No. 3366: Increasing Recreational Opportunities on Lands and Waters Managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior***

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project will enhance and expand access to the public through modernized infrastructure and digital interpretation and education on conservation, management, and recreational opportunities within Red Rock Canyon.

- ***SO No. 3370: Conservation Stewardship and Increasing Public Access to Urban National Wildlife Refuges.***

Answer: *not applicable*

- ***SO No. 3372: Reducing Wildfire Risks on Department of the Interior Land Through Active Management.***

Answer:

This Fiber Optic Line Project will provide a modernized infrastructure that will severely reduce the risk of electrical fires in comparison to copper cables. This project will also enhance the communications in Red Rock Canyon and increase the internet bandwidth and speed to the Fire Station and improve communication services and safety messaging that protect could inform and help the public during a wildfire incident.

- ***SO No. 3373: Evaluating Public Access in Bureau of Land Management Public Land Disposal and Exchanges (focus is on Sec. 4.b.(3) Potential increased public recreational access to existing public lands resulting from the proposed land acquired through an exchange (acquisition)).***

Answer:

The Fiber Optic Line Project will improve and modernize the infrastructure and the internet bandwidth and speed to Red Rock Canyon and will broaden access through digital means to any future recreational BLM acquisitions that are incorporated into Red Rock Canyon.

- **SO No. 3374: Implementation of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act.**

Answer: *not applicable*

- **SO No. 3376: Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes.**

Answer: *not applicable*

### 3. Department of the Interior Priorities:

- **Identifying steps to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy on public lands and waters.** *We are investing in climate research and environmental innovation to incentivize the rapid deployment of clean energy solutions, while reviewing existing programs to restore balance on America's public lands and waters to benefit current and future generations.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line is a clean energy solution project and will modernize the current BLM communication infrastructure and systems within Red Rock Canyon. The project will also enable the BLM to upgrade current facilities and infrastructure throughout the area that focus on conservation and environmental protection and strengthen future protection of the natural significant resources, environment, and wildlife habitat, for the use and enjoyment by the public of the public lands for future generations.

- **Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations.** *We understand that tribal sovereignty and self-governance, as well as honoring the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, must be the cornerstones of federal Indian policy.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project would strengthen the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal nations. The BLM would work closely and collaborate with the local tribes to enhance the educational and tell the story that of the historical and cultural values and resources of the RRNCA with modernized educational exhibits and displays at our visitor center and trails.

- **Making investments to support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting and union jobs.** *This includes establishing a new Climate Conservation Corps Initiative to put a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project will improve and modernize infrastructure internet bandwidth and speed to Red Rock Canyon. The Fiber Optic Lines conserve less energy than the existing copper T-1 communication line and would broaden public access through digital

programming and would support the Administration's goal of creating millions of family-supporting jobs and union jobs through the development of this project.

- **Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030.** *We will work to protect biodiversity, slow extinction rates, and help leverage natural climate solutions by conserving 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This relies on support for local, state, private, and tribally led conservation and restoration efforts that are underway across America.*

