



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



DECISION DOCUMENT

ROUND 15 - Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act

The Secretary of the Interior hereby approves the estimated expenditures from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Special Account and other authorizations outlined below, with the provisos as stated.

1. Authorize the total expenditure of \$42,102,583 from the SNPLMA Special Account for Round 15, including estimated expenditures of:

FINAL RECOMMENDATION	
Expenditure Category	Total Recommended Funding
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas	\$ 4,753,487
Capital Improvements	\$ 5,193,251
Conservation Initiatives	\$ 5,737,540
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisitions	\$12,230,400
Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention	\$ 5,740,970
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project	\$ 4,155,412
Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan	\$ 1,291,523
Category Totals	\$39,102,583
Special Account Reserve	\$ 3,000,000
Total Round 15 Budget Recommendation	\$42,102,583

Attachment A lists the approved projects to be funded through these authorized expenditures.

- a. All project funds not expended to complete the projects will be returned to the Special Account to be used for future rounds, the Special Account Reserve, and other authorized purposes. No reallocation of excess funds to previously approved projects is authorized.
- b. Authorization for expenditures for projects submitted in Round 15 as set forth in this Decision Document will not be construed as a final approval for any particular expenditure. The amounts authorized herein are not approved for expenditure unless and until all requisite procedures are followed as outlined in this document and in the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*.
- c. The funding requested for land acquisitions reflects the owner's asking price plus estimated costs for other allowable expenses such as appraisals and case management, but does not reflect the actual value of any property or the actual price to be paid for any property. The actual purchase price will be based on the federally appraised fair market value. Acquisitions by the United States of land and interest in land using funds from the SNPLMA Special Account will be made in all cases from willing sellers, and will comply with the land acquisition authorities of the acquiring agency, as well as with the guidance for such acquisitions established by the Department of Justice. Final purchase of any property, including final determination of the purchase price, will depend upon successful completion of the acquisition process under these authorities, as well as the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*.
- d. For Federal projects, no amount authorized herein will be considered to be an amount approved for expenditure until the following have been met:
 - 1) A notice of availability of funding has been issued; and
 - 2) A work plan has been submitted by the proponent and accepted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The work plan will set forth a schedule of milestones with associated expenditures.
- e. For non-Federal projects, no amount authorized herein will be considered to be an amount approved for expenditure until all of the following have been met:
 - 1) A notice of availability of funding has been issued;
 - 2) A cooperative agreement or grant between the recipient entity and the BLM or other Federal agency has been fully executed;
 - 3) A work plan has been submitted by the proponent and accepted by the BLM or other Federal agency. The work plan must set forth a schedule of milestones with associated expenditures; and
 - 4) The starting point for an identified deliverable and its associated funding start date has been reached.

2. Authorize the use of \$408,000 in Round 14 Special Account Reserve funds for a new project in the Conservation Initiatives category to address an urgent need by the BLM for the recently designated Basin and Range National Monument in order to initiate steps toward a management plan, develop visitor education and use materials, survey the Monument boundary, and help ensure site protection.

3. Approve a revised secondary list of Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (LTRA) projects that includes three new projects which have not received prior Secretarial approval (Attachment B). Projects on the revised secondary list may be funded through reallocation of funds returned from previously approved LTRA projects where the funds are not needed to complete those previously approved projects. Reallocation of such returned funds to projects on the revised secondary list will be at the discretion of the Tahoe Regional Executive Committee without further review and approval by the Secretary. The process for reallocating funds to secondary list projects is outlined in the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*.

4. The establishment of a reserve within the Special Account in the amount of \$3 million is authorized for expenditure during Round 15 at the discretion of the Executive Committee toward allowable expenditures under the SNPLMA and in accordance with the *SNPLMA Implementation Agreement*, where special circumstances warrant. Special Account Reserve (SAR) funds are authorized to address unexpected shortfalls between estimated and actual costs for approved projects, respond to safety issues that pose an imminent threat and require immediate remediation, and respond to unique opportunities or unanticipated circumstances that require immediate action. All expenditures from the SAR will be undertaken in compliance with established procedures and internal controls as well as all applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The SAR authorized by this decision will be available during Round 15 only. Round 15 ends when the Secretary approves Round 16. Funds in the SAR that are not obligated or allocated during Round 15 will be returned to the Special Account for allocation in future rounds.

5. It is expected that approved projects will be implemented in accordance with the project purpose and deliverables stated in the nomination and within the timeframe specified in the project nomination, with appropriate time allocated for project startup and closeout as agreed upon in the work plan approved by the BLM. Time extension requests should be considered exceptions to the expected practice of timely implementation of projects and therefore limited in number and scope.

