

# Projects and Planning Schedule



Youth Programs



2009

## Battle Mountain District

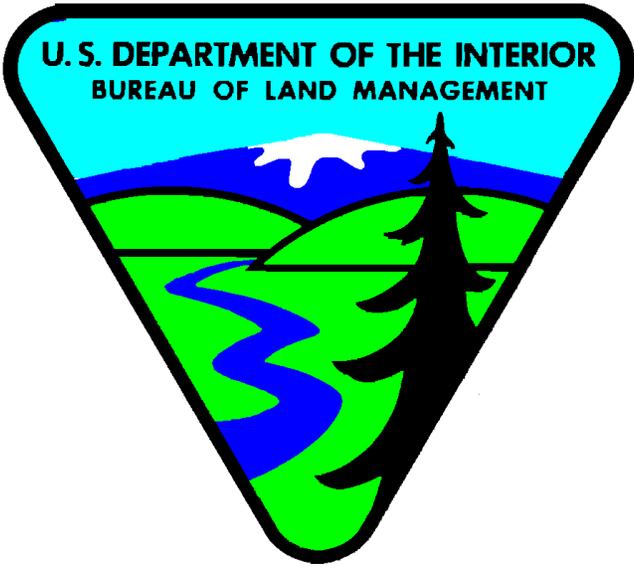
Mount Lewis Field Office

Tonopah Field Office



Green Energy — Geothermal





## **To BE INVOLVED**

Resource management within the BLM and other government agencies is process oriented. In order to influence the decision, you need to be a part of the process, and the earlier in the process you become involved, the easier it is for your concerns to be addressed. You can let us know your views and concerns as the analysis is being developed and during formal comment periods. If you would like more information on any of the projects on the following pages, please contact the designated project coordinator. Unless otherwise required by regulation, please be aware that if you do not participate in the decision making process, or if you do not provide substantive comments or input to BLM planning process, BLM will not send you a copy of the implementing decision.

### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

#### **BATTLE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

The Bureau of Land Management Battle Mountain District Office (BMDO) manages nearly 11 million acres of public lands in Nevada. The BMDO is committed to manage, protect and improve these lands in a manner to serve the needs of the varied people of Nevada. Management is based upon the principle of multiple use and sustained yield of our district's resources within a framework of environmental responsibility and scientific technology. These resources include recreation, rangelands, timber, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife habitat, wilderness, air and scenic quality, as well as scientific and cultural values.

# Table of Contents

<b>Definitions and Acronyms</b>	Page 1 - 2
<b>Planning</b>	Page 3
<b>Integrated Weed Management</b>	Page 4
<b>Livestock Grazing Management</b>	Page 5 - 6
<b>Wild Horse and Burros</b>	Page 7
<b>Renewable Energy</b>	
Wind	Page 8 - 9
Solar	Page 10 - 11
Geothermal	Page 12
<b>Non Renewable Resources - Land and Realty</b>	Page 13 - 14
<b>Minerals</b>	Page 15 - 19
<b>Recreation</b>	Page 20
<b>Fire and Fuels Management</b>	Page 21 - 22

---

---

## DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

**Allotment Evaluation (AE)** - Is an evaluation of management actions to determine if resource management objectives and/or standards for rangeland health are being met in grazing allotments.

**Animal Unit Month (AUM)** - The amount of forage needed to sustain one cow, five sheep, or five goats for a month.

**Application to Permit Drilling (APD)** – The permit for subsurface drilling.

**Appropriate Management Level (AML)** - The maximum number of wild horses and/or burros to be managed in a herd management (HMA) area. The Population number has been set through evaluation of monitoring data.

**Categorical Exclusion (CX)** – Actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and do not require an EA or EIS.

**Decision Record (DR)** - The decision document associated with an EA.

**Document of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA)** – A determination by the BLM that NEPA documentation previously prepared by the BLM fully covers a proposed action, and no additional analysis is necessary.

**Environmental Assessment (EA)** - A level of environmental analysis for federal actions that do not require an EIS, where there are no significant impacts to the quality of the human environment. The EA analysis may determine significant adverse impacts requiring the preparation of an EIS. An EA may not be prepared for major Federal actions requiring an EIS.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** - Is a level of environmental analysis conducted for major Federal actions that significantly affect the quality of the human environment (**DEIS** refers to a draft EIS, **FEIS** refers to a final EIS, and **SEIS** refers to a supplemental EIS).

**Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA)** - A Federal Act enacted in 1976 that provides guidelines for the management of our federal lands.

**The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA)** - Commonly called the “Baca Act”, became law on July 25, 2000. It provides for the use of revenues from the sale or exchange of public lands identified for disposal under land use plans in effect as of the date of the FLTFA.

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)** - The FONSI is the finding associated with a DR when the EA demonstrates the proposal has no significant adverse effects. If adverse impacts are determined to be significant, then an EIS is prepared.

**Herd Management Area (HMA)** - Geographic units within herd areas which are managed for wild horses and burros.

**Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA):** A Board within the Department of the Interior's Office of Hearings and Appeals that acts for the Secretary of the Interior in responding to appeals of decisions on the use and disposition of public lands and resources. Because IBLA acts for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, its decisions usually represent the Department's final decision but are subject to the Secretary's review and to appeal in federal court.

**Land Use Plan Amendments** - Plan amendments serve to address issues or proposals that are not presently considered or adequately addressed in the existing land use plan.

**Multiple Use Decision (MUD)** - In Nevada, an Allotment Evaluation serves as the basis for issuing a MUD. MUDs are based on the attainment of multiple use objectives and standards for rangeland health. Following completion of an Allotment Evaluation, a Proposed MUD (PMUD) is distributed to interested parties, typically with an EA and FONSI, before a Final MUD (FMUD) is issued. MUDs establish the terms and conditions for grazing permits/leases and establish or reaffirm AMLs for HMAAs.

**The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)** - In this Act, Congress declared a national policy to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment, promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere, stimulate the health and welfare of man, and to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation. All proposed federal actions that may affect the quality of the human environment must be reviewed for NEPA compliance. NEPA opens the federal agency decision making processes to involvement and scrutiny by the public including state and local governments and other concerned organizations or individuals. NEPA procedures ensure that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and actions taken.

**Notice of Intent (NOI)** - A notification published in the Federal Register to prepare an EIS. Publication of a NOI notifies the public of proposed federal actions and formally begins scoping (issue identification) for an EIS.

**Record of Decision (ROD)** - The decision document associated with an EIS.

**Recreation and Public Purpose Act (R&PP)** - The authorization to lease or convey public lands for recreational and public purposes under specified conditions.

**Right of Way (ROW)** - The public lands authorized to be used or occupied pursuant to a right of way grant.

**Plan of Operation (PoO)** - A plan, detailing all proposed actions, for mining exploration and development that an operation must submit to BLM for approval when greater than 5 acres a year will be disturbed.

**Special Recreation Permit (SRP)** - Permit issued to public lands and waters for recreation, including recreation-related business.

## Battle Mountain District Resource Management Plan (RMP) Revision

**Location:** Parts of Eureka, Lander, Esmeralda and Nye counties

**Description:** The District RMP Revision will update and combine the Shoshone-Eureka and Tonopah RMPs into a district-wide RMP and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The revision will incorporate existing and new management decisions aligned with the goals and objectives of the District.



The RMP/EIS will be completed in accordance with Bureau regulations and the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). It will also provide for implementation of the Great Basin Restoration Initiative (GBRI) and the National Fire Plan.

Interested parties will have an opportunity for input into many aspects of the RMP/EIS process. The RMP/EIS will be prepared in close consultation and collaboration with appropriate federal, state, tribal, county, and local agencies.

**Status:** The RMP/EIS Preparation Plan was completed in April 2009. The revision is scheduled to continue with the Analysis of Management Situation (AMS) and the Statement of Work (SOW).

**Contact:** Dave Davis or Chris Worthington, Battle Mountain District Office

## Background



Control and post-treatment monitoring of noxious weeds and invasive non-native species are an integral part of the management of public lands.

The State of Nevada, by statute, currently lists 45 weeds as “noxious”. Ten noxious weeds are regularly found within our District.