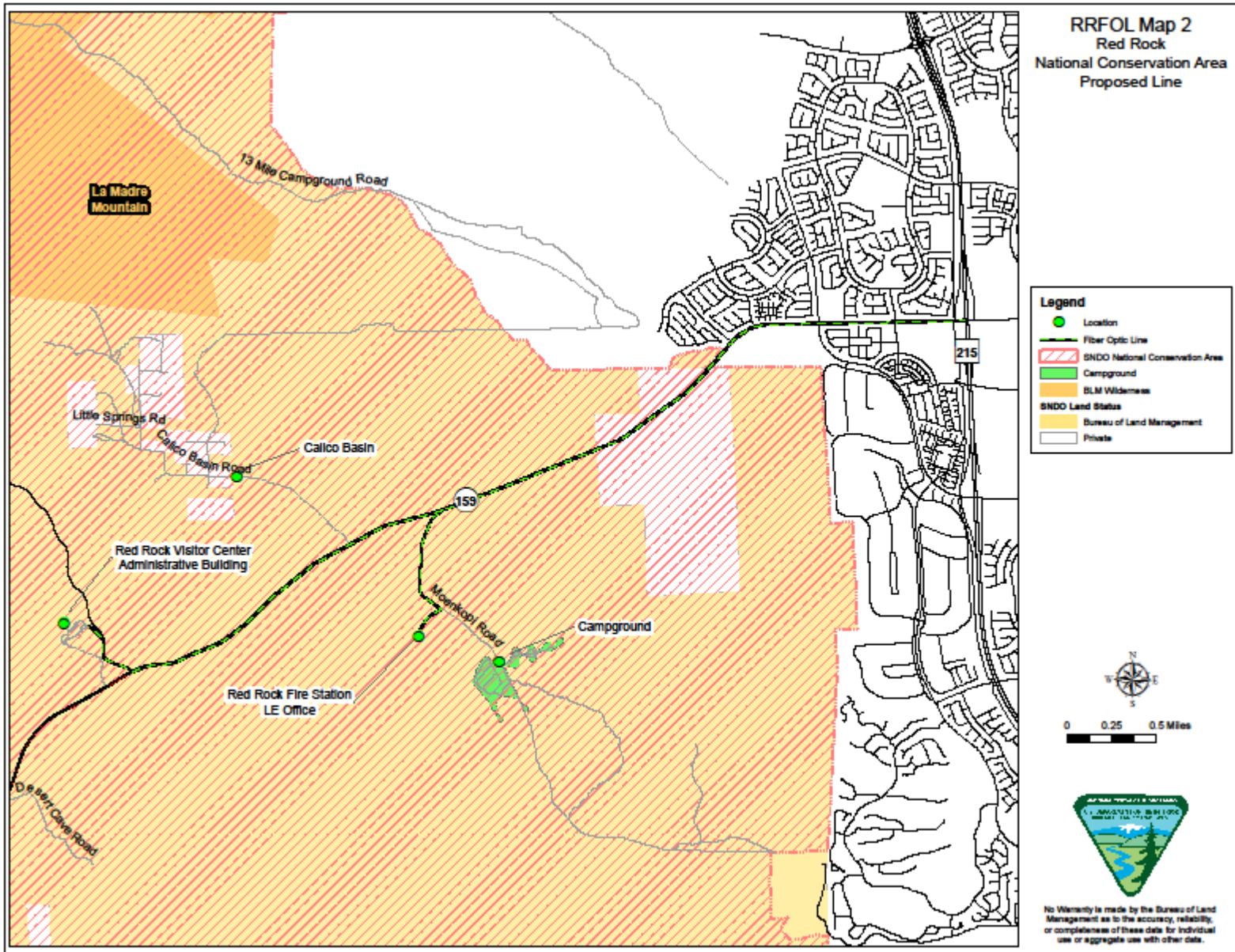
Answer: The Fiber Optic Line is a clean energy solution project and will replace the current BLM communication systems within Red Rock Canyon. The project will also provide opportunities for the BLM to upgrade current facilities and infrastructure throughout the area that focus on conservation and environmental protection that allow for the future protection of the natural significant resources, environment, and wildlife habitat for the use and enjoyment by the public of the public lands for future generations.

- **Centering equity and environmental justice.** *The impacts of the multiple crises in the United States are not evenly distributed in our society. Communities of color, low-income families, and rural and indigenous communities have long suffered disproportionate and cumulative harm from air pollution, water pollution, and toxic sites. At every step of the way, Interior will engage diverse stakeholders across the country, as well as conduct formal consultation with Tribes in recognition of the U.S. government's trust responsibilities.*

Answer: The Fiber Optic Line Project will focus on centering equity and environmental justice by providing digital and virtual interpretative and educational programs that will be able to expand outreach to underserved communities to areas outside of the fee site area that focus on conservation, protection, and recreation activities that are present in Red Rock Canyon. In addition, the BLM will continue to engage and collaborate with tribes to ensure their stories and native American history is present and provided to the public through digital access and modernized technology and educational products within Red Rock Canyon.