SECRETARY'S DECISION

APPROVE Entire Final Recommendation

APPROVE Portions of Final Recommendation, including:

Round 15 Expenditures

Basin and Range National Monument project to be funded through the Round 14 Special Account Reserve

Secondary list of projects for the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act category (specifically requesting approval for the three new projects)

DISAPPROVE Entire Final Recommendation

COMMENT:

1/2/16
Date

Sally Jewell
Sally Jewell

ATTACHMENT A
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 15 Final Recommendations

Subgroup Ranking	Project Name	Requesting Entity	Amount Recommended
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas			
1	Kiel Ranch Historic Park Phase 3B - Spring Access - East	City of North Las Vegas	\$695,000
2	Caliente Mountain Bike Trail System	Lincoln County	\$495,794
2	Warm Springs Natural Area Public Use Enhancements	Southern Nevada Water Authority	\$875,000
4	Wetlands Park Education/Nature Connection Center	Clark County	\$1,606,688
7	Silverbowl Complex Trails	Clark County	\$1,081,005
Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Total			\$4,753,487
Capital Improvements			
1	Lincoln County Partners Non-Motorized Multipurpose Trail System	BLM	\$1,000,000
2	Improvements to Outdoor Recreation Opportunities	FWS	\$349,508
3	Lehman Caves Visitor Center Exhibit Refurbishment	NPS	\$490,446
5	Stargazing Theater, Science Camp, and Day Use Area Refurbishment	NPS	\$1,057,660
6	Hoover Dam - Memorial Bridge Plaza Upgrades and Safety Enhancements	BOR	\$570,167
7	Bird Creek Campground Renovation Project	FS	\$900,000
8	Rehabilitate and Upgrade the Boulder Beach Amphitheater	NPS	\$473,470
9	Restoration and Repair of the Kyle Canyon Historic CCC Administrative District	FS	\$352,000
Capital Improvements Total			\$5,193,251
Conservation Initiatives			
1	Restoration of Desert Varnish on Rock Art Sites	BLM	\$150,000
2	Pahranagat National Wildlife Refuge Black Canyon Cultural Resources Protection	FWS	\$939,175
3	Propagation of Public Lands Enrichment	FS	\$599,800
4	Implement Watershed Restoration Plans for Desert Tortoise Habitat	BLM	\$1,162,400
5	Lehman Creek Wetland Restoration: Creating Sustainability by Connecting Habitat, Wildlife, Education, and Recreation	NPS	\$381,550
6	Pahrump Poolfish Habitat Enhancement at the Shoshone Ponds ACEC	BLM	\$541,690
7	Carpenter 1 Fire - Harris Springs Watershed Restoration	FS	\$1,962,925
Conservation Initiatives Total			\$5,737,540

ATTACHMENT A
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 15 Final Recommendations

Subgroup Ranking	Project Name	Requesting Entity	Amount Recommended
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisitions			
1	Bently Pine Nut Parcels	BLM	\$11,425,400
3	Lee Canyon Parcels	FS	\$805,000
Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition Total			\$12,230,400
Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention			
1	Incline Village Prescribed Fire	North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District	\$200,000
2	D.L. Bliss Campground Hazardous Fuels Reduction	California State Parks	\$261,940
3	North Tahoe and Meeks Bay CWPP Implementation	North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District	\$450,000
4	State of Nevada Urban Lot Fuels Reduction Re-Entry Treatment	State of Nevada	\$120,500
5	Kingsbury 2 Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District	\$308,760
6	South Shore CWPP Defense Zone Fire Hazard Reduction	Lake Valley Fire Protection District	\$290,490
7	Urban Forest Defense Zone Fuels Reduction and Healthy Forest	FS	\$470,000
8	Prescribed Fire Implementation	FS	\$1,094,000
9	RRCNCA Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention	BLM	\$590,000
10	RRCNCA Wildfire Risk Analysis and Hazardous Fuels Planning	BLM	\$266,000
11	Genoa Hazardous Fuels Reduction Implementation	FS	\$464,560
12	Carson Ranger District Hazardous Fuels Project	FS	\$999,720
13	Potosi Fuels Reduction	FS	\$225,000
Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Total			\$5,740,970
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project			
1	Atlanta Road Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project	BLM	\$433,000
2	North Schell Restoration Phase II	FS	\$1,000,847
3	Currant-Ellison Landscape Restoration Project Implementation	FS	\$821,060
4	A Wicked Problem: Improving Restoration and Fuels Reduction through Adaptive Management	NPS	\$317,015
5	Overland Pass	FS	\$1,284,240
6	Table Mountain Sage Grouse Corridor	BLM	\$299,250
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project Total			\$4,155,412