## New Weed Management Plan and Environmental Assessments

**Location:** Throughout the Battle Mountain District (BMD)

**Description:** An EA has been prepared to address potential environmental consequences associated with a proposed new plan of integrated weed management. The plan communicates and identifies potential resource protection measures as well addresses mitigation of possible impacts.

**Background:** Integrated Weed Management considers and uses one or more treatment methods, taking into account each project area’s varying geophysical, anthropomorphic, and natural characteristics, while balancing and adhering to policy and infrastructure limitations. The District proposes using integrated weed management for the prevention, management and control of new and established infestations specific to the Battle Mountain District.

The timing of the treatments would be species specific, with most treatments taking place between April and October.

The extent of treatments would vary yearly, ranging from intensively planned large watershed/landscape scale projects to projects less than an acre.

**Status:** The Integrated Weed Management Plan and EA have been completed. The District is addressing comments and Record of Decision is anticipated to be issued in 2009.



**Contact:** Michael Vermeys or Michele McDaniel, Mount Lewis Field Office

continued next page



## Permit Renewals

**Location:** Copper Canyon and North Buffalo Allotments, Lander and Humboldt counties

**Description:** Renew permits for Badger/Chiara Ranches, Doby George, LLC and Ellison Ranching Company after the completion of an EA and issuance of a grazing decision.

**Status:** In progress – A draft EA was issued to the permittees and interested public in November 2008. Proposed grazing decisions will be issued in 2009.

**Contact:** Michele McDaniel, Mount Lewis Field Office

---

**Location:** Buffalo Valley Allotment, Lander County

**Description:** Renew Ellison Ranching Company's sheep permit associated with the Buffalo Valley Allotment after the completion of a DNA and issuance of a grazing decision.

**Status:** In progress - consultation letter issued. Additional NEPA analysis may be necessary prior to issuance of a grazing decision. Issuance of the grazing decision expected to be on or before September 30, 2009.

**Contact:** Michele McDaniel, Mount Lewis Field Office

---

**Location:** Underwood Allotment, Lander and Eureka counties

**Description:** Recognize a new grazing preference and issue a new 10-year permit to the selected applicant for the Underwood Allotment.

**Status:** An EA is in progress and a grazing decision is scheduled to be issued on or before September 30, 2009.

**Contact:** Michele McDaniel, Mount Lewis Field Office

---

### **Magruder Allotment Range Improvement Project**

**Location:** Magruder Allotment, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Reconstruction of the Stateline Spring and Pipeline. The pipeline is approximately 0.3 of a mile.

**Status:** An EA is in progress.

**Contact:** Marc Pointel, Tonopah Field Office

---

### **Argenta Allotment Evaluation**

**Location:** Argenta Allotment south of Battle Mountain, Lander County

**Description:** The monitoring data, that has and continues to be collected, will be analyzed to help construct a grazing management that meets BLM and permittee goals.

The plan will be analyzed through the NEPA process to determine the effects to the environment. Once the management plan is finalized,

new ten-year grazing permits would be issued to permittees in the Argenta Allotment.



**Status:** In progress. Monitoring and inventory data are being collected. An EA will be prepared in 2010, once the data is analyzed.

**Contact:** Jason Spence, Mount Lewis Field Office

---

## Wild Horse and Burro Gathers



**Location:** East of Kingston, Lander County

**Description:** The Mount Lewis Field Office is planning a gather of the Hickison Burro HMA, tentatively scheduled for fall 2009/winter 2010.

Scoping letters will be sent to interested parties, and an EA will be completed prior to the gather.

An adoption event may be scheduled in conjunction with the gather to allow qualified applicants an opportunity to adopt burros from this herd.

**Status:** EA public scoping in progress.

**Contact:** Shawna Richardson, Mount Lewis Field Office

## WIND ENERGY

**Location:** Near Beatty, Nye County

**Description:** GreenWing Energy Management, LLC (N-84067) has applied for a 7,360 acre area for wind energy project known as the Rhyolite Wind Energy Park.

This project area encompasses both the Tonopah Field Office and the Pahrump Field Office (Las Vegas District). The project proposes two meteorological towers.

**Status:** Ongoing biological studies are being undertaken for spring 2009.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

---

**Location:** Nye and Mineral Counties

**Description:** Wasatch Wind (N-85811) has applied for a 6,023 acre project area for a wind energy project. The application is being managed by the Carson City District Office.

