

SNPLMA Round 20
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project
Cooperative Weed Management Restoration and Outreach
Nomination Addendum

Nomination: Tab 1 Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach
This is an interagency proposal.

Agency: National Park Service, Great Basin National Park, Lead Agency
Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District Office, Participating
Agency
Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC), Participating Entity

Section M. MAPS

The nomination instructions stated to include a date on maps which were not included on all the maps of this proposal.

ENLC's Project Budget Spreadsheet

The BLM Grant Manager Officer will review these amounts and make a final determination if they are acceptable.

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project
Round 20**

National Park Service
Great Basin National Park



Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Ely Ranger District



Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition



Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach

Amount Requested: \$1,973,458

A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cooperative weed management was an idea that started in the western U.S. over two decades ago and led to the formation of Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) across the country. A CWMA is a partnership that brings local landowners together with county, state, and federal partners to leverage funds and personnel to manage weeds and improve the condition of public and private lands within a defined area.

With help and coordination from the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC), two CWMAs were formed in eastern White Pine and Lincoln Counties, one in Snake Valley and one in Spring Valley. Building on partnerships formed through the Snake Valley CWMA, the National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service (FS) in partnership with ENLC were awarded SNPLMA funding in 2008 for a joint project entitled *Snake Valley Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration and Education*. Additional SNPLMA funding was awarded to the Forest Service for the Round 19 *Ely District Noxious and Invasive Weeds Phase II* project to continue work with Cooperative Weed Management Areas in White Pine County. This nomination will provide necessary funding and personnel to sustain current weed management actions into the future, adequately respond to changes in habitat conditions like fire, support and grow partnerships, and increase opportunities for outreach, education, and research. Unlike previous weed management projects, this proposal also includes revegetation treatments and invasive annual grass control to support native species recovery and improve outcomes of weed management, post-fire rehabilitation, fuels reduction, and habitat restoration treatments. Successful weed management and restoration takes collaboration, working with partners across jurisdictions and boundaries toward a common goal.

Noxious and invasive weeds have wide ranging impacts. Spending time and money to manage them is important. Weeds outcompete native plants negatively affecting wildlife habitat and available forage, increase fire frequency and intensity, impact recreational opportunities, alter soil chemistry, and degrade agricultural lands. Many weed species produce highly viable seeds that can persist in the soil for years and infest some of our most important and threatened habitats in the Great Basin. Despite the challenges, we have the tools to successfully manage noxious and invasive weeds and restore public and private lands. This project will use integrated pest management strategies to prevent and respond to weed issues and habitat degradation.

This nomination is an interagency project between the NPS, Forest Service, and ENLC that will sustain cooperative weed management across private and public lands in Snake and Spring Valleys. It will support long-term partnerships and ensure control of state-listed noxious weeds as mandated for federal and state agencies. The project will provide opportunities to engage with the public, other partners such as area Tribes, the Nevada Department of Agriculture, the Nevada Department of Transportation, and local landowners. Lastly, the project will improve the resilience of public and private lands through control of invasive annual grasses, collaboration with agency or university partners testing ways to improve restoration outcomes, and restoration treatments that will reduce fuels and improve the condition of sagebrush, wetland and riparian habitats, and post-fire landscapes.

To achieve this, project partners commit to the following.

The NPS will:

- Serve as the project lead and manage SNPLMA administrative requirements.
- Coordinate invasive species and revegetation work on NPS and adjacent lands using NPS staff, cooperators, volunteers, and/or contracts.
- Assist with development of outreach materials and educational outreach within the Snake and Spring Valley CWMAs and NPS lands.
- Work with the USFS-Rocky Mountain Research Station and others testing ways to improve restoration strategies and outcomes.
- Work with partners to accomplish project deliverables in a landscape scale approach.

The Forest Service will:

- Coordinate invasive species and revegetation work on Forest Service lands using agency staff, cooperators, volunteers, and/or contracts.
- Assist with development of outreach materials and educational outreach within the Snake and Spring Valley CWMA and Forest Service lands.
- Work with partners to accomplish project deliverables in a landscape scale approach.

The Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition will:

- Serve as the primary project partner through assistance agreement with the SNPLMA program.
 - Coordinate with SNPLMA Program Manager, NPS and agency partners to ensure all SNPLMA rules and requirements for non-federal agencies are met.
 - Receive and manage funding directly from the SNPLMA program as a project partner.
- Assist with implementing inventory, treatment, and monitoring of noxious and invasive plants on public lands.
- Assist with planning and implementation of revegetation treatments on public and private lands.
- Lead development of outreach materials and coordinate educational outreach with federal partners and CWMAs.
- Coordinate with CWMAs, Tri-County Weed, and others to complete work on private lands.
- Work with partners and researchers testing ways to improve restoration strategies and outcomes.
- Contract for treatments and other activities, enter partnerships, or issue grants, as needed, to accomplish project deliverables.

a. Describe Relationship to prior Approved Phases or Related SNPLMA Projects and Anticipated Future Phases

This project builds on partnerships established and work completed under the Round 9 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project *Snake Valley Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration and Education* and magnifies the cooperative, landscape scale approach under Round 17 *Multi-Jurisdictional Noxious and Invasive Weed Partnership*. These projects were the foundation of the all-lands approach to manage noxious and invasive weeds across jurisdictional boundaries within White Pine County. In addition, project deliverables, including maps, developed as part of Round 9 *Landscape Level*

Vegetation Management Plan and *Round 18 Vegetation Mapping at Great Basin National Park* projects will help refine restoration treatment locations for this project. There are no anticipated future phases of this project.

b. 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 phases.

B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project has 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:

Project partners are committed to preserving and restoring natural resources. Each has spent years working on weed management, fuels reduction, and habitat restoration efforts to sustain and conserve the outdoor environment. As members of CWMA's, we have made a long-term commitment to cooperation. This project will help each agency meet its obligations to control noxious weeds and help local stakeholders to do the same. Data collected by this project will be incorporated into agency datasets and made available to partners and other agencies. Productive partnerships that were established over decades and have successfully worked across administrative boundaries will be strengthened by this nomination and help sustain these partnerships into the future. This project will also help sustain previous commitments to habitat restoration through invasive plant management, maintenance and monitoring of biological controls, and post-fire restoration.

2. Connectivity:

This project will connect work completed under previous Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Projects (ENLRP) including successful nominations by the NPS, Forest Service, and BLM. Cooperative Weed Management Area partnerships support a landscape scale approach connecting restoration actions across jurisdictional boundaries to successfully manage noxious weeds, conserve and restore the outdoor environment, and improve working lands. Collaboration will be expanded, and landowners in White Pine and Lincoln Counties working on similar issues will be connected to funds and assistance through CWMA's. Through outreach and education, this project will enhance educational opportunities and communication with the public, enhancing their

understanding and connection to the outdoor environment. This project will also fund follow-up treatments at select post-fire, sagebrush, and riparian restoration sites (e.g., annual grass control, revegetation) to support important work in progress or already completed. Finally, this project will link current research focused on improving restoration options in sagebrush habitat and post-fire landscapes to eastern Nevada.

Although in support of a landscape scale approach to manage weeds and restore habitat across boundaries, the BLM will not be an agency partner on this project. BLM will stay engaged as a member of the Snake and Spring Valley CWMA's and through ongoing projects targeting noxious weeds and restoring post-fire landscapes within the project area.

3. Community:

The foundation of CWMA's is to bring local, state, and federal stakeholders together with private landowners to work toward a common goal – effective weed management and improved public and private lands. Working with private landowners gets to the heart of community and helps facilitate the preservation and restoration of natural resources at a local level. More resistant and resilient landscapes and stronger local relationships improve our quality of life and the outdoor environment. This project will enhance community through increased outreach and education with local communities and recreationists using public lands. It will strengthen our partnerships with CWMA's and the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition and expand collaboration between Spring and Snake Valley CWMA's. Finally, it will support further collaboration with outside partners to implement and monitor restoration treatments and test ways to improve restoration outcomes.

C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

Great Basin National Park and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District will partner with the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition to improve habitat conditions in sagebrush and riparian habitat and support fuels reduction and post-fire restoration through invasive plant inventory and treatment, invasive annual grass control, revegetation treatments, monitoring, research, and public outreach and education. The project will focus on public and private lands in Snake and Spring Valley Cooperative Weed Management Areas within White Pine and Lincoln Counties. Targeted surveys and treatments are planned for 8,400 to 12,300 acres.

D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. Primary Deliverables:

- Inventory, treat and monitor noxious and invasive weeds in Snake and Spring Valley CWMA's on
 - Approximately 700-900 acres per year on NPS lands.
 - Approximately 300-500 acres per year for up to three years on Forest Service lands.
 - Approximately 500-1000 acres per year on private lands.

- Maintain and monitor three existing biological control release sites in the Spring Valley CWMA.
 - Forest Service will complete Canada thistle rust inoculations, pending availability of biocontrol agent, and annual monitoring on Forest Service site in Cleve Creek.
 - Forest Service will assist Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) with Canada thistle rust inoculations on two sites on private lands near Cleveland Ranch and McCoy Ranch in the Spring Valley CWMA, as requested and pending availability of biocontrol agent.
 - Forest Service will coordinate with NDA and ENLC to mow Canada thistle prior to inoculation at the Cleveland Ranch site.
 - Presence/absence monitoring will be conducted at all sites.

- Complete invasive annual grass control using chemical and biological controls, as available and approved, in important sagebrush habitat and post-fire landscapes to control fine fuels and reduce fire risk on
 - Up to 800 acres on NPS lands.
 - Approximately 250-500 acres on Forest Service lands, contingent upon approval of Aerial Application NEPA decision.

- Conduct revegetation treatments to restore important sagebrush habitat, prevent the establishment of invasive annual grass, and maintain healthy sagebrush and riparian vegetation on
 - Up to 1000 acres of NPS lands.
 - Approximately 250-500 acres of Forest Service lands.

- Increase outreach and education, including training and continuing education for project partners and CWMA members.
 - Coordinate biannual CWMA meetings over the life of the project.
 - Host at least three volunteer workdays targeting public and/or private lands in the Snake and Spring Valley CWMAs.
 - Share educational outreach materials through at least one in-person outreach event per year, at least one newsletter article per year, and over social media channels.
 - Provide funding to support five weed management conferences in White Pine County.
 - Fund training/conference registration and travel costs for at least one person per entity per year and provide scholarships for two CWMA members or other partners to attend annual conferences for training, continuing education, or certifications.

2. Anticipated Deliverables:

- Create an Interpretive Weed Trail – design and install waysides along an existing trail within the Snake Valley CWMA.
- Install at least two informational/educational signs (e.g., PlayCleanGo) at trailheads or other high use sites.

- Establish reporting criteria for CWMA members who receive funding for invasive species or revegetation treatments on their lands by the end of the project.
 - Partner with universities or other agencies to test strategies for improving restoration outcomes. Draft a report or publication of results to share with federal, state, and local agencies and the public. Share results through at least one outreach webinar (e.g., ‘Science You Can Use’ hosted by USFS-Rocky Mountain Research Station).
 - Conduct annual grass control and revegetation treatments on up to 200 acres of private lands, as funding is available and willing landowners are identified.
3. Standard Deliverables:
- Each agency will complete environmental compliance (NEPA) for administered lands.
 - Each agency will complete Section 106 compliance for administered lands.
 - Each agency will develop and administer necessary contracts and/or agreements for administered lands.
 - Each agency will submit a detailed work plan to SNPLMA staff.
 - Each agency will complete budget tracking, quarterly and annual SNPLMA reporting, and quarterly funds requests.
 - Each agency will collaborate on final reporting and complete project closeout.

E. PROJECT LOCATION

Physical location of project; identify County(s) and State:

White Pine and Lincoln Counties, NV

Identify Congressional District(s):

Nevada Congressional Districts NV-2 and NV-4

Latitude and Longitude:

38.9535 N 114.2689 W

F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

The project timeframe will be five years. The following is a timeline of activities.