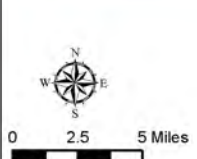
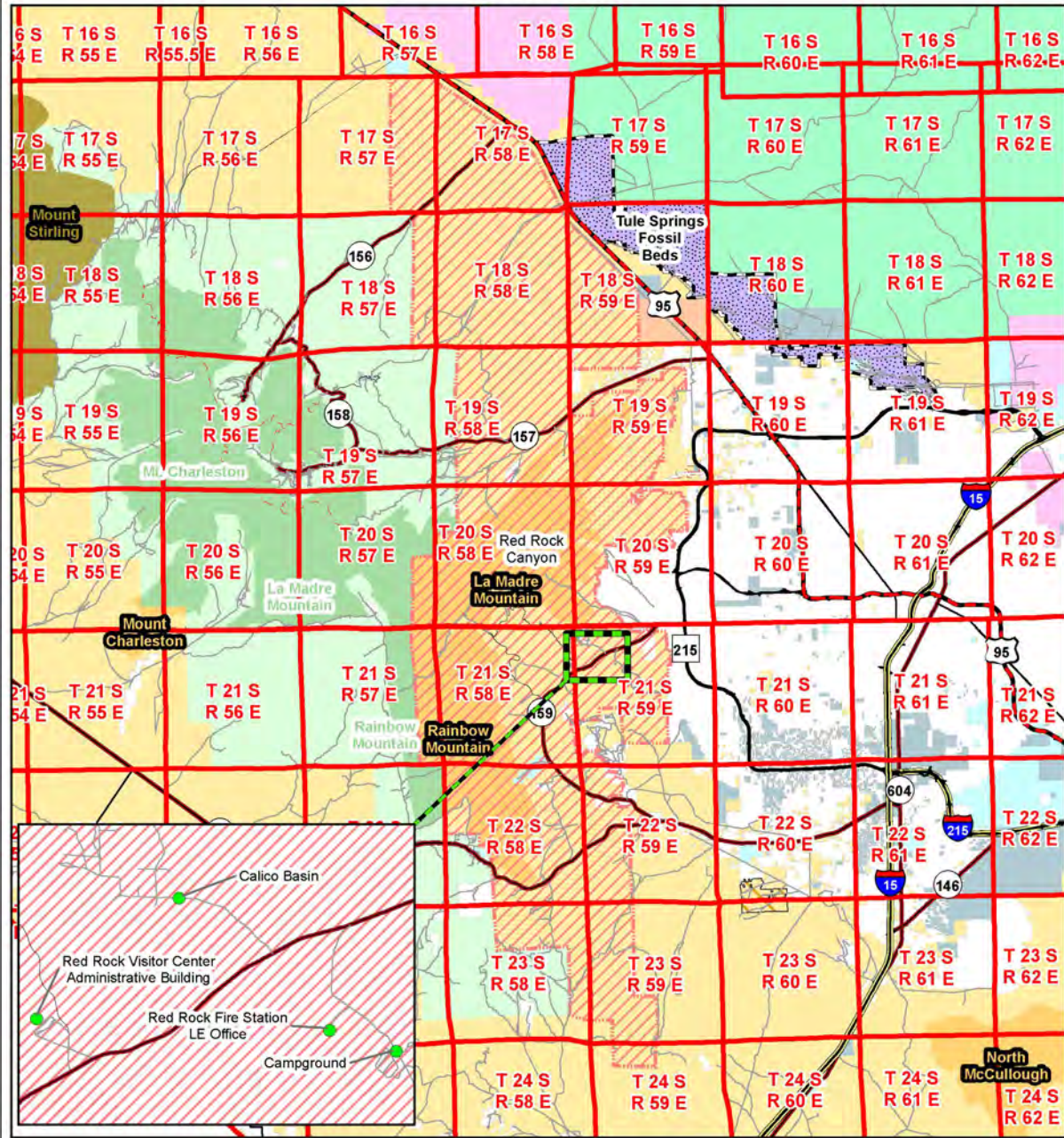
M. MAPS