**Status:** Cost Recovery Decision issued.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

---

**Location:** Near Round Mountain, Nye County

**Description:** GreenWing Energy Management LLC (N-86261) has applied for a 15,680 acre project area for a wind energy project. The project proposes three meteorological towers.

**Status:** Waiting for met tower identification and mining claim adjudication.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

**Location:** Near Silver Peak, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Debenham Energy, LLC (N-85209) has applied for a 920 acre project area for a wind energy project.

**Status:** Military airspace concerns.; EA pending.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

---

**Location:** Near Silver Peak, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Pacific Wind Development, LLC subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables (N-87324) has applied for a 4,280 acre project area for a wind energy .

**Status:** Military airspace concerns; EA pending.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office



## Solar Energy



**Location:** Tonopah Airport, Nye County

**Description:** Solar Millennium, LLC (N-84262), has applied for a 350 Mw, 4,800-acre solar energy facility site consisting of parabolic troughs.

**Status:** Military airspace concerns. Application is at the Nevada State Office for engineering review.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

---

**Location:** Mud Lake near the Tonopah airport, Nye County

**Description:** Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC (N-85007) has applied for a 100 Mw, 7,680-acre solar energy facility site consisting of parabolic troughs.

**Status:** Military airspace concerns. Application is at the Nevada State Office for engineering review.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

## Solar Energy— Continued

---

**Location:** Off Gabbs Pole Line Road, approximately 18 miles north of Tonopah, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC dba Solar Reserve (N-86291) has applied for a 120 Mw, 5,120-acre solar energy facility site consisting of a concentrating solar power (CSP) technology. The site is known as the Peavine Site.

**Status:** Military airspace concerns. Ninety-day Plan of Development—3/16/2009 – 30-day extension request authorized.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

---

**Location:** Off Gabbs Pole Line Road, Approximately 18 miles north of Tonopah, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC dba Solar Reserve (N-86292) has applied for a 180 Mw, 7,680-acre solar energy facility site consisting of a concentrating solar power (CSP) technology.

The site is known as the Crescent Dunes Site.

**Status:** Military airspace concerns. Submitted Notice Of Intent to Federal Register. Scoping will begin on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project once the Notice of Intent (NOI) is published in the Federal Register.

**Contact:** Wendy Seley or Tim Coward, Battle Mountain District Office

---

## Silver State Geothermal, LLC Smoky Valley Project

**Location:** East and west of Nevada State Highway 376, and 1-4 miles north of Carvers, Nye County

**Description:** The project area includes both public and private lands.

**Status:** The proponent has completed a seismic survey of the project area. Additional exploration, including the drilling of several temperature gradient holes, is anticipated in the near future.

**Contact:** Alan Buehler,  
Tonopah Field Office



## Sierra Geothermal Power, Inc. Silver Peak Exploration Project

**Location:** Three miles of Silver Peak, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Sierra Geothermal Power, Inc. has proposed to drill up to 12 thermal gradient holes and 5 observation wells. Magnetotelluric and seismic geophysical surveys have been proposed in the same area.

**Status:** Most of the thermal gradient holes, one observation wells, and the magnetotelluric survey have been approved. Approval of the seismic survey depends upon the results of a cultural survey and possible modifications to the survey grid. The project went to the State clearinghouse. An EA is out for Public Review.

**Contact:** Tim Coward, Tonopah Field Office

## Ormat Nevada, Inc. Jersey Valley and Buffalo Valley Geothermal Energy Plants

**Location:** Approximately 50 miles southwest of Battle Mountain in Lander and Pershing counties

**Description:** Ormat Nevada, Inc. proposes to construct two geothermal energy plants and associated infrastructure including the construction geothermal production and injection pipelines, access roads, ancillary support facilities and an approximately 27.5 mile 120 kV transmission line.

**Status:** An EA is being prepared analysis. Approval is expected in June 2009.

**Contact:** Chuck Carnohan, Mount Lewis Field Office

Reese River Valley Land Sale

Lands and Rights of Way

**Location:** Approximately 20 miles southwest of Austin, Lander County

**Description:** Proposed open competitive sale of two parcels totaling approximately 878.34 acres located along the western side of Reese River Valley.

