

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dry Lake Valley North Solar Energy Zone: The BLM in March 2016 issued the Final Regional Mitigation Strategy for the 25,069-acre Dry Lake Valley North Solar Energy Zone (SEZ) located in Lincoln County, Nev. *(See page 2 for more information)*

Applications for Permits to Drill (APD): The BLM Ely District, Basin and Range National Monument has issued a Decision Record/ Finding of No Significant Impact (DR/FONSI) and Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for Makoil, Inc.'s Murphy's Gap APD Well No. 14-23. *(See page 8 for more information)*

Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA): The nomination period for SNPLMA Round 16 project proposals closes **April 29**. *(See page 10 for more information)*

Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAI): The BLM will accept proposals for Round 9 of LCAI through **March 18**. *(See page 11 for more information)*

Ash Springs Recreation Site: The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office has extended until **March 21** the public input period for the development of a management plan for the Ash Springs Recreation Site. *(See page 9 for more information)*

BLM Hiring Temporary Seasonal Firefighters: The BLM Ely District will accept applications for temporary seasonal firefighters through **March 29**. *(See page 3 for more information)*

BASIN AND RANGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

The BLM Ely District is preparing a Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Basin and Range National Monument. BLM is circulating an envisioning questionnaire, which is available on the Basin and Range website. Envisioning is a process that allows the public to share their views about what's important to them in the planning area and their vision for the future of the area. BLM will soon meet with people individually and in small groups, for example, livestock permittees, lease holders, current right-of-way holders, etc. and is continuing to communicate with local government and elected officials, local communities, and the Friends Group (Basin Rangers). BLM is tentatively scheduled in late spring to conduct public scoping meetings for the planning effort. The Draft EIS is expected in 2017 and the final RMP Record of Decision issued in 2018.

ELY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Resource The Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment (ARMPA) amended the Ely District Resource Management Plan (RMP) (2008) in September, 2015. Changes to the Ely RMP from the

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ARMPA, as well as two other amendments, are being incorporated into the RMP. The Ely District anticipates having both an electronic and hard copy versions of the up-to-date, amended RMP available for the public in spring 2016.

WATERSHED ANALYSIS

The Ely District continues to develop and use watershed-level planning as a tool to identify high priority habitat improvement projects for Greater Sage-Grouse and other wildlife species, hazardous fuels reduction, and other needed actions to improve the health of public lands.

Watershed analysis has been completed for 27 of 61 priority watersheds on the District. Watershed Implementation Plans have been completed for nine. The Ely District is currently working on watershed planning for the following priority watershed areas: South Spring and Hamblin Valley (Schell Field Office); Long Valley / Ruby Marshes and Butte Valley (Egan Field Office).

SAGE GROUSE PLANNING

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on Sept. 22, 2015, determined that the greater Sage-Grouse does not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The FWS reached this determination after evaluating the bird's population status, along with the collective efforts by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service, state agencies, private landowners and other partners to conserve its habitat.

The BLM and USFS announced that they have issued Records of Decisions amending 98 land use plans, including the Ely District's Resource Management Plan that will help conserve Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and support sustainable economic development. The land use plans were developed during a multi-year process in partnership with the states and local partners, guided by the best available science and technical advice from the FWS. Information about the land use plans, FAQs, fact sheets, and other information can be found on the BLM Nevada's website at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/wildlife/greater_sage-grouse.html

ENERGY

Natural Gas-fired Energy Development -

Toquop Energy Project: The BLM has issued a Notice to Proceed to Toquop Energy, Inc., for a natural gas-fired power plant. Construction can start once the proponent satisfies conditions outlined in the Notice.

