

## BLM Nevada News

LAS VEGAS FIELD OFFICE: NO. 07-24

FOR RELEASE: August 15, 2007

CONTACT: Kirsten Cannon (702) 515-5057 kirsten\_cannon@blm.gov

### Public Comments Sought for Round 8 SNPLMA Expenditures

**Las Vegas** -- The federal land management agencies in Nevada are seeking public comment on the Round 8 preliminary recommendation for expenditure of almost \$82 million available from the sale of public land in the Las Vegas valley. The public comment period begins Thursday, August 16, 2007, and runs through September 17, 2007.

This is the first year project funding is available and recommended for the Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project and hazardous fuels reduction and wildfire prevention projects. This is also the first year funding is available and recommended for projects in White Pine County, and for acquisition of land by Washoe County for a regional park. The Round 8 preliminary budget request for expenditures from the Special Account established by the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) includes recommendations for the seven categories listed below, a Special Account Reserve, and a Pre-Proposal Planning reserve. It also provides for a 10 percent contingency for emergency needs.

#### Preliminary Recommendation:

<b>Project Category</b>	<b>Nominations Recommended</b>	<b>Budget Requested</b>
Parks, Trails, & Natural Areas	8	\$23,013,548
Capital Improvements	5	\$15,111,475
Conservation Initiatives	10	\$ 8,188,832
Land Acquisitions	6	\$ 9,878,000
Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan	3	\$ 1,549,426
Hazardous Fuels Reduction & Wildfire Prevention Projects	13	\$16,081,665
Eastern Nevada Landscape Restoration Project	3	\$ 1,829,575
Special Account Reserve		\$ 5,000,000
Pre-Proposal Planning Fund		\$ 1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>\$81,652,521</b>

-- continued --

More information about the proposed projects is available for review in the public rooms at the BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive; the BLM Nevada State Office in Reno, 1340 Financial Blvd.; the BLM Ely Field Office, 702 N. Industrial Way; and the BLM Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street. Information on land acquisition projects is also available in the public room at the BLM Carson City Field Office, 5565 Morgan Mill Road. Public comments should be submitted in writing to the Chair of the SNPLMA Executive Committee at the BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, NV 89502-7147 or faxed to the attention of the SNPLMA Executive Committee Chair at (775) 861-6601. Questions may be addressed to the BLM Nevada State office at (775) 861-6401.

The Preliminary Recommendation, the matrices of projects, and executive summaries for the nominations will also be available on the SNPLMA website at [www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/snplma.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/snplma.html) beginning Thursday, August 16, 2007.

Providing this list of recommended project expenditures for public comment is one of several steps in the process for developing recommendations for the Secretary of the Interior, who is the approving official in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture.

-BLM-

An initial call for nominations for all expenditure categories for Round 8 was in March 2007. The nominations in all project categories were scored based on ranking criteria. The list provided beginning today represents the results of that scoring process. At the completion of this public comment period, the regional directors of the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service California-Nevada Operations Manager, and the BLM Nevada State Director will meet to consider the comments and agree on a final recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior.