Date:

File No. TAILS

and/or MB equivalent

Memorandum

To: District/Field Manager, District Name Bureau of Land Management, City, State (Attn: [*Insert* *Project Manager’s name*]

From: [*Chose appropriate title/office for your response]*

Field Supervisor, Reno Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

Reno, Nevada

Field Supervisor, Southern Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Las Vegas, Nevada

Chief, Migratory Bird Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California

Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, (Name) National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada

Subject: *[Reference project name and BLM Cooperating Agency invitation memo we are replying to (from upper left corner of invitation memo, e.g., 6800 (NVXXXXX)]*

The U.S. Fish Wildlife the Service (Service), on behalf of the [Insert *office/program for which you are declining Reno FWS, Southern Nevada FWS, Migratory Bird Program or Refuge]* , appreciates your invitation to participate as a Cooperating Agency for the proposed project [*Insert type/name of project (e.g. solar, Special Recreational Permit)]* under consideration by [*Insert BLM District or Field Office]*in[*Insert County(ies)]*, Nevada in your National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. As a Federal agency, the Service qualifies as a Cooperating Agency under 40 CFR 1508.5. However, based on the information provided regarding the proposed project’s location and its anticipated impacts on *[Chose or insert appropriate statement(s) -* *listed and/or at-risk species and associated habitats, migratory birds, eagles, Refuge habitats]*, we respectfully decline to be a Cooperating Agency for this project.

Please note that this letter represents the decision of the [*insert or select your program name -Ecological Services Program, Migratory Bird Program, Refuges]* only and not the decision(s) of the Service’s [insert *or select programs for which you are not responding -Ecological Services Program, Migratory Bird Program, Refuges]* programs.

We appreciate your consideration of our office’s participation as a Cooperating Agency for the proposed project. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me or *[Insert biologist name]* at [*Insert biologist email and phone number*]. [*If responding for RFWO including the following statement:* Please note, we now accept official correspondence at RFWOmail@fws.gov.]

cc:

[*Always cc BLM as shown, filling in the appropriate names/locations,* c*hose appropriate FWS title/office for your response and cc other FWS programs]*

BLM Project Manager, District Name Bureau of Land Management, City, State

DSD, Resources, Lands, and Planning, Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management

DSD, Minerals Management, Nevada State Office, Bureau of Land Management

Field Supervisor, Reno Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

Reno, Nevada

Field Supervisor, Southern Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Las Vegas, Nevada

Chief, Regional Migratory Bird Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California