Solar Energy Development -

Dry Lake Valley North Solar Energy Zone: The BLM in March 2016 issued the Final Regional Mitigation Strategy for the 25,069-acre Dry Lake Valley North Solar Energy Zone (SEZ) located in Lincoln County, Nev. The Dry Lake Valley North SEZ is the largest of the five SEZs in Nevada and, when fully built, could produce up to 4,000 MW

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of renewable energy. It is located about 15 miles west of Pioche and 15 miles northwest of Caliente. The SEZ is framed by the North Pahroc Range to the west, and the West Range, Bristol Range, Highland Range, Ely Springs Range, Black Canyon Range, and Burnt Springs Range to the east. The strategy is available on the [Dry Lake Valley North Project Website](http://on.doi.gov/1frnwSM) at <http://on.doi.gov/1frnwSM>.

Hydro Energy -

White Pine Pumped Storage Project: Gridflex Energy, LLC, in September 2013 submitted a preliminary permit application for the White Pine Pumped Storage Project facility. Gridflex and White Pine Water Power, LLC, are proposing through the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to construct a stored water pumping facility north of Ely, Nev. The proposed White Pine Pumped Storage Project would utilize three generators with a combined capacity 300 MW to generate 919,800 megawatt-hours, annually. FERC has given the initial approvals to begin working with the BLM to develop a plan of development, begin the NEPA process, and develop natural resource and economic data. FERC will lead the project.

Electrical Transmission Development -

TransWest Express Project: The BLM has released the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the TransWest Express Transmission Project. The Record of Decision is scheduled for release in March 2016. The 730-mile transmission line project would extend from Wyoming, through Colorado and Utah, to southern Nevada through the southeast corner of Lincoln County. It would deliver up to 3,000 megawatts of electric power to major load centers, including Las Vegas and San Diego, Calif., by tapping in to wind energy resources in southern Wyoming. The BLM Wyoming State Office is the lead office for the project.

The Zephyr Project: The BLM is scheduling public meetings and selecting a contractor to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Electric Transmission Line Project that would originate in the Wheatland/Chugwater area of Wyoming and extend 950-plus miles to Eldorado Valley, south of Las Vegas. BLM Wyoming received the application and Plan of Development in March 2012.

FIRE

Fire Management: Seasonal Employment Opportunities –

The BLM Ely District will accept applications for temporary seasonal firefighters through **March 29**. Applications must be submitted online at <http://www.firejobs.doi.gov>. For more information, contact BLM Ely District Assistant Fire Management Officer Ray Maestes at (775) 289-1923.

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Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation –

Diamond Fire: Drill seeding will commence once conditions are appropriate. Aerial seeding was scheduled to begin in late January and conclude by mid-February, weather depending. Approximately 6,953 acres of the burned area will be seeded with five different mixes that suit the varied ecological sites and habitat areas and contain a mixture of grasses, forbs and shrubs. The seeding areas consist of 4,247 acres of GHMA and 2,621 acres of OHMA. Aerial-seeding will be completed in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The treatments will benefit wildlife habitat, e.g., Greater Sage-Grouse, elk, mule deer and pronghorn antelope by reducing soil erosion and establishing vegetation where there is little to no seed source.

The BLM is scheduled in March 2016 to plant approximately 25,000 seedlings in the East Schell Bench Wildlife Habitat Protection and Restoration Project area. The seedlings will consist of sagebrush, four-wing saltbush, ephedra and bitterbrush. When completed, the project will increase habitat for greater sage-grouse, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk and other species, as well as promote vegetative diversity and increase rangeland health.

Fuels Reduction and Restoration –

Ward Mountain Restoration Project: The BLM Ely District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Ely Ranger District and Ely Shoshone Tribe have prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Ward Mountain project. The federal agencies and Tribe are proposing to use mechanical and chemical treatments, and prescribed fire to restore health to vegetative communities to improve wildlife habitat and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. The Forest Service has made a final decision and Finding of No Significant Impact for National Forest Service lands within the project area. The BLM plans to issue a decision record in early 2016 based on the actions analyzed in the EA

The proposed project area is 100,000 acres, or about 53,731 acres of BLM-administered lands, 39,264 acres of Forest Service lands, and 2,507 acres of Tribal lands. Of that, the Forest Service would treat about 14,381 acres.