**Status:** The competitive sale nomination was accepted for Baca/FLTFA funding. Preparation of an EA is underway as are the other supportive studies. The sale is tentatively scheduled for completion in mid-2010.

**Contact:** Chuck Lane, Mount Lewis Field Office



---

## Barrick Ruby Hill Direct Land Sale

**Location:** Near Eureka, Eureka County

**Description:** Proposal to convey by direct sale 150 acres of public land east of the existing Ruby Hill Mine near Eureka, under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

**Status:** Preparation of the required environmental documents and supportive studies will begin in the spring of 2009. Tentative completion date for the sale is late 2010.

**Contact:** Chuck Lane, Battle Mountain Field Office

## Esmeralda County R&PPs

**Location:** Goldfield, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Amendment of a four-acre R&PP in Goldfield for installation of an arsenic treatment plant.

**Status:** Lands classified, waiting for resource reports to complete Environmental Assessment.

**Contact:** Jeff Brown, Tonopah Field Office

:

## New York Canyon Powerline Re-Route

**Location:** A quarter mile southwest of the town of Eureka, Eureka County

**Description:** Mount Wheeler Power Company would upgrade an existing powerline that furnishes power to the Prospect Peak Communications Site. The powerline will be buried in the road way and the existing overhead line would be removed upon completion of the new line.

**Status:** An EA in progress.

**Contact:** Nancy Lockridge, Mount Lewis Field Office

## **Metallic Goldfield, Inc. Exploration Plan of Operations for the Gemfield Project**

**Location:** Two miles north of Goldfield, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Metallic Goldfield, Inc. has proposed the drilling of an additional 100 exploratory/condemnation drill holes on roughly eight acres of BLM-administered public lands.

**Status:** Temporarily on hold according to company spokesperson.

**Contact:** Ken Depaoli, Tonopah Field Office

---

## **Round Mountain Gold Corporation (RMGC) Round Mountain and Gold Hill Mines**

**Location:** Sixty miles north of Tonopah, Nye County.

**Description:** Open pit with underground gold, silver and mercury mining, heap leach and milling.

**Background:** In June 2006, RMGC submitted an amendment to their Plan of Operations for an expansion of the Round Mountain mine, and for a satellite mining operation at Gold Hill, five miles north of the Round Mountain mine.

The expansion would increase the size of the open pit at Round Mountain and add a new mine pit at Gold Hill. New leach pads would be constructed at both locations. Two additional cells would be added to the tailings impoundment at Round Mountain. Mining would be extended from the year 2010 to approximately 2023.

**Status:** The Draft EIS will be available for public review in July, 2009. A Record of Decision for an Environmental Impact Statement and Amended Plan of Operations Approval is expected in December 2009.

**Contact:** George Deverse, Tonopah Field Office

## Midway Exploration Project (Midway Gold Corporation)

**Location:** North of Tonopah, Nye County

**Description:** The Midway Exploration Project is located 15 miles north of Tonopah at the intersection of State Route 376 and the road to Belmont. MGC Resources, Inc. is the new operator of the project.

Drilling exploration has been done in 2005 and in 2006, and a plan amendment to expand exploration to the west of the current project area was approved in 2006. A plan amendment for an underground mine was submitted in January 2008.

**Status:** Temporarily on hold while water treatment options are being evaluated.

**Contact:** George Deverse, Tonopah Field Office



## Golden Phoenix Minerals, Inc. Mineral Ridge Mine

**Location:** Near Silver Peak, Esmeralda County

**Description:** Golden Phoenix Minerals (GPM), Inc. bought the property in November 2000, and operated the mine on a care and maintenance basis before mining and leaching operations resumed in July 2003. Mining was suspended in December 2004.

The Mineral Ridge mine is an open pit, heap leach gold mine located on Mineral Ridge, five miles west of Silver Peak, Nevada.

**Status:** Temporarily on hold according to a company spokesperson. GMP plans to apply for and construct a conventional mill for processing gold ore and discontinuation of the current heap leaching operation.