# RRFOL Map 1

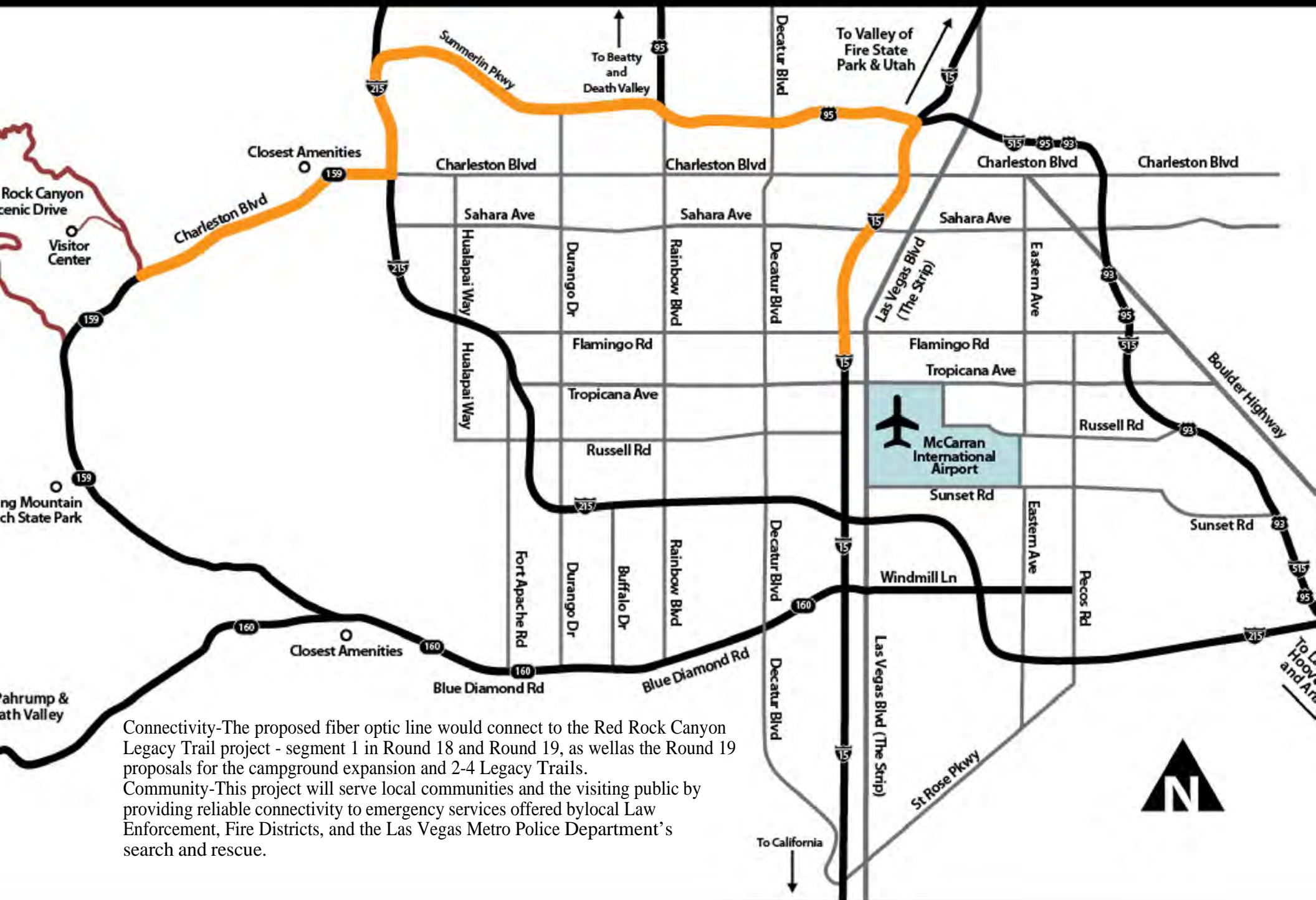
## Red Rock National Conservation Area

### Location Map



Legend					
	BLM National Monument	BLM Land Status			
	Red Rock National Conservation Area		Bureau of Indian Affairs		Forest Service
	BLM Wilderness		Bureau of Land Management		National Park Service
	BLM Wilderness Study Area		Bureau of Reclamation		Nevada State
	Forest Service Wilderness		Department of Defense		Local Government
	ACEC		Fish and Wildlife Service		Private
	Cultural				

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.



Connectivity-The proposed fiber optic line would connect to the Red Rock Canyon Legacy Trail project - segment 1 in Round 18 and Round 19, as well as the Round 19 proposals for the campground expansion and 2-4 Legacy Trails.

Community-This project will serve local communities and the visiting public by providing reliable connectivity to emergency services offered by local Law Enforcement, Fire Districts, and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department's search and rescue.