Overland Pass Habitat Improvement Project: The BLM in summer 2016 will begin manually thinning pinion-juniper on approximately 6,000 acres along the southern flank of the Ruby Mountains in Elko and White Pine counties. Chaining is expected to begin south of the Overland Pass Road in fall 2016. In all, about 18,500 acres of the 45,200-acre project area will be treated over a 10-year period using prescribed fire and manual and mechanical treatments. The project will benefit Greater Sage-Grouse nesting, and summer and winter habitat; crucial summer, winter and transitional mule deer habitat; and pronghorn antelope habitat. The project is a collaborative effort by the BLM, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Kern Mountain Landscape Restoration Project: The BLM in 2016-2017 expects to burn slash piles remaining from pinion-juniper thinning treatments completed in 2014 -2015. When completed, the project will restore watershed health, reduce the risk of catastrophic

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wildfire, and improve habitat for numerous wildlife species including Greater Sage-Grouse, mule deer and elk.

Egan and Johnson Basins Restoration Project: The BLM in May 2016 is expected to release for public review and comment a preliminary environmental assessment for a fuels reduction and habitat improvement project to be located in Egan and Johnson basins, about five miles west of Cherry Creek, Nev. The project would provide for vegetative diversity, improving habitat for the Greater Sage-Grouse, and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire by manually or mechanically thinning pinion-juniper, treating invasive species such as cheatgrass, and use of prescribed fire. The BLM would treat up to 65-percent of the 35,000-acre project area.

Duck Creek Basin Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement Project: The project is currently on hold.

Aspen and Sagebrush Steppe Joint Restoration Project with Great Basin National Park: A prescribed burn is scheduled in 2016 in Box Canyon on the west slope of Mt. Washington. When completed, the project will have restored about 1,000 acres of Aspen and sagebrush communities through the use of mechanical treatments and prescribed fire. The Project is funded through the SNPLMA and BLM's hazardous fuels program.

Combs Creek: The BLM has completed mastication of pinion-juniper on the 750 acres slated for treatment this winter in the Combs Creek Project area, located in south Butte Valley about 20 miles northwest of Ely, Nev. The Great Basin Institute and Nevada Conservation Corps have finished hand-thinning pinion-juniper on an additional 350 acres. The BLM, in cooperation with NDOW, seeded the entire mastication treatment area in mid-January 2016. The contractor and BLM finished mastication projects in mid-February 2016, including approximately 50 acres in the Rock Springs area. BLM expects to use mastication to thin 300 additional by the end of 2016. In all, the BLM plans to treat 4,500 to 7,000 acres of the 23,000-acre project area to reduce fuel loading and improve Greater Sage-Grouse habitat by selectively thinning pinion-juniper from sagebrush communities. Funding was provided by the Nevada Department of Wildlife's heritage fund program through the White Pine County Wildlife Advisory Board.

Patterson Pass Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Project: Sage-grouse population monitoring is scheduled to start in early March 2016 with collaring and tagging of sage-grouse hens with GPS tracking units. The data collected will be compared with pre-treatment data to determine the projects' benefit to the bird species.

Shingle Creek Aspen Restoration Project: The BLM is scheduled to burn white fir slash piles in winter 2015-2016, weather permitting. In March, the BLM is scheduled to thin white fir trees from the aspen stand in collaboration with Great Basin Institute's Nevada Conservation Corps program. The aspen restoration project is located on the west slope of the Snake Range near Great Basin National Park, about 40 miles southeast of Ely, Nev. Removing the conifers will promote aspen regeneration and health.

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North Antelope Habitat Restoration Project: The BLM is scheduled in fiscal year 2017 to masticate pinion-juniper on approximately 300 acres of the project area. The 12,000-acre habitat improvement project located on the north end of the Antelope Range, about 70 miles northeast of Ely, Nev., is approximately 85-percent complete.

Cold Springs Project: A contractor has completed thinning pinion-juniper through a service contract that allows him to purchase the product for resale. Weather permitting, the contractor will remove the thinned trees from the area. The project goal is to provide a hazardous fuel break and demonstration area of various pinion-juniper thinning densities.