DELIVERABLE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
PRIMARY					
Inventory, treat and monitor noxious and invasive weeds in Snake and Spring Valley CWMA's on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approximately 700-900 acres per year on NPS lands. ○ Approximately 300-500 acres per year for up to three years on NFS lands. ○ Approximately 500-1000 acres per year on private lands. 	Conduct partner coordination and planning meetings, finalize treatment areas.	Inventory, treat and monitor approximately 1200-1900 acres of noxious and invasive weeds.	Inventory, treat and monitor approximately 1500-2400 acres of noxious and invasive weeds.	Inventory, treat and monitor approximately 1500-2400 acres of noxious and invasive weeds.	Inventory, treat and monitor approximately 1500-2400 acres of noxious and invasive weeds.
Maintain and monitor 3 existing biological control release sites in the Spring Valley CWMA.	Maintain and monitor 3 biological control release sites	Maintain and monitor 3 biological control release sites.	Maintain and monitor 3 biological control release sites.	Maintain and monitor 3 biological control release sites.	Maintain and monitor 3 biological control release sites.
Complete invasive annual grass control using chemical and biological controls, as available and approved, in important sagebrush habitat and post-fire landscapes to control fine fuels and reduce fire risk.	Conduct partner coordination and planning meetings, finalize treatment areas.	Complete invasive annual grass control, up to 650 acres; 1300 total acres over the life of the project.	Complete invasive annual grass control, up to 650 acres; 1300 total acres over the life of the project.	Complete additional invasive annual grass control, up to 650 acres; 1300 total acres over the life of the project.	
Conduct revegetation treatments to restore important sagebrush habitat, prevent the establishment of invasive annual grass, and maintain healthy sagebrush and riparian vegetation.	Conduct partner coordination and planning meetings, finalize treatment areas.	Complete revegetation treatments up to 750 acres; up to 1500 total acres over the life of the project.	Complete revegetation treatments up to 750 acres; up to 1500 total acres over the life of the project.	Complete revegetation treatments up to 750 acres; up to 1500 total acres over the life of the project.	Complete additional revegetation treatments, as need, up to 1500 total acres over the life of the project.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH					
Coordinate biannual CWMA meetings over the life of the project.	Host biannual CWMA meetings	Host biannual CWMA meetings	Host biannual CWMA meetings	Host biannual CWMA meetings	Host biannual CWMA meeting(s).
Host at least three volunteer workdays targeting public and/or private lands in the Snake and Spring Valley CWMAs.		Host volunteer workday.	Host volunteer workday.	Host volunteer workday.	
Share educational outreach materials through at least one in-person outreach event per year, at least one newsletter article per year, and over social media channels.	Develop educational outreach materials.	Outreach and education (in-person event, social media content, and newsletter article).	Outreach and education (in-person event, social media content, and newsletter article).	Outreach and education (in-person event, social media content, and newsletter article).	Outreach and education (in-person event, social media content, and newsletter article).
Increase outreach and education, including training and continuing education for project partners and CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	
Provide funding to support five weed management conferences in White Pine County.	Coordinate Annual Winter Invasive Species Conference.	Coordinate Annual Winter Invasive Species Conference.	Coordinate Annual Winter Invasive Species Conference.	Coordinate Annual Winter Invasive Species Conference.	Coordinate Annual Winter Invasive Species Conference.
Fund training/conference registration and travel costs for at least one person per entity per year and provide scholarships for two CWMA members or other partners to attend annual conferences for training, continuing education, or certifications.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	Training/continuing education for project partners/CWMA members.	

ANTICIPATED					
Create an Interpretive Weed Trail – design and install waysides along an existing trail within the Snake Valley CWMA.	Planning and site selection for interpretive weed trail.	Develop/design waysides for interpretive weed trail.	Installation of interpretive weed trail.		
Install at least two informational/educational signs (e.g., PlayCleanGo) at trailheads or other high use sites.				Install educational signs at trailheads or other high-use areas.	
Establish reporting criteria for CWMA members who receive funding for invasive species or revegetation treatments on their lands.			Establish and provide training on new CWMA reporting requirements.	Provide training on new CWMA reporting requirements.	Provide training on new CWMA reporting requirements.
Conduct annual grass control and revegetation treatments on up to 200 acres of private lands, as funding is available and willing landowners are identified.	ENLC and agency partners work through CWMAs to identify willing landowners for invasive annual grass control and revegetation.	Complete annual grass control and revegetation treatments on up to 100 acres of private lands.	Complete annual grass control and revegetation treatments on up to 100 acres of private lands.	Complete annual grass control and revegetation treatments on up to 100 acres of private lands, as needed, up to 200 total acres over the life of the project.	
Partner with universities or other agencies to test strategies for improving restoration outcomes. Draft a report or publication of results to share with federal, state, and local agencies and the public.	Prepare/issue contract or agreement.	Site selection, pre-treatment monitoring, and installation of experimental plots.	Monitor experimental plots	Monitor experimental plots	Final monitoring of experimental plots, as needed. Data analysis and submit publication or report for research/monitoring component.

STANDARD					
Each agency will submit a detailed work plan to SNPLMA staff.	Draft and submit detailed work plan.				
Each agency will complete environmental compliance (NEPA) for administered lands.	Complete environmental compliance, per agency.				
Each agency will complete Section 106 compliance for administered lands.	Initiate consultation, per agency. Complete cultural resource inventory, as needed, per agency.	Complete Section 106/NHPA requirements.			
Each agency will complete budget tracking, quarterly and annual SNPLMA reporting, and quarterly funds requests.	Complete quarterly/annual reporting; quarterly fund requests	Complete quarterly/annual reporting; quarterly fund requests	Complete quarterly/annual reporting; quarterly fund requests	Complete quarterly/annual reporting; quarterly fund requests	Complete quarterly/annual reporting; quarterly fund requests
Each agency will develop and administer necessary contracts and/or agreements for administered lands.	Prepare and issue contracts and agreements (invasive plant management, research/monitoring component).	Prepare and issue contracts/agreements (plant materials).	Prepare and issue contracts/agreements (plant materials).		
Each agency will collaborate on final reporting and complete project closeout.					Project closeout, final reporting.

G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project? Yes No

The NPS is staffed to initiate the project immediately. Required environmental and cultural compliance would start after project funding is received. Invasive plant management activities on NPS lands would fall under the park's Invasive Plant Management Plan (2014) and follow NPS Management Policies (2006) and Executive Order 13112 to address impacts from invasive species. Revegetation treatments fall under the park's Fire Management Plan (2023).

Noxious weed inventory and treatments are expected to begin in Year 2 on Forest Service lands; however, biocontrol treatments may begin immediately. Noxious and invasive weed management activities included in the nomination are approved under the Humboldt National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) and subsequent Record of Decision dated August 1986, the Humboldt Noxious Weed EA (1996), and support Forest Service policy (FSM 2900) which was issued to comply with Executive Order 13112 and address adverse impacts from invasive species.

ENLC is ready to begin weed management activities immediately. Development and coordination of educational outreach could start immediately. In Year 1, ENLC and agency partners will work through CWMAs to identify willing landowners for inventory and treatment of invasive plants, invasive annual grass control, and revegetation.

Established partnerships exist with Cooperative Weed Management Areas, local weed management entities, NPS Invasive Plant Management Teams, the BLM Regional Seed Warehouse, university partners through the Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit (CESU), and other agencies working on similar land management issues. Agency staff have decades of combined experience working on and managing SNPLMA funded projects.

Have you applied, received, or is there the opportunity to obtain funding from another source for this project? Please list the additional funding opportunities received or applied for and indicate whether it is federal or nonfederal funding.

N/A

H. PROJECT BUDGET

Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

ENLC expects various partners to provide in-kind contributions during implementation of this project; however, we currently do not have any commitments. We do anticipate at least 250 volunteer hours during the project for a total of \$7,950 in contributed funds. Volunteer hours would provide direct benefit to the project by supporting weed management, restoration, and outreach/education activities. ENLC will host biannual CWMA meetings and volunteer workdays to engage members and assist with weed management on public and private lands.

PROJECT BUDGET		
Cost Categories	SNPLMA	Non-Federal Contribution
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)	\$ 893,173.45	\$ 7,950.00
2. Travel	\$ 87,406.13	\$ -
3. Training	\$ 34,007.20	\$ -
4. Equipment	\$ -	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials	\$ 310,767.70	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements	\$ 447,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use	\$ 33,000.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses	\$ 168,103.38	\$ -
9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$ 1,973,457.86	\$ 7,950.00
Notes: Total budget for all project partners - National Park Service, US Forest Service and Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC). Detailed budgets submitted for each agency/project partner. Other necessary expenses include Fringe and Indirect costs for ENLC.		

I. KEY CONTACTS

NPS Authorized Officer: Anita Hansen, Acting Superintendent
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J. RANKING CRITERIA

1. **Fuels Management: Projects that are designed to change vegetation composition and/or structure to modify potential fire behavior for the purpose of improving fire suppression effectiveness and limiting fire spread and intensity.** (Projects are only eligible for Items A, B, or C; select and answer ONLY ONE. Answer Items D and E.)

- A. Project will conduct treatments to maintain healthy sagebrush rangelands, including preventative measures for annual grass invasion and conifer encroachment.

Project includes treatments to maintain healthy sagebrush habitat, including preventative measures for annual grass invasion.

- Inventory, treat and monitor noxious and invasive weeds on up to 2,400 acres per year across all jurisdictions to maintain healthy sagebrush, riparian, and wet meadow habitats.
- Maintain and monitor three biological control releases on rangelands in Spring Valley for Canada thistle.
- Complete invasive annual grass control in important sagebrush and post-fire landscapes to control fine fuels and reduce fire risk on up to 1,500 acres, including private lands.
- Conduct revegetation treatments to restore important sagebrush habitat, prevent the establishment of invasive annual grass, and maintain healthy sagebrush and riparian vegetation on up to 1,700 acres, including private lands.
- Install experimental plots to test how native seed diversity in seeding mixes affects resistance to invasion by annual grasses like cheatgrass and other invasive species.

- B. Project will conduct treatments to address the conversion of overgrown/decadent sagebrush, annual grass understory, and conifer encroachment. (*Do not answer if you answered Item A. already*).

Answer: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

- C. Project will conduct treatments to address the annual grass and/or conifer dominated landscape within or adjacent to sagebrush rangelands. (*Do not answer if you answered Items A or B already*).

Answer: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

- D. Project is to remove conifers to decrease the fire risk to large intact sagebrush habitat, riparian areas, and/or aspen stands.

Conifer removal is not proposed in this project. However, fire risk in project areas where conifer removal has been completed and in previously burned sites will be addressed through invasive annual grass control. Sagebrush habitat and riparian areas will be targeted for restoration treatments. These actions will reduce fire risk to intact sagebrush and riparian habitats.

- E. Project will treat invasive annual grasses and includes a revegetation component to limit fire risk and change vegetation composition.

Project will treat invasive annual grass to limit fire risk. Project includes a revegetation component to improve vegetation condition.

- Complete invasive annual grass control in important sagebrush and post-fire landscapes to control fine fuels and reduce fire risk on up to 1,500 acres, including private lands.
- Conduct revegetation treatments to restore important sagebrush habitat, prevent the establishment of invasive annual grass, and maintain healthy sagebrush and riparian vegetation on up to 1,700 acres, including private lands.
- Conduct seeding experiment to test how native seed diversity in seeding mixes affects resistance to invasion by annual grasses like cheatgrass and other invasive species.

2. **Habitat Recovery/Restoration**

The project will implement habitat restoration in sagebrush, riparian-wetland area and/or aspen stand. Characterize the habitat by describing the quality as essential/irreplaceable, high, moderate, or low importance, and describe the habitat resistance and resiliency to disturbance (e.g., high, moderate, low resistance and resiliency). **Answer all applicable.**

Sagebrush Area

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially high. The area is generally described as having high resistance to annual grasses and resilience after disturbance with a high sagebrush landscape cover = > 65 %.

The project area is diverse and variable and includes all the categories of sagebrush listed in this section.

The project area contains areas with high sagebrush cover (>65%) and high resistance and resilience. Higher elevation sagebrush stands on NPS and FS lands, and those at lower elevations on north facing slopes, demonstrate high resistance to annual grass invasion and high resilience, recovering better after disturbances like fire or conifer removal. This project will implement treatments in areas where restoration potential is high and target upland and montane sagebrush sites that are essential and of high importance. Treatment types may include noxious weed inventory and treatment, invasive annual grass treatments, and seeding or planting.