## N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 2:            Improve the Quality of Life for all Publics in Urban and Rural Communities by Enhancing            Recreational Opportunities that Connect People with the Outdoor Environment</b>		
<b>Performance Measures            for Recreation            Management</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
R3- Number of New Recreational Facilities / Structures Constructed or Improved	Report the number of new recreational buildings, structures, park amenities, or similar facilities constructed or improved. Existing recreational facilities may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination. Include shade shelters, picnic areas, playgrounds, arenas, amphitheaters, pedestrian bridges, etc. Do not report acres of land acquired for new parks or natural areas as this should be reported under performance measure R5 or R6.  Report each facility or structure as one unit.	4
R4- Miles of New Recreational Roads / Trails Constructed or Routes Improved	Report the number of miles of new recreational roads and/or trails constructed or improved. Restoration of existing roads and/or trails may be counted under this performance measure if functional improvements are made as defined in the project nomination.  Report to the nearest whole mile.	0

<b>SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN:            Other Performance Measures that Also Support the Three Values for SNPLMA Implementation            of Sustainability, Connectivity, and Community</b>		
<b>Other Performance            Measures</b>	<b>Definition of Performance Measures</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
O6 - Number of New Interpretive or Education Publications/Signs/ Kiosks/Displays/etc. Produced	Report the number of new interpretive or education publications produced, signs produced and installed, public informational websites or other electronic media presentations designed and implemented, and informational or interpretive kiosk displays produced and installed.  Report each item produced as one unit.	20
O9 – Number of GIS Databases Generated and/or Map Layers Produced	Report the number of GIS databases created and/or the number of map layers produced to identify the location of natural resources within the environment and provide mapping for use in educational programs.  Report each database or map layer as one unit.	10
O11 – Number of Databases, Reports, and Other Electronic Means of Documenting Activities	Report the number of new databases, electronic reporting tools, mathematical/statistical models, websites, or reports developed and implemented to document project and/or program work.  Report each electronic document or method developed as one unit.	20
O12 – Number of Management Plans/Handbooks/Manuals/ Guides for Activity on Public Lands Completed (formerly under H11, F3, C4, and R1)*	Report the number of new or revised ecosystem restoration, hazardous fuels reduction, recreation, cultural, resource management, or other activity plans when the decision document for the plan is signed. Revisions include modification of a significant portion of the decisions in the activity plan. Do not report minor amendments or changes in these plans.  Report each plan as one unit.	1