South Steptoe Valley Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM is scheduled in late summer/early fall 2016 to conduct hand-thinning of pinyon and juniper along the western side of the valley near Comins Lake, and additional pinion-juniper thinning near Horse Camp Wash.

Lake Valley Restoration Project: The BLM is tentatively scheduled in fall 2016 to continue hand-thinning and chaining of pinion-juniper within the treatment area. The project, which implements the Lake Valley portion of the Cave and Lake Valley Watershed Restoration Plan, will benefit potential Greater Sage-Grouse habitat through tree removal.

Bald Mountain Restoration Project: The BLM is designing treatments for the Bald Mountain Treatment Unit of the Newark and Huntington Watershed Restoration Plan. The BLM will implement the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act- funded project during summer and fall 2016. The project will treat approximately 1,600 acres for mule deer and sage-grouse benefit, as well as restore approximately 25 acres of aspen. The Nevada Department of Wildlife is a cooperator assisting with treatment design.

Newark and Huntington Watershed Restoration Project: The BLM is in the planning phase of the sage-grouse habitat improvement project, mapping treatment areas in the southern portion of Newark Valley. Approximately 3,000 acres of hand thinning is scheduled to be completed in fall and winter 2016 near the southern portion of the Pancake Range. Additional mastication treatments are planned for the area in 2017. A portion of the hand-thinning scheduled for summer 2016 on the Overland Pass Project also occurs within the Huntington Treatment Unit of this watershed restoration project.

LANDS & REALTY

Land disposals identified in the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act, White Pine County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act, and Ely Resource Management Plan: The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office is currently processing three land sales, i.e., the Windmill Sale, Cowboy Sale and Hiko Sale. Lincoln County Round 3 is also being processed for four areas: Alamo, Caliente, Panaca and Pioche. White Pine County Round 2 is being processed for three sales located within Ely and McGill.

MINERALS

Active Mining Plans –

Bald Mountain Mine: The BLM Ely District is preparing a final Environmental Impact Statement for Barrick Gold U.S Inc.'s proposed Bald Mountain Mine North and South Operations Area Projects. A Record of Decision is expected in the first half of 2016. The open-pit gold mine expansion would be located in the Bald Mountain Mining District in White Pine County, Nev., approximately 65 miles northwest of Ely. The proposed Project would be located on BLM-administered lands and include expansion of the Bald Mountain Mine North and South Operations Areas for an additional 6,903 acres of disturbance.

North Operations Area: Combining and expanding the existing Bald Mountain Mine North Operations Area (NOA) Plan of Operations (Plan) boundary and the existing Casino/Winrock Mine Plan boundary into a unified Plan boundary called the proposed NOA Project would increase the total surface disturbance from 9,381 acres to 13,738 acres and add four new heap leach pads.

South Operations Area: In the South Operations Area (SOA), the existing Alligator Ridge Mine and Yankee Mine plans would be expanded and combined into a unified Plan called the proposed South Operations Area (SOA) Project, which would increase the total surface disturbance from 939 acres to 3,679 acres. The South Operation Area Project Plan of Operations would also include an electrical transmission line and an access road between the North and South operations areas.

Gold Rock Mine Project: The BLM expects to make the Gold Rock Mine Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) available to the public in summer 2016. The proposed project would be located in western White Pine County, in the same geographic area as the reclaimed and closed Easy Junior Mine. The project area consists of a total of 18,745 acres of BLM-administered lands with the majority of the mine facilities located within a fenced mine area totaling 8,757 acres. A total of 3,946 acres of disturbance would be authorized. The majority of the area would be reclaimed. The action alternatives were developed to help reduce project-related impacts to greater sage-grouse and mule deer. The projected mining period is 10 years, with associated construction, closure, reclamation and post-closure monitoring periods extending the project life to approximately 48 years. Midway Gold US Inc. estimates that the project would create between 150-250 jobs.