Sagebrush on NPS, FS, and private lands within the project area is considered essential or important because of its importance to wildlife like sage-grouse, the multitude of threats

to existing sagebrush throughout its distribution, and its limited extent in these jurisdictions.

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially intermediate. The area is generally described as having moderate resistance to annual grasses and resilience after disturbance with a medium sagebrush landscape cover = 25-65%.

The project area also includes sagebrush sites with moderate resistance and resilience, such as within previously burned areas or sites with completed restoration projects, that would benefit from follow-up treatments for noxious weeds and/or invasive annual grasses. Some treatments will include areas of medium sagebrush cover where restoration potential is high.

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially low. Native grasses and forbs inadequate for recovery, annual invasive risk is high, and may require multiple management interventions with a low sagebrush landscape cover = <25%.

The project area also contains areas with low sagebrush cover and low to moderate resistance/resilience. However, treatments will target sites that have a higher probability of success. Multiple management interventions and follow-up treatments are part of a successful restoration program. Implementing only one treatment can limit the success of restoration treatments like seeding, or result in failure, because the ‘one and done’ approach does not account for significant variation in biotic and abiotic factors that can limit success. A single restoration treatment does not typically result in successful establishment or recovery of native species post-disturbance. Therefore, we will be working in areas with relatively low sagebrush cover (e.g., post-fire sites) to first control invasive annual grass and then seed or plant into these sites to increase cover of native species, including sagebrush, and increase resistance and resilience. Experimental plots will be installed in these areas to determine best practices for increasing native diversity in low resistance/resilience areas.

Riparian-Wetland Area Conditions

Proper Functioning Conditions:

Project area is characterized as reduce erosion, filter sediment, capture bedload, aid floodplain development, improve flood-water retention, improve ground water recharge, stabilize stream banks, and develop root masses that stabilize streambanks.

Answer:

Functioning-at-Risk:

Project area that is in functioning condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

Despite their limited extent in the arid Great Basin, riparian and wetland habitats are disproportionately important because of the ecosystem services they provide. These habitat types are also disproportionately impacted by development, recreation, and land use. Riparian and wetland habitat in the project area would be characterized as

functioning-at-risk due to hydrologic or vegetative attributes that make them susceptible to degradation or already degraded. Impacts include water diversions, invasive plants, fire exclusion and tree encroachment, recreational use, and roads.

Riparian and wetland habitats are susceptible to invasion by noxious weeds and other invasive plants because of their productive soils, higher soil moisture, and other hydrologic and physiographic factors. Yet, riparian and wetland areas are inherently more resistant to invasion and resilient to disturbance than upland sites because of these same characteristics. This project would improve riparian and wetland conditions through noxious and invasive weed control and invasive annual grass control.

Nonfunctional:

Project area is characterized as clearly not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate energy associated with high flows and does not reduce erosion.

Examples: Absence of floodplain where one should be, unstable streambanks, excessive soil compaction, and/or upland vegetation in riparian area.

Answer: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Aspen Stand Conditions

Healthy Stand: *Project area is characterized as self-regenerating stands, usually producing pulses of regeneration that maintains grove size over long period of time. Stands contain a pure overstory, good stand structure (i.e., numerous age cohorts), adequate regeneration, and a diverse understory of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. Resilient to disturbance and invasion of introduced species. Full aspen crowns with little to no-die off (<25% overstory mortality, <25% conifer cover).*

A limited number of healthy aspen stands will be treated as part of this project. Most aspen included in treatments are found in riparian corridors along streams and other mesic habitat types. Noxious and invasive weed treatments, invasive annual grass control, and appropriate seed mixes and plant materials will benefit the condition and resilience of these stands. Riparian aspen stands on NPS and Forest Service lands within the project area can be characterized as healthy or stable with <25% mortality and <25% conifer cover.

Declining: *Dead or dying aspen stands with considerable to full overstory die-off and/or foliage loss (25-100% overstory mortality). Characterized by overstory mortality, poor stand structure, weak regeneration, and altered understory communities that weaken stand functionality. Example: A conifer-dominated mixed aspen stand.*

Declining aspen stands will not be targeted by this project.

Seral: *Presence of aspen and at least 25% conifer cover within area. Characterized by the presence of aspen and conifers inhabiting the landscape simultaneously. Aspen in these systems are regarded as the early successional, disturbance, or pioneer species since they are generally the first to establish following a fire, disease, or other disturbances.*

Seral aspen found along riparian corridors and other mesic habitat types and in post-fire sites will be targeted for noxious and invasive weed treatments, invasive annual grass control, and revegetation treatments where necessary and appropriate. Many aspen stands present on NPS and Forest Service lands can be categorized as seral aspen.

3. Fire Prevention and Post Fire Rehabilitation. Answer all applicable.

- A. Project is located to strategically prevent fire spread or support suppression activities to minimize the loss of sagebrush rangelands. A strategically placed fuel break as an anchor point for suppression or fuels reduction activities to lessen potential fire intensity or spread.

Invasive annual grass treatments will be strategically placed to limit fire spread into high-value, intact sagebrush, post-fire areas that are still recovering, and protect investments made during post-fire rehabilitation or other habitat restoration actions. Portions of previously burned areas will be treated to break the cheatgrass-fire cycle and reduce fire return intervals. Research questions and monitoring will address limited success of revegetation treatments in post-fire and/or post-treatment (tree removal) sites.

- B. Project will rehabilitate a previously burned area to prevent the establishment of invasive plants, including annual grasses.

This project will target previously burned sites to support and extend rehabilitation investments through revegetation, invasive annual grass control, and inventory and treatment of noxious weeds.

- C. Project will implement seeding or planting and weed treatment.

This project will implement revegetation treatments (seeding or planting) on up to 1,700 acres, weed survey and treatment will be completed on up to 2,400 acres per year, and invasive annual grass treatments will be completed on up to 1,500 acres.

4. Implementation of the project will lead to additional scientific information.

Project will lead to needed/improved scientific information on the design, implementation, and/or adaptation of landscape-scale restoration treatments, including known gaps in land health or sagebrush data.

Project includes funding to collaborate with outside partners on monitoring and research to improve restoration outcomes in sagebrush systems. Research will focus on revegetation and possibly herbicide treatments and be applicable to project partners and others working in the Great Basin. Potential strategies include seed treatments, bet-hedging strategies such as timing, volume and composition of seed mixes, and factors that limit seed success (e.g., competition, seed predation, soil chemistry, and microbial activity).

5. Supports strategic plan values of community, connectivity, and sustainability.
Answer all applicable.

- A. Community: in addition to the direct benefit to the nominating entity, actively involves and addresses the needs of at least one additional governmental agency, (includes Federal, state, local, and tribal governments) community, or private land manager and involves non-governmental groups, volunteers, or organizations in the development and accomplishment of resource management goals, education, outreach, and other activities.

This project directly addresses the needs of two federal agencies (NPS and Forest Service) and one non-governmental group (ENLC) to meet resource management goals. There will be an indirect benefit to BLM lands from work completed on adjacent NPS, FS, and private lands to control noxious weeds and annual grass and improve vegetation condition. Contracts or agreements with university or partner agency staff for research will have a direct benefit to those organizations and provide an indirect benefit to land management agencies through published findings. The project will engage private landowners through CWMA's, work with volunteers and local community members during volunteer service days, provide scholarships to CWMA members and other project partners, and engage the public and local communities through educational outreach campaigns. See Section B. 3. for more details.

- B. Connectivity: completed, current/on-going, or future restoration projects, of any funding source and jurisdiction (including private lands), where the physical project boundaries connect and/or habitat and vegetation connectivity is enhanced.

The Spring and Snake Valley CWMA's encompass thousands of acres so include many completed, current and future restoration projects on federal and private lands. Connectivity will be enhanced on many of these projects through the management of noxious and invasive plants, control of invasive annual grasses, revegetation treatments, and monitoring and research proposed in this nomination. Invasive plant, revegetation, and annual grass treatments will target adjoining lands that span jurisdictional boundaries whenever possible. See Map 1 and Section B. 2. for more details.

- Some of the many agency SNPLMA projects that fall within the project boundary:
- Round 9: Snake Valley Invasive Weeds: Inventory, Treatment, Restoration, and Education (Completed)
 - Round 10: Soil Survey of Mt. Moriah and White Pine Range (Completed)
 - Round 11: Sagebrush Steppe and Aspen Restoration in the South Snake Range (Completed)
 - Round 13: Soap Creek Sagebrush Steppe and Aspen Restoration
 - Round 15: North Shell Restoration Project (Completed)
 - Round 15: Wicked Problem: Improving restoration and fuels reduction through adaptive management (Completed)

- Round 16: Forgotten Grasslands: Restoration of basin wildrye ecosystems in Great Basin National Park (Completed)
- Round 16: Sagebrush Habitat Restoration Project (Completed)
- Round 16: Ely District Weeds Treatment, Inventory and Monitoring Project (Phase I Completed)
- Round 17: Multi-Jurisdictional Noxious and Invasive Weed Partnership (On-going)
- Round 17: Strawberry Creek Fire – Watershed Restoration and Stabilization (On-going)
- Round 18: Ely RD Vegetation Treatments Project (On-going)
- Round 18: Active Management Using Fire (On-going)
- Round 18: Vegetation Mapping at Great Basin National Park (On-going)
- Round 18: Vegetation Assessment – BLM Wilderness Areas (On-going)
- Round 19: Ely District Weeds Treatment, Inventory and Monitoring Project Phase II (New)
- Round 19: South Schells Restoration (New)
- Round 19: Mount Moriah Trails Reconstruction Project (New)

- C. Sustainability: project data can be incorporated into the ongoing rangeland health monitoring of the sponsoring or benefiting entity.

Data from this project will be used for ongoing invasive plant management by federal agencies, CWMAs, and private landowners. It can also be used by other agencies, such as the Nevada Department of Agriculture, to monitor and respond to invasive plant issues at a regional scale. Data, publications, and reports from monitoring and research will be invaluable to project partners as well as other agencies working on rangeland and riparian restoration. Training, educational outreach materials, and outreach events will prepare the next generation of land managers and engage the public in restoration and conservation of their public lands. See Section B. 1. for more details.

L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

A. Executive Orders (EO):

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

America’s forests and rangelands will be improved through continued weed management, treatment of invasive annual grasses, and revegetation treatments to support post-fire recovery and improve habitat conditions in sagebrush and riparian habitats. This project will also support researchers working on strategies to improve restoration outcomes for rangelands in the Great Basin and share that information with land managers and the public.

This project will actively reduce fuels within the project area. Cheatgrass infestations will be treated along roadways, in important sagebrush habitats, riparian areas, and post-fire landscapes creating and maintaining fuel breaks that can be used to better support fire suppression efforts.

This project will enhance existing restoration treatment projects and rehabilitation activities by conducting weed inventories, treatments, and revegetation.

- ***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers***
- ***EO No. 14063: Use of Project Labor Agreements for Federal Construction Projects (applicable to projects estimated at \$35 million or more)***
- ***EO No. 14072: Strengthening the Nation's Forests, Communities, and Local Economies***

This project will support employment opportunities with federal agencies and regional nonprofit organization. Work with local landowners through Cooperative Weed Management Areas will strengthen local partnerships and provide direct financial assistance to CWMA members. This project will improve habitat conditions on public and private lands and provide resources and training to the public and local communities on weed management and habitat restoration.

- ***EO No. 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All***

This project will provide financial support and educational outreach to rural communities in eastern Nevada. Through Cooperative Weed Management Area partnerships, this project will expand opportunities for local communities and provide scholarships and other resources to project partners.

B. Secretarial Orders

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

This project directly supports conservation stewardship through weed management, invasive annual grass control, revegetation, partnerships with CWMA's, and educational outreach. The goal of the project is to restore sagebrush, riparian, wetland, and post-fire habitat types on public and private lands. The project will also support and promote outdoor recreation by improving habitat conditions and

educating the public on threats to outdoor environments and public and private lands.

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

This project will improve habitats for a variety of wildlife species including mule deer, sage grouse, pronghorn, and elk all of which are important game species. This project will improve wildlife habitats and sustain or improve opportunities for hunting and wildlife viewing in the area.