**O. PHOTOS**

**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area  
Proposed Fiber Optic Line**

**COTTONWOOD VALLEY FIRE AT RED ROCK CANYON - JUNE 2021**



**STUCK VEHICLE IN VEGETATION RESOURCES - SEARCH AND RESCUE AT RED  
ROCK CANYON**



# Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Proposed Fiber Optic Line

**RED ROCK CANYON FLOOD ON SCENIC DRIVE CORE AREA**

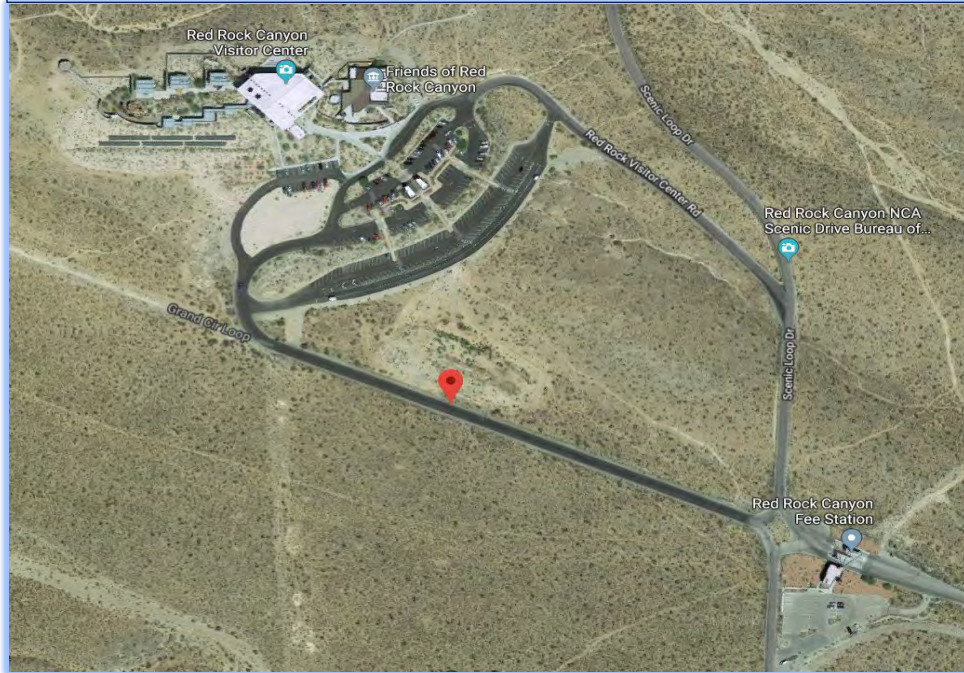


**BLM PUBLIC NIGHTTIME SEARCH AND RESCUE AT RED ROCK CANYON**



# Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Proposed Fiber Optic Line

## BLM RED ROCK CANYON FEE STATION/ADMIN/VISITOR CENTER AREA



## BLM RED ROCK FIRE STATION/LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES



**P. SUPPORT LETTERS**

1. Friends of Red Rock Canyon
2. Form Letter

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November 1, 2021

Robert Wandel  
 Assistance District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
 Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Fiber Optic Line

Dear Mr. Wandel;

Friends of Red Rock Canyon (Friends) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 1984, whose mission is the protection and enhancement of Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) and the public lands of Southern Nevada. Friends has actively assisted in and promoted the responsible usage of RRCNCA since our founding.

On behalf of the board, staff and 500 members of Friends, I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for the \$3,000,000 in funding that will improve and modernize communication with improved internet bandwidth and speed through the New Fiber Optic Line proposal.

This critical enhancement will serve local communities and the visiting public by providing reliable connectivity to emergency services offered by local Law Enforcement, Fire Districts, and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department's Search and Rescue. The Fiber Optic Line will enhance the Red Rock Canyon visitor experience by enabling the BLM to introduce much needed onsite technology such as interactive educational exhibits and digital applications for the 4,000,000 annual users who visit Red Rock Canyon NCA to discover, recreate and enjoy the natural resources and wildlife found in the area

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Erin J. McDermott  
 Executive Director  
 erin@friendsredrock.org  
 702-515-5366

November 4, 2021

Robert Wandel  
Assistant District Manager - SNPLMA Division  
Bureau of Land Management  
4701 North Torrey Pines Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89131

RE: Support for SNPLMA Round 19 Grant Proposal – Red Rock Canyon NCA Fiber Optic Line

Dear Mr. Wandel;

I take great pleasure in supporting the BLM, Southern Nevada District - Red Rock/Sloan Field Office in their application for \$3,000,000 in funding that will improve and modernize communication with improved internet bandwidth and speed through the New Fiber Optic Line proposal.

This critical enhancement will serve local communities and the visiting public by providing reliable connectivity to emergency services offered by local Law Enforcement, Fire Districts, and the Las Vegas Metro Police Department’s Search and Rescue. The Fiber Optic Line will enhance the Red Rock Canyon visitor experience by enabling the BLM to introduce much needed onsite technology such as interactive educational exhibits and digital applications for the 4,000,000 annual users who visit Red Rock Canyon NCA to discover, recreate and enjoy the natural resources and wildlife found in the area

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Inventive Dental Solutions, LLC – Steve & Dianne Sperry  
Trail Access Project – Ed Price and Lynn Price  
Cowboy Trail Rides – James Sage  
Takedown Piracy Inc – Nate Glass  
Get Outdoors Nevada – Rachel Bergren  
Conservation Lands Foundation – Bertha Gutierrez  
Friends of Red Rock Canyon – Erin J. McDermott

Cinna Hunter
Edith Cardiff
Shannon Pawlak
Rebecca Dukes
Gregory L. Darrow, M.D.
Phil Bevins
Virgil
Dwight Hempel
Shari Young

Patricia Potter
Kelly Sell
William Li
Clemens and Anette Heske
leslie sehremelis
PAT WILLIAMS
Edwina LaBrecque
Ellen Brown
Cassi Novratil
Christine McBride
Christine Vogt
Patricia Herrin
Patricia Wheeler
Terry Royder
Julia D Thomas
Blaine Benedict
Barbara Maddox
Ron Zanoni
Richard Walker
John Rinaldo
Ricardo Rosenbusch
Judi Hempel
Charles Williams
Charles Wang
Rachel Bush
Kenneth Osgood
Jim klotz
Brandie Smith
Karen B. McDermott
Daniel P. McDermott
Alissa Loew
Jake Newman
Brittani Sterling