Notices and Exploration –

Gold Springs, LLC, a subsidiary of High Desert Gold, is conducting disturbance on two sites (4.9 and 2.7 acres) about 20 miles east of Pioche, Nev., with plans to expand to production on approximately 100 acres. The BLM Cedar City (Utah) Field Office is the lead office for the project.

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Ken Bryant is conducting operations at the Helen A mine in Egan Canyon. DHI Minerals is authorized to conduct operations near Green Springs. Summit Mining has two authorized operations, Cherry Creek Central and Cherry Creek East, both near Cherry Creek, Nev. SR Minerals is conducting operations in Mining Canyon on the east slope of the Diamond Range near Legacy Bay State Mine.

Mineral Materials –

The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office is working with the Nevada Department of Transportation to obtain rights-of-way for a new community gravel pit to serve the residents of Panaca, Nev., and surrounding area. The previous community pit is located on public lands identified for disposal in the Ely Resource Management Plan. Lands identified for disposal are withdrawn from mineral entry in accordance with the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2004.

Oil & Gas –

Oil & Gas Exploration/Development: The BLM is awaiting a list of nominated parcels for a proposed December 2016 lease sale. The BLM in December 2015 generated \$6,676.08 from the sale of three parcels totaling 3,640.72 acres. A complete summary of the parcels offered and the winning bid(s) is available online at <http://on.doi.gov/1oXmCgT>.

Applications for Permits to Drill (APD): The BLM Ely District, Basin and Range National Monument has issued a Decision Record/ Finding of No Significant Impact (DR/FONSI) and Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for Makoil, Inc.'s Murphy's Gap APD Well No. 14-23. The DR/FONSI and EA are available for review online at <http://1.usa.gov/1Klxaku>. Persons with standing must file a notice of appeal within 30 days of either receipt of the decision if served a copy of the document, or otherwise within 30 days of the date of the decision. The site-specific EA analyzes potential impacts that could result from Makoil's proposal to drill an exploration oil well on a valid existing lease located within the Basin and Range National Monument in Coal Valley, about 17 miles northwest of Hiko in Lincoln County, Nev. The project will disturb up to 5.7 acres. Hydraulic fracturing is not proposed.

The BLM Ely District has approved an APD for a Bestoso Oil & Gas well in White River Valley.

A third-party contractor is preparing an EA for Envy Energy's APD for the Black Point East #1 well in Railroad Valley.

The BLM is preparing an EA for Nevada Wildcat's APD for the Robber's Roost well in Butte Valley.

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The BLM is working with a third-party contractor to prepare an EA for a proposal to conduct hydraulic fracturing on a site in White River Valley.

NOXIOUS/INVASIVE WEED MANAGEMENT

The BLM Ely District has completed this year's noxious weed inventory. Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) has been identified near Telegraph Canyon, which is administered by the Egan Field Office. Until this year, yellow starthistle was not known to occur within the district. Yellow starthistle is a Nevada Category A noxious weed and has proven to be very detrimental to the agricultural industry in neighboring states. As such, containment and eradication of the species is the top priority for the district's weeds program.

An assistance agreement modification with Tri-County Weed Control will fund weed inventory, treatment and monitoring through June 5, 2016.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Rangeland Monitoring: BLM Ely District staff continues to monitor and assess rangeland conditions associated with forage and water availability and coordinate with permittees regarding grazing management actions associated with drought conditions.

Term Permit Renewals (TPRs): Staff continues to fully process and renew TPRs, plan range improvement projects (riparian and spring developments, fences, and more), and process grazing applications and transfers. Links to documents are located on the BLM website at: https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do

RECREATION & TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Ash Springs Recreation Site: The BLM Ely District, Caliente Field Office has extended until **March 21** the public input period for the development of a management plan for the Ash Springs Recreation Site, located alongside U.S. Highway 93 about 100 miles north of Las Vegas. The BLM extended the 30-day public input period an additional 21 days to provide the public the opportunity to attend a March 10 public meeting in Las Vegas and provide input. For more information or to be placed on the mailing list, contact the BLM Caliente Field Office at (775) 726-8100 or blm_nv_ash_springs@blm.gov.