**Contact:** George Deverse, Tonopah Field Office

## **A.U. Mines, Inc. Manhattan Gulch Placer Mine**

**Location:** Forty miles northeast of Tonopah, Nye County

**Description:** The Company is proposing to mine 500 acres up Manhattan Gulch in old placer tailings over an estimated 20-year mine life. Twenty five acres to be disturbed at any one time then reclaimed, .

**Status:** The plan of operations was received on April 15, 2009. The company will provide a draft EA in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2009.

**Contact:** Nazila Hummer, Tonopah Field Office

## **Newmont Mining Corporation Phoenix Copper Project**

**Location:** Twenty miles south of Battle Mountain, Lander County

**Description:** An Amended Plan of Operations for copper beneficiation—open pit copper mining, heap leach and milling. Low grade ore would be leached with sulfuric acid and copper would be produced in a solution extraction electrowinning plant. The operation would occur simultaneously with the ongoing gold and silver production that began in November 2003.

**Status:** A Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) is being prepared to analyze the Amended Plan of Operations. DEIS is being prepared, and is scheduled to be completed in 2009/2010.

**Contact:** Jon Sherve, Mount Lewis Field Office



## **Eureka Moly LLC Mount Hope Molybdenum Mine**

**Location:** Approximately 20 miles northwest of Eureka, Eureka County

**Description:** Open pit molybdenum mining and milling.

**Status:** A Record of Decision for an Environmental Impact Statement and Plan of Operations Approval is expected in December 2009.

Approval of the Plan would allow Eureka Moly LLC to develop a large scale open pit mine with a 55 year mine life. Once fully operational, it is projected to produce ten percent of the world molybdenum supply.

**Contact:** Stephen Drummond, Mount Lewis Field Office

## **Lookout Mountain Exploration Plan of Operations**

**Location:** South of Eureka, Eureka County

**Description:** Baker Hughes Minerals proposes to conduct mineral exploration activities that would include construction of access and drill roads, construction of drill sites and sumps, exploration drilling, sampling, and reclamation. The exploration activities would be conducted in a phased manner creating approximately 250 acres of new surface disturbance on public lands.

**Status:** EA is in progress.

**Contact:** Cory Gardner, Mount Lewis Field Office





### **Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids Argenta Mine**

**Location:** Approximately 15 miles east of Battle Mountain, Lander County

**Description:** Open pit barite mining and milling.

**Status:** An Environmental Assessment is being completed for a Plan of Operations. The Plan calls for expanded barite production. Barite is a mineral used to make slurry to remove cuttings and stabilize the walls of holes drilled for oil and natural gas production.

**Contact:** Casey Strickland, Mount Lewis Field Office

### **Mount Lewis Field Office Community Programmatic Gravel Permit**

**Location:** North half of the Battle Mountain District, Lander and Eureka counties

**Description:** A mineral material gravel pit permit for the public will encompass the boundary of the Mount Lewis Field Office.

**Status:** The Mount Lewis Field Office is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the Programmatic Permit. This is planned to resolve noncompliant issues such as trespass by creating Community Pits for use by the public.

**Contact:** Chuck Carnohan, Mount Lewis Field Office

## Las Vegas to Reno Off-Highway Vehicle Event

**Location:** Nye and Esmeralda counties along with counties outside of the Shoshone-Eureka and Tonopah Planning Areas

**Description:** The Las Vegas to Reno Off- Highway Vehicle Event runs from Las Vegas to Reno, Nevada. This is an annual competitive off highway vehicle race. A Special Recreation Permit is needed and is issued by the Tonopah Field Office.

**Status:** A Special Recreation Permit Application has been submitted by Best in the Desert Racing Association for 2009 and an EA is being drafted for the next five years.

**Contact:** Stacey Antilla, Tonopah Field Office

## Mill Creek Recreation Area Expansion

**Location:** Twenty five miles southeast of Battle Mountain, Lander County

**Description:** The project includes:

- Stream Stabilization – stabilize head cuts and fix channel geometry to improve physical processes
- Refurbish eight camp sites – new picnic tables, fires rings, grills, lantern hooks, and parking facilities (RV Pads)
- Install six new camp sites (lower portion of the site)
- Add black willows or other trees
- Control noxious weeds and invasive species
- Install one new vault toilet (ADA compliant)
- Refurbish one existing vault toilet

The Mill Creek recreation site is located approximately 25 miles southeast of Battle Mountain via paved highway (305) and graded gravel roads. The recreation site is approximately 300 acres in size. The actual camp site is 40 acres. The site is located within the 14,000 acre Mill Creek drainage along the foot hills of the Shoshone Mountain Range. Currently, visitor use has been estimated at 10,000 per year.