Project funds will be used on public and private lands, improving wildlife habitat across jurisdictions. Project partnerships and collaboration will include federal, state, local, Tribal, and private entities through Cooperative Weed Management Areas and research opportunities.

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

The project includes noxious and invasive weed treatments that will improve and/or restore important habitats and contribute to sagebrush, riparian, and wetland restoration. The project area encompasses important habitat for both sage grouse, mule deer, pronghorn, and elk on both public and private lands.

This project will control or eliminate noxious and invasive weed populations and restore native vegetation at a watershed level. Noxious and invasive weeds drastically affect natural ecosystems, increase soil erosion and fire intensity, adversely impact wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities, and cause economic damage. Without treatment, the ecological damage from extensive infestations grows as populations spread. By controlling or eliminating weed populations and restoring important habitat types, multiple landscape functions improve, including range conditions for game and non-game species.

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

The project will support and promote outdoor recreation by improving habitat conditions and educating the public on threats to outdoor environments on public and private lands.

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

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

This project will actively reduce fuels within the project area. Cheatgrass infestations will be treated along roadways and within important sagebrush habitat, riparian areas, and post-fire landscapes creating and maintaining fuel breaks that can be used to better support fire suppression efforts, reducing overall fire risk.

This project will enhance existing restoration and rehabilitation projects. Conducting weed inventories, herbicide treatments, and revegetation actions after fuels reduction projects and wildland fires will improve habitat conditions and landscape resistance and resilience. This project will also support researchers working on strategies to improve restoration outcomes for rangelands in the Great Basin and share that information with land managers and the public. Intact, native habitats are more resistant and resilient to disturbances such as fire.

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

C. Department of the Interior Priorities:

1. ***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.*
2. ***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.*

This project will provide opportunities to work with local area Tribes on weed management and habitat restoration through Cooperative Weed Management Areas and training scholarships.

3. ***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 will provide employment opportunities with federal agencies, a regional nonprofit organization, and through agreements and contracts with these entities. Work with local landowners and other stakeholders through Cooperative Weed Management Areas will strengthen local partnerships and provide direct financial assistance to CWMA members. This project will improve habitat conditions on public and private lands and provide resources and training to the public and local communities on weed management and habitat restoration. Through weed management and habitat restoration, this project will protect and restore biodiversity, public lands, and access to recreation.

4. ***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.

Eradication and control of invasive and noxious weeds protects biodiversity and slows extinction rates. Habitat restoration treatments like those included in this project are some of the best tools land managers have for conservation and to protect biodiversity and improve habitat conditions for native species. At the heart of this project is building partnerships among local, state, Tribal, private, and federal partners working toward common conservation goals like weed management.

5. ***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.

One of the goals of this project is to engage with a diverse group of stakeholders toward a common goal. This project will provide financial support and educational outreach to rural communities in eastern Nevada. Through Cooperative Weed Management Area partnerships, this project will expand opportunities for local

communities and provide scholarships and other resources to project partners.

D. USDA Forest Service Priorities:

1. *Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic*

This project will provide new outdoor educational opportunities that promote self-distancing and reduce large group congregation.

2. *Providing economic relief*

This project will create jobs, provide financial assistance to project partners and local landowners through Cooperative Weed Management Area agreements, and improve recreational opportunities through invasive plant control and habitat restoration.

3. *Tackling climate change*

This project will reduce hazardous fine fuels, reduce the potential for large wildfires, restore riparian and wetland areas, and restore ecosystems within the project area. Intact, native habitats are more resilient to threats such as climate change.

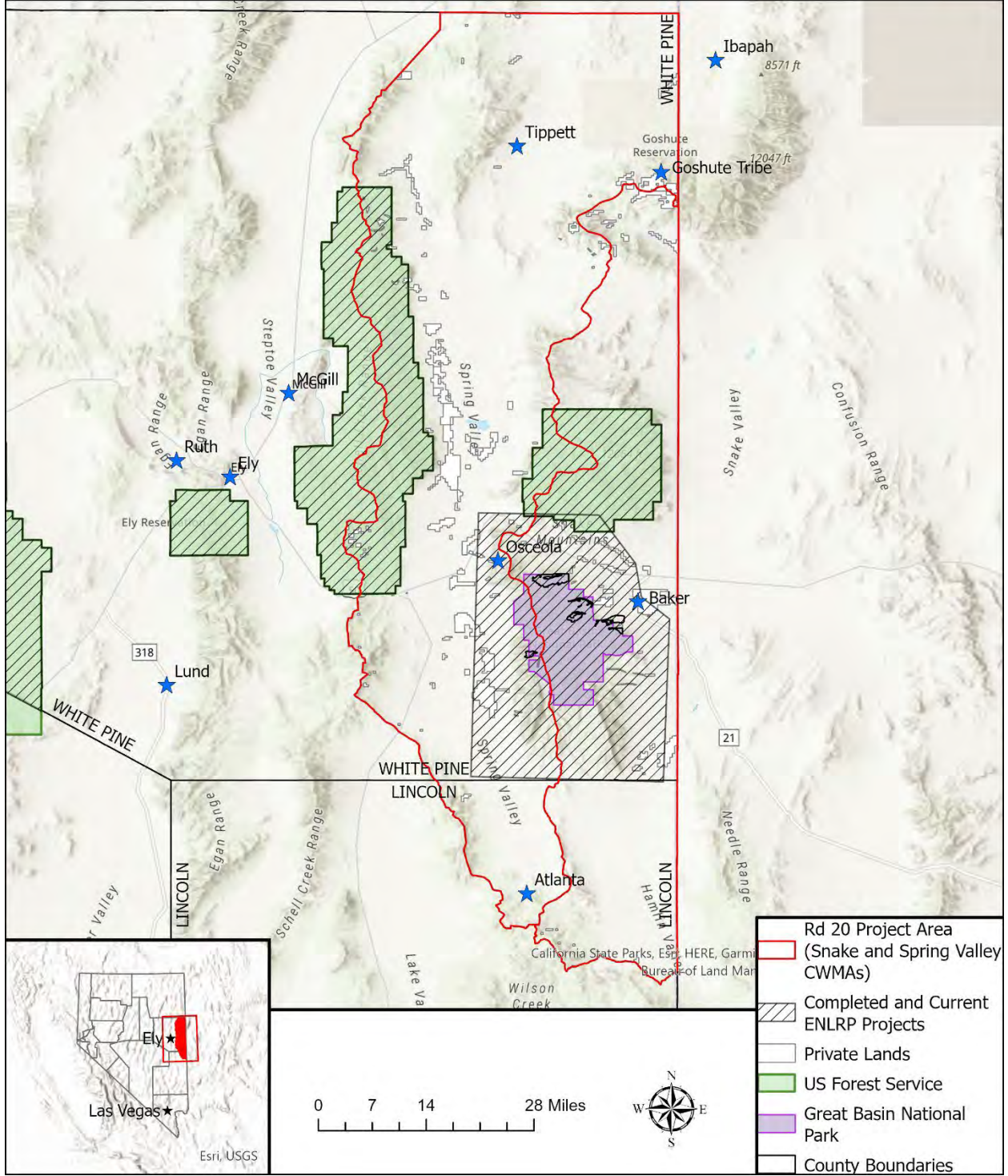
4. *Advancing racial equity*

5. *Improving our workforce and work environment*

This project will strengthen working relationships by supporting weed management actions and communication across private and public lands in White Pine and Lincoln Counties.

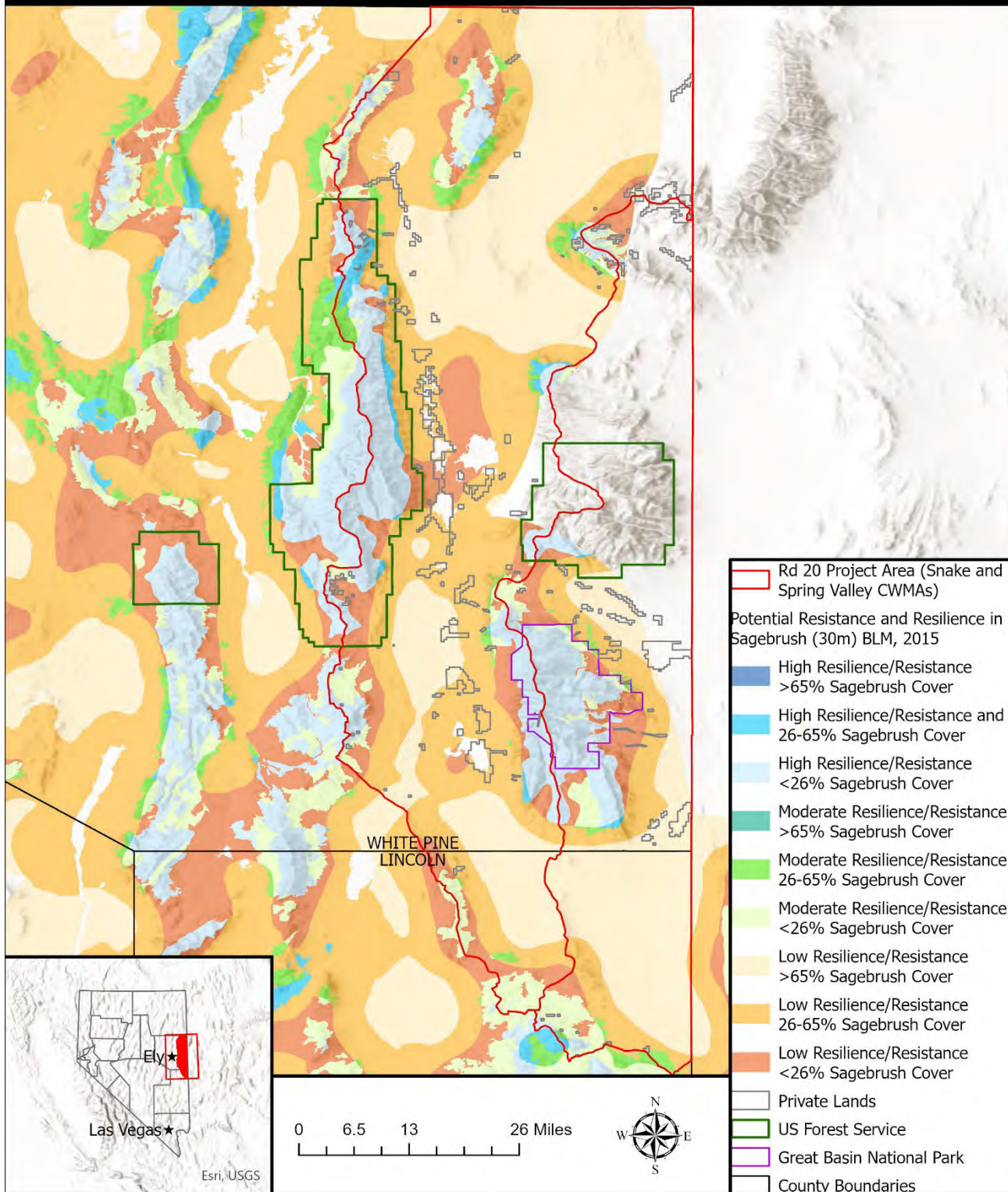
M. MAPS

**SNPLMA Round 20 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Proposal
 Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach
 National Park Service, Forest Service and Eastern NV Landscape Coalition
 Location-Community-Connectivity Map, October 2023**