Lincoln County Partners Multi-Purpose Non-Motorized Trail System: The 30-day public comment period for the Lincoln County Partners Non-motorized Multipurpose Trails 2015 Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) concluded March 1, 2016. The BLM is preparing the final EA. The proposed trails system would enhance access to public lands by constructing new multipurpose hiking and mountain biking trails. The trails would improve non-motorized recreational opportunities in Lincoln County. Development of the new trails and trailheads would not reduce access to or conflict with current recreational opportunities in the area. Additional information can be obtained online at <http://1.usa.gov/1nesx12>.

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Ely District Cave Management Plan and Preliminary Environmental Assessment: The BLM Ely District is preparing the Ely District Cave Management Plan and Final Environmental Assessment (EA) that will provide for recreation while providing guidance for the long-term oversight and management of cave resources, e.g., biological, cultural, geological and hydrological assets, districtwide. The plan will identify specific management actions for recreational use, scientific research and resource management. The Ely District Cave Management Plan and Preliminary EA can be accessed at <http://1.usa.gov/1KaH1uGG>.

Travel Management Planning: The BLM Ely District, Egan Field Office is preparing a plan for approximately 1,428,000 acres within the Huntington, Jakes, Long, Newark and Ruby valleys, in White Pine County. The BLM will release the draft plan for public comment.

WILD HORSES

Eagle-Caliente Complex Emergency Wild Horse Gather: The BLM Ely District in February 2016 concluded the Eagle-Caliente Complex Emergency Wild Horse Gather. The BLM gathered 122 wild horses from public and private lands adjacent to U.S. Highway 93 and State Route 322 in and outside the Caliente Herd Areas Complex, and Eagle and Silver King Herd Management Areas. Two wild horses were euthanized due to pre-existing conditions with a hopeless prognosis for recovery. Wild horses removed from the range were transported to the Axtell Contract Off-range Corrals, in Axtell, Utah, to be prepared for the BLM's adoption program. Additional gather information is available on the district website at <http://on.doi.gov/1GnDYC>

WILDERNESS

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics: The BLM is performing project by project inventory updates for Lands with Wilderness Character.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION

Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA): The nomination period for SNPLMA Round 16 closes **April 29**. Local governmental entities may seek funds for parks, trails, and natural areas in portions of Carson City and Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine counties. Federal agencies may seek funds for capital improvements, conservation initiatives, and restoration projects in eastern Nevada. Federal, State, and other agencies may seek funding for hazardous fuels reduction in the Lake Tahoe Basin, the Carson Range, and the Spring Mountain Range. Federal agencies may seek funding for acquisition of environmentally sensitive land statewide.

Specific requirements for nominating projects in all categories, including eligible entities within the different categories, are available at www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/snplma.html. Nominations must be submitted directly to the BLM Southern Nevada District Office,

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SNPLMA Division, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130. For more information, call Assistant District Manager Karla Norris at (702) 515-5044.

Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAD): The BLM will accept proposals for Round 9 of LCAI through **March 18**. Proposals under this initiative focus on the inventory, evaluation, protection and management of unique archaeological resources in Lincoln County. Projects must be on public land within Lincoln County and address the priorities outlined in the solicitation. Proposals are being solicited through grants.gov, solicitation #L16AS00017, or through fedconnect.net solicitation #L16PS00108. Specific requirements for submitting projects are available at <http://on.doi.gov/1fsRtjL>. Proposals must be submitted directly to the BLM grants or contracting officers named in the solicitations. For more information, contact Program Manager Carol Bass at (775) 289-1803 or cbass@blm.gov.

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Contact Chris Hanefeld, BLM Ely District public affairs specialist, at (775) 289-1842 or chanefel@blm.gov for more information on these and other projects/programs in the District.