Leisure use is 85 percent picnic oriented with the remainder overnight camping. Generally, the length of stay for day use activity is four to six hours and for longer stays approximately seven to fourteen days. There are two vault toilets onsite. There are eight established campgrounds and three locations for tent camping.

The project, which will be contracted, will provide employment for eight to 12 contract employees for the life of the contract.

**Status:** EA development is in the preliminary stages.

**Contact:** Todd Neville, Mount Lewis Field Office

## Red Hills Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

**Location:** The public lands in the JD Ranch Allotment, Eureka County

**Description:** The Battle Mountain District is planning a prescribed burn to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations in the Tonkin Spring area of Eureka County. NEPA was initiated in 2005. A Decision Memorandum was signed utilizing the Healthy Forest Initiative (HFI) Categorical Exclusion (CATX) authority in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, 1.12 in September of 2005. The Battle Mountain District plans to treat 1,000 to 1,600 acres with prescribed fire.

**Status:** EA is out for public comment.

**Contact:** Chad Lewis, Battle Mountain District





### **Three-Bars Healthy Lands Initiative Restoration Project.**

**Location:** 400,000 acres in Roberts Mountain and Three Bars areas in northern Eureka County, Nevada.

**Description:** This proposed project will preserve, protect and restore a broad array of public land resources and habitats in central Nevada. The project's goal is to dramatically improve the health of, and reduce the risks of catastrophic wildfires to this ecosystem.

Individual projects will range from several acres to several thousand acres depending on specific management action and desired outcome.

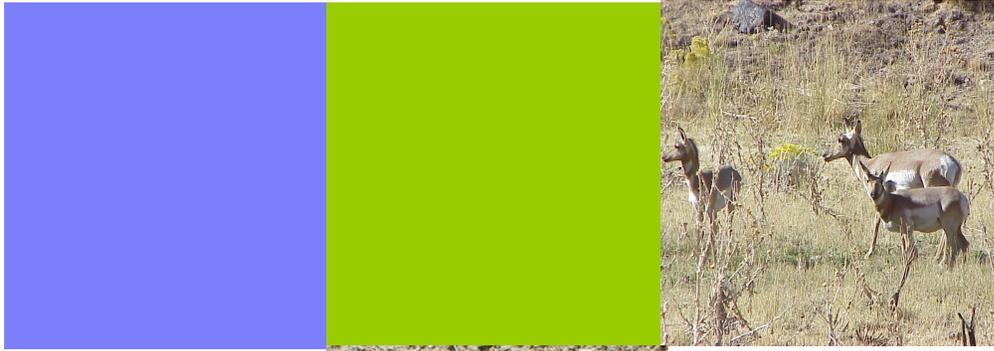
Background:

The Three-Bars ecosystem spans over half million acres and includes three major mountain ranges.

This scenic area faces imminent loss of sagebrush, bitterbrush and mountain mahogany habitats that are critical for sage grouse, pygmy rabbits, mule deer, and a long list of other wildlife species. Also at risk are riparian wetlands critical for the preservation and restoration of threatened Lahontan Cutthroat Trout and many other riparian-dependent species.

**Status:** Statement of Work, for a contract to prepare an EIS, is being prepared.

**Contact:** Donovan Walker, Battle Mountain District Office



**BLM  
Battle Mountain  
District**





**AT EASE!** Because the BLM is doing its job, the Amargosa toad is able to take a nap. Photographer Gary Nafis captured the toad as it flipped on its back for a moment.

## Projects and Planning Schedule 2009

Mount Lewis Field Office  
50 Bastian Road  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
Phone: 775-635-4000  
Fax: 775-635-4034

Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO)  
Phone: 775-482-7800  
Fax: 775-482-7810  
Phone: 775-482-7800  
Fax: 775-482-7810

Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO)  
Phone: 775-482-7800  
Fax: 775-482-7810  
Fax: 775-482-7810