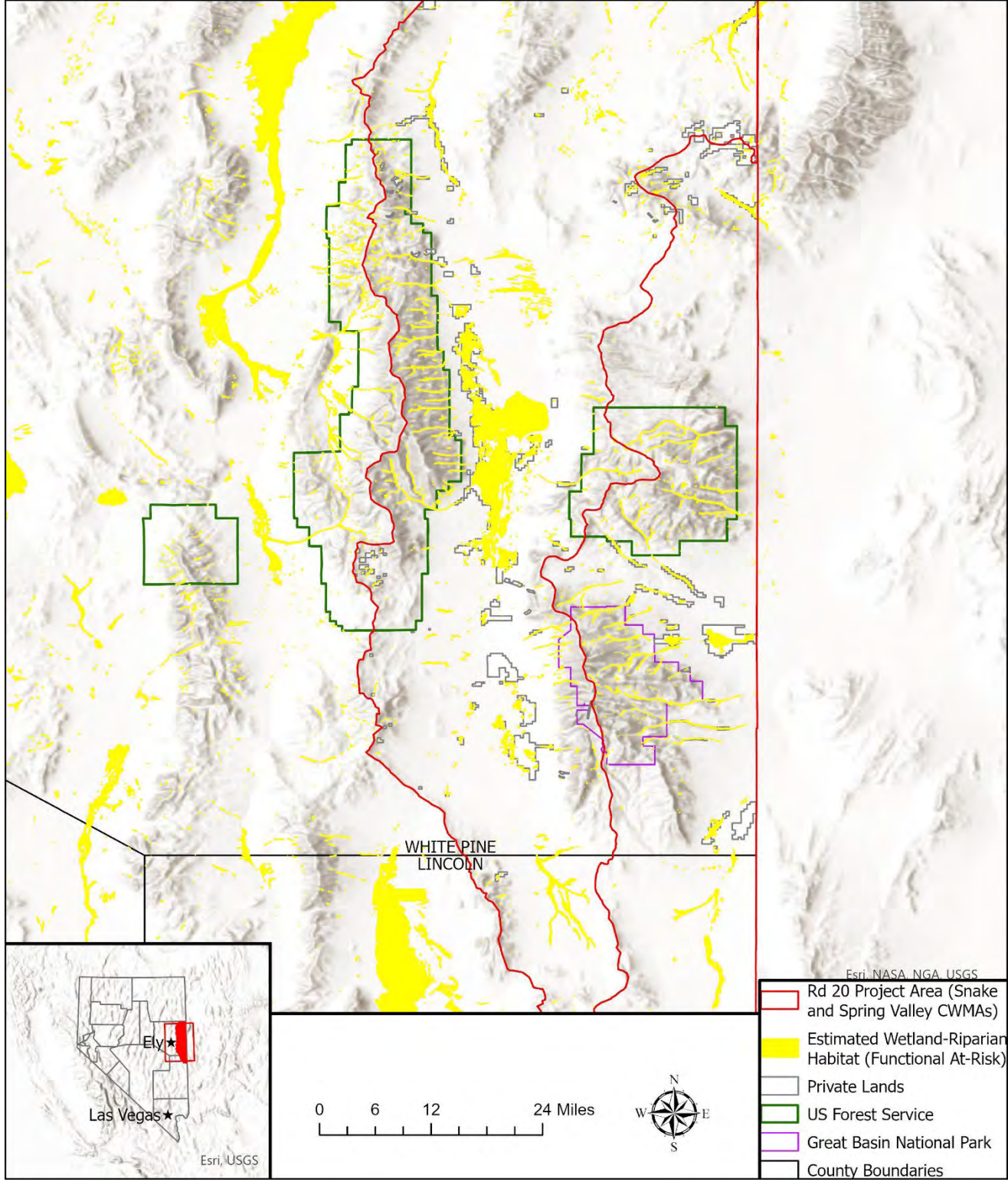
Map 1: Location and SNPLMA Strategic Values, Community and Connectivity

**SNPLMA Round 20 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Proposal
 Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach
 National Park Service, Forest Service and Eastern NV Landscape Coalition
 Potential Ecosystem Resilience/Resistance in Sagebrush Habitat**



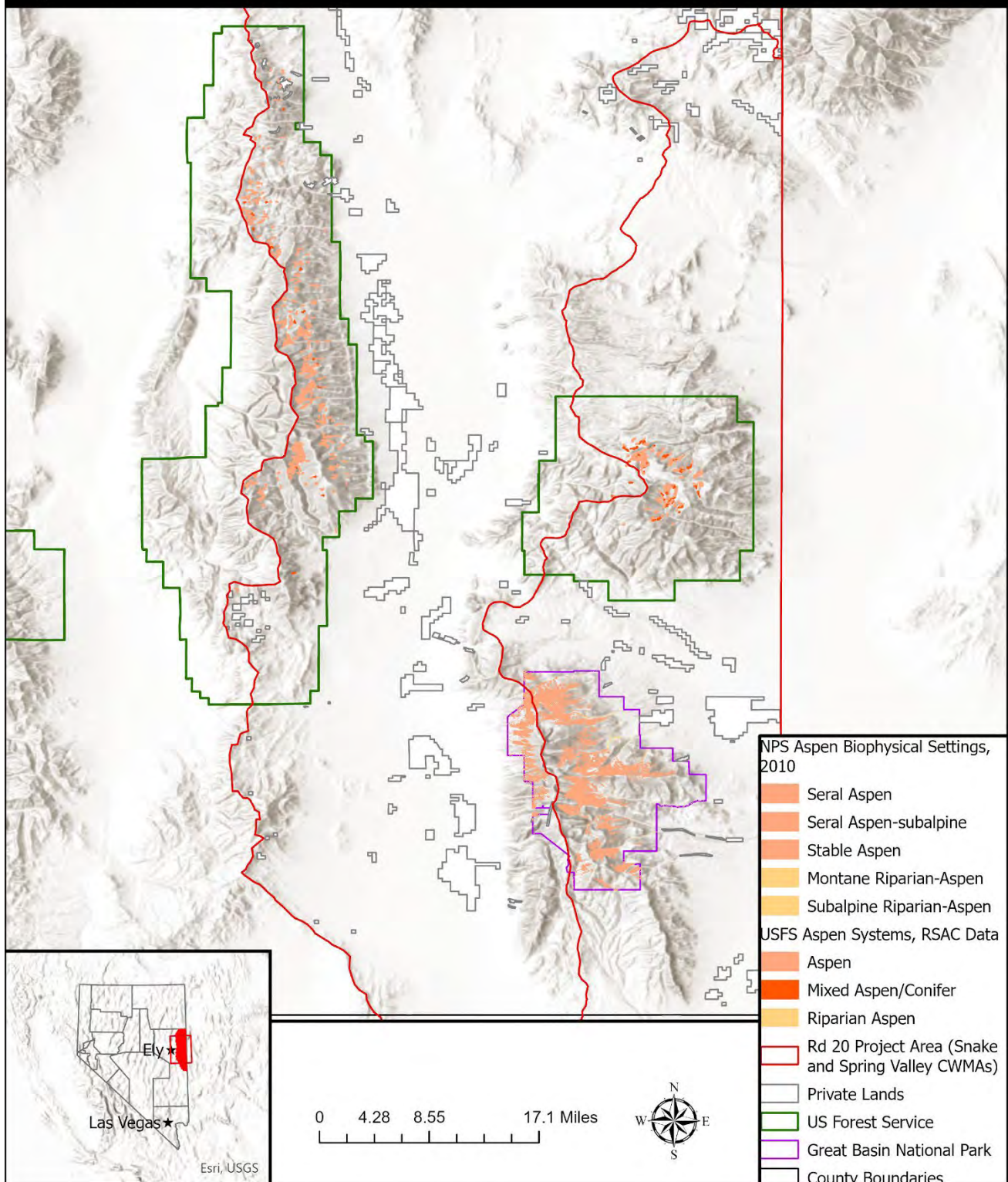
Map 2: Sagebrush Resistance and Resilience

SNPLMA Round 20 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Proposal Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach National Park Service, Forest Service and Eastern NV Landscape Coalition Estimated Wetland and Riparian Habitat



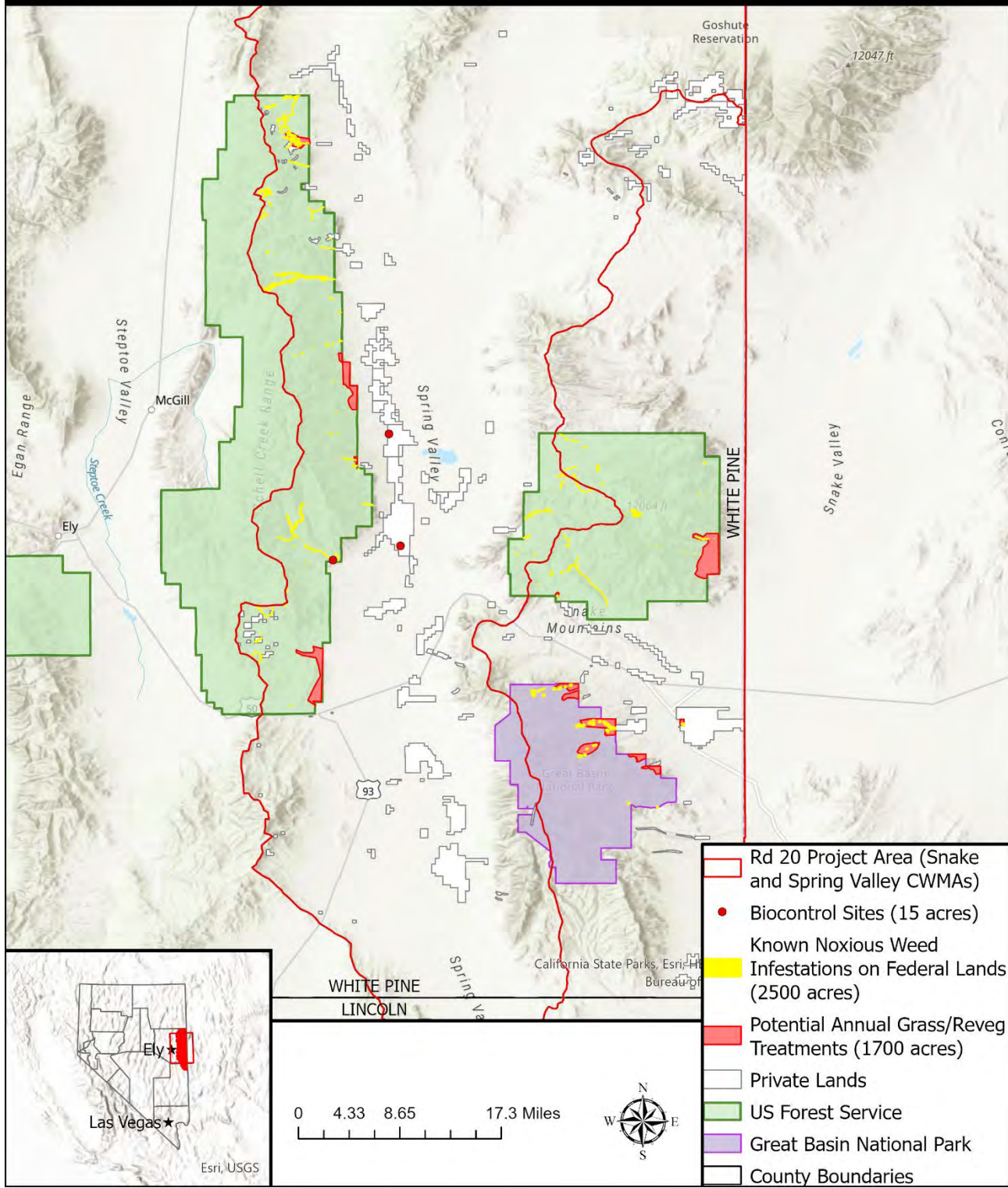
Map 3: Riparian-Wetland Habitat

SNPLMA Round 20 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Proposal Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach National Park Service, Forest Service and Eastern NV Landscape Coalition Aspen Habitat



Map 4: Aspen Habitat

SNPLMA Round 20 Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Proposal Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach National Park Service, Forest Service and Eastern NV Landscape Coalition Potential Treatment Locations, NPS and USFS



Map 5: Potential Treatment Areas, Federal Lands

N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources		
Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement	Definition of Performance Measure	Quantity
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.	1,700 acres
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.	1,700 acres
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.	2,900 acres
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.	10,600 acres
Performance Measures for Wildland Fire Management	Definition of Performance Measure	Quantity
F1 - Acres of Hazardous Fuels Treated – Non-Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	Report the total number of acres of hazardous fuels treated, enhanced, or restored to reduce wildland fuels hazards and to restore or maintain ecosystem resiliency outside the WUI. Where multiple treatments are necessary to meet vegetation management objectives, such as hand thinning followed by re-seeding, each treatment is counted individually.	800 acres

F2 - Acres of Hazardous Fuels Treated – Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	Report the total number of acres of hazardous fuels treated, enhanced, or restored to reduce wildland fuels hazards and to restore or maintain ecosystem resiliency within the WUI. Where multiple treatments are necessary to meet vegetation management objectives, such as hand thinning followed by re-seeding, each treatment is counted individually.	700 acres
Performance Measures for Cultural / Paleontological Resources	Definition of Performance Measures	Quantity
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).	1,900 acres
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
O4 - Number of Scientific / Technical Reports Produced	Report the number of scientific technical reports produced. Report each report as one unit.	1
O5 - Number of Outreach Contacts Made	Report the number of education and outreach contacts made through interpretation and environmental education, such as number of teachers trained, number of participants in workshops, etc. Report each participant as one unit.	1,000
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.	3
O7 - Number of Interpretive or Education Presentations Given and/or Community Events Participated in or Hosted	Report the number of interpretive or educational presentations given. Report each presentation as one unit.	36

O. PHOTOS

None

P. SUPPORT LETTERS

1. USDA Forest Service, Humboldt - Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District
2. Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition
3. Bureau of Land Management, Ely District Office
4. State of Nevada, Department of Wildlife
5. State of Nevada, Department of Agriculture
6. White Pine County dba. Tri-County Weed Control
7. Snake Valley CEMA Chairman



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Humboldt-Toiyabe
National Forest

Ely Ranger District
825 Avenue E
Ely, NV 89301
(775) 289-3031 Fax (775) 289-2132

Date: October 24, 2023

Anita Hansen, Acting Superintendent
Great Basin National Park Service
100 Great Basin National Park
Baker, Nevada 89311

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear Ms. Hansen,

The USFS Ely Ranger District is pleased to provide this letter of support for the National Park Service's (NPS) Round 20 SNPLMA Proposal, entitled *Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach*. This project includes partnering to continue weed management, restoration, and outreach efforts across Snake Valley and Spring Valley Watersheds.