ATTACHMENT A
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-263, as amended)
Round 15 Final Recommendations

Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan			
1	Desert Tortoise Monitoring	Clark County	\$1,077,373
2	Restoration on Clark County Virgin River Riparian Reserve Units	Clark County	\$214,150
Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan Total			\$1,291,523
All Categories Total			\$39,102,583
Special Account Reserve			\$3,000,000
Round 15 Total Budget			\$42,102,583

ATTACHMENT B
Revised Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Secondary Project List

Agency	Project	Project Description	Proposed Funding	Related Projects	Primary Project(s) Complete
Forest Health					
FS	Aspen Community Restoration	Complete treatment to aspen stands at high risk of being lost.	\$738,000	F170	No
FS	Incline Hazardous Fuels Reduction & Healthy Forest Restoration	Complete treatment to reduce fuels and restore forest health.	\$5,000,000	F173, F026	No
FS	South Shore Hazardous Fuels Reduction & Healthy Forest Restoration- Phase 8 of 9	Complete treatment to reduce fuels and restore forest health.	\$3,800,000	F108, F142, F152, F160	No
FS	Urban Forest Restoration & Fuels Reduction	Secondary treatments to reduce fuels and restore forest health on urban lots.	\$1,000,000	F008, F014, F143, F158, F175	No
Subtotal			\$10,538,000		
Watershed & Habitat Improvement					
EPA	Community-Based Watershed Strategy	Develop strategies on additional watersheds.	\$300,000	E016	No
EPA	EIP Reporting, Integration and Accountability (EIP RIA) Tool	Provides technical assistance and data management for all agencies, organizations, and entities accomplishing projects for the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) in the Lake Tahoe Basin.	\$114,093	E010, E012, E015	No
FS	Basin Wide Trails	Complete Fallen Leaf Bike Path project (7 miles of new construction, 9 miles of closing and restoration, and 15 miles of reconstruction and installation of Best Management Practices (BMP)).	\$870,000	F177	No
FS	Big Meadow Fire Regime Restoration	Treatment to restore additional critical habitat acres.	\$400,000	F171	No
FS	Camp Richardson Resort BMP Retrofit	Complete full western campground area BMP retrofit.	\$3,250,000	F178	No
FS	Resource Inventories, Surveys, and Analysis	Complete the second cycle of monitoring for the Angora Burn Vegetation Monitoring and fund the Water Uses & Protection project - a new component in Round 12 would focus on characterization of forests that feed municipal watersheds.	\$190,000	F164, F179	No
FS/BOR	Upper Truckee Restoration	The highest priority in the Upper Truckee River (UTR) would be to provide funds to plan & design stream restoration in reaches 1 & 2 pending resolution of easement or land acquisition. The next highest priority would be to fund reach 6.	\$3,000,000	F181, B005, B006	No
FWS	Recovery/Restoration of Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT) in the Tahoe Basin	Would fund 2 years research in Lake Tahoe to determine habitat utilization of LCT and nonnative species, fund 3 years of assessing Lake Tahoe tributaries for restoration actions for lacustrine LCT, and add \$50,000 to UTR non-native trout removal.	\$450,000	W006, W009, W011, W012	No
Subtotal			\$8,574,093		

ATTACHMENT B
Revised Lake Tahoe Restoration Act Secondary Project List

Pass Through & Science

Agency	Project	Project Description	Proposed Funding	Related Projects	Primary Project(s) Complete
FS	Erosion Control Grants	Would provide additional storm water grant funding to local jurisdictions.	\$2,000,000	F110	No
PSW/TSC	Science	Would fund additional projects under science themes and subthemes.	\$3,000,000	P001-P100	No
Subtotal			\$5,000,000		
Projects Requiring Secretary Approval					
FS	Prescribed Fire/Fuels Consolidation	Consolidate 6,800 of the remaining prescribed burning acres & funds from existing projects into one project with a longer timeframe (12 years) to allow for completion. Approx. \$3.5M would be returned from projects that include the prescribed fire acres.	\$4,500,000	F142, F143, F149, F152, F156, F157, F158, F159, F160, F171, F172, F173, F174, F175	No
FS	Meeks Meadow Restoration	Restoration of approximately 300 acres of historic meadow by removal of encroaching conifers, reintroduce fire in the meadow, coordinate with Washoe Tribe & reduce head cuts.	\$600,000	F121, F134, F146	No
FS	Incline Meadow Restoration	Remove the existing high-hazard dam, stabilize stream channels, and restore a valuable & rare high-elevation wetland ecosystem. Approx. \$5M will be returned from project F071.	\$2,500,000	F071	No
Subtotal			\$7,600,000		
Total			\$31,712,093		