This partnership with Great Basin National Park (NPS) and Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC) would provide new educational opportunities and expand on-going weed management efforts and enhance restoration and rehabilitation activities; thus, aiding in rangeland and wildlife habitat improvement across boundaries.

The Forest Service fully supports the *SNPLMA Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach Project* and looks forward to working closely with the National Park Service. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me via email at jose.noriega@usda.gov, or by phone at (775) 289-0176.

Sincerely,

JOSE NORIEGA
District Ranger





October 3

Ani a Hansen
Great Basin National Park
1 Great Basin National Park
Baker, NV 89311

Re: Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach

Dear Ani a,

On behalf of the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition (ENLC), I would like to express our full support of Great Basin National Park's Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach proposal submitted for Round 1 of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project (ENLRP) process.

ENLC's mission is to restore the dynamic and diverse landscapes of the arid and semi-arid West for present and future generations through collaborative efforts. The submitted proposal is in-line with our mission and goals; therefore, we gladly support the NPS's efforts and proposal.

ENLC has worked with the Park over the last 10 years through two different cooperative weed management areas (CWMAs) located in White Pine and Lincoln Counties. Consistent funding to work on the noxious weed problem has been an issue since the CWMAs were established. A multi-year award would go a long way towards helping to establish control over some of the noxious and invasive populations, and maybe eradicate some new infestations that might be detected through early detection and rapid response. ENLC would be a project partner and would work collaboratively with the National Park Service (NPS) and Forest Service on project deliverables. As a project partner, we will collaborate with the NPS and Forest Service, CWMA members, and the public to meet project deliverables.

If you have any questions regarding ENLC's support of this project, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (775) 89-7974.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susi Algrim".

Susi Algrim
Executive Director



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ely District Office
702 North Industrial Way
Ely, Nevada 89301
<https://www.blm.gov/nevada>

In Reply Refer To:
2710 (NVL0000)

Anita Hansen, Acting Superintendent
Great Basin National Park
100 Great Basin National Park
Baker, NV 89311

Dear Ms. Hansen,

The Bureau of Land Management, Ely District would like to express our support for Great Basin National Park's Round 20 ENLRP nomination entitled "*Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach*". BLM was not able to commit to being a funded partner on this project, but we fully support the collaborative weed management efforts that Great Basin National Park is proposing.

Noxious weeds and invasive plants are one of the largest threats to land health and can cause widespread degradation of rangelands. Weeds can out-compete the native and desirable plants that wildlife use for forage and habitat. Invasive grasses like cheatgrass can increase wildfire frequency and severity.

Since weeds don't care about ownership boundaries, it is imperative that different landowners and agencies work together to control them. One of the ways to work together is through the support of Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs). Great Basin's proposal will reinvigorate two CWMAs of which the Ely District is an active member – Snake Valley and Spring Valley.

Great Basin's nomination is a multi-strategy approach to combatting invasive weeds that includes the use of biological controls, revegetation and restoration of sagebrush habitat, and education and outreach. It is important to implement a variety of tactics to achieve success in managing weeds.

The Ely District looks forward to collaborating with Great Basin National Park on future weed management efforts.

Sincerely,

ROBBIE MCABOY
Digitally signed by ROBBIE
MCABOY
Date: 2023.10.26 08:18:41 -07'00'

Robbie McAboy
District Manager, Ely



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Suite 120

Reno, Nevada 89511

Phone (775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

ALAN JENNE
Director

JORDAN GOSHERT
Deputy Director

CALEB MCADOO
Deputy Director

MIKE SCOTT
Deputy Director

October

Meg Horner
Great Basin National Park
57 N. HWY 87
Baker Nevada 89

Re: SNPLMA Round -Cooperative Weed Management Restoration and Outreach

Dear Ms. Horner

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (Department) would like to extend our support for the following Round Proposal: Cooperative Weed Management Restoration and Outreach.

The Department has continually partnered with Great Basin National Park Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Ely Ranger District and the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition to develop and implement habitat restoration projects throughout Spring and Snake Valleys. This proposal seeks to improve habitat conditions in sagebrush and riparian habitat and support fuels reduction and post-fire restoration through invasive plant inventory and treatment invasive annual grass control revegetation treatments monitoring and public outreach and education across both federal and private lands. The Department believes the proposed efforts will provide continued improvement to habitat for Nevada's wildlife.

As such NDOW would like to extend our support to the Great Basin National Park and their partners in their efforts to improve and maintain wildlife habitat and we are happy to coordinate with you or provide any assistance we that can.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Moira Kolada".

Moira Kolada
Nevada Department of Wildlife
Habitat Division
8 N. Alpha Street
Ely NV 89
775. 89. 655 Ext. 5
mkolada@ndow.org

JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

J.J. GOICOECHEA, DVM
Director



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Las Vegas, NV 89104-4211
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(775) 753-1360
Fax (775) 738-2639

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

405 South 21st Street
Sparks, Nevada 89431-5557
Telephone (775) 353-3601 Fax (775) 353-3661
Website: <http://www.agri.nv.gov>

Anita Hansen
Great Basin National Park
100 Great Basin National Park
Baker, NV 89311

November 2nd, 2023

Subject: Letter of Support for SNPLMA R20 Proposal: Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration and Outreach

Dear Ms. Hansen:

I am writing a letter of support for the cooperative weed management, restoration and outreach project. The project will support the Spring Valley and Snake Valley cooperative weed management areas (CWMA's) in Lincoln and White Pine county.

The mission of NDA is to preserve, protect and promote Nevada agriculture. This project is compatible with the mission and will help inventory, treat and monitor noxious and invasive weeds in the Spring and Snake Valley CWMAs. This project will maintain and monitor biological control sites targeting Canada thistle in the Spring Valley CWMA, control invasive annual grasses in sagebrush habitat to control fine fuels and reduce fire risk and conduct revegetation to prevent establishment of invasive annual grasses and maintain desirable riparian vegetation.

NDA is excited to partner with the Great Basin National Park, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition on this much needed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jake Dick".

Jake Dick
Nevada Department of Agriculture
Noxious Weed Coordinator



**WHITE PINE COUNTY dba.
TRI-COUNTY WEED CONTROL**
133 Fay Avenue ♦ Ely, NV 89301
PH: 775.289.6341 ♦ FX: 775.289.2708

6 October 2023

Anita Hansen
Great Basin National Park
100 Great Basin National Park
Baker, NV 89311

Re: Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project - Cooperative Weed Management,
Restoration, and Outreach

Dear Anita,

This letter is in support of the submission by the National Park Service – Great Basin National Park, for SNPLMA funding of the Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project – Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach. Tri-County Weed Control has conducted weed control efforts similar to those described in the NPS’s proposal.

The goal of Tri-County Weed Control is to work in partnership with other organizations, agencies, tribes, and individuals to address the spread of noxious and invasive weeds in three counties and four conservation districts in Eastern Nevada. Since TCWC’s inception in 2000, we have inventoried over 23,085,450.36 million acres for weed infestations and have concurrently treated a wide range of noxious weeds within the tri-county area. Tri-County Weed Control has helped create several CWMA’s to provide education and promote noxious and invasive weed awareness.

Tri-County Weed Control has found the NPS to be an invaluable partner in efforts to improve and restore landscapes in two CWMA's near the National Park. This project will involve public outreach, education, treatment, and restoration within the Park and its surrounding public lands, in conjunction with the CWMA efforts on private lands. This project can build upon the momentum already established, thus strengthening the cooperative effort between public and private land managers.

If you have any questions regarding Tri-County Weed's support of this project, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (775) 289-6341.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rope Ashworth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rope Ashworth, Administrative Service Manager
TRI-COUNTY WEED CONTROL

17 October 2023

Anita Hansen, Superintendent
Great Basin National Park
100 Great Basin National Park
Baker, NV 89311

Re: Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach Project Proposal

Anita,

On behalf of the Snake Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA), I would like to express our full support of Great Basin National Park's Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach proposal submitted for Round 20 of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project (ENLRP) process.

The Snake Valley CWMA was formed in 2003. The CWMA was originally formed because of spotted knapweed infestations identified along Highway 50 where it bisects the watershed and because of the challenges with tamarisk spreading throughout the watershed. In 2012, houndstongue was identified in the watershed and the subsequent survey and treatment resulted in the discovery that houndstongue infestations were more extensive than originally thought.

The Snake Valley CWMA includes rangeland, farmland, the town of Baker and surrounding private lands, BLM and Forest Service lands, and Great Basin National Park. Although this CWMA is large in terms of acreage (1.7 million acres, with 350,000 of those acres in the state of Nevada), the population associated with the CWMA is quite small with limited resources. Due to the limited resources of many members, the CWMA pursues additional funds to help pay for chemical weed treatments, re-treatments as needed, and educational programs.

This CWMA's goals are to get every landowner within the CWMA involved; to control all known weed infestations on both private and public lands; to ensure that effective early detection/rapid response and integrated weed management programs are in place; to prevent the spread of invasives resulting from the high level of recreation in the area; and monitoring and treatment as needed of all known infestations beyond the duration of any grant funding.

Snake Valley CWMA goals are addressed in the Cooperative Weed Management, Restoration, and Outreach proposal submitted for Round 20 of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project (ENLRP) process. As such, the Snake Valley CWMA is in full support of the proposal.

Craig Baker
Snake Valley CWMA Chairman



**SNPLMA Round 20
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project
North Schell Phase III
Nomination Addendum**

Nomination: Tab 02 North Schell Phase III

Agency: Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District Office

Cover Page

There were cents included in the amount when the nomination instructions stated not to include any cents.

Section C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Purpose Statement, it did not identify who and where. Stating “multiple partners” is too vague of who will be doing this proposal. The nomination instructions outlined:

“Who: The eligible agency/entity that will carry out the project.” Which administrative boundaries is one referring to is too vague for a location.

The nomination instructions outlined:

“Where: The physical location where the project will be carried out. The statement must identify the specific facility, physical plant, or other physical location within a specified area managed by the agency/entity (“management area”) where the project will be carried out. The nature of the project may result in the identification of multiple locations within a project area (e.g., a project to monitor habitat for a given species at two locations where it exists in Lincoln County, etc.). “

Section D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

Outlined under Standard Deliverable “Complete environmental planning process including: NEPA analysis and decision...” It was stated a NEPA decision was completed, unclear how is this deliverable task is still needed.

Unclear how restoration allotment and pasture fences relate to the ENLRP category. Agency provided additional clarification after the Subgroup meeting:

These are boundary fences between National Forest System lands (NFS lands) and BLM managed public lands that need repair to protect NFS lands from livestock that are coming on the forest from BLM. Also, it is a growing problem with wild horses in this area coming onto the forest from the BLM. The areas proposed for fence repairs are not herd management areas on the forest service side of things and it is critical to protect the resources and ecosystem from the resource damage that large numbers of horses can do to the subject resource areas. This effects wildlife populations greatly i.e. Greater sage-grouse and big game.

Section J. RANKING CRITERIA

No maps were submitted for question #2 Habitat Recovery/Restoration; whereby, the nomination maps would depict project habitat areas conditions plus adjacent surrounding habitat conditions for project areas of proposed sagebrush restoration treatment. A legend will be included that indicate the calculated specific project areas for each habitat condition.

Section M. MAPS

The maps submitted did not comply with the correct format as outlined in the nomination instructions. The maps were submitted in PDF format when the instructions stated each map should be a single JPG file.

Section M. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The quantity does not match what is in the nomination. The nomination list ranges of acres while the performance measurement does not.

**Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project
Round 20**

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



North Schell Phase III

Amount Requested: \$2,863,180.00

A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Over the past 10 years the Forest Service has been cooperating with partners including the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Livestock Permittees, Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition, Private Landowners, Nevada Division of Forestry, the Conservation District, Tri-County Weeds, BLM and White Pine County to plan and implement restoration activities and projects within the Schell Creek Mountain Range. Portions of the project area have been identified as a high priority under Shared Stewardship and the Farm Bill. The Project Area contains high value wildlife habitats and areas of urban interface.

a. Describe Relationship to prior Approved Phases or Related SNPLMA Projects and Anticipated Future Phases

There are two prior phases of this project. There may be future phases of this project, however, each phase would be a stand-alone project. This project overlaps the North Schell Restoration project phase I and Phase II which were previously funded under SNPLMA. Additional restoration work has been completed using Secure Rural School funding as well as appropriated funds.

b. Acknowledgement of Stand-Alone Project and no Guarantee of Funding for Future Phases

This is a stand-alone project with no expectation of future funding.

B. SNPLMA STRATEGIC PLAN VALUES

Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project has 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:

- Implement landscape scale restoration activities.
- Restoration activities may include pinyon-juniper treatments, riparian restoration activities, aspen restoration, fuels reduction, watershed restoration, seeding, wildlife habitat improvements, soil stabilization and reduction of sedimentation.
- Road improvements that will reduce potential erosion and sedimentation into streams.
- The agency will participate in multiple public meetings or events to educate the public about the restoration work.

2. Connectivity:

- This project covers the northern portion of the Schell Creek Range.

- The project area is a very popular area for recreationists, hunters and other visitors.
3. Community:
- This project will implement multiple activities to restore vegetation communities, riparian habitats, wildlife habitats and other resources within the Project Area.
 - This project will reduce fuels within urban interfaces.
 - This project may involve multiple partners including the Forest Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Landowners, Livestock Permittees, White Pine County, Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition, and others.

C. PURPOSE STATEMENT

This project will involve multiple partners to restore watersheds and ecosystems at a landscape scale and across administrative boundaries. This project will implement numerous restoration related activities.

D. PROJECT DELIVERABLES

1. Primary Deliverables:
 - Treat between 2,500 and 3500 acres of pinyon-juniper to restore wildlife habitats, reduce fuels, and/or improve pine nut production.
 - Implement between 500 and 1,000 acres of treatments to restore aspen, limber pine and riparian communities.
 - Rehabilitate approximately 10-15 miles of access roads, including improving drainage to reduce erosion and sedimentation on the Indian Creek Road and Segal Creek Roads
 - Reconstruct approximately 9 miles of allotment and pasture fences to improve management of livestock and help restore ecosystems through improved management.
 - Trail Fence (9428F03) 2 miles
 - North Creek Kinsey Canyon Boundary Fence (9422F02) 3 miles
 - North/Middle Creek Fence (9422F03) 4 miles
2. Anticipated Deliverables:
 - Treat an additional 1,000 acres of pinyon-juniper to restore wildlife habitats, reduce fuels, and/or improve pine nut production.
3. Standard Deliverables:
 - Complete required inventories, site assessments, and cultural assessments 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

Physical location of project; identify County (s) and State:

Schell Creek Range, White Pine County, NV

Identify Congressional District(s):

Nevada Congressional District NV-4

Latitude and Longitude:

39.660421 X-114.635282

F. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

The project timeframe will be 5 years.

Year One:

Primary Deliverables:

- Fuels reduction: Identify units for 2500 to 3500 acres of Pinyon-Juniper treatments and finish cultural surveys for selected units
- Fuels reduction: Identify treatment areas from 500-1000 acres of aspen, limber pine and riparian communities for treatment and complete cultural surveys.
- Identify 10-15 miles of access roads to be rehabilitated.
- Confirm the following areas of fence reconstruction are ready to go.
 - **Trail Fence (9428F03) 2 miles**
 - **North Creek Kinsey Canyon Boundary Fence (9422F02) 3 miles**
 - **North/Middle Creek Fence (9422F03) 4 miles**
- Contract for fencing supplies
- Keep up on SMART quarterly status updates, quarterly expenditures/obligations updates and annual accomplishment reports.

Anticipated Deliverables:

- Fuels reduction: Identify 1000 additional acres to be treated.

Year Two:

Primary Deliverables:

- Fuels reduction: Contract prep and implementation for 1000 acres of Pinyon Juniper treatments
- Fuels reduction: Contract prep and implementation for 500 acres of aspen, limber pine and riparian communities treatment
- Fuels reduction: complete cultural surveys and finalize treatment area for 1000 acres Pinyon Juniper treatments Anticipated Deliverable

- Fence: contract for 9 miles of fence repair implemented
- Roads: Repair work begins finishing 3 miles of rehabilitation
- Keep up on SMART quarterly status updates, quarterly expenditures/obligations updates and annual accomplishment reports.

Year Three:

Primary Deliverables

- Fuels reduction: Contract prep and implementation for 1000 acres of Pinyon Juniper treatments
- Fuels reduction: Contract prep and implementation for 500 acres of aspen, limber pine and riparian communities treatment
- Fence: Finish any additional work left on this contract
- Roads: Repair work continues finishing 3 miles of rehabilitation
- Keep up on SMART quarterly status updates, quarterly expenditures/obligations updates and annual accomplishment reports.

Anticipated Deliverables:

- Fuels reduction: contract and implementation to treat an additional 1000 acres of Pinyon and Juniper.

Year four:

- Fuels reduction: Contract prep and implementation for 1000 acres of Pinyon Juniper treatments
- Fuels reduction: Finish any work left from prior years contract of aspen, limber pine and riparian communities treatment. Complete this work this year.
- Roads: Repair work continues finishing 4 miles of rehabilitation
- Keep up on SMART quarterly status updates, quarterly expenditures/obligations updates and annual accomplishment reports.

Anticipated Deliverables:

- Fuels reduction: finish any work left on contract from prior year

Year five:

- Fuels reduction: Finish any contract work left from prior years contracts
- Roads: Repair work continues finishing any additional miles identified
- Keep up on SMART quarterly status updates, quarterly expenditures/obligations updates and annual accomplishment and Final reports.
- Prepare close out package and report.

G. LEVEL OF PROJECT READINESS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Is this a shovel-ready project? Yes No

Planning and NEPA analysis have been completed for all of the activities listed for this project. Cultural clearance will be needed for a portion of the treatments.

Have you applied, received, or is there the opportunity to obtain funding from another source for this project? Please list the additional funding opportunities received or applied for and indicate whether it is federal or nonfederal funding.

No

H. PROJECT BUDGET

Complete the project budget using the provided Budget Excel template and upload as a separate document to the "Submissions" tab in the nomination portal. Do not embed the budget in this document.

Partnership and/or Contributed Funds

No additional funding

PROJECT BUDGET		
Cost Categories	SNPLMA	Non-Federal Contribution
1. Personnel (labor plus benefits)	\$ 448,750.00	\$ -
2. Travel	\$ 32,000.00	\$ -
3. Training	\$ -	\$ -
4. Equipment	\$ 51,500.00	\$ -
5. Supplies/Materials	\$ 78,000.00	\$ -
6. Contracts and/or Agreements	\$ 2,135,000.00	\$ -
7. Vehicle Use	\$ 73,430.00	\$ -
8. Other Necessary Expenses	\$ 44,500.00	\$ -
9. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$ 2,863,180.00	\$ -

I. KEY CONTACTS

Authorized Officer: Jose Noriega, District Ranger
 Email: jose.noriega@usda.gov
 Phone Number: 775-289-0176

Project Manager: Lisa Kemper, Zone Fuels Specialist
 Email: lisa.kemper@usda.gov
 Phone Number: 775-289-5128

Budget Officer: Petersam (Sam) Le, Forest Budget Officer
 Email: petersam.le@usda.gov
 Phone Number: 775-300-1739

J. RANKING CRITERIA

1. **Fuels Management: Projects that are designed to change vegetation composition and/or structure to modify potential fire behavior for the purpose of improving fire suppression effectiveness and limiting fire spread and intensity.** (Projects are only eligible for Items A, B, or C; select and answer ONLY ONE. Answer Items D and E.)

- A. Project will conduct treatments to maintain healthy sagebrush rangelands, including preventative measures for annual grass invasion and conifer encroachment.

Between 2500 and 3500 acres of Pinyon-Juniper will be treated to restore wildlife habitats, reduce fuels, and improve pine nut production. These treatments will maintain and restore important sagebrush ecosystems.

- B. Project will conduct treatments to address the conversion of overgrown/decadent sagebrush, annual grass understory, and conifer encroachment. (*Do not answer if you answered Item A. already*).

Answer: NA

- C. Project will conduct treatments to address the annual grass and/or conifer dominated landscape within or adjacent to sagebrush rangelands. (*Do not answer if you answered Items A or B already*).

Answer: NA

- D. Project is to remove conifers to decrease the fire risk to large intact sagebrush habitat, riparian areas, and/or aspen stands.

Between 2500 and 3500 acres of Pinyon-Juniper will be treated to restore wildlife habitats, reduce fuels, and improve pine nut production. These treatments will maintain and restore important sagebrush ecosystems. Significant actions will be implemented to improve riparian areas and restore aspen communities.

- E. Project will treat invasive annual grasses and includes a revegetation component to limit fire risk and change vegetation composition.

Treated conifers will provide ground cover which in turn will limit the opportunity for invasive species to re-establish.

2. **Habitat Recovery/Restoration.**

The project will implement habitat restoration in sagebrush, riparian-wetland area and/or aspen stand. Characterize the habitat by describing the quality as essential/irreplaceable, high, moderate, or low importance, and describe the habitat resistance and resiliency to disturbance (e.g., high, moderate, low resistance and resiliency). **Answer all applicable.**

Sagebrush Area

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially high. The area is generally described as having high resistance to annual grasses and resilience after disturbance with a high sagebrush landscape cover = > 65 %.

This project area contains important habitats for sage grouse, mule deer and other wildlife species. Portions of this project area have been identified as a high priority under shared stewardship and the Farm Bill. Restoration activities may include pinyon-juniper treatments, riparian restoration activities, fuels reduction, watershed restoration, wildlife habitat improvements, soil stabilization and reduction of sedimentation.

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially intermediate. The area is generally described as having moderate resistance to annual grasses and resilience after disturbance with a medium sagebrush landscape cover = 25-65%.

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

Project area is categorized as restoration/recovery as potentially low. Native grasses and forbs inadequate for recovery, annual invasive risk is high, and may require multiple management interventions with a low sagebrush landscape cover = <25%.

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

Riparian-Wetland Area Conditions

Proper Functioning Conditions:

Project area is characterized as reduce erosion, filter sediment, capture bedload, aid floodplain development, improve flood-water retention, improve ground water recharge, stabilize stream banks, and develop root masses that stabilize streambanks.

No significant work will be done in riparian-wetland areas. The proposed road maintenance will address run off on the road and the stream conditions on that intersect with the proposed road will be improved to help reduce stream bank erosion and road erosion due to run off.

Functioning-at-Risk:

Project area that is in functioning condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

Nonfunctional:

Project area is characterized as clearly not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate energy associated with high flows and does not reduce erosion.

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

Aspen Stand Conditions

Healthy Stand: *Project area is characterized as self-regenerating stands, usually producing pulses of regeneration that maintains grove size over long period of time. Stands contain a pure overstory, good stand structure (i.e., numerous age cohorts), adequate regeneration, and a diverse understory of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. Resilient to disturbance and invasion of introduced species. Full aspen crowns with little to no-die off (<25% overstory mortality, <25% conifer cover).*

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

Declining: *Dead or dying aspen stands with considerable to full overstory die-off and/or foliage loss (25-100% overstory mortality). Characterized by overstory mortality, poor stand structure, weak regeneration, and altered understory communities that weaken stand functionality. Example: A conifer-dominated mixed aspen stand.*

This project will treat several aspen stands that have an understory dominated by mix confers. This will allow for improved aspen regeneration once the competition is reduced.

Seral: *Presence of aspen and at least 25% conifer cover within area. Characterized by the presence of aspen and conifers inhabiting the landscape simultaneously. Aspen in these systems are regarded as the early successional, disturbance, or pioneer species since they are generally the first to establish following a fire, disease, or other disturbances.*

Answer: Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Fire Prevention and Post Fire Rehabilitation. Answer all applicable.

- A. Project is located to strategically prevent fire spread or support suppression activities to minimize the loss of sagebrush rangelands. A strategically placed fuel break as an anchor point for suppression or fuels reduction activities to lessen potential fire intensity or spread.

Treatment sites will be strategically located to be utilized as fuel breaks and

several identified units are along critical boundaries between land agencies. All of these actions will protect important sagebrush communities, protect urban interfaces, and improve the conditions to manage wildfires within the project area.

- B. Project will rehabilitate a previously burned area to prevent the establishment of invasive plants, including annual grasses.

Answer: NA

- C. Project will implement seeding or planting and weed treatment.

Answer: NA

4. Implementation of the project will lead to additional scientific information.

Project will lead to needed/improved scientific information on the design, implementation, and/or adaptation of landscape-scale restoration treatments, including known gaps in land health or sagebrush data.

This project will implement a broad spectrum of Restoration Activities in a large landscape. This project will involve a wide range of partners. Monitoring of these treatments will provide valuable scientific information on restoration on a large landscape.

5. Supports strategic plan values of community, connectivity, and sustainability.

Answer all applicable.

- A. Community: in addition to the direct benefit to the nominating entity, actively involves and addresses the needs of at least one additional governmental agency, (includes Federal, state, local, and tribal governments) community, or private land manager and involves non-governmental groups, volunteers, or organizations in the development and accomplishment of resource management goals, education, outreach, and other activities.

This project may involve multiple partners including the Forest Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Landowners, Livestock Permittees, White Pine County, Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition, Tri-County Weed and others. Non-SNPLMA contributions could potentially be used to implement this project, however, there is no commitment at this time.

- B. Connectivity: completed, current/on-going, or future restoration projects, of any funding source and jurisdiction (including private lands), where the physical project boundaries connect and/or habitat and vegetation connectivity is enhanced.

Completed, current/on-going, or future restoration projects, of any funding source and jurisdiction (including private lands), where the physical project boundaries connect and/or habitat and vegetation connectivity is enhanced.

- C. Sustainability: project data can be incorporated into the ongoing rangeland health monitoring of the sponsoring or benefiting entity.

Extensive monitoring will occur associated with this project. Monitoring data will be incorporated into multiple agencies monitoring information.

L. ORDERS AND PRIORITIES

A. Executive Orders (EO):

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

This project will involve active management to improve and restore resource conditions at a landscape scale. Additionally, project activities will reduce fuels and wildfire risks.

- ***EO No. 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America’s Workers***
- ***EO No. 14063: Use of Project Labor Agreements for Federal Construction Projects (applicable to projects estimated at \$35 million or more)***
- ***EO No. 14072: Strengthening the Nation’s Forests, Communities, and Local Economies***
- ***EO No. 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation’s Commitment to Environmental Justice for All***

B. Secretarial Orders

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

This project will involve active management to improve and restore resource conditions at a landscape scale.

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

This project will improve wildlife habitats at a landscape scale. This project will be closely coordinated with the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Project activities will improve hunting opportunities in the area.

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

This project will improve big game habitats including winter ranges.

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

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

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

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

C. Department of the Interior Priorities:

1. ***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.*

NA

2. ***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.*

This project will be coordinated with Tribal Governments. Additionally, this project will produce and supply fuelwood for Tribal Communities.

3. ***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 will increase restoration activities at a landscape scale. This project will also increase opportunities for employment.

4. ***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.*

NA

5. ***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.*

This project has multiple opportunities to work with partners and considerable coordination. This project will restore riparian areas and ecosystems within a rural area of Nevada.

D. USDA Forest Service Priorities:

1. ***Controlling the COVID-19 pandemic***

NA

2. ***Providing economic relief***

This project will create jobs.

3. ***Tackling climate change***

This project will reduce fuels, reduce the potential for large wildfires, restore riparian areas and restore ecosystems within the landscape.

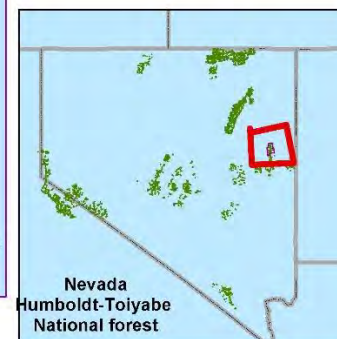
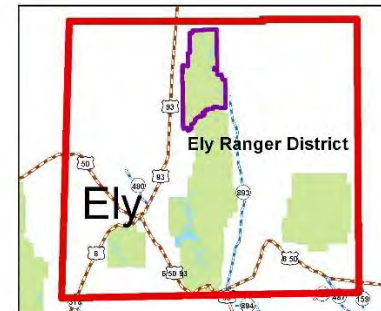
4. ***Advancing racial equity***

NA

5. *Improving our workforce and work environment*
NA



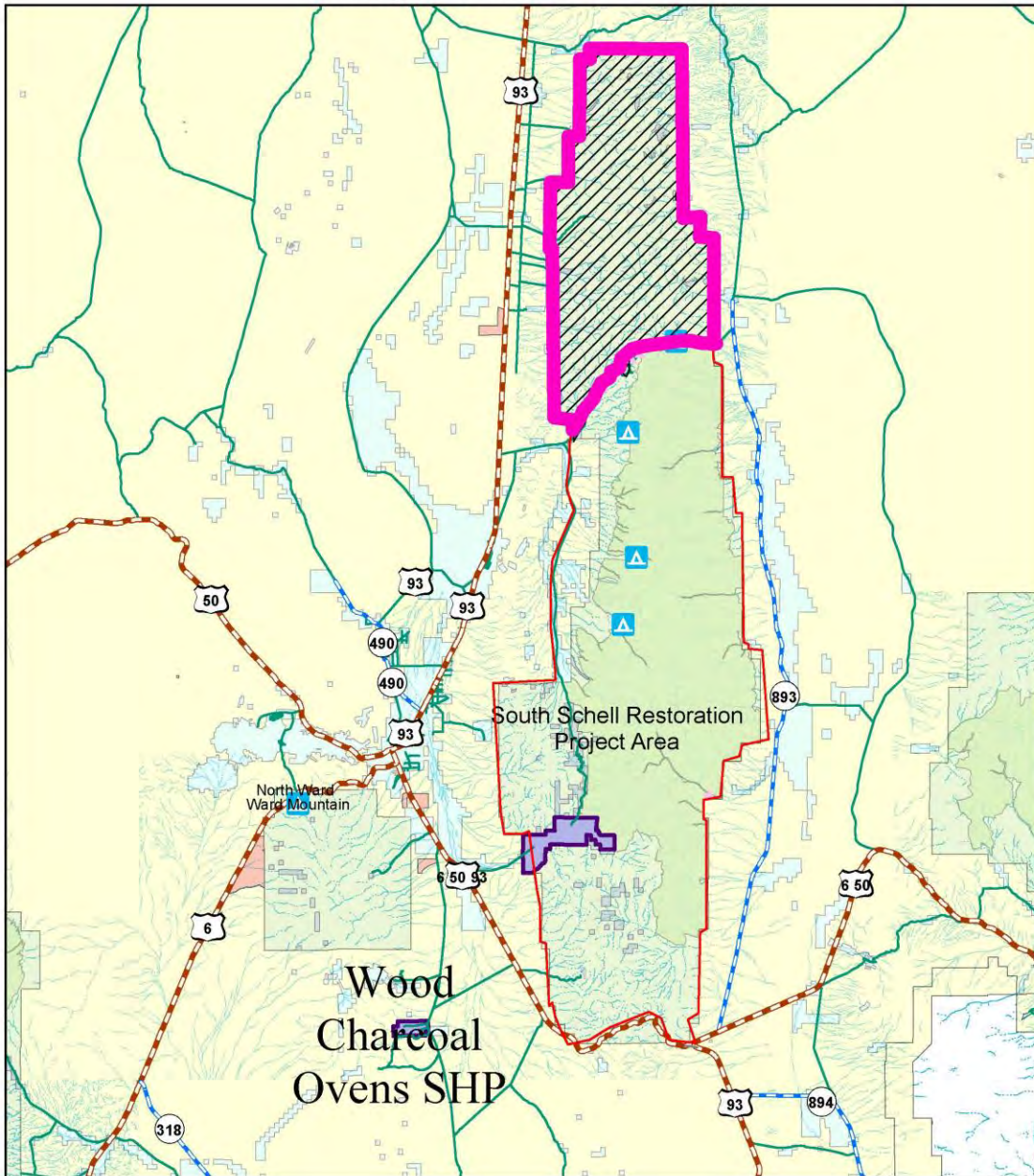
US Forest Service
Ely Ranger District
SNPLMA
Round 20 Proposal
North Schell Phase III
October 30, 2023



L.Kemper

Map 1: Location

North Schell Restoration Strategic Plan Value



Legend

Rec Site label

Recreation Facilities

- Campsite
- ▲ Family Campground
- ▲ Group Campground
- OTHER CAMPGROUND

highways for Nevada BasicOwnershipR4

- SUBTYPE**
- <all other values>
 - US Highway
 - State Highway
 - County Roads
 - State Parks

OWNERCLASSIFICATION

- USDA FOREST SERVICE
- NON-FS
- S_USA.SurfaceOwnership_BLM
- ADMIN_AGENCY_CODE
- BIA

- BLM
- PVT
- High Schells Wilderness

Streams and Ditches

- LEGEND**
- Stream-perennial
 - Stream-seasonal

10 5 0 10 Miles



09/20/2023 LMK

Map 2: SNPLMA Strategic Plan Values

N. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SNPLMA FY2020-FY2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: Sustain the Quality of the Outdoor Environment by Conserving, Preserving, and Restoring Natural and Cultural Resources		
Performance Measures for Habitat Enhancement	Definition of Performance Measure	Quantity
H6 - Acres of Wetland / Riparian Habitat Treated, Enhanced, or Restored	<p>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.</p> <p>Report to the nearest whole acre.</p>	1000
H16 - Miles of Roads or Trails Decommissioned and/or Rehabilitated	<p>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.</p> <p>Report to the nearest whole mile.</p>	15 Miles
Performance Measures for Wildland Fire Management	Definition of Performance Measure	Quantity
F1 - Acres of Hazardous Fuels Treated – Non-Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	<p>Report the total number of acres of hazardous fuels treated, enhanced, or restored to reduce wildland fuels hazards and to restore or maintain ecosystem resiliency outside the WUI. Where multiple treatments are necessary to meet vegetation management objectives, such as hand thinning followed by re-seeding, each treatment is counted individually.</p> <p>Report to the nearest whole acre.</p>	2500
F2 - Acres of Hazardous Fuels Treated – Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	<p>Report the total number of acres of hazardous fuels treated, enhanced, or restored to reduce wildland fuels hazards and to restore or maintain ecosystem resiliency within the WUI. Where multiple treatments are necessary to meet vegetation management objectives, such as hand thinning followed by re-seeding, each treatment is counted individually.</p>	1000

O. PHOTOS

None

P. SUPPORT LETTERS

None